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

ACC

10000/136/548

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

10000/136/548

PRB WEEKLY BULLETINS
JAN. 1946 – JAN. 1947
(1 OF 2)

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

Vol. III, No. 40

January 20, 1947

# ALLIED COMMISSION WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

While the visit of Prime Minister De Gasperi to the United States continued to be reported fully during the past week, the National Congress of the Socialist Party garnered most of the heavy-type headlines in the Italian press as the political maneuvering passed the bounds of a party split and threatened a first-class Government crisis. Although the shifting of the Socialist Party's center of gravity is undoubtedly of major importance in the Italian political scheme of things, a great deal of the space given to it was undoubtedly due to the fact that the events at Rome University lent themselves more easily to a high-pitched flamboyant type of reporting than De Gasperi's earnest pleading in America for understanding, food, and financial support.

Following his visit with President Truman, Secretary Byrnes and other officials in Washington the Prime Minister left the United States Capital to plead his cause in other American cities leaving his top-flight economic advisors to carry on the spade-work.

### De Gasperi's Statements

In Chicago 10 January: "We have laid down our plans before American economic experts, showing the capacity of our factories. We told them: 'Furnish us with the monies to put them into operation and we will repay you through our own production'".

At the Cleveland Council for World Affairs: "The distinction between the victor and the vanquished must not be definitive and the peace treaties must be afforded the possibility of undergoing peaceful modification". Also at a press conference in the same city: "My greatest aspiration was to save Trieste for Italy. However the solution adopted for Trieste is absolutely provisional as what is not logical cannot last". The Prime Minister was also quoted by *Popolo* as saying: "If all the other nations accept the (peace) treaty, we too shall have to yield. We must make sacrifices for peace, but we cannot accept moral responsibility for humiliating terms... the Italian Government has a sense of responsibility but also a sense of dignity".

In New York City 12 January during a radio address to the Italian people: "Owing to the

## SO LONG

In the general run-down of Allied Commission activities in anticipation of the signature of the peace treaty and the ultimate closing of the Commission, one of the first of the aforementioned activities to feel the axe is your *Weekly Bulletin*. In a word this is the last issue; after this there is no more.

Under a succession of very much harried editors, the *Bulletin* has attempted to chronicle the doings of the various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, Branches, etc. of the organization and at the same time give in capsule form a weekly review of the state of the nation. Whether or not the paper has succeeded in its mission is left for the readers to decide.

Be that as it may, the weekly emergence of the *Bulletin* would certainly not have been possible without the whole-hearted cooperation of all the men who make the wheels go round in the Commission. From the Chief Commissioner and the Executive Commissioner down through the entire organization everyone has been extremely cooperative and sympathetic with the necessity of making deadlines. Time has been taken up, conferences interrupted and after-hour telephone calls made and cheerfully accepted by all.

On behalf of all the previous editors of the *Bulletin* as well as for himself, your editor wishes to express sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks to all who have in any way contributed to the publication of this weekly chronicle.

To our readers, we express the hope that the *Bulletin* has been useful and informative and we also beg your indulgence for the fact that due to intermittent transportation difficulties, the publication has reached your desks a little late on occasions.

So Long.

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



swift rhythm of the journey I do not find enough time to make a detailed report to you on the favorable conclusions which are developing. I can tell you that the conversations and the contacts we have had with statesmen, businessmen and labor representatives have shown us that Italy has now celebrated her revival in the international world ".

De Gasperi returned to Washington on 14 January for another conference. Details of the meeting were not given out although it had been reported that one of the reasons for the unscheduled visit was the possibility of the Prime Minister's meeting the new Secretary of State George C. Marshall. The meeting did not take place since Marshall evidently did not arrive from China in time. De Gasperi left for Italy on 15 January.

Prime Minister De Gasperi arrived in Rome on the morning of 17 January. He was welcomed at Ciampino Airport by his family, Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general MTOUSA; Mr. David McK. Key, American Charge d'Affaires and Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.

**Results.**

As to results — they were not long in being announced. Almost immediately after the Prime Minister's departure a press release from the State Department carried by the Associated Press declared the following: (*a*) the United States plans to increase its wheat shipments to Italy in February and if possible will also ship additional coal; (*b*) cancellation of Italy's debt for food and relief supplies furnished through military channels prior to UNNRA will shortly be discussed; (*c*) un-freezing of Italian assets in the United States will be discussed also; (*d*) a 100 million dollar fund has been earmarked by the American Export-Import Bank for Italian industry while the U. S. has diverted wheat-bearing shipments in mid-ocean to ward off hunger in Italy; (*e*) the United States considers the revival of trade between the two countries as most encouraging; (*f*) to improve trade conditions it has been agreed by the Italian Prime Minister and American officials that negotiations for a new commercial agreement should start as soon as possible; (*g*) this new treaty will replace the modus vivendi signed in 1938; (*h*) the United States Treasury has paid a second installment of 50 million dollars on account of lire provided to American Forces in Italy; (*i*) The United States will return the Italian Liners "Conte Grande" and "Conte Biancamano" to the Italian Government; (*j*) Signor De Gasperi was assured by the United States Government of its continuing concern for the early restoration of Italian economy and of its desire to assist the Italian Government in its reconstruction work; (*k*) De Gasperi's visit emphasizes the determination of Italians to build a stable democratic nation " which will once again play an important role in a peaceful and prosperous world ".

**Socialist Split.**

Following the opening stormy session of the Socialist Party Congress events pursued their anticipated way. During the morning of 10 January Saragat walked out of a meeting of the Socialist Deputies to the Constituent Assembly when a motion calling for party unity and continued collaboration with the Communists was passed by a vote of 50 to 20. The same motion also included a recommendation for full party autonomy, but this deference to Saragat's feelings was not enough to placate the dissident leader.

The day's session at the Congress was fairly quiet although most papers reported that frantic negotiations were carried on throughout the day to win back the rebels. The Congress was apparently waiting Saragat's speech which was delivered the following day.

During the address, which was frequently interrupted by the tumultuous delegates, the leader of the dissidents declared that his action in leaving the party was forced upon him by the trend it had taken under its current leadership. Totalitarian methods, he said, had been introduced into the organization and it was necessary either to overlook them or react vigorously. He had chosen the latter course and further said that it had been necessary to denounce the state of affairs outside the party organs " as there was no other means of placing the true problem of the moment before the conscience of the Socialists ". The speaker called for the fostering of union between the middle class and the working class stating that only when this condition was satisfied could Democracy take great steps forward in Italy. " If we had a single chance in a thousand to render service to the working class by remaining in the old party we would do so ", he said.

The following day 12 January Saragat delivered another address, this time to the Congress of the dissident elements, which was being held at the Palazzo Barberini. In this talk, he recommended adoption of a " brotherly " attitude toward the Communists and stated that the new party would not be anti-communistic. He explained this apparent reversal of his thinking as

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



follows: "So long as we were in the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Union, where we were obliged to fight for the autonomy of the party which was being sabotaged by the 'fusionists', we may have appeared to be against the United Action Pact, but had there been no 'fusionism' we should not have been obliged to insist upon autonomy. Now that we have achieved greater liberty of spirit insofar as the Communists are concerned we can face discussion with them in a really fraternal frame of mind".

Toward this statement Mario Montagana writing in *Unità* adopted a definitely suspicious attitude. Referring to Saragat's assurances of a "fraternal" attitude toward the communists the writer declared: "All this is excellent. All this may undoubtedly have a certain value. But we repeat that facts have a greater value. And the facts are as follows: (1) The birth of the new party threatens to cause a crisis in the Government, in the Trade Unions and in hundreds of municipal administrations, at a moment which is of very special difficulty in the life of the country; (2) the great majority of the new party or at least its leaders are well-known anti-communists; (3) All the reactionary press and all the reactionaries of the country without exception have greeted the split with joy and enthusiasm and expressed their sympathy with the dissidents and with Sig. Saragat in particular. These are the facts. In the face of these, all the words, all the promises and the undertakings of Sig. Saragat count very little".

**Developments.**

Events rapidly developed.

The dissident elements, now called the Socialist Party of Italian Workers, elected a 21 member executive committee on 13 January. The committee, which included both Saragat and Matteotti announced that the party would publish a newspaper *Umanità*. On the same day, Lelio Basso, later elected Secretary General of the other party now known as the Italian Socialist Party, delivered an address to the Congress in which he charged that Saragat had been encouraged by the United States and the Vatican to rupture the party.

The speaker also termed the timing of De Gasperi's visit to the United States "suspicious".

On 14 January Saragat handed in his resignation as President of the Constituent Assembly and the same day Nenni, in a letter to English Foreign Secretary Bevin handed to Sir Noel Charles, requested postponement of his scheduled trip to London. The letter reportedly stated that Nenni felt it necessary to await De Gasperi's arrival in Rome in order to examine the political situation.

Talk of crisis was now flying fast and furiously in the Italian press. It was rumored that Nenni would definitely resign as Foreign Secretary although nothing was heard from Nenni himself on that point. On the other hand the new Socialist Party gave authority of its members to remain in the Government unless their withdrawal should be demanded by "other political forces".

**Adding Up.**

At the close of the two meetings there was much conjecture in the press as to the strength of the two parties. *Messaggero* had reported on 13 January that of the 114 Socialist Deputies in the Constituent Assembly 29 had gone over to Saragat, 19 had reserved decision for the time being while 66 were remaining faithful to Nenni's Party. On 18 January however *Giornale D'Italia* reported that Saragat's Party now had 43 Deputies. *Tempo* on the other hand took the moderate view that it was impossible to give an accurate estimate of relative strength at the present time.

While in general there seemed to be a backing and filling by all parties in an attempt to avoid crisis, many papers predicted that De Gasperi would be faced with one nevertheless upon his return. In addition to the Socialist problem, there are the demands of the Republican Party, presented at the time of his departure, and still waiting decision.

55

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period 1 December 1946 to 12 January 1947 there was available 844,062 tons of wheat, the Economic Division reports this week. During this period there were consumed 477,515 tons leaving a balance of 366,547 tons which will meet requirements for 33 days provided it can be distributed to deficiency areas. There has been signalled to arrive prior to 1 February 51,390 tons of wheat.

On 11 January another 5,000 tons of wheat from A. M. G. stocks was loaned to the Italian Government. This amount will be available from a shipment of 8,416 tons due to arrive at Venice on 15 January. The balance from this shipment plus 8,009 tons of flour due to arrive at Trieste 16 January will support Udine and Venezia Giulia until 28 February. The 10,000 tons of wheat loaned will be repaid by the Italian Government,

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



as guaranteed by UNNRA, in the amount of 5,000 tons by 10 February and 5,000 tons by 22 February.

The High Commissioner of food reports very serious difficulties in supplying wheat and sugar to the Southern Provinces.

The High Commissioner of Food has issued a circular dated 7 January giving instructions on the distribution of pasta ration for January. This ration must be limited to rice and pasta and when possible the pasta component must be substituted with maize flour in the proportion of 500 grams of pasta qualing 700 grams maize flour.

**Fuel.**

Total availability of coal for January is estimated at 734,000 tons. 519,000 tons has been allocated for consumption during the month leaving a balance of 215,000 tons. This balance is 330,000 tons less than the estimate submitted last week. The reduced amount is caused by difficulties of getting coal to loading ports in the United States and to the freezing of waterways in Europe.

The P. O. L. stocks are estimated as follows. Motor gasoline 64 days, Diesel Oil 38, Kerosene 75 and Fuel Oil 42.

The price of Petroleum products will be increased shortly by 1 lire per litre in order to cover the wage increase granted to workers in the Petroleum industry which is retroactive to 1 October 1946.

**Power.**

The situation in Northern Italy has been temporarily aggravated due to freezing of streams and ice formation in the waterways supplying the hydro-electric plants.

The power supply to Central Italy has been further reduced from 600,000 KWH to 400,000 KWH per day.

There is no change of the water in storage in the Sila reservoirs.

## DECORATIONS

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, last week presented Medals of Freedom to Lt. Col. Guy G. Hammford, Intelligance Corps; Lt. Col. W. Turner-Coles, Oxford and Bucks Regiment, and Eric W. Feldman, former civilian employee of Allied Commission, in a short ceremony conducted in his office. Lt. Col. Hammaford and Mr. Feldman received the decorations 17 January Friday, while Lt. Col. Turner-Coles' presentation took place Saturday morning 18 January. Both British Officers received the medals with Bronze Palms.

Lt. Col. Hammaford was a member of the Legal Section of Allied Military Government and later the legal Sub-Commission of Allied Commission. He played an important part in the reorganization of Italian Judicial System. Lt. Col. Turner-Coles received his decoration for the work he did as officer in charge of the collection, central storage and distribution of all available food at Salerno, Italy, immediately following combat operations. Award of the medal to Mr. Feldman was made for his work while assigned to Central Prosecution Office, AMG Naples and the Legal Section of the Livorno Liaison Office, AMG.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Lorenzo R. Holmes, legal division, left during the past week on a 30-day leave.

The following U. S. Army personnel left on Wednesday for reassignment to the ZI or separation from the service: Col. Harry M. Walker, economies division, Maj. Clayton C. Craig, regimental S-4 and G-4 Allied Commission, Capt. John P. MacNeil, motor transportation officer, and Capt. Thomas R. Swisher, Headquarters Company Commander. Maj. Raymond Wilson, AAF Sub-Commission left for the ZI Thursday. Capt. Dudak Langarak will replace Maj. Craig as S-4 and G-4.

Further transfers of U. S. personnel on Tuesday include: Maj. Robert E. Vollendorff, formerly of the Economic Division to Rome Area Allied Command, Capt. Lewis W. Gingery, M.M.I.A. to the post of Military Manager of the Excelsior Hotel. Tomorrow 1st Lt. Sidney L. Dane, Displaced Persons Division, will become assistant G-1 Rome Area Allied Command, and the day following 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland, Assistant Motor Transportation Officer, to Headquarters Service Company Rome Area Allied Command.

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

January 20, 1947

Vol. III, No. 40

# ALLIED COMMISSION WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

While the visit of Prime Minister De Gasperi to the United States continued to be reported fully during the past week, the National Congress of the Socialist Party garnered most of the heavy-type headlines in the Italian press as the political maneuvering passed the bounds of a party split and threatened a first-class Government crisis. Although the shifting of the Socialist Party's center of gravity is undoubtedly of major importance in the Italian political scheme of things, a great deal of the space given to it was undoubtedly due to the fact that the events at Rome University lent themselves more easily to a high-pitched flamboyant type of reporting than De Gasperi's earnest pleading in America for understanding, food, and financial support.

Following his visit with President Truman, Secretary Byrnes and other officials in Washington the Prime Minister left the United States Capital to plead his cause in other American cities leaving his top-flight economic advisors to carry on the spade-work.

### De Gasperi's Statements

In Chicago 10 January: "We have laid down our plans before American economic experts, showing the capacity of our factories. We told them: 'Furnish us with the monies to put them into operation and we will repay you through our own production'".

At the Cleveland Council for World Affairs: "The distinction between the victor and the vanquished must not be definitive and the peace treaties must be afforded the possibility of undergoing peaceful modification". Also at a press conference in the same city: "My greatest aspiration was to save Trieste for Italy. However the solution adopted for Trieste is absolutely provisional as what is not logical cannot last". The Prime Minister was also quoted by *Popolo* as saying: "If all the other nations accept the (peace) treaty, we too shall have to yield. We must make sacrifices for peace, but we cannot accept moral responsibility for humiliating terms... the Italian Government has a sense of responsibility but also a sense of dignity".

In New York City 12 January during a radio address to the Italian people: "Owing to the

## SO LONG

In the general run-down of Allied Commission activities in anticipation of the signature of the peace treaty and the ultimate closing of the Commission, one of the first of the aforementioned activities to feel the axe is your *Weekly Bulletin*. In a word this is the last issue; after this there is no more.

Under a succession of very much harried editors, the *Bulletin* has attempted to chronicle the doings of the various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, Branches, etc. of the organization and at the same time give in capsule form a weekly review of the state of the nation. Whether or not the paper has succeeded in its mission is left for the readers to decide.

Be that as it may, the weekly emergence of the *Bulletin* would certainly not have been possible without the whole-hearted cooperation of all the men who make the wheels go round in the Commission. From the Chief Commissioner and the Executive Commissioner down through the entire organization everyone has been extremely cooperative and sympathetic with the necessity of making deadlines. Time has been taken up, conferences interrupted and after-hour telephone calls made and cheerfully accepted by all.

On behalf of all the previous editors of the *Bulletin* as well as for himself, your editor wishes to express sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks to all who have in any way contributed to the publication of this weekly chronicle.

To our readers, we express the hope that the *Bulletin* has been useful and informative and we also beg your indulgence for the fact that due to intermittent transportation difficulties, the publication has reached your desks a little late on occasions.

So Long.

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



swift rhythm of the journey I do not find enough time to make a detailed report to you on the favorable conclusions which are developing. I can tell you that the conversations and the contacts we have had with statesmen, businessmen and labor representatives have shown us that Italy has now celebrated her revival in the international world ".

De Gasperi returned to Washington on 14 January for another conference. Details of the meeting were not given out although it had been reported that one of the reasons for the unscheduled visit was the possibility of the Prime Minister's meeting the new Secretary of State George C. Marshall. The meeting did not take place since Marshall evidently did not arrive from China in time. De Gasperi left for Italy on 15 January.

Prime Minister De Gasperi arrived in Rome on the morning of 17 January. He was welcomed at Ciampino Airport by his family, Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general MTOUSA; Mr. David McK. Key, American Charge d'Affaires and Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.

**Results.**

As to results — they were not long in being announced. Almost immediately after the Prime Minister's departure a press release from the State Department carried by the Associated Press declared the following: (*a*) the United States plans to increase its wheat shipments to Italy in February and if possible will also ship additional coal; (*b*) cancellation of Italy's debt for food and relief supplies furnished through military channels prior to UNNRA will shortly be discussed; (*c*) un-freezing of Italian assets in the United States will be discussed also; (*d*) a 100 million dollar fund has been earmarked by the American Export-Import Bank for Italian industry while the U. S. has diverted wheat-bearing shipments in mid-ocean to ward off hunger in Italy; (*e*) the United States considers the revival of trade between the two countries as most encouraging; (*f*) to improve trade conditions it has been agreed by the Italian Prime Minister and American officials that negotiations for a new commercial agreement should start as soon as possible; (*g*) this new treaty will replace the modus vivendi signed in 1938; (*h*) the United States Treasury has paid a second installment of 50 million dollars on account of lire provided to American Forces in Italy; (*i*) The United States will return the Italian Liners "Conte Grande" and "Conte Biancamano" to the Italian Government; (*j*) Signor De Gasperi was assured by the United States Government of its continuing concern for the early restoration of Italian economy and of its desire to assist the Italian Government in its reconstruction work; (*k*) De Gasperi's visit emphasizes the determination of Italians to build a stable democratic nation " which will once again play an important role in a peaceful and prosperous world ".

**Socialist Split.**

Following the opening stormy session of the Socialist Party Congress events pursued their anticipated way. During the morning of 10 January Saragat walked out of a meeting of the Socialist Deputies to the Constituent Assembly when a motion calling for party unity and continued collaboration with the Communists was passed by a vote of 50 to 20. The same motion also included a recommendation for full party autonomy, but this deference to Saragat's feelings was not enough to placate the dissident leader.

The day's session at the Congress was fairly quiet although most papers reported that frantic negotiations were carried on throughout the day to win back the rebels. The Congress was apparently waiting Saragat's speech which was delivered the following day.

During the address, which was frequently interrupted by the tumultuous delegates, the leader of the dissidents declared that his action in leaving the party was forced upon him by the trend it had taken under its current leadership. Totalitarian methods, he said, had been introduced into the organization and it was necessary either to overlook them or react vigorously. He had chosen the latter course and further said that it had been necessary to denounce the state of affairs outside the party organs " as there was no other means of placing the true problem of the moment before the conscience of the Socialists ". The speaker called for the fostering of union between the middle class and the working class stating that only when this condition was satisfied could Democracy take great steps forward in Italy. " If we had a single chance in a thousand to render service to the working class by remaining in the old party we would do so ", he said.

The following day 12 January Saragat delivered another address, this time to the Congress of the dissident elements, which was being held at the Palazzo Barberini. In this talk, he recommended adoption of a " brotherly " attitude toward the Communists and stated that the new party would not be anti-communistic. He explained this apparent reversal of his thinking as

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



follows: "So long as we were in the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Union, where we were obliged to fight for the autonomy of the party which was being sabotaged by the 'fusionists', we may have appeared to be against the United Action Pact, but had there been no 'fusionism' we should not have been obliged to insist upon autonomy. Now that we have achieved greater liberty of spirit insofar as the Communists are concerned we can face discussion with them in a really fraternal frame of mind".

Toward this statement Mario Montagana writing in *Unità* adopted a definitely suspicious attitude. Referring to Saragat's assurances of a "fraternal" attitude toward the communists the writer declared: "All this is excellent. All this may undoubtedly have a certain value. But we repeat that facts have a greater value. And the facts are as follows: (1) The birth of the new party threatens to cause a crisis in the Government, in the Trade Unions and in hundreds of municipal administrations, at a moment which is of very special difficulty in the life of the country; (2) the great majority of the new party or at least its leaders are well-known anti-communists; (3) All the reactionary press and all the reactionaries of the country without exception have greeted the split with joy and enthusiasm and expressed their sympathy with the dissidents and with Sig. Saragat in particular. These are the facts. In the face of these, all the words, all the promises and the undertakings of Sig. Saragat count very little".

**Developments.**

Events rapidly developed.

The dissident elements, now called the Socialist Party of Italian Workers, elected a 24 member executive committee on 13 January. The committee, which included both Saragat and Matteotti announced that the party would publish a newspaper *Umanità*. On the same day, Lelio Basso, later elected Secretary General of the other party now known as the Italian Socialist Party, delivered an address to the Congress in which he charged that Saragat had been encouraged by the United States and the Vatican to rupture the party.

The speaker also termed the timing of De Gasperi's visit to the United States "suspicious".

On 14 January Saragat handed in his resignation as President of the Constituent Assembly and the same day Nenni, in a letter to English Foreign Secretary Bevin handed to Sir Noel Charles, requested postponement of his scheduled trip to London. The letter reportedly stated that Nenni felt it necessary to await De Gasperi's arrival in Rome in order to examine the political situation.

Talk of crisis was now flying fast and furiously in the Italian press. It was rumored that Nenni would definitely resign as Foreign Secretary although nothing was heard from Nenni himself on that point. On the other hand the new Socialist Party gave authority of its members to remain in the Government unless their withdrawal should be demanded by "other political forces".

**Adding Up.**

At the close of the two meetings there was much conjecture in the press as to the strength of the two parties. *Messaggero* had reported on 13 January that of the 114 Socialist Deputies in the Constituent Assembly 29 had gone over to Saragat, 19 had reserved decision for the time being while 66 were remaining faithful to Nenni's Party. On 18 January however *Giornale D'Italia* reported that Saragat's Party now had 43 Deputies. *Tempo* on the other hand took the moderate view that it was impossible to give an accurate estimate of relative strength at the present time.

While in general there seemed to be a backing and filling by all parties in an attempt to avoid crisis, many papers predicted that De Gasperi would be faced with one nevertheless upon his return. In addition to the Socialist problem, there are the demands of the Republican Party, presented at the time of his departure, and still waiting decision.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period 1 December 1946 to 12 January 1947 there was available 844,062 tons of wheat, the Economic Division reports this week. During this period there were consumed 477,515 tons leaving a balance of 366,547 tons which will meet requirements for 33 days provided it can be distributed to deficiency areas. There has been signalled to arrive prior to 1 February 51,390 tons of wheat.

On 11 January another 5,000 tons of wheat from A. M. G. stocks was loaned to the Italian Government. This amount will be available from a shipment of 8,416 tons due to arrive at Venice on 15 January. The balance from this shipment plus 8,099 tons of flour due to arrive at Trieste 16 January will support Udine and Venezia Giulia until 28 February. The 10,000 tons of wheat loaned will be repaid by the Italian Government,

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



as guaranteed by UNNRA, in the amount of 5,000 tons by 10 February and 5,000 tons by 22 February.

The High Commissioner of food reports very serious difficulties in supplying wheat and sugar to the Southern Provinces.

The High Commissioner of Food has issued a circular dated 7 January giving instructions on the distribution of pasta ration for January. This ration must be limited to rice and pasta and when possible the pasta component must be substituted with maize flour in the proportion of 500 grams of pasta qualing 700 grams maize flour.

**Fuel.**

Total availability of coal for January is estimated at 734,000 tons. 519,000 tons has been allocated for consumption during the month leaving a balance of 215,000 tons. This balance is 330,000 tons less than the estimate submitted last week. The reduced amount is caused by difficulties of getting coal to loading ports in the United States and to the freezing of waterways in Europe.

The P. O. L. stocks are estimated as follows. Motor gasoline 64 days, Diesel Oil 38, Kerosene 75 and Fuel Oil 42.

The price of Petroleum products will be increased shortly by 4 lire per litre in order to cover the wage increase granted to workers in the Petroleum industry which is retroactive to 1 October 1946.

**Power.**

The situation in Northern Italy has been temporarily aggravated due to freezing of streams and ice formation in the waterways supplying the hydro-electric plants.

The power supply to Central Italy has been further reduced from 600,000 KWH to 400,000 KWH per day.

There is no change of the water in storage in the Sila reservoirs.

## DECORATIONS

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, last week presented Medals of Freedom to Lt. Col. Guy G. Hannaford, Intelligence Corps; Lt. Col. W. Turner-Coles, Oxford and Bucks Regiment, and Eric W. Feldman, former civilian employee of Allied Commission, in a short ceremony conducted in his office. Lt. Col. Hannaford and Mr. Feldman received the decorations 17 January Friday, while Lt. Col. Turner-Coles' presentation took place Saturday morning 18 January. Both British Officers received the medals with Bronze Palms.

Lt. Col. Hannaford was a member of the Legal Section of Allied Military Government and later the legal Sub-Commission of Allied Commission. He played an important part in the reorganization of Italian Judicial System. Lt. Col. Turner-Coles received his decoration for the work he did as officer in charge of the collection, central storage and distribution of all available food at Salerno, Italy, immediately following combat operations. Award of the medal to Mr. Feldman was made for his work while assigned to Central Prosecution Office, AMG Naples and the Legal Section of the Livorno Liaison Office, AMG.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Lorenzo R. Holmes, legal division, left during the past week on a 30-day leave.

The following U. S. Army personnel left on Wednesday for reassignment to the ZI or separation from the service: Col. Harry M. Walker, economics division, Maj. Clayton C. Craig, regimental S-4 and G-4 Allied Commission, Capt. John P. MacNeil, motor transportation officer, and Capt. Thomas R. Swisher, Headquarters Company Commander. Maj. Raymond Wilson, AAF Sub-Commission left for the ZI Thursday. Capt. Dudak Langarak will replace Maj. Craig as S-4 and G-4.

Further transfers of U. S. personnel on Tuesday include: Maj. Robert E. Vollendorff, formerly of the Economic Division to Rome Area Allied Command, Capt. Lewis W. Gingery, M.M.I.A. to the post of Military Manager of the Excelsior Hotel. Tomorrow 1st Lt. Sidney L. Dane, Displaced Persons Division, will become assistant G-1 Rome Area Allied Command, and the day following 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland, Assistant Motor Transportation Officer, to Headquarters Service Company Rome Area Allied Command.

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

January 20, 1947

Vol. III, No. 40

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

While the visit of Prime Minister De Gasperi to the United States continued to be reported fully during the past week, the National Congress of the Socialist Party garnered most of the heavy-type headlines in the Italian press as the political maneuvering passed the bounds of a party split and threatened a first-class Government crisis. Although the shifting of the Socialist Party's center of gravity is undoubtedly of major importance in the Italian political scheme of things, a great deal of the space given to it was undoubtedly due to the fact that the events at Rome University lent themselves more easily to a high-pitched flamboyant type of reporting than De Gasperi's earnest pleading in America for understanding, food, and financial support.

Following his visit with President Truman, Secretary Byrnes and other officials in Washington the Prime Minister left the United States Capital to plead his cause in other American cities leaving his top-flight economic advisors to carry on the spade-work.

### De Gasperi's Statements

In Chicago 10 January: "We have laid down our plans before American economic experts, showing the capacity of our factories. We told them: 'Furnish us with the monies to put them into operation and we will repay you through our own production'".

At the Cleveland Council for World Affairs: "The distinction between the victor and the vanquished must not be definitive and the peace treaties must be afforded the possibility of undergoing peaceful modification". Also at a press conference in the same city: "My greatest aspiration was to save Trieste for Italy. However the solution adopted for Trieste is absolutely provisional as what is not logical cannot last". The Prime Minister was also quoted by *Popolo* as saying: "If all the other nations accept the (peace) treaty, we too shall have to yield. We must make sacrifices for peace, but we cannot accept moral responsibility for humiliating terms... the Italian Government has a sense of responsibility but also a sense of dignity".

In New York City 12 January during a radio address to the Italian people: "Owing to the

## SO LONG

In the general run-down of Allied Commission activities in anticipation of the signature of the peace treaty and the ultimate closing of the Commission, one of the first of the aforementioned activities to feel the axe is your *Weekly Bulletin*. In a word this is the last issue; after this there is no more.

Under a succession of very much harried editors, the *Bulletin* has attempted to chronicle the doings of the various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, Branches, etc. of the organization and at the same time give in capsule form a weekly review of the state of the nation. Whether or not the paper has succeeded in its mission is left for the readers to decide.

Be that as it may, the weekly emergence of the *Bulletin* would certainly not have been possible without the whole-hearted cooperation of all the men who make the wheels go round in the Commission. From the Chief Commissioner and the Executive Commissioner down through the entire organization everyone has been extremely cooperative and sympathetic with the necessity of making deadlines. Time has been taken up, conferences interrupted and after-hour telephone calls made and cheerfully accepted by all.

On behalf of all the previous editors of the *Bulletin* as well as for himself, your editor wishes to express sincere appreciation and heartfelt thanks to all who have in any way contributed to the publication of this weekly chronicle.

To our readers, we express the hope that the *Bulletin* has been useful and informative and we also beg your indulgence for the fact that due to intermittent transportation difficulties, the publication has reached your desks a little late on occasions.

So Long.

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



swift rhythm of the journey I do not find enough time to make a detailed report to you on the favorable conclusions which are developing. I can tell you that the conversations and the contacts we have had with statesmen, businessmen and labor representatives have shown us that Italy has now celebrated her revival in the international world".

De Gasperi returned to Washington on 14 January for another conference. Details of the meeting were not given out although it had been reported that one of the reasons for the unscheduled visit was the possibility of the Prime Minister's meeting the new Secretary of State George C. Marshall. The meeting did not take place since Marshall evidently did not arrive from China in time. De Gasperi left for Italy on 15 January.

Prime Minister De Gasperi arrived in Rome on the morning of 17 January. He was welcomed at Ciampino Airport by his family, Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general MTOUSA; Mr. David McK. Key, American Charge d'Affaires and Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.

**Results.**

As to results – they were not long in being announced. Almost immediately after the Prime Minister's departure a press release from the State Department carried by the Associated Press declared the following: (*a*) the United States plans to increase its wheat shipments to Italy in February and if possible will also ship additional coal; (*b*) cancellation of Italy's debt for food and relief supplies furnished through military channels prior to UNRRA will shortly be discussed; (*c*) un-freezing of Italian assets in the United States will be discussed also; (*d*) a 100 million dollar fund has been earmarked by the American Export-Import Bank for Italian industry while the U. S. has diverted wheat-bearing shipments in mid-ocean to ward off hunger in Italy; (*e*) the United States considers the revival of trade between the two countries as most encouraging; (*f*) to improve trade conditions it has been agreed by the Italian Prime Minister and American officials that negotiations for a new commercial agreement should start as soon as possible; (*g*) this new treaty will replace the modus vivendi signed in 1938; (*h*) the United States Treasury has paid a second installment of 50 million dollars on account of lire provided to American Forces in Italy; (*i*) The United States will return the Italian Liners "Conte Grande" and "Conte Biancamano" to the Italian Government; (*j*) Signor De Gasperi was assured by the United States Government of its continuing concern for the early restoration of Italian economy and of its desire to assist the Italian Government in its reconstruction work; (*k*) De Gasperi's visit emphasizes the determination of Italians to build a stable democratic nation "which will once again play an important role in a peaceful and prosperous world".

**Socialist Split.**

Following the opening stormy session of the Socialist Party Congress events pursued their anticipated way. During the morning of 10 January Saragat walked out of a meeting of the Socialist Deputies to the Constituent Assembly when a motion calling for party unity and continued collaboration with the Communists was passed by a vote of 50 to 20. The same motion also included a recommendation for full party autonomy, but this deference to Saragat's feelings was not enough to placate the dissident leader.

The day's session at the Congress was fairly quiet although most papers reported that frantic negotiations were carried on throughout the day to win back the rebels. The Congress was apparently waiting Saragat's speech which was delivered the following day.

During the address, which was frequently interrupted by the tumultuous delegates, the leader of the dissidents declared that his action in leaving the party was forced upon him by the trend it had taken under its current leadership. Totalitarian methods, he said, had been introduced into the organization and it was necessary either to overlook them or react vigorously. He had chosen the latter course and further said that it had been necessary to denounce the state of affairs outside the party organs "as there was no other means of placing the true problem of the moment before the conscience of the Socialists". The speaker called for the fostering of union between the middle class and the working class stating that only when this condition was satisfied could Democracy take great steps forward in Italy. "If we had a single chance in a thousand to render service to the working class by remaining in the old party we would do so", he said.

The following day 12 January Saragat delivered another address, this time to the Congress of the dissident elements, which was being held at the Palazzo Barberini. In this talk, he recommended adoption of a "brotherly" attitude toward the Communists and stated that the new party would not be anti-communistic. He explained this apparent reversal of his thinking as

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



follows: "So long as we were in the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Union, where we were obliged to fight for the autonomy of the party which was being sabotaged by the 'fusionists', we may have appeared to be against the United Action Pact, but had there been no 'fusionism' we should not have been obliged to insist upon autonomy. Now that we have achieved greater liberty of spirit insofar as the Communists are concerned we can face discussion with them in a really fraternal frame of mind".

Toward this statement Mario Montagana writing in *Unità* adopted a definitely suspicious attitude. Referring to Saragat's assurances of a "fraternal" attitude toward the communists the writer declared: "All this is excellent. All this may undoubtedly have a certain value. But we repeat that facts have a greater value. And the facts are as follows: (1) The birth of the new party threatens to cause a crisis in the Government, in the Trade Unions and in hundreds of municipal administrations, at a moment which is of very special difficulty in the life of the country; (2) the great majority of the new party or at least its leaders are well-known anti-communists; (3) All the reactionary press and all the reactionaries of the country without exception have greeted the split with joy and enthusiasm and expressed their sympathy with the dissidents and with Sig. Saragat in particular. These are the facts. In the face of these, all the words, all the promises and the undertakings of Sig. Saragat count very little".

**Developments.**

Events rapidly developed.

The dissident elements, now called the Socialist Party of Italian Workers, elected a 21 member executive committee on 13 January. The committee, which included both Saragat and Matteotti announced that the party would publish a newspaper *Umanità*. On the same day, Lelio Basso, later elected Secretary General of the other party now known as the Italian Socialist Party, delivered an address to the Congress in which he charged that Saragat had been encouraged by the United States and the Vatican to rupture the party.

The speaker also termed the timing of De Gasperi's visit to the United States "suspicious".

On 14 January Saragat handed in his resignation as President of the Constituent Assembly and the same day Nenni, in a letter to English Foreign Secretary Bevin handed to Sir Noel Charles, requested postponement of his scheduled trip to London. The letter reportedly stated that Nenni felt it necessary to await De Gasperi's arrival in Rome in order to examine the political situation.

Talk of crisis was now flying fast and furiously in the Italian press. It was rumored that Nenni would definitely resign as Foreign Secretary although nothing was heard from Nenni himself on that point. On the other hand the new Socialist Party gave authority of its members to remain in the Government unless their withdrawal should be demanded by "other political forces".

**Adding Up.**

At the close of the two meetings there was much conjecture in the press as to the strength of the two parties. *Messaggero* had reported on 13 January that of the 114 Socialist Deputies in the Constituent Assembly 29 had gone over to Saragat, 19 had reserved decision for the time being while 66 were remaining faithful to Nenni's Party. On 18 January however *Giornale D'Italia* reported that Saragat's Party now had 43 Deputies. *Tempo* on the other hand took the moderate view that it was impossible to give an accurate estimate of relative strength at the present time.

While in general there seemed to be a backing and filling by all parties in an attempt to avoid crisis, many papers predicted that De Gasperi would be faced with one nevertheless upon his return. In addition to the Socialist problem, there are the demands of the Republican Party, presented at the time of his departure, and still waiting decision.

5.19

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period 1 December 1946 to 12 January 1947 there was available 844,062 tons of wheat, the Economic Division reports this week. During this period there were consumed 177,515 tons leaving a balance of 366,547 tons which will meet requirements for 33 days provided it can be distributed to deficiency areas. There has been signalled to arrive prior to 1 February 51,390 tons of wheat.

On 11 January another 5,000 tons of wheat from A. M. G. stocks was loaned to the Italian Government. This amount will be available from a shipment of 8,116 tons due to arrive at Venice on 15 January. The balance from this shipment plus 8,009 tons of flour due to arrive at Trieste 16 January will support Udine and Venezia Giulia until 28 February. The 10,000 tons of wheat loaned will be repaid by the Italian Government,

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



as guaranteed by UNRRA, in the amount of 5,000 tons by 10 February and 5,000 tons by 22 February.

The High Commissioner of food reports very serious difficulties in supplying wheat and sugar to the Southern Provinces.

The High Commissioner of Food has issued a circular dated 7 January giving instructions on the distribution of pasta ration for January. This ration must be limited to rice and pasta and when possible the pasta component must be substituted with maize flour in the proportion of 500 grams of pasta quating 700 grams maize flour.

**Fuel.**

Total availability of coal for January is estimated at 734,000 tons. 519,000 tons has been allocated for consumption during the month leaving a balance of 215,000 tons. This balance is 330,000 tons less than the estimate submitted last week. The reduced amount is caused by difficulties of getting coal to loading ports in the United States and to the freezing of waterways in Europe.

The P. O. L. stocks are estimated as follows. Motor gasoline 64 days, Diesel Oil 38, Kerosene 75 and Fuel Oil 42.

The price of Petroleum products will be increased shortly by 4 lire per litre in order to cover the wage increase granted to workers in the Petroleum industry which is retroactive to 1 October 1946.

**Power.**

The situation in Northern Italy has been temporarily aggravated due to freezing of streams and ice formation in the waterways supplying the hydro-electric plants.

The power supply to Central Italy has been further reduced from 600,000 KWH to 400,000 KWH per day.

There is no change of the water in storage in the Sila reservoirs.

## DECORATIONS

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, last week presented Medals of Freedom to Lt. Col. Guy G. Hannaford, Intelligence Corps; Lt. Col. W. Turner-Coles, Oxford and Bucks Regiment, and Eric W. Feldman, former civilian employee of Allied Commission, in a short ceremony conducted in his office. Lt. Col. Hannaford and Mr. Feldman received the decorations 17 January Friday, while Lt. Col. Turner-Coles' presentation took place Saturday morning 18 January. Both British Officers received the medals with Bronze Palms.

Lt. Col. Hannaford was a member of the Legal Section of Allied Military Government and later the legal Sub-Commission of Allied Commission. He played an important part in the reorganization of Italian Judicial System. Lt. Col. Turner-Coles received his decoration for the work he did as officer in charge of the collection, central storage and distribution of all available food at Salerno, Italy, immediately following combat operations. Award of the medal to Mr. Feldman was made for his work while assigned to Central Prosecution Office, AMG Naples and the Legal Section of the Livorno Liaison Office, AMG.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Lorenzo R. Holmes, legal division, left during the past week on a 30-day leave.

The following U. S. Army personnel left on Wednesday for reassignment to the ZI or separation from the service: Col. Harry M. Walker, economics division, Maj. Clayton C. Craig, regimental S-4 and G-4 Allied Commission, Capt. John P. MacNeil, motor transportation officer, and Capt. Thomas R. Swisher, Headquarters Company Commander. Maj. Raymond Wilson, AAF Sub-Commission left for the ZI Thursday. Capt. Dudak Langarak will replace Maj. Craig as S-4 and G-4.

Further transfers of U. S. personnel on Tuesday include: Maj. Robert E. Vollendorff, formerly of the Economic Division to Rome Area Allied Command, Capt. Lewis W. Gingery, M.M.I.A. to the post of Military Manager of the Excelsior Hotel. Tomorrow 1st Lt. Sidney L. Daney, Displaced Persons Division, will become assistant G-1 Rome Area Allied Command, and the day following 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland, Assistant Motor Transportation Officer, to Headquarters Service Company Rome Area Allied Command.

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

Vol. III, No. 39

January 13, 1947

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American Loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of " wheat and dollars ".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech " very interesting ".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was " a great beginning ".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined " A proof of exceptional cordiality — Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration " *Momento* declared, " Our hopes in America are strengthened ". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a " let's be sensible " manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the " moral significance of the journey ". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

5/18

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led all the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: " Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead ".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italie* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence, "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not diminished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of lire spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U. S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U. S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P. S. L. U. P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P. S. L. U. P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He decked that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

### Party Report.

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,448, an increase of 445,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unità*'s circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolini's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factious manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

### Court of Cassation.

At the new year inauguration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italia Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The council, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadic, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire ten days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

### Coal.

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

### Power.

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceeding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95. and 2 G. 12s, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paraguay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE, (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

January 13, 1947

JAN 13 1947

Vol. III, No. 39

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American Loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of "wheat and dollars".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech "very interesting".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was "a great beginning".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined "A proof of exceptional cordiality – Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration" *Momento* declared, "Our hopes in America are strengthened". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a "let's be sensible" manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the "moral significance of the journey". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led all the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: "Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italia* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence, "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not diminished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of line spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U. S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U. S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P. S. I. U. P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P. S. I. U. P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He declared that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

**Party Report.**

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,448, an increase of 445,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unità*'s circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolini's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factions manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

**Court of Cassation.**

At the new year inauguration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italia Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The council, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadie, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire ten days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

**Coal.**

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

**Power.**

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceeding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95. and 2 G. 12s, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paraguay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE, (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

JAN 13 1947

Vol. III, No. 39

January 13, 1947

# ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American Loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of "wheat and dollars".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech "very interesting".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was "a great beginning".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined "A proof of exceptional cordiality – Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration" *Momento* declared, "Our hopes in America are strengthened". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a "let's be sensible" manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the "moral significance of the journey". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led all the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: "Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italia* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence, "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not diminished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of lire spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U.S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U.S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P.S.I.U.P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P.S.I.U.P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He declared that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

### Party Report.

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,448, an increase of 145,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unità*'s circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolin's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factious manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

### Court of Cassation.

At the new year inauguration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italia Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The council, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadie, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire ten days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

### Coal.

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

### Power.

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceeding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95, and 2 G. 128, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paraguay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE. (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

JAN 13 1947

January 13, 1947 Vol. III, No. 39

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of "wheat and dollars".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech "very interesting".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was "a great beginning".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined "A proof of exceptional cordiality – Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration." *Momento* declared, "Our hopes in America are strengthened". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a "let's be sensible" manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the "moral significance of the journey". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led all the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: "Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italia* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence, "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not diminished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of lire spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U. S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U. S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P. S. L. U. P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P. S. L. U. P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He declared that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

**Party Report.**

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,148, an increase of 445,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unità*'s circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolini's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factions manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

**Court of Cassation.**

At the new year inauguration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italia Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The council, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadic, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire ten days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

**Coal.**

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

**Power.**

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95, and 2 G. 128, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paragnay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE, (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

January 13, 1947 Vol. III, No. 39

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American Loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of "wheat and dollars".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech "very interesting".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was "a great beginning".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined "A proof of exceptional cordiality — Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration" *Momento* declared, "Our hopes in America are strengthened". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a "let's be sensible" manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the "moral significance of the journey". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led all the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: "Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italia* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence, "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not diminished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of fire spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U. S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U. S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P. S. L. U. P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative Trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P. S. L. U. P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He declared that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

### Party Report.

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,448, an increase of 145,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unita's* circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolini's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factions manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

### Court of Cassation.

At the new year inauguration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italia Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The council, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadic, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire [illegible] days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

### Coal.

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

### Power.

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95. and 2 G. 12s, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paraguay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE, (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

January 13, 1947 Vol. III, No. 39

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American Loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of "wheat and dollars".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech "very interesting".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was "a great beginning".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined "A proof of exceptional cordiality – Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration" *Momento* declared, "Our hopes in America are strengthened". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a "let's be sensible" manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the "moral significance of the journey". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led all the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: "Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italia* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence, "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not diminished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of lire spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U. S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U. S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P. S. L. U. P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P. S. L. U. P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He declared that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

### Party Report.

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,448, an increase of 445,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unità's* circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolini's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factions manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

### Court of Cassation.

At the new year inauguration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italia Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The council, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadie, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire ten days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

### Coal.

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

### Power.

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceeding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95. and 2 G. 12s, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paraguay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE, (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

Vol. III, No. 39

January 13, 1947

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American Loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of " wheat and dollars ".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech " very interesting ".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was " a great beginning ".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined " A proof of exceptional cordiality – Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration " *Momento* declared, " Our hopes in America are strengthened ". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a " let's be sensible " manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the " moral significance of the journey ". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led all the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: " Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead ".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italia* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence: "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not diminished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of lire spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U. S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U. S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P. S. I. U. P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P. S. I. U. P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He declared that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

### Party Report.

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,148, an increase of 445,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unità*'s circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolin's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factions manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

### Court of Cassation.

At the new year inaugration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italie Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Conneil of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The conneil, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadie, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire ten days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

### Coal.

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

### Power.

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95. and 2 G. 12s, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paraguay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE, (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

Vol. III, No. 39

January 13, 1947

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most important news during the past week in Italy was that pertaining to the visit of Alcide De Gasperi, Italian Prime Minister, to the United States. Accompanied by various advisors particularly in the economic field the President of the Council of Ministers left Rome on 3 January and arrived in Washington on 5 January.

There was no conjecture about the purpose of the visit. De Gasperi himself in an interview with the press the day before he left reduced his mission to three fundamental points: (1) to create confidence in the new Italy among Americans, (2) to obtain some kind of a guarantee of minimum food shipments to Italy following the end of UNRRA and (3) to obtain an American Loan. The prime Minister further added that he would cite recent outbursts in Southern Italy as an instance of the great need Italy has of "wheat and dollars".

The Italian Prime Minister's round of interviews and other official functions started on 6 January after a Sunday spent in touring the city of Washington. He was present at the session of Congress in which President Truman delivered his address on the State of the Union. The head of the Italian Government was roundly applauded by the members when introduced as a distinguished visitor. Following his appearance at the Congressional session he was besieged by members of the press for comments on the President's speech but refused on the grounds that he was merely a foreign visitor. He did, however, pronounce the foreign affairs part of the speech "very interesting".

The same day De Gasperi was received by Secretary of State Byrnes with whom he had a half hour conversation. Details were not given out but the Prime Minister declared on leaving Byrnes office that it was "a great beginning".

Italian newspapers were generally optimistic and enthusiastic in their treatment of the Prime Minister's stay in Washington. Much emphasis was laid upon his reception by the American Congress. *Italia Nuova* headlined "A proof of exceptional cordiality – Congress acclaims De Gasperi with a great pro-Italian demonstration". *Momento* declared, "Our hopes in America are strengthened". *Giornale d'Italia* looked beyond any practical results that might come from the visit. The paper pointed out in a "let's be sensible" manner that it would be a grave mistake to think that De Gasperi had gone to the United States to conclude economic negotiations in a few days. It would be equally mistaken, the paper observed, to regard his visit as implying the subservience of Italy to the United States. The paper emphasized the "moral significance of the journey". It intimated that the Prime Minister's journey was destined to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries and to lay the future foundations of the negotiations which would subsequently be carried on through normal diplomatic channels. A decidedly political note was injected into the journalistic comment by Giannini who, writing in *Buonsenso* declared that De Gasperi's visit might bear interesting and immediate results only if he succeeded in making the most of Italy's position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic.

### Toast by Secretary Byrnes.

But the rose-colored comments led 5 of the rest. On the night of 6 January De Gasperi was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Secretary of State Byrnes. In the course of the Affair Byrnes toasted the head of the Italian Government in a short speech during which he declared: "Our guest is confronted with extremists of Right and Left. His task is to reconcile them and to have his government agree to sign the peace treaty. The Italian Government must realize the Italian people must pay for the sins of a government that is gone. The people being what they are, it is hard to realize the justice of this. It calls for a great man of courage. In all of Italy, there is no man of stouter heart and greater courage than the man we honor. If he can't do it, it can't be done. We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead".

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



A great deal of prominence in the Italian press was given to Byrnes speech. *Giornale d'Italia* used as its headline the Secretary's sentence, "We are anxious to help Italy in the dark days ahead". Pratically all of the other papers reported the affair in the same tone and the overall optimism was not dimirished following the Prime Minister's "extremely cordial" conversation with President Truman on 7 January. At the conclusion of a twenty minute talk, *Il Popolo* reported that the Italian leader quoted the American President as follows: "We have no demands to present to the Italian people; confidence in their industry makes us keep to our policy of helping Italy". Amid the speech-making however, much down-to-earth spade work was being done. The Prime Minister spent some time with Secretary of Treasury John Snyder. The exact subjects of the conversation were not announced but the press presumed they included further payments of lire spent by American forces in Italy and the unfreezing of Italian assets in the United States. Other American officials with whom he conferred were Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson and Undersecretary of State William Clayton. In the meantime, Italian Foreign Trade Minister Campilli was conferring with Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson.

Aside from Byrnes brief reference to it at Monday night's banquet, the peace treaty was scarcely mentioned in the public utterances of the various dignitaries until 8 January when during a press conference De Gasperi declared that the question of the treaty had not been discussed officially in Italy, contrary to the reports of various newspapers. He said that the treaty was a matter concerning the Italian Constituent Assembly.

### Byrnes Resigns.

During the visit to Washington it was announced that James Byrnes had resigned as American Secretary of State and that the new Secretary would be General George C. Marshall. There was a brief speculation in the Italian press as to what effect this change would make in Italo-American relations but the flurry was stilled when De Gasperi announced following a visit to Byrnes on 8 January that he had been informed there would be no change in the policy of the U.S. State Department. The Italian Prime Minister further declared that the lines of the U.S. policy towards Italy would be defined in a direct agreement between President Truman and himself. None of the Italian papers connected Byrnes resignation with De Gasperi's visit.

### Socialist Congress.

In the field of national politics the Socialists took most of the headlines with the opening of the National Congress in Rome on 9 January. For some weeks the papers have been filled with polemics between the leaders of the various trends particularly between Saragat and Nenni. However for a week or two before the opening of the Congress things had been fairly quiet as most of the groups seemed to be awaiting a showdown at the Congress. Two days before the opening of the Congress the so-called non-fusionist (with the Communists) element headed by Saragat decided to withdraw from the Socialist Party of Proletarian Union. It was declared that this group would form an independent Italian Socialist Party. At the same time the P.S.I.U.P. held a meeting in which the strength of the party was estimated. According to *Messaggero* Nenni estimated that his group would probably count on about 580,000 votes of the party members as compared with an estimated 250,000 for the opposition.

The Socialist Initiative trend of the party also met on the 7th but was not heard from until the opening day of the Congress itself when Matteo Matteotti read a statement to the effect that the Party "had been sold to outside interests" and called upon the Congress to dissolve itself. It was apparent that the dissident elements were getting together, for a second congress of these elements was held during the day at Palazzo Barberini.

But there was apparently a split within the split. Alberto Simonini of the Socialist Critics trend (Saragat's) announced at the regular party congress that the majority of that group was willing to talk matters over in respect to relations with the Communists before walking out.

In a lengthy address during the day Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and President of P.S.I.U.P., denied that he was considering any organic fusion of the Party with the Communists. He declared that this idea had been "buried" when it was voted down at the Florence Congress last spring. He announced that he was willing to step down as party leader if that was the price demanded by the other elements for their continuance in the party. It was a strong plea for unity.

Questioned in Washington as to the possible political effect of Saragat's resignation from the Socialist Party, De Gasperi reportedly stated that he did not know whether this action would bring about a Government crisis. Saragat is not a

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



member of the cabinet but is President of the Constituent Assembly. The Prime Minister told newspapermen that there was a possibility that Saragat might resign his office, but then might be re-elected.

The Communist Party's National Conference on Party Organization opened on 6 January in Florence. Togliatti delivered an address in which he stressed the "democratic" character of the party. "We discuss our problems in our basic organizations and at the meetings of the Party Executive... We are not however of the opinion that a party can be called democratic only if its leaders accuse one another of being fascists... We hold discussions on democratic lines but we all know that we are united by a solemn pact to which we adhere when we join the party and by which we undertake in the course of the struggle which lies ahead, to be always on the same side of the barricade". He also expressed the hope that the Socialist Party might maintain its unity.

### Party Report.

In a report of party organization Pietro Secchia mentioned the electoral success in the 2 June elections, the victorious campaign against Corbino and the party's struggle for national reconstruction. He declared the party's membership as of 31 October was 2,166,448, an increase of 445,000 during the year 1946 up to that date. He complained however that there was too much disproportion in the numbers of members in the various regions and Federations. Greater attention must be paid to the South and the islands he declared. Referring to the Communist press he announced that during "Communist Press Month" 30 million lire had been subscribed but that *Unità's* circulation had shown no spectacular rise.

On 6 January several hundred partisans and former youthful followers of Mussolin's republic gathered at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Piazza Venezia, Rome in a reconciliation ceremony. A similar ceremony had been held in Perugia on New Years day and had been favorably reported. This time however the various veterans' organizations and party leaders were decidedly not in accord. As a result, following a meeting held the same evening, an order of the day was issued disclaiming all connection with the affair. The order was signed by representatives of four veterans' organizations and seven of the leading political parties, and went on to express regret that an attempt was being made "to stage a factions manifestation and a political speculation which is really in strong contrast with the spirit of real national reconciliation".

### Court of Cassation.

At the new year inauguration ceremony of the Court of Cassation which was held on 4 January, Massimo Pilotti Procurator General delivered an address during which according to *Italia Libera* he failed either to mention the Republic or note the presence of President of the Republic De Nicola. The paper inveighed against the slight and urged Minister of Justice Gullo to take measures "for the defense of the Republican regime".

On 8 January at the meeting of the Council of Ministers, Gullo did in fact demand that the Government should take disciplinary measures against both the President of the Court and the Procurator General on the grounds of serious lack of respect to the Head of the State. The council, however, decided to postpone action on the question until the return of Prime Minister De Gasperi from the United States.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

For the period from 1 December 1946 to 7 January 1947, 825,307 tons of wheat were available in Italy, according to this week's report by the Economic Division. Of this amount 421,990 tons were consumed leaving a balance of 403,317 tons. Providing stocks can be moved from deficiency areas this balance will meet requirements for the country for 36 days.

The wheat supply in Venezia Giulia and Udine will increase by 8,000 tons on 15 January, the Economics Division reports, with the arrival of the S/S Nikola Labadic, and 8000 tons flour are scheduled to arrive in Trieste on 16 January, while the S/S Kelly is due on 23 January in Trieste with a cargo of coal.

Control of food prices and the fight against the black market in Rome have brought about a further shortage together with an increase in prices, the division also reports. The price of eggs for example has jumped from 35 lire ten days ago to the present figure of 45 lire. Even at this higher price they are not always available.

### Coal.

The estimated availability of coal for January is 1,045,000 tons. Allocation for consumption during this month has been increased from 100,000 tons to 500,000 tons leaving an estimated balance at the end of the month of 545,000 tons.

### Power.

Due to freezing of rivers and canals in the north of Italy power from the area's hydro-electric plants has been decreased. Because of this drop

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



in import from the north and increased consumption as compared with the preceeding month the estimated power shortage for January is about 36 per cent. This is a considerable estimated increase over December's shortage of 26 per cent. In November the shortage was 32 per cent.

The Sila reservoir group have now about 58 million KWH in storage as against 40 million KWH reported last week.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Group Captain L.E. Jarman, senior staff officer, made a short visit to the A.F.S.C. Detachment in Milan on 2 January when outstanding matters were discussed with Flight Lieutenant Lord, the detachment commander.

A special flight of three Italian Aircraft, one SM. 95. and 2 G. 12s, left Italy for Cairo, Egypt, where they brought an Italian Opera Company which had been invited to visit the country at the special request of the Egyptian Government. Another special flight was arranged to Pola for Vatican Officials connected with relief. An Italian aircraft conveyed the party to Udine, but from there the flight was continued in an R.A.F. aircraft.

Amendola Airfield is scheduled to be officially turned over to the Italian Air Ministry in the near future. The 55th Station Hospital in Foggia will also shortly become Italian Government property.

As a result of an International Conference held in Paris during October and November 1946, the Italian Air Ministry agreed to set up an Approach Control Zone in the Milan area for air traffic control.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Evacuation of Germans to their homeland has begun with the return to the American Zone of 170 persons and it is hoped that during the month of January a way will be found to return the remainder of the Germans now in Bolzano and Fossoli di Carpi to Germany.

Fourteen persons have emigrated from Bagnoli Displaced Persons Center to Paraguay, where they will re-settle and begin their lives anew.

Six-hundred Greeks are expected to be in transit through Italy during the first two weeks of January. Of this number 284 are from Austria and 160 from Germany.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and have been assigned to the indicated offices: Lt. Col. Gervaise Chittick, (Legal Division); Capt. Marcel A. Huet, (Public Relations Branch); Capt. Thaddeus J. Trybalski, (Communications Division); and Capt. Fredric C. Barr, unassigned.

Last week's *Bulletin* (this section), concerning Maj. T. I. M. Scully, should have read: Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MBE, (O. C. British Detachment) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

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

January 6, 1947 Vol. III, No. 38

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

General unrest in Italy continued to mount last week as the weather turned colder and the people became more immediately confronted with the elementary problem of food and unemployment. In the newspapers there was much speculation as to the possible results that might come from the prospective visit of Prime Minister De Gasperi to the United States. The press, however, also had other matters to write about as the reaction of the people to continued want took a more violent channel that lead to disorders and general strikes.

On 27 December a crowd of citizens estimated at several thousand, stormed the City Hall at Bari. The disturbance apparently began as a protest against the rising cost of living and the general unemployment. As the throng grew it marched on the City Hall and attempted to ram the doors with commandeered busses. Attempts to break up the riots were made by police on foot and in armored cars. The police resorted to firearms and succeeded in repelling the assault on the City Hall. In the action one demonstrator was killed and at least fourteen injured. The crowd broke up into two groups one of which marched on the Bari branch of the Bank of Naples and the other on the city's main fruit market. The former group succeeded in starting a fire at the bank before police and firemen could put it out. While this disturbance seemed to grow spontaneously, it was quickly taken over by the local Chamber of Labor which called a general strike the following day. The strike was short lived but the fact that the general unrest was spreading was borne out by rioting at the Sicilian town of Palmi near Palermo evidently due to the same causes as that which had provoked the outbreak at Bari.

Although it appeared that the various outbreaks were spontaneous in origin the Italian press had other ideas. Practically everywhere South of Rome the municipal governments are rightwing and the organs of the rightist parties were not slow to declare that the increasing series of disturbances were due to left-wing agitation. On the other hand *Unità* attacked the Government because the police had fired into the mob and further cried that the Southern towns were being managed by "Monarchists and Faseists".

In return the Christian Democrat newspaper *Il Popolo* thundered that the Naples and Bari strikes were only the beginning of a "calendar of strikes," instigated by the parties of the left for no other purpose than to bring discredit upon the Government. To this both *Unità* and *Avanti* charged that the strikes represented a spontaneous reaction to the De Gasperi Government. The Italian press in general said that the two aforementioned strikes were only the forerunners of others in several localities in Sicily and Southern Italy.

A general strike was begun at Caserta on 2 January with the local Chamber of Labor demanding the same measures as had been demanded by the Chambers at Naples and Bari. *Il Globo* reported that there were persistent rumors to the effect that a general strike would be called at Rome between 5 and 8 January. The same paper charged that the purpose of this rumored strike along with the others was to sabotage Prime Minister De Gasperi's mission to Washington and thus prevent a further turning away of Italy from the East to the West in the country's diplomatic relations.

532

### De Gasperi and the Council.

The general rising clamor and its possible connection with the impending visit of the Prime Minister to the United States was by no means unnoticed by the Prime Minister. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 30 December, De Gasperi deplored the attitude taken by the leftist press toward his contemplated trip. In particular he decried the slant of the Socialist and Communist papers in which they hailed every measure taken by the Government to relieve unemployment and food shortage, as a concession wrested from the authorities by mass demonstrations. He cited particularly, an article in *Avanti* of 29 December in which the paper declared: "The

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



newspaper *Popolo* in order to have the Government's action supported, not only prefers silence but demands that during De Gasperi's trip to America, hunger be satisfied by machine-gun fire. The unemployed people of Bari and all of Southern Italy should die quietly of starvation merely because a Cleveland return ticket is in the pocket of the President of the Council of Ministers. Evidently the semi-official staff of *Il Popolo* feel sure that De Gasperi will return as a victor, laden with gold from his travel on the high seas."

The Prime Minister declared that by such publications his mission was being devalued and the people of Italy unnecessarily excited. He inveighed against what he called the systematic sabotaging of action by the Government and at the discrediting of the state's authority. He declared that he would not tolerate the situation. "If one shares in the Government, one must support the Government and not take part in demagogy", the Prime Minister said. He further compared the present situation with that of 1919 which was followed by the rise of fascism.

De Gasperi concluded his remarks at the meeting by pointing out that his trip was the result of the first invitation of its kind made by another government to Italy and further declared that the importance of the visit should be neither overvalued nor undervalued. At the same meeting Foreign Minister Nenni voiced his regret that he could not accompany the Prime Minister owing to the imminence of the Congress of the Socialist Party.

### Republican Demands.

The importance of De Gasperi's trip to the United States was further indicated by the fact that the demands of the Republican Party for immediate adoption of their nine-point program mentioned in last week's *Bulletin* were postponed until the return of the Italian Prime Minister. The memorandum of the Republicans was explained by the Republican Minister Macrelli at the Council Meeting but by mutual agreement final consideration and decision were shelved. This was patently a truce inasmuch as the original demands had listed immediate adoption of the various points as the price of continuance of the Republicans in the Government. For the time being once again it was evident that common interests of the country had put off a threatened Governmental crisis.

De Gasperi left Rome in a C-54 aircraft on 3 January. Included in his party were his daughter Maria Romana, private secretary, Minister for Foreign Trade Campilli, Dr. Zoppi, of the Ministry, Dr. Menichella Director General of the Bank of Italy, Dr. Carli also of the Bank of Italy, and Dr. Canali who will act as the Prime Minister's Secretary for press relations. According to *Messaggero*, De Gasperi's schedule called for his presence in Washington on 6, 7, and 8 January during which time he was expected to confer with President Truman and Secretary of State Byrnes. On 9 January he is to visit Chicago and on 10 and 11 January he will visit Cleveland taking part in an "International Study Convention", sponsored by the Magazine *Time*. During 12 and 13 January the Italian Prime Minister will be the guest of New York City and he will then return to Italy. During his absence De Gasperi's posts will be filled by Foreign Minister Nenni as Acting Prime Minister and by Minister of Merchant Marine Aldisio as Acting Minister of Interior.

### Rome's Mayor.

The mayoralty situation in Rome was resolved on a temporary basis with the appointment on 28 December of Mario de Cesare as governing commissioner of the City. The Commissioner was formerly Prefect of Ravenna and Brescia. He will be assisted by two sub-commissioners. It is likely that new elections will be held in a few months in another attempt to elect a mayor. At the Administrative Elections of 10 November the People's Block obtained a plurality but were unable to obtain a clear majority which would have enabled the parties comprising the Block to establish a Mayor. The situation resulted in an impasse when the Christian Democrats refused to collaborate with the leftist parties in the formation of a local government. At one point the Christian Democrats joined with the Qualunquists and did succeed in electing a mayor who was to head a junta composed of the proportional representation of the parties. The leftists however refused to serve under those conditions and the elected mayor, thereupon resigned. Another suggested solution involving the coalition of the leftist, Liberals and Christian Democrats also resulted in failure. It was predicted that extremely heated political campaigns would precede the new elections.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Consumption of wheat in Italy for the period from 1 to 29 December was 319,899 tons, it was reported this week by the Economic Division. Inasmuch as the amount of wheat available up

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



to 29 December was 778,071 tons, a wheat stock of 458,172 tons was on hand as of 30 December. This stock is sufficient to meet requirements for 41 days contingent upon the availability of transport to move the stocks. In addition to that on hand at the end of last month 67,751 tons has been signalled to arrive up to 1 February.

Arrangements have been made for the loan to the Italian Government of 5,000 tons of wheat from military stocks. Stocks of wheat and flour on hand in Venezia Giulia and Udine will supply these areas through January and repayment will be made by 1 February.

### Coal.

The stocks of coal on hand as of 31 December 1946 was estimated to be 345,000 tons. It was expected that approximately 700,000 tons of coal would arrive in January making a total availability for the month of 1,045,000 tons. The allocation for consumption during the month is 500,000 so that it is estimated that 545,000 tons of coal will be available as of 31 January 1947. Normal shipments of coal will begin to arrive about 10 January.

### P. O. L.

P.O.L. stocks on hand were reported as follows: motor gasoline 55 days, diesel oil 40 days, kerosene 60 days and fuel oil 60 days. It was reported that of the two million barrels of crude oil paid for by UNRRA, 900,850 barrels have now been received at the refineries of Bari and Naples and local distribution of the products refined therefrom has been started.

### Power.

No change has been reported in the power situation in Northern Italy. There has been no marked improvement in the electricity situation in Central and Southern Italy. The Silu reservoirs are filling up steadily, however and last week had reached about 52 million KWH which is about one sixth of their capacity.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

Orders have now been received from A. F. H. Q. for the withdrawal of British Liaison Units attached to Italian Army Territorial Commands. The withdrawal of those units remote from areas still occupied by Allied troops is to begin almost immediately. This withdrawal curtails the more intimate functions of L. F. S. C. in respect of the Italian Army and leaves mainly centralized liaison with the War Ministry and Central Schools in and around Rome.

Negotiations are now in progress with a view to the transfer to the Italian Army of surplus British equipment from the occupation forces in Austria. It is expected that much useful maintenance equipment for arms and transport will be obtained from this source.

### Decoration.

On 28 December 1946, in San Severo at a large ceremony which had been arranged by the Sindaco and the Carabinieri, representatives from M. M. I. A presented a Bronze Star Medal to Lt. Col. Ottorino Bazza, now retired and former Commanding Officer of the Carabinieri unit, which had guarded the vital points in the lines of communication in the Foggia Area during the war. The Allied Force Units of the British Eighth Army and the US 15th Air Force were supplied with aviation gasoline through the highly important and valuable pipe line located in that area. Lt. Col. Bozzi's unit performed its duties so well, that there was no interruption of the flow of gasoline to the Air Corps Units due to sabotage. His important assistance was greatly valued by the United States in the war against the common enemy.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Maj. T. I. M. Scully, MB, (Camp Commandant) has left the Allied Commission on leave to the United Kingdom.

Three American officers have recently joined the Allied Commission and are waiting assignment. They are: Lt. Col. Langdon A. J. Jackson, Maj. Robert E. Vollendorff, and 1st. Lt. John W. Hughes, Jr.

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

December 30, 1946 Vol. III, No. 37

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, sends the following New Year's Message:

"To all personnel of the Allied Commission I send my warmest personal wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year with deep gratitude for the splendid service and support received from all hands during the past year".

## POLITICAL

Rome newspapers last week took a two-day holiday in order to celebrate Christmas. The afternoon papers did not appear on 24 and 25 December while the morning papers were not published on 25 and 26 December. News therefore was rather thin particularly in the field of party politics. It seemed apparent that the various party leaders were withholding any significant announcements possibly because of the diminished publication.

Of great significance however was the prominence of coverage given the Catholic demonstration against anti-clericalism held in Piazza San Pietro on Sunday 22 December. Normally those papers which do publish Monday editions, limit themselves to accounts of various sporting events. The demonstration however was fully covered with many of the papers printing the full text of the address delivered by Pope Pius XII and also printing three and four column pictures of the throng.

To a crowd of Italian citizens variously estimated at from 200,000 to 500,000 the Pope declared among other things: "You are here to proclaim before Italy and the whole world the strong union which joins you with the See of Peter and with the Catholic traditions of our native city in a holy union which surpasses and defeats every obstacle and every threat, every test and every doubt. With sadness and indignation you see the sacred face of Rome (and of this holy place which by divine will is the Seat of the Vicar of Christ) exposed by the hand of wicked deniers of God, profaners of divine things, worshippers of sensation to be stained by ignominy and covered with mud... From the Roman soil the first Peter who was surrounded by the threats of a perverted imperial power launched the first cry of alarm: 'Remain strong in your faith'. On this same soil we now repeat to you with doubled energy, that cry as your native city is now the theater of unceasing efforts aimed at reviving the fight between the two opposite fields; for Christ or against Christ; for his Church or against his Church..."

### Anti-Clerical Press.

The mass-meeting was directly the result of an increasing fury of anti-clericalism which has characterized a certain portion of the Italian Press. A short time ago an edition of *Il Mercante* was seized by the police for printing alleged obscenities concerning the Pope and even while the Pontiff was speaking an edition of *Don Basilio* was announcing that provincial organizations were being formed and that these organizations had the objective of calling a national congress of anti-clerical supporters. It was suggested that a new political party might be the result.

*Don Basilio* is published by Ruggero Maccari who also publishes the anti-clerical *Il Pollo*. As publisher of the latter organ Maccari on 23 December was sentenced by a Roman Court to two years in jail for "publishing obscenity and insults against religion and the clergy".

Press comment on the address of the Pope was in many cases tied in with Maccari's sentence. *Avanti* employing a quotation from the Pontiff's address for a play on words headlined "Awake Roman citizens!... and the judges, suddenly awakened, have severely condemned the newspaper *Il Pollo*". *Unità* headed the story of Maccari's conviction with "Oil on the fire", and charged that the authorities have left undisturbed several papers which *Unità* considers fascist. *Italia Nuova* declared that the demonstration had "identified Italian civilization with Catholic civilization". *Momento-Sera* in a leading article on the one hand advised all parties to maintain a stand of deep respect for religion and on the

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



other advised believers in the Catholic faith not to deal with political issues with a dogmatic spirit, declaring that politics was not a mystic body like the church but a mundane affair.

Relations of Church and State were defined on 19 December when a Sub-Commission of the Constituent Assembly approved a proposed article which read: "The State and the Catholic Church are independent organs within their own spheres. Their relations are regulated by the Lateran Pacts. Any modification of them bi-laterally accepted, will not require a procedure of constitutional revision but will be submitted to normal procedure of ratification."

While the first sentence passed the committee without any serious disagreement, the same was not true of the other two. The Communists objected to the second sentence on grounds which included among others the fact that the Pacts had been concluded while the Fascists were in power. The Christian Democrats dismissed this argument as absurd. In the case of the third sentence the ultimate wording was evidently proposed by the Liberals as a compromise for the benefit of the Communists.

### Prime Minister De Gasperi's Visit

Aside from the splash created by the Catholic demonstration, news during the week was light and scattered as to origin. On 21 December *Messaggero* and other papers carried a dispatch originating from Washington to the effect that Prime Minister De Gasperi had been invited by the State Department to visit Washington. He will leave Italy on 3 January arriving in America on the fifth. It was expected that his visit would last about ten days during which the Prime Minister would definitely confer with Secretary of State Byrnes and possibly with President Truman. Italian Government circles declared that De Gasperi would concentrate on three topics during his conversations with American officials. These are a dollar loan, food, and the general United States attitude toward Italy after the signing of the Peace treaty. In connection with finances *Messaggero* reported on 21 December that "an authoritative spokesman of the State Department", had declared that United States reimbursement for lire furnished American troops in Italy should amount ultimately to 350 million dollars. The same day, *Popolo* reported from New York that Eng. Saverdotti head of the Italian Financial Mission had telephoned Minister Campilli from Washington to the effect that the United States had put at Italy's disposal 51 ½ million dollars as a first installment.

De Gasperi's prospective trip caused a good deal of discussion in the Italian press. *Capitale* declared "De Gasperi's conversation will not change the dictated peace. The trip has a prevailingly financial goal." *Momento* headlined, "De Gasperi will discuss the dictated peace in relation with Italy's present situation". *Popolo* pointed out "The visit will coincide with the opening of Congress". *Italia Nuova* citing the uncertain political situation in Italy declared that it was up to De Gasperi "to clear all doubts in the minds of the American Government and to give it security as to Italy's democratic attitude". *Messaggero* typified the Italian press sentiment with the heading "A Beginning". Practically all the papers were optimistic.

It was announced by the Press Office of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers that Ambassador Tarchiani had suggested that Foreign Minister Nenni accompany the Prime Minister or himself visit the United States later on. Nenni chose the latter plan.

### Admiral De Courten Resigns.

One incident during the week which aroused considerable interest and conjecture in the Italian press was the resignation of Admiral Raffaele De Courten as Italian Navy Chief of Staff. His resignation was generally credited by Italian newspapers as a protest against the fate of the Italian navy as pronounced by the Peace Treaty. While the future size of Italy's navy has been known for some time, the disposition of the various units of the fleet as presently constituted has been kept secret by the Council of Foreign Ministers. At least one paper *Giornale d'Italia* tied up the resignation with the arrival in Rome of Admiral Sir Algernon Willis of the British Navy, Commander in Chief, Mediterranean. It was erroneously claimed that Admiral Willis had come to discuss reports that the Italians would scuttle their fleet rather than turn it over to the victorious powers. On 21 December the Council of Ministers accepted the resignation and appointed Admiral Francesco Maugeri as Navy Chief of Staff. Admiral Maugeri is presently commander of the La Spezia Naval Base. *Avanti* declared: "De Courten leaves the Navy after having kept it on behalf of the Savoias." *Giornale della Sera:* "The Allies have not appreciated the Italian co-belligerance. De Courten resigns to protest the diktat".

As to party politics the most significant event of the week was the threat of the Republican Party to withdraw from the Government if a nine-point program of economic and political reform were not immediately adopted. Although the Repu-

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



blicans, one of the smaller parties, have only two members in the Government the threat was a new call to crisis inasmuch as some of the points presented were directly in contrast with the Government's present policy. For example one item was the immediate withdrawal of currency in circulation and the substitution of a new currency. Another was the merging of the Treasury and Finance Ministries. This had been a sore spot at the time of the resignation of Corbino as Minister of Treasury. Other demands voiced by the Party included the elimination of pro-Monarchist elements in the Ministry of Interior, the unification of the armed forces into a single ministry of defense and the elimination of useless Governmental agencies.

Rome was still without a mayor. On 23 December representatives of the various parties held another meeting to resolve the impasse that has prevented election of a mayor since the administrative elections of 10 November. This time it was proposed that the Liberals and Christian Democrats join the People's Block to form the administration. The Liberals however refused and now it looked as though a Commissioner might be appointed instead of a Mayor and that new administrative elections would be held six months after his appointment.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the amount of wheat available during the period from 1 to 21 December was 722,901 tons. The consumption during the same period amounted to 242,682 tons leaving a balance on hand of 480,222 tons. This was sufficient to provide for requirements for 44 days providing the transportation was available to move the stocks. Shipments amounting to a total of 75,899 tons were already in transit or signalled to arrive up to 4 January 1947.

The SEPRAL of Rome has issued a provision according to which the bread ration for one day each week will be composed of 100 grams of bread and 200 grams of maize flour. This provision is effective from 1 January 1947. Similar provisions have already been adopted in some Northern provinces where part of the bread ration has been substituted with maize flour, considering 100 grams of bread equal to 100 grams of maize flour. In Rome the proportion of maize has been made higher (135-200) because the maize flour on hand cannot be kept for a long time due to humidity.

It was estimated that 355,000 tons of coal would be available as of 31 December. This figure is based upon a total availability for the month of December of 755,000 tons and an estimated essential consumption of 400,000 tons.

The P. O. L. situation showed a marked improvement. Stocks on hand are estimated as follows: motor gasoline 53 days, diesel oil 38 days, kerosene 60 days and fuel oil 60 days.

As to power, no change is reported for Northern Italy. The Silu reservoirs in the South, however, now have a storage of approximately 40 million KWH as compared with 19 million KWH a week ago. A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Electric Power for Central and Southern Italy was held on 20 December. Additional hydro- and steam-generating units will be put into operation in January, thus relieving the situation which is still quite critical due to insufficient availability of water. It was estimated that, insofar as curtailment of power is concerned, no important change will take place in January with respect to the present situation.

## ITALIAN TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS RISE FROM THE RUINS

Acceptance by the Italian Government of the overhead telephone lines and associated terminal equipment constructed by the Allied Military Forces in Italy provides the first expansion of the Italian long distance telephone system since the beginning of the war. These lines were constructed by the Allies as additions to the existing Italian long distance telephone cable system. The routes of the main lines approximately parallel the Italian cable system. Many other lines, spurs of the main lines, extend into remote regions where telephone service was not generally known before the war.

The acceptance of these lines comes after months of surveys and checks by Italian telephone engineers and consulting engineers. Lines costing six million dollars to construct are being sold to the Italian Government through surplus disposal agencies.

Agreements to purchase were preceded by use of the Allied constructed facilities in the Italian systems, as Italian civilian operation replaced Allied Military operation during recent months. The lines built by the Allies have been merged into the Italian state system to supplement existing crowded routes, and to replace other routes where war damage proved to be too great to justify re-building the state cable.

Acceptance of these Allied open wire lines will be a minor part of the Italian plan for rebuilding the system destroyed by the war. Telephone

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



service will be extended beyond that provided before the war. Plans under the Piano Quinquennale di Ricostruzione of the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications propose a vast expansion of the system.

### Local Services Severely Damaged.

Almost all local telephone service is provided by five concessionary companies, so-called because the five companies are given the right to operate local telephone systems in five areas into which Italy is subdivided for such service. Before the war there were approximately 480,000 telephone subscribers of the service provided by the five concessionary services.

At the end of 1940, of 7351 urban districts in Italy, 4729 were without telephone service. Urban districts with telephone service varied from 100 per cent. in Umbria, 99 per cent. in Emilia, Lombardy and Marche, 61 per cent. in Sicily, 51 per cent. in Calabria, 38 per cent. in Lucania, to 29 per cent. in Sardinia.

Damage of war to facilities of these five companies was enormous. Total damage estimated by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommmunications is shown:

| | | Damage at Original Cost |
|---|---|---|
| STIPEL | L. | 138,000,000 |
| TELVE | " | 56,000,000 |
| TIMO | " | 126,000,000 |
| TETI | " | 198,000,000 |
| SET | " | 116,000,000 |
| TOTAL | L. | 604,000,000 |

At present relative lire valuations, the cost of replacing this damaged equipment is estimated in the Piano di Ricostruzione Quinquennale at 9,000,000,000 lire. In addition, the buildings of the concessionary companies were damaged or destroyed to the extent of 72,000,000 lire at 1939 prices. The cost of this rebuilding is estimated at 3,920,000,000 lire at 1946 prices. Technical services and supplies incident to planning, procuring and construction of damaged services is estimated to cost 2,100,000,000 lire. Rebuilding war damaged equipment is planned to extend over a three year period.

### Long Distance System Systematically Destroyed.

The Italian state owned long distance telephone networks and facilities were most severely damaged by acts of war. Constituting a vital link in the control of enemy armies by the German high command, the long distance telephone facilities were systematically destroyed by the Germans as the Allied armies forced the enemy to the north. Everytime a main highway bridge was blown out, a section of telephone cable was destroyed. Some 250 such sections were destroyed between Palermo and Bologna. Eleven of fifty-four repeater stations were destroyed, five were dismantled and carried away, and many were damaged by shells and bombs.

Long distance state owned telephone equipment was damaged by war to the extent of 329,000,000 lire at 1939 costs. At present prices the estimated replacement cost is lire 1,935,000,000.

Buildings used for long distance telephone service are also used for postal and telegraphic services, and it is not possible to state how much building damage is chargeable against telephone costs. However total Posts and Telecommunication building damage is estimated at 124,000,000 lire at 1939 prices, and 2,480,000,000 at 1946 prices.

Plans prepared by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for rebuilding the state owned telephone services call for expenditures over a three year period of:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st year | L. | 1,974,000,000 |
| 2d " | " | 1,974,000,000 |
| 3d " | " | 987,000,000 |

The agressive Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, the managers and engineers of the state Azienda di Stato and the concessionary companies are planning to do more than repair war damage. Ambitious plans have been prepared for expansion and enlargement of the telephone system. Improved types of equipment will be installed. Range of communications will be increased. Services will be made available for more people.

Repair of war damage and expansion costs are estimated at a total of 61,395,000,000 lire. This total repair and expansion is planned for a five year period.

Total annual estimated expenditures at 1946 prices for telephone construction by the Italian Government and the concessionary companies are:

| | Repair of War Damage Lire Millions | Expansion Lire Millions | Total Lire Millions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st year | 5,598 | 10,200 | 15,798 |
| 2d " | 4,692 | 9,600 | 14,292 |
| 3d " | 3,705 | 9,600 | 13,305 |
| 4th " | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| 5th " | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| TOTAL | 13,995 | 47,400 | 61,395 |

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



This is exclusive of building construction which will approximate 6,922,000,000 lire.

Truly the Italian people plan to raise its telephone communication from ruins to the level of effective and efficient systems. Its best engineers are estimating and evaluating needs and manufacturing capacity. Communications experts from other countries are making independent analyses and recommendations. Availability of equipment for import has been determined.

Several factors remain to impede movement ahead. Undetermined are the effect on Italian economy of the peace terms, manufacturing capacity that may be used to fulfill the terms of reparations, and source of raw materials for use in Italian production.

These ambitious plans, aggressively executed, aided by natural resources of other nations will materially help restoration of normal life in Italy. Consummation of these plans may be a major step into the policy of abundance for the Italian way of life, supplanting any idea of scarcity that may have been a guiding but outmoded principle of the past when the major aids to a more abundant life were not available to many of the people.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Major James P. Loewus, (A), recently joined the Allied Commission and has been assigned to Land Forces Sub-Commission.

Lt. Col. Albert Whipple Morse, (A), (Land Forces Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge.

Capt. J. Stopford, (B), has been promoted to the rank of Major.

524

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

December 30, 1946

Vol. III, No. 37

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, sends the following New Year's Message:

"To all personnel of the Allied Commission I send my warmest personal wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year with deep gratitude for the splendid service and support received from all hands during the past year".

## POLITICAL

Rome newspapers last week took a two-day holiday in order to celebrate Christmas. The afternoon papers did not appear on 24 and 25 December while the morning papers were not published on 25 and 26 December. News therefore was rather thin particularly in the field of party politics. It seemed apparent that the various party leaders were withholding any significant announcements possibly because of the diminished publication.

Of great significance however was the prominence of coverage given the Catholic demonstration against anti-clericalism held in Piazza San Pietro on Sunday 22 December. Normally those papers which do publish Monday editions, limit themselves to accounts of various sporting events. The demonstration however was fully covered with many of the papers printing the full text of the address delivered by Pope Pius XII and also printing three and four column pictures of the throng.

To a crowd of Italian citizens variously estimated at from 200,000 to 500,000 the Pope declared among other things: "You are here to proclaim before Italy and the whole world the strong union which joins you with the See of Peter and with the Catholic traditions of our native city in a holy union which surpasses and defeats every obstacle and every threat, every test and every doubt. With sadness and indignation you see the sacred face of Rome (and of this holy place which by divine will is the Seat of the Vicar of Christ) exposed by the hand of wicked deniers of God, profaners of divine things, worshippers of sensation to be stained by ignominy and covered with mud... From the Roman soil the first Peter who was surrounded by the threats of a perverted imperial power launched the first cry of alarm: 'Remain strong in your faith'. On this same soil we now repeat to you with doubled energy, that cry as your native city is now the theater of unceasing efforts aimed at reviving the fight between the two opposite fields; for Christ or against Christ; for his Church or against his Church..."

### Anti-Clerical Press.

The mass-meeting was directly the result of an increasing fury of anti-clericalism which has characterized a certain portion of the Italian Press. A short time ago an edition of *Il Mercante* was seized by the police for printing alleged obscenities concerning the Pope and even while the Pontiff was speaking an edition of *Don Basilio* was announcing that provincial organizations were being formed and that these organizations had the objective of calling a national congress of anti-clerical supporters. It was suggested that a new political party might be the result.

*Don Basilio* is published by Ruggero Maccari who also publishes the anti-clerical *Il Pollo*. As publisher of the latter organ Maccari on 23 December was sentenced by a Roman Court to two years in jail for "publishing obscenity and insults against religion and the clergy".

Press comment on the address of the Pope was in many cases tied in with Maccari's sentence. *Avanti* employing a quotation from the Pontiff's address for a play on words headlined "Awake Roman citizens!... and the judges, suddenly awakened, have severely condemned the newspaper *Il Pollo*". *Unità* headed the story of Maccari's conviction with "Oil on the fire", and charged that the authorities have left undisturbed several papers which *Unità* considers fascist. *Italia Nuova* declared that the demonstration had "identified Italian civilization with Catholic civilization". *Momento-Sera* in a leading article on the one hand advised all parties to maintain a stand of deep respect for religion and on the

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



other advised believers in the Catholic faith not to deal with political issues with a dogmatic spirit, declaring that politics was not a mystic body like the church but a mundane affair.

Relations of Church and State were defined on 19 December when a Sub-Commission of the Constituent Assembly approved a proposed article which read: "The State and the Catholic Church are independent organs within their own spheres. Their relations are regulated by the Lateran Pacts. Any modification of them bi-laterally accepted, will not require a procedure of constitutional revision but will be submitted to normal procedure of ratification."

While the first sentence passed the committee without any serious disagreement, the same was not true of the other two. The Communists objected to the second sentence on grounds which included among others the fact that the Pacts had been concluded while the Fascists were in power. The Christian Democrats dismissed this argument as absurd. In the case of the third sentence the ultimate wording was evidently proposed by the Liberals as a compromise for the benefit of the Communists.

### Prime Minister De Gasperi's Visit.

Aside from the splash created by the Catholic demonstration, news during the week was light and scattered as to origin. On 21 December *Messaggero* and other papers carried a dispatch originating from Washington to the effect that Prime Minister De Gasperi had been invited by the State Department to visit Washington. He will leave Italy on 3 January arriving in America on the fifth. It was expected that his visit would last about ten days during which the Prime Minister would definitely confer with Secretary of State Byrnes and possibly with President Truman. Italian Government circles declared that De Gasperi would concentrate on three topics during his conversations with American officials. These are a dollar loan, food, and the general United States attitude toward Italy after the signing of the Peace treaty. In connection with finances *Messaggero* reported on 21 December that "an authoritative spokesman of the State Department", had declared that United States reimbursement for lire furnished American troops in Italy should amount ultimately to 350 million dollars. The same day, *Popolo* reported from New York that Eng. Sacerdotti head of the Italian Financial Mission had telephoned Minister Campilli from Washington to the effect that the United States had put at Italy's disposal 51 ½ million dollars as a first installment.

De Gasperi's prospective trip caused a good deal of discussion in the Italian press. *Capitale* declared "De Gasperi's conversation will not change the dictated peace. The trip has a prevailingly financial goal." *Momento* headlined, "De Gasperi will discuss the dictated peace in relation with Italy's present situation". *Popolo* pointed out "The visit will coincide with the opening of Congress". *Italia Nuova* citing the uncertain political situation in Italy declared that it was up to De Gasperi "to clear all doubts in the minds of the American Government and to give it security as to Italy's democratic attitude". *Messaggero* typified the Italian press sentiment with the heading "A Beginning". Practically all the papers were optimistic.

It was announced by the Press Office of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers that Ambassador Tarchiani had suggested that Foreign Minister Nenni accompany the Prime Minister or himself visit the United States later on. Nenni chose the latter plan.

### Admiral De Courten Resigns.

One incident during the week which aroused considerable interest and conjecture in the Italian press was the resignation of Admiral Raffaele De Courten as Italian Navy Chief of Staff. His resignation was generally credited by Italian newspapers as a protest against the fate of the Italian navy as pronounced by the Peace Treaty. While the future size of Italy's navy has been known for some time, the disposition of the various units of the fleet as presently constituted has been kept secret by the Council of Foreign Ministers. At least one paper *Giornale d'Italia* tied up the resignation with the arrival in Rome of Admiral Sir Algernon Willis of the British Navy, Commander in Chief, Mediterranean. It was erroneously claimed that Admiral Willis had come to discuss reports that the Italians would scuttle their fleet rather than turn it over to the victorious powers. On 21 December the Council of Ministers accepted the resignation and appointed Admiral Francesco Maugeri as Navy Chief of Staff, Admiral Maugeri is presently commander of the La Spezia Naval Base. *Avanti* declared: "De Courten leaves the Navy after having kept it on behalf of the Savoias." *Giornale della Sera:* "The Allies have not appreciated the Italian co-belligerance. De Courten resigns to protest the diktat".

As to party politics the most significant event of the week was the threat of the Republican Party to withdraw from the Government if a nine-point program of economic and political reform were not immediately adopted. Although the Repu-

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



blicans, one of the smaller parties, have only two members in the Government the threat was a new call to crisis inasmuch as some of the points presented were directly in contrast with the Government's present policy. For example one item was the immediate withdrawal of currency in circulation and the substitution of a new currency. Another was the merging of the Treasury and Finance Ministries. This had been a sore spot at the time of the resignation of Corbino as Minister of Treasury. Other demands voiced by the Party included the elimination of pro-Monarchist elements in the Ministry of Interior, the unification of the armed forces into a single ministry of defense and the elimination of useless Governmental agencies.

Rome was still without a mayor. On 23 December representatives of the various parties held another meeting to resolve the impasse that has prevented election of a mayor since the administrative elections of 10 November. This time it was proposed that the Liberals and Christian Democrats join the People's Block to form the administration. The Liberals however refused and now it looked as though a Commissioner might be appointed instead of a Mayor and that new administrative elections would be held six months after his appointment.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the amount of wheat available during the period from 1 to 21 December was 722,904 tons. The consumption during the same period amounted to 242,682 tons leaving a balance on hand of 480,222 tons. This was sufficient to provide for requirements for 44 days providing the transportation was available to move the stocks. Shipments amounting to a total of 73,899 tons were already in transit or signalled to arrive up to 4 January 1947.

The SEPRAL of Rome has issued a provision according to which the bread ration for one day each week will be composed of 100 grams of bread and 200 grams of maize flour. This provision is effective from 1 January 1947. Similar provisions have already been adopted in some Northern provinces where part of the bread ration has been substituted with maize flour, considering 100 grams of bread equal to 100 grams of maize flour. In Rome the proportion of maize has been made higher (135-200) because the maize flour on hand cannot be kept for a long time due to humidity.

It was estimated that 355,000 tons of coal would be available as of 31 December. This figure is based upon a total availability for the month of December of 755,000 tons and an estimated essential consumption of 400,000 tons.

The P. O. L. situation showed a marked improvement. Stocks on hand are estimated as follows: motor gasoline 53 days, diesel oil 38 days, kerosene 60 days and fuel oil 60 days.

As to power, no change is reported for Northern Italy. The Sila reservoirs in the South, however, now have a storage of approximately 40 million KWH as compared with 19 million KWH a week ago. A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Electric Power for Central and Southern Italy was held on 20 December. Additional hydro- and steam-generating units will be put into operation in January, thus relieving the situation which is still quite critical due to insufficient availability of water. It was estimated that, insofar as curtailment of power is concerned, no important change will take place in January with respect to the present situation.

## ITALIAN TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS RISE FROM THE RUINS

Acceptance by the Italian Government of the overhead telephone lines and associated terminal equipment constructed by the Allied Military Forces in Italy provides the first expansion of the Italian long distance telephone system since the beginning of the war. These lines were constructed by the Allies as additions to the existing Italian long distance telephone cable system. The routes of the main lines approximately parallel the Italian cable system. Many other lines, spurs of the main lines, extend into remote regions where telephone service was not generally known before the war.

The acceptance of these lines comes after months of surveys and checks by Italian telephone engineers and consulting engineers. Lines costing six million dollars to construct are being sold to the Italian Government through surplus disposal agencies.

Agreements to purchase were preceded by use of the Allied constructed facilities in the Italian systems, as Italian civilian operation replaced Allied Military operation during recent months. The lines built by the Allies have been merged into the Italian state system to supplement existing crowded routes, and to replace other routes where war damage proved to be too great to justify rebuilding the state cable.

Acceptance of these Allied open wire lines will be a minor part of the Italian plan for rebuilding the system destroyed by the war. Telephone

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



service will be extended beyond that provided before the war. Plans under the Piano Quinquennale di Ricostruzione of the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications propose a vast expansion of the system.

**Local Services Severely Damaged.**

Almost all local telephone service is provided by five concessionary companies, so-called because the five companies are given the right to operate local telephone systems in five areas into which Italy is sub-divided for such service. Before the war there were approximately 480,000 telephone subscribers of the service provided by the five concessionary services.

At the end of 1940, of 7334 urban districts in Italy, 1759 were without telephone service. Urban districts with telephone service varied from 100 per cent. in Umbria, 99 per cent. in Emilia, Lombardy and Marche, 61 per cent. in Sicily, 54 per cent. in Calabria, 38 per cent. in Lucania, to 29 per cent. in Sardinia.

Damage of war to facilities of these five companies was enormous. Total damage estimated by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is shown:

| | | Damage at Original Cost |
|---|---|---|
| STIPEL | L. | 198,000,000 |
| TELVE | " | 56,000,000 |
| TIMO | " | 126,000,000 |
| TETI | " | 198,000,000 |
| SET | " | 116,000,000 |
| TOTAL | L. | 694,000,000 |

At present relative lira valuations, the cost of replacing this damaged equipment is estimated in the Piano di Ricostruzione Quinquennale at 9,960,000,000 lire. In addition, the buildings of the concessionary companies were damaged or destroyed to the extent of 72,000,000 lire at 1939 prices. The cost of this rebuilding is estimated at 3,920,000,000 lire at 1946 prices. Technical services and supplies incident to planning, procuring and construction of damaged services is estimated to cost 2,100,000,000 lire. Rebuilding war damaged equipment is planned to extend over a three year period.

**Long Distance System Systematically Destroyed.**

The Italian state owned long distance telephone networks and facilities were most severely damaged by acts of war. Constituting a vital link in the control of enemy armies by the German high command, the long distance telephone facilities were systematically destroyed by the Germans as the Allied armies forced the enemy to the north. Everytime a main highway bridge was blown out, a section of telephone cable was destroyed. Some 250 such sections were destroyed between Palermo and Bologna. Eleven of fifty-four repeater stations were destroyed, five were dismantled and carried away, and many were damaged by shells and bombs.

Long distance state owned telephone equipment was damaged by war to the extent of 329,000,000 lire at 1939 costs. At present prices the estimated replacement cost is lire 1,935,000,000.

Buildings used for long distance telephone service are also used for postal and telegraphic services, and it is not possible to state how much building damage is chargeable against telephone costs. However total Posts and Telecommunication building damage is estimated at 124,000,000 lire at 1939 prices, and 2,480,000,000 at 1946 prices.

Plans prepared by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for rebuilding the state owned telephone services call for expenditures over a three year period of:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st year. . . . | L. | 1,974,000,000 |
| 2d " . . . . | " | 1,974,000,000 |
| 3d " . . . . | " | 987,000,000 |

The agressive Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, the managers and engineers of the state Azienda di Stato and the concessionary companies are planning to do more than repair war damage. Ambitions plans have been prepared for expansion and enlargement of the telephone system. Improved types of equipment will be installed. Range of communications will be increased. Services will be made available for more people.

Repair of war damage and expansion costs are estimated at a total of 61,395,000,000 lire. This total repair and expansion is planned for a five year period.

Total annual estimated expenditures at 1946 prices for telephone construction by the Italian Government and the concessionary companies are:

| | Repair of War Damage Lire Millions | Expansion Lire Millions | Total Lire Millions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st year . . | 5,598 | 10,200 | 15,798 |
| 2d " . . | 4,692 | 9,600 | 14,292 |
| 3d " . . | 3,705 | 9,600 | 13,305 |
| 4th " . . | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| 5th " . . | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| TOTAL . . . | 13,995 | 47,400 | 61,395 |

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



This is exclusive of building construction which will approximate 6,922,000,000 lire.

Truly the Italian people plan to raise its telephone communication from ruins to the level of effective and efficient systems. Its best engineers are estimating and evaluating needs and manufacturing capacity. Communications experts from other countries are making independent analyses and recommendations. Availability of equipment for import has been determined.

Several factors remain to impede movement ahead. Undetermined are the effect on Italian economy of the peace terms, manufacturing capacity that may be used to fulfill the terms of reparations, and source of raw materials for use in Italian production.

These ambitious plans, aggressively executed, aided by natural resources of other nations will materially help restoration of normal life in Italy. Consummation of these plans may be a major step into the policy of abundance for the Italian way of life, supplanting any idea of scarcity that may have been a guiding but outmoded principle of the past when the major aids to a more abundant life were not available to many of the people.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Major James P. Loewus, (A), recently joined the Allied Commission and has been assigned to Land Forces Sub-Commission.

Lt. Col. Albert Whipple Morse, (A), (Land Forces Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge.

Capt. J. Stopford, (B), has been promoted to the rank of Major.

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

December 30, 1946 Vol. III, No. 37

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, sends the following New Year's Message:

"To all personnel of the Allied Commission I send my warmest personal wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year with deep gratitude for the splendid service and support received from all hands during the past year".

## POLITICAL

Rome newspapers last week took a two-day holiday in order to celebrate Christmas. The afternoon papers did not appear on 24 and 25 December while the morning papers were not published on 25 and 26 December. News therefore was rather thin particularly in the field of party politics. It seemed apparent that the various party leaders were witholding any significant announcements possibly because of the diminished publication.

Of great significance however was the prominence of coverage given the Catholic demonstration against anti-clericalism held in Piazza San Pietro on Sunday 22 December. Normally those papers which do publish Monday editions, limit themselves to accounts of various sporting events. The demonstration however was fully covered with many of the papers printing the full text of the address delivered by Pope Pius XII and also printing three and four column pictures of the throng.

To a crowd of Italian citizens variously estimated at from 200,000 to 500,000 the Pope declared among other things: "You are here to proclaim before Italy and the whole world the strong union which joins you with the See of Peter and with the Catholic traditions of our native city in a holy union which surpasses and defeats every obstacle and every threat, every test and every doubt. With sadness and indignation you see the sacred face of Rome (and of this holy place which by divine will is the Seat of the Vicar of Christ) exposed by the hand of wicked deniers of God, profaners of divine things, worshippers of sensation to be stained by ignominy and covered with mud... From the Roman soil the first Peter who was surrounded by the threats of a perverted imperial power launched the first cry of alarm: 'Remain strong in your faith'. On this same soil we now repeat to you with doubled energy, that cry as your native city is now the theater of unceasing efforts aimed at reviving the fight between the two opposite fields; for Christ or against Christ; for his Church or against his Church..."

### Anti-Clerical Press.

The mass-meeting was directly the result of an increasing fury of anti-clericalism which has characterized a certain portion of the Italian Press. A short time ago an edition of *Il Mercante* was seized by the police for printing alleged obscenities concerning the Pope and even while the Pontiff was speaking an edition of *Don Basilio* was announcing that provincial organizations were being formed and that these organizations had the objective of calling a national congress of anti-clerical supporters. It was suggested that a new political party might be the result.

*Don Basilio* is published by Ruggero Maccari who also publishes the anti-clerical *Il Pollo*. As publisher of the latter organ Maccari on 23 December was sentenced by a Roman Court to two years in jail for "publishing obscenity and insults against religion and the clergy".

Press comment on the address of the Pope was in many cases tied in with Maccari's sentence. *Avanti* employing a quotation from the Pontiff's address for a play on words headlined "Awake Roman citizens!... and the judges, suddenly awakened, have severely condemned the newspaper *Il Pollo*". *Unità* headed the story of Maccari's conviction with "Oil on the fire", and charged that the authorities have left undisturbed several papers which *Unità* considers fascist. *Italia Nuova* declared that the demonstration had "identified Italian civilization with Catholic civilization". *Momento-Sera* in a leading article on the one hand advised all parties to maintain a stand of deep respect for religion and on the

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



other advised believers in the Catholic faith not to deal with political issues with a dogmatic spirit, declaring that politics was not a mystic body like the church but a mundane affair.

Relations of Church and State were defined on 19 December when a Sub-Commission of the Constituent Assembly approved a proposed article which read: "The State and the Catholic Church are independent organs within their own spheres. Their relations are regulated by the Lateran Pacts. Any modification of them bi-laterally accepted, will not require a procedure of constitutional revision but will be submitted to normal procedure of ratification."

While the first sentence passed the committee without any serious disagreement, the same was not true of the other two. The Communists objected to the second sentence on grounds which included among others the fact that the Pacts had been concluded while the Fascists were in power. The Christian Democrats dismissed this argument as absurd. In the case of the third sentence the ultimate wording was evidently proposed by the Liberals as a compromise for the benefit of the Communists.

### Prime Minister De Gasperi's Visit.

Aside from the splash created by the Catholic demonstration, news during the week was light and scattered as to origin. On 21 December *Messaggero* and other papers carried a dispatch originating from Washington to the effect that Prime Minister De Gasperi had been invited by the State Department to visit Washington. He will leave Italy on 3 January arriving in America on the fifth. It was expected that his visit would last about ten days during which the Prime Minister would definitely confer with Secretary of State Byrnes and possibly with President Truman. Italian Government circles declared that De Gasperi would concentrate on three topics during his conversations with American officials. These are a dollar loan, food, and the general United States attitude toward Italy after the signing of the Peace treaty. In connection with finances *Messaggero* reported on 21 December that "an authoritative spokesman of the State Department", had declared that United States reimbursement for fire furnished American troops in Italy should amount ultimately to 350 million dollars. The same day, *Popolo* reported from New York that Eng. Saccerdotti head of the Italian Financial Mission had telephoned Minister Campilli from Washington to the effect that the United States had put at Italy's disposal 51 ½ million dollars as a first installment.

De Gasperi's prospective trip caused a good deal of discussion in the Italian press. *Capitale* declared "De Gasperi's conversation will not change the dictated peace. The trip has a prevailingly financial goal." *Momento* headlined, "De Gasperi will discuss the dictated peace in relation with Italy's present situation". *Popolo* pointed out "The visit will coincide with the opening of Congress". *Italia Nuova* citing the uncertain political situation in Italy declared that it was up to De Gasperi "to clear all doubts in the minds of the American Government and to give it security as to Italy's democratic attitude". *Messaggero* typified the Italian press sentiment with the heading "A Beginning". Practically all the papers were optimistic.

It was announced by the Press Office of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers that Ambassador Tarchiani had suggested that Foreign Minister Nenni accompany the Prime Minister or himself visit the United States later on. Nenni chose the latter plan.

### Admiral De Courten Resigns.

One incident during the week which aroused considerable interest and conjecture in the Italian press was the resignation of Admiral Raffaele De Courten as Italian Navy Chief of Staff. His resignation was generally credited by Italian newspapers as a protest against the fate of the Italian navy as pronounced by the Peace Treaty. While the future size of Italy's navy has been known for some time, the disposition of the various units of the fleet as presently constituted has been kept secret by the Council of Foreign Ministers. At least one paper *Giornale d'Italia* tied up the resignation with the arrival in Rome of Admiral Sir Algernon Willis of the British Navy, Commander in Chief, Mediterranean. It was erroneously claimed that Admiral Willis had come to discuss reports that the Italians would scuttle their fleet rather than turn it over to the victorious powers. On 21 December the Council of Ministers accepted the resignation and appointed Admiral Francesco Maugeri as Navy Chief of Staff, Admiral Maugeri is presently commander of the La Spezia Naval Base. *Avanti* declared: "De Courten leaves the Navy after having kept it on behalf of the Savoias." *Giornale della Sera:* "The Allies have not appreciated the Italian co-belligerance. De Courten resigns to protest the diktat".

As to party politics the most significant event of the week was the threat of the Republican Party to withdraw from the Government if a nine-point program of economic and political reform were not immediately adopted. Although the Repu-

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



blicans, one of the smaller parties, have only two members in the Government the threat was a new call to crisis inasmuch as some of the points presented were directly in contrast with the Government's present policy. For example one item was the immediate withdrawal of currency in circulation and the substitution of a new currency. Another was the merging of the Treasury and Finance Ministries. This had been a sore spot at the time of the resignation of Corbino as Minister of Treasury. Other demands voiced by the Party included the elimination of pro-Monarchist elements in the Ministry of Interior, the unification of the armed forces into a single ministry of defense and the elimination of useless Governmental agencies.

Rome was still without a mayor. On 23 December representatives of the various parties held another meeting to resolve the impasse that has prevented election of a mayor since the administrative elections of 10 November. This time it was proposed that the Liberals and Christian Democrats join the People's Block to form the administration. The Liberals however refused and now it looked as though a Commissioner might be appointed instead of a Mayor and that new administrative elections would be held six months after his appointment.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the amount of wheat available during the period from 1 to 24 December was 722,904 tons. The consumption during the same period amounted to 242,682 tons leaving a balance on hand of 480,222 tons. This was sufficient to provide for requirements for 44 days providing the transportation was available to move the stocks. Shipments amounting to a total of 73,899 tons were already in transit or signalled to arrive up to 1 January 1947.

The SEPRAL of Rome has issued a provision according to which the bread ration for one day each week will be composed of 100 grams of bread and 200 grams of maize flour. This provision is effective from 1 January 1947. Similar provisions have already been adopted in some Northern provinces where part of the bread ration has been substituted with maize flour, considering 100 grams of bread equal to 100 grams of maize flour. In Rome the proportion of maize has been made higher (135-200) because the maize flour on hand cannot be kept for a long time due to humidity.

It was estimated that 355,000 tons of coal would be available as of 31 December. This figure is based upon a total availability for the month of December of 755,000 tons and an estimated essential consumption of 400,000 tons.

The P. O. L. situation showed a marked improvement. Stocks on hand are estimated as follows: motor gasoline 53 days, diesel oil 38 days, kerosene 60 days and fuel oil 60 days.

As to power, no change is reported for Northern Italy. The Sila reservoirs in the South, however, now have a storage of approximately 40 million KWH as compared with 19 million KWH a week ago. A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Electric Power for Central and Southern Italy was held on 20 December. Additional hydro- and steam-generating units will be put into operation in January, thus relieving the situation which is still quite critical due to insufficient availability of water. It was estimated that, insofar as curtailment of power is concerned, no important change will take place in January with respect to the present situation.

## ITALIAN TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS RISE FROM THE RUINS

Acceptance by the Italian Government of the overhead telephone lines and associated terminal equipment constructed by the Allied Military Forces in Italy provides the first expansion of the Italian long distance telephone system since the beginning of the war. These lines were constructed by the Allies as additions to the existing Italian long distance telephone cable system. The routes of the main lines approximately parallel the Italian cable system. Many other lines, spurs of the main lines, extend into remote regions where telephone service was not generally known before the war.

The acceptance of these lines comes after months of surveys and checks by Italian telephone engineers and consulting engineers. Lines costing six million dollars to construct are being sold to the Italian Government through surplus disposal agencies.

Agreements to purchase were preceded by use of the Allied constructed facilities in the Italian systems, as Italian civilian operation replaced Allied Military operation during recent months. The lines built by the Allies have been merged into the Italian state system to supplement existing crowded routes, and to replace other routes where war damage proved to be too great to justify rebuilding the state cable.

Acceptance of these Allied open wire lines will be a minor part of the Italian plan for rebuilding the system destroyed by the war. Telephone

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



service will be extended beyond that provided before the war. Plans under the Piano Quinquennale di Ricostruzione of the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications propose a vast expansion of the system.

### Local Services Severely Damaged.

Almost all local telephone service is provided by five concessionary companies, so-called because the five companies are given the right to operate local telephone systems in five areas into which Italy is subdivided for such service. Before the war there were approximately 480,000 telephone subscribers of the service provided by the five concessionary services.

At the end of 1940, of 7334 urban districts in Italy, 1550 were without telephone service. Urban districts with telephone service varied from 100 per cent. in Umbria, 80 per cent. in Emilia, Lombardy and Marche, 61 per cent. in Sicily, 51 per cent. in Calabria, 38 per cent. in Lucania, to 29 per cent. in Sardinia.

Damage of war to facilities of these five companies was enormous. Total damage estimated by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is shown:

| | Damage at Original Cost |
|---|---|
| STIPEL | L. 168,000,000 |
| TIRAN | " 56,000,000 |
| TIMO | " 129,000,000 |
| TETI | " 198,000,000 |
| SET | " 116,000,000 |
| TOTAL | L. 604,000,000 |

At present relative lire valuations, the cost of replacing this damaged equipment is estimated in the Piano di Ricostruzione Quinquennale at 9,060,000,000 lire. In addition, the buildings of the concessionary companies were damaged or destroyed to the extent of 72,000,000 lire at 1939 prices. The cost of this rebuilding is estimated at 3,920,000,000 lire at 1946 prices. Technical services and supplies incident to planning, procuring and construction of damaged services is estimated to cost 2,100,000,000 lire. Rebuilding war damaged equipment is planned to extend over a three year period.

### Long Distance System Systematically Destroyed.

The Italian state owned long distance telephone network and facilities were most severely damaged by acts of war. Constituting a vital link in the control of enemy armies by the German high command, the long distance telephone facilities were systematically destroyed by the Germans as the Allied armies forced the enemy to the north. Everytime a main highway bridge was blown out, a section of telephone cable was destroyed. Some 250 such sections were destroyed between Palermo and Bologna. Eleven of fifty-four repeater stations were destroyed, five were dismantled and carried away, and many were damaged by shells and bombs.

Long distance state owned telephone equipment was damaged by war to the extent of 329,000,000 lire at 1939 costs. At present prices the estimated replacement cost is lire 4,935,000,000.

Buildings used for long distance telephone service are also used for postal and telegraphic services, and it is not possible to state how much building damage is chargeable against telephone costs. However total Posts and Telecommunication building damage is estimated at 124,000,000 lire at 1939 prices, and 2,480,000,000 at 1946 prices.

Plans prepared by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for rebuilding the state owned telephone services call for expenditures over a three year period of:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st year | L. 1,974,000,000 |
| 2d " | " 1,974,000,000 |
| 3d " | " 987,000,000 |

The agressive Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, the managers and engineers of the state Azienda di Stato and the concessionary companies are planning to do more than repair war damage. Ambitious plans have been prepared for expansion and enlargement of the telephone system. Improved types of equipment will be installed. Range of communications will be increased. Services will be made available for more people.

Repair of war damage and expansion costs are estimated at a total of 61,395,000,000 lire. This total repair and expansion is planned for a five year period.

Total annual estimated expenditures at 1946 prices for telephone construction by the Italian Government and the concessionary companies are:

| | Repair of War Damage Lire Millions | Expansion Lire Millions | Total Lire Millions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st year | 5,598 | 10,200 | 15,798 |
| 2d " | 4,692 | 9,600 | 14,292 |
| 3d " | 3,705 | 9,600 | 13,305 |
| 4th " | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| 5th " | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| TOTAL | 13,995 | 47,400 | 61,395 |

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



This is exclusive of building construction which will approximate 6,922,000,000 lire.

Truly the Italian people plan to raise its telephone communication from ruins to the level of effective and efficient systems. Its best engineers are estimating and evaluating needs and manufacturing capacity. Communications experts from other countries are making independent analyses and recommendations. Availability of equipment for import has been determined.

Several factors remain to impede movement ahead. Undetermined are the effect on Italian economy of the peace terms, manufacturing capacity that may be used to fulfill the terms of reparations, and source of raw materials for use in Italian production.

These ambitious plans, aggressively executed, aided by natural resources of other nations will materially help restoration of normal life in Italy. Consummation of these plans may be a major step into the policy of abundance for the Italian way of life, supplanting any idea of scarcity that may have been a guiding but outmoded principle of the past when the major aids to a more abundant life were not available to many of the people.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Major James P. Loewus, (A), recently joined the Allied Commission and has been assigned to Land Forces Sub-Commission.

Lt. Col. Albert Whipple Morse, (A), (Land Forces Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge.

Capt. J. Stopford, (B), has been promoted to the rank of Major.

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

December 30, 1946

Vol. III, No. 37

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, sends the following New Year's Message:

"To all personnel of the Allied Commission I send my warmest personal wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year with deep gratitude for the splendid service and support received from all hands during the past year".

## POLITICAL

Rome newspapers last week took a two-day holiday in order to celebrate Christmas. The afternoon papers did not appear on 24 and 25 December while the morning papers were not published on 25 and 26 December. News therefore was rather thin particularly in the field of party politics. It seemed apparent that the various party leaders were withholding any significant announcements possibly because of the diminished publication.

Of great significance however was the prominence of coverage given the Catholic demonstration against anti-clericalism held in Piazza San Pietro on Sunday 22 December. Normally those papers which do publish Monday editions, limit themselves to accounts of various sporting events. The demonstration however was fully covered with many of the papers printing the full text of the address delivered by Pope Pius XII and also printing three and four column pictures of the throng.

To a crowd of Italian citizens variously estimated at from 200,000 to 500,000 the Pope declared among other things: "You are here to proclaim before Italy and the whole world the strong union which joins you with the See of Peter and with the Catholic traditions of our native city in a holy union which surpasses and defeats every obstacle and every threat, every test and every doubt. With sadness and indignation you see the sacred face of Rome (and of this holy place which by divine will is the Seat of the Vicar of Christ) exposed by the hand of wicked deniers of God, profaners of divine things, worshippers of sensation to be stained by ignominy and covered with mud... From the Roman soil the first Peter who was surrounded by the threats of a perverted imperial power launched the first cry of alarm: 'Remain strong in your faith'. On this same soil we now repeat to you with doubled energy, that cry as your native city is now the theater of unceasing efforts aimed at reviving the fight between the two opposite fields; for Christ or against Christ; for his Church or against his Church..."

### Anti-Clerical Press.

The mass-meeting was directly the result of an increasing fury of anti-clericalism which has characterized a certain portion of the Italian Press. A short time ago an edition of *Il Mercante* was seized by the police for printing alleged obscenities concerning the Pope and even while the Pontiff was speaking an edition of *Don Basilio* was announcing that provincial organizations were being formed and that these organizations had the objective of calling a national congress of anti-clerical supporters. It was suggested that a new political party might be the result.

*Don Basilio* is published by Ruggero Maccari who also publishes the anti-clerical *Il Pollo*. As publisher of the latter organ Maccari on 23 December was sentenced by a Rome Court to two years in jail for "publishing obscenity and insults against religion and the clergy".

Press comment on the address of the Pope was in many cases tied in with Maccari's sentence. *Avanti* employing a quotation from the Pontiff's address for a play on words headlined "Awake Roman citizens!... and the judges, suddenly awakened, have severely condemned the newspaper *Il Pollo*". *Unità* headed the story of Maccari's conviction with "Oil on the fire", and charged that the authorities have left undisturbed several papers which *Unità* considers fascist. *Italia Nuova* declared that the demonstration had "identified Italian civilization with Catholic civilization". *Momento-Sera* in a leading article on the one hand advised all parties to maintain a stand of deep respect for religion and on the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



other advised believers in the Catholic faith not to deal with political issues with a dogmatic spirit, declaring that politics was not a mystic body like the church but a mundane affair.

Relations of Church and State were defined on 19 December when a Sub-Commission of the Constituent Assembly approved a proposed article which read: "The State and the Catholic Church are independent organs within their own spheres. Their relations are regulated by the Lateran Pacts. Any modification of them bi-laterally accepted, will not require a procedure of constitutional revision but will be submitted to normal procedure of ratification."

While the first sentence passed the committee without any serious disagreement, the same was not true of the other two. The Communists objected to the second sentence on grounds which included among others the fact that the Pacts had been concluded while the Fascists were in power. The Christian Democrats dismissed this argument as absurd. In the case of the third sentence the ultimate wording was evidently proposed by the Liberals as a compromise for the benefit of the Communists.

### Prime Minister De Gasperi's Visit.

Aside from the splash created by the Catholic demonstration, news during the week was light and scattered as to origin. On 21 December *Messaggero* and other papers carried a dispatch originating from Washington to the effect that Prime Minister De Gasperi had been invited by the State Department to visit Washington. He will leave Italy on 3 January arriving in America on the fifth. It was expected that his visit would last about ten days during which the Prime Minister would definitely confer with Secretary of State Byrnes and possibly with President Truman. Italian Government circles declared that De Gasperi would concentrate on three topics during his conversations with American officials. These are a dollar loan, food, and the general United States attitude toward Italy after the signing of the Peace treaty. In connection with finances *Messaggero* reported on 21 December that "an authoritative spokesman of the State Department", had declared that United States reimbursement for lire furnished American troops in Italy should amount ultimately to 350 million dollars. The same day, *Popolo* reported from New York that Eng. Saccerdotti head of the Italian Financial Mission had telephoned Minister Campilli from Washington to the effect that the United States had put at Italy's disposal 51 ½ million dollars as a first installment.

De Gasperi's prospective trip caused a good deal of discussion in the Italian press. *Capitale* declared "De Gasperi's conversation will not change the dictated peace. The trip has a prevailingly financial goal." *Momento* headlined, "De Gasperi will discuss the dictated peace in relation with Italy's present situation". *Popolo* pointed out "The visit will coincide with the opening of Congress". *Italia Nuova* citing the uncertain political situation in Italy declared that it was up to De Gasperi "to clear all doubts in the minds of the American Government and to give it security as to Italy's democratic attitude". *Messaggero* typified the Italian press sentiment with the heading "A Beginning". Practically all the papers were optimistic.

It was announced by the Press Office of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers that Ambassador Tarchiani had suggested that Foreign Minister Nenni accompany the Prime Minister or himself visit the United States later on. Nenni chose the latter plan.

### Admiral De Courten Resigns.

One incident during the week which aroused considerable interest and conjecture in the Italian press was the resignation of Admiral Raffaele De Courten as Italian Navy Chief of Staff. His resignation was generally credited by Italian newspapers as a protest against the fate of the Italian navy as pronounced by the Peace Treaty. While the future size of Italy's navy has been known for some time, the disposition of the various units of the fleet as presently constituted has been kept secret by the Council of Foreign Ministers. At least one paper *Giornale d'Italia* tied up the resignation with the arrival in Rome of Admiral Sir Algernon Willis of the British Navy, Commander in Chief, Mediterranean. It was erroneously claimed that Admiral Willis had come to discuss reports that the Italians would scuttle their fleet rather than turn it over to the victorious powers. On 21 December the Council of Ministers accepted the resignation and appointed Admiral Francesco Maugeri as Navy Chief of Staff, Admiral Maugeri is presently commander of the La Spezia Naval Base. *Avanti* declared: "De Courten leaves the Navy after having kept it on behalf of the Savoias." *Giornale della Sera:* "The Allies have not appreciated the Italian co-belligerance. De Courten resigns to protest the diktat".

As to party politics the most significant event of the week was the threat of the Republican Party to withdraw from the Government if a nine-point program of economic and political reform were not immediately adopted. Although the Repu-

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



blicans, one of the smaller parties, have only two members in the Government the threat was a new call to crisis inasmuch as some of the points presented were directly in contrast with the Government's present policy. For example one item was the immediate withdrawal of currency in circulation and the substitution of a new currency. Another was the merging of the Treasury and Finance Ministries. This had been a sore spot at the time of the resignation of Corbino as Minister of Treasury. Other demands voiced by the Party included the elimination of pro-Monarchist elements in the Ministry of Interior, the unification of the armed forces into a single ministry of defense and the elimination of useless Governmental agencies.

Rome was still without a mayor. On 23 December representatives of the various parties held another meeting to resolve the impasse that has prevented election of a mayor since the administrative elections of 10 November. This time it was proposed that the Liberals and Christian Democrats join the People's Block to form the administration. The Liberals however refused and now it looked as though a Commissioner might be appointed instead of a Mayor and that new administrative elections would be held six months after his appointment.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the amount of wheat available during the period from 1 to 21 December was 722,984 tons. The consumption during the same period amounted to 242,682 tons leaving a balance on hand of 480,222 tons. This was sufficient to provide for requirements for 44 days providing the transportation was available to move the stocks. Shipments amounting to a total of 73,899 tons were already in transit or signalled to arrive up to 4 January 1947.

The SEPRAL of Rome has issued a provision according to which the bread ration for one day each week will be composed of 100 grams of bread and 200 grams of maize flour. This provision is effective from 1 January 1947. Similar provisions have already been adopted in some Northern provinces where part of the bread ration has been substituted with maize flour, considering 100 grams of bread equal to 100 grams of maize flour. In Rome the proportion of maize has been made higher (135-200) because the maize flour on hand cannot be kept for a long time due to humidity.

It was estimated that 355,000 tons of coal would be available as of 31 December. This figure is based upon a total availability for the month of December of 755,000 tons and an estimated essential consumption of 400,000 tons.

The P. O. L. situation showed a marked improvement. Stocks on hand are estimated as follows: motor gasoline 53 days, diesel oil 38 days, kerosene 60 days and fuel oil 60 days.

As to power, no change is reported for Northern Italy. The Sila reservoirs in the South, however, now have a storage of approximately 40 million KWH as compared with 19 million KWH a week ago. A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Electric Power for Central and Southern Italy was held on 20 December. Additional hydro- and steam-generating units will be put into operation in January, thus relieving the situation which is still quite critical due to insufficient availability of water. It was estimated that, insofar as curtailment of power is concerned, no important change will take place in January with respect to the present situation.

## ITALIAN TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS RISE FROM THE RUINS

Acceptance by the Italian Government of the overhead telephone lines and associated terminal equipment constructed by the Allied Military Forces in Italy provides the first expansion of the Italian long distance telephone system since the beginning of the war. These lines were constructed by the Allies as additions to the existing Italian long distance telephone cable system. The routes of the main lines approximately parallel the Italian cable system. Many other lines, spurs of the main lines, extend into remote regions where telephone service was not generally known before the war.

The acceptance of these lines comes after months of surveys and checks by Italian telephone engineers and consulting engineers. Lines costing six million dollars to construct are being sold to the Italian Government through surplus disposal agencies.

Agreements to purchase were preceded by use of the Allied constructed facilities in the Italian systems, as Italian civilian operation replaced Allied Military operation during recent months. The lines built by the Allies have been merged into the Italian state system to supplement existing crowded routes, and to replace other routes where war damage proved to be too great to justify rebuilding the state cable.

Acceptance of these Allied open wire lines will be a minor part of the Italian plan for rebuilding the system destroyed by the war. Telephone

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



service will be extended beyond that provided before the war. Plans under the Piano Quinquennale di Ricostruzione of the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications propose a vast expansion of the system.

### Local Services Severely Damaged.

Almost all local telephone service is provided by five concessionary companies, so-called because the five companies are given the right to operate local telephone systems in five areas into which Italy is sub-divided for such service. Before the war there were approximately 180,000 telephone subscribers of the service provided by the five concessionary services.

At the end of 1940, of 7331 urban districts in Italy, 1759 were without telephone service. Urban districts with telephone service varied from ten per cent. in Umbria, 90 per cent. in Emilia, Lombardy and Marche, 61 per cent. in Sicily, 51 per cent. in Calabria, 38 per cent. in Lucania, to 20 per cent. in Sardinia.

Damage of war to facilities of these five companies was enormous. Total damage estimated by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is shown:

| | | Damage at Original Cost |
|---|---|---|
| STIPEL | L. | 108,000,000 |
| TELVE | " | 56,000,000 |
| TIMO | " | 126,000,000 |
| TETI | " | 198,000,000 |
| SET | " | 116,000,000 |
| TOTAL | L. | 604,000,000 |

At present relative lire valuations, the cost of replacing this damaged equipment is estimated in the Piano di Ricostruzione Quinquennale at 9,060,000,000 lire. In addition, the buildings of the concessionary companies were damaged or destroyed to the extent of 72,000,000 lire at 1939 prices. The cost of this rebuilding is estimated at 3,920,000,000 lire at 1946 prices. Technical services and supplies incident to planning, procuring and construction of damaged services is estimated to cost 2,100,000,000 lire. Rebuilding war damaged equipment is planned to extend over a three year period.

### Long Distance System Systematically Destroyed.

The Italian state owned long distance telephone networks and facilities were most severely damaged by acts of war. Constituting a vital link in the control of enemy armies by the German high command, the long distance telephone facilities were systematically destroyed by the Germans as the Allied armies forced the enemy to the north. Everytime a main highway bridge was blown out, a section of telephone cable was destroyed. Some 250 such sections were destroyed between Palermo and Bologna. Eleven of fifty-four repeater stations were destroyed, five were dismantled and carried away, and many were damaged by shells and bombs.

Long distance state owned telephone equipment was damaged by war to the extent of 329,000,000 lire at 1939 costs. At present prices the estimated replacement cost is lire 4,935,000,000.

Buildings used for long distance telephone service are also used for postal and telegraphic services, and it is not possible to state how much building damage is chargeable against telephone costs. However total Posts and Telecommunication building damage is estimated at 124,000,000 lire at 1939 prices, and 2,480,000,000 at 1946 prices.

Plans prepared by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for rebuilding the state owned telephone services call for expenditures over a three year period of:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st year | L. | 1,974,000,000 |
| 2d " | " | 1,974,000,000 |
| 3d " | " | 987,000,000 |

The agressive Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, the managers and engineers of the state Azienda di Stato and the concessionary companies are planning to do more than repair war damage. Ambitious plans have been prepared for expansion and enlargement of the telephone system. Improved types of equipment will be installed. Range of communications will be increased. Services will be made available for more people.

Repair of war damage and expansion costs are estimated at a total of 61,395,000,000 lire. This total repair and expansion is planned for a five year period.

Total annual estimated expenditures at 1946 prices for telephone construction by the Italian Government and the concessionary companies are:

| | Repair of War Damage Lire Millions | Expansion Lire Millions | Total Lire Millions |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st year | 5,598 | 10,200 | 15,798 |
| 2d " | 4,692 | 9,600 | 14,292 |
| 3d " | 3,705 | 9,600 | 13,305 |
| 4th " | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| 5th " | — | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| TOTAL | 13,995 | 47,400 | 61,395 |

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



This is exclusive of building construction which will approximate 6,922,000,000 lire.

Truly the Italian people plan to raise its telephone communication from ruins to the level of effective and efficient systems. Its best engineers are estimating and evaluating needs and manufacturing capacity. Communications experts from other countries are making independent analyses and recommendations. Availability of equipment for import has been determined.

Several factors remain to impede movement ahead. Undetermined are the effect on Italian economy of the peace terms, manufacturing capacity that may be used to fulfill the terms of reparations, and source of raw materials for use in Italian production.

These ambitions plans, aggressively executed, aided by natural resources of other nations will materially help restoration of normal life in Italy. Consummation of these plans may be a major step into the policy of abundance for the Italian way of life, supplanting any idea of scarcity that may have been a guiding but outmoded principle of the past when the major aids to a more abundant life were not available to many of the people.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Major James P. Loewus, (A), recently joined the Allied Commission and has been assigned to Land Forces Sub-Commission.

Lt. Col. Albert Whipple Morse, (A), (Land Forces Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge.

Capt. J. Stopford, (B), has been promoted to the rank of Major.

521

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

December 23, 1946 Vol. III, No. 36

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

In the political field, Italy last week centered its attention almost entirely upon the domestic scene. The peace treaty had been finished by the Council of Foreign Ministers with the possible exception of a few very minor details which were to be left to the Deputies. Little remained aside from the circularization of the official texts and the ratification and signature by the signatory powers. The general consensus of editorial opinion was that everything that could be done had been done. It was by no means a good treaty—they thought—but there it was. It was unlikely that the document would make news of a substantial nature in Italy until it came to be considered by the Constituent Assembly.

And so the editors dropped practically all mention of foreign affairs from their columns and looked more searchingly at the internal state of the nation.

The usual party polemics which were never absent even in the most hectic days of the Paris Conference and the meeting of the Four in New York, continued to staid the columns of the various organs. But it was rather different from the almost casual name-calling that had characterized the Italian party press up to this point. It was becoming increasingly evident that to most of the Italian people, politics for its own sake was distinctly a luxury. The issues as cited in the press left the academic realm of governmental philosophy and descended to the more realistic level of food, shelter, prices and unemployment.

Probably the most important news of the week was the General Strike in Naples. Demonstrations started early in the week apparently as a spontaneous protest against the steadily increasing prices. But the protest became organized when a general strike was called on 17 December by the Naples Labor Confederation. To all intents and purposes Naples became paralyzed. The strike was not long a non-political issue.

Naples has a Monarchist Mayor and *Italia Nuova* charged that the People's Block which had been defeated in Naples in the elections of 2 June and 10 November by substantial margins was now endeavoring to take its revenge by sponsoring a demagogical policy. Erasmo writing in *Risorgimento Liberale* cited statistics purporting to show that Venice which has a Social-Communistic administration had obtained a large allotment of food but that during the same period Naples had not fared so well. *Italia Nuova* on 19 December declared that an attempted sacking of an UNRRA depot had been headed by leaders of a leftist party ".

### Free Press Issue.

The free press issue, however, swiftly became the *cause célèbre* of the entire situation. In the general tie-up of Naples commerce and services newspapers were authorized to go to press provided they " voiced the will of the people ". *Domani d'Italia* a Christian Democrat newspaper printed an article opposing the strike in which it declared: " the hastiness with which the Agitation Committee took action arouses in many persons the well-grounded suspicion that by resorting to the extreme measure of the strike the real interests of the people were not taken into consideration ". The paper was not published on 19 December and its failure to appear was caused according to *Unità* by the publication of the offending article. *Popolo* immediately charged that the local Chamber of Labor had been overcome by a minority which was trying to uproot democracy by suppression of the freedom of the press, while *Italia Nuova* cried that " This attempt to reduce the freedom of the press ", was clear proof of the paper's previous charge that the leftist parties were trying to take revenge for their election defeats.

The strike came in for its attention at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 17 December. Following a report by De Gasperi on the details of the strike as then known, the prime Minister censured the strike as unnecessary inasmuch as all demands could have been properly presented to proper bodies of the Government. At the same meeting Acting High Commissioner for Food Aldisio declared that bread rations were insured

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



for Naples until the end of the month. Ferrari announced that 10,000 quintals of pasta and large stocks of wheat were on their way to Naples. Minister of Public Works, Romita, declared that public works at Naples amounted to seven billion lire and employed 14,000 workers.

On 18 December Prime Minister De Gasperi took to the radio to exhort the people of Naples to end the strike. He agreed that the situation was difficult but drew an analogy between the people of Naples and Italy as a whole pointing out that "on the world's markets Italy is also making queues; she is standing in line in Washington, in Buenos Aires, in Ottawa, and in Turkey among many other nations and she will be allowed to proceed only if the Italians prove they are a disciplined people". The strike was ended on 19 December, but the strike committee announced it would continue to exist to insure execution of promises made by the Government.

### Party Politics.

Party politics, aside from the Naples matter, last week were unusually calm with most of the headlines reflecting heated internal party discussion rather than inter-party strife. The Socialist Party, which had occasioned most comment during the past three weeks with its several "trends", dropped almost completely from the news. This was generally credited in political circles to the imminence of the Party Congress to be held in January. It was felt that the various groups were saving their ammunition for the Congress.

A split however, developed in the Liberal party. At a meeting of the Party Directorate on 12 December a motion by Enzo Selvaggi providing for merger of the party with the Uomo Qualunque was defeated by the narrow margin of fifteen votes to thirteen with two abstaining. Selvaggi and his followers thereupon resigned from the Liberals and the short marriage between the Liberal Party and Selvaggi's former Italian Democrat Party was finished. As far as could be ascertained the secession consisted of only former Democrats aside from a group known as the Liberal Youth Rome Committee. The old-line Liberals were apparently standing fast. Selvaggi's switch to the Uomo Qualunque (which followed his resignation from the Liberal Party) was accomplished to the accompaniment of a series of letters. To Casandro, Secretary General of the Liberals he said that his decision was caused by the failure of the Liberal Party to facilitate the formation of a block of all liberal and right-wing parties. To Giannini, he declared that the only thing that had prevented the Italian Democrats from joining the Uomo Qualunque before, was the fact that at the time of the referendum the Democrats were working for the success of the Monarchy whereas the Uomo Qualunque included both Monarchists and Republicans. He concluded by saying that now that the Uomo Qualunque had changed its name to include the liberal element there was nothing to prevent the union of the two parties.

The change in the name of the Uomo Qualunque Party was accomplished at a meeting of the National Convention of the party on 14 December. The new name is Liberal Democrat Front of the Uomo Qualunque. It was proposed by Giannini who declared on 13 December that there were only two political ideas, totalitarianism and liberalism and that therefore there could be only two political blocks. Giannini claimed that only the Uomo Qualunque had propagandized the liberal idea. The Party leader however, held out an olive branch to the Communists when during an interview with ANSA on 19 December he declared that a struggle to the end between the two parties would be harmful inasmuch as no matter who won, the result would be totalitarianism. "We firmly believe and sincerely hope", he said, "that it will be possible to find a common ground on which to start a useful collaboration".

In the Christian Democrat Party there were some indications of strife. At a meeting of the party's National Council on 13 December criticism of the left trend of the party against the party secretariat provoked the resignation of the Political Secretary Attilio Piccioni. However, Piccioni withdrew his resignation that night when the leftist criticism was defeated. On 16 December the party National Council passed two motions supporting the present three-party Government system and the single syndicate of workers and stressing the need for absolute solidarity among the parties and men working for the Government. The motions were rather significant in view of the fact that recently there has been a rising chorus demanding complete rejection of collaboration with the Communists and also a withdrawal from the General Confederation of Labor. These demands had been spear-headed by Stefano Jacini leader of the Right-Wing trend of the party and Guido Gonella Minister of Education. The resolution of the National Council however, would seem to indicate that the Christian Democrats were committed to a continuation of the status quo.

Palmiro Togliatti in an article published in *Unità* on 17 December contrasted the difficulties of the other parties with the discipline of the Com-

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



munists. He described the troubles of the Socialists and the Christian Democrats as crises of expansion and maturity and that of the Liberals as a crisis of dissolution.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Estimated wheat consumption in Italy for the period from 1 to 15 December was 165,464 tons it was reported this week by the Economic Division. Inasmuch as the wheat available during the first half of the month amounted to 701,409 tons, consumption for this half month has left a balance of 535,945 tons or sufficient to meet requirements for 49 days contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks. It was expected that 47,372 tons would arrive prior to 26 December. A total of approximately 17,000 tons of wheat arrived recently in AMG territories. These territories are now able to meet bread and pasta requirements up to 28 February.

Little change is reported in the coal situation. The January allocation for Italy by the European Coal Organization is 422,400 tons from the United States and 176,000 tons from all other sources making a total of 598,400 tons.

Improvement in the Italian civilian P. O. L. situation is reflected in the following stock position: motor gasoline 35 days; diesel oil 14 days; kerosene 30 days and fuel oil 60 days.

As to the power situation, no change is reported in Northern Italy. The hydroelectric situation is gradually improving in Central and Southern Italy. The seasonal re-fill of the Sila reservoir group has started, raising it from a low of 7 million KWH to 19 million KWH. The capacity of this group is 300 million KWH. The thermal plants are working almost to full capacity.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
## POSTAL SECTION

### Postal Sorting - Carriages.

In 1938 the Italian Postal Service was using approximately 550 sorting-carriages on the railway systems throughout Italy. These sorting-carriages were of three types and were allotted according to size to the routes over which they worked to cover the requirements of the bulk of mail to be dealt with by the necessary number of postal personnel carried.

During the war 50 % of these sorting-carriages were either destroyed or removed from the Italian State Railway system and with the drastic reduction of rail services no sorting-carriages were being used for postal purposes at the time of the Italian surrender to the Allied Armies.

The recovery of Italy's internal postal services necessarily kept pace with the recovery of her railway services, and as passenger trains were reintroduced, arrangements were made for sorting-carriages to be put again into service. It was then found that not only had the original number been definitely reduced by a 50 % loss, but that further depletions had occurred through (*a*) lack of running repairs, (*b*) being used by organizations other than the postal service and, (*c*) attached to long distance train services as baggage and guards vans.

These carriages built to Italian specifications to meet the requirements of a staff of six or seven persons travelling and working in them, (mainly during the night) for periods of 8 to 10 hours, appeared luxurious compared to the ordinary closed railway wagon, for heating, cooking, and lighting installations are fitted. It can therefore, to some extent, be understood why they were taken for other types of work when found apparently derelict in railway marshalling yards.

At the time of the break-through into Northern Italy, when the internal postal services were able to make the biggest bulk recovery movement only 30 % of the sorting-carriages were available.

A great deal of time was spent by postal and railway officials in tracing the carriages used for purposes other than the correct one, but once the registered numbers of the carriages were obtained, little time was lost in getting them returned to the Postal Administration.

The advantage of the use of sorting-carriages within a country's postal service is recognized internationally, and it will readily be seen that to sort correspondence on the train while travelling between two stopping places provides a more rapid service than the conveyance of sealed bags of mixed correspondence to a distant office only to be resorted in a stationary sorting office and later returned over the same route by another train to the place of address.

Great advances have however been made and with the repair of partially damaged carriages and the overhaul of many that threatened breakdown owing to lack of maintenance during the war years, and the careful arrangement of the allocation of the available carriages by the inspectors of the postal movement section, practically all the important centers of Italy are today being served by sorting-carriages. Rome and Naples are the main points of radiation of the train services on which the sorting-carriages operate, (Naples covering the southern and Rome the

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



northern junctions) with a shuttle service operating between these two centers to cover transfers between the two systems.

Italy has not so far developed the system of using a complete train consisting solely of Post Office sorting-carriages and stowage vans for mails, as is used in certain other countries, nor have the sorting-carriages in use at present been fitted with apparatus for picking-up and discharging mail bags at specified points at the side of the railway track while the train is in motion. This latter system considerably developed in Great Britain and the United States of America gives even greater advantages of a quick postal service to the smaller and intermediate towns between the important railway junctions at which scheduled stops are made.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Permissive authority has been given by higher Allied authorities for Italian civil aviation services, in addition to scheduled air lines, to operate inside Italy, Sardinia and Sicily. This authority refers to companies to operate air charter services carrying freight on non-regular schedules, taxi services using light aircraft acting as feeders of main aircraft terminals, and private aircraft used for commercial and business matters.

In order to give employment to aeronautical workers and to assist in the rehabilitation of Italian commerce and civil aviation, approval has been given for the construction of a limited number of civil type aircraft. These aircraft are for internal requirements only.

The Italian War Cross for Military Valor and the Italian War Cross of Merit were presented to Lt. Colonel Frank E. Marek and 1st Lieutenant Patt Favano. Among those present at the ceremony at the Italian Air Ministry on 19 November, 1946 were Dr. Cingolani, Italian Air Minister, General Aimone Cat, Chief of Staff Italian Air Force and the General Staff of the Italian Air Ministry.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The present period between the demobilization in November and the next call up in January is a quiet one in the Italian Army. Consideration is being given to the setting up of an Alpini school at Aosta to train specialists in Mountain warfare.

A certain number of Allied tanks are in the process of being handed over to the Italian Army to be held available for the formation of the new armored units within the terms of the Peace Treaty.

It is hoped that some 1000 Universal carriers will shortly be made available to the Italian Army from British surpluses.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

The overall picture, from the Displaced Persons point of view, remains fairly static with little or no change to report. The total number of Displaced Persons in Allied Commission Camps as of 7 December was 10,818, a minute reduction on the figures quoted in the two previous editions of this Bulletin.

The Repatriation Section of this Division has passed a comparatively quiet week. Seventy-seven Spaniards passed the frontier and safely embarked at Genoa for Spain.

About 250 Italians were repatriated from Germany during the week.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. B. Findlay, CBE, MC, (B), (Displaced Persons Division) is on temporary duty in the United Kingdom.

Maj. D. S. Strachan-Andas, (B), (Captured Enemy Materials Sub-Division) has left for the United Kingdom on python.

Capt. N. J. Coombs, (B), (G-4) has returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

The following American officers have recently been transferred to the 7106 Regiment and have been assigned as indicated: Maj. James L. Curnutt, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); Maj. Ray J. Wilson, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); Maj. Lionel Mann, (Legal Division); Capt. Roy R. Walker, (Adjutant Section, Headquarters 7106 Regiment); Capt. Richard A. Holway, (Economic Division); Capt. John C. Miller, (Displaced Persons Division); Capt. Haynes M. Baumgardner, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); 1st Lt. Joseph J. Trudel, (Motor Transport Section); and 1st Lt. Robert F. Lent, (Displaced Persons Division).

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

December 16, 1946 Vol. III, No. 35

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Construction of the terms of the peace with Italy was finished.

The tortuous negotiations which have characterized all conferences were begun in the deliberations of the Council of Foreign Ministers at London. The recommendations of the Four were thoroughly discussed at the meeting of the 21 nations at the Paris Conference and last week after examining the recommendations of the Conference the Four finally brought their discussions to a close in New York City. On 12 December the Associated Press reported that the Foreign Ministers had decided that the treaty should be signed at Paris on 10 February 1947.

The final sessions of the Council of Foreign Ministers were characterized by the same give and take that has marked all deliberations. For example in the matter of reparations Molotov won his point on the raising of the amount to be given to Yugoslavia by Italy and also managed to gain reparations for Albania. On the other hand an Anglo-American proposal to limit the benefits of the treaty to signatory powers was accepted.

Final decision on reparations resulted in an addition of 35 million dollars to the bill which Italy will be called upon to pay. As recommended by the Paris Conference she would have given 100 million dollars to Russia, 100 million dollars to Yugoslavia, 100 million dollars to Greece and 25 million dollars to Ethiopia. Albania was left out of reparations consideration at the Paris Conference with the inference that this country could recoup any losses through liquidation of Italian property in Albania under article 69 of the treaty.

Italian reparations now amount to 360 million dollars as compared with the previous 325 million. At the meeting of the Ministers on 5 December Molotov had insisted on payment of 10 million dollars to Albania. Byrnes and Bevin are reported to have held out against this proposal pointing out that the Paris Conference had rejected all reparations to Albania. The final outcome of the discussion however found reparations allowed to Albania although these reparations were reduced to 5 million dollars. The other allowances approved in addition to the 100 million dollars already granted to Russia were 125 million dollars to Yugoslavia and 105 million dollars to Greece. The figure of 25 million dollars to Ethiopia was left unchanged. According to nearly all newspapers, discussion of Italy's reparations was closely tied up with those of Bulgaria who had her war bill cut 50 million dollars from the amount approved by the Paris conference. Bulgaria will pay 45 million dollars to Greece and 25 million dollars to Yugoslavia.

### Reaction to Reparations.

As might be expected the news of the reparations was received gloomily by the Italian press. Most papers took the attitude that Albania had profited from Italian occupation to the extent of 100 million dollars in the development of ports, roads, schools, etc. *Giornale della Sera* for example headed the news with "Our civilizing the Albanians valued at 100 million dollars." *Risorgimento Liberale* noted "A gracious present to Albania". *Momento* declared "The 'compromises treaty' concluded to Italy's complete detriment".

As to the receipt of benefits from the treaty, one of the agreements reached by the Four at the later sessions was that providing for the exclusion from such benefits of any nation not accepting the treaty in full. This clause was first proposed at Paris when Yugoslav delegates stated that their country would refuse to sign the treaty as it stood then. Although nothing has been reported since, of a prospective Yugoslav refusal to sign the treaty, in the event that this country refused to sign she would not be eligible for reparations from Italy under the terms of the document as now adopted.

Trieste which had been a consistent stumbling block throughout the negotiations was the subject of Big Four attention to the very end. Reuters reported that at the meeting of 7 December the following resolutions were adopted: (1) railways would be controlled jointly by Italy, the Free Territory's Administration and Yugoslavia; (2) The United Nations would be called upon to

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



cooperate in financing the provisional government of the Free Territory; (3) neither Italy nor Yugoslavia would be allotted exclusive zones of the Free Port but both would be granted anchorage facilities; in addition it was decided that details as to disposition of Italian naval ships under the treaty would be kept secret for the present.

It was reported by *Momento* that at the meeting of the Four on 10 December the final loose ends of the Trieste Statute were agreed upon. These included the following: (1) The Free Territory is prohibited from entering into any exclusive economic union with any other country; (2) Control of the Free Port will be vested in an International Commission in which Italy will have membership: and (3) the Governor of the Territory will be neither Italian nor Yugoslav.

As the meetings drew to a close there was no indication that consideration had been given to a request by Italy to be permitted to have Italian troops included in the provisional military force that will police the Free Territory until the Governor decides its presence is no longer necessary.

### Italian Sentiment.

The peace treaty was finished but Italian sentiment was not complacent. *Buonsenso* called for the inauguration of a "moral campaign" for its revision and in the course of an interview granted by Nenni to Reuters, the Italian Foreign Minister in reference to his proposed visit to London said: "I shall stay in London long enough to discuss thoroughly Anglo-Italian relations resulting from an unhappy war and from a peace without justice. I shall also talk about the Italian colonies, hoping that next year Italy shall be allowed to administrate her colonies on behalf of the United Nations".

Turmoil, back-biting and harsh polemics still continued to characterize the realm of party politics. For one hour on 11 December, the City of Rome had a mayor but at the conclusion of the meeting of the City Council the various parties were confronted with the same impasse. Following the failure of either the leftist People's Block or the Uomo Qualunque to obtain the necessary majority at the City Council meeting of 4 December due to the abstention of the Christian Democrats from the voting, it had been suggested by the rightist parties that a mayoral junta be formed composed of proportional representatives of the various parties. This had been rejected by the leftist groups. The Christian Democrats however acceded to the suggestion and on 11 December joined with the rightist parties to effect a majority vote. Salvatore Rebecchini a Christian Democrat was elected mayor with 41 votes. Socialist Giuseppe Romita, Minister of Public Works received 34 votes from the leftist group and one vote was cast for Giovanni Selvaggi a Republican. Following elections for the Mayor, the City Council proceeded to election of the members of the junta. In line with its decision to support a proportional governing body the Christian Democrats voted in six members of the left parties after a right and center majority had been guaranteed with the election of three qualunquisti, two Christian Democrats, one Monarchist, one Liberal and one representative of a business men's group. The six leftist electees, however refused to serve. The others thereupon followed suit and Rebecchini himself resigned. The next meeting of the City Council will take place on 23 December.

### Party Leaders.

The Rome mayoralty difficulties served to whip up the party polemics to a new pitch. But while there were the usual bitter articles set forth in resounding type by the various editors it seemed evident that neither the Christian Democrats nor the Communists were particularly desirous of a definite crisis in the national government. On 8 December, De Gasperi declared that tripartism was not dead, in an interview granted to the editor of Torino *Nuova Stampa*. The same day *Messaggero* reported that the Directorate of the Christian Democrat Party had acknowledged that no Government formula other than the present one could result from a Governmental crisis.

But one of the most significant statements was made by Palmiro Togliatti during a speech delivered at Ferrara on 8 December. In the course of his address the Communist leader distinguished between political action indicated by the phrase "conquest of power" and that represented by "democratic conquest of the majority". He declared that the Socialists and Communists should emphasize the latter which best indicated their political aims and the methods by which they hoped to achieve them. He asserted that even should the united parties be successful in winning the majority in parliament they intended to collaborate fully with Christian Democracy. Togliatti declared flatly that the Communists did not desire to crush the Christian Democrat Party but only a clarification of that party's policy. He called upon the Christian Democrats to abandon their policy of anti-communism.

In the meantime the sentiment for elections next May or June was growing. To accomplish this Italy needed a Constitution. On 10 Decem-

0826

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



ber the Constituent Assembly unanimously adopted 31 January 1947 as the deadline for completion of the draft of the charter.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that as of 9 December 1946, 611,710 tons of wheat were available in Italy. The daily consumption rate has now been reduced to 11,031 tons due to the reduction of pasta rations from 2,000 grams to 1,000 grams monthly, effective 1 December. The amount on hand as of 9 December will meet requirements for approximately 55 days from that date providing transportation is available to move the stocks.

The total availability of coal as of 1 December including that already shipped stood at 704,000 tons and with an estimated consumption during the month, of 400,000 tons there will remain on hand as of 31 December approximately 304,000 tons. It was reported that the Italian Government and UNNRA consider that a minimum consumption of 600,000 tons per month is necessary to avoid a set-back in the Italian industrial rehabilitation program after several months of gradual improvement.

Italian civilian P. O. L. stocks were reported as follows: motor gasoline 26 days, diesel oil 20 days, kerosene 32 days and fuel oil 54 days. A tanker with 130,000 barrels of motor gasoline arrived at Genoa, 9 December and several other tankers loaded with both gasoline and diesel oil are expected to arrive in the next week or two. Two tankers carrying crude oil from Arabia arrived at Bari during the past week. More than a third of the two million barrels of crude oil purchased by UNNRA has now been brought into the country.

In the case of power the Economic Division reported that the hydroelectric situation in Central and Southern Italy was improving slightly but that the water storage in the Silà reservoir group, Southern Italy remains at a very low level. The thermal plants at Naples and Rome are both working to capacity.

## ARCHIVES DIVISION

With the work of the Allied Commission continuing in operation, the handling and disposition of the huge mass of records assembled in the past should not be overlooked. This important work is being performed by the Archives Division of the Allied Commission and the size and importance of the task may be estimated by the fact that the number of records to be checked, screened, catalogued, microfilmed and stored will run into many millions.

Allied Commission records fall into two general groups: (*a*) those of the Headquarters, (*b*) those of the Regions of AMG/AC and various Liaison organizations. Headquarters files present a particular problem in that they must be processed in a manner to allow for their continued reference, while at the same time requirements for microfilming must be fulfilled.

At the present time although a large part of the Headquarters files have been received, classified and stored pending further processing preparatory to microfilming, the Division is concentrating on the final disposition of the Regional files (*b*). These files require special handling due to their nature as AMG Military documents in use during the early months of occupational activities.

It has been found that when screened (in accordance with policy directives issued by the Combined Chiefs of Staff through AFHQ and the Allied Commission) the gross total of Regional documents has been reduced by twenty to thirty percent. This is brought about by the elimination of matter having no legal or historical value to the subject at hand.

To facilitate smooth and efficient handling of such a large mass of records, a production line system has been set up by the "Final Screening" Section of the Archives Division. This line is composed of from five to eight teams of three or four persons.

The number of teams is controlled by the nature of the documents being processed. In the course of passing through the hands of the team-members, the file is first closely scanned to eliminate duplicates, carrier notes, letters of transmittal, acknowledgements of receipt and other matter having no value to the continuity of the documents. A new file cover is prepared and all documents in the file are numbered consecutively from rear to front. The file is then bound to conform to the uniformity of the series and boxed to facilitate microfilm processing.

At the end of the production line is the Final Checking and Cataloguing Section. Here a revised list of contents is prepared for each box and the box of files finally inspected, nailed down and labelled. These boxes are then forwarded to the Allied Forces Microfilm and Records unit where they are photographed and returned to the Archives Division for storage in its permanent library.

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



Other sections of Archives are equally important. The "R" Section for receiving and recording all incoming documents; the "S" Section which accepts, furnishes and follows up all calls for files on loan and the Cardex Section which, as a cross-section of all files indexed under the question to which a file refers, will materially assist the historian.

ALCOSI Archives requires a considerable staff. Its officers are joint British and American and besides an equal number of military personnel, there is a group of trained Italian civilians carrying out the work in each section.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

### Cable services.

Resumption of communication service over the Rome-Barcelona submarine cable in November marks the first major step in the restoration of the Italian controlled submarine cable system. Repairs to this cable required several months as there is only one Italian cable repair ship available for repairs.

Submarine cable communication services to and from Italy before the war included service between Rome and Messina, Rome and Barcelona, Rome and Malaga, Rome and Horta, Azores, Rome, Lisbon and Belgium, Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and Buenos Aires. All cable communications were relayed through Malaga. However transmissions over Italian controlled cable extended to the points listed.

Cables to North America were transferred to the lines of other companies at Horta, Azores. Horta likewise was the point of transfer to other cable communication systems.

Disruption of cable communications is one of the first acts of war. Conversely, restoration of cable systems constitutes one of the last points upon which agreement is reached. Occupying powers must use undestroyed communication facilities for control of occupational forces and existing submarine cable constitutes one good facility that may be used.

Disruption and restoration of Italian cable has followed the usual pattern. Cables were cut early in the war to stop communications between enemy countries. Practically all cables controlled by Italy were severed in the Atlantic or in the Mediterranean near Malaga, before Italy became a co-belligerant. Later the Rome-Messina cable was cut near Naples and circuits established between Caserta and Messina. The Rome-Malaga cable was cut and respliced to become the Rome-Gibraltar cable. The Malaga-Horta cable was severed and separate portions used in the Rome-Gibraltar and Gibraltar-Horta cables. The Malaga-Lisbon-Belgium cable was severed and used to form the Gibraltar-Portenmow (U. K.) cable. The Malaga-Rio de Janeiro cable was severed. The Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Aires cable was siezed and operated by the Brazilian Government. At the time of Italy's joining the Allies as a cobelligerant Italy's only cable ship capable of efficient service in Atlantic waters, was sunk. Terminal equipment was removed by the withdrawing enemy and never recovered. Other equipment was destroyed beyond repair.

From this low point of absolute zero in cable communications the Italian Government and the engineers and managers of Italcable have made horeulean strides in restoring cable services. The Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Aires cable has been returned to its Italian owners, repaired and continued in operation. The Rome-Barcelona cable has been repaired and cable services resumed between Rome and Barcelona. Italcable is recovering the unused Rome-Naples portion of the Rome-Messina cable for use in the repair of other cable. Authority has been requested and obtained for the repair of the Barcelona-Malaga cable. This repair will be undertaken as soon as the one available cable ship is released from other work.

Meanwhile cable communication services are available through various channels. Cable and Wireless, operating over Italcable's cable between Rome and Horta, is prepared to furnish cable communication service to the Horta communications center. Italcable transmits telegrams by land line to Paris and by radiotelegraph to Lima for transfer to cable services.

In preparation for continued restoration of the cable system, Italcable is endeavoring to obtain a cable ship suitable for operation in Atlantic waters. It also has made official requests through appropriate channels for return of all of its facilities. As a last resort to be used only if necessary, preliminary discussion have been undertaken to obtain cable and agreements for financing and laying new cable wherever the old cable cannot be restored to Italian control and use.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Wednesday 11 December 1946 a demonstration was staged by the Italian Air Force for the benefit of Senior Allied and Italian officers at the I. A. F. base at Lecce. The program consisted of an inspection of the base followed by a display

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



of formation flying and simulated attacks by fighter bombers on the airfield.

The Air Officer Commanding RAF Italy, Air Vice Marshal L. Darvall, C. B., M. C., was accompanied by the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., the Deputy Director Lt. Col. F. E. Marck, the B. G. S. of the Military Mission to the Italian Army Brigadier M. W. Hope D. S. O. and the U. S. Air Attaché Col. B. E. Giawe.

This was perhaps the first time since the cessation of hostilities that senior officers of the three Italian services were present at a flying demonstration given by the Italian Air Force.

The Chief of Staff of the I. A. F. Gen. Mario Ajmone-Cat and the Commander of Unità Aeree Gen. G. Gaeta were present and among the hundred or so visiting Italian officers and cadets were the Comandant of the Military Academy, the General Commanding at Bari, Gen. Luzzi from the War Ministry and the Admiral Commanding at Brindisi.

The visitors arrived at 1030 and were introduced to the I. A. F. personnel and Italian Army Cadets who were paraded on the airfield. This was followed by a tour of the three Fighter Wings, the station workshops, the Pilot Training School, the S. R. A. M's and the airmen's recreation rooms.

At 1130, the visitors went to the control tower for the flying display. P 38 (Lightnings), Macchis and C. R. 42s were flown in the display.

The flying display was to have included formation flights by the Macchis and Lightnings, dive bombing attacks on the airfield by the Macchis, low level strafing by the Lightnings and an intereception of twin engined aircraft by single engined fighters. Unfortunately the weather was bad and low clouds and heavy showers considerably curtailed the planned progeam; for example the display of aerobatics which had been planned for the Macchis could not be carried out and was replaced by a low level formation fly past, but 3 C. R. 42's of the Pilot School gave a shortened display of certain easier formation aerobatics.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

For some time past this Mission has been discussing with the Italian Military Authorities the matter of the reorganization of the Ministry of War. Certain proposals were drawn up and submitted to Branch and Service chiefs in the Ministry of War. On Friday 6 December Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., MMIA attended a conference with the Minister for War to discuss the proposals. The Minister for War agreed to examine the proposals in detail.

Ever since the 1922, '23 and '24 classes were demobilized there has been a serious shortage of NCO Tradesmen and Specialists in the Italian Army. This has become a serious problem and so long as the Long Service regular element of the Army remains so small in proportion to the 12 months conscript element it must remain a problem, financial reasons being the great bar to solution.

Hitherto, Territorial Commands have had one officer doubling the duties of Welfare Officer and Public Relations Officer. This has proved unsatisfactory since the two Directorates are separate in Rome, and the Officer at Territorial Command has been endeavoring to serve two superiors. It has been suggested to the Ministry of War that Territorial Commands require two officers for these duties.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Weekly strength returns from the Refugee Centers administered by this Division are not yet complete for the period ending 7 December 1946, but it is evident, from figures so far at hand, that the total number of Displaced Persons in the 11 Centers varies little from the cumulative total quoted in *A. C. Weekly Bulletin* of 9 December 1946.

After some eight months of negotiations, Germans held at Bolzano have been officially accepted by the Authorities in Germany. Details of the move have not yet been completed, but it is hoped to backload the Germans on trains bringing Italian repatriates from Germany.

During November, 1,100 Italians were returned to Tripolitania of which [illegible] were children and the rest dependents of employees of the British Military Administration of that territory. Repatriates from Eritrea and Somalia arrived at Naples late last month and the first person for person exchange between Tripolitania and Italy occurred during November 1946.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. J. E. Regis, (A), (MMIA, Italian prisoners-of-war Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, P. B. S.

Lt. Col. L. Neprud, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been reassigned to the United States.

Maj. D. M. Chapman, (A), (Archives Division) has left for the United States for reassignment.

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



The following American officers left the Allied Commission during the past week, to return to the United States, for discharge from the Armed Forces: Maj. A. C. Kepplinger, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); Lt. Henry H. Hagan, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); and Lt. Paul Cole, (Displaced Persons Division).

The following American officers, recently transferred to the 7406th Regiment, have been assigned to sections as indicated: Capt. Willis B. McCarthy, (Headquarters Company); Capt. Dudak Langerak, (S-1 Section); Capt. Roy C. McCracken, (Archives division); Capt. Jack Wallace, (Economic Division); and 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland, (Motor Transport Section).

* * *

Under the provisions of Letter Headquarter MTOUSA, File AG 200.6-126 P-O, dated 6 December 1946, personnel assigned, or permanently attached to and present for duty for 30 consecutive days with the 2675th (now 7406th) Allied Commission Regiment, between 1 July 1946 and a date to be announced later, are eligible for the Army of Occupation Medal.

* * *

Jr-Comd. M. T. Bourne, (Displaced Persons Division) recently returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

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

December 16, 1946 Vol. III, No. 35

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Construction of the terms of the peace with Italy was finished.

The tortuous negotiations which have characterized all conferences were begun in the deliberations of the Council of Foreign Ministers at London. The recommendations of the Four were thoroughly discussed at the meeting of the 21 nations at the Paris Conference and last week after examining the recommendations of the Conference the Four finally brought their discussions to a close in New York City. On 12 December the Associated Press reported that the Foreign Ministers had decided that the treaty should be signed at Paris on 10 February 1947.

The final sessions of the Council of Foreign Ministers were characterized by the same give and take that has marked all deliberations. For example in the matter of reparations Molotov won his point on the raising of the amount to be given to Yugoslavia by Italy and also managed to gain reparations for Albania. On the other hand an Anglo-American proposal to limit the benefits of the treaty to signatory powers was accepted.

Final decision on reparations resulted in an addition of 35 million dollars to the bill which Italy will be called upon to pay. As recommended by the Paris Conference she would have given 100 million dollars to Russia, 100 million dollars to Yugoslavia, 100 million dollars to Greece and 25 million dollars to Ethiopia. Albania was left out of reparations consideration at the Paris Conference with the inference that this country could recoup any losses through liquidation of Italian property in Albania under article 69 of the treaty.

Italian reparations now amount to 360 million dollars as compared with the previous 325 million. At the meeting of the Ministers on 5 December Molotov had insisted on payment of 10 million dollars to Albania. Byrnes and Bevin are reported to have held out against this proposal pointing out that the Paris Conference had rejected all reparations to Albania. The final outcome of the discussion however found reparations allowed to Albania although these reparations were reduced to 5 million dollars. The other allowances approved in addition to the 100 million dollars already granted to Russia were 125 million dollars to Yugoslavia and 105 million dollars to Greece. The figure of 25 million dollars to Ethiopia was left unchanged. According to nearly all newspapers, discussion of Italy's reparations was closely tied up with those of Bulgaria who had her war bill cut 50 million dollars from the amount approved by the Paris conference. Bulgaria will pay 45 million dollars to Greece and 25 million dollars to Yugoslavia.

### Reaction to Reparations.

As might be expected the news of the reparations was received gloomily by the Italian press. Most papers took the attitude that Albania had profited from Italian occupation to the extent of 100 million dollars in the development of ports, roads, schools, etc. *Giornale della Sera* for example headed the news with "Our civilizing the Albanians valued at 100 million dollars." *Risorgimento Liberale* noted "A gracious present to Albania". *Momento* declared "The 'compromises treaty' concluded to Italy's complete detriment".

As to the receipt of benefits from the treaty, one of the agreements reached by the Four at the later sessions was that providing for the exclusion from such benefits of any nation not accepting the treaty in full. This clause was first proposed at Paris when Yugoslav delegates stated that their country would refuse to sign the treaty as it stood then. Although nothing has been reported since, of a prospective Yugoslav refusal to sign the treaty, in the event that this country refused to sign she would not be eligible for reparations from Italy under the terms of the document as now adopted.

Trieste which had been a consistent stumbling block throughout the negotiations was the subject of Big Four attention to the very end. Reuters reported that at the meeting of 7 December the following resolutions were adopted: (1) railways would be controlled jointly by Italy, the Free Territory's Administration and Yugoslavia; (2) The United Nations would be called upon to

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



cooperate in financing the provisional government of the Free Territory; (3) neither Italy nor Yugoslavia would be allotted exclusive zones of the Free Port but both would be granted anchorage facilities; in addition it was decided that details as to disposition of Italian naval ships under the treaty would be kept secret for the present.

It was reported by *Momento* that at the meeting of the Four on 10 December the final loose ends of the Trieste Statute were agreed upon. These included the following: (1) The Free Territory is prohibited from entering into any exclusive economic union with any other country; (2) Control of the Free Port will be vested in an International Commission in which Italy will have membership: and (3) the Governor of the Territory will be neither Italian nor Yugoslav.

As the meetings drew to a close there was no indication that consideration had been given to a request by Italy to be permitted to have Italian troops included in the provisional military force that will police the Free Territory until the Governor decides its presence is no longer necessary.

### Italian Sentiment.

The peace treaty was finished but Italian sentiment was not complacent. *Buonsenso* called for the inauguration of a "moral campaign" for its revision and in the course of an interview granted by Nenni to Reuters, the Italian Foreign Minister in reference to his proposed visit to London said: "I shall stay in London long enough to discuss thoroughly Anglo-Italian relations resulting from an unhappy war and from a peace without justice. I shall also talk about the Italian colonies, hoping that next year Italy shall be allowed to administrate her colonies on behalf of the United Nations".

Turmoil, back-biting and harsh polemics still continued to characterize the realm of party politics. For one hour on 11 December, the City of Rome had a mayor but at the conclusion of the meeting of the City Council the various parties were confronted with the same impasse. Following the failure of either the leftist People's Block or the Uomo Qualunque to obtain the necessary majority at the City Council meeting of 4 December due to the abstention of the Christian Democrats from the voting, it had been suggested by the rightist parties that a mayoral junta be formed composed of proportional representatives of the various parties. This had been rejected by the leftist groups. The Christian Democrats however acceded to the suggestion and on 11 December joined with the rightist parties to effect a majority vote. Salvatore Rebecchini a Christian Democrat was elected mayor with 41 votes. Socialist Giuseppe Romita, Minister of Public Works received 34 votes from the leftist group and one vote was cast for Giovanni Selvaggi a Republican. Following elections for the Mayor, the City Council proceeded to election of the members of the junta. In line with its decision to support a proportional governing body the Christian Democrats voted in six members of the left parties after a right and center majority had been guaranteed with the election of three qualunquisti, two Christian Democrats, one Monarchist, one Liberal and one representative of a business men's group. The six leftist electees, however refused to serve. The others thereupon followed suit and Rebecchini himself resigned. The next meeting of the City Council will take place on 23 December.

### Party Leaders.

The Rome mayoralty difficulties served to whip up the party polemics to a new pitch. But while there were the usual bitter articles set forth in resounding type by the various editors it seemed evident that neither the Christian Democrats nor the Communists were particularly desirous of a definite crisis in the national government. On 8 December, De Gasperi declared that tripartism was not dead, in an interview granted to the editor of Torino *Nuova Stampa*. The same day *Messaggero* reported that the Directorate of the Christian Democrat Party had acknowledged that no Government formula other than the present one could result from a Governmental crisis.

But one of the most significant statements was made by Palmiro Togliatti during a speech delivered at Ferrara on 8 December. In the course of his address the Communist leader distinguished between political action indicated by the phrase "conquest of power" and that represented by "democratic conquest of the majority". He declared that the Socialists and Communists should emphasize the latter which best indicated their political aims and the methods by which they hoped to achieve them. He asserted that even should the united parties be successful in winning the majority in parliament they intended to collaborate fully with Christian Democracy. Togliatti declared flatly that the Communists did not desire to crush the Christian Democrat Party but only a clarification of that party's policy. He called upon the Christian Democrats to abandon their policy of anti-communism.

In the meantime the sentiment for elections next May or June was growing. To accomplish this Italy needed a Constitution. On 10 Decem-

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



ber the Constituent Assembly unanimously adopted 31 January 1947 as the deadline for completion of the draft of the charter.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that as of 9 December 1946, 611,710 tons of wheat were available in Italy. The daily consumption rate has now been reduced to 11,031 tons due to the reduction of pasta rations from 2,000 grams to 1,000 grams monthly, effective 1 December. The amount on hand as of 9 December will meet requirements for approximately 55 days from that date providing transportation is available to move the stocks.

The total availability of coal as of 1 December including that already shipped stood at 704,000 tons and with an estimated consumption during the month, of 400,000 tons there will remain on hand as of 31 December approximately 304,000 tons. It was reported that the Italian Government and UNRRA consider that a minimum consumption of 600,000 tons per month is necessary to avoid a set-back in the Italian industrial rehabilitation program after several months of gradual improvement.

Italian civilian P. O. L. stocks were reported as follows: motor gasoline 26 days, diesel oil 20 days, kerosene 32 days and fuel oil 54 days. A tanker with 130,000 barrels of motor gasoline arrived at Genoa, 9 December and several other tankers loaded with both gasoline and diesel oil are expected to arrive in the next week or two. Two tankers carrying crude oil from Arabia arrived at Bari during the past week. More than a third of the two million barrels of crude oil purchased by UNRRA has now been brought into the country.

In the case of power the Economic Division reported that the hydroelectric situation in Central and Southern Italy was improving slightly but that the water storage in the Sila reservoir group, Southern Italy remains at a very low level. The thermal plants at Naples and Rome are both working to capacity.

## ARCHIVES DIVISION

With the work of the Allied Commission continuing in operation, the handling and disposition of the huge mass of records assembled in the past should not be overlooked. This important work is being performed by the Archives Division of the Allied Commission and the size and importance of the task may be estimated by the fact that the number of records to be checked, screened, catalogued, microfilmed and stored will run into many millions.

Allied Commission records fall into two general groups: (*a*) those of the Headquarters, (*b*) those of the Regions of AMG/AC and various Liaison organizations. Headquarters files present a particular problem in that they must be processed in a manner to allow for their continued reference, while at the same time requirements for microfilming must be fulfilled.

At the present time although a large part of the Headquarters files have been received, classified and stored pending further processing preparatory to microfilming, the Division is concentrating on the final disposition of the Regional files (*b*). These files require special handling due to their nature as AMG Military documents in use during the early months of occupational activities.

It has been found that when screened (in accordance with policy directives issued by the Combined Chiefs of Staff through AFHQ and the Allied Commission) the gross total of Regional documents has been reduced by twenty to thirty percent. This is brought about by the elimination of matter having no legal or historical value to the subject at hand.

To facilitate smooth and efficient handling of such a large mass of records, a production line system has been set up by the "Final Screening" Section of the Archives Division. This line is composed of from five to eight teams of three or four persons.

The number of teams is controlled by the nature of the documents being processed. In the course of passing through the hands of the team-members, the file is first closely scanned to eliminate duplicates, carrier notes, letters of transmittal, acknowledgements of receipt and other matter having no value to the continuity of the documents. A new file cover is prepared and all documents in the file are numbered consecutively from rear to front. The file is then bound to conform to the uniformity of the series and boxed to facilitate microfilm processing.

At the end of the production line is the Final Checking and Cataloguing Section. Here a revised list of contents is prepared for each box and the box of files finally inspected, nailed down and labelled. These boxes are then forwarded to the Allied Forces Microfilm and Records unit where they are photographed and returned to the Archives Division for storage in its permanent library.

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



Other sections of Archives are equally important. The "R" Section for receiving and recording all incoming documents; the "S" Section which accepts, furnishes and follows up all calls for files on loan and the Cardex Section which, as a cross-section of all files indexed under the *function* to which a file refers, will materially assist the historian.

ALCOM Archives requires a considerable staff. Its officers are joint British and American and besides an equal number of military personnel, there is a group of trained Italian civilians carrying out the work in each section.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

### Cable services.

Resumption of communication service over the Rome-Barcelona submarine cable in November marks the first major step in the restoration of the Italian controlled submarine cable system. Repairs to this cable required several months as there is only one Italian cable repair ship available for repairs.

Submarine cable communication services to and from Italy before the war included service between Rome and Messina, Rome and Barcelona, Rome and Malaga, Rome and Horta, Azores, Rome, Lisbon and Belgium, Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and Buenos Aires. All cable communications were relayed through Malaga. However transmissions over Italian controlled cable extended to the points listed.

Cables to North America were transferred to the lines of other companies at Horta, Azores. Horta likewise was the point of transfer to other cable communication systems.

Disruption of cable communications is one of the first acts of war. Conversely, restoration of cable systems constitutes one of the last points upon which agreement is reached. Occupying powers must use undestroyed communication facilities for control of occupational forces and existing submarine cable constitutes one good facility that may be used.

Disruption and restoration of Italian cable has followed the usual pattern. Cables were cut early in the war to stop communications between enemy countries. Practically all cables controlled by Italy were severed in the Atlantic or in the Mediterranean near Malaga, before Italy became a co-belligerent. Later the Rome-Messina cable was cut near Naples and circuits established between Caserta and Messina. The Rome-Malaga cable was cut and respliced to become the Rome-Gibraltar cable. The Malaga-Horta cable was severed and separate portions used in the Rome-Gibraltar and Gibraltar-Horta cables. The Malaga-Lisbon-Belgium cable was severed and used to form the Gibraltar-Porteurnow (U. K.) cable. The Malaga-Rio de Janeiro cable was severed. The Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Aires cable was siezed and operated by the Brazilian Government. At the time of Italy's joining the Allies as a cobelligerant Italy's only cable ship capable of efficient service in Atlantic waters, was sunk. Terminal equipment was removed by the withdrawing enemy and never recovered. Other equipment was destroyed beyond repair.

From this low point of absolute zero in cable communications the Italian Government and the engineers and managers of Italcable have made herculean strides in restoring cable services. The Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Aires cable has been returned to its Italian owners, repaired and continued in operation. The Rome-Barcelona cable has been repaired and cable services resumed between Rome and Barcelona. Italcable is recovering the unused Rome-Naples portion of the Rome-Messina cable for use in the repair of other cable. Authority has been requested and obtained for the repair of the Barcelona-Malaga cable. This repair will be undertaken as soon as the one available cable ship is released from other work.

Meanwhile cable communication services are available through various channels. Cable and Wireless, operating over Italcable's cable between Rome and Horta, is prepared to furnish cable communication service to the Horta communications center. Italcable transmits telegrams by land line to Paris and by radiotelegraph to Lima for transfer to cable services.

In preparation for continued restoration of the cable system, Italcable is endeavoring to obtain a cable ship suitable for operation in Atlantic waters. It also has made official requests through appropriate channels for return of all of its facilities. As a last resort to be used only if necessary, preliminary discussion have been undertaken to obtain cable and agreements for financing and laying new cable wherever the old cable cannot be restored to Italian control and use.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Wednesday 11 December 1946 a demonstration was staged by the Italian Air Force for the benefit of Senior Allied and Italian officers at the I. A. F. base at Lecce. The program consisted of an inspection of the base followed by a display

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



of formation flying and simulated attacks by fighter bombers on the airfield.

The Air Officer Commanding RAF Italy, Air Vice Marshal L. Darvall, C. B., M. C., was accompanied by the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., the Deputy Director Lt. Col. F. E. Marek, the B. G. S. of the Military Mission to the Italian Army Brigadier M. W. Hope D. S. O. and the U. S. Air Attaché Col. B. E. Glawe.

This was perhaps the first time since the cessation of hostilities that senior officers of the three Italian services were present at a flying demonstration given by the Italian Air Force.

The Chief of Staff of the I. A. F. Gen. Mario Ajmone-Cat and the Commander of Unità Aeree Gen. G. Gaeta were present and among the hundred or so visiting Italian officers and cadets were the Comandant of the Military Academy, the General Commanding at Bari, Gen. Luzzi from the War Ministry and the Admiral Commanding at Brindisi.

The visitors arrived at 1030 and were introduced to the I. A. F. personnel and Italian Army Cadets who were paraded on the airfield. This was followed by a tour of the three Fighter Wings, the station workshops, the Pilot Training School, the S. R. A. M's and the airmen's recreation rooms.

At 1130, the visitors went to the control tower for the flying display. P 38 (Lightnings), Macchis and C. R. 42s were flown in the display.

The flying display was to have included formation flights by the Macchis and Lightnings, dive bombing attacks on the airfield by the Macchis, low level strafing by the Lightnings and an interception of twin engined aircraft by single engined fighters. Unfortunately the weather was bad and low clouds and heavy showers considerably curtailed the planned program; for example the display of aerobatics which had been planned for the Macchis could not be carried out and was replaced by a low level formation fly past, but 3 C. R. 42's of the Pilot School gave a shortened display of certain easier formation aerobatics.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

For some time past this Mission has been discussing with the Italian Military Authorities the matter of the reorganization of the Ministry of War. Certain proposals were drawn up and submitted to Branch and Service chiefs in the Ministry of War.. On Friday 6 December Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., MMIA attended a conference w th the Minister for War to discuss the proposals. The Minister for War agreed to examine the proposals in detail.

Ever since the 1922, '23 and '24 classes were demobilized there has been a serious shortage of NCO Tradesmen and Specialists in the Italian Army. This has become a serious problem and so long as the Long Service regular element of the Army remains so small in proportion to the 12 months conscript element it must remain a problem, financial reasons being the great bar to solution.

Hitherto, Territorial Commands have had one officer doubling the duties of Welfare Officer and Public Relations Officer. This has proved unsatisfactory since the two Directorates are separate in Rome, and the Officer at Territorial Command has been endeavoring to serve two superiors. It has been suggested to the Ministry of War that Territorial Commands require two officers for these duties.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Weekly strength returns from the Refugee Centers administered by this Division are not yet complete for the period ending 7 December 1946, but it is evident, from figures so far at hand, that the total number of Displaced Persons in the 14 Centers varies little from the cumulative total quoted in *A. C. Weekly Bulletin* of 9 December 1946.

After some eight months of negotiations, Germans held at Bolzano have been officially accepted by the Authorities in Germany. Details of the move have not yet been completed, but it is hoped to backload the Germans on trains bringing Italian repatriates from Germany.

During November, 1,100 Italians were returned to Tripolitania of which 600 were children and the rest dependents of employees of the British Military Administration of that territory. Repatriates from Eritrea and Somalia arrived at Naples late last month and the first person for person exchange between Tripolitania and Italy occurred during November 1946.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. J. E. Regis, (A), (MMIA, Italian prisoners-of-war Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, P. B. S.

Lt. Col. L. Nejrud, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been reassigned to the United States.

Maj. D. M. Chapman, (A), (Archives Division) has left for the United States for reassignment.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



The following American officers left the Allied Commission during the past week, to return to the United States, for discharge from the Armed Forces: Maj. A. C. Kepplinger, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); Lt. Henry H. Hagan, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); and Lt. Paul Cole, (Displaced Persons Division).

The following American officers, recently transferred to the 7106th Regiment, have been assigned to sections as indicated: Capt. Willis B. McCarthy, (Headquarters Company); Capt. Dudak Langerak, (S-4 Section); Capt. Roy C. McCracken, (Archives division); Capt. Jack Wallace, (Economic Division); and 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland, (Motor Transport Section).

* * *

Under the provisions of Letter Headquarter MTOUSA, File AG 200.6-126 P-O, dated 6 December 1946, personnel assigned, or permanently attached to and present for duty for 30 consecutive days with the 2675th (now 7106th) Allied Commission Regiment, between 1 July 1946 and a date to be announced later, are eligible for the Army of Occupation Medal.

* * *

Jr-Comd. M. T. Bourne, (Displaced Persons Division) recently returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

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

December 16, 1946 Vol. III, No. 35

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLTICAL

Construction of the terms of the peace with Italy was finished.

The tortuous negotiations which have characterized all conferences were begun in the deliberations of the Council of Foreign Ministers at London. The recommendations of the Four were thoroughly discussed at the meeting of the 21 nations at the Paris Conference and last week after examining the recommendations of the Conference the Four finally brought their discussions to a close in New York City. On 12 December the Associated Press reported that the Foreign Ministers had decided that the treaty should be signed at Paris on 10 February 1947.

The final sessions of the Council of Foreign Ministers were characterized by the same give and take that has marked all deliberations. For example in the matter of reparations Molotov won his point on the raising of the amount to be given to Yugoslavia by Italy and also managed to gain reparations for Albania. On the other hand an Anglo-American proposal to limit the benefits of the treaty to signatory powers was accepted.

Final decision on reparations resulted in an addition of 35 million dollars to the bill which Italy will be called upon to pay. As recommended by the Paris Conference she would have given 100 million dollars to Russia, 100 million dollars to Yugoslavia, 100 million dollars to Greece and 25 million dollars to Ethiopia. Albania was left out of reparations consideration at the Paris Conference with the inference that this country could recoup any losses through liquidation of Italian property in Albania under article 69 of the treaty.

Italian reparations now amount to 360 million dollars as compared with the previous 325 million. At the meeting of the Ministers on 5 December Molotov had insisted on payment of 10 million dollars to Albania. Byrnes and Bevin are reported to have held out against this proposal pointing out that the Paris Conference had rejected all reparations to Albania. The final outcome of the discussion however found reparations allowed to Albania although these reparations were reduced to 5 million dollars. The other allowances approved in addition to the 100 million dollars already granted to Russia were 125 million dollars to Yugoslavia and 105 million dollars to Greece. The figure of 25 million dollars to Ethiopia was left unchanged. According to nearly all newspapers, discussion of Italy's reparations was closely tied up with those of Bulgaria who had her war bill cut 50 million dollars from the amount approved by the Paris conference. Bulgaria will pay 45 million dollars to Greece and 25 million dollars to Yugoslavia.

### Reaction to Reparations.

As might be expected the news of the reparations was received gloomily by the Italian press. Most papers took the attitude that Albania had profited from Italian occupation to the extent of 100 million dollars in the development of ports, roads, schools, etc. *Giornale della Sera* for example headed the news with "Our civilizing the Albanians valued at 100 million dollars." *Rosorgimento Liberale* noted "A gracious present to Albania". *Momento* declared "The 'compromises treaty' concluded to Italy's complete detriment".

As to the receipt of benefits from the treaty, one of the agreements reached by the Four at the later sessions was that providing for the exclusion from such benefits of any nation not accepting the treaty in full. This clause was first proposed at Paris when Yugoslav delegates stated that their country would refuse to sign the treaty as it stood then. Although nothing has been reported since, of a prospective Yugoslav refusal to sign the treaty, in the event that this country refused to sign she would not be eligible for reparations from Italy under the terms of the document as now adopted.

Trieste which had been a consistent stumbling block throughout the negotiations was the subject of Big Four attention to the very end. Reuters reported that at the meeting of 7 December the following resolutions were adopted: (1) railways would be controlled jointly by Italy, the Free Territory's Administration and Yugoslavia; (2) The United Nations would be called upon to

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



cooperate in financing the provisional government of the Free Territory; (3) neither Italy nor Yugoslavia would be allotted exclusive zones of the Free Port but both would be granted anchorage facilities; in addition it was decided that details as to disposition of Italian naval ships under the treaty would be kept secret for the present.

It was reported by *Momento* that at the meeting of the Four on 10 December the final loose ends of the Trieste Statute were agreed upon. These included the following: (1) The Free Territory is prohibited from entering into any exclusive economic union with any other country; (2) Control of the Free Port will be vested in an International Commission in which Italy will have membership; and (3) the Governor of the Territory will be neither Italian nor Yugoslav.

As the meetings drew to a close there was no indication that consideration had been given to a request by Italy to be permitted to have Italian troops included in the provisional military force that will police the Free Territory until the Governor decides its presence is no longer necessary.

### Italian Sentiment.

The peace treaty was finished but Italian sentiment was not complacent. *Buonsenso* called for the inauguration of a "moral campaign" for its revision and in the course of an interview granted by Nenni to Reuters, the Italian Foreign Minister in reference to his proposed visit to London said: "I shall stay in London long enough to discuss thoroughly Anglo-Italian relations resulting from an unhappy war and from a peace without justice. I shall also talk about the Italian colonies, hoping that next year Italy shall be allowed to administrate her colonies on behalf of the United Nations".

Turmoil, back-biting and harsh polemics still continued to characterize the realm of party politics. For one hour on 11 December, the City of Rome had a mayor but at the conclusion of the meeting of the City Council the various parties were confronted with the same impasse. Following the failure of either the leftist People's Block or the Uomo Qualunque to obtain the necessary majority at the City Council meeting of 4 December due to the abstention of the Christian Democrats from the voting, it had been suggested by the rightist parties that a mayoral junta be formed composed of proportional representatives of the various parties. This had been rejected by the leftist groups. The Christian Democrats however acceded to the suggestion and on 11 December joined with the rightist parties to effect a majority vote. Salvatore Rebecchini a Christian Democrat was elected mayor with 41 votes. Socialist Giuseppe Romita, Minister of Public Works received 34 votes from the leftist group and one vote was cast for Giovanni Selvaggi a Republican. Following elections for the Mayor, the City Council proceeded to election of the members of the junta. In line with its decision to support a proportional governing body the Christian Democrats voted in six members of the left parties after a right and center majority had been guaranteed with the election of three qualunquisti, two Christian Democrats, one Monarchist, one Liberal and one representative of a business men's group. The six leftist electees, however refused to serve. The others thereupon followed suit and Rebecchini himself resigned. The next meeting of the City Council will take place on 23 December.

### Party Leaders.

The Rome mayoralty difficulties served to whip up the party polemics to a new pitch. But while there were the usual bitter articles set forth in resounding type by the various editors it seemed evident that neither the Christian Democrats nor the Communists were particularly desirous of a definite crisis in the national government. On 8 December, De Gasperi declared that tripartism was not dead, in an interview granted to the editor of Torino *Nuova Stampa*. The same day *Messaggero* reported that the Directorate of the Christian Democrat Party had acknowledged that no Government formula other than the present one could result from a Governmental crisis.

But one of the most significant statements was made by Palmiro Togliatti during a speech delivered at Ferrara on 8 December. In the course of his address the Communist leader distinguished between political action indicated by the phrase "conquest of power" and that represented by "democratic conquest of the majority". He declared that the Socialists and Communists should emphasize the latter which best indicated their political aims and the methods by which they hoped to achieve them. He asserted that even should the united parties be successful in winning the majority in parliament they intended to collaborate fully with Christian Democracy. Togliatti declared flatly that the Communists did not desire to crush the Christian Democrat Party but only a clarification of that party's policy. He called upon the Christian Democrats to abandon their policy of anti-communism.

In the meantime the sentiment for elections next May or June was growing. To accomplish this Italy needed a Constitution. On 10 Decem-

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



ber the Constituent Assembly manimously adopted 31 January 1947 as the deadline for completion of the draft of the charter.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that as of 9 December 1946, 611,710 tons of wheat were available in Italy. The daily consumption rate has now been reduced to 11,031 tons due to the reduction of pasta rations from 2,000 grams to 1,000 grams monthly, effective 1 December. The amount on hand as of 9 December will meet requirements for approximately 55 days from that date providing transportation is available to move the stocks.

The total availability of coal as of 1 December including that already shipped stood at 704,000 tons and with an estimated consumption during the month, of 400,000 tons there will remain on hand as of 31 December approximately 304,000 tons. It was reported that the Italian Government and UNRRA consider that a minimum consumption of 600,000 tons per month is necessary to avoid a set-back in the Italian industrial rehabilitation program after several months of gradual improvement.

Italian civilian P. O. L. stocks were reported as follows: motor gasoline 26 days, diesel oil 20 days, kerosene 32 days and fuel oil 54 days. A tanker with 130,000 barrels of motor gasoline arrived at Genoa, 9 December and several other tankers loaded with both gasoline and diesel oil are expected to arrive in the next week or two. Two tankers carrying crude oil from Arabia arrived at Bari during the past week. More than a third of the two million barrels of crude oil purchased by UNRRA has now been brought into the country.

In the case of power the Economic Division reported that the hydroelectric situation in Central and Southern Italy was improving slightly but that the water storage in the Sila reservoir group, Southern Italy remains at a very low level. The thermal plants at Naples and Rome are both working to capacity.

## ARCHIVES DIVISION

With the work of the Allied Commission continuing in operation, the handling and disposition of the huge mass of records assembled in the past should not be overlooked. This important work is being performed by the Archives Division of the Allied Commission and the size and importance of the task may be estimated by the fact that the number of records to be checked, screened, catalogued, microfilmed and stored will run into many millions.

Allied Commission records fall into two general groups: (*a*) those of the Headquarters, (*b*) those of the Regions of AMG/AC and various Liaison organizations. Headquarters files present a particular problem in that they must be processed in a manner to allow for their continued reference, while at the same time requirements for microfilming must be fulfilled.

At the present time although a large part of the Headquarters files have been received, classified and stored pending further processing preparatory to microfilming, the Division is concentrating on the final disposition of the Regional files (*b*). These files require special handling due to their nature as AMG Military documents in use during the early months of occupational activities.

It has been found that when screened (in accordance with policy directives issued by the Combined Chiefs of Staff through AFHQ and the Allied Commission) the gross total of Regional documents has been reduced by twenty to thirty percent. This is brought about by the elimination of matter having no legal or historical value to the subject at hand.

To facilitate smooth and efficient handling of such a large mass of records, a production line system has been set up by the "Final Screening" Section of the Archives Division. This line is composed of from five to eight teams of three or four persons.

The number of teams is controlled by the nature of the documents being processed. In the course of passing through the hands of the team-members, the file is first closely scanned to eliminate duplicates, carrier notes, letters of transmittal, acknowledgements of receipt and other matter having no value to the continuity of the documents. A new file cover is prepared and all documents in the file are numbered consecutively from rear to front. The file is then bound to conform to the uniformity of the series and boxed to facilitate microfilm processing.

At the end of the production line is the Final Checking and Cataloguing Section. Here a revised list of contents is prepared for each box and the box of files finally inspected, nailed down and labelled. These boxes are then forwarded to the Allied Forces Microfilm and Records unit where they are photographed and returned to the Archives Division for storage in its permanent library.

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



Other sections of Archives are equally important. The "R" Section for receiving and recording all incoming documents; the "S" Section which accepts, furnishes and follows up all calls for files on loan and the Cardex Section which, as a cross-section of all files indexed under the *function* to which a file refers, will materially assist the historian.

ALCOM Archives requires a considerable staff. Its officers are joint British and American and besides an equal number of military personnel, there is a group of trained Italian civilians carrying out the work in each section.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

### Cable services.

Re-emption of communication service over the Rome-Barcelona submarine cable in November marks the first major step in the restoration of the Italian controlled submarine cable system. Repairs to this cable required several months as there is only one Italian cable repair ship available for repairs.

Submarine cable communication services to and from Italy before the war included service between Rome and Messina, Rome and Barcelona, Rome and Malaga, Rome and Horta, Azores, Rome, Lisbon and Belgium, Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and Buenos Aires. All cable communications were relayed through Malaga. However transmissions over Italian controlled cable extended to the points listed.

Cables to North America were transferred to the lines of other companies at Horta, Azores. Horta likewise was the point of transfer to other cable communication systems.

Disruption of cable communications is one of the first acts of war. Conversely, restoration of cable systems constitutes one of the last points upon which agreement is reached. Occupying powers must use undestroyed communication facilities for control of occupational forces and existing submarine cable constitutes one good facility that may be used.

Disruption and restoration of Italian cable has followed the usual pattern. Cables were cut early in the war to stop communications between enemy countries. Practically all cables controlled by Italy were severed in the Atlantic or in the Mediterranean near Malaga, before Italy became a co-belligerant. Later the Rome-Messina cable was cut near Naples and circuits established between Caserta and Messina. The Rome-Malaga cable was cut and respliced to become the Rome-Gibraltar cable. The Malaga-Horta cable was severed and separate portions used in the Rome-Gibraltar and Gibraltar-Horta cables. The Malaga-Lisbon-Belgium cable was severed and used to form the Gibraltar-Portenmow (U. K.) cable. The Malaga-Rio de Janeiro cable was severed. The Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Aires cable was siezed and operated by the Brazilian Government. At the time of Italy's joining the Allies as a cobelligerant Italy's only cable ship capable of efficient service in Atlantic waters, was sunk. Terminal equipment was removed by the withdrawing enemy and never recovered. Other equipment was destroyed beyond repair.

From this low point of absolute zero in cable communications the Italian Government and the engineers and managers of Italcable have made herculean strides in restoring cable services. The Rio de Janeiro-Buenos Aires cable has been returned to its Italian owners, repaired and continued in operation. The Rome-Barcelona cable has been repaired and cable services resumed between Rome and Barcelona. Italcable is recovering the unused Rome-Naples portion of the Rome-Messina cable for use in the repair of other cable. Authority has been requested and obtained for the repair of the Barcelona-Malaga cable. This repair will be undertaken as soon as the one available cable ship is released from other work.

Meanwhile cable communication services are available through various channels. Cable and Wireless, operating over Italcable's cable between Rome and Horta, is prepared to furnish cable communication service to the Horta communications center. Italcable transmits telegrams by land line to Paris and by radiotelegraph to Lima for transfer to cable services.

In preparation for continued restoration of the cable system, Italcable is endeavoring to obtain a cable ship suitable for operation in Atlantic waters. It also has made official requests through appropriate channels for return of all of its facilities. As a last resort to be used only if necessary, preliminary discussion have been undertaken to obtain cable and agreements for financing and laying new cable wherever the old cable cannot be restored to Italian control and use.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Wednesday 11 December 1946 a demonstration was staged by the Italian Air Force for the benefit of Senior Allied and Italian officers at the I. A. F. base at Lecce. The program consisted of an inspection of the base followed by a display

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



of formation flying and simulated attacks by fighter bombers on the airfield.

The Air Officer Commanding RAF Italy, Air Vice Marshal L. Darvall, C. B., M. C., was accompanied by the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., the Deputy Director Lt. Col. F. E. Marek, the B. G. S. of the Military Mission to the Italian Army Brigadier M. W. Hope D. S. O. and the U. S. Air Attaché Col. B. E. Glawe.

This was perhaps the first time since the cessation of hostilities that senior officers of the three Italian services were present at a flying demonstration given by the Italian Air Force.

The Chief of Staff of the I. A. F. Gen. Mario Ajmone-Cat and the Commander of Unità Aerea Gen. G. Gaeta were present and among the hundred or so visiting Italian officers and cadets were the Comandant of the Military Academy, the General Commanding at Bari, Gen. Lazzi from the War Ministry and the Admiral Commanding at Brindisi.

The visitors arrived at 1030 and were introduced to the I. A. F. personnel and Italian Army Cadets who were paraded on the airfield. This was followed by a tour of the three Fighter Wings, the station workshops, the Pilot Training School, the S. R. A. M's and the airmen's recreation rooms.

At 1130, the visitors went to the control tower for the flying display. P 38 (Lightnings), Macchis and C. R. 42s were flown in the display.

The flying display was to have included formation flights by the Macchis and Lightnings, dive bombing attacks on the airfield by the Macchis, low level strafing by the Lightnings and an intereception of twin engined aircraft by single engined fighters. Unfortunately the weather was bad and low clouds and heavy showers considerably curtailed the planned program; for example the display of acrobatics which had been planned for the Macchis could not be carried out and was replaced by a low level formation fly past, but 3 C. R. 42's of the Pilot School gave a shortened display of certain easier formation acrobatics.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

For some time past this Mission has been discussing with the Italian Military Authorities the matter of the reorganization of the Ministry of War. Certain proposals were drawn up and submitted to Branch and Service chiefs in the Ministry of War. On Friday 6 December Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., MMIA attended a conference with the Minister for War to discuss the proposals. The Minister for War agreed to examine the proposals in detail.

Ever since the 1922, '23 and '24 classes were demobilized there has been a serious shortage of NCO Tradesmen and Specialists in the Italian Army. This has become a serious problem and so long as the Long Service regular element of the Army remains so small in proportion to the 12 months conscript element it must remain a problem, financial reasons being the great bar to solution.

Hitherto, Territorial Commands have had one officer doubling the duties of Welfare Officer and Public Relations Officer. This has proved unsatisfactory since the two Directorates are separate in Rome, and the Officer at Territorial Command has been endeavoring to serve two superiors. It has been suggested to the Ministry of War that Territorial Commands require two officers for these duties.

## DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Weekly strength returns from the Refugee Centers administered by this Division are not yet complete for the period ending 7 December 1946, but it is evident, from figures so far at hand, that the total number of Displaced Persons in the 11 Centers varies little from the cumulative total quoted in *A. C. Weekly Bulletin* of 9 December 1946.

After some eight months of negotiations, Germans held at Bolzano have been officially accepted by the Authorities in Germany. Details of the move have not yet been completed, but it is hoped to backload the Germans on trains bringing Italian repatriates from Germany.

During November, 1,100 Italians were returned to Tripolitania of which 600 were children and the rest dependents of employees of the British Military Administration of that territory. Repatriates from Eritrea and Somalia arrived at Naples late last month and the first person for person exchange between Tripolitania and Italy occurred during November 1946.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. J. E. Regis, (A), (MMIA, Italian prisoners-of-war Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, P. B. S.

Lt. Col. L. Neprud, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been reassigned to the United States.

Maj. D. M. Chapman, (A), (Archives Division) has left for the United States for reassignment.

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



The following American officers left the Allied Commission during the past week, to return to the United States, for discharge from the Armed Forces: Maj. A. C. Kepplinger, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); Lt. Henry H. Hagan, (Air Forces Sub-Commission); and Lt. Paul Cole, (Displaced Persons Division).

The following American officers, recently transferred to the 7106th Regiment, have been assigned to sections as indicated: Capt. Willis B. McCarthy, (Headquarters Company); Capt. Dudak Langerak, (S-1 Section); Capt. Roy C. McCracken, (Archives division); Capt. Jack Wallace, (Economic Division); and 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland, (Motor Transport Section).

* * *

Under the provisions of Letter Headquarter MTOUSA, File AG 200.6-126 P-O, dated 6 December 1946, personnel assigned, or permanently attached to and present for duty for 90 consecutive days with the 2675th (now 7106th) Allied Commission Regiment, between 1 July 1946 and a date to be announced later, are eligible for the Army of Occupation Medal.

* * *

Jr-Comd. M. T. Bourne, (Displaced Persons Division) recently returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

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

Vol. III, No. 34

December 9, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Completion of the Italian peace treaty was foreseen in the near future as the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in New York City finished their work on the Trieste Statute and proceeded to iron out some of the other points of differences. As to the direct negotiations between representatives of Yugoslavia and Italia, newspaper concensus was that the agreement of the Four practically brought to an end any possibility of significant results and that negotiation in the future would be probably confined to secondary matters including commercial agreements and protection of minorities.

The one detail in the Trieste Statute that caused most concern in the Italian press was that providing for the inclusion of 5,000 Yugoslav troops in the military force which—together with equal numbers of American and British Troops—will occupy the Free Territory of Trieste until the Governor shall announce that their presence is no longer necessary. Under the terms published, the Governor must make such announcement 90 days after taking office, but in the event he deems their presence is necessary, the troops may be retained until he decides otherwise.

According to *Messaggero* the Italian Government made inquiries of the Council of Foreign Ministers as to the details of this provision. It was reported by ANSA that the Yugoslav troops would remain in the section of Venezia Giulia which they presently occupy and would not be permitted to enter the city of Trieste. The Italian press bitterly complaining of the provision for Yugoslav troops took exception not so much to the number of troops stated as to the fact of their inclusion in the security force. In general the papers emphasized that Yugoslavia was one of the contending parties in the dispute. They claimed that the presence of Yugoslav troops would lend much weight to the Yugoslav claims over Italian claims thereby constituting a privilege for Yugoslavia and a humiliation for Italy; also the press contended that presence of Yugoslav troops would exert serious political pressure in the elections and in all political activity of the New Territory.

In the matter of the boundaries between Yugoslavia and Italy and between those countries and the Free Territory the only development of any interest during the past week was a Yugoslav proposal to the Big Four reported by Reuters. The press service stated that a Yugoslav note to the Council of Foreign Ministers proposed a new line which would leave Monfalcone to Italy. More significant however was the apparent lack of mention of Gorizia in the new Yugoslav proposal. Cession of Gorizia to Yugoslavia had been included in the proposal made by Marshal Tito to Palmiro Togliatti. In spite of the proposal it was deemed unlikely in most press circles that the Four would deviate from the French line already adopted.

### Reparations.

Reparations appeared once more on the agenda of the Council of Foreign Ministers this week. Whereas the Paris Conference had voted 100,000,000 dollars each to Yugoslavia and Greece and 25,000,000 to Ethiopia there seemed every likelihood that these figures would be changed. Toward the end of the week the United Press reported that a French proposal was under consideration which would give 125,000,000 dollars to Yugoslavia and 105,000,000 dollars to Greece. The amount provided for Ethiopia was apparently left unchanged. It is reported that Molotov demanded that 10,000,000 dollars should be paid by Italy to Albania. Bevin and Byrnes however, are stated to have pointed out that a proposal to have Italy pay 5,000,000 dollars to Albania had already been rejected by the Paris Peace Conference.

Other matters reported as determined by the Council of Foreign Ministers included permission for Italy to own motor torpedo-boats and acknowledgment of the direct agreement reached by Italy and Austria as to Alto Adige.

In the realm of Party Politics the Christian Democrats stole the spotlight and most of the

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



headlines this week with a split that rivalled that threatening in the Socialist Party. On 1 December the right wing trend of the party led by Stefano Jacini organized and held a meeting to draw up a program. This program would call for the Christian Democrat Party to leave not only the coalition Government but also the General Confederation of Italian Labor. The same day Minister of Education Guido Gonella in a speech delivered at Martina Franca called upon his party to cease any further collaboration with the Communists either in the Government or in the Labor Movement. The day before the formal organization of the right wing trend of the party, Jacini in an interview printed in *Giornale d'Italia* had stated that the trend was in full agreement with the program of the party with the exception of the two points noted. He was quoted as saying that the only thing to be welcomed would be "an agreement between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists disengaged from the Communists or the Liberals disengaged from the Qualunquisti".

Faced with the threatened split within the ranks of the Party, the Directorate of the Christian Democrat Party met on 4 December and decided to call into session the National Council of the Party on 9 December. The Directorate passed an order of the day decrying the expression of party feelings through channels other than the party's own.

In the meantime the Socialist Party had advanced its party Congress to 9 January 1947 and stated that the agenda would include (1) lines of policy of the party; (2) the party's statute and (3) election of the directive organisms.

### Rome's Mayor

The stalemate represented by the tripartite government was nowhere more emphasized than at the first meeting of the Rome city governing council on 4 December. The council had met to elect a Mayor of the capital, but the following day the city was still mayorless as neither party nor coalition could swing the necessary majority. The Christian Democrats abstained from the voting, turning in blank ballots.

The general political situation, considered hopeless in party circles gave rise during the week to an increasing agreement that clarification could only be brought about by advancing the next political elections to May or June 1947. The suggested solution was apparently first advanced by Don Sturzo and as the week progressed more of the party organs and independent papers were falling into line. Many of the papers felt that if the parties became resigned to the elections as the only solution to the complex situation, there should follow a political truce until they could be held.

Not much developed politically during the week on either the repatriation of prisoners of war from Yugoslavia or the police report on the Emilia crime wave. In the case of the former, a group of 2,879 arrived in Ancona on 29 November. *Italia Nuova* headlined that the group had been handed over to Hon. Moscatelli and thundered that this was an insult to the Italian Government.

In the case of the Emilia crime wave nothing factual developed. Consideration of the police report that allegedly charged the Communists with responsibility for most of the crimes was postponed to a later session of the Council of Ministers on demand of Minister Scoccimarro.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Total figures relating to the availability and consumption of wheat in Italy for the month of November were reported this week by the Economic Division. During the month 1,654,838 tons of wheat and wheat substitutes were available. This figure includes 62,222 tons amassed to include 26 November. Consumption during the month amounted to a total of 387,500 tons leaving a balance of 667,338 tons as of 1 December. This is sufficient for approximately 54 days, but the figure will be increased to 56 days by the arrival of 30,000 tons which are now in transit. The estimate as to the number of days is dependent upon the availability of internal transport to move the stocks.

Consumption figures are based on 12,500 tons per day which is now determined by UNRRA as the average daily rate of consumption. This is a net rate after making allowances for various factors such as a 3 percent loss factor, UNRRA Welfare, Italian Armed Forces, 2 percent for bogus ration cards and the amount of rice distributed in certain provinces in lieu of wheat.

A decree concerning regulation for public restaurants, including surrendering of ration card coupons for all bread and pasta served and limiting the number of courses has been issued by the Italian Government as published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale* No. 272 of 29 November 1946.

### Fuel

As of 1 December stocks of coal on hand amounted to 415,000 tons. The was expected to be augmented by December shipments of

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



250,000 tons. Of this amount 112,000 tons were reported in transit from the United States and it was estimated that 138,000 tons would arrive from other sources during the month. Due to the coal miners' strike in the United States the consumption of coal for December will be limited to 400,000 tons leaving an estimated balance on 31 December of 265,000 tons. (At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 5 December it was determined to reduce railway traffic 20 to 30 percent).

Civilian P. O. L. stocks based on current reduced rate of consumption was reported as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Motor Gasoline | 10 days | (50 percent cut in consumption). |
| Diesel Oil . . | 20 days | (40 percent cut in consumption). |
| Kerosene . . . | 25 days | (normal consumption). |
| Fuel Oil . . . | 60 days | (normal consumption). |

A tanker carrying 80,000 barrels of motor gasoline and 50,000 barrels of diesel oil arrived at Naples on 3 December. It has also been announced that seven tankers will sail during December carrying 343,000 barrels of diesel oil and 160,000 barrels of motor gasoline. The bulk of this is due to arrive during the first half of December. It is anticipated that upon receipt of these quantities, restrictions on consumption which were imposed early in November will be lifted.

Five tankers of crude oil have been received three at Bari and two at Naples. The 568,000 barrels brought by these tankers represents slightly more than one-fourth of the crude oil to be imported by UNRRA.

### Power.

The power situation in Central and Southern Italy was reviewed by the Central Commission for the Rationing and Control of Electric Power (Ministry of Public Works) during the monthly meeting held on 30 November. The general situation is slightly improved and in spite of the increased consumption, the estimated shortage in December will be about 26 percent as compared with 32 percent for November. Feeder disconnections will be carried out according to the November rationing plan. In the event that more power becomes available from the hydroelectric plants, the steam plants will curtail generation in order to conserve fuel.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Rapid recovery of international radio communications between Italy and other countries has been brought about by the energetic efforts of the Italian managers and engineers of the Italian controlled Italcable Servizi Cablografici Radiotelegrafici and Radioelettrici, until now the international radio communication system radiating from Italy is approaching the pre-war peak and on some circuits has made available services that were not offered before the war.

International radio communications between Italy and the rest of the world became non-existent during the transition period of German withdrawal and Allied occupation of the various areas of the country. Press Wireless and RCA Communications were called into Italy to establish radio communications essential to the effective control of the armies.

Following the return of facilities to Italcable, its managers and engineers have exhibited zeal and enthusiasm in returning radio communication to normal. Damage to equipment caused by acts of war and deliberate destruction by the withdrawing enemy resulted in very little of the equipment being usable. Vital parts of transmitters were removed and the main power plant in Italcables' Rome transmitter station was destroyed. With this beginning, Italcable has rebuilt transmitters, brought and improvised others while negotiating for authorization to use frequencies allotted before the war.

Radiotelegraph circuits existing before the war that have been reactivated include those between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Lima, New York, London, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Prague, Warsaw, Budapest, Moscow, Istanbul, Kabul, Beyrukt, and Cairo.

Radiotelegraph circuits not yet reactivated include those between Rome and Halifax, Nova Scotia, Amsterdam, Oslo, Berlin, Vienna, Bucarest, Lisbon, Shanghai, and Tokio. Many factors have prevented operation of these circuits. Primary obstacles have been lack of equipment at both termini, and reluctance of military occupation authorities to permit resumption of operation. Another factor has been the inadequacy of frequencies suitable for this type of communication. Some of the best frequencies were seized for military use during the war and have not been released.

Radiotelephone service has been resumed between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and New York. Volume of this traffic exceeds pre-war traffic. Almost all available circuit time

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



is taken up by business men, diplomats, and soldiers. The Rome–New York radiotelephone circuit is also limited by the fact that the equipment available at the New York terminus is used for part time operation with Cairo. The radiotelephone circuit with Tokio will be reopened when permission is granted for operation of the Tokio terminus.

Service has been expanded by the introduction of Radiophoto service between Rome and New York and London. This service has been of considerable aid to the news agencies in sending the Italian news in pictures to the rest of the world.

Active plans call for the installation of new equipment that will permit operation of multichannel services between Rome and New York. A radioteletype service with Moscow will be introduced as soon as approved by Allied authorities. Photo service to South America will be inaugurated when the proper equipment has been installed in South America.

Over Italcable facilities communications may be sent to any point in the world. Its affiliates in the United States, relay communications to the Far East, Central and North America. From Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro communications can be routed to the adjoining countries of South America. Through its London affiliates communications can be relayed to communication centers of Africa and the British Empire.

The facilities of Italcable are of great importance at this time when submarine cable cut during the war has not been restored to service and land line facilities of Europe are used primarily for military traffic. The services offered are used as rapidly as available by governmental and commercial representatives in restoring order and commerce, thus providing an incentive for the procurement of better equipment and improvement of services.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The past week brought to light the good work carried out by the Italian Air Sea Rescue Service in connection with the rescue of the passengers and crew of the Dakota aircraft which crashed on a glacier in the Swiss Alps. Supplies were dropped and rescue parties were guided on their way to the aircraft. The crews of the rescue aircraft had to overcome numerous difficulties including bad flying weather.

Changes in the Military Courier service reported last week are now in force and the service is functioning satisfactorily.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The new Italian Army, with its increased mechanical and electrical commitments, has for some time been faced with the problem of how to provide sufficient technical personnel for the maintenance and operation of its modern equipment. With the bulk of its personnel engaged for 12 months only, and its proportionately small cadre of long-service personnel, it is impossible to train sufficient skilled technicians, and the employment of auxiliary civilian personnel or contractors does not solve the problem so far as it affects mobile units and formations.

The Ministry of War is fully alive to this problem, but all solutions to it seem to be unacceptable for financial reasons.

It is hoped, however, that efforts now being made to overcome this great obstacle to the efficiency of the Italian Army may prove successful.

The Italian Press is evincing more and more interest in the Italian Army, as reported in the AC Bulletin of 26 October 1946, and an increasing number of constructive criticisms have appeared, in contrast to the ill-informed articles which continue to be printed in some of the newspapers.

With the approaching completion of the duties of the Italian P. O. W. section, all functions affecting P. O. W. who have been in the hands of the U. S. authorities have been separated and transferred to the H. Q. of the Commanding General, Peninsular Base Section at Leghorn.

The Italian authorities have been asked to inform the public that all future inquiries regarding P. O. W. who have been, or still are, in American hands, should be sent to the above address.

## DISPLACED PERSONS

Fourteen centers housing displaced persons of some thirty different nationalities are at present under the control of the Displaced Persons Division, Allied Commission. As of 30 November 1946 the total number of diplaced persons in the camps was 10,828, of which Yugoslavs constituted the largest group.

During the past few months a total of four camps have been handed back to the Italian authorities. Of these one was located at Bolzano and another at Aversa near Naples. The other two camps somewhat smaller were located at Palombina-Falconara and Servigliano respectively.

No. 3 D. P. Center located at Barletta-Trani has recently been divided into two separate camps. The one at Barletta (hou sing Poles) is now de-

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



signated No. 3 D. P. Center while the other at Trani is D. P. Center No. 4.

The past few months have been quiet from the repatriation point of view except for one or two moves involving transfer of Italian children and Italian dependents to Eritrea, Tripolitania and Somalia. These movements were an Italian Government responsibility. During the past few months dependents of members of Polcorps were moved to the United Kingdom and Chinese who had long been held up due to lack of transport were repatriated to their homeland.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. J. Stopford, (B), (Industry and Utilities) has returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

The following American officers were assigned on 30 November 1946 to the indicated Sub-Commissions and Division: Maj. Alexander C. Kharitonoff, (Displaced Persons Division); Capt. Donald C. Morris, (Displaced Persons Division); 1st Lt. Sidney P. Dane, (Displaced Persons Division); Maj. George G. Maxfield, (Archives Division); Capt. Lewis W. Gingery, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); Capt. Raymond C. Graves, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); 1st Lt. Thomas E. Kelley, (Economic Division); and 1st Lt. Frederic W. Irwin, (Air Forces Sub-Commission).

Five American officers have been added to the roster of the 7106th Regiment and are waiting for assignment. They are: Capt. Willis B. Mc Carthy, Capt. Dudak Langerak, Capt. Roy C. McCracken, Capt. Jack Wallace, and 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland.

* * *

Capt. Paul G. Woden has been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon for his achievements in the Archives Division. Presentation was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer, 7106 Regiment, on 4 December 1946.

* * *

The enlisted men of Headquarters Company, 7106 Regiment, will officially re-open their Day Room on Saturday, 7 December 1946. The room has recently been completely redecorated with a new coat of paint, new furniture, wall and floor lamps, and a fireplace.

51

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

Vol. III, No. 34

December 9, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Completion of the Italian peace treaty was foreseen in the near future as the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in New York City finished their work on the Trieste Statute and proceeded to iron out some of the other points of differences. As to the direct negotiations between representatives of Yugoslavia and Italia, newspaper concensus was that the agreement of the Four practically brought to an end any possibility of significant results and that negotiation in the future would be probably confined to secondary matters including commercial agreements and protection of minorities.

The one detail in the Trieste Statute that caused most concern in the Italian press was that providing for the inclusion of 5,000 Yugoslav troops in the military force which—together with equal numbers of American and British Troops—will occupy the Free Territory of Trieste until the Governor shall announce that their presence is no longer necessary. Under the terms published, the Governor must make such announcement 90 days after taking office, but in the event he deems their presence is necessary, the troops may be retained until he decides otherwise.

According to *Messaggero* the Italian Government made inquiries of the Council of Foreign Ministers as to the details of this provision. It was reported by ANSA that the Yugoslav troops would remain in the section of Venezia Giulia which they presently occupy and would not be permitted to enter the city of Trieste. The Italian press bitterly complaining of the provision for Yugoslav troops took exception not so much to the number of troops stated as to the fact of their inclusion in the security force. In general the papers emphasized that Yugoslavia was one of the contending parties in the dispute. They claimed that the presence of Yugoslav troops would lend much weight to the Yugoslav claims over Italian claims thereby constituting a privilege for Yugoslavia and a humiliation for Italy; also the press contended that presence of Yugoslav troops would exert serious political pressure in the elections and in all political activity of the New Territory.

In the matter of the boundaries between Yugoslavia and Italy and between those countries and the Free Territory the only development of any interest during the past week was a Yugoslav proposal to the Big Four reported by Reuters. The press service stated that a Yugoslav note to the Council of Foreign Ministers proposed a new line which would leave Monfalcone to Italy. More significant however was the apparent lack of mention of Gorizia in the new Yugoslav proposal. Cession of Gorizia to Yugoslavia had been included in the proposal made by Marshal Tito to Palmiro Togliatti. In spite of the proposal it was deemed unlikely in most press circles that the Four would deviate from the French line already adopted.

### Reparations.

Reparations appeared once more on the agenda of the Council of Foreign Ministers this week. Whereas the Paris Conference had voted 100,000,000 dollars each to Yugoslavia and Greece and 25,000,000 to Ethiopia there seemed every likelihood that these figures would be changed. Toward the end of the week the United Press reported that a French proposal was under consideration which would give 125,000,000 dollars to Yugoslavia and 105,000,000 dollars to Greece. The amount provided for Ethiopia was apparently left unchanged. It is reported that Molotov demanded that 10,000,000 dollars should be paid by Italy to Albania. Bevin and Byrnes however, are stated to have pointed out that a proposal to have Italy pay 5,000,000 dollars to Albania had already been rejected by the Paris Peace Conference.

Other matters reported as determined by the Council of Foreign Ministers included permission for Italy to own motor torpedo-boats and acknowledgment of the direct agreement reached by Italy and Austria as to Alto Adige.

In the realm of Party Politics the Christian Democrats stole the spotlight and most of the

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



headlines this week with a split that rivalled that threatening in the Socialist Party. On 1 December the right wing trend of the party led by Stefano Jacini organized and held a meeting to draw up a program. This program would call for the Christian Democrat Party to leave not only the coalition Government but also the General Confederation of Italian Labor. The same day Minister of Education Guido Gonella in a speech delivered at Martina Franca called upon his party to cease any further collaboration with the Communists either in the Government or in the Labor Movement. The day before the formal organization of the right wing trend of the party, Jacini in an interview printed in *Giornale d'Italia* had stated that the trend was in full agreement with the program of the party with the exception of the two points noted. He was quoted as saying that the only thing to be welcomed would be "an agreement between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists disengaged from the Communists or the Liberals disengaged from the Qualunquisti".

Faced with the threatened split within the ranks of the Party, the Directorate of the Christian Democrat Party met on 4 December and decided to call into session the National Council of the Party on 9 December. The Directorate passed an order of the day decrying the expression of party feelings through channels other than the party's own.

In the meantime the Socialist Party had advanced its party Congress to 9 January 1947 and stated that the agenda would include (1) line of policy of the party; (2) the party's statute and (3) election of the directive organisms.

### Rome's Mayor

The stalemate represented by the tripartite government was nowhere more emphasized than at the first meeting of the Rome city governing council on 4 December. The council had met to elect a Mayor of the capital, but the following day the city was still mayorless as neither party nor coalition could swing the necessary majority. The Christian Democrats abstained from the voting, turning in blank ballots.

The general political situation, considered hopeless in party circles gave rise during the week to an increasing agreement that clarification could only be brought about by advancing the next political elections to May or June 1947. The suggested solution was apparently first advanced by Don Sturzo and as the week progressed more of the party organs and independent papers were falling into line. Many of the papers felt that if the parties became resigned to the elections as the only solution to the complex situation, there should follow a political truce until they could be held.

Not much developed politically during the week on either the repatriation of prisoners of war from Yugoslavia or the police report on the Emilia crime wave. In the case of the former, a group of 2,879 arrived in Ancona on 29 November. *Italia Nuova* headlined that the group had been handed over to Hon. Mosecatelli and thundered that this was an insult to the Italian Government.

In the case of the Emilia crime wave nothing factual developed. Consideration of the police report that allegedly charged the Communists with responsibility for most of the crimes was postponed to a later session of the Council of Ministers on demand of Minister Scoccimarro.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Total figures relating to the availability and consumption of wheat in Italy for the month of November were reported this week by the Economic Division. During the month 1,051,838 tons of wheat and wheat substitutes were available. This figure includes 62,222 tons amassed to include 26 November. Consumption during the month amounted to a total of 387,500 tons leaving a balance of 667,338 tons as of 1 December. This is sufficient for approximately 54 days, but the figure will be increased to 56 days by the arrival of 30,000 tons which are now in transit. The estimate as to the number of days is dependent upon the availability of internal transport to move the stocks.

Consumption figures are based on 12,500 tons per day which is now determined by UNNRA as the average daily rate of consumption. This is a net rate after making allowances for various factors such as a 3 percent loss factor, UNNRA Welfare, Italian Armed Forces, 2 percent for bogus ration cards and the amount of rice distributed in certain provinces in lieu of wheat.

A decree concerning regulation for public restaurants, including surrendering of ration card coupons for all bread and pasta served and limiting the number of courses has been issued by the Italian Government as published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale* No. 272 of 29 November 1946.

### Fuel

As of 1 December stocks of coal on hand amounted to 115,000 tons. The was expected to be augmented by December shipments of

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



250,000 tons. Of this amount 112,000 tons were reported in transit from the United States and it was estimated that 138,000 tons would arrive from other sources during the month. Due to the coal miners' strike in the United States the consumption of coal for December will be limited to 400,000 tons leaving an estimated balance on 31 December of 265,000 tons. (At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 5 December it was determined to reduce railway traffic 20 to 30 percent).

Civilian P. O. L. stocks based on current reduced rate of consumption was reported as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Motor Gasoline | 10 days | (50 percent cut in consumption). |
| Diesel Oil . . | 20 days | (40 percent cut in consumption). |
| Kerosene . . . | 25 days | (normal consumption). |
| Fuel Oil . . . | 60 days | (normal consumption). |

A tanker carrying 80,000 barrels of motor gasoline and 50,000 barrels of diesel oil arrived at Naples on 3 December. It has also been announced that seven tankers will sail during December carrying 343,000 barrels of diesel oil and 160,000 barrels of motor gasoline. The bulk of this is due to arrive during the first half of December. It is anticipated that upon receipt of these quantities, restrictions on consumption which were imposed early in November will be lifted.

Five tankers of crude oil have been received three at Bari and two at Naples. The 368,000 barrels brought by these tankers represents slightly more than one-fourth of the crude oil to be imported by UNRRA.

### Power.

The power situation in Central and Southern Italy was reviewed by the Central Commission for the Rationing and Control of Electric Power (Ministry of Public Works) during the monthly meeting held on 30 November. The general situation is slightly improved and in spite of the increased consumption, the estimated shortage in December will be about 26 percent as compared with 32 percent for November. Feeder disconnections will be carried out according to the November rationing plan. In the event that more power becomes available from the hydroelectric plants, the steam plants will curtail generation in order to conserve fuel.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Rapid recovery of international radio communications between Italy and other countries has been brought about by the energetic efforts of the Italian managers and engineers of the Italian controlled Italcable Servizi Cablografici Radiotelegrafici and Radioelettrici, until now the international radio communication system radiating from Italy is approaching the pre-war peak and on some circuits has made available services that were not offered before the war.

International radio communications between Italy and the rest of the world became non-existent during the transition period of German withdrawal and Allied occupation of the various areas of the country. Press Wireless and RCA Communications were called into Italy to establish radio communications essential to the effective control of the armies.

Following the return of facilities to Italcable, its managers and engineers have exhibited zeal and enthusiasm in returning radio communication to normal. Damage to equipment caused by acts of war and deliberate destruction by the withdrawing enemy resulted in very little of the equipment being usable. Vital parts of transmitters were removed and the main power plant in Italcables' Rome transmitter station was destroyed. With this beginning, Italcable has rebuilt transmitters, brought and improvised others while negotiating for authorization to use frequencies allotted before the war.

Radiotelegraph circuits existing before the war that have been reactivated include those between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Lima, New York, London, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Prague, Warsaw, Budapest, Moscow, Istanbul, Kabul, Beyrukt, and Cairo.

Radiotelegraph circuits not yet reactivated include those between Rome and Halifax, Nova Scotia, Amsterdam, Oslo, Berlin, Vienna, Bucarest, Lisbon, Shanghai, and Tokio. Many factors have prevented operation of these circuits. Primary obstacles have been lack of equipment at both termini, and reluctance of military occupation authorities to permit resumption of operation. Another factor has been the inadequacy of frequencies suitable for this type of communication. Some of the best frequencies were seized for military use during the war and have not been released.

Radiotelephone service has been resumed between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and New York. Volume of this traffic exceeds prewar traffic. Almost all available circuit time

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



is taken up by business men, diplomats, and soldiers. The Rome–New York radiotelephone circuit is also limited by the fact that the equipment available at the New York terminus is used for part time operation with Cairo. The radiotelephone circuit with Tokio will be reopened when permission is granted for operation of the Tokio terminus.

Service has been expanded by the introduction of Radiophoto service between Rome and New York and London. This service has been of considerable aid to the news agencies in sending the Italian news in pictures to the rest of the world.

Active plans call for the installation of new equipment that will permit operation of multichannel services between Rome and New York. A radioteletype service with Moscow will be introduced as soon as approved by Allied authorities. Photo service to South America will be inaugurated when the proper equipment has been installed in South America.

Over Italcable facilities communications may be sent to any point in the world. Its affiliates in the United States, relay communications to the far East, Central and North America. From Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro communications can be routed to the adjoining countries of South America. Through its London affiliates communications can be relayed to communication centers of Africa and the British Empire.

The facilities of Italcable are of great importance at this time when submarine cable cut during the war has not been restored to service and land line facilities of Europe are used primarily for military traffic. The services offered are used as rapidly as available by governmental and commercial representatives in restoring order and commerce, thus providing an incentive for the procurement of better equipment and improvement of services.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The past week brought to light the good work carried out by the Italian Air Sea Rescue Service in connection with the rescue of the passengers and crew of the Dakota aircraft which crashed on a glacier in the Swiss Alps. Supplies were dropped and rescue parties were guided on their way to the aircraft. The crews of the rescue aircraft had to overcome numerous difficulties including bad flying weather.

Changes in the Military Courier service reported last week are now in force and the service is functioning satisfactorily.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The new Italian Army, with its increased mechanical and electrical commitments, has for some time been faced with the problem of how to provide sufficient technical personnel for the maintenance and operation of its modern equipment. With the bulk of its personnel engaged for 12 months only, and its proportionately small cadre of long-service personnel, it is impossible to train sufficient skilled technicians, and the employment of auxiliary civilian personnel or contractors does not solve the problem so far as it affects mobile units and formations.

The Ministry of War is fully alive to this problem, but all solutions to it seem to be unacceptable for financial reasons.

It is hoped, however, that efforts now being made to overcome this great obstacle to the efficiency of the Italian Army may prove successful.

The Italian Press is evincing more and more interest in the Italian Army, as reported in the AC Bulletin of 26 October 1946, and an increasing number of constructive criticisms have appeared, in contrast to the ill-informed articles which continue to be printed in some of the newspapers.

With the approaching completion of the duties of the Italian P. O. W. section, all functions affecting P. O. W. who have been in the hands of the U. S. authorities have been separated and transferred to the H. Q. of the Commanding General, Peninsular Base Section at Leghorn.

The Italian authorities have been asked to inform the public that all future inquiries regarding P. O. W. who have been, or still are, in American hands, should be sent to the above address.

## DISPLACED PERSONS

Fourteen centers housing displaced persons of some thirty different nationalities are at present under the control of the Displaced Persons Division, Allied Commission. As of 30 November 1946 the total number of displaced persons in the camps was 10,828, of which Yugoslavs constituted the largest group.

During the past few months a total of four camps have been handed back to the Italian authorities. Of these one was located at Bolzano and another at Aversa near Naples. The other two camps somewhat smaller were located at Palombina-Faleonara and Servigliano respectively.

No. 3 D. P. Center located at Barletta-Trani has recently been divided into two separate camps. The one at Barletta (housing Poles) is now de-

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



signated No. 3 D. P. Center while the other at Trani is D. P. Center No. 1.

The past few months have been quiet from the repatriation point of view except for one or two moves involving transfer of Italian children and Italian dependents to Eritrea, Tripolitania and Somalia. These movements were an Italian Government responsibility. During the past few months dependents of members of Polcorps were moved to the United Kingdom and Chinese who had long been held up due to lack of transport were repatriated to their homeland.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. J. Stopford, (B), (Industry and Utilities) has returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

The following American officers were assigned on 30 November 1946 to the indicated Sub-Commissions and Division: Maj. Alexander C. Kharitonoff, (Displaced Persons Division); Capt. Donald C. Morris, (Displaced Persons Division); 1st Lt. Sidney P. Dane, (Displaced Persons Division); Maj. George G. Maxfield, (Archives Division); Capt. Lewis W. Gingery, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); Capt. Raymond C. Graves, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); 1st Lt. Thomas E. Kelley, (Economic Division); and 1st Lt. Frederic W. Irwin, (Air Forces Sub-Commission).

Five American officers have been added to the roster of the 7106th Regiment and are waiting for assignment. They are: Capt. Willis B. Mc Carthy, Capt. Dudak Langerak, Capt. Roy C. McCracken, Capt. Jack Wallace, and 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland.

* * *

Capt. Paul G. Weden has been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon for his achievements in the Archives Division. Presentation was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer, 7106 Regiment, on 4 December 1946.

* * *

The enlisted men of Headquarters Company, 7106 Regiment, will officially re-open their Day Room on Saturday, 7 December 1946. The room has recently been completely redecorated with a new coat of paint, new furniture, wall and floor lamps, and a fireplace.

51

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

Vol. III, No. 34

December 9, 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Completion of the Italian peace treaty was foreseen in the near future as the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in New York City finished their work on the Trieste Statute and proceeded to iron out some of the other points of differences. As to the direct negotiations between representatives of Yugoslavia and Italia, newspaper concensus was that the agreement of the Four practically brought to an end any possibility of significant results and that negotiation in the future would be probably confined to secondary matters including commercial agreements and protection of minorities.

The one detail in the Trieste Statute that caused most concern in the Italian press was that providing for the inclusion of 5,000 Yugoslav troops in the military force which—together with equal numbers of American and British Troops—will occupy the Free Territory of Trieste until the Governor shall announce that their presence is no longer necessary. Under the terms published, the Governor must make such announcement 90 days after taking office, but in the event he deems their presence is necessary, the troops may be retained until he decides otherwise.

According to *Messaggero* the Italian Government made inquiries of the Council of Foreign Ministers as to the details of this provision. It was reported by ANSA that the Yugoslav troops would remain in the section of Venezia Giulia which they presently occupy and would not be permitted to enter the city of Trieste. The Italian press bitterly complaining of the provision for Yugoslav troops took exception not so much to the number of troops stated as to the fact of their inclusion in the security force. In general the papers emphasized that Yugoslavia was one of the contending parties in the dispute. They claimed that the presence of Yugoslav troops would lend much weight to the Yugoslav claims over Italian claims thereby constituting a privilege for Yugoslavia and a humiliation for Italy; also the press contended that presence of Yugoslav troops would exert serious political pressure in the elections and in all political activity of the New Territory.

In the matter of the boundaries between Yugoslavia and Italy and between those countries and the Free Territory the only development of any interest during the past week was a Yugoslav proposal to the Big Four reported by Reuters. The press service stated that a Yugoslav note to the Council of Foreign Ministers proposed a new line which would leave Monfalcone to Italy. More significant however was the apparent lack of mention of Gorizia in the new Yugoslav proposal. Cession of Gorizia to Yugoslavia had been included in the proposal made by Marshal Tito to Palmiro Togliatti. In spite of the proposal it was deemed unlikely in most press circles that the Four would deviate from the French line already adopted.

### Reparations.

Reparations appeared once more on the agenda of the Council of Foreign Ministers this week. Whereas the Paris Conference had voted 100,000,000 dollars each to Yugoslavia and Greece and 25,000,000 to Ethiopia there seemed every likelihood that these figures would be changed. Toward the end of the week the United Press reported that a French proposal was under consideration which would give 125,000,000 dollars to Yugoslavia and 105,000,000 dollars to Greece. The amount provided for Ethiopia was apparently left unchanged. It is reported that Molotov demanded that 10,000,000 dollars should be paid by Italy to Albania. Bevin and Byrnes however, are stated to have pointed out that a proposal to have Italy pay 5,000,000 dollars to Albania had already been rejected by the Paris Peace Conference.

Other matters reported as determined by the Council of Foreign Ministers included permission for Italy to own motor torpedo-boats and acknowledgment of the direct agreement reached by Italy and Austria as to Alto Adige.

In the realm of Party Politics the Christian Democrats stole the spotlight and most of the

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



headlines this week with a split that rivalled that threatening in the Socialist Party. On 1 December the right wing trend of the party led by Stefano Jacini organized and held a meeting to draw up a program. This program would call for the Christian Democrat Party to leave not only the coalition Government but also the General Confederation of Italian Labor. The same day Minister of Education Guido Gonella in a speech delivered at Martina Franca called upon his party to cease any further collaboration with the Communists either in the Government or in the Labor Movement. The day before the formal organization of the right wing trend of the party, Jacini in an interview printed in *Giornale d'Italia* had stated that the trend was in full agreement with the program of the party with the exception of the two points noted. He was quoted as saying that the only thing to be welcomed would be "an agreement between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists disengaged from the Communists or the Liberals disengaged from the Qualunquisti".

Faced with the threatened split within the ranks of the Party, the Directorate of the Christian Democrat Party met on 4 December and decided to call into session the National Council of the Party on 9 December. The Directorate passed an order of the day decrying the expression of party feelings through channels other than the party's own.

In the meantime the Socialist Party had advanced its party Congress to 9 January 1947 and stated that the agenda would include (1) line of policy of the party; (2) the party's statute and (3) election of the directive organisms.

### Rome's Mayor.

The stalemate represented by the tripartite government was nowhere more emphasized than at the first meeting of the Rome city governing council on 4 December. The council had met to elect a Mayor of the capital, but the following day the city was still mayorless as neither party nor coalition could swing the necessary majority. The Christian Democrats abstained from the voting, turning in blank ballots.

The general political situation, considered hopeless in party circles gave rise during the week to an increasing agreement that clarification could only be brought about by advancing the next political elections to May or June 1947. The suggested solution was apparently first advanced by Don Sturzo and as the week progressed more of the party organs and independent papers were falling into line. Many of the papers felt that if the parties became resigned to the elections as the only solution to the complex situation, there should follow a political truce until they could be held.

Not much developed politically during the week on either the repatriation of prisoners of war from Yugoslavia or the police report on the Emilia crime wave. In the case of the former, a group of 2,879 arrived in Ancona on 29 November. *Italia Nuova* headlined that the group had been handed over to Hon. Moscatelli and thundered that this was an insult to the Italian Government.

In the case of the Emilia crime wave nothing factual developed. Consideration of the police report that allegedly charged the Communists with responsibility for most of the crimes was postponed to a later session of the Council of Ministers on demand of Minister Scoccimarro.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Total figures relating to the availability and consumption of wheat in Italy for the month of November were reported this week by the Economic Division. During the month 1,054,838 tons of wheat and wheat substitutes were available. This figure includes 62,222 tons amassed to include 26 November. Consumption during the month amounted to a total of 387,500 tons leaving a balance of 667,338 tons as of 1 December. This is sufficient for approximately 54 days, but the figure will be increased to 56 days by the arrival of 30,000 tons which are now in transit. The estimate as to the number of days is dependent upon the availability of internal transport to move the stocks.

Consumption figures are based on 12,500 tons per day which is now determined by UNRRA as the average daily rate of consumption. This is a net rate after making allowances for various factors such as a 3 percent loss factor, UNRRA Welfare, Italian Armed Forces, 2 percent for bogus ration cards and the amount of rice distributed in certain provinces in lieu of wheat.

A decree concerning regulation for public restaurants, including surrendering of ration card coupons for all bread and pasta served and limiting the number of courses has been issued by the Italian Government as published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale* No. 272 of 29 November 1946.

### Fuel.

As of 1 December stocks of coal on hand amounted to 415,000 tons. The was expected to be augmented by December shipments of

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



250,000 tons. Of this amount 112,000 tons were reported in transit from the United States and it was estimated that 138,000 tons would arrive from other sources during the month. Due to the coal miners' strike in the United States the consumption of coal for December will be limited to 400,000 tons leaving an estimated balance on 31 December of 265,000 tons. (At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 5 December it was determined to reduce railway traffic 20 to 30 percent).

Civilian P. O. L. stocks based on current reduced rate of consumption was reported as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Motor Gasoline | 10 days | (50 percent cut in consumption). |
| Diesel Oil . . | 20 days | (40 percent cut in consumption). |
| Kerosene . . . | 25 days | (normal consumption). |
| Fuel Oil . . . | 60 days | (normal consumption). |

A tanker carrying 80,000 barrels of motor gasoline and 50,000 barrels of diesel oil arrived at Naples on 3 December. It has also been announced that seven tankers will sail during December carrying 343,000 barrels of diesel oil and 160,000 barrels of motor gasoline. The bulk of this is due to arrive during the first half of December. It is anticipated that upon receipt of these quantities, restrictions on consumption which were imposed early in November will be lifted.

Five tankers of crude oil have been received three at Bari and two at Naples. The 568,000 barrels brought by these tankers represents slightly more than one-fourth of the crude oil to be imported by UNRRA.

### Power.

The power situation in Central and Southern Italy was reviewed by the Central Commission for the Rationing and Control of Electric Power (Ministry of Public Works) during the monthly meeting held on 30 November. The general situation is slightly improved and in spite of the increased consumption, the estimated shortage in December will be about 26 percent as compared with 32 percent for November. Feeder disconnections will be carried out according to the November rationing plan. In the event that more power becomes available from the hydroelectric plants, the steam plants will curtail generation in order to conserve fuel.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Rapid recovery of international radio communications between Italy and other countries has been brought about by the energetic efforts of the Italian managers and engineers of the Italian controlled Italcable Servizi Cablografici Radiotelegrafici and Radioelettrici, until now the international radio communication system radiating from Italy is approaching the pre-war peak and on some circuits has made available services that were not offered before the war.

International radio communications between Italy and the rest of the world became non-existent during the transition period of German withdrawal and Allied occupation of the various areas of the country. Press Wireless and RCA Communications were called into Italy to establish radio communications essential to the effective control of the armies.

Following the return of facilities to Italcable, its managers and engineers have exhibited zeal and enthusiasm in returning radio communication to normal. Damage to equipment caused by acts of war and deliberate destruction by the withdrawing enemy resulted in very little of the equipment being usable. Vital parts of transmitters were removed and the main power plant in Italcables' Rome transmitter station was destroyed. With this beginning, Italcable has rebuilt transmitters, brought and improvised others while negotiating for authorization to use frequencies allotted before the war.

Radiotelegraph circuits existing before the war that have been reactivated include those between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Lima, New York, London, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Prague, Warsaw, Budapest, Moscow, Istanbul, Kabul, Beyrukt, and Cairo.

Radiotelegraph circuits not yet reactivated include those between Rome and Halifax, Nova Scotia, Amsterdam, Oslo, Berlin, Vienna, Bucarest, Lisbon, Shanghai, and Tokio. Many factors have prevented operation of these circuits. Primary obstacles have been lack of equipment at both termini, and reluctance of military occupation authorities to permit resumption of operation. Another factor has been the inadequacy of frequencies suitable for this type of communication. Some of the best frequencies were seized for military use during the war and have not been released.

Radiotelephone service has been resumed between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and New York. Volume of this traffic exceeds pre-war traffic. Almost all available circuit time

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



is taken up by business men, diplomats, and soldiers. The Rome–New York radiotelephone circuit is also limited by the fact that the equipment available at the New York terminus is used for part time operation with Cairo. The radiotelephone circuit with Tokio will be reopened when permission is granted for operation of the Tokio terminus.

Service has been expanded by the introduction of Radiophoto service between Rome and New York and London. This service has been of considerable aid to the news agencies in sending the Italian news in pictures to the rest of the world.

Active plans call for the installation of new equipment that will permit operation of multichannel services between Rome and New York. A radioteletype service with Moscow will be introduced as soon as approved by Allied authorities. Photo service to South America will be inaugurated when the proper equipment has been installed in South America.

Over Italcable facilities communications may be sent to any point in the world. Its affiliates in the United States, relay communications to the Far East, Central and North America. From Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro communications can be routed to the adjoining countries of South America. Through its London affiliates communications can be relayed to communication centers of Africa and the British Empire.

The facilities of Italcable are of great importance at this time when submarine cable cut during the war has not been restored to service and land line facilities of Europe are used primarily for military traffic. The services offered are used as rapidly as available by governmental and commercial representatives in restoring order and commerce, thus providing an incentive for the procurement of better equipment and improvement of services.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The past week brought to light the good work carried out by the Italian Air Sea Rescue Service in connection with the rescue of the passengers and crew of the Dakota aircraft which crashed on a glacier in the Swiss Alps. Supplies were dropped and rescue parties were guided on their way to the aircraft. The crews of the rescue aircraft had to overcome numerous difficulties including bad flying weather.

Changes in the Military Courier service reported last week are now in force and the service is functioning satisfactorily.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The new Italian Army, with its increased mechanical and electrical commitments, has for some time been faced with the problem of how to provide sufficient technical personnel for the maintenance and operation of its modern equipment. With the bulk of its personnel engaged for 12 months only, and its proportionately small cadre of long-service personnel, it is impossible to train sufficient skilled technicians, and the employment of auxiliary civilian personnel or contractors does not solve the problem so far as it affects mobile units and formations.

The Ministry of War is fully alive to this problem, but all solutions to it seen to be unacceptable for financial reasons.

It is hoped, however, that efforts now being made to overcome this great obstacle to the efficiency of the Italian Army may prove successful.

The Italian Press is evincing more and more interest in the Italian Army, as reported in the AC Bulletin of 26 October 1946, and an increasing number of constructive criticisms have appeared, in contrast to the ill-informed articles which continue to be printed in some of the newspapers.

With the approaching completion of the duties of the Italian P. O. W. section, all functions affecting P. O. W. who have been in the hands of the U. S. authorities have been separated and transferred to the H. Q. of the Commanding General, Peninsular Base Section at Leghorn.

The Italian authorities have been asked to inform the public that all future inquiries regarding P. O. W. who have been, or still are, in American hands, should be sent to the above address.

## DISPLACED PERSONS

Fourteen centers housing displaced persons of some thirty different nationalities are at present under the control of the Displaced Persons Division, Allied Commission. As of 30 November 1946 the total number of diplaced persons in the camps was 10,828, of which Yugoslavs constituted the largest group.

During the past few months a total of four camps have been handed back to the Italian authorities. Of these one was located at Bolzano and another at Aversa near Naples. The other two camps somewhat smaller were located at Palombina-Falconara and Servigliano respectively.

No. 3 D. P. Center located at Barletta-Trani has recently been divided into two separate camps. The one at Barletta (housing Poles) is now de-

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



signated No. 3 D. P. Center while the other at Trani is D. P. Center No. 4.

The past few months have been quiet from the repatriation point of view except for one or two moves involving transfer of Italian children and Italian dependents to Eritrea, Tripolitania and Somalia. These movements were an Italian Government responsibility. During the past few months dependents of members of Polcorps were moved to the United Kingdom and Chinese who had long been held up due to lack of transport were repatriated to their homeland.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. J. Stopford, (B), (Industry and Utilities) has returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

The following American officers were assigned on 30 November 1946 to the indicated Sub-Commissions and Division: Maj. Alexander C. Kharitonoff, (Displaced Persons Division); Capt. Donald C. Morris, (Displaced Persons Division); 1st Lt. Sidney P. Dane, (Displaced Persons Division); Maj. George G. Maxfield, (Archives Division); Capt. Lewis W. Gingery, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); Capt. Raymond C. Graves, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); 1st Lt. Thomas E. Kelley, (Economic Division); and 1st Lt. Frederic W. Irwin, (Air Forces Sub-Commission).

Five American officers have been added to the roster of the 7106th Regiment and are waiting for assignment. They are: Capt. Willis B. Mc Carthy, Capt. Dudak Langerak, Capt. Roy C. McCracken, Capt. Jack Wallace, and 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland.

* * *

Capt. Paul G. Wesen has been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon for his achievements in the Archives Division. Presentation was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer, 7106 Regiment, on 4 December 1946.

* * *

The enlisted men of Headquarters Company, 7106 Regiment, will officially re-open their Day Room on Saturday, 7 December 1946. The room has recently been completely redecorated with a new coat of paint, new furniture, wall and floor lamps, and a fireplace.

509

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

December 9, 1946

Vol. III, No. 34

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Completion of the Italian peace treaty was foreseen in the near future as the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in New York City finished their work on the Trieste Statute and proceeded to iron out some of the other points of differences. As to the direct negotiations between representatives of Yugoslavia and Italia, newspaper concensus was that the agreement of the Four practically brought to an end any possibility of significant results and that negotiation in the future would be probably confined to secondary matters including commercial agreements and protection of minorities.

The one detail in the Trieste Statute that caused most concern in the Italian press was that providing for the inclusion of 5,000 Yugoslav troops in the military force which—together with equal numbers of American and British Troops—will occupy the Free Territory of Trieste until the Governor shall announce that their presence is no longer necessary. Under the terms published, the Governor must make such announcement 90 days after taking office, but in the event he deems their presence is necessary, the troops may be retained until he decides otherwise.

According to *Messaggero* the Italian Government made inquiries of the Council of Foreign Ministers as to the details of this provision. It was reported by ANSA that the Yugoslav troops would remain in the section of Venezia Giulia which they presently occupy and would not be permitted to enter the city of Trieste. The Italian press bitterly complaining of the provision for Yugoslav troops took exception not so much to the number of troops stated as to the fact of their inclusion in the security force. In general the papers emphasized that Yugoslavia was one of the contending parties in the dispute. They claimed that the presence of Yugoslav troops would lend much weight to the Yugoslav claims over Italian claims thereby constituting a privilege for Yugoslavia and a humiliation for Italy; also the press contended that presence of Yugoslav troops would exert serious political pressure in the elections and in all political activity of the New Territory.

In the matter of the boundaries between Yugoslavia and Italy and between those countries and the Free Territory the only development of any interest during the past week was a Yugoslav proposal to the Big Four reported by Reuters. The press service stated that a Yugoslav note to the Council of Foreign Ministers proposed a new line which would leave Monfalcone to Italy. More significant however was the apparent lack of mention of Gorizia in the new Yugoslav proposal. Cession of Gorizia to Yugoslavia had been included in the proposal made by Marshal Tito to Palmiro Togliatti. In spite of the proposal it was deemed unlikely in most press circles that the Four would deviate from the French line already adopted.

### Reparations.

Reparations appeared once more on the agenda of the Council of Foreign Ministers this week. Whereas the Paris Conference had voted 100,000,000 dollars each to Yugoslavia and Greece and 25,000,000 to Ethiopia there seemed every likelihood that these figures would be changed. Toward the end of the week the United Press reported that a French proposal was under consideration which would give 125,000,000 dollars to Yugoslavia and 105,000,000 dollars to Greece. The amount provided for Ethiopia was apparently left unchanged. It is reported that Molotov demanded that 10,000,000 dollars should be paid by Italy to Albania. Bevin and Byrnes however, are stated to have pointed out that a proposal to have Italy pay 5,000,000 dollars to Albania had already been rejected by the Paris Peace Conference.

Other matters reported as determined by the Council of Foreign Ministers included permission for Italy to own motor torpedo-boats and acknowledgment of the direct agreement reached by Italy and Austria as to Alto Adige.

In the realm of Party Politics the Christian Democrats stole the spotlight and most of the

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



headlines this week with a split that rivalled that threatening in the Socialist Party. On 1 December the right wing trend of the party led by Stefano Jacini organized and held a meeting to draw up a program. This program would call for the Christian Democrat Party to leave not only the coalition Government but also the General Confederation of Italian Labor. The same day Minister of Education Guido Gonella in a speech delivered at Martina Franca called upon his party to cease any further collaboration with the Communists either in the Government or in the Labor Movement. The day before the formal organization of the right wing trend of the party, Jacini in an interview printed in *Giornale d'Italia* had stated that the trend was in full agreement with the program of the party with the exception of the two points noted. He was quoted as saying that the only thing to be welcomed would be "an agreement between the Christian Democrats and the Socialists disengaged from the Communists or the Liberals disengaged from the Qualunquisti".

Faced with the threatened split within the ranks of the Party, the Directorate of the Christian Democrat Party met on 4 December and decided to call into session the National Council of the Party on 9 December. The Directorate passed an order of the day decrying the expression of party feelings through channels other than the party's own.

In the meantime the Socialist Party had advanced its party Congress to 9 January 1947 and stated that the agenda would include (1) line of policy of the party; (2) the party's statute and (3) election of the directive organisms.

### Rome's Mayor.

The stalemate represented by the tripartite government was nowhere more emphasized than at the first meeting of the Rome city governing council on 1 December. The council had met to elect a Mayor of the capital, but the following day the city was still mayorless as neither party nor coalition could swing the necessary majority. The Christian Democrats abstained from the voting, turning in blank ballots.

The general political situation, considered hopeless in party circles gave rise during the week to an increasing agreement that clarification could only be brought about by advancing the next political elections to May or June 1947. The suggested solution was apparently first advanced by Don Sturzo and as the week progressed more of the party organs and independent papers were falling into line. Many of the papers felt that if the parties became resigned to the elections as the only solution to the complex situation, there should follow a political truce until they could be held.

Not much developed politically during the week on either the repatriation of prisoners of war from Yugoslavia or the police report on the Emilia crime wave. In the case of the former, a group of 2,879 arrived in Ancona on 29 November. *Italia Nuova* headlined that the group had been handed over to Hon. Moscatelli and thundered that this was an insult to the Italian Government.

In the case of the Emilia crime wave nothing factual developed. Consideration of the police report that allegedly charged the Communists with responsibility for most of the crimes was postponed to a later session of the Council of Ministers on demand of Minister Scoccimarro.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Total figures relating to the availability and consumption of wheat in Italy for the month of November were reported this week by the Economic Division. During the month 1,054,838 tons of wheat and wheat substitutes were available. This figure includes 62,222 tons amassed to include 26 November. Consumption during the month amounted to a total of 387,500 tons leaving a balance of 667,338 tons as of 1 December. This is sufficient for approximately 54 days, but the figure will be increased to 56 days by the arrival of 30,000 tons which are now in transit. The estimate as to the number of days is dependent upon the availability of internal transport to move the stocks.

Consumption figures are based on 12,500 tons per day which is now determined by UNNRA as the average daily rate of consumption. This is a net rate after making allowances for various factors such as a 3 percent loss factor, UNNRA Welfare, Italian Armed Forces, 2 percent for bogus ration cards and the amount of rice distributed in certain provinces in lieu of wheat.

A decree concerning regulation for public restaurants, including surrendering of ration card coupons for all bread and pasta served and limiting the number of courses has been issued by the Italian Government as published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale* No. 272 of 29 November 1946.

### Fuel.

As of 1 December stocks of coal on hand amounted to 415,000 tons. The was expected to be augmented by December shipments of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



250,000 tons. Of this amount 112,000 tons were reported in transit from the United States and it was estimated that 138,000 tons would arrive from other sources during the month. Due to the coal miners' strike in the United States the consumption of coal for December will be limited to 400,000 tons leaving an estimated balance on 31 December of 265,000 tons. (At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 5 December it was determined to reduce railway traffic 20 to 30 percent).

Civilian P. O. L. stocks based on current reduced rate of consumption was reported as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Motor Gasoline | 10 days | (50 percent cut in consumption). |
| Diesel Oil . . | 20 days | (40 percent cut in consumption). |
| Kerosene . . . | 25 days | (normal consumption). |
| Fuel Oil . . . | 60 days | (normal consumption). |

A tanker carrying 80,000 barrels of motor gasoline and 50,000 barrels of diesel oil arrived at Naples on 3 December. It has also been announced that seven tankers will sail during December carrying 343,000 barrels of diesel oil and 160,000 barrels of motor gasoline. The bulk of this is due to arrive during the first half of December. It is anticipated that upon receipt of these quantities, restrictions on consumption which were imposed early in November will be lifted.

Five tankers of crude oil have been received three at Bari and two at Naples. The 568,000 barrels brought by these tankers represents slightly more than one-fourth of the crude oil to be imported by UNRRA.

### Power.

The power situation in Central and Southern Italy was reviewed by the Central Commission for the Rationing and Control of Electric Power (Ministry of Public Works) during the monthly meeting held on 30 November. The general situation is slightly improved and in spite of the increased consumption, the estimated shortage in December will be about 26 percent as compared with 32 percent for November. Feeder disconnections will be carried out according to the November rationing plan. In the event that more power becomes available from the hydroelectric plants, the steam plants will curtail generation in order to conserve fuel.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Rapid recovery of international radio communications between Italy and other countries has been brought about by the energetic efforts of the Italian managers and engineers of the Italian controlled Italcable Servizi Cablografici Radiotelegrafici and Radioelettrici, until now the international radio communication system radiating from Italy is approaching the pre-war peak and on some circuits has made available services that were not offered before the war.

International radio communications between Italy and the rest of the world became non-existent during the transition period of German withdrawal and Allied occupation of the various areas of the country. Press Wireless and RCA Communications were called into Italy to establish radio communications essential to the effective control of the armies.

Following the return of facilities to Italcable, its managers and engineers have exhibited zeal and enthusiasm in returning radio communication to normal. Damage to equipment caused by acts of war and deliberate destruction by the withdrawing enemy resulted in very little of the equipment being usable. Vital parts of transmitters were removed and the main power plant in Italcables' Rome transmitter station was destroyed. With this beginning, Italcable has rebuilt transmitters, brought and improvised others while negotiating for authorization to use frequencies allotted before the war.

Radiotelegraph circuits existing before the war that have been reactivated include those between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Lima, New York, London, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Prague, Warsaw, Budapest, Moscow, Istanbul, Kabul, Beyrukt, and Cairo.

Radiotelegraph circuits not yet reactivated include those between Rome and Halifax, Nova Scotia, Amsterdam, Oslo, Berlin, Vienna, Bucarest, Lisbon, Shanghai, and Tokio. Many factors have prevented operation of these circuits. Primary obstacles have been lack of equipment at both termini, and reluctance of military occupation authorities to permit resumption of operation. Another factor has been the inadequacy of frequencies suitable for this type of communication. Some of the best frequencies were seized for military use during the war and have not been released.

Radiotelephone service has been resumed between Rome and Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and New York. Volume of this traffic exceeds pre-war traffic. Almost all available circuit time

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



is taken up by business men, diplomats, and soldiers. The Rome—New York radiotelephone circuit is also limited by the fact that the equipment available at the New York terminus is used for part time operation with Cairo. The radiotelephone circuit with Tokio will be reopened when permission is granted for operation of the Tokio terminus.

Service has been expanded by the introduction of Radiophoto service between Rome and New York and London. This service has been of considerable aid to the news agencies in sending the Italian news pictures to the rest of the world.

Active plans call for the installation of new equipment that will permit operation of multichannel services between Rome and New York. A radioteletype service with Moscow will be introduced as soon as approved by Allied authorities. Photo service to South America will be inaugurated when the proper equipment has been installed in South America.

Over Italcable facilities communications may be sent to any point in the world. Its affiliates in the United States, relay communications to the far East, Central and North America. From Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro communications can be routed to the adjoining countries of South America. Through its London affiliates communications can be relayed to communication centres of Africa and the British Empire.

The facilities of Italcable are of great importance at this time when submarine cable cut during the war has not been restored to service and land line facilities of Europe are used primarily for military traffic. The services offered are used as rapidly as available by governmental and commercial representatives in restoring order and commerce, thus providing an incentive for the procurement of better equipment and improvement of services.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The past week brought to light the good work carried out by the Italian Air Sea Rescue Service in connection with the rescue of the passengers and crew of the Dakota aircraft which crashed on a glacier in the Swiss Alps. Supplies were dropped and rescue parties were guided on their way to the aircraft. The crews of the rescue aircraft had to overcome numerous difficulties including bad flying weather.

Changes in the Military Courier service reported last week are now in force and the service is functioning satisfactorily.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The new Italian Army, with its increased mechanical and electrical commitments, has for some time been faced with the problem of how to provide sufficient technical personnel for the maintenance and operation of its modern equipment. With the bulk of its personnel engaged for 12 months only, and its proportionately small cadre of long-service personnel, it is impossible to train sufficient skilled technicians, and the employment of auxiliary civilian personnel or contractors does not solve the problem so far as it affects mobile units and formations.

The Ministry of War is fully alive to this problem, but all solutions to it seem to be unacceptable for financial reasons.

It is hoped, however, that efforts now being made to overcome this great obstacle to the efficiency of the Italian Army may prove successful.

The Italian Press is evincing more and more interest in the Italian Army, as reported in the AC Bulletin of 26 October 1946, and an increasing number of constructive criticisms have appeared, in contrast to the ill-informed articles which continue to be printed in some of the newspapers.

With the approaching completion of the duties of the Italian P. O. W. section, all functions affecting P. O. W. who have been in the hands of the U. S. authorities have been separated and transferred to the H. Q. of the Commanding General, Peninsular Base Section at Leghorn.

The Italian authorities have been asked to inform the public that all future inquiries regarding P. O. W. who have been, or still are, in American hands, should be sent to the above address.

## DISPLACED PERSONS

Fourteen centers housing displaced persons of some thirty different nationalities are at present under the control of the Displaced Persons Division, Allied Commission. As of 30 November 1946 the total number of diplaced persons in the camps was 10,828, of which Yugoslavs constituted the largest group.

During the past few months a total of four camps have been handed back to the Italian authorities. Of these one was located at Bolzano and another at Aversa near Naples. The other two camps somewhat smaller were located at Palombina-Falconara and Servigliano respectively.

No. 3 D. P. Center located at Barletta-Trani has recently been divided into two separate camps. The one at Barletta (housing Poles) is now de-

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



signated No. 3 D. P. Center while the other at Trani is D. P. Center No. 4.

The past few months have been quiet from the repatriation point of view except for one or two moves involving transfer of Italian children and Italian dependents to Eritrea, Tripolitania and Somalia. These movements were an Italian Government responsibility. During the past few months dependents of members of Polcorps were moved to the United Kingdom and Chinese who had long been held up due to lack of transport were repatriated to their homeland.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. J. Stopford, (E), (Industry and Utilities) has returned to the Allied Commission from leave to the United Kingdom.

The following American officers were assigned on 30 November 1946 to the indicated Sub-Commissions and Division: Maj. Alexander C. Kharitonoff, (Displaced Persons Division); Capt. Donald C. Morris, (Displaced Persons Division); 1st Lt. Sidney P. Dane, (Displaced Persons Division); Maj. George G. Maxfield, (Archives Division); Capt. Lewis W. Gingery, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); Capt. Raymond C. Graves, (Land Forces Sub-Commission); 1st Lt. Thomas E. Kelley, (Economic Division); and 1st Lt. Frederic W. Irwin, (Air Forces Sub-Commission).

Five American officers have been added to the roster of the 7106th Regiment and are waiting for assignment. They are: Capt. Willis B. Mc Carthy, Capt. Dudak Langerak, Capt. Roy C. McCracken, Capt. Jack Wallace, and 2nd Lt. Billy L. Rowland.

* * *

Capt. Paul G. Weden has been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon for his achievements in the Archives Division. Presentation was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer, 7106 Regiment, on 4 December 1946.

* * *

The enlisted men of Headquarters Company, 7106 Regiment, will officially re-open their Day Room on Saturday, 7 December 1946. The room has recently been completely redecorated with a new coat of paint, new furniture, wall and floor lamps, and a fireplace.

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

December 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 33

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Italy's editors statesmen and people looked with anxious eyes toward New York this week awaiting news of progress from the parallel discussions affecting Italy's future that continued to be carried on in the Council of Foreign Ministers and between the representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia.

From the Council of Foreign Ministers the news, more or less authoritative came out in dribbles. There was no evidence of swift completion of agreement in the matter of Trieste but such details of the discussion as the press was able to report indicated that progress was being made. On 22 November *Messaggero* reported that differences within the Council had been reduced to two (*a*) the date of withdrawal of troops from the Free Territory following signature of the treaty and (*b*) the question of customs union between the Territory and Yugoslavia. To these ANSA added the question of control of railways linking the territory with Yugoslavia.

In the matter of withdrawal of the troops Molotov had been reported the previous week as declaring that general agreement was possible in the near future if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the date of withdrawal of troops four months after the signature of the treaty. According to ANSA, Molotov at the session of 22 November reiterated his stand indicating that the continued presence of troops might exert undue influence on the elections. ANSA reported that on 23 November Secretary Byrnes proposed that all foreign troops be withdrawn simultaneously 45 days from the date on which the Governor should notify the Security Council of the United Nations that police forces of the Territory were able to maintain order and security without the aid of such troops. Molotov is said to have disagreed with this.

As to the other two points of disagreement, the customs union and control of the railways, exact details as to the differences in viewpoints were not released. Reuters, however, announced on 23 November that Molotov was inclined to yield on the question of the customs union but not on control of the railways. The Russian Foreign Minister's emphasis on the point seems borne out by ANSA's dispatch published on 24 November which declared that Molotov had proposed that if his views concerning control of the railways were accepted, he would consent to inclusion of the Italo-Austrian agreement (on the Alto Adige) in the peace treaty. *Popolo* carried this report under the heading "The Four in New York – Strange deals but no results".

### Reports.

But there were some results. On 28 November, *Tempo* carried a *France Press* dispatch to the effect that the following agreements had been reached: (1) Allied troops will be withdrawn four months after the Governor has been appointed; (2) The Governor will be appointed by the United Nations Security Council after consultation with the Italian and Yugoslav Governments; (3) The Governor will select the members of the provisional Government after consulting Italy and Yugoslavia; (4) Elections will be held not later than four months after the Governor's appointment; (5) The Governor will take office after the treaty has been ratified. Until such time, the Military Government will continue to administer the Territory, the paper said. On the following day, however, *Messaggero* heralded that, with the exception of the free port question, the agreement on the Trieste Statute was an accomplished fact, as Molotov had agreed to the formula calling for the Governor to announce within 90 days from his appointment if the troops could be withdrawn or if it was advisable to retain them further. *Messaggero* also stated that United States, England and Yugoslavia would be allowed to keep 5,000 men each in Trieste after the Treaty was signed. The paper observed that the presence of 5,000 Yugoslav soldiers in the Free Territory was an important allowance obtained by Molotov, and might explain why Molotov had yielded on the question of the powers of the Governor and on the date of the troop withdrawal.

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



If the authoritative news emanating from the Council of Foreign Ministers was meager, that coming from the Italo-Yugoslav discussions was even more so. But at that, Italy kept a closer eye on signs of progress in the direct negotiations. The general sentiment seemed to be "Here, we are doing something ourselves". The feeling was not altogether unanimous however. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November after a discussion of the direct negotiations during which Nenni asked for authority to discuss all matters rather than the Venezia Giulia question alone, Minister Gonella according to *Popolo* indicated some doubt as to the efficacy or even the desirability of direct negotiations, intimating that the Four now considered the Paris decisions as final and expressing concern lest such negotiations foment antagonism among the Four.

### Press Comment.

The feeling was shared by *Buonsenso* which declared that there was little likelihood that Marshal Tito who formerly wanted all of Venezia Giulia would be inclined to improve Italy's territorial position with respect to that fixed by the Four. Editorial feeling however, hit a new high when on 24 November *Tempo*, *Messaggero*, and *Risorgimento Liberale*, announced with large headlines that Yugoslavia continued to insist on the proposal to exchange Trieste for Gorizia and in addition demanded the cession of Monfalcone. *Unità*, *Avanti* and *Momento* seemed to soft-pedal the report with the attitude that the meetings between Simic and Quaroni were secret and it would be best to wait for an announcement from the Italian Government. Nenni was to make a report of the conversations at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. And there, for the time being the matter rested.

The furor started by Palmiro Togliatti's charge in Leghorn that Prime Minister De Gasperi had delayed the repatriation of Prisoners of war from Yugoslavia gained new momentum this week. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November, Nenni in response to a question by Minister Gonella absolved the Prime Minister of all blame for the delay. Scoccimarro is reported by *Popolo* to have stated to De Gasperi that Togliatti had declared that his speech had been misquoted and the Council passed a unanimous resolution to the effect that the Prime Minister had attempted to facilitate repatriation by every means available.

But the matter was not closed. On 22 November *Unità* publisited statements by Togliatti in which the Secretary General of the Communist Party reiterated his charges stating that in order for the repatriation delegation to start for Yugoslavia two men had to be appointed representing the Prime Minister. This, the Communist leader declared, was never done. Togliatti further charged that the Christian Democrats had carried on a strong campaign prior to the elections of 2 June to the effect that Yugoslavia did not want repatriation whereas, he said, the latter country had consented and was merely waiting for the delegation to be formed.

The repatriation question struck close to home in the minds of all Italians and the papers gave it plenty of space. *Tempo* on 23 November reported that the Government would issue a "White Book", on the issue. This however was denied by ANSA the following day. Some possibility of the Constituent Assembly's being called to judge the question was rumored but *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi had said he would never consent to appear as a defendant before the Assembly. Be that as it may, the Ministry of Post War Relief announced on 28 November that 7,500 Italian prisoners of War were expected to arrive from Yugoslavia that day. Actually 3,100 did arrive and *Unità* reported that an additional 3,000 would arrive 29 November.

### Emilia Crime Wave.

Another politically explosive question came to a head during the week with the publication by *Giornale d'Italia* on 22 November of the alleged text of the police report on the Emilia crime wave. The report, according to the paper broke down the number of criminals identified and denounced, according to their party affiliation. Out of 201 criminals thus identified, the paper declared the report stated that 137 belong to the Communist Party (including 77 former partisans), 12 to the Socialist Party, 1 to the Uomo Qualunque, and 2 to the Christian Democrat Party, while one was a former neo-fascist and 48 had no party affiliation. The report itself did not cause half the excitement as the fact of its publication by *Giornale d'Italia*. *Avanti*, stating that the report was not in possession of any Minister, demanded to know who supplied the other paper with it. *Unità* put the same question. Most of the other papers while indicating the same interest as to the source of their rival's information tackled the subject matter with screaming headlines and torrid editorials. *Risorgimento Liberale* rebuked the papers of the Left for their hot denunciation of the apparently unauthorized publication instead of deploring the murder of the victims in Emilia.

0 8 5 4

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



It was reported by *Messaggero* that the report would be taken up at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. The same paper declared that Minister Scoccimarro on behalf of the Communist Party would demand that the Council institute a further investigation carried out by a group appointed by the Constituent Assembly in order to guarantee absolute impartiality. The question was not likely to die because of the political implications contained in the report.

**The Socialists.**

In the realm of ordinary or garden variety politics the most significant feature this week was the threatened split within the Socialist Party. This was highlighted by an outbreak of polemics between Giuseppe Saragat and Pietro Nenni as to the future of the party particularly in relation to implementation of the pact of unity with the Communists. Saragat had expressed dissatisfaction with the threat to autonomy which he said recent Nenni actions under the pact represented. The significance of the split was emphasized by the decision to advance the meeting of the Congress of the Party to 9 January. Also, the extent of the rift was indicated by the rumor which would not be downed that the moderate trend of the Socialist Party headed by Saragat might soon form an independent party.

In the meantime the Communists continued to woo the Roman section of the Christian Democrat Party but without success. It was announced on 23 November that the Christian Democrat Secretary of the Roman Committee had sent a letter to the representative of the People's Block which had run first in the administrative elections of 10 November in which letter the offer for collaboration in the local administration was turned down. According to *Unità* of 26 November the offer was re-submitted.

On 23 November Attilio Piccioni Secretary General of the Christian Democrat Party delivered a speech at Milan which was interpreted in various political circles as an overture to the parties of the right. He declared to *Giornale d'Italia* on 25 November however that his speech had intended to re-affirm the center function of Christian Democracy. All parties however awaited "clarification" of the political solution.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

During the period from 1 November to 24 November, 261,688 tons of wheat were consumed, it was reported this week by the Economic Division. This has resulted in a balance on hand of 726,204 tons as of 24 November. At the present consumption rate, these stocks were expected to cover requirements for 62 days. The figure of course is dependant upon the ability to move the stocks. It was reported that 25,615 tons had been signalled to arrive up to 1 December. This amount will add slightly more than two days supply to the stocks on hand.

There was still no definite assurance that the 50,000 tons of wheat allegedly being arranged for shipment from the United States, or the 80,000 tons allegedly purchased in Turkey would arrive in Italy.

Loans of wheat and flour have been made to Venezia Giulia from Udine so that these two areas are now supplied for bread and pasta up to 3 January 1947. A shipment of 8,330 tons of wheat is expected to arrive at Venice about 10 December. This increase in wheat stocks will enable the two areas to be supplied until about 25 January 1947. In the same two areas the recent arrival of 660 tons of sugar stocks will enable requirements to be met until the middle of January 1947.

**Fuel.**

Present estimate for December arrival of coal in Italy is 206,000 tons including 68,000 tons already shipped from the United States. The coal strike in the United States has resulted in an embargo being placed on coal exports. UNRRA, however, has announced that five ships loading in the United States at the time the embargo was imposed will sail. If this is accomplished, it will add 44,000 tons, making a total of 250,000 expected to arrive in December. UNRRA has announced that following the maritime strike it had hoped to complete the Italy coal program sometime in February. But now the organization states, the best that can be said is that coal will continue to arrive for two or three months after the end of the coal strike in the United States.

In Venezia Giulia and Udine the coal situation is serious. Of 123,000 tons approved for the second half of 1946 there was a shortage of 39,612 tons. This has been alleviated somewhat by the arrival in Trieste of approximately 9,000 tons. This shipment was originally slated for the 88th Division but inasmuch as the division has already met its winter needs the coal was diverted to AMG. This amount represents 15 % of the December requirements for the two areas.

During the past week the diesel oil situation in Italy improved owing to the arrival of a tanker on Saturday 23 November. The next tanker carrying gasoline is due to arrive about 5 December. This should relieve the tight gasoline

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



situation somewhat. A fifth crude oil tanker has arrived from Arabia. Both the Bari and Naples refineries are now operating.

**Power.**

No change in the Northern Italy power situation has been reported. In Central and Southern Italy there has been some improvement as the Sila reservoirs have started to re-fill.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Military Courier Service has now been extended to include Udine. Unfortunately at the moment there are some accomodation problems at Udine so the daily aircraft landing at Campoformido returns to Treviso for the over night stop. However, on 3 December, Venice Lido airport will be closed to Courier aircraft and accomodation will be made available at Udine so, from that date onward the daily north eastern schedule will be Rome, Bologna, Treviso, Udine and return.

The Southern routes have also been slightly altered. Foggia airfield has been closed and from 2 December all military courier aircraft landing in the Naples area will use Capodichino.

After two years good service the Autogruppo at Naples has closed down. All R.A.F. vehicles on form to the L.A.F. in the Naples area have been withdrawn to Rome where, with the exception of three for use in the Italian Air Force Driving School, they will be serviced and stored.

Lt. Patt Fuente Air Corps, Air III visited Bari and Lecce areas from 21 to 25 November. While there he inspected Fighter Training in the L.A.F. and made arrangements for an Air Display to be held during the first week of December.

F/Lt. J. Lord arrived at the Sub-Commission from A.H.Q. Italy and proceeded to Milan to take over the duties of Intelligence officer and Officer Commanding Milan Detachment.

To replace F/Lt. Reid Air II shortly due for repatriation to U.K., Flying Officer E. Bond arrived at Rome Headquarters on 26 November from Bari.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

Training of Field Units of the Italian Army has been taking place in most districts, although its realism has suffered as a result of the depleted strength of units and the number of men employed on guard and other duties. In order to familiarize Italian officers with British methods, CMF has invited parties of Italian officers to attend British exercises whenever they wish to do so.

The Ministry of War is paying increased attention to the soldier's welfare. The difficulty here is lack of funds, and in some districts, a certain disinterestedness on the part of the local civilians from whom voluntary assistance in the matter might be expected.

In common with the rest of Italy, it seems that amenities can only be enjoyed in the Army by those who have the means of obtaining goods from the uncontrolled markets; this is one of the greatest difficulties which the Italian Army is faced with in all questions of supply, whether in the case of welfare commodities as above, or whether in the case of the military equipment which it requires.

It is now known that the last ship repatriating Italian P. W. from India will leave Bombay between 6 and 8 December 1946; this completes the mass repatriation program from India and leaves only 30 Italian P. W. (sick) who will be repatriated as soon as there is space in a hospital ship.

Repatriation is proceeding according to plan from the other parts of the British Empire, nearly 3,000 having been returned during last week. It is estimated that some 10,000 I. P. W. remain in the Balkans.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION POSTAL SECTION

Italy has a five year plan for the reconstruction of war damaged premises of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs and for the improvement of equipment throughout the approximately 11,500 Post offices in the country. This enormous scheme first estimated for, in 1941 now has to be reckoned in 1946 values and all references made to rehabilitation programs have necessarily to be amended to arrive at a reasonable state of accuracy.

All mail posted by prisoners of war and surrendered enemy personnel in Italy, for the North Western European countries has up to the present been transferred to the Civil post office at Naples by the British Army Post office authorities.

This proves to be no longer convenient and arrangements have now been made with the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs for the transfer to be made at an office on the Adriatic coast instead of at Naples.

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



All letters from military personnel posted to civilian addresses in France and Switzerland have up to the present been transferred to the civilian post office authorities at Milan for onward transmission.

Milan once so busy from a military point of view has now become so bereft of khaki that it is not economical to maintain Army Post Offices in that city. The sorting arrangements of the Italian post office necessitate concentration of items for dispatches to foreign countries and the final plan agreed on between the military and civilian authorities and arranged by the Postal Section is for correspondence for these countries to be handed over at the Rome Central Station Post Office.

A commercial undertaking is desirous of conveying air mail from Venezia Giulia to other parts of Italy. Obviously, reciprocal services are desired to make the service an economical undertaking.

The only channel of approach between the Italian Ministry and the territory still controlled by Allied Military Government is through the Postal Section and the matter cannot be dealt with immediately as Internal Air Mail services throughout the whole of Italy are still only at the stage of negotiation between the Ministry and the interested companies.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Carlos G. Webster, Jr., (A), (Economic Division) left the Allied Commission on 27 November to return to the United States for redeployment.

Eight American officers have been assigned to 7106th Regiment and are being assigned to various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, and Branches of the Allied Commission. They are: Major George G. Maxfield, Major Alexander G. Kharitonoff, Captain Donald C. Morris, Captain Raymond C. Graves, Captain Lewis W. Gingery, First Lieutenant Thomas E. Kelley, First Lieutenant Sidney P. Dane, and First Lieutenant Frederic W. Irwin.

Captain George F. Mentz, U. S. N. formerly Chief Staff Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission was retired on 2 November and has left the Allied Commission.

Lieutenant Commander E. C. Davies, R.N.V.R., Personnel Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission has returned to the United Kingdom for discharge. He has been relieved by Lieutenant Commander P. T. Simpson-Jones, R. N. V. R.

The following promotions of enlisted men were announced in Headquarters Company, 7106th Regiment during the past week: to Staff Sergeant – Stephen Farrelly; to Sergeant – Robert H. Scoggins, Hubert N. Fiveash, and Marshall B. Fisher.

5 L 5

D R S A

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

December 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 33

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Italy's editors statesmen and people looked with anxious eyes toward New York this week awaiting news of progress from the parallel discussions affecting Italy's future that continued to be carried on in the Council of Foreign Ministers and between the representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia.

From the Council of Foreign Ministers the news, more or less authoritative came out in dribbles. There was no evidence of swift completion of agreement in the matter of Trieste but such details of the discussion as the press was able to report indicated that progress was being made. On 22 November *Messaggero* reported that differences within the Council had been reduced to two (*a*) the date of withdrawal of troops from the Free Territory following signature of the treaty and (*b*) the question of customs union between the Territory and Yugoslavia. To these ANSA added the question of control of railways linking the territory with Yugoslavia.

In the matter of withdrawal of the troops Molotov had been reported the previous week as declaring that general agreement was possible in the near future if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the date of withdrawal of troops four months after the signature of the treaty. According to ANSA, Molotov at the session of 22 November reiterated his stand indicating that the continued presence of troops might exert undue influence on the elections. ANSA reported that on 23 November Secretary Byrnes proposed that all foreign troops be withdrawn simultaneously 45 days from the date on which the Governor should notify the Security Council of the United Nations that police forces of the Territory were able to maintain order and security without the aid of such troops. Molotov is said to have disagreed with this.

As to the other two points of disagreement, the customs union and control of the railways, exact details as to the differences in viewpoints were not released. Reuters, however, announced on 23 November that Molotov was inclined to yield on the question of the customs union but not on control of the railways. The Russian Foreign Minister's emphasis on the point seems borne out by ANSA's dispatch published on 24 November which declared that Molotov had proposed that if his views concerning control of the railways were accepted, he would consent to inclusion of the Italo-Austrian agreement (on the Alto Adige) in the peace treaty. *Popolo* carried this report under the heading "The Four in New York – Strange deals but no results".

### Reports.

But there were some results. On 28 November, *Tempo* carried a *France Press* dispatch to the effect that the following agreements had been reached: (1) Allied troops will be withdrawn four months after the Governor has been appointed; (2) The Governor will be appointed by the United Nations Security Council after consultation with the Italian and Yugoslav Governments; (3) The Governor will select the members of the provisional Government after consulting Italy and Yugoslavia; (4) Elections will be held not later than four months after the Governor's appointment; (5) The Governor will take office after the treaty has been ratified. Until such time, the Military Government will continue to administer the Territory, the paper said. On the following day, however, *Messaggero* heralded that, with the exception of the free port question, the agreement on the Trieste Statute was an accomplished fact, as Molotov had agreed to the formula calling for the Governor to announce within 90 days from his appointment if the troops could be withdrawn or if it was advisable to retain them further. *Messaggero* also stated that United States, England and Yugoslavia would be allowed to keep 5,000 men each in Trieste after the Treaty was signed. The paper observed that the presence of 5,000 Yugoslav soldiers in the Free Territory was an important allowance obtained by Molotov, and might explain why Molotov had yielded on the question of the powers of the Governor and on the date of the troop withdrawal.

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



If the authoritative news emanating from the Council of Foreign Ministers was meager, that coming from the Italo-Yugoslav discussions was even more so. But at that, Italy kept a closer eye on signs of progress in the direct negotiations. The general sentiment seemed to be "Here, we are doing something ourselves". The feeling was not altogether unanimous however. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November after a discussion of the direct negotiations during which Nenni asked for authority to discuss all matters rather than the Venezia Giulia question alone, Minister Gonella according to *Popolo* indicated some doubt as to the efficacy or even the desirability of direct negotiations, intimating that the Four now considered the Paris decisions as final and expressing concern lest such negotiations foment antagonism among the Four.

### Press Comment.

The feeling was shared by *Buonsenso* which declared that there was little likelihood that Marshal Tito who formerly wanted all of Venezia Giulia would be inclined to improve Italy's territorial position with respect to that fixed by the Four. Editorial feeling however, hit a new high when on 24 November *Tempo*, *Messaggero*, and *Risorgimento Liberale*, announced with large headlines that Yugoslavia continued to insist on the proposal to exchange Trieste for Gorizia and in addition demanded the cession of Monfalcone. *Unità*, *Avanti* and *Momento* seemed to soft-pedal the report with the attitude that the meetings between Simic and Quaroni were secret and it would be best to wait for an announcement from the Italian Government. Nenni was to make a report of the conversations at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. And there, for the time being the matter rested.

The furor started by Palmiro Togliatti's charge in Leghorn that Prime Minister De Gasperi had delayed the repatriation of Prisoners of war from Yugoslavia gained new momentum this week. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November, Nenni in response to a question by Minister Gonella absolved the Prime Minister of all blame for the delay. Scoccimarro is reported by *Popolo* to have stated to De Gasperi that Togliatti had declared that his speech had been misquoted and the Council passed a unanimous resolution to the effect that the Prime Minister had attempted to facilitate repatriation by every means available.

But the matter was not closed. On 22 November *Unità* published statements by Togliatti in which the Secretary General of the Communist Party reiterated his charges stating that in order for the repatriation delegation to start for Yugoslavia two men had to be appointed representing the Prime Minister. This, the Communist leader declared, was never done. Togliatti further charged that the Christian Democrats had carried on a strong campaign prior to the elections of 2 June to the effect that Yugoslavia did not want repatriation whereas, he said, the latter country had consented and was merely waiting for the delegation to be formed.

The repatriation question struck close to home in the minds of all Italians and the papers gave it plenty of space. *Tempo* on 23 November reported that the Government would issue a "White Book", on the issue. This however was denied by ANSA the following day. Some possibility of the Constituent Assembly's being called to judge the question was rumored but *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi had said he would never consent to appear as a defendant before the Assembly. Be that as it may, the Ministry of Post War Relief announced on 28 November that 7,500 Italian prisoners of War were expected to arrive from Yugoslavia that day. Actually 3,100 did arrive and *Unità* reported that an additional 3,000 would arrive 29 November.

### Emilia Crime Wave.

Another politically explosive question came to a head during the week with the publication by *Giornale d'Italia* on 22 November of the alleged text of the police report on the Emilia crime wave. The report, according to the paper broke down the number of criminals identified and denounced, according to their party affiliation. Out of 201 criminals thus identified, the paper declared the report stated that 137 belong to the Communist Party (including 77 former partisans), 12 to the Socialist Party, 1 to the Uomo Qualunque, and 2 to the Christian Democrat Party, while one was a former neo-fascist and 48 had no party affiliation. The report itself did not cause half the excitement as the fact of its publication by *Giornale d'Italia*, *Avanti*, stating that the report was not in possession of any Minister, demanded to know who supplied the other paper with it. *Unità* put the same question. Most of the other papers while indicating the same interest as to the source of their rival's information tackled the subject matter with screaming headlines and torrid editorials. *Risorgimento Liberale* rebuked the papers of the Left for their hot denunciation of the apparently unauthorized publication instead of deploring the murder of the victims in Emilia.

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



It was reported by *Messaggero* that the report would be taken up at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. The same paper declared that Minister Scoccimarro on behalf of the Communist Party would demand that the Council institute a further investigation carried out by a group appointed by the Constituent Assembly in order to guarantee absolute impartiality. The question was not likely to die because of the political implications contained in the report.

### The Socialists.

In the realm of ordinary or garden variety politics the most significant feature this week was the threatened split within the Socialist Party. This was highlighted by an outbreak of polemics between Giuseppe Saragat and Pietro Nenni as to the future of the party particularly in relation to implementation of the pact of unity with the Communists. Saragat had expressed dissatisfaction with the threat to autonomy which he said recent Nenni actions under the pact represented. The significance of the split was emphasized by the decision to advance the meeting of the Congress of the Party to 8 January. Also, the extent of the rift was indicated by the rumor which would not be downed that the moderate trend of the Socialist Party headed by Saragat might soon form an independent party.

In the meantime the Communists continued to woo the Roman section of the Christian Democrat Party but without success. It was announced on 25 November that the Christian Democrat Secretary of the Roman Committee had sent a letter to the representative of the People's Block which had run first in the administrative elections of 10 November in which letter the offer for collaboration in the local administration was turned down. According to *Unità* of 26 November the offer was re-submitted.

On 23 November Attilio Piccioni Secretary General of the Christian Democrat Party delivered a speech at Milan which was interpreted in various political circles as an overture to the parties of the right. He declared to *Giornale d'Italia* on 25 November however that his speech had intended to re-affirm the center function of Christian Democracy. All parties however awaited "clarification" of the political solution.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

During the period from 1 November to 24 November, 261,688 tons of wheat were consumed, it was reported this week by the Economic Division. This has resultedin a balance on hand of 726,204 tons as of 24 November. At the present consumption rate, these stocks were expected to cover requirements for 62 days. The figure of course is dependant upon the ability to move the stocks. It was reported that 25,615 tons had been signalled to arrive up to 4 December. This amount will add slightly more than two days supply to the stocks on hand.

There was still no definite assurance that the 50,000 tons of wheat allegedly being arranged for shipment from the United States, or the 80,000 tons allegedly purchased in Turkey would arrive in Italy.

Loans of wheat and flour have been made to Venezia Giulia from Udine so that these two areas are now supplied for bread and pasta up to 3 January 1947. A shipment of 8,330 tons of wheat is expected to arrive at Venice about 10 December. This increase in wheat stocks will enable the two areas to be supplied until about 25 January 1947. In the same two areas the recent arrival of 660 tons of sugar stocks will enable requirements to be met until the middle of January 1947.

### Fuel.

Present estimate for December arrival of coal in Italy is 206,000 tons including 68,000 tons already shipped from the United States. The coal strike in the United States has resulted in an embargo being placed on coal exports. UNRRA, however, has announced that five ships loading in the United States at the time the embargo was imposed will sail. If this is accomplished, it will add 44,000 tons, making a total of 250,000 expected to arrive in December. UNRRA has announced that following the maritime strike it had hoped to complete the Italy coal program sometime in February. But now the organization states, the best that can be said is that coal will continue to arrive for two or three months after the end of the coal strike in the United States.

In Venezia Giulia and Udine the coal situation is serious. Of 123,000 tons approved for the second half of 1946 there was a shortage of 39,612 tons. This has been alleviated somewhat by the arrival in Trieste of approximately 9,000 tons. This shipment was originally slated for the 88th Division but inasmuch as the division has already met its winter needs the coal was diverted to AMG. This amount represents 15 % of the December requirements for the two areas.

During the past week the diesel oil situation in Italy improved owing to the arrival of a tanker on Saturday 23 November. The next tanker carrying gasoline is due to arrive about 5 December. This should relieve the tight gasoline

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



situation somewhat. A fifth crude oil tanker has arrived from Arabia. Both the Bari and Naples refineries are now operating.

**Power.**

No change in the Northern Italy power situation has been reported. In Central and Southern Italy there has been some improvement as the Sila reservoirs have started to refill.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Military Climbing Service has now been extended to include Udine. Unfortunately at the moment there are some accomodation problems at Udine as the daily aircraft landing [illegible] transfer to Treviso for the overnight stop. However, on 1 December, Udine Lido airport will be closed to Courier aircraft and accomodation will be made available at Udine as from that date onward the daily Courier aircraft will be Rome, Bologna, Treviso, Udine and return.

The Southern routes have also been slightly [illegible] Pontidfano airfield has been closed and from 2 December all military courier aircraft landing in the Naples area will use Capodichino.

After two years good service the Autogruppo di Sabbia has closed down. All R.A.F. vehicles on loan to the I.A.F. in the Naples area have been withdrawn to Rome where, with the exception of three for use in the Italian Air Force Driving School, they will be serviced and stored.

The Fifth Tactical Air Corps, Air HQ visited the Naples area from 21 to 25 November. While there he inspected Fighter Training in the I.A.F. and made arrangements for an Air Display to be held during the first week of December.

W/C J. Lord arrived as the sub-Commission Air HQ. Italy and proceeded to Milan to [illegible] the duties of Intelligence officer and deputy Commanding Milan Detachment.

Sq. Ldr. F/Lt. Reid Air H shortly due for repatriation to U.K., Flying Officer E. Boult arrived at Rome Headquarters on 26 November [illegible] Base.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

Training of Field Units of the Italian Army has been taking place in most districts although the transport has suffered as a result of the depleted strength of units and the number of men employed on guard and other duties. In order to familiarize Italian officers with British methods, CMF has invited parties of Italian officers to attend British exercises whenever they wish to do so.

The Ministry of War is paying increased attention to the soldier's welfare. The difficulty there is lack of funds, and in some districts, a certain disinterestedness on the part of the local civilians from whom voluntary assistance in the matter might be expected.

In common with the rest of Italy, it seems that amenities can only be enjoyed in the Army by those who have the means of obtaining goods from the uncontrolled markets; this is one of the greatest difficulties which the Italian Army is faced with in all questions of supply, whether in the case of welfare commodities as above, or whether in the case of the military equipment which it requires.

It is now known that the last ship repatriating Italian P. W. from India will leave Bombay between 6 and 8 December 1946; this completes the mass repatriation program from India and leaves only 30 Italian P. W. (sick) who will be repatriated as soon as there is space in a hospital ship.

Repatriation is proceeding according to plan from the other parts of the British Empire, nearly 3,000 having been returned during last week. It is estimated that some 10,000 I. P. W. remain in the Balkans.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION POSTAL SECTION

Italy has a five year plan for the reconstruction of war damaged premises of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs and for the improvement of equipment throughout the approximately 11,500 Post offices in the country. This enormous scheme first estimated for, in 1944 now has to be re-costed in 1946 values and all references made to rehabilitation programs have necessarily to be amended to arrive at a reasonable state of accuracy.

All mail posted by prisoners of war and surrendered enemy personnel in Italy, for the North Western European countries has up to the present been transferred to the Civil post office at Naples by the British Army Post office authorities.

This proves to be no longer convenient and arrangements have now been made with the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs for the transfer to be made at an office on the Adriatic coast instead of at Naples.

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



All letters from military personnel posted to civilian addresses in France and Switzerland have up to the present been transferred to the civilian post office authorities at Milan for onward transmission.

Milan once so busy from a military point of view has now become so bereft of khaki that it is not economical to maintain Army Post Offices in that city. The sorting arrangements of the Italian post office necessitate concentration of items for dispatches to foreign countries and the final plan agreed on between the military and civilian authorities and arranged by the Postal Section is for correspondence for these countries to be handed over at the Rome Central Station Post Office.

A commercial undertaking is desirous of conveying air mail from Venezia Giulia to other parts of Italy. Obviously, reciprocal services are desired to make the service an economical undertaking.

The only channel of approach between the Italian Ministry and the territory still controlled by Allied Military Government is through the Postal Section and the matter cannot be dealt with immediately as Internal Air Mail services throughout the whole of Italy are still only at the stage of negotiation between the Ministry and the interested companies.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Carlos G. Webster, Jr. (A), (Economic Division) left the Allied Commission on 27 November to return to the United States for redeployment.

Eight American officers have been assigned to 7106th Regiment and are being assigned to various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, and Branches of the Allied Commission. They are: Major George G. Maxfield, Major Alexander G. Kharitonoff, Captain Donald C. Morris, Captain Raymond C. Graves, Captain Lewis W. Gingery, First Lieutenant Thomas E. Kelley, First Lieutenant Sidney P. Dane, and First Lieutenant Frederic W. Irwin.

Captain George F. Mentz, U. S. N. formerly Chief Staff Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission was retired on 2 November and has left the Allied Commission.

Lieutenant Commander E. C. Davies, R.N.V.R., Personnel Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission has returned to the United Kingdom for discharge. He has been relieved by Lieutenant Commander P. T. Simpson-Jones, R. N. V. R.

The following promotions of enlisted men were announced in Headquarters Company, 7106th Regiment during the past week: to Staff Sergeant – Stephen Farrelly; to Sergeant – Robert H. Scoggins, Hubert N. Fiveash, and Marshall B. Fisher.

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

Vol. III, No. 33

December 2, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Italy's editors statesmen and people looked with anxious eyes toward New York this week awaiting news of progress from the parallel discussions affecting Italy's future that continued to be carried on in the Council of Foreign Ministers and between the representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia.

From the Council of Foreign Ministers the news, more or less authoritative came out in dribbles. There was no evidence of swift completion of agreement in the matter of Trieste but such details of the discussion as the press was able to report indicated that progress was being made. On 22 November *Messaggero* reported that differences within the Council had been reduced to two (*a*) the date of withdrawal of troops from the Free Territory following signature of the treaty and (*b*) the question of customs union between the Territory and Yugoslavia. To these ANSA added the question of control of railways linking the territory with Yugoslavia.

In the matter of withdrawal of the troops Molotov had been reported the previous week as declaring that general agreement was possible in the near future if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the date of withdrawal of troops four months after the signature of the treaty. According to ANSA, Molotov at the session of 22 November reiterated his stand indicating that the continued presence of troops might exert undue influence on the elections. ANSA reported that on 23 November Secretary Byrnes proposed that all foreign troops be withdrawn simultaneously 45 days from the date on which the Governor should notify the Security Council of the United Nations that police forces of the Territory were able to maintain order and security without the aid of such troops. Molotov is said to have disagreed with this.

As to the other two points of disagreement, the customs union and control of the railways, exact details as to the differences in viewpoints were not released. Reuters, however, announced on 23 November that Molotov was inclined to yield on the question of the customs union but not on control of the railways. The Russian Foreign Minister's emphasis on the point seems borne out by ANSA's dispatch published on 24 November which declared that Molotov had proposed that if his views concerning control of the railways were accepted, he would consent to inclusion of the Italo-Austrian agreement (on the Alto Adige) in the peace treaty. *Popolo* carried this report under the heading "The Four in New York – Strange deals but no results".

### Reports.

But there were some results. On 28 November, *Tempo* carried a *France Press* dispatch to the effect that the following agreements had been reached: (1) Allied troops will be withdrawn four months after the Governor has been appointed; (2) The Governor will be appointed by the United Nations Security Council after consultation with the Italian and Yugoslav Governments; (3) The Governor will select the members of the provisional Government after consulting Italy and Yugoslavia; (4) Elections will be held not later than four months after the Governor's appointment; (5) The Governor will take office after the treaty has been ratified. Until such time, the Military Government will continue to administer the Territory, the paper said. On the following day, however, *Messaggero* heralded that, with the exception of the free port question, the agreement on the Trieste Statute was an accomplished fact, as Molotov had agreed to the formula calling for the Governor to announce within 90 days from his appointment if the troops could be withdrawn or if it was advisable to retain them further. *Messaggero* also stated that United States, England and Yugoslavia would be allowed to keep 5,000 men each in Trieste after the Treaty was signed. The paper observed that the presence of 5,000 Yugoslav soldiers in the Free Territory was an important allowance obtained by Molotov, and might explain why Molotov had yielded on the question of the powers of the Governor and on the date of the troop withdrawal.

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



If the authoritative news emanating from the Council of Foreign Ministers was meager, that coming from the Italo-Yugoslav discussions was even more so. But at that, Italy kept a closer eye on signs of progress in the direct negotiations. The general sentiment seemed to be "Here, we are doing something ourselves". The feeling was not altogether unanimous however. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November after a discussion of the direct negotiations during which Nenni asked for authority to discuss all matters rather than the Venezia Giulia question alone, Minister Gonella according to *Popolo* indicated some doubt as to the efficacy or even the desirability of direct negotiations, intimating that the Four now considered the Paris decisions as final and expressing concern lest such negotiations foment antagonism among the Four.

**Press Comment.**

The feeling was shared by *Buonsenso* which declared that there was little likelihood that Marshal Tito who formerly wanted all of Venezia Giulia would be inclined to improve Italy's territorial position with respect to that fixed by the Four. Editorial feeling however, hit a new high when on 24 November *Tempo*, *Messaggero*, and *Risorgimento Liberale*, announced with large headlines that Yugoslavia continued to insist on the proposal to exchange Trieste for Gorizia and in addition demanded the cession of Montalcone. *Unità*, *Avanti* and *Momento* seemed to soft-pedal the report with the attitude that the meetings between Simic and Quaroni were secret and it would be best to wait for an announcement from the Italian Government. Nenni was to make a report of the conversations at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. And there, for the time being the matter rested.

The furor started by Palmiro Togliatti's charge in Leghorn that Prime Minister De Gasperi had delayed the repatriation of Prisoners of war from Yugoslavia gained new momentum this week. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November, Nenni in response to a question by Minister Gonella absolved the Prime Minister of all blame for the delay. Scoccimarro is reported by *Popolo* to have stated to De Gasperi that Togliatti had declared that his speech had been misquoted and the Council passed a unanimous resolution to the effect that the Prime Minister had attempted to facilitate repatriation by every means available.

But the matter was not closed. On 22 November *Unità* published statements by Togliatti in which the Secretary General of the Communist Party reiterated his charges stating that in order for the repatriation delegation to start for Yugoslavia two men had to be appointed representing the Prime Minister. This, the Communist leader declared, was never done. Togliatti further charged that the Christian Democrats had carried on a strong campaign prior to the elections of 2 June to the effect that Yugoslavia did not want repatriation whereas, he said, the latter country had consented and was merely waiting for the delegation to be formed.

The repatriation question struck close to home in the minds of all Italians and the papers gave it plenty of space. *Tempo* on 23 November reported that the Government would issue a "White Book", on the issue. This however was denied by ANSA the following day. Some possibility of the Constituent Assembly's being called to judge the question was rumored but *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi had said he would never consent to appear as a defendant before the Assembly. Be that as it may, the Ministry of Post War Relief announced on 28 November that 7,500 Italian prisoners of War were expected to arrive from Yugoslavia that day. Actually 3,100 did arrive and *Unità* reported that an additional 3,000 would arrive 29 November.

**Emilia Crime Wave.**

Another politically explosive question came to a head during the week with the publication by *Giornale d'Italia* on 22 November of the alleged text of the police report on the Emilia crime wave. The report, according to the paper broke down the number of criminals identified and denounced, according to their party affiliation. Out of 201 criminals thus identified, the paper declared the report stated that 137 belong to the Communist Party (including 77 former partisans), 12 to the Socialist Party, 1 to the Uomo Qualunque, and 2 to the Christian Democrat Party, while one was a former neo-fascist and 48 had no party affiliation. The report itself did not cause half the excitement as the fact of its publication by *Giornale d'Italia*. *Avanti*, stating that the report was not in possession of any Minister, demanded to know who supplied the other paper with it. *Unità* put the same question. Most of the other papers while indicating the same interest as to the source of their rival's information tackled the subject matter with screaming headlines and torrid editorials. *Risorgimento Liberale* rebuked the papers of the Left for their hot denunciation of the apparently unauthorized publication instead of deploring the murder of the victims in Emilia.

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



It was reported by *Messaggero* that the report would be taken up at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. The same paper declared that Minister Scoccimarro on behalf of the Communist Party would demand that the Council institute a further investigation carried out by a group appointed by the Constituent Assembly in order to guarantee absolute impartiality. The question was not likely to die because of the political implications contained in the report.

**The Socialists.**

In the realm of ordinary or garden variety politics the most significant feature this week was the threatened split within the Socialist Party. This was highlighted by an outbreak of polemics between Giuseppe Saragat and Pietro Nenni as to the future of the party particularly in relation to implementation of the pact of unity with the Communists. Saragat had expressed dissatisfaction with the threat to autonomy which he said recent Nenni actions under the pact represented. The significance of the split was emphasized by the decision to advance the meeting of the Congress of the Party to 9 January. Also, the extent of the rift was indicated by the rumor which would not be downed that the moderate trend of the Socialist Party headed by Saragat might soon form an independent party.

In the meantime the Communists continued to woo the Roman section of the Christian Democrat Party but without success. It was announced on 23 November that the Christian Democrat Secretary of the Roman Committee had sent a letter to the representative of the People's Block which had run first in the administrative elections of 10 November in which letter the offer for collaboration in the local administration was turned down. According to *Unità* of 26 November the offer was re-submitted.

On 23 November Attilio Piccioni Secretary General of the Christian Democrat Party delivered a speech at Milan which was interpreted in various political circles as an overture to the parties of the right. He declared to *Giornale d'Italia* on 25 November however that his speech had intended to re-affirm the center function of Christian Democracy. All parties however awaited "clarification" of the political solution.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

During the period from 1 November to 24 November, 261,688 tons of wheat were consumed, it was reported this week by the Economic Division. This has resulted in a balance on hand of 726,204 tons as of 24 November. At the present consumption rate, these stocks were expected to cover requirements for 62 days. The figure of course is dependant upon the ability to move the stocks. It was reported that 25,615 tons had been signalled to arrive up to 4 December. This amount will add slightly more than two days supply to the stocks on hand.

There was still no definite assurance that the 50,000 tons of wheat allegedly being arranged for shipment from the United States, or the 80,000 tons allegedly purchased in Turkey would arrive in Italy.

Loans of wheat and flour have been made to Venezia Giulia from Udine so that these two areas are now supplied for bread and pasta up to 3 January 1947. A shipment of 8,330 tons of wheat is expected to arrive at Venice about 10 December. This increase in wheat stocks will enable the two areas to be supplied until about 25 January 1947. In the same two areas the recent arrival of 660 tons of sugar stocks will enable requirements to be met until the middle of January 1947.

**Fuel.**

Present estimate for December arrival of coal in Italy is 206,000 tons including 68,000 tons already shipped from the United States. The coal strike in the United States has resulted in an embargo being placed on coal exports. UNRRA, however, has announced that five ships loading in the United States at the time the embargo was imposed will sail. If this is accomplished, it will add 44,000 tons, making a total of 250,000 expected to arrive in December. UNRRA has announced that following the maritime strike it had hoped to complete the Italy coal program sometime in February. But now the organization states, the best that can be said is that coal will continue to arrive for two or three months after the end of the coal strike in the United States.

In Venezia Giulia and Udine the coal situation is serious. Of 123,000 tons approved for the second half of 1946 there was a shortage of 39,612 tons. This has been alleviated somewhat by the arrival in Trieste of approximately 9,000 tons. This shipment was originally slated for the 88th Division but inasmuch as the division has already met its winter needs the coal was diverted to AMG. This amount represents 45 % of the December requirements for the two areas.

During the past week the diesel oil situation in Italy improved owing to the arrival of a tanker on Saturday 23 November. The next tanker carrying gasoline is due to arrive about 5 December. This should relieve the tight gasoline

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



situation somewhat. A fifth crude oil tanker has arrived from Arabia. Both the Bari and Naples refineries are now operating.

**Power.**

No change in the Northern Italy power situation has been reported. In Central and Southern Italy there has been some improvement as the Silu reservoirs have started to re-fill.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Military Courier Service has now been extended to include Udine. Unfortunately at the moment there are some accomodation problems at Udine so the daily aircraft, landing at Campoformido returns to Treviso for the over night stop. However, on 3 December, Venice Lido airport will be closed to Courier aircraft and accomodation will be made available in Udine so, from that date onward the daily north eastern schedule will be Rome, Bologna, Treviso, Udine and return.

The Southern routes have also been slightly altered. Pomigliano airfield has been closed and from 2 December all military courier aircraft landing in the Naples area will use Capodichino.

After two years good service the Autogruppo in Naples has closed down. All R.A.F. vehicles on loan to the I.A.F. in the Naples area have been withdrawn to Rome where, with the exception of three for use in the Italian Air Force Driving School, they will be serviced and stored.

Lt. Patt Pavano Air Corps, Air HQ visited Bari and Lecce areas from 21 to 25 November. While there he inspected Fighter Training in the I.A.F. and made arrangements for an Air Display to be held during the first week of December.

Lt. Col. A. Lord arrived at the Sub-Commission from A.H.Q. Italy and proceeded to Milan to take over the duties of Intelligence officer and Officer Commanding Milan Detachment.

To replace F/Lt. Reid Air II shortly due for repatriation to U.K., Flying Officer E. Bonk arrived at Rome Headquarters on 26 November (via Bari).

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

Training of Field Units of the Italian Army has been taking place in most districts, although the Italian has suffered as a result of the depleted strength of units and the number of men employed on guard and other duties. In order to familiarize Italian officers with British methods, CMF has invited parties of Italian officers to attend British exercises whenever they wish to do so.

The Ministry of War is paying interested attention to the soldier's welfare. The difficulty here is lack of funds, and in some districts, a certain disinterestedness on the part of the local civilians from whom voluntary assistance in the matter might be expected.

In common with the rest of Italy, it seems that amenities can only be enjoyed in the Army by those who have the means of obtaining goods from the uncontrolled markets; this is one of the greatest difficulties which the Italian Army is faced with in all questions of supply, whether in the case of welfare commodities as above, or whether in the case of the military equipment which it requires.

It is now known that the last ship repatriating Italian P. W. from India will leave Bombay between 6 and 8 December 1946; this completes the mass repatriation program from India and leaves only 30 Italian P. W. (sick) who will be repatriated as soon as there is space in a hospital ship.

Repatriation is proceeding according to plan from the other parts of the British Empire, nearly 3,000 having been returned during last week. It is estimated that some 10,000 I. P. W. remain in the Balkans.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION POSTAL SECTION

Italy has a five year plan for the reconstruction of war damaged premises of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs and for the improvement of equipment throughout the approximately 11,500 Post offices in the country. This enormous scheme first estimated for, in 1944 now has to be reckoned in 1946 values and all references made to rehabilitation programs have necessarily to be amended to arrive at a reasonable state of accuracy.

All mail posted by prisoners of war and surrendered enemy personnel in Italy, for the North Western European countries has up to the present been transferred to the Civil post office at Naples by the British Army Post office authorities.

This proves to be no longer convenient and arrangements have now been made with the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs for the transfer to be made at an office on the Adriatic coast instead of at Naples.

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



All letters from military personnel posted to civilian addresses in France and Switzerland have up to the present been transferred to the civilian post office authorities at Milan for onward transmission.

Milan once so busy from a military point of view has now become so bereft of khaki that it is not economical to maintain Army Post Offices in that city. The sorting arrangements of the Italian post office necessitate concentration of items for dispatches to foreign countries and the final plan agreed on between the military and civilian authorities and arranged by the Postal Section is for correspondence for these countries to be handed over at the Rome Central Station Post Office.

A commercial undertaking is desirous of conveying air mail from Venezia Giulia to other parts of Italy. Obviously, reciprocal services are desired to make the service an economical undertaking.

The only channel of approach between the Italian Ministry and the territory still controlled by Allied Military Government is through the Postal Section and the matter cannot be dealt with immediately as Internal Air Mail services throughout the whole of Italy are still only at the stage of negotiation between the Ministry and the interested companies.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Carlos G. Webster, Jr., (A), (Economic Division) left the Allied Commission on 27 November to return to the United States for redeployment.

Eight American officers have been assigned to 7406th Regiment and are being assigned to various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, and Branches of the Allied Commission. They are: Major George G. Maxfield, Major Alexander G. Kharitonoff, Captain Donald C. Morris, Captain Raymond C. Graves, Captain Lewis W. Gingery, First Lieutenant Thomas E. Kelley, First Lieutenant Sidney P. Dane, and First Lieutenant Frederic W. Irwin.

Captain George F. Mentz, U. S. N. formerly Chief Staff Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission was retired on 2 November and has left the Allied Commission.

Lieutenant Commander E. C. Davies, R.N.V.R., Personnel Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission has returned to the United Kingdom for discharge. He has been relieved by Lieutenant Commander P. T. Simpson-Jones, R. N. V. R.

The following promotions of enlisted men were announced in Headquarters Company, 7406th Regiment during the past week: to Staff Sergeant – Stephen Farrelly: to Sergeant – Robert H. Scoggins, Hubert N. Fivcash, and Marshall B. Fisher.

501

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

December 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 33

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Italy's editors statesmen and people looked with anxious eyes toward New York this week awaiting news of progress from the parallel discussions affecting Italy's future that continued to be carried on in the Council of Foreign Ministers and between the representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia.

From the Council of Foreign Ministers the news, more or less authoritative came out in dribbles. There was no evidence of swift completion of agreement in the matter of Trieste but such details of the discussion as the press was able to report indicated that progress was being made. On 22 November *Messaggero* reported that differences within the Council had been reduced to two (*a*) the date of withdrawal of troops from the Free Territory following signature of the treaty and (*b*) the question of customs union between the Territory and Yugoslavia. To these ANSA added the question of control of railways linking the territory with Yugoslavia.

In the matter of withdrawal of the troops Molotov had been reported the previous week as declaring that general agreement was possible in the near future if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the date of withdrawal of troops four months after the signature of the treaty. According to ANSA, Molotov at the session of 22 November reiterated his stand indicating that the continued presence of troops might exert undue influence on the elections. ANSA reported that on 23 November Secretary Byrnes proposed that all foreign troops be withdrawn simultaneously 45 days from the date on which the Governor should notify the Security Council of the United Nations that police forces of the Territory were able to maintain order and security without the aid of such troops. Molotov is said to have disagreed with this.

As to the other two points of disagreement, the customs union and control of the railways, exact details as to the differences in viewpoints were not released. Reuters, however, announced on 23 November that Molotov was inclined to yield on the question of the customs union but not on control of the railways. The Russian Foreign Minister's emphasis on the point seems borne out by ANSA's dispatch published on 24 November which declared that Molotov had proposed that if his views concerning control of the railways were accepted, he would consent to inclusion of the Italo-Austrian agreement (on the Alto Adige) in the peace treaty. *Popolo* carried this report under the heading "The Four in New York – Strange deals but no results".

### Reports.

But there were some results. On 28 November, *Tempo* carried a *France Press* dispatch to the effect that the following agreements had been reached: (1) Allied troops will be withdrawn four months after the Governor has been appointed; (2) The Governor will be appointed by the United Nations Security Council after consultation with the Italian and Yugoslav Governments; (3) The Governor will select the members of the provisional Government after consulting Italy and Yugoslavia; (4) Elections will be held not later than four months after the Governor's appointment; (5) The Governor will take office after the treaty has been ratified. Until such time, the Military Government will continue to administer the Territory, the paper said. On the following day, however, *Messaggero* heralded that, with the exception of the free port question, the agreement on the Trieste Statute was an accomplished fact, as Molotov had agreed to the formula calling for the Governor to announce within 90 days from his appointment if the troops could be withdrawn or if it was advisable to retain them further. *Messaggero* also stated that United States, England and Yugoslavia would be allowed to keep 5,000 men each in Trieste after the Treaty was signed. The paper observed that the presence of 5,000 Yugoslav soldiers in the Free Territory was an important allowance obtained by Molotov, and might explain why Molotov had yielded on the question of the powers of the Governor and on the date of the troop withdrawal-

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



If the authoritative news emanating from the Council of Foreign Ministers was meager, that coming from the Italo-Yugoslav discussions was even more so. But at that, Italy kept a closer eye on signs of progress in the direct negotiations. The general sentiment seemed to be "Here, we are doing something ourselves". The feeling was not altogether unanimous however. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November after a discussion of the direct negotiations during which Nenni asked for authority to discuss all matters rather than the Venezia Giulia question alone, Minister Gonella according to *Popolo* indicated some doubt as to the efficacy or even the desirability of direct negotiations, intimating that the Four now considered the Paris decisions as final and expressing concern lest such negotiations foment antagonism among the Four.

### Press Comment.

The feeling was shared by *Buonsenso* which declared that there was little likelihood that Marshal Tito who formerly wanted all of Venezia Giulia would be inclined to improve Italy's territorial position with respect to that fixed by the Four. Editorial feeling however, hit a new high when on 24 November *Tempo*, *Messaggero*, and *Risorgimento Liberale*, announced with large headlines that Yugoslavia continued to insist on the proposal to exchange Trieste for Gorizia and in addition demanded the cession of Monfalcone. *Unità*, *Avanti* and *Momento* seemed to soft-pedal the report with the attitude that the meetings between Simic and Quaroni were secret and it would be best to wait for an announcement from the Italian Government. Nenni was to make a report of the conversations at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. And there, for the time being the matter rested.

The furor started by Palmiro Togliatti's charge in Leghorn that Prime Minister De Gasperi had delayed the repatriation of Prisoners of war from Yugoslavia gained new momentum this week. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November, Nenni in response to a question by Minister Gonella absolved the Prime Minister of all blame for the delay. Scoccimarro is reported by *Popolo* to have stated to De Gasperi that Togliatti had declared that his speech had been misquoted and the Council passed a unanimous resolution to the effect that the Prime Minister had attempted to facilitate repatriation by every means available.

But the matter was not closed. On 22 November *Unità* published statements by Togliatti in which the Secretary General of the Communist Party reiterated his charges stating that in order for the repatriation delegation to start for Yugoslavia two men had to be appointed representing the Prime Minister. This, the Communist leader declared, was never done. Togliatti further charged that the Christian Democrats had carried on a strong campaign prior to the elections of 2 June to the effect that Yugoslavia did not want repatriation whereas, he said, the latter country had consented and was merely waiting for the delegation to be formed.

The repatriation question struck close to home in the minds of all Italians and the papers gave it plenty of space. *Tempo* on 23 November reported that the Government would issue a "White Book", on the issue. This however was denied by ANSA the following day. Some possibility of the Constituent Assembly's being called to judge the question was rumored but *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi had said he would never consent to appear as a defendant before the Assembly. Be that as it may, the Ministry of Post War Relief announced on 28 November that 7,500 Italian prisoners of War were expected to arrive from Yugoslavia that day. Actually 3,100 did arrive and *Unità* reported that an additional 3,000 would arrive 29 November.

### Emilia Crime Wave.

Another politically explosive question came to a head during the week with the publication by *Giornale d'Italia* on 22 November of the alleged text of the police report on the Emilia crime wave. The report, according to the paper broke down the number of criminals identified and denounced, according to their party affiliation. Out of 201 criminals thus identified, the paper declared the report stated that 137 belong to the Communist Party (including 77 former partisans), 12 to the Socialist Party, 1 to the Uomo Qualunque, and 2 to the Christian Democrat Party, while one was a former neo-fascist and 48 had no party affiliation. The report itself did not cause half the excitement as the fact of its publication by *Giornale d'Italia*. *Avanti*, stating that the report was not in possession of any Minister, demanded to know who supplied the other paper with it. *Unità* put the same question. Most of the other papers while indicating the same interest as to the source of their rival's information tackled the subject matter with screaming headlines and torrid editorials. *Risorgimento Liberale* rebuked the papers of the Left for their hot denunciation of the apparently unauthorized publication instead of deploring the murder of the victims in Emilia.

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



It was reported by *Messaggero* that the report would be taken up at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. The same paper declared that Minister Scoccimarro on behalf of the Communist Party would demand that the Council institute a further investigation carried out by a group appointed by the Constituent Assembly in order to guarantee absolute impartiality. The question was not likely to die because of the political implications contained in the report.

**The Socialists.**

In the realm of ordinary or garden variety politics the most significant feature this week was the threatened split within the Socialist Party. This was highlighted by an outbreak of polemics between Giuseppe Saragat and Pietro Nenni as to the future of the party particularly in relation to implementation of the pact of unity with the Communists. Saragat had expressed dissatisfaction with the threat to autonomy which he said recent Nenni actions under the pact represented. The significance of the split was emphasized by the decision to advance the meeting of the Congress of the Party to 9 January. Also, the extent of the rift was indicated by the rumor which would not be downed that the moderate trend of the Socialist Party headed by Saragat might soon form an independent party.

In the meantime the Communists continued to woo the Roman section of the Christian Democrat Party but without success. It was announced on 23 November that the Christian Democrat Secretary of the Roman Committee had sent a letter to the representative of the People's Block which had run first in the administrative elections of 10 November in which letter the offer for collaboration in the local administration was turned down. According to *Unità* of 24 November the offer was re-submitted.

On 23 November Attilio Piccioni Secretary General of the Christian Democrat Party delivered a speech at Milan which was interpreted in various political circles as an overture to the parties of the right. He declared to *Giornale d'Italia* on 25 November however that his speech had intended to re-affirm the center function of Christian Democracy. All parties however awaited "clarification" of the political solution.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

During the period from 1 November to 24 November, 261,688 tons of wheat were consumed, it was reported this week by the Economic Division. This has resultedin a balance on hand of 726,204 tons as of 24 November. At the present consumption rate, these stocks were expected to cover requirements for 62 days. The figure of course is dependant upon the ability to move the stocks. It was reported that 25,615 tons had been signalled to arrive up to 4 December. This amount will add slightly more than two days supply to the stocks on hand.

There was still no definite assurance that the 50,000 tons of wheat allegedly being arranged for shipment from the United States, or the 80,000 tons allegedly purchased in Turkey would arrive in Italy.

Loans of wheat and flour have been made to Venezia Giulia from Udine so that these two areas are now supplied for bread and pasta up to 3 January 1947. A shipment of 8,530 tons of wheat is expected to arrive at Venice about 10 December. This increase in wheat stocks will enable the two areas to be supplied until about 25 January 1947. In the same two areas the recent arrival of 650 tons of sugar stocks will enable requirements to be met until the middle of January 1947.

**Fuel.**

Present estimate for December arrival of coal in Italy is 296,000 tons including 68,000 tons already shipped from the United States. The coal strike in the United States has resulted in an embargo being placed on coal exports. UNNRA, however, has announced that five ships loading in the United States at the time the embargo was imposed will sail. If this is accomplished, it will add 44,000 tons, making a total of 250,000 expected to arrive in December. UNNRA has announced that following the maritime strike it had hoped to complete the Italy coal program sometime in February. But now the organization states, the best that can be said is that coal will continue to arrive for two or three months after the end of the coal strike in the United States.

In Venezia Giulia and Udine the coal situation is serious. Of 123,000 tons approved for the second half of 1946 there was a shortage of 39,612 tons. This has been alleviated somewhat by the arrival in Trieste of approximately 9,000 tons. This shipment was originally slated for the 88th Division but inasmuch as the division has already met its winter needs the coal was diverted to AMG. This amount represents 15 % of the December requirements for the two areas.

During the past week the diesel oil situation in Italy improved owing to the arrival of a tanker on Saturday 23 November. The next tanker carrying gasoline is due to arrive about 5 December. This should relieve the tight gasoline

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



situation somewhat. A fifth crude oil tanker has arrived from Arabia. Both the Bari and Naples refineries are now operating.

**Power.**

No change in the Northern Italy power situation has been reported. In Central and Southern Italy there has been some improvement as the Sila reservoirs have started to re-fill.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Military Courier Service has now been extended to include Udine. Unfortunately at the moment there are some accomodation problems at Udine so the daily aircraft, landing at Campoformido returns to Treviso for the over night stop. However, on 3 December, Venice Lido airport will be closed to Courier aircraft and accomodation will be made available in Udine so, from that date onward the daily north eastern schedule will be Rome, Bologna, Treviso, Udine and return.

The Southern routes have also been slightly altered. Pomigliano airfield has been closed and from 2 December all military courier aircraft landing in the Naples area will use Capodichino.

After two years good service the Autogruppo di Napoli has closed down. All R.A.F. vehicles on loan to the I.A.F. in the Naples area have been withdrawn to Rome where, with the exception of three for use at the Italian Air Force Driving School, they will be serviced and stored.

Lt. Patt Ewano Air Corps, Air III visited Bari and Lecce areas from 21 to 25 November. While there he inspected Fighter Training in the I.A.F. and made arrangements for an Air Display to be held during the first week of December.

F/Lt. J. Lord arrived at the Sub-Commission from A.H.Q. Italy and proceeded to Milan to take over the duties of Intelligence officer and Officer Commanding Milan Detachment.

To replace F/Lt. Reid Air II shortly due for repatriation to U.K., Flying Officer E. Boult arrived at Rome Headquarters on 26 November from Bari.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

Training of Field Units of the Italian Army has been taking place in most districts, although recruitment has suffered as a result of the depleted strength of units and the number of men employed on guard and other duties. In order to familiarize Italian officers with British methods, CMF has invited parties of Italian officers to attend British exercises whenever they wish to do so.

The Ministry of War is paying increased attention to the soldier's welfare. The difficulty here is lack of funds, and in some districts, a certain disinterestedness on the part of the local civilians from whom voluntary assistance in the matter might be expected.

In common with the rest of Italy, it seems that amenities can only be enjoyed in the Army by those who have the means of obtaining goods from the uncontrolled markets; this is one of the greatest difficulties which the Italian Army is faced with in all questions of supply, whether in the case of welfare commodities as above, or whether in the case of the military equipment which it requires.

It is now known that the last ship repatriating Italian P. W. from India will leave Bombay between 6 and 8 December 1946; this completes the mass repatriation program from India and leaves only 30 Italian P. W. (sick) who will be repatriated as soon as there is space in a hospital ship.

Repatriation is proceeding according to plan from the other parts of the British Empire, nearly 3,000 having been returned during last week. It is estimated that some 10,000 I. P. W. remain in the Balkans.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION POSTAL SECTION

Italy has a five year plan for the reconstruction of war damaged premises of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs and for the improvement of equipment throughout the approximately 13,500 Post offices in the country. This enormous scheme first estimated for, in 1944 now has to be reckoned in 1946 values and all references made to rehabilitation programs have necessarily to be amended to arrive at a reasonable state of accuracy.

All mail posted by prisoners of war and surrendered enemy personnel in Italy, for the North Western European countries has up to the present been transferred to the Civil post office at Naples by the British Army Post office authorities.

This proves to be no longer convenient and arrangements have now been made with the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs for the transfer to be made at an office on the Adriatic coast instead of at Naples.

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



All letters from military personnel posted to civilian addresses in France and Switzerland have up to the present been transferred to the civilian post office authorities at Milan for onward transmission.

Milan once so busy from a military point of view has now become so bereft of khaki that it is not economical to maintain Army Post Offices in that city. The sorting arrangements of the Italian post office necessitate concentration of items for dispatches to foreign countries and the final plan agreed on between the military and civilian authorities and arranged by the Postal Section is for correspondence for these countries to be handed over at the Rome Central Station Post Office.

A commercial undertaking is desirous of conveying air mail from Venezia Giulia to other parts of Italy. Obviously, reciprocal services are desired to make the service an economical undertaking.

The only channel of approach between the Italian Ministry and the territory still controlled by Allied Military Government is through the Postal Section and the matter cannot be dealt with immediately as Internal Air Mail services throughout the whole of Italy are still only at the stage of negotiation between the Ministry and the interested companies.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Carlos G. Webster, Jr., (A), (Economic Division) left the Allied Commission on 27 November to return to the United States for redeployment.

Eight American officers have been assigned to 7106th Regiment and are being assigned to various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, and Branches of the Allied Commission. They are: Major George G. Maxfield, Major Alexander G. Kharitonoff, Captain Donald C. Morris, Captain Raymond C. Graves, Captain Lewis W. Gingery, First Lieutenant Thomas E. Kelley, First Lieutenant Sidney P. Dane, and First Lieutenant Frederic W. Irwin.

Captain George F. Mentz, U. S. N. formerly Chief Staff Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission was retired on 2 November and has left the Allied Commission.

Lieutenant Commander E. C. Davies, R.N.V.R., Personnel Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission has returned to the United Kingdom for discharge. He has been relieved by Lieutenant Commander P. T. Simpson-Jones, R. N. V. R.

The following promotions of enlisted men were announced in Headquarters Company, 7106th Regiment during the past week: to Staff Sergeant – Stephen Farrelly; to Sergeant – Robert H. Scoggins, Hubert N. Fivcash, and Marshall B. Fisher.

494

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

December 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 33

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Italy's editors statesmen and people looked with anxious eyes toward New York this week awaiting news of progress from the parallel discussions affecting Italy's future that continued to be carried on in the Council of Foreign Ministers and between the representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia.

From the Council of Foreign Ministers the news, more or less authoritative came out in dribbles. There was no evidence of swift completion of agreement in the matter of Trieste but such details of the discussion as the press was able to report indicated that progress was being made. On 22 November *Messaggero* reported that differences within the Council had been reduced to two (*a*) the date of withdrawal of troops from the Free Territory following signature of the treaty and (*b*) the question of customs union between the Territory and Yugoslavia. To these ANSA added the question of control of railways linking the territory with Yugoslavia.

In the matter of withdrawal of the troops Molotov had been reported the previous week as declaring that general agreement was possible in the near future if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the date of withdrawal of troops four months after the signature of the treaty. According to ANSA, Molotov at the session of 22 November reiterated his stand indicating that the continued presence of troops might exert undue influence on the elections. ANSA reported that on 23 November Secretary Byrnes proposed that all foreign troops be withdrawn simultaneously 45 days from the date on which the Governor should notify the Security Council of the United Nations that police forces of the Territory were able to maintain order and security without the aid of such troops. Molotov is said to have disagreed with this.

As to the other two points of disagreement, the customs union and control of the railways, exact details as to the differences in viewpoints were not released. Reuters, however, announced on 23 November that Molotov was inclined to yield on the question of the customs union but not on control of the railways. The Russian Foreign Minister's emphasis on the point seems borne out by ANSA's dispatch published on 24 November which declared that Molotov had proposed that if his views concerning control of the railways were accepted, he would consent to inclusion of the Italo-Austrian agreement (on the Alto Adige) in the peace treaty. *Popolo* carried this report under the heading "The Four in New York – Strange deals but no results".

### Reports.

But there were some results. On 28 November, *Tempo* carried a *France Press* dispatch to the effect that the following agreements had been reached: (1) Allied troops will be withdrawn four months after the Governor has been appointed; (2) The Governor will be appointed by the United Nations Security Council after consultation with the Italian and Yugoslav Governments; (3) The Governor will select the members of the provisional Government after consulting Italy and Yugoslavia; (4) Elections will be held not later than four months after the Governor's appointment; (5) The Governor will take office after the treaty has been ratified. Until such time, the Military Government will continue to administer the Territory, the paper said. On the following day, however, *Messaggero* heralded that, with the exception of the free port question, the agreement on the Trieste Statute was an accomplished fact, as Molotov had agreed to the formula calling for the Governor to announce within 90 days from his appointment if the troops could be withdrawn or if it was advisable to retain them further. *Messaggero* also stated that United States, England and Yugoslavia would be allowed to keep 5,000 men each in Trieste after the Treaty was signed. The paper observed that the presence of 5,000 Yugoslav soldiers in the Free Territory was an important allowance obtained by Molotov, and might explain why Molotov had yielded on the question of the powers of the Governor and on the date of the troop withdrawal.

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



If the authoritative news emanating from the Council of Foreign Ministers was meager, that coming from the Italo-Yugoslav discussions was even more so. But at that, Italy kept a closer eye on signs of progress in the direct negotiations. The general sentiment seemed to be "Here, we are doing something ourselves". The feeling was not altogether unanimous however. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November after a discussion of the direct negotiations during which Nenni asked for authority to discuss all matters rather than the Venezia Giulia question alone, Minister Gonella according to *Popolo* indicated some doubt as to the efficacy or even the desirability of direct negotiations, intimating that the Four now considered the Paris decisions as final and expressing concern lest such negotiations foment antagonism among the Four.

### Press Comment.

The feeling was shared by *Buonsenso* which declared that there was little likelihood that Marshal Tito who formerly wanted all of Venezia Giulia would be inclined to improve Italy's territorial position with respect to that fixed by the Four. Editorial feeling however, hit a new high when on 24 November *Tempo*, *Messaggero*, and *Risorgimento Liberale*, announced with large headlines that Yugoslavia continued to insist on the proposal to exchange Trieste for Gorizia and in addition demanded the cession of Monfalcone. *Unità*, *Avanti* and *Momento* seemed to soft-pedal the report with the attitude that the meetings between Simic and Quaroni were secret and it would be best to wait for an announcement from the Italian Government. Nenni was to make a report of the conversations at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. And there, for the time being the matter rested.

The furor started by Palmiro Togliatti's charge in Leghorn that Prime Minister De Gasperi had delayed the repatriation of Prisoners of war from Yugoslavia gained new momentum this week. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 21 November, Nenni in response to a question by Minister Gonella absolved the Prime Minister of all blame for the delay. Scoccimarro is reported by *Popolo* to have stated to De Gasperi that Togliatti had declared that his speech had been misquoted and the Council passed a unanimous resolution to the effect that the Prime Minister had attempted to facilitate repatriation by every means available.

But the matter was not closed. On 22 November *Unità* published statements by Togliatti in which the Secretary General of the Communist Party reiterated his charges stating that in order for the repatriation delegation to start for Yugoslavia two men had to be appointed representing the Prime Minister. This, the Communist leader declared, was never done. Togliatti further charged that the Christian Democrats had carried on a strong campaign prior to the elections of 2 June to the effect that Yugoslavia did not want repatriation whereas, he said, the latter country had consented and was merely waiting for the delegation to be formed.

The repatriation question struck close to home in the minds of all Italians and the papers gave it plenty of space. *Tempo* on 23 November reported that the Government would issue a "White Book", on the issue. This however was denied by ANSA the following day. Some possibility of the Constituent Assembly's being called to judge the question was rumored but *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi had said he would never consent to appear as a defendant before the Assembly. Be that as it may, the Ministry of Post War Relief announced on 28 November that 7,500 Italian prisoners of War were expected to arrive from Yugoslavia that day. Actually 3,100 did arrive and *Unità* reported that an additional 3,000 would arrive 29 November.

### Emilia Crime Wave.

Another politically explosive question came to a head during the week with the publication by *Giornale d'Italia* on 22 November of the alleged text of the police report on the Emilia crime wave. The report, according to the paper broke down the number of criminals identified and denounced, according to their party affiliation. Out of 201 criminals thus identified, the paper declared the report stated that 137 belong to the Communist Party (including 77 former partisans), 12 to the Socialist Party, 1 to the Uomo Qualunque, and 2 to the Christian Democrat Party, while one was a former neo-fascist and 48 had no party affiliation. The report itself did not cause half the excitement as the fact of its publication by *Giornale d'Italia*. *Avanti*, stating that the report was not in possession of any Minister, demanded to know who supplied the other paper with it. *Unità* put the same question. Most of the other papers while indicating the same interest as to the source of their rival's information tackled the subject matter with screaming headlines and torrid editorials. *Risorgimento Liberale* rebuked the papers of the Left for their hot denunciation of the apparently unauthorized publication instead of deploring the murder of the victims in Emilia.

0884

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



It was reported by *Messaggero* that the report would be taken up at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 28 November. The same paper declared that Minister Scoccimarro on behalf of the Communist Party would demand that the Council institute a further investigation carried out by a group appointed by the Constituent Assembly in order to guarantee absolute impartiality. The question was not likely to die because of the political implications contained in the report.

**The Socialists.**

In the realm of ordinary or garden variety politics the most significant feature this week was the threatened split within the Socialist Party. This was highlighted by an outbreak of polemics between Giuseppe Saragat and Pietro Nenni as to the future of the party particularly in relation to implementation of the pact of unity with the Communists. Saragat had expressed dissatisfaction with the threat to autonomy which he said recent Nenni actions under the pact represented. The significance of the split was emphasized by the decision to advance the meeting of the Congress of the Party to 9 January. Also, the extent of the rift was indicated by the rumor which would not be downed that the moderate trend of the Socialist Party headed by Saragat might soon form an independent party.

In the meantime the Communists continued to woo the Roman section of the Christian Democrat Party but without success. It was announced on 23 November that the Christian Democrat Secretary of the Roman Committee had sent a letter to the representative of the People's Block which had run first in the administrative elections of 10 November in which letter the offer for collaboration in the local administration was turned down. According to *Unità* of 26 November the offer was re-submitted.

On 23 November Attilio Piccioni Secretary General of the Christian Democrat Party delivered a speech at Milan which was interpreted in various political circles as an overture to the parties of the right. He declared to *Giornale d'Italia* on 25 November however that his speech had intended to re-affirm the center function of Christian Democracy. All parties however awaited "clarification" of the political solution.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

During the period from 1 November to 24 November, 261,688 tons of wheat were consumed, it was reported this week by the Economic Division. This has resultedin a balance on hand of 726,204 tons as of 24 November. At the present consumption rate, these stocks were expected to cover requirements for 62 days. The figure of course is dependant upon the ability to move the stocks. It was reported that 25,615 tons had been signalled to arrive up to 4 December. This amount will add slightly more than two days supply to the stocks on hand.

There was still no definite assurance that the 50,000 tons of wheat allegedly being arranged for shipment from the United States, or the 80,000 tons allegedly purchased in Turkey would arrive in Italy.

Loans of wheat and flour have been made to Venezia Giulia from Udine so that these two areas are now supplied for bread and pasta up to 3 January 1947. A shipment of 8,330 tons of wheat is expected to arrive at Venice about 10 December. This increase in wheat stocks will enable the two areas to be supplied until about 25 January 1947. In the same two areas the recent arrival of 660 tons of sugar stocks will enable requirements to be met until the middle of January 1947.

**Fuel.**

Present estimate for December arrival of coal in Italy is 206,000 tons including 68,000 tons already shipped from the United States. The coal strike in the United States has resulted in an embargo being placed on coal exports. UNRRA, however, has announced that five ships loading in the United States at the time the embargo was imposed will sail. If this is accomplished, it will add 14,000 tons, making a total of 250,000 expected to arrive in December. UNRRA has announced that following the maritime strike it had hoped to complete the Italy coal program sometime in February. But now the organization states, the best that can be said is that coal will continue to arrive for two or three months after the end of the coal strike in the United States.

In Venezia Giulia and Udine the coal situation is serious. Of 123,000 tons approved for the second half of 1946 there was a shortage of 30,612 tons. This has been alleviated somewhat by the arrival in Trieste of approximately 9,000 tons. This shipment was originally slated for the 88th Division but inasmuch as the division has already met its winter needs the coal was diverted to AMG. This amount represents 45 % of the December requirements for the two areas.

During the past week the diesel oil situation in Italy improved owing to the arrival of a tanker on Saturday 23 November. The next tanker carrying gasoline is due to arrive about 5 December. This should relieve the tight gasoline

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



situation somewhat. A fifth crude oil tanker has arrived from Arabia. Both the Bari and Naples refineries are now operating.

**Power.**

No change in the Northern Italy power situation has been reported. In Central and Southern Italy there has been some improvement as the hydro reservoirs have started to re-fill.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Military Courier Service has now been extended to include Udine. Unfortunately at the moment there are some accomodation problems at Udine so the daily aircraft landing at Cinecittà returns to Treviso for the night stop. However, on 3 December, Viterbo airport will be closed to Courier traffic and accomodation will be made available at Udine so, from that date onward the daily courier service schedule will be Rome, Bologna, Udine and return.

The southern routes have also been slightly altered. Pontignano airfield has been closed and from 2 December all military courier aircraft landing in the Naples area will use Capodichino.

After two years good service the Autogruppo at Naples has closed down. All R.A.F. vehicles are now in the U.A.F. in the Naples area have been withdrawn to Rome where, with the exception of those for use in the Italian Air Force driving school, they will be serviced and stored.

Lt. Col. Fabian Air Corps, Air HQ visited Bari and Lecce areas from 21 to 25 November. While there he inspected Fighter Training in the U.A.F. and made arrangements for an exercise to be held during the first week of December.

Lt. J. Lord arrived at the Sub-Commission from A.H.Q. Italy and proceeded to Milan to take over the duties of Intelligence officer and Officer Commanding Milan Detachment.

To replace F Lt. Reid Air HQ shortly due for repatriation to U.K., Flying Officer E. Boult arrived at Rome Headquarters on 26 November from Bari.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

Training of Field Units of the Italian Army has been taking place in most districts, although the program has suffered as a result of the depleted strength of units and the number of men employed on guard and other duties. In order to familiarize Italian officers with British methods, CMF has invited parties of Italian officers to attend British exercises whenever they wish to do so.

The Ministry of War is paying increased attention to the soldier's welfare. The difficulty here is lack of funds, and in some districts, a certain disinterestedness on the part of the local civilians from whom voluntary assistance in the matter might be expected.

In common with the rest of Italy, it seems that amenities can only be enjoyed in the Army by those who have the means of obtaining goods from the uncontrolled markets; this is one of the greatest difficulties which the Italian Army is faced with in all questions of supply, whether in the case of welfare commodities as above, or whether in the case of the military equipment which it requires.

It is now known that the last ship repatriating Italian P. W. from India will leave Bombay between 6 and 8 December 1946; this completes the mass repatriation program from India and leaves only 30 Italian P. W. (sick) who will be repatriated as soon as there is space in a hospital ship.

Repatriation is proceeding according to plan from the other parts of the British Empire, nearly 3,000 having been returned during last week. It is estimated that some 10,000 I. P. W. remain in the Balkans.

## COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION POSTAL SECTION

Italy has a five year plan for the reconstruction of war damaged premises of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs and for the improvement of equipment throughout the approximately 11,500 Post offices in the country. This enormous scheme first estimated for, in 1944 now has to be reckoned in 1946 values and all references made to rehabilitation programs have necessarily to be amended to arrive at a reasonable state of accuracy.

All mail posted by prisoners of war and surrendered enemy personnel in Italy, for the North Western European countries has up to the present been transferred to the Civil post office at Naples by the British Army Post office authorities.

This proves to be no longer convenient and arrangements have now been made with the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs for the transfer to be made at an office on the Adriatic coast instead of at Naples.

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



All letters from military personnel posted to civilian addresses in France and Switzerland have up to the present been transferred to the civilian post office authorities at Milan for onward transmission.

Milan once so busy from a military point of view has now become so bereft of khaki that it is not economical to maintain Army Post Offices in that city. The sorting arrangements of the Italian post office necessitate concentration of items for dispatches to foreign countries and the final plan agreed on between the military and civilian authorities and arranged by the Postal Section is for correspondence for these countries to be handed over at the Rome Central Station Post Office.

A commercial undertaking is desirous of conveying air mail from Venezia Giulia to other parts of Italy. Obviously, reciprocal services are desired to make the service an economical undertaking.

The only channel of approach between the Italian Ministry and the territory still controlled by Allied Military Government is through the Postal Section and the matter cannot be dealt with immediately as Internal Air Mail services throughout the whole of Italy are still only at the stage of negotiation between the Ministry and the interested companies.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. Carlos G. Webster, Jr., (A), (Economic Division) left the Allied Commission on 27 November to return to the United States for redeployment.

Eight American officers have been assigned to 7106th Regiment and are being assigned to various Sub-Commissions, Divisions, and Branches of the Allied Commission. They are: Major George G. Maxfield, Major Alexander G. Kharitonoff, Captain Donald C. Morris, Captain Raymond C. Graves, Captain Lewis W. Gingery, First Lieutenant Thomas E. Kelley, First Lieutenant Sidney P. Dane, and First Lieutenant Frederic W. Irwin.

Captain George F. Mentz, U. S. N. formerly Chief Staff Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission was retired on 2 November and has left the Allied Commission.

Lieutenant Commander E. C. Davies, R.N.V.R., Personnel Officer of the Navy Sub-Commission has returned to the United Kingdom for discharge. He has been relieved by Lieutenant Commander P. T. Simpson-Jones, R. N. V. R.

The following promotions of enlisted men were announced in Headquarters Company, 7406th Regiment during the past week: to Staff Sergeant – Stephen Farrelly; to Sergeant – Robert H. Scoggins, Hubert N. Fiveash, and Marshall R. Fisher.

491

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

November 25, 1946

Vol. III, No. 32

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Great Britain, France and Russia, in that order, replied officially this week to the Italian note relating to the institution of direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The note had been handed to the Four Foreign Ministers following the unofficial proposal made by Marshal Tito through Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party that Trieste remain with certain conditions under Italian sovereignty in exchange for Gorizia's being ceded to Yugoslavia.

All three notes were substantially in agreement with the American reply conveyed to Italian Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on 12 November by the American Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. Louden's reply dated 14 November declared the British Government to be disposed to examine with sympathy any agreement reached by the two countries but in answer to the question put by the Italian Government, the note went on to state that Great Britain was not in a position to state whether the unofficial proposal by Tito offered the possibility for any such agreement. Initiation of direct negotiations, the British note said, was a matter for the Italian Government to decide but any agreement would be closely examined by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the resolution taken by the Four as to the Paris Conference recommendations.

As regards the question of a guarantee by the United Nations, (which had been raised by Italy as a condition for initiating direct negotiations) the note went no further than to indicate that any agreement resulting therefrom which might commend itself to the Council of Foreign Ministers would have to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

The French note handed to Nenni on 18 November declared that direct negotiations could not but contribute to the establishment of international peace and cooperation, but pointed out that the French viewpoint was still in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and indorsed by the Paris Conference.

The Russian reply, according to the United Press, was sent by Mr. Molotov to the Italian Ambassador to Russia, Pietro Quaroni, now in the United States. According to the same press service the note declared that negotiations between the two countries concerned should be considered a strengthening of European peace if such negotiations led to a solution of the pending problems and if such solution were approved by the Four. Russia's note further made the point that such approved solution would be incorporated in the peace treaty.

It may be noted that in none of the four notes as reported in the press was there contained any direct reference to Italy's condition for starting direct negotiations, to the effect that in the event of no agreement being reached, what had been resolved by the Paris Conference should remain definitely as granted. Nor was there any reference to Italy's request contained in her note that "Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### Nenni's report.

Crystallization of the Italian viewpoint was evident in the report made by Nenni to the Constituent Assembly Treaty Commission on the night of 14 November. The Foreign Minister, evidently considering the trend of the deliberations in New York City, declared once again, according to *Tempo*, that Italy could not accept territorial "mutilation", and that the country affirmed that it was impossible to consider the conclusions reached at Paris and New York as the foundation of world peace. The news of the Big Four approval of the French Line as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary had just been published and De Gasperi is reported to have said (also according to *Tempo*): "If the news reported by this morning's press is confirmed, we cannot conceal our bitter feeling over the solution reached by the Big Four with regard to this problem. It is the Government's task openly to express the people's disagreement with this solution. Once this has been accomplished, then a Locarno of the East could be taken into consideration".

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



The same paper also reported that Minister Gronchi (Christian Democrat) offered an order of the day criticizing Togliatti for having "intruded into the foreign policy of the Government". Togliatti, however, is said to have retorted that he revealed Tito's offer to the press before the Government because he didn't want the offer to be buried in ministerial files. The matter was resolved when Orlando (Liberal) suggested that the subject matter of the motion was not within the competence of the Treaty Commission and Gronchi's order of the day was withdrawn.

### The Statute.

In the meantime the Council of Foreign Ministers having adopted the French Line as the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia, were considering the Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste which bid fair to be the most contentious subject of discussion. The details of the discussions were not released to the press but it was reported that Molotov had offered 14 amendments to the Trieste Statute as adopted by the Paris Conference and all 14 had been turned down by the other three members of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The United Press as carried by *Avanti* and other papers even went as far as to report that there was some possibility that Secretary of State Byrnes might be resigned to the impossibility of concluding the peace treaty with Italy and the satellites of the axis and might propose that the Council start consideration of the German issue.

The difficulties however were gradually being resolved. On 17 November it was announced that agreement had been reached as to the policing of the Free Territory. Under the agreement the responsibility of the Governor for the general enforcement of order was recognized. However the Chief of Police was to be responsible directly for order during normal times with the Governor being given authority to assume command of the police forces in times of emergency. The Governor is given authority to appoint or depose the Chief of Police but the latter has power to enroll policemen.

*Messaggero* also carried the news that the Governor's right of veto for all questions concerning his responsibility had been upheld. This would include the details of the statute, public order and respect of all human rights. Further indication of progress was made known by ANSA which reported from New York that the final text of agreements reached at this point was being drafted by the deputies of the Four. The same press organization also reported on 19 November that Molotov had declared he was confident of an early conclusion of general agreement if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the withdrawal of American and British troops at ninety days (later reported as four months) after the signature of the treaty. At this point *Messaggero* reported that among the points under discussion were the following: special zones in the free port, customs unions, the withdrawal of troops, citizenship, and settlement of possible differences with regard to interpretation of the text of the statute.

### Direct Contact.

In the meantime however the Italian delegation in New York was busy. It was reported by Reuters from New York and confirmed in the Italian press on 20 November that the Italian Ambassador to the United States Alberto Tarchiani had been instructed by his government to contact the Yugoslav representatives in New York and invite them to present concrete proposals for starting direct negotiations on the frontier question. Although there was quite a stir in the Italian press which at first saw in this activity the definite beginning of negotiations between the two countries, another view of the instructions was presented by ANSA which indicated the following day that the significance of the orders was limited to the execution of a scouting mission. Italy was still awaiting a concrete official proposal from Yugoslavia. A ray of hope was seen however, in a joint Italo-Yugoslav communique reported by Reuters on 21 November in which it was stated that a "long and friendly conversation had been held by Pietro Quaroni, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic, Yugoslav Ambassador Sava Kosanovic and Yugoslav Vice-Foreign Minister A. Bebler.". There, the matter rested at weeks's end.

The entire week was studded with bitter polemics in the party press. On 16 November Palmiro Togliatti in a speech at Leghorn had charged the Christian Democrat party with betraying the country with its attitude toward the Trieste question. The speaker then took up the matter of repatriation of prisoners of war held by Yugoslavia and declared that in spite of hindrances of a bureaucratic nature they would soon be back in Italy, thanks to the partisans and the Communist Party.

In a communique issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on 18 November it was strongly denied that any steps had been left untried in order to effect repatriation. The communique cited several. One of these caused a special furor. This was the declaration that a

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



commission headed by Giuliano Pajetta, a Communist Deputy, had been formed to expedite repatriation. The communiqué declared that this commission had not been able to accomplish its mission because the necessary visas had not been granted by the Yugoslav Government. *Unità* declared that the failure of this mission was due to beaurocratic delays and insults and calumnies against Yugoslavia. The same paper on 20 November printed an interview with Pajetta in which he declared he was surprised to hear that he had been appointed head of any such commission. He asserted that he had talked to prominent partisans last November about the matter but had received no real help from the Government. From there on the papers quickly chose up sides with *Capitale* summing it all up in the headline, "Italian POWs in Yugoslavia have not been repatriated because De Gasperi did not want it (as Togliatti said) or because Togliatti prevented it (as De Gasperi said)".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the stock of wheat available during the period 1 October to 17 November including that imported and amassed up to 13 November amounted to 1,441,420 tons. The consumption during the same period was 590,021 tons leaving a balance of 851,699 tons on hand as of 17 November. As of 17 November, statistically this amount covers a 71 day period. This period will be increased by one day when the amoun. of 11,853 tons signalled to arrive during November, is received. It should be noted however that the 72 day period is contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks.

The Economic Division states that the above figures do not take into consideration the 50,000 tons supposedly allotted to Italy from the United States or the 80,000 tons supposedly purchased in Turkey. A conference with UNRRA officials has determined that it is impossible to obtain from the United States, confirmation of the 50,000 tons. The shipment of the 80,000 tons from Turkey will depend upon the ability of the Italian Government to charter ships. It should also be pointed out that both shipments together would amount to only 10 days supply.

In Venezia Giulia, stocks of wheat previously allocated, so much for wheat and so much for pasta, have now been combined so as to support the bread and pasta ration to 31 December 1946. Stocks on hand for bread and pasta in Udine as of 11 November were sufficient to last to 28 January 1947.

### Fuel.

It is expected that 202,000 tons of coal will arrive from the United States during November. This is 59,000 tons less than previously reported and is due to threat of strikes resulting in less coal being sent to the ports. In addition to the coal from the United States it is estimated that 150,000 tons will arrive from other sources. Based on current allocation this will result in having a stock of only 343,000 tons on hand at the end of November.

The situation with regard to motor gasoline and diesel oil is serious as tankers which had been expected to arrive during the second half of November are now reported to have been delayed. The stocks of these two products are not equally distributed over the country and it is possible that some areas may run dry before the end of the month. A slight amelioration of the situation may be made possible by the refining of the three tankers of crude oil recently arrived. This is now under way at Bari.

### Power.

In Northern Italy power rationing is carried out by disconnecting all customers except essential services two days a week during the daylight hours.

In Central and Southern Italy, although there has been an improvement of temporary character in the electricity situation in Lazio and Umbria Regions the general situation remains practically the same as no important changes are reported from other regions and Sila reservoirs (Southern Italy) are almost completely empty. Power rationing is now being enforced in all Central and Southern Italy with the exception of the Rome area.

## RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 16 the following paragraph appears:

"Unregistered non-illustrated posted mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 October 1946".

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific Islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place in the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

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



Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and while authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will soon be possible to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Control of foreign aircraft flights to and over Italian Government controlled territory will be returned to the Italian Government effective 25 November 1946.

Under the plan, all flights of foreign aircraft to and over Italian Government controlled territory must be approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, American and British civil aircraft will be permitted to land providing crews and passengers possess proper valid entry documents and that proper warning signals are sent to the Italian autorities.

Whenever clearance is sought for flights to or over Allied Military Government controlled territory, (Province of Udine and Zone A – Venezia Giulia) approval for such flights must be obtained from the Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission before the Italian Government can authorize final clearance.

The announced change-over of control will not apply to British and American military aircraft which can land in Italy provided crews and passengers are travelling under proper military authority.

Bad weather has once again greatly hampered the military courier service and although every effort is being made to deal with backlog of passengers it is inevitable that, during the winter months, some delays are bound to occur.

Wing Commander W. A. D. Collingwood, Senior Equipment Officer, F/Lt. F. Reid Air II, Lt. I. Neiss Org II and Flying Officer C. Brown M. T. Staff Officer visited Air Headquarters Italy on 20 November to discuss points of general policy. During the visit, arrangements were made for the extension of the Italian Military Courier Service to include Udine, the change of schedule being timed for 27 November.

On Saturday 16 November the rising Tiber threatened to flood Urbe Airfield and the italian Air Ministry ordered the immediate move of all aircraft and equipment to Guidonia. In spite of the waterlogged condition of the airfield all seventeen aircraft were successfully flown off and the equipment was saved through the combined efforts of I. A. F. transport and R. A. F. trucks from the Autogruppo.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

During this week the recruits in the Italian recruit training centres and in various specialist schools complete their recruit training and are being posted to their units in all parts of Italy. These newly-trained soldiers will take the place of the 35,000 soldiers of the 1924-25 classes, who are now being released from service.

The British authorities plan to repatriate a maximum of 25,000 Italian PW between now and mid-January. These PW will come from E. Africa, India, S. Africa and Australia. This number represents nearly 60 % of IPW remaining in British hands.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The British Admiralty has decided that in the future the necessary funds in Egyptian currency to cover the expenses of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes, and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports will have to be supplied by the Italian Government. The Minister of Marine has been asked to make arrangements to take over these payments for the month of November. In the meantime payments for the months of September and October, have, in exceptional circumstances, been made from British sources. In order to reduce the consumption of Italy Foreign Exchange the Battleships will be supplied to the fullest possible extent from Italy and all ships in transit will be provisioned to capacity prior to leaving Italian ports.

Italian minesweepers from Venice have been engaged in clearing an area inshore off Porto Lignano. This operation is being carried out to enable craft that have been built on the Stella estuary to reach the sea. Other Italian M/S groups have continued routine clearance operations. The sweepers which have completed their check sweep at the Northern entrance to the Strait of Messina have proceeded to Trapani and Palermo to begin operations off Western Sicily.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Captain Henri A. de Masi, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, 149 Replacement Battalion.

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

Vol. III, No. 32

November 25, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Great Britain, France and Russia, in that order, replied officially this week to the Italian note relating to the institution of direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The note had been handed to the Four Foreign Ministers following the unofficial proposal made by Marshal Tito through Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party that Trieste remain with certain conditions under Italian sovereignty in exchange for Gorizia's being ceded to Yugoslavia.

All three notes were substantially in agreement with the American reply conveyed to Italian Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on 12 November by the American Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. London's reply dated 14 November declared the British Government to be disposed to examine with sympathy any agreement reached by the two countries but in answer to the question put by the Italian Government, the note went on to state that Great Britain was not in a position to state whether the unofficial proposal by Tito offered the possibility for any such agreement. Initiation of direct negotiations, the British note said, was a matter for the Italian Government to decide but any agreement would be closely examined by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the resolution taken by the Four as to the Paris Conference recommendations.

As regards the question of a guarantee by the United Nations, (which had been raised by Italy as a condition for initiating direct negotiations) the note went no further than to indicate that any agreement resulting therefrom which might commend itself to the Council of Foreign Ministers would have to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

The French note handed to Nenni on 18 November declared that direct negotiations could not but contribute to the establishment of international peace and cooperation, but pointed out that the French viewpoint was still in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and indorsed by the Paris Conference.

The Russian reply, according to the United Press, was sent by Mr. Molotov to the Italian Ambassador to Russia, Pietro Quaroni, now in the United States. According to the same press service the note declared that negotiations between the two countries concerned should be considered a strengthening of European peace if such negotiations led to a solution of the pending problems and if such solution were approved by the Four. Russia's note further made the point that such approved solution would be incorporated in the peace treaty.

It may be noted that in none of the four notes as reported in the press was there contained any direct reference to Italy's condition for starting direct negotiations, to the effect that in the event of no agreement being reached, what had been resolved by the Paris Conference should remain definitely as granted. Nor was there any reference to Italy's request contained in her note that "Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### Nenni's report

Crystallization of the Italian viewpoint was evident in the report made by Nenni to the Constituent Assembly Treaty Commission on the night of 14 November. The Foreign Minister, evidently considering the trend of the deliberations in New York City, declared once again, according to *Tempo*, that Italy could not accept territorial "mutilation", and that the country affirmed that it was impossible to consider the conclusions reached at Paris and New York as the foundation of world peace. The news of the Big Four approval of the French Line as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary had just been published and De Gasperi is reported to have said (also according to *Tempo*): "If the news reported by this morning's press is confirmed, we cannot conceal our bitter feeling over the solution reached by the Big Four with regard to this problem. It is the Government's task openly to express the people's disagreement with this solution. Once this has been accomplished, then a Locarno of the East could be taken into consideration".

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



The same paper also reported that Minister Gronchi (Christian Democrat) offered an order of the day criticizing Togliatti for having "intruded into the foreign policy of the Government". Togliatti, however, is said to have retorted that he revealed Tito's offer to the press before the Government because he didn't want the offer to be buried in ministerial files. The matter was resolved when Orlando (Liberal) suggested that the subject matter of the motion was not within the competence of the Treaty Commission and Gronchi's order of the day was withdrawn.

### The Statute.

In the meantime the Council of Foreign Ministers having adopted the French Line as the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia, were considering the Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste which bid fair to be the most contentious subject of discussion. The details of the discussions were not released to the press but it was reported that Molotov had offered 14 amendments to the Trieste Statute as adopted by the Paris Conference and all 14 had been turned down by the other three members of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The United Press as carried by *Avanti* and other papers even went as far as to report that there was some possibility that Secretary of State Byrnes might be resigned to the impossibility of concluding the peace treaty with Italy and the satellites of the axis and might propose that the Council start consideration of the German issue.

The difficulties however were gradually being resolved. On 17 November it was announced that agreement had been reached as to the policing of the Free Territory. Under the agreement the responsibility of the Governor for the general enforcement of order was recognized. However the Chief of Police was to be responsible directly for order during normal times with the Governor being given authority to assume command of the police forces in times of emergency. The Governor is given authority to appoint or depose the Chief of Police but the latter has power to enroll policemen.

*Messaggero* also carried the news that the Governor's right of veto for all questions concerning his responsibility had been upheld. This would include the details of the statute, public order and respect of all human rights. Further indication of progress was made known by ANSA which reported from New York that the final text of agreements reached at this point was being drafted by the deputies of the Four. The same press organization also reported on 19 November that Molotov had declared he was confident of an early conclusion of general agreement if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the withdrawal of American and British troops at ninety days (later reported as four months) after the signature of the treaty. At this point *Messaggero* reported that among the points under discussion were the following: special zones in the free port, customs unions, the withdrawal of troops, citizenship, and settlement of possible differences with regard to interpretation of the text of the statute.

### Direct Contact.

In the meantime however the Italian delegation in New York was busy. It was reported by Reuters from New York and confirmed in the Italian press on 20 November that the Italian Ambassador to the United States Alberto Tarchiani had been instructed by his government to contact the Yugoslav representatives in New York and invite them to present concrete proposals for starting direct negotiations on the frontier question. Although there was quite a stir in the Italian press which at first saw in this activity the definite beginning of negotiations between the two countries, another view of the instructions was presented by ANSA which indicated the following day that the significance of the orders was limited to the execution of a scouting mission. Italy was still awaiting a concrete official proposal from Yugoslavia. A ray of hope was seen however, in a joint Italo-Yugoslav communique reported by Reuters on 21 November in which it was stated that a "long and friendly conversation had been held by Pietro Quaroni, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic, Yugoslav Ambassador Sava Koszanovic and Yugoslav Vice-Foreign Minister A. Bebler.". There, the matter rested at week's end.

The entire week was studded with bitter polemics in the party press. On 16 November Palmiro Togliatti in a speech at Leghorn had charged the Christian Democrat party with betraying the country with its attitude toward the Trieste question. The speaker then took up the matter of repatriation of prisoners of war held by Yugoslavia and declared that in spite of hindrances of a bearocratic nature they would soon be back in Italy, thanks to the partisans and the Communist Party.

In a communique issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on 18 November it was strongly denied that any steps had been left untried in order to effect repatriation. The communique cited several. One of these caused a special furor. This was the declaration that a

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



commission headed by Giuliano Pajetta, a Communist Deputy, had been formed to expedite repatriation. The communique declared that this commission had not been able to accomplish its mission because the necessary visas had not been granted by the Yugoslav Government. *Unità* declared that the failure of this mission was due to bearocratic delays and insults and calumnies against Yugoslavia. The same paper on 20 November printed an interview with Pajetta in which he declared he was surprised to hear that he had been appointed head of any such commission. He asserted that he had talked to prominent partisans last November about the matter but had received no real help from the Government. From there on the papers quickly chose up sides with *Capitale* summing it all up in the headline, "Italian POWs in Yugoslavia have not been repatriated because De Gasperi did not want it (as Togliatti said) or because Togliatti prevented it (as De Gasperi said)".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the stock of wheat available during the period 1 October to 17 November including that imported and amassed up to 13 November amounted to 1,441,120 tons. The consumption during the same period was 590,021 tons leaving a balance of 851,099 tons on hand as of 17 November. As of 17 November, statistically this amount covers a 71 day period. This period will be increased by one day when the amount of 11,853 tons signalled to arrive during November, is received. It should be noted however that the 72 day period is contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks.

The Economic Division states that the above figures do not take into consideration the 50,000 tons supposedly allotted to Italy from the United States or the 80,000 tons supposedly purchased in Turkey. A conference with UNRRA officials has determined that it is impossible to obtain from the United States, confirmation of the 50,000 tons. The shipment of the 80,000 tons from Turkey will depend upon the ability of the Italian Government to charter ships. It should also be pointed out that both shipments together would amount to only 10 days supply.

In Venezia Giulia, stocks of wheat previously allocated, so much for wheat and so much for pasta, have now been combined so as to support the bread and pasta ration to 31 December 1946. Stocks on hand for bread and pasta in Udine as of 11 November were sufficient to last to 28 January 1947.

### Fuel.

It is expected that 202,000 tons of coal will arrive from the United States during November. This is 59,000 tons less than previously reported and is due to threat of strikes resulting in less coal being sent to the ports. In addition to the coal from the United States it is estimated that 150,000 tons will arrive from other sources. Based on current allocation this will result in having a stock of only 343,000 tons on hand at the end of November.

The situation with regard to motor gasoline and diesel oil is serious as tankers which had been expected to arrive during the second half of November are now reported to have been delayed. The stocks of these two products are not equally distributed over the country and it is possible that some areas may run dry before the end of the month. A slight amelioration of the situation may be made possible by the refining of the three tankers of crude oil recently arrived. This is now under way at Bari.

### Power.

In Northern Italy power rationing is carried out by disconnecting all customers except essential services two days a week during the daylight hours.

In Central and Southern Italy, although there has been an improvement of temporary character in the electricity situation in Lazio and Umbria Regions the general situation remains practically the same as no important changes are reported from other regions and Sila reservoirs (Southern Italy) are almost completely empty. Power rationing is now being enforced in all Central and Southern Italy with the exception of the Rome area.

## RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 16 the following paragraph appears:

"Unregistered non-illustrated postcard mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 October 1946".

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific Islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place in the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

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



Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and while authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will soon be possible to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Control of foreign aircraft flights to and over Italian Government controlled territory will be returned to the Italian Government effective 25 November 1946.

Under the plan, all flights of foreign aircraft to and over Italian Government controlled territory must be approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, American and British civil aircraft will be permitted to land providing crews and passengers possess proper valid entry documents and that proper warning signals are sent to the Italian autorities.

Whenever clearance is sought for flights to or over Allied Military Government controlled territory, (Province of Udine and Zone A – Venezia Giulia) approval for such flights must be obtained from the Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission before the Italian Government can authorize final clearance.

The announced change-over of control will not apply to British and American military aircraft which can land in Italy provided crews and passengers are travelling under proper military authority.

Bad weather has once again greatly hampered the military courier service and although every effort is being made to deal with backlog of passengers it is inevitable that, during the winter months, some delays are bound to occur.

Wing Commander W. A. D. Collingwood, Senior Equipment Officer, F/Lt. F. Reid Air H, Lt. I. Neiss Org H and Flying Officer C. Brown M. T. Staff Officer visited Air Headquarters Italy on 20 November to discuss points of general policy. During the visit, arrangements were made for the extension of the Italian Military Courier Service to include Udine, the change of schedule being timed for 27 November.

On Saturday 16 November the rising Tiber threatened to flood Urbe Airfield and the italian Air Ministry ordered the immediate move of all aircraft and equipment to Guidonia. In spite of the waterlogged condition of the airfield all seventeen aircraft were successfully flown off and the equipment was saved through the combined efforts of I. A. F. transport and R. A. F. trucks from the Autogruppo.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

During this week the recruits in the Italian recruit training centres and in various specialist schools complete their recruit training and are being posted to their units in all parts of Italy. These newly-trained soldiers will take the place of the 35,000 soldiers of the 1924-25 classes, who are now being released from service.

The British authorities plan to repatriate a maximum of 25,000 Italian PW between now and mid-January. These PW will come from E. Africa, India, S. Africa and Australia. This number represents nearly 60 % of IPW remaining in British hands.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The British Admiralty has decided that in the future the necessary funds in Egyptian currency to cover the expenses of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes, and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports will have to be supplied by the Italian Government. The Minister of Marine has been asked to make arrangements to take over these payments for the month of November. In the meantime payments for the months of September and October, have, in exceptional circumstances, been made from British sources. In order to reduce the consumption of Italy Foreign Exchange the Battleships will be supplied to the fullest possible extent from Italy and all ships in transit will be provisioned to capacity prior to leaving Italian ports.

Italian minesweepers from Venice have been engaged in clearing an area inshore off Porto Lignano. This operation is being carried out to enable craft that have been built on the Stella estuary to reach the sea. Other Italian M/S groups have continued routine clearance operations. The sweepers which have completed their check sweep at the Northern entrance to the Strait of Messina have proceeded to Trapani and Palermo to begin operations off Western Sicily.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Captain Henri A. de Masi, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, 149 Replacement Battalion.

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

November 25, 1946 Vol. III, No. 32

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Great Britain, France and Russia, in that order, replied officially this week to the Italian note relating to the institution of direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The note had been handed to the Four Foreign Ministers following the unofficial proposal made by Marshal Tito through Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party that Trieste remain with certain conditions under Italian sovereignty in exchange for Gorizia's being ceded to Yugoslavia.

All three notes were substantially in agreement with the American reply conveyed to Italian Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on 12 November by the American Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. London's reply dated 14 November declared the British Government to be disposed to examine with sympathy any agreement reached by the two countries but in answer to the question put by the Italian Government, the note went on to state that Great Britain was not in a position to state whether the unofficial proposal by Tito offered the possibility for any such agreement. Initiation of direct negotiations, the British note said, was a matter for the Italian Government to decide but any agreement would be closely examined by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the resolution taken by the Four as to the Paris Conference recommendations.

As regards the question of a guarantee by the United Nations, (which had been raised by Italy as a condition for initiating direct negotiations) the note went no further than to indicate that any agreement resulting therefrom which might commend itself to the Council of Foreign Ministers would have to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

The French note handed to Nenni on 18 November declared that direct negotiations could not but contribute to the establishment of international peace and cooperation, but pointed out that the French viewpoint was still in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and indorsed by the Paris Conference.

The Russian reply, according to the United Press, was sent by Mr. Molotov to the Italian Ambassador to Russia, Pietro Quaroni, now in the United States. According to the same press service the note declared that negotiations between the two countries concerned should be considered a strengthening of European peace if such negotiations led to a solution of the pending problems and if such solution were approved by the Four. Russia's note further made the point that such approved solution would be incorporated in the peace treaty.

It may be noted that in none of the four notes as reported in the press was there contained any direct reference to Italy's condition for starting direct negotiations, to the effect that in the event of no agreement being reached, what had been resolved by the Paris Conference should remain definitely as granted. Nor was there any reference to Italy's request contained in her note that "Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### Nenni's report

Crystallization of the Italian viewpoint was evident in the report made by Nenni to the Constituent Assembly Treaty Commission on the night of 14 November. The Foreign Minister, evidently considering the trend of the deliberations in New York City, declared once again, according to *Tempo*, that Italy could not accept territorial "mutilation", and that the country affirmed that it was impossible to consider the conclusions reached at Paris and New York as the foundation of world peace. The news of the Big Four approval of the French Line as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary had just been published and De Gasperi is reported to have said (also according to *Tempo*): "If the news reported by this morning's press is confirmed, we cannot conceal our bitter feeling over the solution reached by the Big Four with regard to this problem. It is the Government's task openly to express the people's disagreement with this solution. Once this has been accomplished, then a Locarno of the East could be taken into consideration".

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



The same paper also reported that Minister Gronchi (Christian Democrat) offered an order of the day criticizing Togliatti for having "intruded into the foreign policy of the Government". Togliatti, however, is said to have reported that he revealed Tito's offer to the press before the Government because he didn't want the offer to be buried in ministerial files. The matter was resolved when Orlando (Liberal) suggested that the subject matter of the motion was not within the competence of the Treaty Commission and Gronchi's order of the day was withdrawn.

**The Statute.**

In the meantime the Council of Foreign Ministers having adopted the French Line as the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia, were considering the Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste which bid fair to be the most contentious subject of discussion. The details of the discussions were not released to the press but it was reported that Molotov had offered 14 amendments to the Trieste Statute as adopted by the Paris Conference and all 14 had been turned down by the other three members of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The United Press as carried by *Avanti* and other papers even went as far as to report that there was some possibility that Secretary of State Byrnes might be resigned to the impossibility of concluding the peace treaty with Italy and the satellites of the axis and might propose that the Council start consideration of the German issue.

The difficulties however were gradually being resolved. On 17 November it was announced that agreement had been reached as to the policing of the Free Territory. Under the agreement the responsibility of the Governor for the general enforcement of order was recognized. However the Chief of Police was to be responsible directly for order during normal times with the Governor being given authority to assume command of the police forces in times of emergency. The Governor is given authority to appoint or depose the Chief of Police but the latter has power to enroll policemen.

*Messaggero* also carried the news that the Governor's right of veto for all questions concerning his responsibility had been upheld. This would include the details of the statute, public order and respect of all human rights. Further indication of progress was made known by ANSA which reported from New York that the final text of agreements reached at this point was being drafted by the deputies of the Four. The same press organization also reported on 19 November that Molotov had declared he was confident of an early conclusion of general agreement if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the withdrawal of American and British troops at ninety days (later reported as four months) after the signature of the treaty. At this point *Messaggero* reported that among the points under discussion were the following: special zones in the free port, customs unions, the withdrawal of troops, citizenship, and settlement of possible differences with regard to interpretation of the text of the statute.

**Direct Contact.**

In the meantime however the Italian delegation in New York was busy. It was reported by Reuters from New York and confirmed in the Italian press on 20 November that the Italian Ambassador to the United States Alberto Tarchiani had been instructed by his government to contact the Yugoslav representatives in New York and invite them to present concrete proposals for starting direct negotiations on the frontier question. Although there was quite a stir in the Italian press which at first saw in this activity the definite beginning of negotiations between the two countries, another view of the instructions was presented by ANSA which indicated the following day that the significance of the orders was limited to the execution of a scouting mission. Italy was still awaiting a concrete official proposal from Yugoslavia. A ray of hope was seen however, in a joint Italo-Yugoslav communiqué reported by Reuters on 21 November in which it was stated that a "long and friendly conversation had been held by Pietro Quaroni, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic, Yugoslav Ambassador Sava Koszanovic and Yugoslav Vice-Foreign Minister A. Bebler.". There, the matter rested at weeks's end.

The entire week was studded with bitter polemics in the party press. On 16 November Palmiro Togliatti in a speech at Leghorn had charged the Christian Democrat party with betraying the country with its attitude toward the Trieste question. The speaker then took up the matter of repatriation of prisoners of war held by Yugoslavia and declared that in spite of hindrances of a beaurocratic nature they would soon be back in Italy, thanks to the partisans and the Communist Party.

In a communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on 18 November it was strongly denied that any steps had been left untried in order to effect repatriation. The communiqué cited several. One of these caused a special furor. This was the declaration that a

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



commission headed by Giuliano Pajetta, a Communist Deputy, had been formed to expedite repatriation. The communiqué declared that this commission had not been able to accomplish its mission because the necessary visas had not been granted by the Yugoslav Government. *Unità* declared that the failure of this mission was due to beaurocratic delays and insults and calumnies against Yugoslavia. The same paper on 20 November printed an interview with Pajetta in which he declared he was surprised to hear that he had been appointed head of any such commission. He asserted that he had talked to prominent partisans last November about the matter but had received no real help from the Government. From there on the papers quickly chose up sides with *Capitale* summing it all up in the headline, "Italian POWs in Yugoslavia have not been repatriated because De Gasperi did not want it (as Togliatti said) or because Togliatti prevented it (as De Gasperi said)".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the stock of wheat available during the period 1 October to 17 November including that imported and amassed up to 13 November amounted to 1,441,120 tons. The consumption during the same period was 590,021 tons leaving a balance of 851,699 tons on hand as of 17 November. As of 17 November, statistically this amount covers a 71 day period. This period will be increased by one day when the amount of 11,853 tons signalled to arrive during November, is received. It should be noted however that the 72 day period is contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks.

The Economic Division states that the above figures do not take into consideration the 50,000 tons supposedly allotted to Italy from the United States or the 80,000 tons supposedly purchased in Turkey. A conference with UNRRA officials has determined that it is impossible to obtain from the United States, confirmation of the 50,000 tons. The shipment of the 80,000 tons from Turkey will depend upon the ability of the Italian Government to charter ships. It should also be pointed out that both shipments together would amount to only 10 days supply.

In Venezia Giulia, stocks of wheat previously allocated, so much for wheat and so much for pasta, have now been combined so as to support the bread and pasta ration to 31 December 1946. Stocks on hand for bread and pasta in Udine as of 11 November were sufficient to last to 28 January 1947.

### Fuel.

It is expected that 202,000 tons of coal will arrive from the United States during November. This is 59,000 tons less than previously reported and is due to threat of strikes resulting in less coal being sent to the ports. In addition to the coal from the United States it is estimated that 150,000 tons will arrive from other sources. Based on current allocation this will result in having a stock of only 343,000 tons on hand at the end of November.

The situation with regard to motor gasoline and diesel oil is serious as tankers which had been expected to arrive during the second half of November are now reported to have been delayed. The stocks of these two products are not equally distributed over the country and it is possible that some areas may run dry before the end of the month. A slight amelioration of the situation may be made possible by the refining of the three tankers of crude oil recently arrived. This is now under way at Bari.

### Power.

In Northern Italy power rationing is carried out by disconnecting all customers except essential services two days a week during the daylight hours.

In Central and Southern Italy, although there has been an improvement of temporary character in the electricity situation in Lazio and Umbria Regions the general situation remains practically the same as no important changes are reported from other regions and Sila reservoirs (Southern Italy) are almost completely empty. Power rationing is now being enforced in all Central and Southern Italy with the exception of the Rome area.

## RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN 49

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 16 the following paragraph appears:

"Unregistered non-illustrated postcard mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 October 1946".

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific Islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place in the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

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



Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and while authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will soon be possible to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Control of foreign aircraft flights to and over Italian Government controlled territory will be returned to the Italian Government effective 25 November 1946.

Under the plan, all flights of foreign aircraft to and over Italian Government controlled territory must be approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, American and British civil aircraft will be permitted to land providing crews and passengers possess proper valid entry documents and that proper warning signals are sent to the Italian autorities.

Whenever clearance is sought for flights to or over Allied Military Government controlled territory, (Province of Udine and Zone A – Venezia Giulia) approval for such flights must be obtained from the Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission before the Italian Government can authorize final clearance.

The announced change-over of control will not apply to British and American military aircraft which can land in Italy provided crews and passengers are travelling under proper military authority.

Bad weather has once again greatly hampered the military courier service and although every effort is being made to deal with backlog of passengers it is inevitable that, during the winter months, some delays are bound to occur.

Wing Commander W. A. D. Collingwood, Senior Equipment Officer, F/Lt. F. Reid Air H, Lt. I. Neiss Org H and Flying Officer C. Brown M. T. Staff Officer visited Air Headquarters Italy on 20 November to discuss points of general policy. During the visit, arrangements were made for the extension of the Italian Military Courier Service to include Udine, the change of schedule being timed for 27 November.

On Saturday 16 November the rising Fiber threatened to flood Urbe Airfield and the italian Air Ministry ordered the immediate move of all aircraft and equipment to Guidonia. In spite of the waterlogged condition of the airfield all seventeen aircraft were successfully flown off and the equipment was saved through the combined efforts of I. A. F. transport and R. A. F. trucks from the Autogruppo.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

During this week the recruits in the Italian recruit training centres and in various specialist schools complete their recruit training and are being posted to their units in all parts of Italy. These newly-trained soldiers will take the place of the 35,000 soldiers of the 1924-25 classes, who are now being released from service.

The British authorities plan to repatriate a maximum of 25,000 Italian PW between now and mid-January. These PW will come from E. Africa, India, S. Africa and Australia. This number represents nearly 60 % of IPW remaining in British hands.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The British Admiralty has decided that in the future the necessary funds in Egyptian currency to cover the expenses of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes, and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports will have to be supplied by the Italian Government. The Minister of Marine has been asked to make arrangements to take over these payments for the month of November. In the meantime payments for the months of September and October, have, in exceptional circumstances, been made from British sources. In order to reduce the consumption of Italy Foreign Exchange the Battleships will be supplied to the fullest possible extent from Italy and all ships in transit will be provisioned to capacity prior to leaving Italian ports.

Italian minesweepers from Venice have been engaged in clearing an area inshore off Porto Lignano. This operation is being carried out to enable craft that have been built on the Stella estuary to reach the sea. Other Italian M/S groups have continued routine clearance operations. The sweepers which have completed their check sweep at the Northern entrance to the Strait of Messina have proceeded to Trapani and Palermo to begin operations off Western Sicily.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Captain Henri A. de Masi, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, 149 Replacement Battalion.

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

November 25, 1946 Vol. III, No. 32

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Great Britain, France and Russia, in that order, replied officially this week to the Italian note relating to the institution of direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The note had been handed to the Four Foreign Ministers following the unofficial proposal made by Marshal Tito through Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party that Trieste remain with certain conditions under Italian sovereignty in exchange for Gorizia's being ceded to Yugoslavia.

All three notes were substantially in agreement with the American reply conveyed to Italian Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on 12 November by the American Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. London's reply dated 14 November declared the British Government to be disposed to examine with sympathy any agreement reached by the two countries but in answer to the question put by the Italian Government, the note went on to state that Great Britain was not in a position to state whether the unofficial proposal by Tito offered the possibility for any such agreement. Initiation of direct negotiations, the British note said, was a matter for the Italian Government to decide but any agreement would be closely examined by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the resolution taken by the Four as to the Paris Conference recommendations.

As regards the question of a guarantee by the United Nations, (which had been raised by Italy as a condition for initiating direct negotiations) the note went no further than to indicate that any agreement resulting therefrom which might commend itself to the Council of Foreign Ministers would have to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

The French note handed to Nenni on 18 November declared that direct negotiations could not but contribute to the establishment of international peace and cooperation, but pointed out that the French viewpoint was still in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and indorsed by the Paris Conference.

The Russian reply, according to the United Press, was sent by Mr. Molotov to the Italian Ambassador to Russia, Pietro Quaroni, now in the United States. According to the same press service the note declared that negotiations between the two countries concerned should be considered a strengthening of European peace if such negotiations led to a solution of the pending problems and if such solution were approved by the Four. Russia's note further made the point that such approved solution would be incorporated in the peace treaty.

It may be noted that in none of the four notes as reported in the press was there contained any direct reference to Italy's condition for starting direct negotiations, to the effect that in the event of no agreement being reached, what had been resolved by the Paris Conference should remain definitely as granted. Nor was there any reference to Italy's request contained in her note that "Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### Nenni's report.

Crystallization of the Italian viewpoint was evident in the report made by Nenni to the Constituent Assembly Treaty Commission on the night of 14 November. The Foreign Minister, evidently considering the trend of the deliberations in New York City, declared once again, according to *Tempo*, that Italy could not accept territorial "mutilation", and that the country affirmed that it was impossible to consider the conclusions reached at Paris and New York as the foundation of world peace. The news of the Big Four approval of the French line as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary had just been published and De Gasperi is reported to have said (also according to *Tempo*): "If the news reported by this morning's press is confirmed, we cannot conceal our bitter feeling over the solution reached by the Big Four with regard to this problem. It is the Government's task openly to express the people's disagreement with this solution. Once this has been accomplished, then a Locarno of the East could be taken into consideration".

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



The same paper also reported that Minister Gronchi (Christian Democrat) offered an order of the day criticizing Togliatti for having "intruded into the foreign policy of the Government". Togliatti, however, is said to have retorted that he revealed Tito's offer to the press before the Government because he didn't want the offer to be buried in ministerial files. The matter was resolved when Orlando (Liberal) suggested that the subject matter of the motion was not within the competence of the Treaty Commission and Gronchi's order of the day was withdrawn.

**The Statute.**

In the meantime the Council of Foreign Ministers having adopted the French Line as the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia, were considering the Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste which bid fair to be the most contentious subject of discussion. The details of the discussions were not released to the press but it was reported that Molotov had offered 14 amendments to the Trieste Statute as adopted by the Paris Conference and all 14 had been turned down by the other three members of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The United Press as carried by *Avanti* and other papers even went as far as to report that there was some possibility that Secretary of State Byrnes might be resigned to the impossibility of concluding the peace treaty with Italy and the satellites of the axis and might propose that the Council start consideration of the German issue.

The difficulties however were gradually being resolved. On 17 November it was announced that agreement had been reached as to the policing of the Free Territory. Under the agreement the responsibility of the Governor for the general enforcement of order was recognized. However the Chief of Police was to be responsible directly for order during normal times with the Governor being given authority to assume command of the police forces in times of emergency. The Governor is given authority to appoint or depose the Chief of Police but the latter has power to enroll policemen.

*Messaggero* also carried the news that the Governor's right of veto for all questions concerning his responsibility had been upheld. This would include the details of the statute, public order and respect of all human rights. Further indication of progress was made known by ANSA which reported from New York that the final text of agreements reached at this point was being drafted by the deputies of the Four. The same press organization also reported on 19 November that Molotov had declared he was confident of an early conclusion of general agreement if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the withdrawal of American and British troops at ninety days (later reported as four months) after the signature of the treaty. At this point *Messaggero* reported that among the points under discussion were the following: special zones in the free port, customs unions, the withdrawal of troops, citizenship, and settlement of possible differences with regard to interpretation of the text of the statute.

**Direct Contact.**

In the meantime however the Italian delegation in New York was busy. It was reported by Reuters from New York and confirmed in the Italian press on 20 November that the Italian Ambassador to the United States Alberto Tarchiani had been instructed by his government to contact the Yugoslav representatives in New York and invite them to present concrete proposals for starting direct negotiations on the frontier question. Although there was quite a stir in the Italian press which at first saw in this activity the definite beginning of negotiations between the two countries, another view of the instructions was presented by ANSA which indicated the following day that the significance of the orders was limited to the execution of a scouting mission. Italy was still awaiting a concrete official proposal from Yugoslavia. A ray of hope was seen however, in a joint Italo-Yugoslav communique reported by Reuters on 21 November in which it was stated that a "long and friendly conversation had been held by Pietro Quaroni, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic, Yugoslav Ambassador Sava Koszanovic and Yugoslav Vice-Foreign Minister A. Bebler.". There, the matter rested at weeks's end.

The entire week was studded with bitter polemics in the party press. On 16 November Palmiro Togliatti in a speech at Leghorn had charged the Christian Democrat party with betraying the country with its attitude toward the Trieste question. The speaker then took up the matter of repatriation of prisoners of war held by Yugoslavia and declared that in spite of hindrances of a beauroeratic nature they would soon be back in Italy, thanks to the partisans and the Communist Party.

In a communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on 18 November it was strongly denied that any steps had been left untried in order to effect repatriation. The communiqué cited several. One of these caused a special furor. This was the decharation that a

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



commission headed by Giuliano Pajetta, a Communist Deputy, had been formed to expedite repatriation. The communiqué declared that this commission had not been able to accomplish its mission because the necessary visas had not been granted by the Yugoslav Government. *Unità* declared that the failure of this mission was due to beaurocratic delays and insults and calumnies against Yugoslavia. The same paper on 20 November printed an interview with Pajetta in which he declared he was surprised to hear that he had been appointed head of any such commission. He asserted that he had talked to prominent partisans last November about the matter but had received no real help from the Government. From there on the papers quickly chose up sides with *Capitale* summing it all up in the headline, "Italian POWs in Yugoslavia have not been repatriated because De Gasperi did not want it (as Togliatti said) or because Togliatti prevented it (as De Gasperi said)".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the stock of wheat available during the period 1 October to 17 November including that imported and amassed up to 13 November amounted to 1,441,120 tons. The consumption during the same period was 590,021 tons leaving a balance of 851,099 tons on hand as of 17 November. As of 17 November, statistically this amount covers a 71 day period. This period will be increased by one day when the amount of 11,853 tons signalled to arrive during November, is received. It should be noted however that the 72 day period is contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks.

The Economic Division states that the above figures do not take into consideration the 50,000 tons supposedly allotted to Italy from the United States or the 80,000 tons supposedly purchased in Turkey. A conference with UNNRA officials has determined that it is impossible to obtain from the United States, confirmation of the 50,000 tons. The shipment of the 80,000 tons from Turkey will depend upon the ability of the Italian Government to charter ships. It should also be pointed out that both shipments together would amount to only 10 days supply.

In Venezia Giulia, stocks of wheat previously allocated, so much for wheat and so much for pasta, have now been combined so as to support the bread and pasta ration to 31 December 1946. Stocks on hand for bread and pasta in Udine as of 11 November were sufficient to last to 28 January 1947.

### Fuel.

It is expected that 202,000 tons of coal will arrive from the United States during November. This is 59,000 tons less than previously reported and is due to threat of strikes resulting in less coal being sent to the ports. In addition to the coal from the United States it is estimated that 150,000 tons will arrive from other sources. Based on current allocation this will result in having a stock of only 343,000 tons on hand at the end of November.

The situation with regard to motor gasoline and diesel oil is serious as tankers which had been expected to arrive during the second half of November are now reported to have been delayed. The stocks of these two products are not equally distributed over the country and it is possible that some areas may run dry before the end of the month. A slight amelioration of the situation may be made possible by the refining of the three tankers of crude oil recently arrived. This is now under way at Bari.

### Power.

In Northern Italy power rationing is carried out by disconnecting all customers except essential services two days a week during the daylight hours.

In Central and Southern Italy, although there has been an improvement of temporary character in the electricity situation in Lazio and Umbria Regions the general situation remains practically the same as no important changes are reported from other regions and Sila reservoirs (Southern Italy) are almost completely empty. Power rationing is now being enforced in all Central and Southern Italy with the exception of the Rome area.

## RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN 284

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 16 the following paragraph appears:

"Unregistered non-illustrated postcard mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 October 1946".

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific Islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place in the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

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



Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and while authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will soon be possible to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Control of foreign aircraft flights to and over Italian Government controlled territory will be returned to the Italian Government effective 25 November 1946.

Under the plan, all flights of foreign aircraft to and over Italian Government controlled territory must be approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, American and British civil aircraft will be permitted to land providing crews and passengers possess proper valid entry documents and that proper warning signals are sent to the Italian amorities.

Whenever clearance is sought for flights to or over Allied Military Government controlled territory, (Province of Udine and Zone A – Venezia Giulia) approval for such flights must be obtained from the Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission before the Italian Government can authorize final clearance.

The announced change-over of control will not apply to British and American military aircraft which can land in Italy provided crews and passengers are travelling under proper military authority.

Bad weather has once again greatly hampered the military courier service and although every effort is being made to deal with backlog of passengers it is inevitable that, during the winter months, some delays are bound to occur.

Wing Commander W. A. D. Collingwood, Senior Equipment Officer, F/Lt. F. Reid Air H, Lt. L. Neiss Org H and Flying Officer C. Brown M. T. Staff Officer visited Air Headquarters Italy on 20 November to discuss points of general policy. During the visit, arrangements were made for the extension of the Italian Military Courier Service to include Udine, the change of schedule being timed for 27 November.

On Saturday 16 November the rising Tiber threatened to flood Urbe Airfield and the Italian Air Ministry ordered the immediate move of all aircraft and equipment to Guidonia. In spite of the waterlogged condition of the airfield all seventeen aircraft were successfully flown off and the equipment was saved through the combined efforts of I. A. F. transport and R. A. F. trucks from the Autogruppo.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

During this week the recruits in the Italian recruit training centres and in various specialist schools complete their recruit training and are being posted to their units in all parts of Italy. These newly-trained soldiers will take the place of the 35,000 soldiers of the 1924-25 classes, who are now being released from service.

The British authorities plan to repatriate a maximum of 25,000 Italian PW between now and mid-January. These PW will come from E. Africa, India, S. Africa and Australia. This number represents nearly 60 % of IPW remaining in British hands.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The British Admiralty has decided that in the future the necessary funds in Egyptian currency to cover the expenses of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes, and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports will have to be supplied by the Italian Government. The Minister of Marine has been asked to make arrangements to take over these payments for the month of November. In the meantime payments for the months of September and October, have, in exceptional circumstances, been made from British sources. In order to reduce the consumption of Italy Foreign Exchange the Battleships will be supplied to the fullest possible extent from Italy and all ships in transit will be provisioned to capacity prior to leaving Italian ports.

Italian minesweepers from Venice have been engaged in clearing an area inshore off Porto Lignano. This operation is being carried out to enable craft that have been built on the Stella estuary to reach the sea. Other Italian M/S groups have continued routine clearance operations. The sweepers which have completed their check sweep at the Northern entrance to the Strait of Messina have proceeded to Trapani and Palermo to begin operations off Western Sicily.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Captain Henri A. de Masi, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, 149 Replacement Battalion.

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

November 25, 1946

Vol. III, No. 32

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Great Britain, France and Russia, in that order, replied officially this week to the Italian note relating to the institution of direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The note had been handed to the Four Foreign Ministers following the unofficial proposal made by Marshal Tito through Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party that Trieste remain with certain conditions under Italian sovereignty in exchange for Gorizia's being ceded to Yugoslavia.

All three notes were substantially in agreement with the American reply conveyed to Italian Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on 12 November by the American Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. London's reply dated 14 November declared the British Government to be disposed to examine with sympathy any agreement reached by the two countries but in answer to the question put by the Italian Government, the note went on to state that Great Britain was not in a position to state whether the unofficial proposal by Tito offered the possibility for any such agreement. Initiation of direct negotiations, the British note said, was a matter for the Italian Government to decide but any agreement would be closely examined by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the resolution taken by the Four as to the Paris Conference recommendations.

As regards the question of a guarantee by the United Nations, (which had been raised by Italy as a condition for initiating direct negotiations) the note went no further than to indicate that any agreement resulting therefrom which might commend itself to the Council of Foreign Ministers would have to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

The French note handed to Nenni on 18 November declared that direct negotiations could not but contribute to the establishment of international peace and cooperation, but pointed out that the French viewpoint was still in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and indorsed by the Paris Conference.

The Russian reply, according to the United Press, was sent by Mr. Molotov to the Italian Ambassador to Russia, Pietro Quaroni, now in the United States. According to the same press service the note declared that negotiations between the two countries concerned should be considered a strengthening of European peace if such negotiations led to a solution of the pending problems and if such solution were approved by the Four. Russia's note further made the point that such approved solution would be incorporated in the peace treaty.

It may be noted that in none of the four notes as reported in the press was there contained any direct reference to Italy's condition for starting direct negotiations, to the effect that in the event of no agreement being reached, what had been resolved by the Paris Conference should remain definitely as granted. Nor was there any reference to Italy's request contained in her note that "Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### Nenni's report.

Crystallization of the Italian viewpoint was evident in the report made by Nenni to the Constituent Assembly Treaty Commission on the night of 14 November. The Foreign Minister evidently considering the trend of the deliberations in New York City, declared once again, according to *Tempo*, that Italy could not accept territorial "mutilation", and that the country affirmed that it was impossible to consider the conclusions reached at Paris and New York as the foundation of world peace. The news of the Big Four approval of the French Line as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary had just been published and De Gasperi is reported to have said (also according to *Tempo*): "If the news reported by this morning's press is confirmed, we cannot conceal our bitter feeling over the solution reached by the Big Four with regard to this problem. It is the Government's task openly to express the people's disagreement with this solution. Once this has been accomplished, then a Locarno of the East could be taken into consideration".

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



The same paper also reported that Minister Gronchi (Christian Democrat) offered an order of the day criticizing Togliatti for having "intruded into the foreign policy of the Government". Togliatti, however, is said to have retorted that he revealed Tito's offer to the press before the Government because he didn't want the offer to be buried in ministerial files. The matter was resolved when Orlando (Liberal) suggested that the subject matter of the motion was not within the competence of the Treaty Commission and Gronchi's order of the day was withdrawn.

### The Statute.

In the meantime the Council of Foreign Ministers having adopted the French Line as the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia, were considering the Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste which bid fair to be the most contentious subject of discussion. The details of the discussions were not released to the press but it was reported that Molotov had offered 14 amendments to the Trieste Statute as adopted by the Paris Conference and all 14 had been turned down by the other three members of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The United Press as carried by *Avanti* and other papers even went as far as to report that there was some possibility that Secretary of State Byrnes might be resigned to the impossibility of concluding the peace treaty with Italy and the satellites of the axis and might propose that the Council start consideration of the German issue.

The difficulties however were gradually being resolved. On 17 November it was announced that agreement had been reached as to the policing of the Free Territory. Under the agreement the responsibility of the Governor for the general enforcement of order was recognized. However the Chief of Police was to be responsible directly for order during normal times with the Governor being given authority to assume command of the police forces in times of emergency. The Governor is given authority to appoint or depose the Chief of Police but the latter has power to enroll policemen.

*Messaggero* also carried the news that the Governor's right of veto for all questions concerning his responsibility had been upheld. This would include the details of the statute, public order and respect of all human rights. Further indication of progress was made known by ANSA which reported from New York that the final text of agreements reached at this point was being drafted by the deputies of the Four. The same press organization also reported on 19 November that Molotov had declared he was confident of an early conclusion of general agreement if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the withdrawal of American and British troops at ninety days (later reported as four months) after the signature of the treaty. At this point *Messaggero* reported that among the points under discussion were the following: special zones in the free port, customs unions, the withdrawal of troops, citizenship, and settlement of possible differences with regard to interpretation of the text of the statute.

### Direct Contact.

In the meantime however the Italian delegation in New York was busy. It was reported by Reuters from New York and confirmed in the Italian press on 20 November that the Italian Ambassador to the United States Alberto Tarchiani had been instructed by his government to contact the Yugoslav representatives in New York and invite them to present concrete proposals for starting direct negotiations on the frontier question. Although there was quite a stir in the Italian press which at first saw in this activity the definite beginning of negotiations between the two countries, another view of the instructions was presented by ANSA which indicated the following day that the significance of the orders was limited to the execution of a scouting mission. Italy was still awaiting a concrete official proposal from Yugoslavia. A ray of hope was seen however, in a joint Italo-Yugoslav communiqué reported by Reuters on 21 November in which it was stated that a "long and friendly conversation had been held by Pietro Quaroni, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic, Yugoslav Ambassador Sava Koszanovic and Yugoslav Vice-Foreign Minister A. Bebler.". There, the matter rested at weeks's end.

The entire week was studded with bitter polemics in the party press. On 16 November Palmiro Togliatti in a speech at Leghorn had charged the Christian Democrat party with betraying the country with its attitude toward the Trieste question. The speaker then took up the matter of repatriation of prisoners of war held by Yugoslavia and declared that in spite of hindrances of a beaurocratic nature they would soon be back in Italy, thanks to the partisans and the Communist Party.

In a communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on 18 November it was strongly denied that any steps had been left untried in order to effect repatriation. The communiqué cited several. One of these caused a special furor. This was the declaration that a

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



commission headed by Giuliano Pajetta, a Communist Deputy, had been formed to expedite repatriation. The communiqué declared that this commission had not been able to accomplish its mission because the necessary visas had not been granted by the Yugoslav Government. *Unità* declared that the failure of this mission was due to beaurocratic delays and insults and calumnies against Yugoslavia. The same paper on 20 November printed an interview with Pajetta in which he declared he was surprised to hear that he had been appointed head of any such commission. He asserted that he had talked to prominent partisans last November about the matter but had received no real help from the Government. From there on the papers quickly chose up sides with *Capitale* summing it all up in the headline; "Italian POWs in Yugoslavia have not been repatriated because De Gasperi did not want it (as Togliatti said) or because Togliatti prevented it (as De Gasperi said)".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the stock of wheat available during the period 1 October to 17 November including that imported and amassed up to 13 November amounted to 1,441,120 tons. The consumption during the same period was 590,021 tons leaving a balance of 851,099 tons on hand as of 17 November. As of 17 November, statistically this amount covers a 71 day period. This period will be increased by one day when the amoun. of 11,853 tons signalled to arrive during November, is received. It should be noted however that the 72 day period is contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks.

The Economic Division states that the above figures do not take into consideration the 50,000 tons supposedly allotted to Italy from the United States or the 80,000 tons supposedly purchased in Turkey. A conference with UNRRA officials has determined that it is impossible to obtain from the United States, confirmation of the 50,000 tons. The shipment of the 80,000 tons from Turkey will depend upon the ability of the Italian Government to charter ships. It should also be pointed out that both shipments together would amount to only 10 days supply.

In Venezia Giulia, stocks of wheat previously allocated, so much for wheat and so much for pasta, have now been combined so as to support the bread and pasta ration to 31 December 1946. Stocks on hand for bread and pasta in Udine as of 11 November were sufficient to last to 28 January 1947.

### Fuel.

It is expected that 202,000 tons of coal will arrive from the United States during November. This is 59,000 tons less than previously reported and is due to threat of strikes resulting in less coal being sent to the ports. In addition to the coal from the United States it is estimated that 150,000 tons will arrive from other sources. Based on current allocation this will result in having a stock of only 343,000 tons on hand at the end of November.

The situation with regard to motor gasoline and diesel oil is serious as tankers which had been expected to arrive during the second half of November are now reported to have been delayed. The stocks of these two products are not equally distributed over the country and it is possible that some areas may run dry before the end of the month. A slight amelioration of the situation may be made possible by the refining of the three tankers of crude oil recently arrived. This is now under way at Bari.

### Power.

In Northern Italy power rationing is carried out by disconnecting all customers except essential services two days a week during the daylight hours.

In Central and Southern Italy, although there has been an improvement of temporary character in the electricity situation in Lazio and Umbria Regions the general situation remains practically the same as no important changes are reported from other regions and Sila reservoirs (Southern Italy) are almost completely empty. Power rationing is now being enforced in all Central and Southern Italy with the exception of the Rome area.

## RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 46 the following paragraph appears:

"Unregistered non-illustrated posted mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 October 1946".

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific Islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place in the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

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



Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and while authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will soon be possible to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Control of foreign aircraft flights to and over Italian Government controlled territory will be returned to the Italian Government effective 25 November 1946.

Under the plan, all flights of foreign aircraft to and over Italian Government controlled territory must be approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, American and British civil aircraft will be permitted to land providing crews and passengers possess proper valid entry documents and that proper warning signals are sent to the Italian autocities.

Whenever clearance is sought for flights to or over Allied Military Government controlled territory, (Province of Udine and Zone A – Venezia Giulia) approval for such flights must be obtained from the Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission before the Italian Government can authorize final clearance.

The announced change-over of control will not apply to British and American military aircraft which can land in Italy provided crews and passengers are travelling under proper military authority.

Bad weather has once again greatly hampered the military courier service and although every effort is being made to deal with backlog of passengers it is inevitable that, during the winter months, some delays are bound to occur.

Wing Commander W. A. D. Collingwood, Senior Equipment Officer, F/Lt. F. Reid Air H, Lt. I. Neiss Org H and Flying Officer C. Brown M. T. Staff Officer visited Air Headquarters Italy on 20 November to discuss points of general policy. During the visit, arrangements were made for the extension of the Italian Military Courier Service to include Udine, the change of schedule being timed for 27 November.

On Saturday 16 November the rising Tiber threatened to flood Urbe Airfield and the italian Air Ministry ordered the immediate move of all aircraft and equipment to Guidonia. In spite of the waterlogged condition of the airfield all seventeen aircraft were successfully flown off and the equipment was saved through the combined efforts of I. A. F. transport and R. A. F. trucks from the Autogruppo.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

During this week the recruits in the Italian recruit training centres and in various specialist schools complete their recruit training and are being posted to their units in all parts of Italy. These newly-trained soldiers will take the place of the 35,000 soldiers of the 1924-25 classes, who are now being released from service.

The British authorities plan to repatriate a maximum of 25,000 Italian PW between now and mid-January. These PW will come from E. Africa, India, S. Africa and Australia. This number represents nearly 60 % of IPW remaining in British hands.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The British Admiralty has decided that in the future the necessary funds in Egyptian currency to cover the expenses of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes, and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports will have to be supplied by the Italian Government. The Minister of Marine has been asked to make arrangements to take over these payments for the month of November. In the meantime payments for the months of September and October, have, in exceptional circumstances, been made from British sources. In order to reduce the consumption of Italy Foreign Exchange the Battleships will be supplied to the fullest possible extent from Italy and all ships in transit will be provisioned to capacity prior to leaving Italian ports.

Italian minesweepers from Venice have been engaged in clearing an area inshore off Porto Lignano. This operation is being carried out to enable craft that have been built on the Stella estuary to reach the sea. Other Italian M/S groups have continued routine clearance operations. The sweepers which have completed their check sweep at the Northern entrance to the Strait of Messina have proceeded to Trapani and Palermo to begin operations off Western Sicily.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Captain Henri A. de Masi, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, 149 Replacement Battalion.

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

November 25, 1946 Vol. III, No. 32

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL.

Great Britain, France and Russia, in that order, replied officially this week to the Italian note relating to the institution of direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The note had been handed to the Four Foreign Ministers following the unofficial proposal made by Marshal Tito through Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party that Trieste remain with certain conditions under Italian sovereignty in exchange for Gorizia's being ceded to Yugoslavia.

All three notes were substantially in agreement with the American reply conveyed to Italian Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on 12 November by the American Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. London's reply dated 14 November declared the British Government to be disposed to examine with sympathy any agreement reached by the two countries but in answer to the question put by the Italian Government, the note went on to state that Great Britain was not in a position to state whether the unofficial proposal by Tito offered the possibility for any such agreement. Initiation of direct negotiations, the British note said, was a matter for the Italian Government to decide but any agreement would be closely examined by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the resolution taken by the Four as to the Paris Conference recommendations.

As regards the question of a guarantee by the United Nations, (which had been raised by Italy as a condition for initiating direct negotiations) the note went no further than to indicate that any agreement resulting therefrom which might commend itself to the Council of Foreign Ministers would have to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

The French note handed to Nenni on 18 November declared that direct negotiations could not but contribute to the establishment of international peace and cooperation, but pointed out that the French viewpoint was still in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and indorsed by the Paris Conference.

The Russian reply, according to the United Press, was sent by Mr. Molotov to the Italian Ambassador to Russia, Pietro Quaroni, now in the United States. According to the same press service the note declared that negotiations between the two countries concerned should be considered a strengthening of European peace if such negotiations led to a solution of the pending problems and if such solution were approved by the Four. Russia's note further made the point that such approved solution would be incorporated in the peace treaty.

It may be noted that in none of the four notes as reported in the press was there contained any direct reference to Italy's condition for starting direct negotiations, to the effect that in the event of no agreement being reached, what had been resolved by the Paris Conference should remain definitely as granted. Nor was there any reference to Italy's request contained in her note that "Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### Nenni's report.

Crystallization of the Italian viewpoint was evident in the report made by Nenni to the Constituent Assembly Treaty Commission on the night of 14 November. The Foreign Minister, evidently considering the trend of the deliberations in New York City, declared once again, according to *Tempo*, that Italy could not accept territorial "mutilation", and that the country affirmed that it was impossible to consider the conclusions reached at Paris and New York as the foundation of world peace. The news of the Big Four approval of the French line as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary had just been published and De Gasperi is reported to have said (also according to *Tempo*): "If the news reported by this morning's press is confirmed, we cannot conceal our bitter feeling over the solution reached by the Big Four with regard to this problem. It is the Government's task openly to express the people's disagreement with this solution. Once this has been accomplished, then a Locarno of the East could be taken into consideration".

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



The same paper also reported that Minister Gronchi (Christian Democrat) offered an order of the day criticizing Togliatti for having "intruded into the foreign policy of the Government". Togliatti, however, is said to have retorted that he revealed Tito's offer to the press before the Government because he didn't want the offer to be buried in ministerial files. The matter was resolved when Orlando (Liberal) suggested that the subject matter of the motion was not within the competence of the Treaty Commission and Gronchi's order of the day was withdrawn.

### The Statute.

In the meantime the Council of Foreign Ministers having adopted the French Line as the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia, were considering the Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste which bid fair to be the most contentious subject of discussion. The details of the discussions were not released to the press but it was reported that Molotov had offered 14 amendments to the Trieste Statute as adopted by the Paris Conference and all 14 had been turned down by the other three members of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The United Press as carried by *Avanti* and other papers even went as far as to report that there was some possibility that Secretary of State Byrnes might be resigned to the impossibility of concluding the peace treaty with Italy and the satellites of the axis and might propose that the Council start consideration of the German issue.

The difficulties however were gradually being resolved. On 17 November it was announced that agreement had been reached as to the policing of the Free Territory. Under the agreement the responsibility of the Governor for the general enforcement of order was recognized. However the Chief of Police was to be responsible directly for order during normal times with the Governor being given authority to assume command of the police forces in times of emergency. The Governor is given authority to appoint or depose the Chief of Police but the latter has power to enroll policemen.

*Messaggero* also carried the news that the Governor's right of veto for all questions concerning his responsibility had been upheld. This would include the details of the statute, public order and respect of all human rights. Further indication of progress was made known by ANSA which reported from New York that the final text of agreements reached at this point was being drafted by the deputies of the Four. The same press organization also reported on 19 November that Molotov had declared he was confident of an early conclusion of general agreement if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the withdrawal of American and British troops at ninety days (later reported as four months) after the signature of the treaty. At this point *Messaggero* reported that among the points under discussion were the following: special zones in the free port, customs unions, the withdrawal of troops, citizenship, and settlement of possible differences with regard to interpretation of the text of the statute.

### Direct Contact.

In the meantime however the Italian delegation in New York was busy. It was reported by Reuters from New York and confirmed in the Italian press on 20 November that the Italian Ambassador to the United States Alberto Tarchiani had been instructed by his government to contact the Yugoslav representatives in New York and invite them to present concrete proposals for starting direct negotiations on the frontier question. Although there was quite a stir in the Italian press which at first saw in this activity the definite beginning of negotiations between the two countries, another view of the instructions was presented by ANSA which indicated the following day that the significance of the orders was limited to the execution of a scouting mission. Italy was still awaiting a concrete official proposal from Yugoslavia. A ray of hope was seen however, in a joint Italo-Yugoslav communiqué reported by Reuters on 21 November in which it was stated that a "long and friendly conversation had been held by Pietro Quaroni, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic, Yugoslav Ambassador Sava Koszanovic and Yugoslav Vice-Foreign Minister A. Bebler,". There, the matter rested at weeks's end.

The entire week was studded with bitter polemics in the party press. On 16 November Palmiro Togliatti in a speech at Leghorn had charged the Christian Democrat party with betraying the country with its attitude toward the Trieste question. The speaker then took up the matter of repatriation of prisoners of war held by Yugoslavia and declared that in spite of hindrances of a beaurocratic nature they would soon be back in Italy, thanks to the partisans and the Communist Party.

In a communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on 18 November it was strongly denied that any steps had been left untried in order to effect repatriation. The communiqué cited several. One of these caused a special furor. This was the declaration that a

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



commission headed by Giuliano Pajetta, a Communist Deputy, had been formed to expedite repatriation. The communiqué declared that this commission had not been able to accomplish its mission because the necessary visas had not been granted by the Yugoslav Government. *Unità* declared that the failure of this mission was due to beaurocratic delays and insults and calumnies against Yugoslavia. The same paper on 20 November printed an interview with Pajetta in which he declared he was surprised to hear that he had been appointed head of any such commission. He asserted that he had talked to prominent partisans last November about the matter but had received no real help from the Government. From there on the papers quickly chose up sides with *Capitale* summing it all up in the headline, "Italian POWs in Yugoslavia have not been repatriated because De Gasperi did not want it (as Togliatti said) or because Togliatti prevented it (as De Gasperi said)".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the stock of wheat available during the period 1 October to 17 November including that imported and amassed up to 13 November amounted to 1,141,120 tons. The consumption during the same period was 590,021 tons leaving a balance of 851,099 tons on hand as of 17 November. As of 17 November, statistically this amount covers a 71 day period. This period will be increased by one day when the amount of 11,853 tons signalled to arrive during November, is received. It should be noted however that the 72 day period is contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks.

The Economic Division states that the above figures do not take into consideration the 50,000 tons supposedly allotted to Italy from the United States or the 80,000 tons supposedly purchased in Turkey. A conference with UNRRA officials has determined that it is impossible to obtain from the United States, confirmation of the 50,000 tons. The shipment of the 80,000 tons from Turkey will depend upon the ability of the Italian Government to charter ships. It should also be pointed out that both shipments together would amount to only 10 days supply.

In Venezia Giulia, stocks of wheat previously allocated, so much for wheat and so much for pasta, have now been combined so as to support the bread and pasta ration to 31 December 1946. Stocks on hand for bread and pasta in Udine as of 11 November were sufficient to last to 28 January 1947.

### Fuel.

It is expected that 202,000 tons of coal will arrive from the United States during November. This is 59,000 tons less than previously reported and is due to threat of strikes resulting in less coal being sent to the ports. In addition to the coal from the United States it is estimated that 150,000 tons will arrive from other sources. Based on current allocation this will result in having a stock of only 343,000 tons on hand at the end of November.

The situation with regard to motor gasoline and diesel oil is serious as tankers which had been expected to arrive during the second half of November are now reported to have been delayed. The stocks of these two products are not equally distributed over the country and it is possible that some areas may run dry before the end of the month. A slight amelioration of the situation may be made possible by the refining of the three tankers of crude oil recently arrived. This is now under way at Bari.

### Power.

In Northern Italy power rationing is carried out by disconnecting all customers except essential services two days a week during the daylight hours.

In Central and Southern Italy, although there has been an improvement of temporary character in the electricity situation in Lazio and Umbria Regions the general situation remains practically the same as no important changes are reported from other regions and Sila reservoirs (Southern Italy) are almost completely empty. Power rationing is now being enforced in all Central and Southern Italy with the exception of the Rome area.

## RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 46 the following paragraph appears:

"Unregistered non-illustrated postcard mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 October 1946".

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific Islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place in the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

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



Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and while authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will soon be possible to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Control of foreign aircraft flights to and over Italian Government controlled territory will be returned to the Italian Government effective 25 November 1946.

Under the plan, all flights of foreign aircraft to and over Italian Government controlled territory must be approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, American and British civil aircraft will be permitted to land providing crews and passengers possess proper valid entry documents and that proper warning signals are sent to the Italian autorities.

Whenever clearance is sought for flights to or over Allied Military Government controlled territory, (Province of Udine and Zone A — Venezia Giulia) approval for such flights must be obtained from the Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission before the Italian Government can authorize final clearance.

The announced change-over of control will not apply to British and American military aircraft which can land in Italy provided crews and passengers are travelling under proper military authority.

Bad weather has once again greatly hampered the military courier service and although every effort is being made to deal with backlog of passengers it is inevitable that, during the winter months, some delays are bound to occur.

Wing Commander W. A. D. Collingwood, Senior Equipment Officer, F/Lt. F. Reid Air H, Lt. I. Neiss Org H and Flying Officer C. Brown M. T. Staff Officer visited Air Headquarters Italy on 20 November to discuss points of general policy. During the visit, arrangements were made for the extension of the Italian Military Courier Service to include Udine, the change of schedule being timed for 27 November.

On Saturday 16 November the rising Tiber threatened to flood Urbe Airfield and the italian Air Ministry ordered the immediate move of all aircraft and equipment to Guidonia. In spite of the waterlogged condition of the airfield all seventeen aircraft were successfully flown off and the equipment was saved through the combined efforts of I. A. F. transport and R. A. F. trucks from the Autogruppo.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

During this week the recruits in the Italian recruit training centres and in various specialist schools complete their recruit training and are being posted to their units in all parts of Italy. These newly-trained soldiers will take the place of the 35,000 soldiers of the 1924-25 classes, who are now being released from service.

The British authorities plan to repatriate a maximum of 25,000 Italian PW between now and mid-January. These PW will come from E. Africa, India, S. Africa and Australia. This number represents nearly 60 % of IPW remaining in British hands.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The British Admiralty has decided that in the future the necessary funds in Egyptian currency to cover the expenses of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes, and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports will have to be supplied by the Italian Government. The Minister of Marine has been asked to make arrangements to take over these payments for the month of November. In the meantime payments for the months of September and October, have, in exceptional circumstances, been made from British sources. In order to reduce the consumption of Italy Foreign Exchange the Battleships will be supplied to the fullest possible extent from Italy and all ships in transit will be provisioned to capacity prior to leaving Italian ports.

Italian minesweepers from Venice have been engaged in clearing an area inshore off Porto Lignano. This operation is being carried out to enable craft that have been built on the Stella estuary to reach the sea. Other Italian M/S groups have continued routine clearance operations. The sweepers which have completed their check sweep at the Northern entrance to the Strait of Messina have proceeded to Trapani and Palermo to begin operations off Western Sicily.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Captain Henri A. de Masi, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, 149 Replacement Battalion.

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

Vol. III, No. 32

November 25, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Great Britain, France and Russia, in that order, replied officially this week to the Italian note relating to the institution of direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The note had been handed to the Four Foreign Ministers following the unofficial proposal made by Marshal Tito through Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party that Trieste remain with certain conditions under Italian sovereignty in exchange for Gorizia's being ceded to Yugoslavia.

All three notes were substantially in agreement with the American reply conveyed to Italian Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on 12 November by the American Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. London's reply dated 14 November declared the British Government to be disposed to examine with sympathy any agreement reached by the two countries but in answer to the question put by the Italian Government, the note went on to state that Great Britain was not in a position to state whether the unofficial proposal by Tito offered the possibility for any such agreement. Initiation of direct negotiations, the British note said, was a matter for the Italian Government to decide but any agreement would be closely examined by the Council of Ministers on the basis of the resolution taken by the Four as to the Paris Conference recommendations.

As regards the question of a guarantee by the United Nations, (which had been raised by Italy as a condition for initiating direct negotiations) the note went no further than to indicate that any agreement resulting therefrom which might commend itself to the Council of Foreign Ministers would have to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

The French note handed to Nenni on 18 November declared that direct negotiations could not but contribute to the establishment of international peace and cooperation, but pointed out that the French viewpoint was still in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and indorsed by the Paris Conference.

The Russian reply, according to the United Press, was sent by Mr. Molotov to the Italian Ambassador to Russia, Pietro Quaroni, now in the United States. According to the same press service the note declared that negotiations between the two countries concerned should be considered a strengthening of European peace if such negotiations led to a solution of the pending problems and if such solution were approved by the Four. Russia's note further made the point that such approved solution would be incorporated in the peace treaty.

It may be noted that in none of the four notes as reported in the press was there contained any direct reference to Italy's condition for starting direct negotiations, to the effect that in the event of no agreement being reached, what had been resolved by the Paris Conference should remain definitely as granted. Nor was there any reference to Italy's request contained in her note that "Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### Nenni's report.

Crystallization of the Italian viewpoint was evident in the report made by Nenni to the Constituent Assembly Treaty Commission on the night of 14 November. The Foreign Minister, evidently considering the trend of the deliberations in New York City, declared once again, according to *Tempo*, that Italy could not accept territorial "mutilation", and that the country affirmed that it was impossible to consider the conclusions reached at Paris and New York as the foundation of world peace. The news of the Big Four approval of the French Line as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary had just been published and De Gasperi is reported to have said (also according to *Tempo*): "If the news reported by this morning's press is confirmed, we cannot conceal our bitter feeling over the solution reached by the Big Four with regard to this problem. It is the Government's task openly to express the people's disagreement with this solution. Once this has been accomplished, then a Locarno of the East could be taken into consideration".

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



The same paper also reported that Minister Gronchi (Christian Democrat) offered an order of the day criticizing Togliatti for having "intruded into the foreign policy of the Government". Togliatti, however, is said to have retorted that he revealed Tito's offer to the press before the Government because he didn't want the offer to be buried in ministerial files. The matter was resolved when Orlando (Liberal) suggested that the subject matter of the motion was not within the competence of the Treaty Commission and Gronchi's order of the day was withdrawn.

### The Statute.

In the meantime the Council of Foreign Ministers having adopted the French Line as the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia, were considering the Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste which bid fair to be the most contentious subject of discussion. The details of the discussions were not released to the press but it was reported that Molotov had offered 14 amendments to the Trieste Statute as adopted by the Paris Conference and all 14 had been turned down by the other three members of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The United Press as carried by *Avanti* and other papers even went as far as to report that there was some possibility that Secretary of State Byrnes might be resigned to the impossibility of concluding the peace treaty with Italy and the satellites of the axis and might propose that the Council start consideration of the German issue.

The difficulties however were gradually being resolved. On 17 November it was announced that agreement had been reached as to the policing of the Free Territory. Under the agreement the responsibility of the Governor for the general enforcement of order was recognized. However the Chief of Police was to be responsible directly for order during normal times with the Governor being given authority to assume command of the police forces in times of emergency. The Governor is given authority to appoint or depose the Chief of Police but the latter has power to enroll policemen.

*Messaggero* also carried the news that the Governor's right of veto for all questions concerning his responsibility had been upheld. This would include the details of the statute, public order and respect of all human rights. Further indication of progress was made known by ANSA which reported from New York that the final text of agreements reached at this point was being drafted by the deputies of the Four. The same press organization also reported on 19 November that Molotov had declared he was confident of an early conclusion of general agreement if Byrnes and Bevin would consent to fixing the withdrawal of American and British troops at ninety days (later reported as four months) after the signature of the treaty. At this point *Messaggero* reported that among the points under discussion were the following: special zones in the free port, customs unions, the withdrawal of troops, citizenship, and settlement of possible differences with regard to interpretation of the text of the statute.

### Direct Contact.

In the meantime however the Italian delegation in New York was busy. It was reported by Reuters from New York and confirmed in the Italian press on 20 November that the Italian Ambassador to the United States Alberto Tarchiani had been instructed by his government to contact the Yugoslav representatives in New York and invite them to present concrete proposals for starting direct negotiations on the frontier question. Although there was quite a stir in the Italian press which at first saw in this activity the definite beginning of negotiations between the two countries, another view of the instructions was presented by ANSA which indicated the following day that the significance of the orders was limited to the execution of a scouting mission. Italy was still awaiting a concrete official proposal from Yugoslavia. A ray of hope was seen however, in a joint Italo-Yugoslav communiqué reported by Reuters on 21 November in which it was stated that a "long and friendly conversation had been held by Pietro Quaroni, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic, Yugoslav Ambassador Sava Koszanovic and Yugoslav Vice-Foreign Minister A. Bebler.". There, the matter rested at weeks's end.

The entire week was studded with bitter polemics in the party press. On 16 November Palmiro Togliatti in a speech at Leghorn had charged the Christian Democrat party with betraying the country with its attitude toward the Trieste question. The speaker then took up the matter of repatriation of prisoners of war held by Yugoslavia and declared that in spite of hindrances of a beaurocratic nature they would soon be back in Italy, thanks to the partisans and the Communist Party.

In a communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on 18 November it was strongly denied that any steps had been left untried in order to effect repatriation. The communiqué cited several. One of these caused a special furor. This was the declaration that a

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



commission headed by Giuliano Pajetta, a Communist Deputy, had been formed to expedite repatriation. The communiqué declared that this commission had not been able to accomplish its mission because the necessary visas had not been granted by the Yugoslav Government. *Unità* declared that the failure of this mission was due to beaurocratic delays and insults and calumnies against Yugoslavia. The same paper on 20 November printed an interview with Pajetta in which he declared he was surprised to hear that he had been appointed head of any such commission. He asserted that he had talked to prominent partisans last November about the matter but had received no real help from the Government. From there on the papers quickly chose up sides with *Capitale* summing it all up in the headline, "Italian POWs in Yugoslavia have not been repatriated because De Gasperi did not want it (as Togliatti said) or because Togliatti prevented it (as De Gasperi said)".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that the stock of wheat available during the period 1 October to 17 November including that imported and amassed up to 13 November amounted to 1,441,120 tons. The consumption during the same period was 590,021 tons leaving a balance of 851,099 tons on hand as of 17 November. As of 17 November, statistically this amount covers a 71 day period. This period will be increased by one day when the amoun. of 11,853 tons signalled to arrive during November, is received. It should be noted however that the 72 day period is contingent upon the availability of transportation to move the stocks.

The Economic Division states that the above figures do not take into consideration the 50,000 tons supposedly allotted to Italy from the United States or the 80,000 tons supposedly purchased in Turkey. A conference with UNRRA officials has determined that it is impossible to obtain from the United States, confirmation of the 50,000 tons. The shipment of the 80,000 tons from Turkey will depend upon the ability of the Italian Government to charter ships. It should also be pointed out that both shipments together would amount to only 10 days supply.

In Venezia Giulia, stocks of wheat previously allocated, so much for wheat and so much for pasta, have now been combined so as to support the bread and pasta ration to 31 December 1946. Stocks on hand for bread and pasta in Udine as of 11 November were sufficient to last to 28 January 1947.

### Fuel.

It is expected that 202,000 tons of coal will arrive from the United States during November. This is 59,000 tons less than previously reported and is due to threat of strikes resulting in less coal being sent to the ports. In addition to the coal from the United States it is estimated that 150,000 tons will arrive from other sources. Based on current allocation this will result in having a stock of only 343,000 tons on hand at the end of November.

The situation with regard to motor gasoline and diesel oil is serious as tankers which had been expected to arrive during the second half of November are now reported to have been delayed. The stocks of these two products are not equally distributed over the country and it is possible that some areas may run dry before the end of the month. A slight amelioration of the situation may be made possible by the refining of the three tankers of crude oil recently arrived. This is now under way at Bari.

### Power.

In Northern Italy power rationing is carried out by disconnecting all customers except essential services two days a week during the daylight hours.

In Central and Southern Italy, although there has been an improvement of temporary character in the electricity situation in Lazio and Umbria Regions the general situation remains practically the same as no important changes are reported from other regions and Sila reservoirs (Southern Italy) are almost completely empty. Power rationing is now being enforced in all Central and Southern Italy with the exception of the Rome area.

## RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 16 the following paragraph appears:

"Unregistered non-illustrated postcard mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 October 1946".

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific Islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place in the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

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



Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and while authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will soon be possible to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Control of foreign aircraft flights to and over Italian Government controlled territory will be returned to the Italian Government effective 25 November 1946.

Under the plan, all flights of foreign aircraft to and over Italian Government controlled territory must be approved by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, American and British civil aircraft will be permitted to land providing crews and passengers possess proper valid entry documents and that proper warning signals are sent to the Italian authorities.

Whenever clearance is sought for flights to or over Allied Military Government controlled territory, (Province of Udine and Zone A – Venezia Giulia) approval for such flights must be obtained from the Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Commission before the Italian Government can authorize final clearance.

The announced change-over of control will not apply to British and American military aircraft which can land in Italy provided crews and passengers are travelling under proper military authority.

Bad weather has once again greatly hampered the military courier service and although every effort is being made to deal with backlog of passengers it is inevitable that, during the winter months, some delays are bound to occur.

Wing Commander W. A. D. Collingwood, Senior Equipment Officer, F/Lt. F. Reid Air H, Lt. I. Neiss Org H and Flying Officer C. Brown M. T. Staff Officer visited Air Headquarters Italy on 20 November to discuss points of general policy. During the visit, arrangements were made for the extension of the Italian Military Courier Service to include Udine, the change of schedule being timed for 27 November.

On Saturday 16 November the rising Tiber threatened to flood Urbe Airfield and the italian Air Ministry ordered the immediate move of all aircraft and equipment to Guidonia. In spite of the waterlogged condition of the airfield all seventeen aircraft were successfully flown off and the equipment was saved through the combined efforts of I. A. F. transport and R. A. F. trucks from the Autogruppo.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

During this week the recruits in the Italian recruit training centres and in various specialist schools complete their recruit training and are being posted to their units in all parts of Italy. These newly-trained soldiers will take the place of the 35,000 soldiers of the 1924-25 classes, who are now being released from service.

The British authorities plan to repatriate a maximum of 25,000 Italian PW between now and mid-January. These PW will come from E. Africa, India, S. Africa and Australia. This number represents nearly 60 % of IPW remaining in British hands.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The British Admiralty has decided that in the future the necessary funds in Egyptian currency to cover the expenses of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes, and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports will have to be supplied by the Italian Government. The Minister of Marine has been asked to make arrangements to take over these payments for the month of November. In the meantime payments for the months of September and October, have, in exceptional circumstances, been made from British sources. In order to reduce the consumption of Italy Foreign Exchange the Battleships will be supplied to the fullest possible extent from Italy and all ships in transit will be provisioned to capacity prior to leaving Italian ports.

Italian minesweepers from Venice have been engaged in clearing an area inshore off Porto Lignano. This operation is being carried out to enable craft that have been built on the Stella estuary to reach the sea. Other Italian M/S groups have continued routine clearance operations. The sweepers which have completed their check sweep at the Northern entrance to the Strait of Messina have proceeded to Trapani and Palermo to begin operations off Western Sicily.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Captain Henri A. de Masi, (A), (Displaced Persons Division) has been transferred to Headquarters, 149 Replacement Battalion.

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

NOV 18 1946

November 18, 1946 Vol. III, No. 31

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL.

Scarcely any single incident has recently aroused such heated discussion in the Italian press as that which followed Palmiro Togliatti's visit to Belgrade and the publication in *Unità* of Tito's offer to agree to Trieste's remaining Italian provided Italy ceded Gorizia to Yugoslavia. The offer had been rejected by the Italian Government in a communiqué issued on 7 November.

On the same day Pietro Nenni, Italian Foreign Minister, stated to ANSA news agency that the Government's declaration meant that Italy could not take as a starting point for direct negotiation with Yugoslavia the renunciation of an Italian city but that Italy acknowdged with utmost satisfaction the positive elements which resulted from the news brought by Togliatti. "We are always ready", he said, "to consider with utmost interest any official proposal made to us within the picture of the general peace negotiations which are now taking place at New York. A Locarno of the East is among the goals which the Government intends to reach and it would be not only for Italy and Yugoslavia but also for Europe and the World a solid guarantee of peace".

From this point on the Italian press had its say, with the manner in which the offer was received drawing as much attention as the offer itself.

### Press Reaction.

*Risorgimento Liberale* declared that the Communists must be happy as their party now enjoyed "a kind of extra-territoriality similar to that of sovereign states". Until now, the paper said, the Communist party was lacking only active and passive diplomatic representation. "Now the Communist Party also has the right to start negotiations with foreign countries, unknown to and in defiance of the legitimate Government and therefore has the right to claim the qualification of a sovereign state".

*Italia Nuova* headlined the story "Clumsy Communist Maneuver Against Trieste". "The people will not permit Togliatti to give Gorizia and Trieste to the Slavs", and "Slav Communist maneuver against Trieste".

Enzo Selvaggi in the same paper demanded of the President of the Council of Ministers and the Foreign Minister the answer to two questions: (*a*) "Who authorized Togliatti to deal with things that concern the Italian people exclusively and their representatives in the Government?" and (*b*) "Who authorized Togliatti to print the result of his dealings with a foreign country without first referring to the Government?".

### Nenni's Statement.

Foreign Minister Nenni in an electoral speech at Florence on 8 November said: "To reduce the debate now open between us and Yugoslavvia to the Trieste or Gorizia question would be a mistake. The problem must be examined from the general viewpoint of our's and Yugoslavia's interests. Italy and Yugoslavia gained nothing out of the rough manners they used toward each other. On this problem comrade Togliatti has brought a first message which opens the way to successive development and in this sense he rendered a service, even if it should not yield any result in the course of the New York Conference". As to this, *Tempo* remarked that Nenni should not forget that he is Foreign Minister and should have been consistent with the communiqué issued by the Council of Ministers.

*Momento* rather dryly commented on the newspaper polemics to the effect that since the Right accuses those who support Togliatti's thesis as traitors who have sold out to Russian expansionism and since the left accuses those in opposition to Togliatti's plan as traitors who have sold out to the Anglo-Americans, Italy must be divided into two parties sold out either to the East or to the West.

*Messaggero* reported that in U. S. Political circles, Tito's renunciation of Trieste had given the general impression of an advantage gained by Italian diplomacy inasmuch as his previous ar-

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



guments based on statistical, geographical, ethnical and economic grounds had been abandoned.

On 12 November, Ambassador Tarchiani handed a note to the Council of Foreign Ministers, which expressed the official viewpoint of Italy in regard to Tito's proposal. The note stated:

(1) "The Italian Government views in the postponement, resolved at New York of discussions concerning the Venezia Giulia problems, an invitation to direct negotiations between Rome and Belgrade. It therefore asks whether this interpretation is correct.

(2) "Such negotiations after Tito's and Togliatti's declaration seem to be possible.

(3) "These being the facts the Italian Government has no difficulty in starting direct negotiations but with two conditions: (*a*) that if a direct agreement is reached between Rome and Belgrade such agreement be guaranteed by UN; (*b*) that in case an agreement is not reached, what has been resolved by the Conference of 21 remains definitely as granted, and that Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### The Postponement.

There seems to have been some confusion as to the alleged postponement of discussions relating to Trieste referred to in the first numbered paragraph of the note. The United Press reported discussion of the Italian Treaty had been postponed, not because of Tito's offer to Italy through Togliatti, but merely because the four wanted to consider at once a proposal having nothing to do with the treaty but relating to disarmament.

The Council of Ministers did not in fact postpone consideration of the Venezia Giulia problem for long because on 12 November after resumption of the discussions they approved the French Line as the Italo-Yugoslav frontier and as the *Bulletin* went to press they were considering the Trieste Statute.

The U. S. answer to the Government's diplomatic note concerning Tito's proposal was communicated verbally to Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on Tuesday, 12 November by the U. S. Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. According to a news dispatch from New York printed in *Unità* on 14 November the American statement made the following points:

(1) The impression of an adjournment of the discussions on Trieste in the "Council of Four" is erroneous. The adjournment was in fact due entirely to questions of procedure;

(2) The decisions of the "Council of Four" on the Italo-Yugoslav border and the recommendations of the Paris Conference on the draft statute for Trieste form the bases of the policy of the United States;

(3) The United States will take no initiative in suggesting a change of these decisions;

(4) Yugoslavia and Italy are perfectly free to begin negotiations, but any decision which is not in keeping with those already taken by the "Council of Four" and the Peace Conference must be examined anew by the Four Powers".

## ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS

The second phase of the Italian administrative elections started on 6 October, and ever since, citizens of a certain number of communes have been called to the polls, on Sundays, to elect their local administrations.

The elections of 10 November occasioned great interest among the people, as some of Italy's major cities were affected. The Electoral Office of the Ministry of the Interior has issued official figures; the papers have grasped and displayed them prominently in box type and a statistical diagram is published in the *Bulletin*. Figures contained in the third column of the diagram (Votes received) are the official ones issued by the Electoral Office of the Ministry of the Interior; those contained in the first column (Town) were given in *Italia Nuova*, while the remainder were given in *Unità*.

The independent press was unanimous in affirming that the elections were characterized by three outstanding factors: the abstention of a large percentage of voters, the loss of supporters registered by the Christian-Democrat party in comparison with preceeding elections, and the success above all forecasts obtained by the Uomo Qualunque Front. As an example of abstentionism it may be noted that at Palermo only 37 percent of registered voters cast their ballots against the 91 percent figure scored in the political elections of 2 June.

The Left confirmed its leading position in Turin, Florence, and Genoa, and secured first place in Rome and Naples by pooling its parties in a common bloc. Of these however, the Communists scored the greatest success with the Socialists showing some loss.

As the allotment of seats for the administration of big cities is done under the proportional system, the Rome situation is rather curious as, although having suffered a heavy loss of

(*Continued on page 4*)

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



| TOWN (1) | PARTY | Votes received | Per cent. of votes | Per cent. June 2nd | Seats gained |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rome – 57.50 % | Bloc of People (2) | 189,174 | 36.90 | 24.67 | 30 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 106,587 | 20.78 | 9.64 | 17 |
| | Christian-Democracy | 103,387 | 20.16 | 29.23 | 17 |
| | Republicans | 40,323 | 7.86 | 14.05 | 6 |
| | Monarchists | 36,072 | 7.03 | 9.90 | 5 |
| | Liberals | 25,787 | 5.03 | 7.23 | 4 |
| | Traders | 7,909 | 1.54 | — | 1 |
| | Independent Socialists | 3,601 | 0.70 | — | — |
| Florence – 73.00 % | Communists | 64,040 | 33.81 | 25.89 | 21 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 45,168 | 23.78 | 28.19 | 15 |
| | Socialists | 41,377 | 21.81 | 24.38 | 13 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 26,025 | 13.39 | 9.37 | 8 |
| | Liberals | 6,544 | 3.46 | 4.63 | 2 |
| | Republicans | 4,249 | 2.25 | 2.70 | 1 |
| | Action party | 2,451 | 1.30 | 1.85 | — |
| Naples – 64.92 % | Bloc of People (3) | 73,617 | 31.20 | 17.44 | 25 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 46,851 | 19.82 | 19.11 | 16 |
| | Monarchist party | 44,484 | 18.83 | 7.54 | 15 |
| | Liberals | 35,323 | 14.93 | 24.43 | 12 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 32,169 | 13.61 | 23.60 | 11 |
| | Reconstruction Union | 3,827 | 1.61 | — | 1 |
| Turin – 67.78 % | Communists | 104,623 | 33.23 | 26.40 | 27 |
| | Socialists | 85,277 | 27.09 | 28.61 | 22 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 58,580 | 18.60 | 27.42 | 15 |
| | Liberals | 33,747 | 10.74 | 7.76 | 9 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 26,376 | 8.37 | 4.00 | 7 |
| | Republicans | 3,058 | 0.97 | 0.79 | — |
| | Action party | 2,919 | 0.93 | 1.52 | — |
| | Italian Communists | 323 | 0.10 | — | — |
| Genoa – 66.00 % | Communists | 121,336 | 38.91 | 31.04 | 32 |
| | Socialists | 79,030 | 25.35 | 28.60 | 21 |
| | Christian-Democracy | 65,496 | 21.00 | 25.57 | 17 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 17,882 | 5.73 | 3.06 | 4 |
| | Liberals | 16,325 | 5.24 | 5.61 | 1 |
| | Republicans | 10,536 | 3.39 | 4.26 | 2 |
| | Action party | 1,241 | 0.31 | 0.69 | — |
| Palermo – 36.82 % | Uomo Qualunque | 19,810 | 24.53 | 22.88 | 15 |
| | Monarchists | 16,033 | 19.85 | 16.92 | 12 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 11,697 | 14.47 | 25.28 | 9 |
| | Communists | 9,761 | 12.10 | 2.60 | 7 |
| | Liberals | 9,305 | 11.53 | — | 7 |
| | Socialists | 7,889 | 9.77 | 4.43 | 6 |
| | Reconstruction Union | 3,245 | 3.98 | — | 2 |
| | Independents | 3,627 | 3.74 | — | 2 |

(1) Per cent. of registered electors who cast their ballot.
(2) Including: Communists, Socialists, Actionists and Labor-Democrats.
(3) Including: Communists, Socialists, Actionists and Republicans.

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



votes, the Christian-Democrat party can still control the political color which the administration will assume.

This is caused by the fact that neither the People's Bloc nor the Uomo Qualunque, individually command a sufficient number of seats in the Communal Council to compose a majority unaided. Both the Leftist and Rightist press, which had spared no blows against Christian-Democracy during the electoral campaign, have changed tune and have tried to sell the Christian Democrats on the advisability of their turning either Left or Right, but the Roman Committee of the party "reached the curious conclusion", says *Unità*, "That the task of forming the Communal Council is up to the bloc of People and the Uomo Qualunque, as the Christian Democrat party ran only third in the contest".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that there has been very little change in the food situation in Italy. As of 10 November the stocks of wheat actually on hand amounted to 968,203 tons or enough to cover requirements for 73 days. Stocks in amount of 8,245 have been signalled to arrive during November, but this was not expected materially to affect the number of days supply available.

In the case of fuel, the largest estimate for November coal arrivals is 261,000 tons from the United States and 149,000 tons from all other sources making a total of 410,000 tons. This will result in stocks on hand at the end of November amounting to 402,000 tons. It is estimated that 728,000 tons will arrive during December.

Two tankers of gasoline which had been expected to arrive during the latter half of November have been held up owing to difficulty in obtaining crews. Present stocks of fuel are as follows: motor gasoline 24 days supply, kerosene 35 days supply, diesel oil 24 days supply and fuel oil 60 days supply. All figures are approximate.

The power supply situation appeared to be easing somewhat. Recent rains and the stock pile of coal in Rome for use in thermal plants has considerably improved the availability of power. Any projected power rationing plan would not affect continuous operation of military communication circuits.

* * *

According to *Il Globo*, a commercial agreement was signed this week between Italy and Hungary. The agreement foresees a yearly exchange of 7 million dollars worth of products between the two countries. Among products which Italy will send to Hungary are tools, machines, textiles, rayon, sulphur, mercury, zinc and automobiles. She will receive in turn gasoline, paraffin, vaseline, iron and food stuffs such as beans, barley, eggs and poultry. The agreement is to go into effect next month.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

After the Armistice in 1943, when Italy became a co-belligerent, Italian P. O. W. in the hands of the Allies were given the opportunity of cooperating in the Allied war effort. Those who elected to do so were formed into special companies, given certain privileges—including virtual freedom—and assigned certain duties. These companies were known in the British Army as *cooperators*, and in the U. S. Army as Italian Service Troops. Those transferred to Italy were handed back to the Italian Army some time ago, while those in other parts of the world have been given priority in repatriation.

The term *non-cooperator* is applied to those P. O. W. who did not elect to cooperate with the Allies in their war effort, and therefore remained as normal P. O. W. under the terms of international agreement.

The last of the cooperators—some 722—were repatriated during the past week from India, in the S. S. LANCASHIRE.

Unofficially it is anticipated that a shipment of non-cooperators will arrive for repatriation next week.

Cooperators, as defined above, should not be confused with service units of the co-belligerent Italian Army in Italy specifically allotted to the U. S. and British Armies in rear areas, and known respectively as US and British ITI. These ITI units are rapidly being disbanded pari passu with the redeployment of the Allied Armies. At the moment there are approximately 5,000 US-ITI and 250 BR-ITI employed in Italy, under P. B. S. and G. H. Q. respectively.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The question of salvaging American Merchant shipping sunk in Italian ports is becoming a frequently recurring problem. There have been many requests from Italian firms who wish to undertake this work. On the other hand the Ministry of Marine is anxious to promote harbor

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



clearance with all possible speed. The basic difficulty has been deciding where the authority to make salvage contracts of this kind lies. The U. S. Maritime Commission has been asked to clarify the matter.

A good example illustrating the nature of the problem has occurred in connection with the clearance of the port of Bari. The hulk of the S.S. CHARLES HENDERSON must be removed from that harbor. Unfortunately the ship's cargo consists of 1500 tons of bombs which must be removed before the hulk can be disposed of. Not until permission for the disposal of the bombs has been received from the appropriate authorities, can the ship be sold to private interests for salvage. It is expected, however, that the Maritime Commission will shortly be able to provide the Navy Sub-Commission with information necessary to handle all salvage requests according to a well recognized routine.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Colonel S. W. Miller, (B) is now at Headquarters, Allied Commission and has taken over the Captured Enemy Material Sub-Division.

Major N. M. Harrisson, (B), (Archives Division) and Major D. R. Martin, (B), (Displaced Persons Division) have returned from the United Kingdom on leave.

Captain N. J. Coombs, (B), (G-4, (B) has left for the United Kingdom on leave.

Colonel L. R. Battensby, (B), Director of the Allied Financial Agency has been appointed Financial Advisor to the Allied Commission, in addition to his other duties.

* * *

Twenty enlisted men of the 7106th Regiment have been awarded the Good Conduct Medal. Presentation of the ribbons was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer at a formation held on 13 November.

* * *

The parking lot of the AC Motor Pool was covered with water to a depth of 18 inches as a result of the heavy rains of 13 and 14 November. Motor service however was maintained and by Friday afternoon, the area had been cleared of water by civilian employees and soldiers of the 7106th Regiment.

48

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

NOV 18 1946

November 18, 1946 Vol. III, No. 31

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Scarcely any single incident has recently aroused such heated discussion in the Italian press as that which followed Palmiro Togliatti's visit to Belgrade and the publication in *Unità* of Tito's offer to agree to Trieste's remaining Italian provided Italy ceded Gorizia to Yugoslavia. The offer had been rejected by the Italian Government in a communiqué issued on 7 November.

On the same day Pietro Nenni, Italian Foreign Minister, stated to ANSA news agency that the Government's declaration meant that Italy could not take as a starting point for direct negotiation with Yugoslavia the renunciation of an Italian city but that Italy acknowdged with utmost satisfaction the positive elements which resulted from the news brought by Togliatti. "We are always ready", he said, "to consider with utmost interest any official proposal made to us within the picture of the general peace negotiations which are now taking place at New York. A Locarno of the East is among the goals which the Government intends to reach and it would be not only for Italy and Yugoslavia but also for Europe and the World a solid guarantee of peace".

From this point on the Italian press had its say, with the manner in which the offer was received drawing as much attention as the offer itself.

### Press Reaction.

*Risorgimento Liberale* declared that the Communists must be happy as their party now enjoyed "a kind of extra-territoriality similar to that of sovereign states". Until now, the paper said, the Communist party was lacking only active and passive diplomatic representation. "Now the Communist Party also has the right to start negotiations with foreign countries, unknown to and in defiance of the legitimate Government and therefore has the right to claim the qualification of a sovereign state".

*Italia Nuova* headlined the story "Clumsy Communist Maneuver Against Trieste". "The people will not permit Togliatti to give Gorizia and Trieste to the Slavs", and "Slav Communist maneuver against Trieste".

Enzo Selvaggi in the same paper demanded of the President of the Council of Ministers and the Foreign Minister the answer to two questions: (*a*) "Who authorized Togliatti to deal with things that concern the Italian people exclusively and their representatives in the Government ?" and (*b*) "Who authorized Togliatti to print the result of his dealings with a foreign country without first referring to the Government ?".

### Nenni's Statement.

Foreign Minister Nenni in an electoral speech at Florence on 8 November said: "To reduce the debate now open between us and Yugoslavvia to the Trieste or Gorizia question would be a mistake. The problem must be examined from the general viewpoint of our's and Yugoslavia's interests. Italy and Yugoslavia gained nothing out of the rough manners they used toward each other. On this problem comrade Togliatti has brought a first message which opens the way to successive development and in this sense he rendered a service, even if it should not yield any result in the course of the New York Conference". As to this, *Tempo* remarked that Nenni should not forget that he is Foreign Minister and should have been consistent with the communiqué issued by the Council of Ministers.

*Momento* rather dryly commented on the newspaper polemics to the effect that since the Right accuses those who support Togliatti's thesis as traitors who have sold out to Russian expansionism and since the left accuses those in opposition to Togliatti's plan as traitors who have sold out to the Anglo-Americans, Italy must be divided into two parties sold out either to the East or to the West.

*Messaggero* reported that in U. S. Political circles, Tito's renunciation of Trieste had given the general impression of an advantage gained by Italian diplomacy inasmuch as his previous ar-

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



guments based on statistical, geographical, ethnical and economic grounds had been abandoned.

On 12 November, Ambassador Tarchiani handed a note to the Council of Foreign Ministers, which expressed the official viewpoint of Italy in regard to Tito's proposal. The note stated:

(1) "The Italian Government views in the postponement, resolved at New York of discussions concerning the Venezia Giulia problems, an invitation to direct negotiations between Rome and Belgrade. It therefore asks whether this interpretation is correct.

(2) "Such negotiations after Tito's and Togliatti's declaration seem to be possible.

(3) "These being the facts the Italian Government has no difficulty in starting direct negotiations but with two conditions: (*a*) that if a direct agreement is reached between Rome and Belgrade such agreement be guaranteed by UN; (*b*) that in case an agreement is not reached, what has been resolved by the Conference of 21 remains definitely as granted, and that Tito's acknowledgment of the indisputable Italianity of Trieste be taken into consideration".

### The Postponement.

There seems to have been some confusion as to the alleged postponement of discussions relating to Trieste referred to in the first numbered paragraph of the note. The United Press reported discussion of the Italian Treaty had been postponed, not because of Tito's offer to Italy through Togliatti, but merely because the four wanted to consider at once a proposal having nothing to do with the treaty but relating to disarmament.

The Council of Ministers did not in fact postpone consideration of the Venezia Giulia problem for long because on 12 November after resumption of the discussions they approved the French Line as the Italo-Yugoslav frontier and as the *Bulletin* went to press they were considering the Trieste Statute.

The U. S. answer, to the Government's diplomatic note concerning Tito's proposal was communicated verbally to Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni on Tuesday, 12 November by the U. S. Chargé d'Affaires in Rome, D. McK. Key. According to a news dispatch from New York printed in *Unità* on 14 November the American statement made the following points:

(1) The impression of an adjournment of the discussions on Trieste in the "Council of Four" is erroneous. The adjournment was in fact due entirely to questions of procedure;

(2) The decisions of the "Council of Four" on the Italo-Yugoslav border and the recommendations of the Paris Conference on the draft statute for Trieste form the bases of the policy of the United States;

(3) The United States will take no initiative in suggesting a change of these decisions;

(4) Yugoslavia and Italy are perfectly free to begin negotiations, but any decision which is not in keeping with those already taken by the "Council of Four" and the Peace Conference must be examined anew by the Four Powers".

## ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS

The second phase of the Italian administrative elections started on 6 October, and ever since, citizens of a certain number of communes have been called to the polls, on Sundays, to elect their local administrations.

The elections of 10 November occasioned great interest among the people, as some of Italy's major cities were affected. The Electoral Office of the Ministry of the Interior has issued official figures; the papers have grasped and displayed them prominently in box type and a statistical diagram is published in the *Bulletin*. Figures contained in the third column of the diagram (Votes received) are the official ones issued by the Electoral Office of the Ministry of the Interior; those contained in the first column (Town) were given in *Italia Nuova*, while the remainder were given in *Unità*.

The independent press was unanimous in affirming that the elections were characterized by three outstanding factors: the abstention of a large percentage of voters, the loss of supporters registered by the Christian-Democrat party in comparison with preceding elections, and the success above all forecasts obtained by the Uomo Qualunque Front. As an example of abstentionism it may be noted that at Palermo only 37 percent of registered voters cast their ballots against the 91 percent figure scored in the political elections of 2 June.

The Left confirmed its leading position in Turin, Florence, and Genoa, and secured first place in Rome and Naples by pooling its parties in a common bloc. Of these however, the Communists scored the greatest success with the Socialists showing some loss.

As the allotment of seats for the administration of big cities is done under the proportional system, the Rome situation is rather curious as, although having suffered a heavy loss of

(Continued on page 4)

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



| TOWN (1) | PARTY | Votes received | Per cent. of votes | Per cent. June 2nd | Seats gained |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rome — 57.50 % | Block of People (2) | 189,174 | 36.90 | 24.67 | 30 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 106,587 | 20.78 | 9.64 | 17 |
| | Christian-Democracy | 103,387 | 20.16 | 29.23 | 17 |
| | Republicans | 40,323 | 7.86 | 14.05 | 6 |
| | Monarchists | 36,072 | 7.03 | 9.90 | 5 |
| | Liberals | 25,787 | 5.03 | 7.23 | 4 |
| | Traders | 7,909 | 1.54 | — | 1 |
| | Independent Socialists | 3,601 | 0.70 | — | — |
| Florence — 73.90 % | Communists | 64,040 | 33.81 | 25.89 | 21 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 45,168 | 23.78 | 28.19 | 15 |
| | Socialists | 41,377 | 21.81 | 24.38 | 13 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 26,025 | 13.39 | 9.37 | 8 |
| | Liberals | 6,544 | 3.46 | 4.63 | 2 |
| | Republicans | 4,249 | 2.25 | 2.70 | 1 |
| | Action party | 2,451 | 1.30 | 1.85 | — |
| Naples — 64.92 % | Bloc of People (3) | 73,617 | 31.20 | 17.44 | 25 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 46,851 | 19.82 | 19.11 | 16 |
| | Monarchist party | 44,484 | 18.83 | 7.54 | 15 |
| | Liberals | 35,323 | 14.93 | 24.43 | 12 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 32,169 | 13.61 | 23.60 | 11 |
| | Reconstruction Union | 3,827 | 1.61 | — | 1 |
| Turin — 67.78 % | Communists | 104,623 | 33.23 | 26.40 | 27 |
| | Socialists | 85,277 | 27.09 | 28.61 | 22 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 58,580 | 18.60 | 27.42 | 15 |
| | Liberals | 33,747 | 10.71 | 7.76 | 9 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 26,376 | 8.37 | 4.00 | 7 |
| | Republicans | 3,058 | 0.97 | 0.79 | — |
| | Action party | 2,919 | 0.93 | 1.52 | — |
| | Italian Communists | 323 | 0.10 | — | — |
| Genoa — 66.90 % | Communists | 121,336 | 38.91 | 31.04 | 32 |
| | Socialists | 79,030 | 25.35 | 28.60 | 21 |
| | Christian-Democracy | 65,496 | 21.00 | 25.57 | 17 |
| | Uomo Qualunque | 17,882 | 5.73 | 3.06 | 4 |
| | Liberals | 16,325 | 5.24 | 5.61 | 4 |
| | Republicans | 10,536 | 3.39 | 4.26 | 2 |
| | Action party | 1,241 | 0.31 | 0.69 | — |
| Palermo — 36.82 % | Uomo Qualunque | 19,810 | 24.53 | 22.88 | 15 |
| | Monarchists | 16,033 | 19.85 | 16.92 | 12 |
| | Christian-Democrats | 11,697 | 14.47 | 25.28 | 9 |
| | Communists | 9,761 | 12.10 | 2.60 | 7 |
| | Liberals | 9,305 | 11.53 | — | 7 |
| | Socialists | 7,889 | 9.77 | 4.43 | 6 |
| | Reconstruction Union | 3,215 | 3.98 | — | 2 |
| | Independents | 3,027 | 3.74 | — | 2 |

(1) Per cent. of registered electors who cast their ballot.
(2) Including: Communists, Socialists, Actionists and Labor-Democrats.
(3) Including: Communists, Socialists, Actionists and Republicans.

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



votes, the Christian-Democrat party can still control the political color which the administration will assume.

This is caused by the fact that neither the People's Bloc nor the Uomo Qualunque, individually command a sufficient number of seats in the Commmnal Council to compose a majority unaided. Both the Leftist and Rightist press, which had spared no blows against Christian-Democracy during the electoral campaign, have changed tune and have tried to sell the Christian Democrats on the advisability of their turning either Left or Right, but the Roman Committee of the party "reached the curious conclusion", says *Unità*, "That the task of forming the Communal Council is up to the bloc of People and the Uomo Qualunque, as the Christian Democrat party can only third in the contest".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division reported this week that there has been very little change in the food situation in Italy. As of 10 November the stocks of wheat actually on hand amounted to 908,203 tons or enough to cover requirements for 73 days. Stocks in amount of 8,245 have been signalled to arrive during November, but this was not expected materially to affect the number of days supply available.

In the case of fuel, the largest estimate for November coal arrivals is 261,000 tons from the United States and 149,000 tons from all other sources making a total of 410,000 tons. This will result in stocks on hand at the end of November amounting to 402,000 tons. It is estimated that 728,000 tons will arrive during December.

Two tankers of gasoline which had been expected to arrive during the latter half of November have been held up owing to difficulty in obtaining crews. Present stocks of fuel are as follows: motor gasoline 24 days supply, kerosene 55 days supply, diesel oil 24 days supply and fuel oil 60 days supply. All figures are approximate.

The power supply situation appeared to be easing somewhat. Recent rains and the stock pile of coal in Rome for use in thermal plants has considerably improved the availability of power. Any projected power rationing plan would not affect continuous operation of military communication circuits.

* * *

According to *Il Globo*, a commercial agreement was signed this week between Italy and Hungary. The agreement foresees a yearly exchange of 7 million dollars worth of products between the two countries. Among products which Italy will send to Hungary are tools, machines, textiles, rayon, sulphur, mercury, zinc and automobiles. She will receive in turn gasoline, paraffin, vaseline, iron and food stuffs such as beans, barley, eggs and poultry. The agreement is to go into effect next month.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

After the Armistice in 1943, when Italy became a co-belligerent, Italian P. O. W. in the hands of the Allies were given the opportunity of cooperating in the Allied war effort. Those who elected to do so were formed into special companies, given certain privileges—including virtual freedom—and assigned certain duties. These companies were known in the British Army as *cooperators*, and in the U. S. Army as Italian Service Troops. Those transferred to Italy were handed back to the Italian Army some time ago, while those in other parts of the world have been given priority in repatriation.

The term *non-cooperator* is applied to those P. O. W. who did not elect to cooperate with the Allies in their war effort, and therefore remained as normal P. O. W. under the terms of international agreement.

The last of the cooperators—some 722—were repatriated during the past week from India, in the S. S. LANCASHIRE.

Unofficially it is anticipated that a shipment of non-cooperators will arrive for repatriation next week.

Cooperators, as defined above, should not be confused with service units of the co-belligerent Italian Army in Italy specifically allotted to the U. S. and British Armies in rear areas, and known respectively as US and British ITI. These ITI units are rapidly being disbanded pari passu with the redeployment of the Allied Armies. At the moment there are approximately 5,000 US-ITI and 250 BR-ITI employed in Italy, under P. B. S. and G. H. Q. respectively.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The question of salvaging American Merchant shipping sunk in Italian ports is becoming a frequently recurring problem. There have been many requests from Italian firms who wish to undertake this work. On the other hand the Ministry of Marine is anxious to promote harbor

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



clearance with all possible speed. The basic difficulty has been deciding where the authority to make salvage contracts of this kind lies. The U. S. Maritime Commission has been asked to clarify the matter.

A good example illustrating the nature of the problem has occurred in connection with the clearance of the port of Bari. The hulk of the S.S. CHARLES HENDERSON must be removed from that harbor. Unfortunately the ship's cargo consists of 1500 tons of bombs which must be removed before the hulk can be disposed of. Not until permission for the disposal of the bombs has been received from the appropriate authorities, can the ship be sold to private interests for salvage. It is expected, however, that the Maritime Commission will shortly be able to provide the Navy Sub-Commission with information necessary to handle all salvage requests according to a well recognized routine.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Colonel S. W. Miller, (B) is now at Headquarters, Allied Commission and has taken over the Captured Enemy Material Sub-Division.

Major N. M. Harrisson, (B), (Archives Division) and Major D. R. Martin, (B), (Displaced Persons Division) have returned from the United Kingdom on leave.

Captain N. J. Coombs, (B), (G-4, (B) has left for the United Kingdom on leave.

Colonel L. R. Battensby, (B), Director of the Allied Financial Agency has been appointed Financial Advisor to the Allied Commission, in addition to his other duties.

* * *

Twenty enlisted men of the 7106th Regiment have been awarded the Good Conduct Medal. Presentation of the ribbons was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer at a formation held on 13 November.

* * *

The parking lot of the AC Motor Pool was covered with water to a depth of 18 inches as a result of the heavy rains of 13 and 14 November. Motor service however was maintained and by Friday afternoon, the area had been cleared of water by civilian employees and soldiers of the 7106th Regiment.

474

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

November 9, 1946 Vol. III, No. 30

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The opening of the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in New York City on 4 November attracted the attention of the Italian press and public once more to Italy's fate in the international field. On that day Ambassador Tarchiani handed the official note of the Italian Government dealing with Italy's views on the treaty, to the United States, British, Russian and French representatives. The text of the note was as follows:

"The Government of the Italian Republic, at a moment when the Foreign Ministers of the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France are about to give definite power to the peace treaty with Italy, declares:

(1) "The draft treaty as a whole does not comply with the principles of the Atlantic Charter and with the more general principles which formed the moral foundation of the war fought by the United Nations against nazi-fascism. It ignores de facto Italian co-belligerency, and does not consider sufficiently, either the fight which the vanguard of the Italian people carried out against the fascist dictatorship by preparing the ground for the popular insurrection under the blows of which fascism substantially fell; the loyal participation of the Italian people and their military and partisan corps in the war effort of the United Nations from September 1943 [*Ed. Note:* The Italian papers gave this date as 1942] to the end of the war; or the will of the Italian people definitely to reject the policy, institutions and men who dragged them into the war on Hitler's side, a will which on 2 June last was crowned by the popular decision to found the new State on the principles of Democracy.

(2) "The treaty's solution of the problems relating to the eastern and western frontiers follows strategic and political principles which are in open contrast with the aspirations of the populations concerned and do not offer guarantees for the protection of minorities. The Italian Government insists particularly on following, when fixing the eastern frontier, the criterion of the *ethnical line* agreed upon by the 'Four' at London in September 1945, by holding a plebiscite in the disputed zones. The Italian Government demands the application of this principle also in the possible case of the creation of a Trieste Free Territory, whose frontiers should at least be extended to the unquestionably Italian zones of Parenzo and Pola.

(3) "Italy's advance waiver of her sovereignty over the colonies contemplated by the Treaty, failing any indication of the juridical status which they will be given does not agree with any objective evalnation of the contribution of Italian labor in their improvement and in their future development.

(4) "The frontiers demilitarization and the military clauses of the treaty leave Italy defenseless and in a state of subserviency which affects its very independence. The mutilation of the navy has the character of a sanction, which is unjustifiable on the basis of the contribution it gave in the war at the side of the navies of the United Nations and of the heavy losses suffered during the fight against the common enemy.

(5) "The ensemble of economic and financial burdens relating to war reparations, the right of confiscation of Italian property abroad left to the discretion of each single State, the gratuitous seizure of statal and para-statal investments in favor of some countries, exceed any reasonable limit of Italy's actual capacity to pay. The situation is aggravated further by the burden of the occupation cost and services rendered during three years of Armistice regime, and by the renunciation demanded of Italy of any compensation from Germany for the co-belligerance period during which the hitlerite troops sacked and raided the Italian provinces. The Italian Government points out that in fixing the economic clauses, it is necessary to improve them substantially in order to avoid the danger of the collapse of Italian economy and the lowering to an intolerable

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



point of the workers' living conditions. The Italian Government has already protested against the stipulations of the treaty, which have no foundation of justice. It renews to the Foreign Ministers of United States, Great Britain, Russia, and France the appeal to reconsider the proposal made by the Italian Delegation to the Conference of the 21.

"While reserving to the Constituent Assembly the sovereign rights with regard to the acceptance of the treaty in its final form which it will assume after the Foreign Ministers' decision, the Italian Government reaffirms its upright reservation against a unilateral and unjust judgment failing to consider the claims voiced in this note. Such claims are bound to keep, in any case, their full value in so far as they are imposed by the permanent and fundamental requirements for life and development of the Italian Nation". The note was signed by Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni.

### Press Reaction.

Most of the major Italian papers carried the full text of the note. *Messaggero* headlined the story "Italy asks for the revision of the Peace Treaty for reasons of justice". *Avanti* declared "Our claims are rendered necessary by the basic needs of the Italian people". *Unità* stated, "The Peace Treaty must take into account Italy's contribution to the anti-fascist struggle". *Popolo*'s headline was, "The protest against the treaty in defense of our rights". In a leading article entitled "Invitation to be reasonable" Antonio Bergoni in *Avanti* said that no appeal to kindness had been made in the memorandum. Italy, he declared, did not approach "her head sprinkled with ashes and her naked knees on the frozen earth" but appealing to the solemn principles which constituted the moral basis for the war against nazi-fascism. After two world wars, he declared, international order should not be based upon revenge and hatred.

On 6 November, representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia presented their cases to the Council of Foreign Ministers. As reported by *Tempo*, Stanoje Simic, Vice-President of the Yugoslav Council of Ministers affirmed that: (1) Yugoslavia accepted the eastward enlargement of the Trieste Free Territory, thus giving the Territory an area of 44 square kilometers; (2) Yugoslavia abandoned her claim that only a Yugoslav citizen should be Governor of the Territory and also the demand that a Yugoslav garrison be permanently deployed in Trieste; (3) Yugoslavia considered the French line fixed at Paris to be unacceptable. In this last particular, at least, Italy was in agreement.

Italian Ambassador Tarchiani asked that the Trieste problem be solved by means of a plebescite to be held among the population concerned, and expressed the hope that in any case the Governor of the Free Territory might be vested with very ample powers by the United Nations Security Council. "In this connection", he said, "I must recall to you that the frontier line agreed upon on 3 July 1946 represents a cruel mutilation of the patrimony of the Italian people, insofar as it leaves big masses of our brothers under foreign sovereignty".

### Togliatti's Trip.

Considerable conjecture appeared in the Italian press over a trip made to Belgrade last week by Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party. The purpose of his visit to the Yugoslav capital was not cleared up however, until the Communist leader was interviewed by *Unità* upon his return. Togliatti said that the purpose of his visit to Belgrade was twofold: first he wished to renew his old acquaintance with Marshal Tito and secondly in his capacity as Secretary General of the Communist Party in Italy he wished to ascertain what could be the basis of collaboration between the Italian and Yugoslav people in the interests of peace. Referring to the politically controversial problems that stud Italo-Yugoslav relations, Togliatti said, "Marshal Tito told me that he was disposed to consent that Trieste should belong to Italy, that is under the sovereignty of the Italian Republic if Italy agreed to leave to Yugoslavia the town of Gorizia, which on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav. The only condition which Tito puts is that Trieste should receive within the Italian Republic a really democratic autonomous statute allowing the Trieste citizens to rule their city and their territory according to democratic principles. I think that it is high time to stop exploiting the Trieste question to sow disagreement between the two peoples... and that Marshal Tito's proposal may serve as a basis for the definite solution of all controversial questions between the two countries." The Communist party leader further declared that Marshal Tito had agreed to the immediate return to Italy of the Italian soldiers who are still in Yugoslavia as prisoners of war. He said that to avoid "red tape" and attempts at sabotage from reactionary Italian elements, the Communist Party would appeal to the ANPI (Italian Partisan National

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



Association) "to form a commission to contact the Yugoslav authorities for the practical carrying out of this resolution".

Togliatti concluded the interview by declaring that the Italian people were now in a position to understand that agreement and cooperation with Tito's Yugoslavia was quite possible as the Communists had always claimed. He added that it was now up to the Government to take the necessary steps in order to achieve a concrete agreement. *Unità* headed the story with an eight-column banner stating "Marshal Tito is disposed to leave Trieste to Italy", while the top-page box said; "Long live the Italo-Yugoslav agreement".

In a communiqué issued on 7 November, the Italian Government rejected Tito's Trieste offer as reported by Togliatti, stating that Gorizia was "an integral part of Italian territory and as such was recognized unanimously by the Big Four". The communiqué declared that Gorizia's cession to Yugoslavia could not be considered. *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi said that the possibility of direct negotiations should not be excluded but that Tito's proposals should be discussed in close relation with the peace treaty since the Italo-Yugoslav frontier was an integral part of the treaty. It is interesting to note that as reported by *Messaggero*, Pietro Nenni, Italian Foreign Minister, declared that at Palazzo Chigi, there existed no document which might in any way justify the affirmation that the Foreign Ministry was convinced that the majority of Gorizia's population was Slav. Nenni's statement evidently referred to that of Togliatti in the *Unità* interview in which the Communist leader had declared that the town of Gorizia "on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav...".

### Domestic Matters.

In the case of matters purely domestic the week was rather quiet. On 3 November Alcide De Gasperi, speaking to a meeting of Christian Democrats in connection with the forthcoming municipal elections, took up the recent pact of unity of action signed by the Communists and Socialists. In the course of his speech De Gasperi went on to say that the pact, which is the natural consequence of the Marxist ideology of the two parties, will be opposed by Christian Democracy. He added that if the Socialist and Communist Parties should form one single bloc at the next political elections and should obtain the majority of votes, they would have to assume full responsibility and the Christian Democrats "will move to control and criticize their deeds".

Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and leader of the Socialist Party answered De Gasperi in a speech delivered at Genoa on 4 November. According to *Momento* Nenni referring to the pact declared, "while we want to fight against poverty, unemployment, speculation and neo-fascism—which is seeking to take advantage of poverty and unemployment in order to enter into an open struggle against democracy—my friend De Gasperi shows signs of political anxiety to fight against Marxism".

In a leading article in *Avanti*, Sandro Pertini objected to De Gasperi's alleged feeling that the pact was a danger to liberty. The writer further stated that De Gasperi knew very well that Socialism and Liberty are one and the same thing to the Socialists. He criticized strongly De Gasperi's statement that the Christian Democrats intended to fight the two parties, intimating that this would mean the end of coalition government. The writer declared that the Socialists do not intend to be taken in tow by the other party but are convinced of the necessity of keeping the working classes united so as to be in a position to prevent any return of "reactionary" factors.

### Partisans.

In the matter of the Partisan Resistance Movement, the Government issued a communiqué on 1 November asserting that the findings of the investigation confirmed the necessity of intervention by the public forces. The communiqué stated that four partisans who were held in the Biella zone had declared that leaders of the movement had intimated that arms and ammunitions would arrive at the place before long and that some of the partisans were already armed with automatic pistols and sub-machine guns. It was inferred that the police failure to impound these arms was caused by the fact that the partisans having heard of the arrest of their leaders had enough time to disperse and throw away their arms during the night. *Tempo* commented "One official communiqué draws another and all of them are always less convincing". *Italia Nuova* headlines the story "Embarassed communiqué on the Andreoni case... the government's prose does not succeed in concealing the truth: no evidence of guilt has been reached". Andreoni and other MRP members were released on 2 November by order of the Ministry of the Interior *Tempo* reported, but the paper declared, charges against them were not dropped pending the completion of the investigation.

In his speech of 3 November De Gasperi said that in the proceedings of the Milan Questura

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



there were four statements made by partisans which, "even if there were no other elements show by themselves that it was not a case of a peaceful movement meant to offer work to the unemployed". He said that he did not deny Andreoni or anyone else the right to organize a political party but he did deny them the right to organize a military organization outside the Government of the State. "This Government will never tolerate this, because, and this applies also to other movements, it is resolved to suppress any similar movement in order to safeguard democracy and liberty".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division this week reported that there has been a slight decline in the wheat stocks during the past week. The stocks now on hand are sufficient to maintain the present ration for 72 days. The wheat situation in Venezia Giulia is unchanged. Stocks on hand on 24 October were sufficient to last until 4 December for bread and through November for pasta. Stocks on hand in Udine on 28 October were sufficient to support the bread ration until 7 February and the pasta ration through December. While no definite information is available at the present time, it is estimated that if the stocks in these two areas are combined, there will be sufficient to last until 31 December.

The end of the shipping strike in the United States permitted 100,000 tons of coal to be shipped before the end of October. This will increase the estimated stocks on hand from 265,000 to 365,000 tons. It is hoped that further sailings will increase this figure but no further information is available at the present time.

As to the status of P. O. L. stocks, there is a 30 day supply of motor gasoline with a tanker expected 17 November. Loans from military stocks have been arranged for areas in short supply. Kerosene stocks are at the normal 60 day level. Diesel oil stocks are down to 30 days supply but fuel oil stocks fully cover the normal 60 day target level.

Production of power in Central and Southern Italy has shown a slight improvement but this

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 1/11/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 87,939 | 106.7 | 90,816 | 110.2 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 269 | 70.2 | 299 | 78.1 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 233,829 | 71.6 | 235,453 | 72.1 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 166 | 4.8 | 172 | 5.0 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 463,984 | 306,281 | 75.8 | 307,866 | 76.2 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 514,645 | 89.5 | 516,027 | 89.8 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,143,120 | 82.1 | 1,150,633 | 82.7 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 195,039 | 106.8 | 195,902 | 107.3 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 252,184 | 100.0 | 252,354 | 100.1 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,643 | 103.5 | 106,900 | 103.8 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,602 | 84.6 | 86,837 | 84.8 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 640,468 | 100.0 | 641,993 | 100.3 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 71,056 | 80.6 | 71,361 | 80.9 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,717 | 62.9 | 28,933 | 63.3 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 78,423 | 78.0 | 79,003 | 78.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,597 | 106.8 | 43,645 | 106.9 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,394 | 45.5 | 13,489 | 45.8 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 235,187 | 77.2 | 236,431 | 77.6 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 76,449 | 38.5 | 77,763 | 39.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,717 | 88.4 | 37,845 | 88.7 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 114,166 | 47.3 | 115,608 | 47.9 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 | 2,144,665 | 83.2 |

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



is counterbalanced by a seasonable increase in consumption and decrease in supply from the North.

Liguria with a jump of 7.9 per cent. led all regions this week in the wheat amassing program. The figures furnished by UNRRA are given as usual in tabulated form. Results to date show that 83.2 per cent. of the goal has been collected throughout Italy. Five regions have now exceeded their amassing goals including three of the four regions of Central Italy. Central Italy has amassed 100.3 per cent. of its goal. Investigations regarding retentions are being completed and it is expected that revisions will be made accordingly.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Air Vice Marshal L. Darvall, C.B., M.C., A.O.C., A.H.Q. Italy, visited the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 7 November to discuss general policy matters with the Director.

Approval has been given for the establishment of a Brazilian Civil Air Line between Brazil and Italy, to operate weekly, subject to the signing in Washington of the Hold Harmless Agreement for use of Ciampino Airfield.

Representatives from M.A.A.C. (Mediterranean Allied Air Committee) Secretariat and G-3 at A.F.H.Q. made a staff visit to the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 5 November.

Squadron Leader A. W. Ray, Chief Signals Officer, visited Udine with Major Pelaci of the Italian Air Ministry to discuss arrangements for training of selected I.A.F. personnel in new and up to date equipment. They also arranged for an R.A.F. fitting party from the north to complete the installation of VHF, HF and HF/DF equipment at Linate airfield, Milan.

F/Lt. F. Reid and Lt. P. Cole, Air II and IV, respectively, visited R.A.F. and I.A.F. installations at Catania, Sicily and the British Overseas Airways Corporation and I.A.F. seaplane bases at Augusta, Sicily, on 5 and 6 November.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

There is nothing to report on the activities of the Italian Army beyond the normal training and guard duties, which continue throughout Italy. Recruits under training at the Territorial Training Centres are due to be posted to their units at the end of November.

Officers of the Mission recently visited Bologna, to discuss with the Italian Army Staff the technical side of motor workshop organization for the Italian Army. The general principles have been agreed upon, and some progress has been made in the establishment of base workshops. Although a good deal of essential work is being done, output of the required magnitude is handicapped by damaged workshops, lack of raw materials and spare parts, and lack of funds with which to pay technical employees.

During the past week 2,500 Italian P.O.W. were repatriated from India, 102 from French North Africa, and some 70 from the Middle East.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean Station has approved the transfer of an Italian tanker, now under construction at the Ansaldo Sestri Yards, to the Norwegian Government in exchange for two dry cargo vessels. The dry cargo vessels are not to be over 20 years of age, and must be from 7000 to 9000 tons deadweight.

Problems involving the ownership and disposition of various types of small craft have occupied the attention of the Navy Sub-Commission recently. In the process of cleaning Italian ports and harbors, long sunken amphibious boats of various descriptions have been recovered which, owing to long immersion are without any certain indication of original ownership other than that they are Allied property. The urgent need for disposing of recovered wrecks has had to be balanced against the necessity of determining the original ownership in order that proper authority may be obtained for their disposition. Even more complicated, however, are the intricacies arising from small power boats, formerly requisitioned by the Italian Government and then acquired by the Allies in various Italian and Italian Colonial ports. Many of the former owners are now pressing for the return of these craft pointing out that as fishermen, or small carriers, their livelihood depends on their regaining their property. Unfortunately it is not easy, under present conditions, to determine speedily the rights of all parties involved in each case. However a great deal of progress has been made in this field recently.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Colonel James De B. Walback, (A), and Colonel Harry A. Kendall, (A), have recently been assigned to the Economic Division.

* * *

Captain Charles E. de Saro, (A), (Displaced Persons Division), was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon on 18 September 1946.

0930

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

NOV 12 1946

Vol. III, No. 30

November 9, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The opening of the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in New York City on 4 November attracted the attention of the Italian press and public once more to Italy's fate in the international field. On that day Ambassador Tarchiani handed the official note of the Italian Government dealing with Italy's views on the treaty, to the United States, British, Russian and French representatives. The text of the note was as follows:

"The Government of the Italian Republic, at a moment when the Foreign Ministers of the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France are about to give definite power to the peace treaty with Italy, declares:

(1) "The draft treaty as a whole does not comply with the principles of the Atlantic Charter and with the more general principles which formed the moral foundation of the war fought by the United Nations against nazi-fascism. It ignores de facto Italian co-belligerency, and does not consider sufficiently, either the fight which the vanguard of the Italian people carried out against the fascist dictatorship by preparing the ground for the popular insurrection under the blows of which fascism substantially fell; the loyal participation of the Italian people and their military and partisan corps in the war effort of the United Nations from September 1943 [*Ed. Note:* The Italian papers gave this date as 1942] to the end of the war; or the will of the Italian people definitely to reject the policy, institutions and men who dragged them into the war on Hitler's side, a will which on 2 June last was crowned by the popular decision to found the new State on the principles of Democracy.

(2) "The treaty's solution of the problems relating to the eastern and western frontiers follows strategic and political principles which are in open contrast with the aspirations of the populations concerned and do not offer guarantees for the protection of minorities. The Italian Government insists particularly on following, when fixing the eastern frontier, the criterion of the *ethnical line* agreed upon by the 'Four' at London in September 1945, by holding a plebiscite in the disputed zones. The Italian Government demands the application of this principle also in the possible case of the creation of a Trieste Free Territory, whose frontiers should at least be extended to the unquestionably Italian zones of Parenzo and Pola.

(3) "Italy's advance waiver of her sovereignty over the colonies contemplated by the Treaty, failing any indication of the juridical status which they will be given does not agree with any objective evaluation of the contribution of Italian labor in their improvement and in their future development.

(4) "The frontiers demilitarization and the military clauses of the treaty leave Italy defenseless and in a state of subserviency which affects its very independence. The mutilation of the navy has the character of a sanction, which is unjustifiable on the basis of the contribution it gave in the war at the side of the navies of the United Nations and of the heavy losses suffered during the fight against the common enemy.

(5) "The ensemble of economic and financial burdens relating to war reparations, the right of confiscation of Italian property abroad left to the discretion of each single State, the gratuitous seizure of statal and para-statal investments in favor of some countries, exceed any reasonable limit of Italy's actual capacity to pay. The situation is aggravated further by the burden of the occupation cost and services rendered during three years of Armistice regime, and by the renunciation demanded of Italy of any compensation from Germany for the co-belligerance period during which the hitlerite troops sacked and raided the Italian provinces. The Italian Government points out that in fixing the economic clauses, it is necessary to improve them substantially in order to avoid the danger of the collapse of Italian economy and the lowering to an intolerable

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



point of the workers' living conditions. The Italian Government has already protested against the stipulations of the treaty, which have no foundation of justice. It renews to the Foreign Ministers of United States, Great Britain, Russia, and France the appeal to reconsider the proposal made by the Italian Delegation to the Conference of the 21.

"While reserving to the Constituent Assembly the sovereign rights with regard to the acceptance of the treaty in its final form which it will assume after the Foreign Ministers' decision, the Italian Government reaffirms its upright reservation against a unilateral and unjust judgment failing to consider the claims voiced in this note. Such claims are bound to keep, in any case, their full value in so far as they are imposed by the permanent and fundamental requirements for life and development of the Italian Nation". The note was signed by Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni.

### Press Reaction.

Most of the major Italian papers carried the full text of the note. *Messaggero* headlined the story "Italy asks for the revision of the Peace Treaty for reasons of justice". *Avanti* declared "Our claims are rendered necessary by the basic needs of the Italian people". *Unità* stated, "The Peace Treaty must take into account Italy's contribution to the anti-fascist struggle". *Popolo*'s headline was, "The protest against the treaty in defense of our rights". In a leading article entitled "Invitation to be reasonable" Antonio Bergoni in *Avanti* said that no appeal to kindness had been made in the memorandum. Italy, he declared, did not approach "her head sprinkled with ashes and her naked knees on the frozen earth" but appealing to the solemn principles which constituted the moral basis for the war against nazi-fascism. After two world wars, he declared, international order should not be based upon revenge and hatred.

On 6 November, representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia presented their cases to the Council of Foreign Ministers. As reported by *Tempo*, Stanoje Simic, Vice-President of the Yugoslav Council of Ministers affirmed that: (1) Yugoslavia accepted the eastward enlargement of the Trieste Free Territory, thus giving the Territory an area of 44 square kilometers; (2) Yugoslavia abandoned her claim that only a Yugoslav citizen should be Governor of the Territory and also the demand that a Yugoslav garrison be permanently deployed in Trieste; (3) Yugoslavia considered the French line fixed at Paris to be unacceptable. In this last particular, at least, Italy was in agreement.

Italian Ambassador Tarchiani asked that the Trieste problem be solved by means of a plebiscite to be held among the population concerned, and expressed the hope that in any case the Governor of the Free Territory might be vested with very ample powers by the United Nations Security Council. "In this connection", he said, "I must recall to you that the frontier line agreed upon on 3 July 1946 represents a cruel mutilation of the patrimony of the Italian people, insofar as it leaves big masses of our brothers under foreign sovereignty".

### Togliatti's Trip.

Considerable conjecture appeared in the Italian press over a trip made to Belgrade last week by Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party. The purpose of his visit to the Yugoslav capital was not cleared up however, until the Communist leader was interviewed by *Unità* upon his return. Togliatti said that the purpose of his visit to Belgrade was twofold: first he wished to renew his old acquaintance with Marshal Tito and secondly in his capacity as Secretary General of the Communist Party in Italy he wished to ascertain what could be the basis of collaboration between the Italian and Yugoslav people in the interests of peace. Referring to the politically controversial problems that stud Italo-Yugoslav relations, Togliatti said, "Marshal Tito told me that he was disposed to consent that Trieste should belong to Italy, that is under the sovereignty of the Italian Republic if Italy agreed to leave to Yugoslavia the town of Gorizia, which on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav. The only condition which Tito puts is that Trieste should receive within the Italian Republic a really democratic autonomous statute allowing the Trieste citizens to rule their city and their territory according to democratic principles. I think that it is high time to stop exploiting the Trieste question to sow disagreement between the two peoples... and that Marshal Tito's proposal may serve as a basis for the definite solution of all controversial questions between the two countries." The Communist party leader further declared that Marshal Tito had agreed to the immediate return to Italy of the Italian soldiers who are still in Yugoslavia as prisoners of war. He said that to avoid "red tape" and attempts at sabotage from reactionary Italian elements, the Communist Party would appeal to the ANPI (Italian Partisan National

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



Association) "to form a commission to contact the Yugoslav authorities for the practical carrying out of this resolution".

Togliatti concluded the interview by declaring that the Italian people were now in a position to understand that agreement and cooperation with Tito's Yugoslavia was quite possible as the Communists had always claimed. He added that it was now up to the Government to take the necessary steps in order to achieve a concrete agreement. *Unità* headed the story with an eight-column banner stating "Marshal Tito is disposed to leave Trieste to Italy", while the top-page box said; "Long live the Italo-Yugoslav agreement".

In a communiqué issued on 7 November, the Italian Government rejected Tito's Trieste offer as reported by Togliatti, stating that Gorizia was "an integral part of Italian territory and as such was recognized unanimously by the Big Four". The communiqué declared that Gorizia's cession to Yugoslavia could not be considered. *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi said that the possibility of direct negotiations should not be excluded but that Tito's proposals should be discussed in close relation with the peace treaty since the Italo-Yugoslav frontier was an integral part of the treaty. It is interesting to note that as reported by *Messaggero*, Pietro Nenni, Italian Foreign Minister, declared that at Palazzo Chigi, there existed no document which might in any way justify the affirmation that the Foreign Ministry was convinced that the majority of Gorizia's population was Slav. Nenni's statement evidently referred to that of Togliatti in the *Unità* interview in which the Communist leader had declared that the town of Gorizia "on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav...".

### Domestic Matters.

In the case of matters purely domestic the week was rather quiet. On 3 November Alcide De Gasperi, speaking to a meeting of Christian Democrats in connection with the forthcoming municipal elections, took up the recent pact of unity of action signed by the Communists and Socialists. In the course of his speech De Gasperi went on to say that the pact, which is the natural consequence of the Marxist ideology of the two parties, will be opposed by Christian Democracy. He added that if the Socialist and Communist Parties should form one single bloc at the next political elections and should obtain the majority of votes, they would have to assume full responsibility and the Christian Democrats "will move to control and criticize their deeds".

Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and leader of the Socialist Party answered De Gasperi in a speech delivered at Genoa on 4 November. According to *Momento Sera* referring to the pact declared, "while we want to fight against poverty, unemployment, speculation and neo-fascism—which is seeking to take advantage of poverty and unemployment in order to enter into an open struggle against democracy—my friend De Gasperi shows signs of political anxiety to fight against Marxism".

In a leading article in *Avanti*, Sandro Pertini objected to De Gasperi's alleged feeling that the pact was a danger to liberty. The writer further stated that De Gasperi knew very well that socialism and liberty are one and the same thing to the Socialists. He criticized strongly De Gasperi's statement that the Christian Democrats intended to fight the two parties, intimating that this would mean the end of coalition government. The writer declared that the Socialists do not intend to be taken in tow by the other party but are convinced of the necessity of keeping the working classes united so as to be in a position to prevent any return of "reactionary" factors.

### Partisans.

In the matter of the Partisan Resistance Movement, the Government issued a communiqué on 1 November asserting that the findings of the investigation confirmed the necessity of intervention by the public forces. The communiqué stated that four partisans who were held in the Biella zone had declared that leaders of the movement had intimated that arms and ammunitions would arrive at the place before long and that some of the partisans were already armed with automatic pistols and sub-machine guns. It was inferred that the police failure to unearth these arms was caused by the fact that the partisans having heard of the arrest of their leaders had enough time to disperse and throw away their arms during the night. *Tempo* commented "One official communiqué draws another and all of them are always less convincing". *Italia Nuova* headlines the story "Embarrassed communiqué on the Andreoni case... the government's prose does not succeed in concealing the truth: no evidence of guilt has been reached". Andreoni and other MRP members were released on 2 November by order of the Ministry of the Interior *Tempo* reported, but the paper declared, charges against them were not dropped pending the completion of the investigation.

In his speech of 3 November De Gasperi said that in the proceedings of the Milan Questura

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



there were four statements made by partisans which, "even if there were no other elements show by themselves that it was not a case of a peaceful movement meant to offer work to the unemployed". He said that he did not deny Andreoni or anyone else the right to organize a political party but he did deny them the right to organize a military organization outside the Government of the State. "This Government will never tolerate this, because, and this applies also to other movements, it is resolved to suppress any similar movement in order to safeguard democracy and liberty".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division this week reported that there has been a slight decline in the wheat stocks during the past week. The stocks now on hand are sufficient to maintain the present ration for 72 days. The wheat situation in Venezia Giulia is unchanged. Stocks on hand on 24 October were sufficient to last until 4 December for bread and through November for pasta. Stocks on hand in Udine on 28 October were sufficient to support the bread ration until 7 February and the pasta ration through December. While no definite information is available at the present time, it is estimated that if the stocks in these two areas are combined, there will be sufficient to last until 31 December.

The end of the shipping strike in the United States permitted 100,000 tons of coal to be shipped before the end of October. This will increase the estimated stocks on hand from 265,000 to 365,000 tons. It is hoped that further sailings will increase this figure but no further information is available at the present time.

As to the status of P. O. L. stocks, there is a 30 day supply of motor gasoline with a tanker expected 17 November. Loans from military stocks have been arranged for areas in short supply. Kerosene stocks are at the normal 60 day level. Diesel oil stocks are down to 30 days supply but fuel oil stocks fully cover the normal 60 day target level.

Production of power in Central and Southern Italy has shown a slight improvement but this

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 1/11/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 87,939 | 106.7 | 90,816 | 110.2 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 269 | 70.2 | 299 | 78.1 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 233,829 | 71.6 | 235,453 | 72.1 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 166 | 4.8 | 172 | 5.0 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 306,281 | 75.8 | 307,866 | 76.2 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 514,645 | 89.5 | 516,027 | 89.8 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 | 1,150,633 | 82.7 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 195,039 | 106.8 | 195,902 | 107.3 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 252,184 | 100.0 | 252,354 | 100.1 |
| Umbria | 212,600 | 103,000 | 106,643 | 103.5 | 106,900 | 103.8 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,602 | 84.6 | 86,837 | 84.8 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 640,468 | 100.0 | 641,993 | 100.3 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 71,056 | 80.6 | 71,361 | 80.9 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,717 | 62.9 | 28,933 | 63.3 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 78,423 | 78.0 | 79,003 | 78.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,597 | 106.8 | 43,645 | 106.9 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,394 | 45.5 | 13,489 | 45.8 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 235,187 | 77.2 | 236,431 | 77.6 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 76,449 | 38.5 | 77,763 | 39.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,717 | 88.4 | 37,845 | 88.7 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 114,166 | 47.3 | 115,608 | 47.9 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 | 2,144,665 | 83.2 |

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



is counterbalanced by a seasonable increase in consumption and decrease in supply from the North.

Liguria with a jump of 7.9 per cent. led all regions this week in the wheat amassing program. The figures furnished by UNRRA are given as usual in tabulated form. Results to date show that 83.2 per cent. of the goal has been collected throughout Italy. Five regions have now exceeded their amassing goals including three of the four regions of Central Italy. Central Italy has amassed 100.3 per cent. of its goal. Investigations regarding retentions are being completed and it is expected that revisions will be made accordingly.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Air Vice Marshal L. Darvall, C.B., M.C., A.O.C., A.H.Q. Italy, visited the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 7 November to discuss general policy matters with the Director.

Approval has been given for the establishment of a Brazilian Civil Air Line between Brazil and Italy, to operate weekly, subject to the signing in Washington of the Hold Harmless Agreement for use of Ciampino Airfield.

Representatives from M.A.A.C. (Mediterranean Allied Air Committee) Secretariat and G-3 at A.F.H.Q. made a staff visit to the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 5 November.

Squadron Leader A. W. Ray, Chief Signals Officer, visited Udine with Major Pelaci of the Italian Air Ministry to discuss arrangements for training of selected I.A.F. personnel in new and up to date equipment. They also arranged for an R.A.F. fitting party from the north to complete the installation of VHF, HF and HF/DF equipment at Linate airfield, Milan.

F/Lt. F. Reid and Lt. P. Cole, Air II and IV, respectively, visited R.A.F. and I.A.F. installations at Catania, Sicily and the British Oversens Airways Corporation and I.A.F. seaplane bases at Augusta, Sicily, on 5 and 6 November.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

There is nothing to report on the activities of the Italian Army beyond the normal training and guard duties, which continue throughout Italy. Recruits under training at the Territorial Training Centres are due to be posted to their units at the end of November.

Officers of the Mission recently visited Bologna, to discuss with the Italian Army Staff the technical side of motor workshop organization for the Italian Army. The general principles have been agreed upon, and some progress has been made in the establishment of base workshops. Although a good deal of essential work is being done, output of the required magnitude is handicapped by damaged workshops, lack of raw materials and spare parts, and lack of funds with which to pay technical employees.

During the past week 2,500 Italian P.O.W. were repatriated from India, 102 from French North Africa, and some 70 from the Middle East.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean Station has approved the transfer of an Italian tanker, now under construction at the Ansaldo Sestri Yards, to the Norwegian Government in exchange for two dry cargo vessels. The dry cargo vessels are not to be over 20 years of age, and must be from 7000 to 9000 tons deadweight.

Problems involving the ownership and disposition of various types of small craft have occupied the attention of the Navy Sub-Commission recently. In the process of cleaning Italian ports and harbors, long sunken amphibious boats of various descriptions have been recovered which, owing to long immersion are without any certain indication of original ownership other than that they are Allied property. The urgent need for disposing of recovered wrecks has had to be balanced against the necessity of determining the original ownership in order that proper authority may be obtained for their disposition. Even more complicated, however, are the intricacies arising from small power boats, formerly requisitioned by the Italian Government and then acquired by the Allies in various Italian and Italian Colonial ports. Many of the former owners are now pressing for the return of these craft pointing out that as fishermen, or small carriers, their livelihood depends on their regaining their property. Unfortunately it is not easy, under present conditions, to determine specifically the rights of all parties involved in each case. However a great deal of progress has been made in this field recently.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Colonel James De B. Walbach, (A), and Colonel Harry A. Kendall, (A), have recently been assigned to the Economic Division.

* * *

Captain Charles E. de Saro, (A), (Displaced Persons Division), was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon on 18 September 1946.

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

November 9, 1946

Vol. III, No. 30

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The opening of the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in New York City on 4 November attracted the attention of the Italian press and public once more to Italy's fate in the international field. On that day Ambassador Tarchiani handed the official note of the Italian Government dealing with Italy's views on the treaty, to the United States, British, Russian and French representatives. The text of the note was as follows:

"The Government of the Italian Republic, at a moment when the Foreign Ministers of the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France are about to give definite power to the peace treaty with Italy, declares:

(1) "The draft treaty as a whole does not comply with the principles of the Atlantic Charter and with the more general principles which formed the moral foundation of the war fought by the United Nations against nazi-fascism. It ignores de facto Italian co-belligerency, and does not consider sufficiently, either the fight which the vanguard of the Italian people carried out against the fascist dictatorship by preparing the ground for the popular insurrection under the blows of which fascism substantially fell; the loyal participation of the Italian people and their military and partisan corps in the war effort of the United Nations from September 1943 [*Ed. Note:* The Italian papers gave this date as 1942] to the end of the war; or the will of the Italian people definitely to reject the policy, institutions and men who dragged them into the war on Hitler's side, a will which on 2 June last was crowned by the popular decision to found the new State on the principles of Democracy.

(2) "The treaty's solution of the problems relating to the eastern and western frontiers follows strategic and political principles which are in open contrast with the aspirations of the populations concerned and do not offer guarantees for the protection of minorities. The Italian Government insists particularly on following, when fixing the eastern frontier, the criterion of the *ethnical line* agreed upon by the 'Four' at London in September 1945, by holding a plebiscite in the disputed zones. The Italian Government demands the application of this principle also in the possible case of the creation of a Trieste Free Territory, whose frontiers should at least be extended to the unquestionably Italian zones of Parenzo and Pola.

(3) "Italy's advance waiver of her sovereignty over the colonies contemplated by the Treaty, failing any indication of the juridical status which they will be given does not agree with any objective evaluation of the contribution of Italian labor in their improvement and in their future development.

(4) "The frontiers demilitarization and the military clauses of the treaty leave Italy defenseless and in a state of subserviency which affects its very independence. The mutilation of the navy has the character of a sanction, which is unjustifiable on the basis of the contribution it gave in the war at the side of the navies of the United Nations and of the heavy losses suffered during the fight against the common enemy.

(5) "The ensemble of economic and financial burdens relating to war reparations, the right of confiscation of Italian property abroad left to the discretion of each single State, the gratuitous seizure of statal and para-statal investments in favor of some countries, exceed any reasonable limit of Italy's actual capacity to pay. The situation is aggravated further by the burden of the occupation cost and services rendered during three years of Armistice regime, and by the renunciation demanded of Italy of any compensation from Germany for the co-belligerance period during which the hitlerite troops sacked and raided the Italian provinces. The Italian Government points out that in fixing the economic clauses, it is necessary to improve them substantially in order to avoid the danger of the collapse of Italian economy and the lowering to an intolerable

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



point of the workers' living conditions. The Italian Government has already protested against the stipulations of the treaty, which have no foundation of justice. It renews to the Foreign Ministers of United States, Great Britain, Russia, and France the appeal to reconsider the proposal made by the Italian Delegation to the Conference of the 21.

"While reserving to the Constituent Assembly the sovereign rights with regard to the acceptance of the treaty in its final form which it will assume after the Foreign Ministers' decision, the Italian Government reaffirms its upright reservation against a unilateral and unjust judgment failing to consider the claims voiced in this note. Such claims are bound to keep, in any case, their full value in so far as they are imposed by the permanent and fundamental requirements for life and development of the Italian Nation". The note was signed by Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni.

### Press Reaction.

Most of the major Italian papers carried the full text of the note. *Messaggero* headlined the story "Italy asks for the revision of the Peace Treaty for reasons of justice". *Avanti* declared "Our claims are rendered necessary by the basic needs of the Italian people". *Unità* stated, "The Peace Treaty must take into account Italy's contribution to the anti-fascist struggle". *Popolo*'s headline was, "The protest against the treaty in defense of our rights". In a leading article entitled "Invitation to be reasonable" Antonio Bergoni in *Avanti* said that no appeal to kindness had been made in the memorandum. Italy, he declared, did not approach "her head sprinkled with ashes and her naked knees on the frozen earth" but appealing to the solemn principles which constituted the moral basis for the war against nazi-fascism. After two world wars, he declared, international order should not be based upon revenge and hatred.

On 6 November, representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia presented their cases to the Council of Foreign Ministers. As reported by *Tempo*, Stanoje Simic, Vice-President of the Yugoslav Council of Ministers affirmed that: (1) Yugoslavia accepted the eastward enlargement of the Trieste Free Territory, thus giving the Territory an area of 44 square kilometers; (2) Yugoslavia abandoned her claim that only a Yugoslav citizen should be Governor of the Territory and also the demand that a Yugoslav garrison be permanently deployed in Trieste; (3) Yugoslavia considered the French line fixed at Paris to be unacceptable. In this last particular, at least, Italy was in agreement.

Italian Ambassador Tarchiani asked that the Trieste problem be solved by means of a plebescite to be held among the population concerned, and expressed the hope that in any case the Governor of the Free Territory might be vested with very ample powers by the United Nations Security Council. "In this connection", he said, "I must recall to you that the frontier line agreed upon on 3 July 1946 represents a cruel mutilation of the patrimony of the Italian people, insofar as it leaves big masses of our brothers under foreign sovereignty".

### Togliatti's Trip.

Considerable conjecture appeared in the Italian press over a trip made to Belgrade last week by Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party. The purpose of his visit to the Yugoslav capital was not cleared up however, until the Communist leader was interviewed by *Unità* upon his return. Togliatti said that the purpose of his visit to Belgrade was twofold: first he wished to renew his old acquaintance with Marshal Tito and secondly in his capacity as Secretary General of the Communist Party in Italy he wished to ascertain what could be the basis of collaboration between the Italian and Yugoslav people in the interests of peace. Referring to the politically controversial problems that stud Italo-Yugoslav relations, Togliatti said, "Marshal Tito told me that he was disposed to consent that Trieste should belong to Italy, that is under the sovereignty of the Italian Republic if Italy agreed to leave to Yugoslavia the town of Gorizia, which on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav. The only condition which Tito puts is that Trieste should receive within the Italian Republic a really democratic autonomous statute allowing the Trieste citizens to rule their city and their territory according to democratic principles. I think that it is high time to stop exploiting the Trieste question to sow disagreement between the two peoples... and that Marshal Tito's proposal may serve as a basis for the definite solution of all controversial questions between the two countries." The Communist party leader further declared that Marshal Tito had agreed to the immediate return to Italy of the Italian soldiers who are still in Yugoslavia as prisoners of war. He said that to avoid "red tape" and attempts at sabotage from reactionary Italian elements, the Communist Party would appeal to the ANPI (Italian Partisan National

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



Association) "to form a commission to contact the Yugoslav authorities for the practical carrying out of this resolution".

Togliatti concluded the interview by declaring that the Italian people were now in a position to understand that agreement and cooperation with Tito's Yugoslavia was quite possible as the Communists had always claimed. He added that it was now up to the Government to take the necessary steps in order to achieve a concrete agreement. *Unità* headed the story with an eight-column banner stating "Marshal Tito is disposed to leave Trieste to Italy", while the top-page box said; "Long live the Italo-Yugoslav agreement".

In a communiqué issued on 7 November, the Italian Government rejected Tito's Trieste offer as reported by Togliatti, stating that Gorizia was "an integral part of Italian territory and as such was recognized unanimously by the Big Four". The communiqué declared that Gorizia's cession to Yugoslavia could not be considered. *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi said that the possibility of direct negotiations should not be excluded but that Tito's proposals should be discussed in close relation with the peace treaty since the Italo-Yugoslav frontier was an integral part of the treaty. It is interesting to note that as reported by *Messaggero*, Pietro Nenni, Italian Foreign Minister, declared that at Palazzo Chigi, there existed no document which might in any way justify the affirmation that the Foreign Ministry was convinced that the majority of Gorizia's population was Slav. Nenni's statement evidently referred to that of Togliatti in the *Unità* interview in which the Communist leader had declared that the town of Gorizia "on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav...".

### Domestic Matters.

In the case of matters purely domestic the week was rather quiet. On 3 November Alcide De Gasperi, speaking to a meeting of Christian Democrats in connection with the forthcoming municipal elections, took up the recent pact of unity of action signed by the Communists and Socialists. In the course of his speech De Gasperi went on to say that the pact, which is the natural consequence of the Marxist ideology of the two parties, will be opposed by Christian Democracy. He added that if the Socialist and Communist Parties should form one single bloc at the next political elections and should obtain the majority of votes, they would have to assume full responsibility and the Christian Democrats "will move to control and criticize their deeds".

Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and leader of the Socialist Party answered De Gasperi in a speech delivered at Genoa on 4 November. According to *Momento* Nenni referring to the pact declared, "while we want to fight against poverty, unemployment, speculation and neo-fascism—which is seeking to take advantage of poverty and unemployment in order to enter into an open struggle against democracy—my friend De Gasperi shows signs of political anxiety to fight against Marxism".

In a leading article in *Avanti*, Sandro Pertini objected to De Gasperi's alleged feeling that the pact was a danger to liberty. The writer further stated that De Gasperi knew very well that Socialism and Liberty are one and the same thing to the Socialists. He criticized strongly De Gasperi's statement that the Christian Democrats intended to fight the two parties, intimating that this would mean the end of coalition government. The writer declared that the Socialists do not intend to be taken in tow by the other party but are convinced of the necessity of keeping the working classes united so as to be in a position to prevent any return of "reactionary" factors.

### Partisans.

In the matter of the Partisan Resistance Movement, the Government issued a communiqué on 1 November asserting that the findings of the investigation confirmed the necessity of intervention by the public forces. The communiqué stated that four partisans who were held in the Biella zone had declared that leaders of the movement had intimated that arms and ammunitions would arrive at the place before long and that some of the partisans were already armed with automatic pistols and sub-machine guns. It was inferred that the police failure to impound these arms was caused by the fact that the partisans having heard of the arrest of their leaders had enough time to disperse and throw away their arms during the night. *Tempo* commented "One official communiqué draws another and all of them are always less convincing". *Italia Nuova* headlines the story "Embarassed communiqué on the Andreoni case... the government's prose does not succeed in concealing the truth: no evidence of guilt has been reached". Andreoni and other MRP members were released on 2 November by order of the Ministry of the Interior *Tempo* reported, but the paper declared, charges against them were not dropped pending the completion of the investigation.

In his speech of 3 November De Gasperi said that in the proceedings of the Milan Questura

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



there were four statements made by partisans which, "even if there were no other elements show by themselves that it was not a case of a peaceful movement meant to offer work to the unemployed". He said that he did not deny Andreoni or anyone else the right to organize a political party but he did deny them the right to organize a military organization outside the Government of the State. "This Government will never tolerate this, because, and this applies also to other movements, it is resolved to suppress any similar movement in order to safeguard democracy and liberty".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division this week reported that there has been a slight decline in the wheat stocks during the past week. The stocks now on hand are sufficient to maintain the present ration for 72 days. The wheat situation in Venezia Giulia is unchanged. Stocks on hand on 24 October were sufficient to last until 4 December for bread and through November for pasta. Stocks on hand in Udine on 28 October were sufficient to support the bread ration until 7 February and the pasta ration through December. While no definite information is available at the present time, it is estimated that if the stocks in these two areas are combined, there will be sufficient to last until 31 December.

The end of the shipping strike in the United States permitted 100,000 tons of coal to be shipped before the end of October. This will increase the estimated stocks on hand from 265,000 to 365,000 tons. It is hoped that further sailings will increase this figure but no further information is available at the present time.

As to the status of P. O. L. stocks, there is a 30 day supply of motor gasoline with a tanker expected 17 November. Loans from military stocks have been arranged for areas in short supply. Kerosene stocks are at the normal 60 day level. Diesel oil stocks are down to 30 days supply but fuel oil stocks fully cover the normal 60 day target level.

Production of power in Central and Southern Italy has shown a slight improvement but this

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 1/11/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 305,550 | 82,403 | 87,930 | 106.7 | 90,816 | 110.2 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 269 | 70.2 | 299 | 78.1 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 233,829 | 71.6 | 235,453 | 72.1 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 166 | 4.8 | 172 | 5.0 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 306,284 | 75.8 | 307,866 | 76.2 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 514,645 | 89.5 | 516,027 | 89.8 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 | 1,150,633 | 82.7 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 195,039 | 106.8 | 195,962 | 107.3 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 252,184 | 100.0 | 252,354 | 100.1 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,643 | 103.5 | 106,900 | 103.8 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,462 | 84.6 | 86,837 | 84.8 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 640,468 | 100.0 | 641,993 | 100.3 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 71,056 | 80.6 | 71,361 | 80.9 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,717 | 62.9 | 28,933 | 63.3 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 78,423 | 78.0 | 79,003 | 78.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,597 | 106.8 | 43,645 | 106.9 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,394 | 45.5 | 13,489 | 45.8 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 235,187 | 77.2 | 236,431 | 77.6 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,501 | 76,449 | 38.5 | 77,763 | 39.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,717 | 88.4 | 37,845 | 88.7 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 114,166 | 47.3 | 115,608 | 47.9 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 | 2,144,665 | 83.2 |

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



is counterbalanced by a seasonable increase in consumption and decrease in supply from the North.

Liguria with a jump of 7.9 per cent. led all regions this week in the wheat amassing program. The figures furnished by UNRRA are given as usual in tabulated form. Results to date show that 83.2 per cent. of the goal has been collected throughout Italy. Five regions have now exceeded their amassing goals including three of the four regions of Central Italy. Central Italy has amassed 100.3 per cent. of its goal. Investigations regarding retentions are being completed and it is expected that revisions will be made accordingly.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Air Vice Marshal L. Darvall, C.B., M.C., A.O.C., A.H.Q. Italy, visited the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 7 November to discuss general policy matters with the Director.

Approval has been given for the establishment of a Brazilian Civil Air Line between Brazil and Italy, to operate weekly, subject to the signing in Washington of the Hold Harmless Agreement for use of Ciampino Airfield.

Representatives from M.A.A.C. (Mediterranean Allied Air Committee) Secretariat and G-3 at A.F.H.Q. made a staff visit to the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 5 November.

Squadron Leader A. W. Ray, Chief Signals Officer, visited Udine with Major Pelaci of the Italian Air Ministry to discuss arrangements for training of selected I.A.F. personnel in new and up to date equipment. They also arranged for an R.A.F. fitting party from the north to complete the installation of VHF, HF and HF DF equipment at Linate airfield, Milan.

F/Lt. F. Reid and Lt. P. Cole, Air II and IV, respectively, visited R.A.F. and I.A.F. installations at Catania, Sicily and the British Overseas Airways Corporation and I.A.F. seaplane bases at Augusta, Sicily, on 5 and 6 November.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

There is nothing to report on the activities of the Italian Army beyond the normal training and guard duties, which continue throughout Italy. Recruits under training at the Territorial Training Centres are due to be posted to their units at the end of November.

Officers of the Mission recently visited Bologna, to discuss with the Italian Army Staff the technical side of motor workshop organization for the Italian Army. The general principles have been agreed upon, and some progress has been made in the establishment of base workshops. Although a good deal of essential work is being done, output of the required magnitude is handicapped by damaged workshops, lack of raw materials and spare parts, and lack of funds with which to pay technical employees.

During the past week 2,500 Italian P.O.W. were repatriated from India, 102 from French North Africa, and some 70 from the Middle East.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean Station has approved the transfer of an Italian tanker, now under construction at the Ansaldo Sestri Yards, to the Norwegian Government in exchange for two dry cargo vessels. The dry cargo vessels are not to be over 20 years of age, and must be from 7000 to 9000 tons deadweight.

Problems involving the ownership and disposition of various types of small craft have occupied the attention of the Navy Sub-Commission recently. In the process of cleaning Italian ports and harbors, long sunken amphibious boats of various descriptions have been recovered which, owing to long immersion are without any certain indication of original ownership other than that they are Allied property. The urgent need for disposing of recovered wrecks has had to be balanced against the necessity of determining the original ownership in order that proper authority may be obtained for their disposition. Even more complicated, however, are the intricacies arising from small power boats, formerly requisitioned by the Italian Government and then acquired by the Allies in various Italian and Italian Colonial ports. Many of the former owners are now pressing for the return of these craft pointing out that as fishermen, or small carriers, their livelihood depends on their regaining their property. Unfortunately it is not easy, under present conditions, to determine speedily the rights of all parties involved in each case. However a great deal of progress has been made in this field recently.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Colonel James De B. Walback, (A), and Colonel Harry A. Kendall, (A), have recently been assigned to the Economic Division.

* * *

Captain Charles E. de Saro, (A), (Displaced Persons Division), was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon on 18 September 1946.

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

November 9, 1946 Vol. III, No. 30

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The opening of the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in New York City on 4 November attracted the attention of the Italian press and public once more to Italy's fate in the international field. On that day Ambassador Tarchiani handed the official note of the Italian Government dealing with Italy's views on the treaty, to the United States, British, Russian and French representatives. The text of the note was as follows:

"The Government of the Italian Republic, at a moment when the Foreign Ministers of the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France are about to give definite power to the peace treaty with Italy, declares:

(1) "The draft treaty as a whole does not comply with the principles of the Atlantic Charter and with the more general principles which formed the moral foundation of the war fought by the United Nations against nazi-fascism. It ignores de facto Italian co-belligerency, and does not consider sufficiently, either the fight which the vanguard of the Italian people carried out against the fascist dictatorship by preparing the ground for the popular insurrection under the blows of which fascism substantially fell: the loyal participation of the Italian people and their military and partisan corps in the war effort of the United Nations from September 1943 [*Ed. Note:* The Italian papers gave this date as 1942] to the end of the war; or the will of the Italian people definitely to reject the policy, institutions and men who dragged them into the war on Hitler's side, a will which on 2 June last was crowned by the popular decision to found the new State on the principles of Democracy.

(2) "The treaty's solution of the problems relating to the eastern and western frontiers follows strategic and political principles which are in open contrast with the aspirations of the populations concerned and do not offer guarantees for the protection of minorities. The Italian Government insists particularly on following, when fixing the eastern frontier, the criterion of the *ethnical line* agreed upon by the 'Four' at London in September 1945, by holding a plebiscite in the disputed zones. The Italian Government demands the application of this principle also in the possible case of the creation of a Trieste Free Territory, whose frontiers should at least be extended to the unquestionably Italian zones of Parenzo and Pola.

(3) "Italy's advance waiver of her sovereignty over the colonies contemplated by the Treaty, failing any indication of the juridical status which they will be given does not agree with any objective evaluation of the contribution of Italian labor in their improvement and in their future development.

(4) "The frontiers demilitarization and the military clauses of the treaty leave Italy defenseless and in a state of subserviency which affects its very independence. The mutilation of the navy has the character of a sanction, which is unjustifiable on the basis of the contribution it gave in the war at the side of the navies of the United Nations and of the heavy losses suffered during the fight against the common enemy.

(5) "The ensemble of economic and financial burdens relating to war reparations, the right of confiscation of Italian property abroad left to the discretion of each single State, the gratuitous seizure of statal and para-statal investments in favor of some countries, exceed any reasonable limit of Italy's actual capacity to pay. The situation is aggravated further by the burden of the occupation cost and services rendered during three years of Armistice regime, and by the renunciation demanded of Italy of any compensation from Germany for the co-belligerance period during which the hitlerite troops sacked and raided the Italian provinces. The Italian Government points out that in fixing the economic clauses, it is necessary to improve them substantially in order to avoid the danger of the collapse of Italian economy and the lowering to an intolerable

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



point of the workers' living conditions. The Italian Government has already protested against the stipulations of the treaty, which have no foundation of justice. It renews to the Foreign Ministers of United States, Great Britain, Russia, and France the appeal to reconsider the proposal made by the Italian Delegation to the Conference of the 21.

"While reserving to the Constituent Assembly the sovereign rights with regard to the acceptance of the treaty in its final form which it will assume after the Foreign Ministers' decision, the Italian Government reaffirms its upright reservation against a unilateral and unjust judgment failing to consider the claims voiced in this note. Such claims are bound to keep, in any case, their full value in so far as they are imposed by the permanent and fundamental requirements for life and development of the Italian Nation". The note was signed by Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni.

### Press Reaction.

Most of the major Italian papers carried the full text of the note. *Messaggero* headlined the story "Italy asks for the revision of the Peace Treaty for reasons of justice". *Avanti* declared "Our claims are rendered necessary by the basic needs of the Italian people". *Unità* stated, "The Peace Treaty must take into account Italy's contribution to the anti-fascist struggle". *Popolo's* headline was, "The protest against the treaty in defense of our rights". In a leading article entitled "Invitation to be reasonable" Antonio Bergoni in *Avanti* said that no appeal to kindness had been made in the memorandum. Italy, he declared, did not approach "her head sprinkled with ashes and her naked knees on the frozen earth" but appealing to the solemn principles which constituted the moral basis for the war against nazi-fascism. After two world wars, he declared, international order should not be based upon revenge and hatred.

On 6 November, representatives of Italy and Yugoslavia presented their cases to the Council of Foreign Ministers. As reported by *Tempo*, Stanoje Simic, Vice-President of the Yugoslav Council of Ministers affirmed that: (1) Yugoslavia accepted the eastward enlargement of the Trieste Free Territory, thus giving the Territory an area of 44 square kilometers; (2) Yugoslavia abandoned her claim that only a Yugoslav citizen should be Governor of the Territory and also the demand that a Yugoslav garrison be permanently deployed in Trieste; (3) Yugoslavia considered the French line fixed at Paris to be unacceptable. In this last particular, at least, Italy was in agreement.

Italian Ambassador Tarchiani asked that the Trieste problem be solved by means of a plebiscite to be held among the population concerned, and expressed the hope that in any case the Governor of the Free Territory might be vested with very ample powers by the United Nations Security Council. "In this connection", he said, "I must recall to you that the frontier line agreed upon on 3 July 1946 represents a cruel mutilation of the patrimony of the Italian people, insofar as it leaves big masses of our brothers under foreign sovereignty".

### Togliatti's Trip.

Considerable conjecture appeared in the Italian press over a trip made to Belgrade last week by Palmiro Togliatti, Secretary General of the Italian Communist Party. The purpose of his visit to the Yugoslav capital was not cleared up however, until the Communist leader was interviewed by *Unità* upon his return. Togliatti said that the purpose of his visit to Belgrade was twofold: first he wished to renew his old acquaintance with Marshal Tito and secondly in his capacity as Secretary General of the Communist Party in Italy he wished to ascertain what could be the basis of collaboration between the Italian and Yugoslav people in the interests of peace. Referring to the politically controversial problems that stud Italo-Yugoslav relations, Togliatti said, "Marshal Tito told me that he was disposed to consent that Trieste should belong to Italy, that is under the sovereignty of the Italian Republic if Italy agreed to leave to Yugoslavia the town of Gorizia, which on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav. The only condition which Tito puts is that Trieste should receive within the Italian Republic a really democratic autonomous statute allowing the Trieste citizens to rule their city and their territory according to democratic principles. I think that it is high time to stop exploiting the Trieste question to sow disagreement between the two peoples... and that Marshal Tito's proposal may serve as a basis for the definite solution of all controversial questions between the two countries." The Communist party leader further declared that Marshal Tito had agreed to the immediate return to Italy of the Italian soldiers who are still in Yugoslavia as prisoners of war. He said that to avoid "red tape" and attempts at sabotage from reactionary Italian elements, the Communist Party would appeal to the ANPI (Italian Partisan National

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



Association) "to form a commission to contact the Yugoslav authorities for the practical carrying out of this resolution".

Togliatti concluded the interview by declaring that the Italian people were now in a position to understand that agreement and cooperation with Tito's Yugoslavia was quite possible as the Communists had always claimed. He added that it was now up to the Government to take the necessary steps in order to achieve a concrete agreement. *Unità* headed the story with an eight-column banner stating "Marshal Tito is disposed to leave Trieste to Italy", while the top-page box said; "Long live the Italo-Yugoslav agreement".

In a communiqué issued on 7 November, the Italian Government rejected Tito's Trieste offer as reported by Togliatti, stating that Gorizia was "an integral part of Italian territory and as such was recognized unanimously by the Big Four". The communiqué declared that Gorizia's cession to Yugoslavia could not be considered. *Messaggero* declared that De Gasperi said that the possibility of direct negotiations should not be excluded but that Tito's proposals should be discussed in close relation with the peace treaty since the Italo-Yugoslav frontier was an integral part of the treaty. It is interesting to note that as reported by *Messaggero*, Pietro Nenni, Italian Foreign Minister, declared that at Palazzo Chigi, there existed no document which might in any way justify the affirmation that the Foreign Ministry was convinced that the majority of Gorizia's population was Slav. Nenni's statement evidently referred to that of Togliatti in the *Unità* interview in which the Communist leader had declared that the town of Gorizia "on the basis of data at our Foreign Ministry is prevailingly Slav...".

**Domestic Matters.**

In the case of matters purely domestic the week was rather quiet. On 3 November Alcide De Gasperi, speaking to a meeting of Christian Democrats in connection with the forthcoming municipal elections, took up the recent pact of unity of action signed by the Communists and Socialists. In the course of his speech De Gasperi went on to say that the pact, which is the natural consequence of the Marxist ideology of the two parties, will be opposed by Christian Democracy. He added that if the Socialist and Communist Parties should form one single bloc at the next political elections and should obtain the majority of votes, they would have to assume full responsibility and the Christian Democrats "will move to control and criticize their deeds".

Pietro Nenni, Foreign Minister and leader of the Socialist Party answered De Gasperi in a speech delivered at Genoa on 4 November. According to *Momento* Nenni referring to the pact declared, "while we want to fight against poverty, unemployment, speculation and neo-fascism—which is seeking to take advantage of poverty and unemployment in order to enter into an open struggle against democracy—my friend De Gasperi shows signs of political anxiety to fight against Marxism".

In a leading article in *Avanti*, Sandro Pertini objected to De Gasperi's alleged feeling that the pact was a danger to liberty. The writer further stated that De Gasperi knew very well that Socialism and Liberty are one and the same thing to the Socialists. He criticized strongly De Gasperi's statement that the Christian Democrats intended to fight the two parties, intimating that this would mean the end of coalition government. The writer declared that the Socialists do not intend to be taken in tow by the other party but are convinced of the necessity of keeping the working classes united so as to be in a position to prevent any return of "reactionary" factors.

**Partisans.**

In the matter of the Partisan Resistance Movement, the Government issued a communiqué on 1 November asserting that the findings of the investigation confirmed the necessity of intervention by the public forces. The communiqué stated that four partisans who were held in the Biella zone had declared that leaders of the movement had intimated that arms and ammunitions would arrive at the place before long and that some of the partisans were already armed with automatic pistols and sub-machine guns. It was inferred that the police failure to impound these arms was caused by the fact that the partisans having heard of the arrest of their leaders had enough time to disperse and throw away their arms during the night. *Tempo* commented "One official communiqué draws another and all of them are always less convincing". *Italia Nuova* headlines the story "Embarassed communiqué on the Andreotti case... the government's prose does not succeed in concealing the truth: no evidence of guilt has been reached". Andreoni and other MRP members were released on 2 November by order of the Ministry of the Interior *Tempo* reported, but the paper declared, charges against them were not dropped pending the completion of the investigation.

In his speech of 3 November De Gasperi said that in the proceedings of the Milan Questura

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



there were four statements made by partisans which, "even if there were no other elements show by themselves that it was not a case of a peaceful movement meant to offer work to the unemployed". He said that he did not deny Andreoni or anyone else the right to organize a political party but he did deny them the right to organize a military organization outside the Government of the State. "This Government will never tolerate this, because, and this applies also to other movements, it is resolved to suppress any similar movement in order to safeguard democracy and liberty".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Division this week reported that there has been a slight decline in the wheat stocks during the past week. The stocks now on hand are sufficient to maintain the present ration for 72 days. The wheat situation in Venezia Giulia is unchanged. Stocks on hand on 21 October were sufficient to last until 4 December for bread and through November for pasta. Stocks on hand in Udine on 28 October were sufficient to support the bread ration until 7 February and the pasta ration through December. While no definite information is available at the present time, it is estimated that if the stocks in these two areas are combined, there will be sufficient to last until 31 December.

The end of the shipping strike in the United States permitted 100,000 tons of coal to be shipped before the end of October. This will increase the estimated stocks on hand from 265,000 to 365,000 tons. It is hoped that further sailings will increase this figure but no further information is available at the present time.

As to the status of P. O. L. stocks, there is a 30 day supply of motor gasoline with a tanker expected 17 November. Loans from military stocks have been arranged for areas in short supply. Kerosene stocks are at the normal 60 day level. Diesel oil stocks are down to 30 days supply but fuel oil stocks fully cover the normal 60 day target level.

Production of power in Central and Southern Italy has shown a slight improvement but this

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 1/11/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 87,939 | 106.7 | 90,816 | 110.2 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 269 | 70.2 | 299 | 78.1 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 233,829 | 71.6 | 235,453 | 72.1 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,760 | 3,431 | 166 | 4.8 | 172 | 5.0 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 306,281 | 75.8 | 307,866 | 76.2 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 514,645 | 89.5 | 516,027 | 89.8 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 | 1,150,633 | 82.7 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 195,039 | 106.8 | 195,962 | 107.3 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 252,184 | 100.0 | 252,354 | 100.1 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,643 | 103.5 | 106,969 | 103.8 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,602 | 84.6 | 86,837 | 84.8 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 640,468 | 100.0 | 641,993 | 100.3 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 71,056 | 80.6 | 71,361 | 80.9 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,717 | 62.9 | 28,933 | 63.3 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 160,545 | 78,423 | 78.0 | 79,003 | 78.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,597 | 106.8 | 43,645 | 106.9 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,394 | 45.5 | 13,489 | 45.8 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 364,661 | 235,187 | 77.2 | 236,431 | 77.6 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 76,449 | 38.5 | 77,763 | 39.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,717 | 88.4 | 37,845 | 88.7 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 114,166 | 47.3 | 115,608 | 47.9 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 | 2,144,665 | 83.2 |

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



is counterbalanced by a seasonable increase in consumption and decrease in supply from the North.

Liguria with a jump of 7.9 per cent. led all regions this week in the wheat amassing program. The figures furnished by UNRRA are given as usual in tabulated form. Results to date show that 83.2 per cent. of the goal has been collected throughout Italy. Five regions have now exceeded their amassing goals including three of the four regions of Central Italy. Central Italy has amassed 100.3 per cent. of its goal. Investigations regarding retentions are being completed and it is expected that revisions will be made accordingly.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Air Vice Marshal L. Darvall, C.B., M.C., A.O.C., A.H.Q. Italy, visited the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 7 November to discuss general policy matters with the Director.

Approval has been given for the establishment of a Brazilian Civil Air Line between Brazil and Italy, to operate weekly, subject to the signing in Washington of the Hold Harmless Agreement for use of Ciampino Airfield.

Representatives from M.A.A.C. (Mediterranean Allied Air Committee) Secretariat and G-3 at A.F.H.Q. made a staff visit to the Air Forces Sub-Commission on 5 November.

Squadron Leader A. W. Ray, Chief Signals Officer, visited Udine with Major Pelati of the Italian Air Ministry to discuss arrangements for training of selected I.A.F. personnel in new and up to date equipment. They also arranged for an R.A.F. fitting party from the north to complete the installation of VHF, HF and HF/DF equipment at Linate airfield, Milan.

F/Lt. F. Reid and Lt. P. Cole, Air II and IV, respectively, visited R.A.F. and I.A.F. installations at Catania, Sicily and the British Overseas Airways Corporation and I.A.F. seaplane bases at Augusta, Sicily, on 5 and 6 November.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

There is nothing to report on the activities of the Italian Army beyond the normal training and guard duties, which continue throughout Italy. Recruits under training at the Territorial Training Centres are due to be posted to their units at the end of November.

Officers of the Mission recently visited Bologna, to discuss with the Italian Army Staff the technical side of motor workshop organization for the Italian Army. The general principles have been agreed upon, and some progress has been made in the establishment of base workshops. Although a good deal of essential work is being done, output of the required magnitude is handicapped by damaged workshops, lack of raw materials and spare parts, and lack of funds with which to pay technical employees.

During the past week 2,500 Italian P.O.W. were repatriated from India, 102 from French North Africa, and some 70 from the Middle East.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean Station has approved the transfer of an Italian tanker, now under construction at the Ansaldo Sestri Yards, to the Norwegian Government in exchange for two dry cargo vessels. The dry cargo vessels are not to be over 20 years of age, and must be from 7000 to 9000 tons deadweight.

Problems involving the ownership and disposition of various types of small craft have occupied the attention of the Navy Sub-Commission recently. In the process of cleaning Italian ports and harbors, long sunken amphibious boats of various descriptions have been recovered which, owing to long immersion are without any certain indication of original ownership other than that they are Allied property. The urgent need for disposing of recovered wrecks has had to be balanced against the necessity of determining the original ownership in order that proper authority may be obtained for their disposition. Even more complicated, however, are the intricacies arising from small power boats, formerly requisitioned by the Italian Government and then acquired by the Allies in various Italian and Italian Colonial ports. Many of the former owners are now pressing for the return of these craft pointing out that as fishermen, or small carriers, their livelihood depends on their regaining their property. Unfortunately it is not easy, under present conditions, to determine speedily the rights of all parties involved in each case. However a great deal of progress has been made in this field recently.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Colonel James De B. Walbeck, (A), and Colonel Harry A. Kendall, (A), have recently been assigned to the Economic Division.

* * *

Captain Charles E. de Saro, (A), (Displaced Persons Division), was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon on 18 September 1946.

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

November 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed "pact of unity of action", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in "renewing and guiding" the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of "management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panfilo Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditions movement.

The Government was faced with a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Government had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communique unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Momento* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government not partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Avanti*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 1 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper L. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Giustino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 463,984 | 364,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,024 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 75,833 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,336 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,600 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 83 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 711,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 324,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 450,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydroelectric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Grece D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the L. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 26 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B). (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

November 2, 1946

Vol. III, No. 29

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed " pact of unity of action ", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in " renewing and guiding " the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal: the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of " management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

468

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Paulio Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditious movement.

The Government was faced with a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Government had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Momento* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government nor partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Avanti*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper L. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Giustino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNRRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

0954

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 304,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,646 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,600 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 75,833 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,600 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 84 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 450,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Greco D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

### (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. O.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 26 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

404

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

November 2, 1946

Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed "pact of unity of action", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in "renewing and guiding" the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of "management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panfilo Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdesole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditious movement.

The Government was faced with a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Government had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Momento* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government nor partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Aranti's* reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper I. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Giustino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 328,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,859 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,760 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 408,984 | 304,776 | 74.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,748,920 | 1,321,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,486 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,849 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,859 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,439 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 195,504 | 75,633 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.8 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,000 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 81 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 150,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Greec D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 26 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and castualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

405

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

November 2, 1946

Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed "pact of unity of action", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in "renewing and guiding" the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of "management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panfilo Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

0965

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MIP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditious movement.

The Government was faced with a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Government had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Momento* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government not partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Arandi*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda for other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper I. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Giustino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 304,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 75,833 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,600 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 81 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 150,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Grece D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aireraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aireraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

### (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 26 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced 26 that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013

November 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed "pact of unity of action", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in "renewing and guiding" the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of "management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira, to be achieved by the strict taxation of the income of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panfilo Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditious movement.

The Government was faced w th a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Gov rnment had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Risveglio* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government not partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Avanti*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper I. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Ginstino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 19/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 19/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 535,350 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 539,350 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 304,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,060 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,590 | 88,183 | 70,631 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,382 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,345 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 76,823 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,600 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 51 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 150,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Greee D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in supeort of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

### (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decornion.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 2 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced that the King has appointed Commodore Umbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hammaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

November 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed "pact of unity of action", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in "renewing and guiding" the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of "management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panfilo Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditions movement.

The Government was faced w th a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Gov rnment had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Momento* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government nor partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Avanti*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper I. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Ginstino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 463,984 | 304,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 75,833 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,600 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 81 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 450,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Greco D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 2 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously been awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Léghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

November 2, 1946

Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed " pact of unity of action ", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in " renewing and guiding " the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of " management boards ".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panfilo Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditious movement.

The Government was faced with a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Government had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Mondo* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government nor partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Avanti*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper I. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio will replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Giustino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 304,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,030 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 500,180 | 198,504 | 75,833 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,600 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 81 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 150,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Greee D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

### (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 26 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced 4/61 that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

November 2, 1946 Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed "pact of unity of action", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in "renewing and guiding" the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of "management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows; "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panlio Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditious movement.

The Government was faced with a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Government had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Momento* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government nor partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Avanti*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influenced by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper L. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Giustino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 304,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,394 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 75,833 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,016,500 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 81 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 450,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

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



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Greco D. F. C. and Lt. Patt Fayano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Gaulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the R. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 26 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

### Commodore Ziroli.

The Admiralty has announced that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

November 2, 1946

Vol. III, No. 29

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

With the closing of the Paris Peace Conference and the transfer of the international political spotlight to the UN meeting in New York, Italy turned its attention to domestic things. Among the more outstanding items of local interest were the pact of unity between the Communists and the Socialists, the so-called secession of the Partisans in the North and the furtherance of agreement between the trade unions and the industrialists.

An event of extremely interesting political significance took place during the week with the publication on 27 October of a renewed "pact of unity of action", by the Communist and Socialist Parties. The pact was presented in *Avanti* as heralding the concentration of all the popular forces in the struggle against reactionary conservatism and as a definite bid for power upon the part of the working classes. It was also stated by the paper that both parties were convinced that they could not realize their aims nor take the lead in "renewing and guiding" the political and social life of Italy without the efforts of both parties combined.

The pact itself was not new. There had existed one since August of 1944. It had been drawn up however while the Allied armies were fighting around Florence and consequently the first aim of all was the defeat of the enemy armies and the liberation of the country from the remains of fascism. The social and economic measures of the former pact were touched on but lightly, and these measures were of an emergency nature.

The terms of the current pact are considered more in the nature of a program offered the government than an instrument regulating the relations between the two parties. It is very significant to note that whereas the 1944 pact contained an appeal to the Christian Democrats for collaboration, no such appeal is in evidence in the new one.

The chief aims of the new pact as published by *Avanti* are as follows:

(1) The clearing up of any survival of fascism and of any attempts to revive the old regime.

(2) The defense and consolidation of the democratic Republic and of public liberties.

(3) Industrial reform, based on a concrete plan of industrial reconstruction and renewal; the nationalization of the monopolistic industries, of the great banks and of public services and the creation of "management boards".

(4) Agricultural reform based upon the abolition of large landed estates and property, by increasing the cooperative farms for producing and processing agrarian products, by the improvement of agrarian contracts and by assistance to be given to all direct forms of farming.

(5) The improvement of the living conditions of all manual laborers and intellectual workers by safeguarding wages, salaries, pensions and subsidies and by bringing them into line with the cost of living and the improvement of the actual general economic condition of the country.

(6) The defense of the personality and human dignity of workers by means of social legislation which will guarantee work for all at the same time insuring the minimum sum required for living, a house, schooling, medical assistance and welfare arrangements as regards sickness, accidents and old age.

(7) The safeguarding of the real value of the workers earnings, of pensions and small incomes, by the defense of the lira to be achieved by the strict taxation of the incomes of the well-to-do, the extraordinary tax on capital, tax reform and the increase of all the productive activities of the nation.

(8) Peace, by means of a foreign policy which, by enabling the nation to regain its political and economic independence as soon as possible, that is to say, its liberty to produce, to trade and to emigrate, shall be based on the principle

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



of the international organization of collective security and of solidarity between the peoples and between the workers and democratic associations of all countries.

The agreement further goes on to state that the pact of unity of action tends toward the democratic acquisition of the majority of votes and the closest collaboration of the two parties with all other democratic forces. *Tempo*, headlines "A compromise solution. Autonomy and equality of the two parties. From nationalization to the conquest of power. Adoption of the democratic method".

For the attainment of the aims cited above the parties undertake to consult each other frequently regarding all questions of mutual interest. Principal among such subjects *Avanti* lists the following:

*a*) all government, parliamentary and municipal action; *b*) any Government crisis in view or taking place; *c*) joint agitations on a national basis or of national importance even though localized, whenever either party considers it advisable to promote them; *d*) the study and adoption of measures for coordinating in the general interest of the working classes, cooperative trade union matters; *e*) questions relating to the election of trade union leaders and; *f*) electioneering campaigns whether political or administrative. It is warned, however, that while each party may have its own list all appearance of rivalry between the parties must be avoided and on the other hand the impression must be given of solidarity of the two parties against the competing parties.

*Avanti* further states that complete autonomy of the parties is not lost. Should the two parties not agree in the case of any problem, liberty of action is restored to each. The pact however, will remain in force until it is denounced by one or other of the parties.

*Unità* gave the full text of the pact under the headline "United Action between the Communist party and the Socialist party for the renewal of Italy's political and social life". In *Popolo*, Giulio Andreotti commented under the heading "The confusion continues..." as follows: "The Socialists are from now on bearing full responsibility for the future which might bring the ruin of the Socialist party". Panfilo Gentile in *Risorgimento Liberale* called the new pact not so much an alliance as an amalgamation. He claimed that under it the Socialists will be prisoners of the Communists. *Momento* noted the absence of a call to the Christian Democrats for collaboration such as was contained in the pact of 1944 and declared that two years of extremely difficult collaboration within the Government had convinced the left that such a collaboration would not be possible.

**Partisans.**

A further internal headache faced by the Government was a so-called partisan secessionist movement in the North which originated in Piedmont, and was first reported in the press on 24 October. The partisans gathered at Curino (Biella) under the leadership of "Selva", former commander of the Cesare Battisti Valdessole partisan division. According to *Tempo*, the group was forming squads of workers and each bore a star on his chest with the device MRP (Partisan Resistance Movement). The area however was reported calm in the face of the movement. *Italia Nuova* reported that the movement had been disowned by the Biella section of the ANPI (Italian Partisans National Association). Practically all papers had a field day describing the movement as belonging to one political faction or another. It was labelled variously anticommunist, extreme marxist, monarchist and trotzkyist. No armed activity was reported by any of the papers but *Momento* declared that the operation of the movement would develop according to the following line: organization, deployment, overthrowing of the Italian Partisans National Association and fight for seizing control of the Government.

The allegation that the movement was communist received a setback when on 25 October the Milan police raided the headquarters of the MRP and arrested 18 persons. No arms were found but among those arrested was Carlo Andreoni, a leading figure. In a comment on Andreoni's arrest *Tempo* declared that Andreoni was Vice-Secretary of the Socialist Party until Rome was liberated and then left the party about the time the original pact of unity was formed between the Communists and the Socialists. At this time he formed the MRP which organized partisans, veterans and unemployed outside the acknowledged associations and syndical organizations. *Tempo* chided the government in declaring that Andreoni was also against the CGIL inferring that his arrest followed the development of the movement very swiftly in contrast to the action of the government toward other partisans defended by the Leftist parties.

**Press Comment.**

The inference was echoed by *Buonsenso* which headlined the story: "In Biella area the partisan movement has an anti-communist background -

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



This is the reason why police forces were summoned against the MRP ". On the other hand in an interview in *Unità*, Francesco Scotti, Communist Deputy in the Constituent Assembly, declared that the leaders of the movement were in close connection with the National Democratic Front as well as with the Trotzskyist Magazine "Internationale". He contended that the partisans were not unemployed people looking for a job but plotters against the power of the state. *Voce Repubblicana* in a leading article entitled "Admonition from the Mountain", asserted that the main object of the movement was the declaration of the sacred right of partisans to work. The paper declared flatly that the action of the group was not a seditious movement.

The Government was faced with a problem and on 28 October issued an official communiqué. It outlined the development of the movement citing that the group had issued manifestoes and noting the alleged military organization of the movement. (The communiqué declared that the group had issued motor circulation permits signed "the commander of the area"). The communiqué dwelt on the arrest of the leaders declaring in regard to comment in the press that the Government had not intervened against a party or political movement as such but against an illegal demonstration having a "squadrista" character, which, if not checked, the communiqué said, could lead to the graver consequences.

The press in general found the Government communiqué unsatisfactory. *Tempo* frankly worried lest the old method of arresting first and locating the evidence later had returned. *Italia Nuova* adopted the same tone. The same newspaper also pointed out that the newspaper of a party participating in the Government *Voce Repubblicana* had protested against *Unità*'s charge that the movement was fascist. *Italia Nuova* hinted strongly that the arrests were caused by Communist pressure on the Government. *Momento* adopted a middle course favoring neither Government nor partisans but insisting that the people had a right to be informed. *Giornale della Sera* saw "crisis", in the whole situation. Significant was *Avanti*'s reaction which declared that the Government should avoid applying the same systems which were used by Fascism and giving the impression that its actions were influened by the fact that those arrested were adversaries of the Government.

### Wage Agreement.

The final text of the wage agreement between the CGIL and the Confederation of Industrialists was signed on 30 October. The basic wages set on 23 May were increased by 35 per cent. but it was agreed that when stipulating collective labor contracts the National Federations in agreement with the local organizations may increase them by an additional 15 per cent. in consideration of the particular industrial conditions of each region. The vacation period for workers has been increased to 12 days. Following the Government's assurance that prices to be paid by the Government itself to building construction contractors would be increased, the Industrialists agreed that the document would apply also to building construction workers. Application to Sicily of the provision for additional 15 per cent. wage increase was left for further discussion. By this agreement the confederations undertake to respect the wage truce for a six month period.

As for the peace treaty, that was temporarily in a dormant stage as the United Nations gathered in New York to consider a crowded agenda of other weighty problems. It was believed that the Council of Foreign Ministers would begin their deliberations on the final Italian peace treaty in the American City on 4 November and other than the decision to assemble the Italian Ambassadors to the Big Four countries in the United States in order to further their country's interest, nothing of prime interest developed in regard to the treaty.

In its issue of 2 November, *Il Giornale della Sera* reported that the changes in the ambassadorships which had been predicted with the appointment of Pietro Nenni as Foreign Minister would be approved by the Council of ministers the same day. According to the paper L. M. Lombardo will be appointed to Washington to succeed Alberto Tarchiani; Manlio Brosio wil replace Pietro Quaroni in Moscow; Quaroni will go to Paris; Tarchiani will go to Buenos Aires; Renato Prunas will take over the post in Ankara; Giustino Arpesani will go to Brussels; Egidio Reale will become Ambassador to Switzerland.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Marche, this week joined the circle of Regions which have reached or surpassed their wheat amassing goals. The figures in tabulated form are published as furnished by UNNRA and the Economic Section. It is worthy of note that Central Italy is listed as having reached 100 % of its amassing goal. The overall total for Italy was 82.7 % as of this week.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 25/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,103 | 85,701 | 104.0 | 87,939 | 106.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 269 | 70.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 231,774 | 70.9 | 233,829 | 71.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 157 | 4.6 | 166 | 4.8 |
| Venezie | 691,750 | 403,984 | 304,776 | 75.4 | 306,281 | 75.8 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 513,319 | 89.3 | 514,645 | 89.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 | 1,143,129 | 82.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 194,466 | 106.5 | 195,039 | 106.8 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,924 | 99.9 | 252,184 | 100.0 |
| Umbria | 212,600 | 103,000 | 106,381 | 103.3 | 106,643 | 103.5 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 86,069 | 84.1 | 86,602 | 84.6 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 638,840 | 99.8 | 640,468 | 100.0 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,831 | 80.3 | 71,056 | 80.6 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,582 | 62.6 | 28,717 | 62.9 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,989 | 77.6 | 78,423 | 78.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,489 | 106.5 | 43,597 | 106.8 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,212 | 44.9 | 13,304 | 45.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 234,103 | 76.8 | 235,187 | 77.2 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 75,833 | 38.2 | 76,449 | 38.5 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 37,502 | 87.9 | 37,717 | 88.4 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 113,335 | 47.0 | 114,166 | 47.3 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 | 2,132,950 | 82.7 |

The Economic Section this week reported that the wheat stocks now on hand in Italy amount to 1,015,600 tons or enough to fill the requirement for 81 days. Another 100,000 tons is expected to arrive from the United States before the end of the year.

In the case of fuel the end of the shipping strike in the United States was expected to result in an improvement in Italy's Coal situation. Stocks of coal in the country at the beginning of October were 714,000 tons. Estimated October arrivals are now 321,000 tons, making a total of 1,035,000 tons. 500,000 tons of this will have been consumed during the month of October, leaving a balance of stock on hand 1 November 535,000 tons. Estimated arrivals from sources other than U. S. during November are 180,000 tons. November allocations will now be based upon 150,000 tons, leaving a balance of 265,000 tons stock on hand at the beginning of December. To this will be added, of course, the quantity which will arrive from the U. S. No estimate of this quantity is possible at this time.

The stock of motor gasoline is now down to 35 days' supply. This in itself is not so serious, but the bulk of the supply is in the North. Therefore, the situation in Southern Italy is critical. Diesel oil is down to approximately 35 days' supply. Fuel oil stocks fully cover the 60 day target level. The first 2 cargoes of crude oil are now expected at Bari on 12 and 16 November respectively. Two cargoes are also due at Naples on 16 and 17 November respectively. It is not expected that refined products from this crude oil will be available for local distribution before December.

**Power Situation.**

There has been a further very slight improvement in the power supply situation in Central and Southern Italy due to the recent rainfall. In Northern Italy the electric power availability is good, but due to the considerable post-war increase in consumption, rationing has had to be imposed. Only by the construction of new hydro-electric and thermal plants can the power situation in Italy be permanently improved.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Thursday 24 October, Wing Commander C. M. M. Grece D. F. C. and Lt. Paul Favano represented the Director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission at a demonstration of the use of Allied fighters and fighter bombers in support of ground forces at Udine.

The Demonstration was organized by Air Headquarters Italy and was designed to show the extent to which air forces can be used in support of the army, and the speed and means by which aircraft can be brought to bear on to a target. Altogether sixty Allied fighter aircraft were employed and weapons used included bombs, rockets, cannon and fire bombs.

A large number of British and American Army officers were present at the demonstration. The A. F. S. C. officers took with them a number of officers of the Italian Air Force together with a representative of the M. M. I. A. and the Commandant of the Italian Army school of Cooperation. The Air Officer Commanding R. A. F. Italy stated that it was hoped to stage similar demonstrations from time to time and that the A. F. S. C. should invite the commanding officers of the Italian Fighter Wings.

Section Officer P. M. Gravell arrived from Air Headquarters to take up duties as an Intelligence Officer with A. F. S. C.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

The Director, Maj. Gen. E. H. Goulbourn D.S.O. has just returned from a week's visit to the Italian Army in Sicily the main object of which was to assess progress in the equipment and training of the two divisions and the territorial troops in the island. Although progress must necessarily be slow, due to distance involved and lack of transport facilities, it nevertheless appears to be steady; and a gratifying amount of enthusiasm is evident among officers and men, not only of the older categories, but also of the new intake. The General made an extensive tour of the whole island and met most of the Commanding Officers concerned. A forced landing of the courier plane on the return journey enabled the General to have a look at the Salerno beaches.

Officers of the Liaison Units at Territorial Commands are having a busy time now, due to the disbandment of various Allied units which previously administered them, but which now, during their last days of life, have in turn to be taken care of by the B. L. U.'s. The many problems of accomodation and maintenance are, however, being tackled successfully, though with difficulty, and no major breakdown has occurred so far.

### Decoration.

On 30 October Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner Allied Commission, presented Lt. Col. James E. Regis, chief of the I. P. W. Division with the Bronze Star in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's Office. The award was made for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations in North Africa and Italy during the period from 27 October 1943 to 2 July 1944.

According to the citation Lt. Col. Regis as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for Tunisia was assigned the task of organizing and administering the Advisory Council for Italy. Lacking precedent, he set up a War Establishment and Table of Organization and drafted a staff study for supplies, transportation, accomodations for billets and offices, finances, personnel and every detail connected with this enterprise.

Lt. Col. Regis has previously ben awarded the Legion of Merit.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The Italian Navy has arranged for pilotage and tugs in the port of Leghorn to be available to conduct Merchant Shipping from that port to La Spezia through heavily mined areas. Several Merchant ships have not made use of this service which is essential if mines are to be avoided. This situation has been brought to the attention of the Maritime Commission in order that Merchant Ship Masters may be more fully informed and casualties from inadvertently passing through mine fields avoided.

### Commodore Ziroli

The Admiralty has announced that the King has appointed Commodore Humbert W. Ziroli, U. S. Navy, Deputy Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, to be a Commander of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire for distinguished service to the cause during the War.

Commodore Ziroli, as Commanding Officer of the Cruiser BROOKLYN, participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. In September 1943 he was relieved by orders of Admiral Hewitt

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



and directed to report to Taranto as United States Naval Member of the MacFarlane Military Mission to the Italian Government. In this capacity he represented the United States Government at all meetings which were held between Allied Naval representatives and the Minister of Marine. Due to his fluent command of Italian he frequently acted as spokesman for the Allied interests.

When the MacFarlane Military Mission was replaced by the Allied Control Commission for Italy in November 1943 Commodore (then Captain) Ziroli was appointed United States Naval member of the Commission. This appointment was followed on 24 December 1943 by his promotion to the rank of Commodore. Shortly thereafter he was also assigned the duties of Senior United States Naval Liaison Officer in Italy. In this latter capacity he was responsible for the entire organization and administration of American Naval Liaison and Intelligence activities throughout the country as it gradually was liberated.

He was also the Senior Officer in control of all U. S. Naval Shore activities in Italy until Admiral Hewitt moved the Headquarters of the 8th Fleet to Naples in July 1944.

When Admiral Morgan was appointed Chief of the Navy Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission in the spring of 1944, Commodore Ziroli was ordered to serve as Deputy Chief, which post he still holds.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal), Lt. Col. R. E. H. Horn, (B), (Economic Section), and Capt. J. Stoppford, (B), (Economic Section) have returned from the United Kingdom during the past week.

Capt. Delos De John, (A), (Economic Section) has been reassigned to Rome Area Allied Command.

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

Vol. III, No. 28

October 26, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Assumption of the office of Foreign Minister by Pietro Nenni on 19 October occupied the center of the political stage in Italy this past week. The appointment itself surprised no one inasmuch as it had been agreed to at the time of the formation of the cabinet last July. At that time however it was decided that Prime Minister De Gasperi should continue as Foreign Minister until completion of the negotiations incident to the formation of the peace treaty. De Gasperi will continue to hold the post of Minister of the Interior as well as President of the Council of Ministers.

The first Socialist Foreign Minister in Italy's history, Nenni took oath before the President of the Republic and immediately afterward proceeded to Palazzo Chigi where he received the press. He confined his remarks pretty much to the treaty making no mention of any impending changes in the personnel mahemp of the Ministry. "The last word on the destiny of people can never be said", he declared. "The word revision is not included in the treaty but it is to be detected in things stronger than the treaty: it is in our confidence and in our will. I am confident in the future of our country, because right and reason are on our side. We shall work tenaciously mindful of the reality of things rather than the virtuosity of words, and having as a guide, the concept that Italian interest is not in opposition to the European and world interest. Therefore I say to the Italians: be courageous, tenacious and patient. Europe cannot be constructed either without us or against us. Life can-not be reorganized in the Mediterranean without our collaboration. We shall give it without thought of sacrifices and the price for it will be our right to work and our nations political and economic independence.

Nenni's assumption of office was greeted with much speculation in the Rome press. The Foreign Ministry has been under considerable fire particularly in regard to its personnel makeup and it was generally anticipated that sweeping changes would be made. *Giornale della Sera* took a rather gloomy view of things. The paper evinced no particular brief for the diplomats who had been connected with the "disaster" at the Luxemburg, but shuddered at wholesale changes in the Ministry lest they constitute transforming the diplomatic service into the representative of a political trend instead of representing the whole country. The paper feared impairment of the efficiency of the service through the appointment of unqualified personnel and pointed out that Bevin in England had declared that he intended to make full use of career men. *Popolo* confined itself to a eulogy of De Gasperi's handling of foreign affairs for two years stating that although the Prime Minister was an anti-Marxist his policies had always been directed to cultivating friendly relations with the Marxist states. *Messaggero* called upon the new Minister to exercise a virile and agressive manner instead of using the time-worn formulas. *Avanti* hailed the appointment as a new guarantee that "at all costs, war will not be allowed to approach the Italian people", because "it is only in the mind of a Socialist that such an intention can be fairly well fixed since the Socialists know full well that the first and real victims of every war are always the working classes". *Momento* didn't see much hope in the fact that a Socialist was in charge of Italy's foreign policy declaring that England too had a socialist government but that hadn't affected the terms of the peace treaty.

### Ambassador Changes.

While nothing official had been issued as to changes in the Italian embassies throughout the world newspaper consensus firmly predicted that the re-shuffling of Ambassadors would be wholesale. According to *Tempo* Egidio Reale will be Italian Ambassador to Switzerland. Ambassador to Poland Eugenio Reale will return to Italy

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



and become High Commissioner for hygiene. Ambassador to Russia Quaroni will be transferred to Paris. Manlio Brosio will possibly be appointed as Ambassador to Russia. Carandini, now Ambassador to England, will relinquish his office after the signature of the peace treaty.

Whether or not Italy should sign the peace treaty was the subject of much discussion in the press during the week and also in a meeting of the Parliamentary Group of the Christian Democrat Party. This group met on 22 October and during the meeting De Gasperi reviewed all steps that had been taken at Paris. Regarding negotiations with Yugoslavia the Prime Minister declared according to *Messaggero:* "Yugoslavia always stood against any approach and now it is possible to understand better, the reason for this attitude. Owing to the occupation and the alliance with Russia, Yugoslavia felt sure about her conquest and therefore considered the treaty with Italy not as the start of a new and constructive era but as a punitive treaty. This uncompromising attitude stopped the way to any attempt made by us and today still appears to be the great difficulty in the way of peace". The Prime Minister concluded by exaning the consequence of both accepting and rejecting the treaty and by inviting the Christian Democrat Deputies to examine the question with the keenest sense of responsibility.

The following day, the group completed its session and passed two orders of the day. With the first, the group expressed to De Gasperi its gratitude and solidarity. With the second the group after protesting against the materialistic concept of international relations which allegedly inspired the draft treaty (*a*) reaffirmed its solidarity with the population of Venezia Giulia and other territories detached from the mother country, (*b*) expressed the opinion that at the present stage of things neither the parliamentary group nor the party could assume the responsibility for proposing to accept the peace conditions as they stood at present, (*c*) appealed to the four Foreign Ministers and to the United Nations to reconsider the position of Italy which "is ready to cooperate with other people on the ground of freedom, democracy and peace".

### Press Comment.

Other press comment on the treaty: *Momento* declared that the Parties of the right (Liberals, Monarchists and Qualunquisti) seem to oppose the signature of the peace treaty on the ground that it is a "Diktat" which does not recognize the support Italy gave the Allies during the war against Germany. The paper thought, however, that the Left would advocate signing. *Indipendente* held that because of the present provisional character of all State institutions in Italy only a referendum could take a definite and authoritative decision on the issue of the treaty. *Tempo* gave thanks to Secretary of State Byrnes for having said that, "as no country could have won the war by itself, no one has the right to dictate the peace all by itself". *Buonsenso* while bowing to De Gasperi for his "noble speech" at the Paris Conference in defence of his country's interests declared that the issue was irrevocably lost during May and June when De Gasperi and Saragat were absent from Paris.

In the realm of party relations, things were quite normal, that is, if not all was serene at least crisis was not at hand. The pact of unity of action between the Communists and the Socialists was advanced when Pertini of the Socialist Party and Longo of the Commmnist Party reached an agreement on the final text of the pact. The text will be submitted before long to a joint meeting of the Directorates of the two parties for ratification. During a speech delivered to the workers of the Fiat Mirafiori factory in Turin on 20 October, Saragat, according to *Avanti*, affirmed the necessity of the pact and pledged Socialism to full respect of the union pact in the interest of the working class.

De Gasperi received Nenni and Lombardo of the Socialist Party on 17 October. According to *Tempo* he asked them to clarify the attitude of their party toward the Government. *Tempo* further reported that when interviewed by one of its staff Lombardo declared: "It is acknowledged that the parties are still influenced by a political concept which I deem unfit for the present times, which (concept) is that of constant intolerance in regard to the Government unless the Government thoroughly applies all the political principles of their parties".

De Gasperi reiterated pretty much the same sentiments in an interview given *Giornale d'Italia* on 20 October. Among reasons for the alleged instability of the Government he declared was the fact of participation in it of parties which were born in a "climate of opposition". Furthermore he declared that some of these parties had already theoretically put the party first and then the State and therefore there was no wonder that sometimes this principle applied also to practice and made it exceedingly difficult to create the "sense of the State" or in other words the sense of national solidarity.

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



## THE CONSTITUTION

*(Herewith is presented the second and concluding article of a series dealing with the work to date of the Constituent Commission of the Constituent Assembly. Last week's article dealt with the First Sub Commission).*

### Second Sub-Commission.

As it deals with the practical setup of the State, rather than with statement of principles the work of the Second Sub-Commission is by far the most important and is slowed down by clashes among the various political tendencies. However this Sub-Commission was the first to set to work, and on 2 August approved an order of the day presented by Piccioni acknowledging the necessity of giving an autonous character to the various regions of the Italian country. *Voce Repubblicana* hailed this resolution as a Republican victory, while the Communist *Unità* stressed that it implied the rebuttal of the federalistic thesis (stubbornly supported by Finocchiaro Aprile, Sicilian Independentist) and of an excessively centralized administration. The Sub-Commission entrusted ten of its members with the task of drafting a plan for the «regional» organization of the State. Some deputies have reportedly suggested suppressing the "province", while Togliatti recently reasserted that the setting up of the Region should not serve as a loophole for enacting federalism, which would make an umber of small states out of the various Italian regions.

According to press reports, the articles of this plan approved so far state that the national territory will be divided into regions and communes. No decision was taken with regard to the question of "provinces". The region's autonomy, compatible with the unity and indivisibility of the State, was also approved. Sicily, Sardinia, the Aosta Valley and the Alto Adige will have special Statutes with greater autonomy. The "Region" will have a direct legislative power which shall however respect the principles of the Constitution, the fundamental laws of the State and the national interests. The "Region" has the power to integrate the general rules contained in the laws of the State, and to propose particular bills to the National Parliament. The Region will have a Regional Assembly and Regional Council, elected by universal suffrage. The finance of the region should be autonomous but at the same time co-ordinated with that of the State. The Region cannot enforce import, export or transit customs on inter-regional goods traffic. The draft bills passed by the Regional Assembly will have to be forwarded to the Central Government, and they will become valid laws after one month from this notification, unless the Government has rejected them. In this case they can be examined again by the Regional Assembly and become valid laws if the latter passes them by a number of votes reaching the absolute majority of its members. But the Government can still refer these bills to the Constitutional Court and ask for their partial or total annulment. (This provision indicated that the Constitution will also establish a Constitutional Court, which never existed in Italy previously).

The Government of the State may dissolve the Regional Assembly when the latter adopts an attitude contrary to the unity of the nation, and in the case of grave and repeated infringements of the law. A chamber of financial compensation consisting of a representative per region will be set up in order to affirm the solidarity among the Regions. The Central Government, is represented in the regions by the President of the Regional Deputation. In the region capital, the central Government is represented by a Commissioner who carries out those political and administrative functions of the State which have not been delegated to the Region.

Whether to keep the Senate or not is the other big problem tackled by the Sub-Commission. A decree issued by the De Gasperi Government had abolished the Senate (whose members under provision of the old constitution were appointed by the King). Communists and Socialists wanted to keep the House of deputies only, as they feared that a second House replacing the Senate might unduly impair the relation of political forces as resulting from elections held by universal suffrage. After lengthy discussions, the Sub-Commission finally passed two orders of the day stating that there should be two Houses (House of Deputies, and the old Senate which will possibly be given a new name) having equal powers and functions. Communists, Socialists and Actionists voted against this. Election to the Second House (old Senate) will be carried out by regions, so as to represent local interests. The Christian-Democrats also have demanded that one third of the members of the Second House be technicians.

In the matter of qualifications for membership in the second house the Sub-Commission resolved that members must be at least 35 years old, and should belong to the following categories: (1) members of Directive Councils of syndical organiza-

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



tions; (2) members of Management Councils or Boards of Directors of concerns having more than 100 employees; (3) members of the Directive Conneils of Chambers of Commerce or Industry; (4) Ministers, Undersecretaries, Deputies of the House of Deputies and of the Constituent Assembly, Presidents of the Republic and non-epuirated Senators; (5) Town Mayors and commmunal Councillors; (6) members of Regional Assemblies and Provincial Conneils; (7) members of Central Administration Superior Consultative Conneil; (8) members of Directive Conneils of professional organizations; (9) University professors; (10) members of the Lincei National Academy and other scientific and literary societies recognized by the law; (11) magistrates and State officials down to the fourth grade; (12) members of the Commitees of National Liberation and commanders of great partisan units. Election to the Second House will be by electors, namely the commmunes (which will eleet two thirds of the members) and the regions (which will eleet the other third). The Second House will function on the basis of a six year term and half of its members will be replaced every three years. *Unita* charged that this was another resolution against democracy. The Sub-Commission has also approved the principle of self-convocation of the two Houses, but has made no decision yet on the questions of whether the Head of the State should be eleeted by the people or by the Parliament, and whether he should have the power to dissolve the two Houses or not. Another question still unsolved is that of the number of "Senators" (This term, is used as it is not yet known what their new name will be) to be eleeted by each Region). *Unità* came out recently with an article opposing the U. S. system, and proposing proportional representation also for the Second Chamber.

The Sub-Commission has agreed on the following points: (1) The Head of the State will not be also Head of the Government. (2) The right to suffrage is universal, direct, equal and secret. Military personnel have a right to vote. (3) One Deputy out of 100 thousand electors will be eleeted to the House of Deputies (which according to a *Messaggero* estimate will number 450-460 members). (4) The Deputies will take an oath of fidelity to the democratic Republic. (5) Parliamentary immunity should be as ample as possible. (6) The House of Deputies, following a resolution taken by at least one third of its members, can order an investigation on matters of public interest. The parliamentary investigation will be carried out with same powers and limits as those set for the ordinary judiciary authority. (7) Uncontrolled issuing of decrees (decretazione d'urgenza) by the Government is forbidden.

### Third Sub-Commission.

Articles approved so far by the Third Sub-Commission are as follows.

(1) Every citizen has the duty and right to work according to his own ability and choice. The Republic allows to all Italian citizens the right to work, and provides the means for the enjoyment of it. (2) From work results the right to adequate means to live in case of sickness, accident, loss of ability to work, and involuntary unemployment. Every citizen who owing to age, physical and mental conditions cannot work, has a right to obtain adequate means for living. (3) The worker has a right to a wage proportional to the quality and quantity of his work, and adequate to his personal and family requirements. The female-worker has a right to a wage equal to that of the male-worker for equal work done. (4) The Republic acknowledges that the protection of the mother and child is of social interest. Work conditions must allow the complete fulfilment of motherhood. (5) Education is a social good. It is the duty of the State to organize instruction of every grade so that all qualified may enjoy it. Primary school is free and obligatory for all. (6) The Republic guarantees to the family the economic conditions required for its defense and development. (7) Should it be impossible for the family to educate the children, it is the duty of the State to take care of their education. This education must be carried out in respect for the freedom of the citizen. (8) The Republic guarantees to the citizens the free practice of their professional activity, providing the law is respected. Employment in public administrations is open to all citizens through competition. In the case of university teachers, the competitions may be open also to foreigners. (9) Economic goods may be the object of private, co-operative and collective ownership. Private property is acknowledged and guaranteed by the State. The right to hereditary transmission of property is guaranteed. (10) The Republic, by means of laws, may enforce obligations and limits to land property, and will prevent the existence and formation of large private-land property. (11) Economic enterprises may be private, co-operative and collective. Private enterpriso is free, but cannot be carried out in contraction with social utility. (12) The State insures the workers' right to participate in the management of concerns employing them. The law

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



sets the limits to this right. (13) The Republic will provide for the protection of the worker by means of special rules, and will favor any international regulation pursuing this goal. (14) The workers' syndicates and managers' association are given juridical personality. All collective contracts will apply to all those belonging to the organizations affected by the contracts.

Di Vittorio (Communist, one of the Secretaries General of the CGIL) has proposed the recognition of the political general strike, which should be an arm in the hands of the masses for defending democracy against a comeback of reaction. But the Christian-Democrat Secretary of the CGIL, Rapelli, and other Deputies of the same party opposed this proposal arguing that syndicates should remain non-political organizations.

## INTERNATIONAL LAW

The definition and function of international law, particularly that pertaining to the occupation of defeated countries was explained by Colonel John K. Weber, Chief Legal Advisor, Allied Commission, in the course of a series of two lectures delivered this week to the officers and men of the 7106th Regiment. The lectures were given as part of the training program which the regiment is undergoing weekly.

Tracing the origin and development of the international laws of war Colonel Weber pointed out first, that all humanity is governed by four basic types of law namely, divine law, natural law, moral law and man-made law. International law is of the latter type. Developing his theme he demonstrated by illustration that man-made law deals with legal personalities and legal things and it is quite possible for an act to be clothed with a legal personality in one state and not in another. He stressed this point by showing that the legal personality of a soldier is radically different from his legal personality as a civilian citizen. In the former capacity he has many different rights, privileges and responsibilities.

International law, the speaker declared, is divided into the laws of peace and the laws of war. Colonel Weber emphasized that the laws of war were drawn up and agreed to by nations in time of peace. They therefore come into effect in time of war. Consequently a popular notion that an occupied country is governed by the mere will of a commander is erroneous. The body of law which governs the actions of such occupation existed prior to the advent of any combat.

Referring to the Nuremburg trials, Colonel Weber declared that they were based upon a principle that acts committed against the sum intent of all laws were violations even though there might not be specific laws prohibiting such acts. He cited illustrative legal cases from his own state to point out that court decisions based upon this principle were a common practice.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Piemonte, this week joined the circle of regions which have exceeded their wheat amassing goals. The same region also registered the largest increase over the figures of last week. The figures in tabulated form are published as provided by UNRRA and the Economic Section Allied Commission. The program has now resulted in the amassing of 82.3 per cent. of the goal. According to Federazione Italiana dei Consorzi Agrari investigations regarding estimated production and retentions are being carried out and revision will be made upon completion.

On 10 October, the S. S. LUCY STONE arrived at Naples carrying 9,300 tons of nitrate of soda in bulk procured by UNRRA in Chile. This represents the first shipment of 36,000 tons of the fertilizer which is to be used as a contribution to the restoration of Italian agriculture. The program will supplement Italy's own domestic production of nitrogenous fertilizers.

According to UNRRA's *Economic Notes* first priority in the distribution of this nitrate of soda will be given to the production of bread cereal crops.

The fertilizer program is considered extremely important since without it much difficulty will be experienced in bringing about the return of the country's soil fertility to pre-war standards with its resultant maximum domestic production of food. The UNRRA budget for the rehabilitation of Italian agriculture calls for an estimated allocation of 8,000,000 dollars (2,000,000 pounds sterling) for the procurement of fertilizers.

Responsibility for taking delivery of the fertilizer at the port and forwarding it to the various provinces rests with the Federazione dei Consorzi Agrari. A distribution plan has been worked out which is based on pre-war consumption of nitrogen fertilizers and sodium nitrate in particular. The plan is further modified to take into account priority of crops relative effective demand, transport limitations and the time of arrival in relation to season and locality.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 11/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 81,884 | 99.4 | 85,701 | 104.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 241 | 62.9 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 228,235 | 69.9 | 231,774 | 70.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 148 | 4.3 | 157 | 4.6 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 302,232 | 74.8 | 304,776 | 75.4 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 510,772 | 88.9 | 513,319 | 89.3 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,123,512 | 80.7 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 193,611 | 106.1 | 194,466 | 106.5 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,573 | 99.8 | 251,924 | 99.9 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 105,352 | 102.3 | 106,381 | 103.3 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 85,658 | 83.7 | 86,069 | 84.1 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 636,194 | 99.4 | 638,840 | 99.8 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,502 | 79.9 | 70,831 | 80.3 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,119 | 61.6 | 28,582 | 62.6 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,609 | 77.2 | 77,989 | 77.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,288 | 106.0 | 43,480 | 106.5 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,140 | 44.7 | 13,212 | 44.9 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 232,658 | 76.4 | 234,103 | 76.8 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 74,699 | 37.6 | 75,833 | 38.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 36,942 | 86.6 | 37,502 | 87.9 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 111,641 | 46.3 | 113,335 | 47.0 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,104,005 | 81.6 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 |

Of the initial shipment present distribution plans call for 1,370 tons for the Sicilian provinces, 1,920 (including 500 tons in the province of Naples) for the Southern region and 5,960 tons (including 200 tons in the province of Rome) for the Central region.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several staff visits were undertaken during the past week. Wing Commander H. Thompson M. B. E., Chief Technical Officer inspected the High Speed Launch Base in Ischia and Wing Commander C. M. M. Greco D. F. C., Air I visited units in the Naples area and Northern Staging Posts. During the latter trip Air I investigated accomodation complaints by the I. A. F. at Treviso. He then went on to Udine and confirmed arrangements with the Commanding Officer of Campoformido airfield following a request to extend the daily military courier schedule Rome, Bologna, Venice, Treviso, to include Udine.

### Decoration.

Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, Commander, American Forces, MTOUSA, on 22 October presented the American Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander, to General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, Commanding General Italian Air Force in a ceremony held during a reception at the Excelsior Hotel in Rome. The presentation was witnessed by a large number of high ranking officers and diplomatic officials.

General Ajmone-Cat was awarded the decoration for meritorious service in connection with Allied Military activities from December 1944 to May 1945. His citation which was signed by the President of the United States read as follows:

"General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, as Commanding General, Italian Air Force, rendered meritorious service from December 1944 to May 1945 in connection with Allied Military activities in the Mediterranean Theater. General Ajmone-Cat directed his units in the per-

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



formance of many important tasks and contributed materially to the success of Allied Air Forces".

In a brief address following presentation of the award, General Ajmone-Cat expressed his appreciation for the award and then paid high tribute to his subordinates to whom he gave full credit for the receipt of the decoration.

"It is therefore my duty", he said, "to state that whatever success I may have achieved and for which I am amply rewarded today, is due to the superb support of my subordinates who, having been involved in the tremendous crisis which would have wrecked the highest moral and material values of lesser men, nevertheless found in themselves sufficient strength and energy to faithfully carry on their service with fidelity and military devotion to duty sacrifice and honor".

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several interesting and some well reasoned articles on the Italian Army are now appearing in the Italian Press. Hostile and ill-informed criticism is less frequent; it is still, however, difficult for anyone to foresee clearly the future of the Italian Army until the conditions of the Peace Treaty are more certain and the policy of the Italian Government more definite.

The chief criticism seems to be that the small Italian Army is still carrying too much in the way of overhead; in this connection it should be remembered that too big changes involving the lives of a large number of persons must be carefully geared, even after policy has been decided, if the machine is to continue work smoothly. Many changes in overhead organization, reduction of surplus officers and civilian employees, rates of pay, and conditions of service are already under consideration, and some adjustments have already been made.

Equipment for the Italian Army, including material for its repair and replacemet, will, it is hoped, be considerably augmented when the appropriate items in the ex-British Ordnance Depots in the neighborhood of Salerno are released by disposal authorities. The GOC, MMIA visted these depots on 18 October and saw the vast quantities of War Material of all sorts (some 80,000 tons) which will shortly be at the disposal of the Italian Government. At present, officers of the Ministry of War are busy sorting those parts of this material in which they are likely to be interested. After permission to move and issue these stores has been received, it will take a long time and much personnel, transportation and storage accomodation to complete the transfer.

"S. S. CHITRAL" arrive at Naples on 24 October with nearly 3,000 Italian P. W. from Australia. Less than 14,000 men now await repatriation from Australia.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

On 3 October 1946 Pantelleria was revisited by representatives of the Committee on demilitarization of the Island, including Colonel Norman E. Fiske, Chairman, Lieut. H. A. V. Hall, RNVR, Navy Sub-Commission and Captain D. H. Greenhalgh, from AFHQ. The process of demilitarizing the Island has been carried out satisfactorily under the command of Captain S. Amato, Italian Navy, in spite of the very limited means at his disposal for this work. A total of 1500 tons of warlike stores, composed of guns and ammunition, have been removed to date.

The party returned to Rome the same day accompanied by Captain Amato. Captain Amato has been successful in making arrangements for obtaining suitable ships to remove the material collected from the Island, and for better equipment with which to complete his work.

A quantity of captured enemy naval stores located in the Bologna area have been turned over to the Ministry of Marine for the maintenance of the Italian Navy.

## ODDS AND ENDS

1st Lt. Everett A. Carleton, Jr., (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge from the armed forces.

Maj. G. H. F. Rothey, (B), (Commerce Branch) is returning to the United Kingdom for release. Maj N. M. Harrisson, (B), (Archives Branch) and J/Comd. M. T. Bourne, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) have left for the United Kingdom on leave. Maj. B. Woodcock, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has recently returned from the United Kingdom from leave.

* * *

One American officer and four enlisted men have recently been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon. They are: Lt. Col. Roscoe R. Snapp; S/Sgt. Donald P. Boever; Sgt. Oliver T. Wills; Sgt. Melvin W. Weich; and Cpl. Robert H. Scoggins.

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

October 26, 1946 Vol. III, No. 28

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Assumption of the office of Foreign Minister by Pietro Nenni on 19 October occupied the center of the political stage in Italy this past week. The appointment itself surprised no one inasmuch as it had been agreed to as the time of the formation of the cabinet last July. At that time however it was decided that Prime Minister De Gasperi should continue as Foreign Minister until completion of the negotiations incident to the formation of the peace treaty. De Gasperi will continue to hold the post of Minister of the Interior as well as President of the Council of Ministers.

The first Socialist Foreign Minister in Italy's history, Nenni took oath before the President of the Republic and immediately afterward proceeded to Palazzo Chigi where he received the press. He confined his remarks pretty much to the treaty making no mention of any impending changes in the personnel maheup of the Ministry. "The last word on the destiny of people can never be said", he declared. "The word revision is not included in the treaty but it is to be detected in things stronger than the treaty: it is in our confidence and in our will. I am confident in the future of our country, because right and reason are on our side. We shall work tenaciously mindful of the reality of things rather than the virtuosity of words, and having as a guide, the concept that Italian interest is not in opposition to the European and world interest. Therefore I say to the Italians: be courageous, tenacious and patient. Europe cannot be constructed either without us or against us. Life can-not be reorganized in the Mediterranean without our collaboration. We shall give it without thought of sacrifices and the price for it will be our right to work and our nations political and economic independence.

Nenni's assumption of office was greeted with much speculation in the Rome press. The Foreign Ministry has been under considerable fire particularly in regard to its personnel makeup and it was generally anticipated that sweeping changes would be made. *Giornale della Sera* took a rather gloomy view of things. The paper evinced no particular brief for the diplomats who had been connected with the "disaster" at the Luxemburg, but shuddered at wholesale changes in the Ministry lest they constitute transforming the diplomatic service into the representative of a political trend instead of representing the whole country. The paper feared impairment of the efficiency of the service through the appointment of unqualified personnel and pointed out that Bevin in England had declared that he intended to make full use of career men. *Popolo* confined itself to a eulogy of De Gasperi's handling of foreign affairs for two years stating that although the Prime Minister was an anti-Marxist his policies had always been directed to cultivating friendly relations with the Marxist states. *Messaggero* called upon the new Minister to exercise a virile and agressive manner instead of using the time-worn formulas. *Avanti* hailed the appointment as a new guarantee that "at all costs, war will not be allowed to approach the Italian people", because "it is only in the mind of a Socialist that such an intention can be fairly well fixed since the Socialists know full well that the first and real victims of every war are always the working classes". *Momento* didn't see much hope in the fact that a Socialist was in charge of Italy's foreign policy declaring that England too had a socialist government but that hadn't affected the terms of the peace treaty.

### Ambassador Changes

While nothing official had been issued as to changes in the Italian embassies throughout the world newspaper consensus firmly predicted that the re-shuffling of Ambassadors would be wholesale. According to *Tempo* Egidio Reale will be Italian Ambassador to Switzerland. Ambassador to Poland Eugenio Reale will return to Italy

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



and become High Commissioner for hygiene. Ambassador to Russia Quaroni will be transferred to Paris. Manlio Brosio will possibly be appointed as Ambassador to Russia. Carandini, now Ambassador to England, will relinquish his office after the signature of the peace treaty.

Whether or not Italy should sign the peace treaty was the subject of much discussion in the press during the week and also in a meeting of the Parliamentary Group of the Christian Democrat Party. This group met on 22 October and during the meeting De Gasperi reviewed all steps that had been taken at Paris. Regarding negotiations with Yugoslavia the Prime Minister declared according to *Messaggero*: "Yugoslavia always stood against any approach and now it is possible to understand better, the reason for this attitude. Owing to the occupation and the alliance with Russia, Yugoslavia felt sure about her conquest and therefore considered the treaty with Italy not as the start of a new and constructive era but as a punitive treaty. This uncompromising attitude stopped the way to any attempt made by us and today still appears to be the great difficulty in the way of peace". The Prime Minister concluded by examing the consequence of both accepting and rejecting the treaty and by inviting the Christian Democrat Deputies to examine the question with the keenest sense of responsibility.

The following day, the group completed its session and passed two orders of the day. With the first, the group expressed to De Gasperi its gratitude and solidarity. With the second the group after protesting against the materialistic concept of international relations which allegedly inspired the draft treaty (*a*) reaffirmed its solidarity with the population of Venezia Giulia and other territories detached from the mother country, (*b*) expressed the opinion that at the present stage of things neither the parliamentary group nor the party could assume the responsibility for proposing to accept the peace conditions as they stood at present, (*c*) appealed to the four Foreign Ministers and to the United Nations to reconsider the position of Italy which "is ready to cooperate with other people on the ground of freedom, democracy and peace".

### Press Comment.

Other press comment on the treaty: *Momento* declared that the Parties of the right (Liberals, Monarchists and Qualunquisti) seem to oppose the signature of the peace treaty on the ground that it is a "Diktat" which does not recognize the support Italy gave the Allies during the war against Germany. The paper thought, however, that the Left would advocate signing. *Indipendente* held that because of the present provisional character of all State institutions in Italy only a referendum could take a definite and authoritative decision on the issue of the treaty. *Tempo* gave thanks to Secretary of State Byrnes for having said that, "as no country could have won the war by itself, no one has the right to dictate the peace all by itself". *Buonsenso* while bowing to De Gasperi for his "noble speech" at the Paris Conference in defence of his country's interests declared that the issue was irrevocably lost during May and June when De Gasperi and Saragat were absent from Paris.

In the realm of party relations, things were quite normal, that is, if not all was serene at least crisis was not at hand. The pact of unity of action between the Communists and the Socialists was advanced when Pertini of the Socialist Party and Longo of the Communist Party reached an agreement on the final text of the pact. The text will be submitted before long to a joint meeting of the Directorates of the two parties for ratification. During a speech delivered to the workers of the Fiat Mirafiori factory in Turin on 20 October, Saragat, according to *Avanti*, affirmed the necessity of the pact and pledged Socialism to full respect of the union pact in the interest of the working class.

De Gasperi received Nenni and Lombardo of the Socialist Party on 17 October. According to *Tempo* he asked them to clarify the attitude of their party toward the Government. *Tempo* further reported that when interviewed by one of its staff Lombardo declared: "It is acknowledged that the parties are still influenced by a political concept which I deem unfit for the present times, which (concept) is that of constant intolerance in regard to the Government unless the Government thoroughly applies all the political principles of their parties".

De Gasperi reiterated pretty much the same sentiments in an interview given *Giornale d'Italia* on 20 October. Among reasons for the alleged instability of the Government he declared was the fact of participation in it of parties which were born in a "climate of opposition". Furthermore he declared that some of these parties had already theoretically put the party first and then the State and therefore there was no wonder that sometimes this principle applied also to practice and made it exceedingly difficult to create the "sense of the State" or in other words the sense of national solidarity.

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



## THE CONSTITUTION

*(Herewith is presented the second and concluding article of a series dealing with the work to date of the Constituent Commission of the Constituent Assembly. Last week's article dealt with the First Sub Commission).*

### Second Sub-Commission.

As it deals with the practical setup of the State, rather than with statement of principles the work of the Second Sub-Commission is by far the most important and is slowed down by clashes among the various political tendencies. However this Sub-Commission was the first to set to work, and on 2 August approved an order of the day presented by Piccioni acknowledging the necessity of giving an autonous character to the various regions of the Italian country. *Voce Repubblicana* hailed this resolution as a Republican victory, while the Communist *Unità* stressed that it implied the rebuttal of the federalistic thesis (stubbornly supported by Finocchiaro Aprile, Sicilian Independentist) and of an excessively centralized administration. The Sub-Commission entrusted ten of its members with the task of drafting a plan for the «regional» organization of the State. Some deputies have reportedly suggested suppressing the "province", while Togliatti recently reasserted that the setting up of the Region should not serve as a loophole for enacting federalism, which would make an number of small states out of the various Italian regions.

According to press reports, the articles of this plan approved so far state that the national territory will be divided into regions and communes. No decision was taken with regard to the question of "provinces". The region's autonomy, compatible with the unity and indivisibility of the State, was also approved. Sicily, Sardinia, the Aosta Valley and the Arto Adige will have special Statutes with greater autonomy. The "Region" will have a direct legislative power which shall however respect the principles of the Constitution, the fundamental laws of the State and the national interests. The "Region" has the power to integrate the general rules contained in the laws of the State, and to propose particular bills to the National Parliament. The Region will have a Regional Assembly and Regional Council, elected by universal suffrage. The finance of the region should be autonomous but at the same time co-ordinated with that of the State. The Region cannot enforce import, export or transit customs on inter-regional goods traffic. The draft bills passed by the Regional Assembly will have to be forwarded to the Central Government, and they will become valid laws after one month from this notification, unless the Government has rejected them. In this case they can be examined again by the Regional Assembly and become valid laws if the latter passes them by a number of votes reaching the absolute majority of its members. But the Government can still refer these bills to the Constitutional Court and ask for their partial or total annulment. (This provision indicated that the Constitution will also establish a Constitutional Court, which never existed in Italy previously).

The Government of the State may dissolve the Regional Assembly when the latter adopts an attitude contrary to the unity of the nation, and in the case of grave and repeated infringements of the law. A chamber of financial compensation consisting of a representative per region will be set up in order to affirm the solidarity among the Regions. The Central Government, is represented in the regions by the President of the Regional Deputation. In the region capital, the central Government is represented by a Commissioner who carries out those political and administrative functions of the State which have not been delegated to the Region.

Whether to keep the Senate or not is the other big problem tackled by the Sub-Commission. A decree issued by the De Gasperi Government had abolished the Senate (whose members under provision of the old constitution were appointed by the King). Communists and Socialists wanted to keep the House of deputies only, as they feared that a second House replacing the Senate might unduly impair the relation of political forces as resulting from elections held by universal suffrage. After lengthy discussions, the Sub-Commission finally passed two orders of the day stating that there should be two Houses (House of Deputies, and the old Senate which will possibly be given a new name) having equal powers and functions. Communists, Socialists and Actionists voted against this. Election to the Second House (old Senate) will be carried out by regions, so as to represent local interests. The Christian-Democrats also have demanded that one third of the members of the Second House be technicians.

In the matter of qualifications for membership in the second house the Sub-Commission resolved that members must be at least 35 years old, and should belong to the following categories: (1) members of Directive Councils of syndical organiza-

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



tions; (2) members of Management Councils or Boards of Directors of concerns having more than 100 employees; (3) members of the Directive Councils of Chambers of Commerce or Industry; (4) Ministers, Undersecretaries, Deputies of the House of Deputies and of the Constituent Assembly, Presidents of the Republic and non-epulrated Senators; (5) Town Mayors and commmnal Councillors; (6) members of Regional Assemblies and Provincial Councils; (7) members of Central Administration Superior Consultative Council; (8) members of Directive Councils of professional organizations; (9) University professors; (10) members of the Lincei National Academy and other scientific and literary societies recognized by the law; (11) magistrates and State officials down to the fourth grade; (12) members of the Commitees of National Liberation and commanders of great partisan nuits. Election to the Second House will be by electors, namely the commmnes (which will elect two thirds of the members) and the regions (which will elect the other third). The Second House will function on the basis of a six year term and half of its members will be replaced every three years. *Unita* charged that this was another resolution against democracy. The Sub-Commission has also approved the principle of self-convocation of the two Houses, but has made no decision yet on the questions of whether the Head of the State should be elected by the people or by the Parliament, and whether he should have the power to dissolve the two Houses or not. Another question still unsolved is that of the number of "Senators" (This term is used as it is not yet known what their new name will be) to be elected by each Region). *Unità* came out recently with an article opposing the U. S. system, and proposing proportional representation also for the Second Chamber.

The Sub-Commission has agreed on the following points: (1) The Head of the State will not be also Head of the Government. (2) The right to suffrage is universal, direct, equal and secret. Military personnel have a right to vote. (3) One Deputy out of 100 thousand electors will be elected to the House of Deputies (which according to a *Messaggero* estimate will number 450-460 members). (4) The Deputies will take an oath of fidelity to the democratic Republic. (5) Parliamentary immunity should be as ample as possible. (6) The House of Deputies, following a resolution taken by at least one third of its members, can order an investigation on matters of public interest. The parliamentary investigation will be carried out with same powers and limits as those set for the ordinary judiciary authority. (7) Uncontrolled issuing of decrees (decretazione d'urgenza) by the Government is forbidden.

### Third Sub-Commission.

Articles approved so far by the Third Sub-Commission are as follows.

(1) Every citizen has the duty and right to work according to his own ability and choice. The Republic allows to all Italian citizens the right to work, and provides the means for the enjoyment of it. (2) From work results the right to adequate means to live in case of sickness, accident, loss of ability to work, and involuntary unemployment. Every citizen who owing to age, physical and mental conditions cannot work, has a right to obtain adequate means for living. (3) The worker has a right to a wage proportional to the quality and quantity of his work, and adequate to his personal and family requirements. The female-worker has a right to a wage equal to that of the male-worker for equal work done. (4) The Republic acknowledges that the protection of the mother and child is of social interest. Work conditions must allow the complete fulfilment of motherhood. (5) Education is a social good. It is the duty of the State to organize instruction of every grade so that all qualified may enjoy it. Primary school is free and obligatory for all. (6) The Republic guarantees to the family the economic conditions required for its defense and development. (7) Should it be impossible for the family to educate the children, it is the duty of the State to take care of their education. This education must be carried out in respect for the freedom of the citizen. (8) The Republic guarantees to the citizens the free practice of their professional activity, providing the law is respected. Employment in public administrations is open to all citizens through competition. In the case of university teachers, the competitions may be open also to foreigners. (9) Economic goods may be the object of private, co-operative and collective ownership. Private property is acknowledged and guaranteed by the State. The right to hereditary transmission of property is guaranteed. (10) The Republic, by means of laws, may enforce obligations and limits to land property, and will prevent the existence and formation of large private-land property. (11) Economic enterprises may be private, co-operative and collective. Private enterprise is free, but cannot be carried out in contraction with social utility. (12) The State insures the workers' right to participate in the management of concerns employing them. The law

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



sets the limits to this right. (13) The Republic will provide for the protection of the worker by means of special rules, and will favor any international regulation pursuing this goal. (14) The workers' syndicates and managers' association are given juridical personality. All collective contracts will apply to all those belonging to the organizations affected by the contracts.

Di Vittorio (Communist, one of the Secretaries General of the CGIL) has proposed the recognition of the political general strike, which should be an arm in the hands of the masses for defending democracy against a comeback of reaction. But the Christian-Democrat Secretary of the CGIL, Rapelli, and other Deputies of the same party opposed this proposal arguing that syndicates should remain non-political organizations.

## INTERNATIONAL LAW

The definition and function of international law, particularly that pertaining to the occupation of defeated countries was explained by Colonel John K. Weber, Chief Legal Advisor, Allied Commission, in the course of a series of two lectures delivered this week to the officers and men of the 7106th Regiment. The lectures were given as part of the training program which the regiment is undergoing weekly.

Tracing the origin and development of the international laws of war Colonel Weber pointed out first, that all humanity is governed by four basic types of law namely, divine law, natural law, moral law and man-made law. International law is of the latter type. Developing his theme he demonstrated by illustration that man-made law deals with legal personalities and legal things and it is quite possible for an act to be clothed with a legal personality in one state and not in another. He stressed this point by showing that the legal personality of a soldier is radically different from his legal personality as a civilian citizen. In the former capacity he has many different rights, privileges and responsibilities.

International law, the speaker declared, is divided into the laws of peace and the laws of war. Colonel Weber emphasized that the laws of war were drawn up and agreed to by nations in time of peace. They therefore come into effect in time of war. Consequently a popular notion that an occupied country is governed by the mere will of a commander is erroneous. The body of law which governs the actions of such occupation existed prior to the advent of any combat.

Referring to the Nuremburg trials, Colonel Weber declared that they were based upon a principle that acts committed against the sum intent of all laws were violations even though there might not be specific laws prohibiting such acts. He cited illustrative legal cases from his own state to point out that court decisions based upon this principle were a common practice.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Piemonte, this week joined the circle of regions which have exceeded their wheat amassing goals. The same region also registered the largest increase over the figures of last week. The figures in tabulated form are published as provided by UNRRA and the Economic Section Allied Commission. The program has now resulted in the amassing of 82.3 per cent. of the goal. According to Federazione Italiana dei Consorzi Agrari investigations regarding estimated production and retentions are being carried out and revision will be made upon completion.

On 10 October, the S. S. LUCY STONE arrived at Naples carrying 9,300 tons of nitrate of soda in bulk procured by UNRRA in Chile. This represents the first shipment of 36,000 tons of the fertilizer which is to be used as a contribution to the restoration of Italian agriculture. The program will supplement Italy's own domestic production of nitrogenous fertilizers.

According to UNRRA's *Economic Notes* first priority in the distribution of this nitrate of soda will be given to the production of bread cereal crops.

The fertilizer program is considered extremely important since without it much difficulty will be experienced in bringing about the return of the country's soil fertility to pre-war standards with its resultant maximum domestic production of food. The UNRRA budget for the rehabilitation of Italian agriculture calls for an estimated allocation of 8,000,000 dollars (2,000,000 pounds sterling) for the procurement of fertilizers.

Responsibility for taking delivery of the fertilizer at the port and forwarding it to the various provinces rests with the Federazione dei Consorzi Agrari. A distribution plan has been worked out which is based on pre-war consumption of nitrogen fertilizers and sodium nitrate in particular. The plan is further modified to take into account priority of crops relative effective demand, transport limitations and the time of arrival in relation to season and locality.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 11/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 81,884 | 99.4 | 85,701 | 104.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 241 | 62.9 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 228,235 | 69.9 | 231,774 | 70.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 148 | 4.3 | 157 | 4.6 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 302,232 | 74.8 | 304,776 | 75.4 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 510,772 | 88.9 | 513,319 | 89.3 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,123,512 | 80.7 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 193,611 | 106.1 | 194,466 | 106.5 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,573 | 99.8 | 251,924 | 99.9 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 105,352 | 102.3 | 106,381 | 103.3 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 85,668 | 83.7 | 86,069 | 84.1 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 636,194 | 99.4 | 638,840 | 99.8 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,502 | 79.9 | 70,831 | 80.3 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,119 | 61.6 | 28,582 | 62.6 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,609 | 77.2 | 77,989 | 77.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,288 | 106.0 | 43,489 | 106.5 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,140 | 44.7 | 13,212 | 44.9 |
| Southern Italy | 1,180,070 | 304,661 | 232,658 | 76.4 | 234,103 | 76.8 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 74,699 | 37.6 | 75,833 | 38.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 36,942 | 86.6 | 37,502 | 87.9 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 111,641 | 46.3 | 113,335 | 47.0 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,104,005 | 81.6 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 |

Of the initial shipment present distribution plans call for 1,370 tons for the Sicilian provinces, 1,920 (including 500 tons in the province of Naples) for the Southern region and 5,960 tons (including 200 tons in the province of Rome) for the Central region.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several staff visits were undertaken during the past week. Wing Commander H. Thompson M. B. E., Chief Technical Officer inspected the High Speed Launch Base in Ischia and Wing Commander C. M. M. Grece D. F. C., Air I visited units in the Naples area and Northern Staging Posts. During the latter trip Air I investigated accomodation complaints by the I. A. F. at Treviso. He then went on to Udine and confirmed arrangements with the Commanding Officer of Campoformido airfield following a request to extend the daily military courier schedule Rome, Bologna, Venice, Treviso, to include Udine.

### Decoration.

Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, Commander, American Forces, MTOUSA, on 22 October presented the American Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander, to General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, Commanding General Italian Air Force in a ceremony held during a reception at the Excelsior Hotel in Rome. The presentation was witnessed by a large number of high ranking officers and diplomatic officials.

General Ajmone-Cat was awarded the decoration for meritorions service in connection with Allied Military activities from December 1944 to May 1945. His citation which was signed by the President of the United States read as follows:

"General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, as Commanding General, Italian Air Force, rendered meritorious service from December 1944 to May 1945 in connection with Allied Military activities in the Mediterranean Theater. General Ajmone-Cat directed his units in the per-

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



formance of many important tasks and contributed materially to the success of Allied Air Forces".

In a brief address following presentation of the award, General Ajmone-Cat expressed his appreciation for the award and then paid high tribute to his subordinates to whom he gave full credit for the receipt of the decoration.

"It is therefore my duty", he said, "to state that whatever success I may have achieved and for which I am amply rewarded today, is due to the superb support of my subordinates who, having been involved in the tremendous crisis which would have wrecked the highest moral and material values of lesser men, nevertheless found in themselves sufficient strength and energy to faithfully carry on their service with fidelity and military devotion to duty sacrifice and honor".

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several interesting and some well reasoned articles on the Italian Army are now appearing in the Italian Press. Hostile and ill-informed criticism is less frequent; it is still, however, difficult for anyone to foresee clearly the future of the Italian Army until the conditions of the Peace Treaty are more certain and the policy of the Italian Government more definite.

The chief criticism seems to be that the small Italian Army is still carrying too much in the way of overhead; in this connection it should be remembered that too big changes involving the lives of a large number of persons must be carefully geared, even after policy has been decided, if the machine is to continue work smoothly. Many changes in overhead organization, reduction of surplus officers and civilian employees, rates of pay, and conditions of service are already under consideration, and some adjustments have already been made.

Equipment for the Italian Army, including material for its repair and replacement, will, it is hoped, be considerably augmented when the appropriate items in the ex-British Ordnance Depots in the neighborhood of Salerno are released by disposal authorities. The GOC, MMIA visted these depots on 18 October and saw the vast quantities of War Material of all sorts (some 80,000 tons) which will shortly be at the disposal of the Italian Government. At present, officers of the Ministry of War are busy sorting those parts of this material in which they are likely to be interested. After permission to move and issue these stores has been received, it will take a long time and much personnel, transportation and storage accomodation to complete the transfer.

"S. S. CHITRAL" arrive at Naples on 24 October with nearly 3,000 Italian P. W. from Australia. Less than 14,000 men now await repatriation from Australia.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

On 3 October 1946 Pantelleria was revisited by representatives of the Committee on demilitarization of the Island, including Colonel Norman E. Fiske, Chairman, Lieut. H. A. V. Hall, RNVR, Navy Sub-Commission and Captain D. H. Greenhalgh, from AFHQ. The process of demilitarizing the Island has been carried out satisfactorily under the command of Captain S. Amato, Italian Navy, in spite of the very limited means at his disposal for this work. A total of 1500 tons of warlike stores, composed of guns and ammunition, have been removed to date.

The party returned to Rome the same day accompanied by Captain Amato. Captain Amato has been successful in making arrangements for obtaining suitable ships to remove the material collected from the Island, and for better equipment with which to complete his work.

A quantity of captured enemy naval stores located in the Bologna area have been turned over to the Ministry of Marine for the maintenance of the Italian Navy.

## ODDS AND ENDS

1st Lt. Everett A. Carleton, Jr., (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge from the armed forces.

Maj. G. H. F. Rothey, (B), (Commerce Branch) is returning to the United Kingdom for release. Maj N. M. Harrisson, (B), (Archives Branch) and J/Comd. M. T. Bourne, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) have left for the United Kingdom on leave. Maj. B. Woodcock, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has recently returned from the United Kingdom from leave.

* * *

One American officer and four enlisted men have recently been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon. They are: Lt. Col. Roscoe R. Snapp; S/Sgt. Donald P. Boever; Sgt. Oliver T. Wills; Sgt. Melvin W. Weich; and Cpl. Robert H. Scoggins.

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

October 26, 1946

Vol. III, No. 28

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Assumption of the office of Foreign Minister by Pietro Nenni on 19 October occupied the center of the political stage in Italy this past week. The appointment itself surprised no one inasmuch as it had been agreed to at the time of the formation of the cabinet last July. At that time however it was decided that Prime Minister De Gasperi should continue as Foreign Minister until completion of the negotiations incident to the formation of the peace treaty. De Gasperi will continue to hold the post of Minister of the Interior as well as President of the Council of Ministers.

The first Socialist Foreign Minister in Italy's history, Nenni took oath before the President of the Republic and immediately afterward proceeded to Palazzo Chigi where he received the press. He confined his remarks pretty much to the treaty making no mention of any impending changes in the personnel maheup of the Ministry. "The last word on the destiny of people can never be said", he declared. "The word revision is not included in the treaty but it is to be detected in things stronger than the treaty: it is in our confidence and in our will. I am confident in the future of our country, because right and reason are on our side. We shall work tenaciously mindful of the reality of things rather than the virtuosity of words, and having as a guide, the concept that Italian interest is not in opposition to the European and world interest. Therefore I say to the Italians: be courageous, tenacious and patient. Europe cannot be constructed either without us or against us. Life can-not be reorganized in the Mediterranean without our collaboration. We shall give it without thought of sacrifices and the price for it will be our right to work and our nations political and economic independence.

Nenni's assumption of office was greeted with much speculation in the Rome press. The Foreign Ministry has been under considerable fire particularly in regard to its personnel makeup and it was generally anticipated that sweeping changes would be made. *Giornale della Sera* took a rather gloomy view of things. The paper evinced no particular brief for the diplomats who had been connected with the "disaster" at the Luxemburg, but shuddered at wholesale changes in the Ministry lest they constitute transforming the diplomatic service into the representative of a political trend instead of representing the whole country. The paper feared impairment of the efficiency of the service through the appointment of unqualified personnel and pointed out that Bevin in England had declared that he intended to make full use of career men. *Popolo* confined itself to a eulogy of De Gasperi's handling of foreign affairs for two years stating that although the Prime Minister was an anti-Marxist his policies had always been directed to cultivating friendly relations with the Marxist states. *Messaggero* called upon the new Minister to exercise a virile and agressive manner instead of using the time-worn formulas. *Avanti* hailed the appointment as a new guarantee that "at all costs, war will not be allowed to approach the Italian people", because "it is only in the mind of a Socialist that such an intention can be fairly well fixed since the Socialists know full well that the first and real victims of every war are always the working classes". *Momento* didn't see much hope in the fact that a Socialist was in charge of Italy's foreign policy declaring that England too had a socialist government but that hadn't affected the terms of the peace treaty.

### Ambassador Changes

While nothing official had been issued as to changes in the Italian embassies throughout the world newspaper consensus firmly predicted that the re-shuffling of Ambassadors would be wholesale. According to *Tempo* Egidio Reale will be Italian Ambassador to Switzerland. Ambassador to Poland Eugenio Reale will return to Italy

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



and become High Commissioner for hygiene. Ambassador to Russia Quaroni will be transferred to Paris. Manlio Brosio will possibly be appointed as Ambassador to Russia. Carandini, now Ambassador to England, will relinquish his office after the signature of the peace treaty.

Whether or not Italy should sign the peace treaty was the subject of much discussion in the press during the week and also in a meeting of the Parliamentary Group of the Christian Democrat Party. This group met on 22 October and during the meeting De Gasperi reviewed all steps that had been taken at Paris. Regarding negotiations with Yugoslavia the Prime Minister declared according to *Messaggero:* "Yugoslavia always stood against any approach and now it is possible to understand better, the reason for this attitude. Owing to the occupation and the alliance with Russia, Yugoslavia felt sure about her conquest and therefore considered the treaty with Italy not as the start of a new and constructive era but as a punitive treaty. This uncompromising attitude stopped the way to any attempt made by us and today still appears to be the great difficulty in the way of peace". The Prime Minister concluded by examing the consequence of both accepting and rejecting the treaty and by inviting the Christian Democrat Deputies to examine the question with the keenest sense of responsibility.

The following day, the group completed its session and passed two orders of the day. With the first, the group expressed to De Gasperi its gratitude and solidarity. With the second the group after protesting against the materialistic concept of international relations which allegedly inspired the draft treaty (*a*) reaffirmed its solidarity with the population of Venezia Giulia and other territories detached from the mother country, (*b*) expressed the opinion that at the present stage of things neither the parliamentary group nor the party could assume the responsibility for proposing to accept the peace conditions as they stood at present, (*c*) appealed to the four Foreign Ministers and to the United Nations to reconsider the position of Italy which "is ready to cooperate with other people on the ground of freedom, democracy and peace".

### Press Comment.

Other press comment on the treaty: *Momento* declared that the Parties of the right (Liberals, Monarchists and Qualunquisti) seem to oppose the signature of the peace treaty on the ground that it is a "Diktat" which does not recognize the support Italy gave the Allies during the war against Germany. The paper thought, however, that the Left would advocate signing. *Indipendente* held that because of the present provisional character of all State institutions in Italy only a referendum could take a definite and authoritative decision on the issue of the treaty. *Tempo* gave thanks to Secretary of State Byrnes for having said that, "as no country could have won the war by itself, no one has the right to dictate the peace all by itself". *Buonsenso* while bowing to De Gasperi for his "noble speech" at the Paris Conference in defence of his country's interests declared that the issue was irrevocably lost during May and June when De Gasperi and Saragat were absent from Paris.

In the realm of party relations, things were quite normal, that is, if not all was serene at least crisis was not at hand. The pact of unity of action between the Communists and the Socialists was advanced when Pertini of the Socialist Party and Longo of the Communist Party reached an agreement on the final text of the pact. The text will be submitted before long to a joint meeting of the Directorates of the two parties for ratification. During a speech delivered to the workers of the Fiat Mirafiori factory in Turin on 20 October, Saragat, according to *Avanti*, affirmed the necessity of the pact and pledged Socialism to full respect of the union pact in the interest of the working class.

De Gasperi received Nenni and Lombardo of the Socialist Party on 17 October. According to *Tempo* he asked them to clarify the attitude of their party toward the Government. *Tempo* further reported that when interviewed by one of its staff Lombardo declared: "It is acknowledged that the parties are still influenced by a political concept which I deem unfit for the present times, which (concept) is that of constant intolerance in regard to the Government unless the Government thoroughly applies all the political principles of their parties".

De Gasperi reiterated pretty much the same sentiments in an interview given *Giornale d'Italia* on 20 October. Among reasons for the alleged instability of the Government he declared was the fact of participation in it of parties which were born in a "climate of opposition". Furthermore he declared that some of these parties had already theoretically put the party first and then the State and therefore there was no wonder that sometimes this principle applied also to practice and made it exceedingly difficult to create the "sense of the State" or in other words the sense of national solidarity.

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



## THE CONSTITUTION

*(Hereaith is presented the second and concluding article of a series dealing with the work to date of the Constituent Commission of the Constituent Assembly. Last week's article dealt with the First Sub Commission).*

### Second Sub-Commission.

As it deals with the practical setup of the State, rather than with statement of principles the work of the Second Sub-Commission is by far the most important and is slowed down by clashes among the various political tendencies. However this Sub-Commission was the first to set to work, and on 2 August approved an order of the day presented by Piccioni acknowledging the necessity of giving an autonous character to the various regions of the Italian country. *Voce Repubblicana* hailed this resolution as a Republican victory, while the Communist *Unità* stressed that it implied the rebuttal of the federalistic thesis (stubbornly supported by Finocchiaro Aprile, Sicilian Independentist) and of an excessively centralized administration. The Sub-Commission entrusted ten of its members with the task of drafting a plan for the «regional» organization of the State. Some deputies have reportedly suggested suppressing the "province", while Togliatti recently reasserted that the setting up of the Region should not serve as a loophole for enacting federalism, which would make an umber of small states out of the various Italian regions.

According to press reports, the articles of this plan approved so far state that the national territory will be divided into regions and communes. No decision was taken with regard to the question of "provinces". The region's autonomy, compatible with the unity and indivisibility of the State, was also approved. Sicily, Sardinia, the Aosta Valley and the Alto Adige will have special Statutes with greater autonomy. The "Region" will have a direct legislative power which shall however respect the principles of the Constitution, the fundamental laws of the State and the national interests. The "Region" has the power to integrate the general rules contained in the laws of the State, and to propose particular bills to the National Parliament. The Region will have a Regional Assembly and Regional Council, elected by universal suffrage. The finance of the region should be autonomous but at the same time co-ordinated with that of the State. The Region cannot enforce import, export or transit customs on inter-regional goods traffic. The draft bills passed by the Regional Assembly will have to be forwarded to the Central Government, and they will become valid laws after one month from this notification, unless the Government has rejected them. In this case they can be examined again by the Regional Assembly and become valid laws if the latter passes them by a number of votes reaching the absolute majority of its members. But the Government can still refer these bills to the Constitutional Court and ask for their partial or total annulment. (This provision indicated that the Constitution will also establish a Constitutional Court, which never existed in Italy previously).

The Government of the State may dissolve the Regional Assembly when the latter adopts an attitude contrary to the unity of the nation, and in the case of grave and repeated infringements of the law. A chamber of financial compensation consisting of a representative per region will be set up in order to affirm the solidarity among the Regions. The Central Government, is represented in the regions by the President of the Regional Deputation. In the region capital, the central Government is represented by a Commissioner who carries out those political and administrative functions of the State which have not been delegated to the Region.

Whether to keep the Senate or not is the other big problem tackled by the Sub-Commission. A decree issued by the De Gasperi Government had abolished the Senate (whose members under provision of the old constitution were appointed by the King). Communists and Socialists wanted to keep the House of deputies only, as they feared that a second House replacing the Senate might unduly impair the relation of political forces as resulting from elections held by universal suffrage. After lengthy discussions, the Sub-Commission finally passed two orders of the day stating that there should be two Houses (House of Deputies, and the old Senate which will possibly be given a new name) having equal powers and functions. Communists, Socialists and Actionists voted against this. Election to the Second House (old Senate) will be carried out by regions, so as to represent local interests. The Christian-Democrats also have demanded that one third of the members of the Second House be technicians.

In the matter of qualifications for membership in the second house the Sub-Commission resolved that members must be at least 35 years old, and should belong to the following categories: (1) members of Directive Councils of syndical organiza-

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



tions; (2) members of Management Councils or Boards of Directors of concerns having more than 100 employees; (3) members of the Directive Councils of Chambers of Commerce or Industry; (4) Ministers, Undersecretaries, Deputies of the House of Deputies and of the Constituent Assembly, Presidents of the Republic and non-epnlrated Senators; (5) Town Mayors and communal Councillors; (6) members of Regional Assemblies and Provincial Councils; (7) members of Central Administration Superior Consultative Council; (8) members of Directive Councils of professional organizations; (9) University professors; (10) members of the Lincei National Academy and other scientific and literary societies recognized by the law; (11) magistrates and State officials down to the fourth grade; (12) members of the Commitees of National Liberation and commanders of great partisan units. Election to the Second House will be by electors, namely the communes (which will elect two thirds of the members) and the regions (which will elect the other third). The Second House will function on the basis of a six year term and half of its members will be replaced every three years. *Unita* charged that this was another resolution against democracy. The Sub-Commission has also approved the principle of self-convocation of the two Houses, but has made no decision yet on the questions of whether the Head of the State should be elected by the people or by the Parliament, and whether he should have the power to dissolve the two Houses or not. Another question still unsolved is that of the number of "Senators" (This term, is used as it is not yet known what their new name will be) to be elected by each Region). *Unità* came out recently with an article opposing the U. S. system, and proposing proportional representation also for the Second Chamber.

The Sub-Commission has agreed on the following points: (1) The Head of the State will not be also Head of the Government. (2) The right to suffrage is universal, direct, equal and secret. Military personnel have a right to vote. (3) One Deputy out of 100 thousand electors will be elected to the House of Deputies (which according to a *Messaggero* estimate will number 450-460 members). (4) The Deputies will take an oath of fidelity to the democratic Republic. (5) Parliamentary immunity should be as ample as possible. (6) The House of Deputies, following a resolution taken by at least one third of its members, can order an investigation on matters of public interest. The parliamentary investigation will be carried out with same powers and limits as those set for the ordinary judiciary authority. (7) Uncontrolled issuing of decrees (decretazione d'urgenza) by the Government is forbidden.

### Third Sub-Commission.

Articles approved so far by the Third Sub-Commission are as follows.

(1) Every citizen has the duty and right to work according to his own ability and choice. The Republic allows to all Italian citizens the right to work, and provides the means for the enjoyment of it. (2) From work results the right to adequate means to live in case of sickness, accident, loss of ability to work, and involuntary unemployment. Every citizen who owing to age, physical and mental conditions cannot work, has a right to obtain adequate means for living. (3) The worker has a right to a wage proportional to the quality and quantity of his work, and adeqnate to his personal and family requirements. The female-worker has a right to a wage equal to that of the male-worker for equal work done. (4) The Republic acknowledges that the protection of the mother and child is of social interest. Work conditions must allow the complete fulfilment of motherhood. (5) Education is a social good. It is the duty of the State to organize instruction of every grade so that all qualified may enjoy it. Primary school is free and obligatory for all. (6) The Republic guarantees to the family the economic conditions required for its defense and development. (7) Should it be impossible for the family to educate the children, it is the duty of the State to take care of their education. This education must be carried out in respect for the freedom of the citizen. (8) The Republic guarantees to the citizens the free practice of their professional activity, providing the law is respected. Employment in public administrations is open to all citizens through competition. In the case of university teachers, the competitions may be open also to foreigners. (9) Economic goods may be the object of private, co-operative and collective ownership. Private property is acknowledged and guaranteed by the State. The right to hereditary transmission of property is guaranteed. (10) The Republic, by means of laws, may enforce obligations and limits to land property, and will prevent the existence and formation of large private-land property. (11) Economic enterprises may be private, co-operative and collective. Private enterprise is free, but cannot be carried out in contraction with social utility. (12) The State insures the workers' right to participate in the management of concerns employing them. The law

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



sets the limits to this right. (13) The Republic will provide for the protection of the worker by means of special rules, and will favor any international regulation pursuing this goal. (14) The workers' syndicates and managers' association are given juridical personality. All collective contracts will apply to all those belonging to the organizations affected by the contracts.

Di Vittorio (Communist, one of the Secretaries General of the CGIL) has proposed the recognition of the political general strike, which should be an arm in the hands of the masses for defending democracy against a comeback of reaction. But the Christian-Democrat Secretary of the CGIL, Rapelli, and other Deputies of the same party opposed this proposal arguing that syndicates should remain non-political organizations.

## INTERNATIONAL LAW

The definition and function of international law, particularly that pertaining to the occupation of defeated countries was explained by Colonel John K. Weber, Chief Legal Advisor, Allied Commission, in the course of a series of two lectures delivered this week to the officers and men of the 7106th Regiment. The lectures were given as part of the training program which the regiment is undergoing weekly.

Tracing the origin and development of the international laws of war Colonel Weber pointed out first, that all humanity is governed by four basic types of law namely, divine law, natural law, moral law and man-made law. International law is of the latter type. Developing his theme he demonstrated by illustration that man-made law deals with legal personalities and legal things and it is quite possible for an act to be clothed with a legal personality in one state and not in another. He stressed this point by showing that the legal personality of a soldier is radically different from his legal personality as a civilian citizen. In the former capacity he has many different rights, privileges and responsibilities.

International law, the speaker declared, is divided into the laws of peace and the laws of war. Colonel Weber emphasized that the laws of war were drawn up and agreed to by nations in time of peace. They therefore come into effect in time of war. Consequently a popular notion that an occupied country is governed by the mere will of a commander is erroneous. The body of law which governs the actions of such occupation existed prior to the advent of any combat.

Referring to the Nuremburg trials, Colonel Weber declared that they were based upon a principle that acts committed against the sum intent of all laws were violations even though there might not be specific laws prohibiting such acts. He cited illustrative legal cases from his own state to point out that court decisions based upon this principle were a common practice.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Piemonte, this week joined the circle of regions which have exceeded their wheat amassing goals. The same region also registered the largest increase over the figures of last week. The figures in tabulated form are published as provided by UNRRA and the Economic Section Allied Commission. The program has now resulted in the amassing of 82.3 per cent. of the goal. According to Federazione Italiana dei Consorzi Agrari investigations regarding estimated production and retentions are being carried out and revision will be made upon completion.

On 10 October, the S. S. LUCY STONE arrived at Naples carrying 9,300 tons of nitrate of soda in bulk procured by UNRRA in Chile. This represents the first shipment of 36,000 tons of the fertilizer which is to be used as a contribution to the restoration of Italian agriculture. The program will supplement Italy's own domestic production of nitrogenous fertilizers.

According to UNRRA's *Economic Notes* first priority in the distribution of this nitrate of soda will be given to the production of bread cereal crops.

The fertilizer program is considered extremely important since without it much difficulty will be experienced in bringing about the return of the country's soil fertility to pre-war standards with its resultant maximum domestic production of food. The UNRRA budget for the rehabilitation of Italian agriculture calls for an estimated allocation of 8,000,000 dollars (2,000,000 pounds sterling) for the procurement of fertilizers.

Responsibility for taking delivery of the fertilizer at the port and forwarding it to the various provinces rests with the Federazione dei Consorzi Agrari. A distribution plan has been worked out which is based on pre-war consumption of nitrogen fertilizers and sodium nitrate in particular. The plan is further modified to take into account priority of crops relative effective demand, transport limitations and the time of arrival in relation to season and locality.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 11/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 305,550 | 82,403 | 81,884 | 99.4 | 85,701 | 104.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 241 | 62.9 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 228,235 | 69.9 | 231,774 | 70.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 148 | 4.3 | 157 | 4.6 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 302,232 | 74.8 | 304,776 | 75.4 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 510,772 | 88.9 | 513,319 | 89.3 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,123,512 | 80.7 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 193,611 | 106.1 | 194,466 | 106.5 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,573 | 99.8 | 251,924 | 99.9 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 105,352 | 102.3 | 106,381 | 103.3 |
| Lazio | 277,600 | 102,361 | 85,658 | 83.7 | 86,069 | 84.1 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,000 | 640,096 | 636,194 | 99.4 | 638,840 | 99.8 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,502 | 79.9 | 70,831 | 80.3 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,119 | 61.6 | 28,582 | 62.6 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 77,609 | 77.2 | 77,989 | 77.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,288 | 106.0 | 43,489 | 106.5 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,140 | 44.7 | 13,212 | 44.9 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 232,658 | 76.4 | 234,103 | 76.8 |
| Sicilia | 500,180 | 198,504 | 74,699 | 37.6 | 75,833 | 38.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 36,942 | 86.6 | 37,502 | 87.9 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 111,641 | 46.3 | 113,335 | 47.0 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,104,005 | 81.6 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 |

Of the initial shipment present distribution plans call for 1,370 tons for the Sicilian provinces, 1,920 (including 500 tons in the province of Naples) for the Southern region and 5,960 tons (including 200 tons in the province of Rome) for the Central region.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several staff visits were undertaken during the past week. Wing Commander H. Thompson M. B. E., Chief Technical Officer inspected the High Speed Launch Base in Ischia and Wing Commander C. M. M. Grece D. F. C., Air I visited units in the Naples area and Northern Staging Posts. During the latter trip Air I investigated accomodation complaints by the I. A. F. at Treviso. He then went on to Udine and confirmed arrangements with the Commanding Officer of Campoformido airfield following a reqnest to extend the daily military courier schednle Rome, Bologna, Venice, Treviso, to include Udine.

### Decoration.

Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, Commander, American Forces, MTOUSA, on 22 October presented the American Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander, to General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, Commanding General Italian Air Force in a ceremony held during a reception at the Excelsior Hotel in Rome. The presentation was witnessed by a large number of high ranking officers and diplomatic officials.

General Ajmone-Cat was awarded the decoration for meritorions service in connection with Allied Military activities from December 1944 to May 1945. His citation which was signed by the President of the United States read as follows:

"General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, as Commanding General, Italian Air Force, rendered meritorions service from December 1944 to May 1945 in connection with Allied Military activities in the Mediterranean Theater. General Ajmone-Cat directed his nnits in the per-

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



formance of many important tasks and contributed materially to the success of Allied Air Forces".

In a brief address following presentation of the award, General Ajmone-Cat expressed his appreciation for the award and then paid high tribute to his subordinates to whom he gave full credit for the receipt of the decoration.

"It is therefore my duty", he said, "to state that whatever success I may have achieved and for which I am amply rewarded today, is due to the superb support of my subordinates who, having been involved in the tremendous crisis which would have wrecked the highest moral and material values of lesser men, nevertheless found in themselves sufficient strength and energy to faithfully carry on their service with fidelity and military devotion to duty sacrifice and honor".

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several interesting and some well reasoned articles on the Italian Army are now appearing in the Italian Press. Hostile and ill-informed criticism is less frequent; it is still, however, difficult for anyone to foresee clearly the future of the Italian Army until the conditions of the Peace Treaty are more certain and the policy of the Italian Government more definite.

The chief criticism seems to be that the small Italian Army is still carrying too much in the way of overhead; in this connection it should be remembered that too big changes involving the lives of a large number of persons must be carefully geared, even after policy has been decided, if the machine is to continue work smoothly. Many changes in overhead organization, reduction of surplus officers and civilian employees, rates of pay, and conditions of service are already under consideration, and some adjustments have already been made.

Equipment for the Italian Army, including material for its repair and replacemet, will, it is hoped, be considerably augmented when the appropriate items in the ex-British Ordnance Depots in the neighborhood of Salerno are released by disposal authorities. The GOC, MMIA visted these depots on 18 October and saw the vast quantities of War Material of all sorts (some 80,000 tons) which will shortly be at the disposal of the Italian Government. At present, officers of the Ministry of War are busy sorting those parts of this material in which they are likely to be interested. After permission to move and issue these stores has been received, it will take a long time and much personnel, transportation and storage accomodation to complete the transfer.

"S. S. CHITRAL" arrive at Naples on 24 October with nearly 3,000 Italian P. W. from Australia. Less than 14,000 men now await repatriation from Australia.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

On 3 October 1946 Pantelleria was revisited by representatives of the Committee on demilitarization of the Island, including Colonel Norman E. Fiske, Chairman, Lieut. H. A. V. Hall, RNVR, Navy Sub-Commission and Captain D. H. Greenhalgh, from AFHQ. The process of demilitarizing the Island has been carried out satisfactorily under the command of Captain S. Amato, Italian Navy, in spite of the very limited means at his disposal for this work. A total of 1500 tons of warlike stores, composed of guns and ammmition, have been removed to date.

The party returned to Rome the same day accompanied by Captain Amato. Captain Amato has been successful in making arrangements for obtaining suitable ships to remove the material collected from the Island, and for better equipment with which to complete his work.

A quantity of captured enemy naval stores located in the Bologna area have been turned over to the Ministry of Marine for the maintenance of the Italian Navy.

## ODDS AND ENDS

1st Lt. Everett A. Carleton, Jr., (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge from the armed forces.

Maj. G. H. F. Rothey, (B), (Commerce Branch) is returning to the United Kingdom for release. Maj N. M. Harrisson, (B), (Archives Branch) and J/Comd. M. T. Bourne, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) have left for the United Kingdom on leave. Maj. B. Woodcock, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has recently returned from the United Kingdom from leave.

* * *

One American officer and four enlisted men have recently been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon. They are: Lt. Col. Roscoe R. Snapp; S/Sgt. Donald P. Boever; Sgt. Oliver T. Wills; Sgt. Melvin W. Weich; and Cpl. Robert H. Scoggins.

1020

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

ACC

10000/136/548

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

10000/136/548

PRB WEEKLY BULLETINS
JAN. 1946 - JAN. 1947
(2 OF 2)

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

October 26, 1946 Vol. III, No. 28

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Assumption of the office of Foreign Minister by Pietro Nenni on 19 October occupied the center of the political stage in Italy this past week. The appointment itself surprised no one inasmuch as it had been agreed to at the time of the formation of the cabinet last July. At that time however it was decided that Prime Minister De Gasperi should continue as Foreign Minister until completion of the negotiations incident to the formation of the peace treaty. De Gasperi will continue to hold the post of Minister of the Interior as well as President of the Council of Ministers.

The first Socialist Foreign Minister in Italy's history, Nenni took oath before the President of the Republic and immediately afterward proceeded to Palazzo Chigi where he received the press. He confined his remarks pretty much to the treaty making no mention of any impending changes in the personnel maheup of the Ministry. "The last word on the destiny of people can never be said", he declared. "The word revision is not included in the treaty but it is to be detected in things stronger than the treaty: it is in our confidence and in our will. I am confident in the future of our country, because right and reason are on our side. We shall work tenaciously mindful of the reality of things rather than the virtuosity of words, and having as a guide, the concept that Italian interest is not in opposition to the European and world interest. Therefore I say to the Italians: be courageous, tenacious and patient. Europe cannot be constructed either without us or against us. Life can-not be reorganized in the Mediterranean without our collaboration. We shall give it without thought of sacrifices and the price for it will be our right to work and our nations political and economic independence.

Nenni's assumption of office was greeted with much speculation in the Rome press. The Foreign Ministry has been under considerable fire particularly in regard to its personnel makeup and it was generally anticipated that sweeping changes would be made. *Giornale della Sera* took a rather gloomy view of things. The paper evinced no particular brief for the diplomats who had been connected with the "disaster" at the Luxemburg, but shuddered at wholesale changes in the Ministry lest they constitute transforming the diplomatic service into the representative of a political trend instead of representing the whole country. The paper feared impairment of the efficiency of the service through the appointment of unqualified personnel and pointed out that Bevin in England had declared that he intended to make full use of career men. *Popolo* confined itself to a eulogy of De Gasperi's handling of foreign affairs for two years stating that although the Prime Minister was an anti-Marxist his policies had always been directed to cultivating friendly relations with the Marxist states. *Messaggero* called upon the new Minister to exercise a virile and agressive manner instead of using the time-worn formulas. *Avanti* hailed the appointment as a new guarantee that "at all costs, war will not be allowed to approach the Italian people", because "it is only in the mind of a Socialist that such an intention can be fairly well fixed since the Socialists know full well that the first and real victims of every war are always the working classes". *Momento* didn't see much hope in the fact that a Socialist was in charge of Italy's foreign policy declaring that England too had a socialist government but that hadn't affected the terms of the peace treaty.

### Ambassador Changes?

While nothing official had been issued as to changes in the Italian embassies throughout the world newspaper consensus firmly predicted that the re-shuffling of Ambassadors would be wholesale. According to *Tempo* Egidio Reale will be Italian Ambassador to Switzerland. Ambassador to Poland Eugenio Reale will return to Italy

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



and become High Commissioner for hygiene. Ambassador to Russia Quaroni will be transferred to Paris. Manlio Brosio will possibly be appointed as Ambassador to Russia. Carandini, now Ambassador to England, will relinquish his office after the signature of the peace treaty.

Whether or not Italy should sign the peace treaty was the subject of much discussion in the press during the week and also in a meeting of the Parliamentary Group of the Christian Democrat Party. This group met on 22 October and during the meeting De Gasperi reviewed all steps that had been taken at Paris. Regarding negotiations with Yugoslavia the Prime Minister declared according to *Messaggero:* "Yugoslavia always stood against any approach and now it is possible to understand better, the reason for this attitude. Owing to the occupation and the alliance with Russia, Yugoslavia felt sure about her conquest and therefore considered the treaty with Italy not as the start of a new and constructive era but as a punitive treaty. This uncompromising attitude stopped the way to any attempt made by us and today still appears to be the great difficulty in the way of peace". The Prime Minister concluded by examing the consequence of both accepting and rejecting the treaty and by inviting the Christian Democrat Deputies to examine the question with the keenest sense of responsibility.

The following day, the group completed its session and passed two orders of the day. With the first, the group expressed to De Gasperi its gratitude and solidarity. With the second the group after protesting against the materialistic concept of international relations which allegedly inspired the draft treaty (*a*) reaffirmed its solidarity with the population of Venezia Giulia and other territories detached from the mother country, (*b*) expressed the opinion that at the present stage of things neither the parliamentary group nor the party could assume the responsibility for proposing to accept the peace conditions as they stood at present, (*c*) appealed to the four Foreign Ministers and to the United Nations to reconsider the position of Italy which "is ready to cooperate with other people on the ground of freedom, democracy and peace".

### Press Comment.

Other press comment on the treaty: *Momento* declared that the Parties of the right (Liberals, Monarchists and Qualunquisti) seem to oppose the signature of the peace treaty on the ground that it is a "Diktat" which does not recognize the support Italy gave the Allies during the war against Germany. The paper thought, however, that the Left would advocate signing. *Indipendente* held that because of the present provisional character of all State institutions in Italy only a referendum could take a delinite and authoritative decision on the issue of the treaty. *Tempo* gave thanks to Secretary of State Byrnes for having said that, "as no country could have won the war by itself, no one has the right to dictate the peace all by itself". *Buonsenso* while bowing to De Gasperi for his "noble speech" at the Paris Conference in defence of his country's interests declared that the issue was irrevocably lost during May and June when De Gasperi and Saragat were absent from Paris.

In the realm of party relations, things were quite normal, that is, if not all was serene at least crisis was not at hand. The pact of unity of action between the Commmunists and the Socialists was advanced when Pertini of the Socialist Party and Longo of the Communist Party reached an agreement on the final text of the pact. The text will be submitted before long to a joint meeting of the Directorates of the two parties for ratification. During a speech delivered to the workers of the Fiat Miratiori factory in Turin on 20 October, Saragat, according to *Avanti*, affirmed the necessity of the pact and pledged Socialism to full respect of the union pact in the interest of the working class.

De Gasperi received Nenni and Lombardo of the Socialist Party on 17 October. According to *Tempo* he asked them to clarify the attitude of their party toward the Government. *Tempo* further reported that when interviewed by one of its staff Lombardo declared: "It is acknowledged that the parties are still influenced by a political concept which I deem unfit for the present times, which (concept) is that of constant intolerance in regard to the Government unless the Government thoroughly applies all the political principles of their parties".

De Gasperi reiterated pretty much the same sentiments in an interview given *Giornale d'Italia* on 20 October. Among reasons for the alleged instability of the Government he declared was the fact of participation in it of parties which were born in a "climate of opposition". Furthermore he declared that some of these parties had already theoretically put the party first and then the State and therefore there was no wonder that sometimes this principle applied also to practice and made it exceedingly difficult to create the "sense of the State" or in other words the sense of national solidarity.

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



## THE CONSTITUTION

*(Herewith is presented the second and concluding article of a series dealing with the work to date of the Constituent Commission of the Constituent Assembly. Last week's article dealt with the First Sub Commission).*

### Second Sub-Commission.

As it deals with the practical setup of the State, rather than with statement of principles the work of the Second Sub-Commission is by far the most important and is slowed down by clashes among the various political tendencies. However this Sub-Commission was the first to set to work, and on 2 August approved an order of the day presented by Piccioni acknowledging the necessity of giving an autonous character to the various regions of the Italian country. *Voce Repubblicana* hailed this resolution as a Republican victory, while the Communist *Unità* stressed that it implied the rebuttal of the federalistic thesis (stubbornly supported by Finocchiaro Aprile, Sicilian Independentist) and of an excessively centralized administration. The Sub-Commission entrusted ten of its members with the task of drafting a plan for the « regional » organization of the State. Some deputies have reportedly suggested suppressing the " province", while Togliatti recently reasserted that the setting up of the Region should not serve as a loophole for enacting federalism, which would make an umber of small states out of the various Italian regions.

According to press reports, the articles of this plan approved so far state that the national territory will be divided into regions and communes. No decision was taken with regard to the question of "provinces". The region's autonomy, compatible with the unity and indivisibility of the State, was also approved. Sicily, Sardinia, the Aosta Valley and the Alto Adige will have special Statutes with greater autonomy. The "Region" will have a direct legislative power which shall however respect the principles of the Constitution, the fundamental laws of the State and the national interests. The "Region" has the power to integrate the general rules contained in the laws of the State, and to propose particular bills to the National Parliament. The Region will have a Regional Assembly and Regional Council, elected by universal suffrage. The finance of the region should be autonomous but at the same time co-ordinated with that of the State. The Region cannot enforce import, export or transit customs on inter-regional goods traffic. The draft bills passed by the Regional Assembly will have to be forwarded to the Central Government, and they will become valid laws after one month from this notification, unless the Government has rejected them. In this case they can be examined again by the Regional Assembly and become valid laws if the latter passes them by a number of votes reaching the absolute majority of its members. But the Government can still refer these bills to the Constitutional Court and ask for their partial or total annulment. (This provision indicated that the Constitution will also establish a Constitutional Court, which never existed in Italy previously).

The Government of the State may dissolve the Regional Assembly when the latter adopts an attitude contrary to the unity of the nation, and in the case of grave and repeated infringements of the law. A chamber of financial compensation consisting of a representative per region will be set up in order to affirm the solidarity among the Regions. The Central Government is represented in the regions by the President of the Regional Deputation. In the region capital, the central Government is represented by a Commissioner who carries out those political and administrative functions of the State which have not been delegated to the Region.

Whether to keep the Senate or not is the other big problem tackled by the Sub-Commission. A decree issued by the De Gasperi Government had abolished the Senate (whose members under provision of the old constitution were appointed by the King). Communists and Socialists wanted to keep the House of deputies only, as they feared that a second House replacing the Senate might unduly impair the relation of political forces as resulting from elections held by universal suffrage. After lengthy discussions, the Sub-Commission finally passed two orders of the day stating that there should be two Houses (House of Deputies, and the old Senate which will possibly be given a new name) having equal powers and functions. Communists, Socialists and Actionists voted against this. Election to the Second House (old Senate) will be carried out by regions, so as to represent local interests. The Christian-Democrats also have demanded that one third of the members of the Second House be technicians.

In the matter of qualifications for membership in the second house the Sub-Commission resolved that members must be at least 35 years old, and should belong to the following categories: (1) members of Directive Councils of syndical organiza-

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



tions; (2) members of Management Councils or Boards of Directors of concerns having more than 100 employees; (3) members of the Directive Councils of Chambers of Commerce or Industry; (4) Ministers, Undersecretaries, Deputies of the House of Deputies and of the Constituent Assembly, Presidents of the Republic and non-epulated Senators; (5) Town Mayors and communal Councillors; (6) members of Regional Assemblies and Provincial Councils; (7) members of Central Administration Superior Consultative Council; (8) members of Directive Councils of professional organizations; (9) University professors; (10) members of the Lincei National Academy and other scientific and literary societies recognized by the law; (11) magistrates and State officials down to the fourth grade; (12) members of the Commitees of National Liberation and commanders of great partisan units. Election to the Second House will be by electors, namely the communes (which will elect two thirds of the members) and the regions (which will elect the other third). The Second House will function on the basis of a six year term and half of its members will be replaced every three years. *Unita* charged that this was another resolution against democracy. The Sub-Commission has also approved the principle of self-convocation of the two Houses, but has made no decision yet on the questions of whether the Head of the State should be elected by the people or by the Parliament, and whether he should have the power to dissolve the two Houses or not. Another question still unsolved is that of the number of "Senators" (This term is used as it is not yet known what their new name will be) to be elected by each Region). *Unità* came out recently with an article opposing the U. S. system, and proposing proportional representation also for the Second Chamber.

The Sub-Commission has agreed on the following points: (1) The Head of the State will not be also Head of the Government. (2) The right to suffrage is universal, direct, equal and secret. Military personnel have a right to vote. (3) One Deputy out of 100 thousand electors will be elected to the House of Deputies (which according to a *Messaggero* estimate will number 450-460 members). (4) The Deputies will take an oath of fidelity to the democratic Republic. (5) Parliamentary immunity should be as ample as possible. (6) The House of Deputies, following a resolution taken by at least one third of its members, can order an investigation on matters of public interest. The parliamentary investigation will be carried out with same powers and limits as those set for the ordinary judiciary authority. (7) Uncontrolled issuing of decrees (decretazione d'urgenza) by the Government is forbidden.

### Third Sub-Commission.

Articles approved so far by the Third Sub-Commission are as follows.

(1) Every citizen has the duty and right to work according to his own ability and choice. The Republic allows to all Italian citizens the right to work, and provides the means for the enjoyment of it. (2) From work results the right to adequate means to live in case of sickness, accident, loss of ability to work, and involuntary unemployment. Every citizen who owing to age, physical and mental conditions cannot work, has a right to obtain adequate means for living. (3) The worker has a right to a wage proportional to the quality and quantity of his work, and adequate to his personal and family requirements. The female-worker has a right to a wage equal to that of the male-worker for equal work done. (4) The Republic acknowledges that the protection of the mother and child is of social interest. Work conditions must allow the complete fulfilment of motherhood. (5) Education is a social good. It is the duty of the State to organize instruction of every grade so that all qualified may enjoy it. Primary school is free and obligatory for all. (6) The Republic guarantees to the family the economic conditions required for its defense and development. (7) Should it be impossible for the family to educate the children, it is the duty of the State to take care of their education. This education must be carried out in respect for the freedom of the citizen. (8) The Republic guarantees to the citizens the free practice of their professional activity, providing the law is respected. Employment in public administrations is open to all citizens through competition. In the case of university teachers, the competitions may be open also to foreigners. (9) Economic goods may be the object of private, co-operative and collective ownership. Private property is acknowledged and guaranteed by the State. The right to hereditary transmission of property is guaranteed. (10) The Republic, by means of laws, may enforce obligations and limits to land property, and will prevent the existence and formation of large private-land property. (11) Economic enterprises may be private, co-operative and collective. Private enterprise is free, but cannot be carried out in contraction with social utility. (12) The State insures the workers' right to participate in the management of concerns employing them. The law

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



sets the limits to this right. (13) The Republic will provide for the protection of the worker by means of special rules, and will favor any international regulation pursuing this goal. (14) The workers' syndicates and managers' association are given juridical personality. All collective contracts will apply to all those belonging to the organizations affected by the contracts.

Di Vittorio (Communist, one of the Secretaries General of the CGIL) has proposed the recognition of the political general strike, which should be an arm in the hands of the masses for defending democracy against a comeback of reaction. But the Christian-Democrat Secretary of the CGIL, Rapelli, and other Deputies of the same party opposed this proposal arguing that syndicates should remain non-political organizations.

## INTERNATIONAL LAW

The definition and function of international law, particularly that pertaining to the occupation of defeated countries was explained by Colonel John K. Weber, Chief Legal Advisor, Allied Commission, in the course of a series of two lectures delivered this week to the officers and men of the 7106th Regiment. The lectures were given as part of the training program which the regiment is undergoing weekly.

Tracing the origin and development of the international laws of war Colonel Weber pointed out first, that all humanity is governed by four basic types of law namely, divine law, natural law, moral law and man-made law. International law is of the latter type. Developing his theme he demonstrated by illustration that man-made law deals with legal personalities and legal things and it is quite possible for an act to be clothed with a legal personality in one state and not in another. He stressed this point by showing that the legal personality of a soldier is radically different from his legal personality as a civilian citizen. In the former capacity he has many different rights, privileges and responsibilities.

International law, the speaker declared, is divided into the laws of peace and the laws of war. Colonel Weber emphasized that the laws of war were drawn up and agreed to by nations in time of peace. They therefore come into effect in time of war. Consequently a popular notion that an occupied country is governed by the mere will of a commander is erroneous. The body of law which governs the actions of such occupation existed prior to the advent of any combat.

Referring to the Nuremburg trials, Colonel Weber declared that they were based upon a principle that acts committed against the sum intent of all laws were violations even though there might not be specific laws prohibiting such acts. He cited illustrative legal cases from his own state to point out that court decisions based upon this principle were a common practice.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Piemonte, this week joined the circle of regions which have exceeded their wheat amassing goals. The same region also registered the largest increase over the figures of last week. The figures in tabulated form are published as provided by UNRRA and the Economic Section Allied Commission. The program has now resulted in the amassing of 82.3 per cent. of the goal. According to Federazione Italiana dei Consorzi Agrari investigations regarding estimated production and retentions are being carried out and revision will be made upon completion.

On 10 October, the S. S. LUCY STONE arrived at Naples carrying 9,300 tons of nitrate of soda in bulk procured by UNRRA in Chile. This represents the first shipment of 36,000 tons of the fertilizer which is to be used as a contribution to the restoration of Italian agriculture. The program will supplement Italy's own domestic production of nitrogenous fertilizers.

According to UNRRA's *Economic Notes* first priority in the distribution of this nitrate of soda will be given to the production of bread cereal crops.

The fertilizer program is considered extremely important since without it much difficulty will be experienced in bringing about the return of the country's soil fertility to pre-war standards with its resultant maximum domestic production of food. The UNRRA budget for the rehabilitation of Italian agriculture calls for an estimated allocation of 8,000,000 dollars (2,000,000 pounds sterling) for the procurement of fertilizers.

Responsibility for taking delivery of the fertilizer at the port and forwarding it to the various provinces rests with the Federa ione dei Consorzi Agrari. A distribution plan has been worked out which is based on pre-war consumption of nitrogen fertilizers and sodium nitrate in particular. The plan is further modified to take into account priority of crops relative effective demand, transport limitations and the time of arrival in relation to season and locality.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 11/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 18/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 81,884 | 99.4 | 85,701 | 104.0 |
| Liguria | 10,450 | 383 | 241 | 62.9 | 241 | 62.9 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 228,235 | 69.9 | 231,774 | 70.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 148 | 4.3 | 157 | 4.6 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,981 | 302,232 | 74.8 | 304,776 | 75.4 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 510,772 | 88.9 | 513,319 | 89.3 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,123,512 | 80.7 | 1,135,968 | 81.6 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 193,611 | 106.1 | 194,466 | 106.5 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 251,573 | 99.8 | 251,924 | 99.9 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 105,352 | 102.3 | 106,381 | 103.3 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 85,658 | 83.7 | 86,069 | 84.1 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 636,194 | 99.4 | 638,840 | 99.8 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 70,502 | 79.9 | 70,831 | 80.3 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 28,119 | 61.6 | 28,582 | 62.6 |
| Puglie | 207,350 | 100,545 | 77,609 | 77.2 | 77,989 | 77.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 43,288 | 106.0 | 43,489 | 106.5 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 13,140 | 44.7 | 13,212 | 44.9 |
| Southern Italy | 1,180,070 | 304,661 | 232,658 | 76.4 | 234,103 | 76.8 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 74,699 | 37.6 | 75,833 | 38.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 36,942 | 86.6 | 37,502 | 87.9 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 111,641 | 46.3 | 113,335 | 47.0 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,104,005 | 81.6 | 2,122,246 | 82.3 |

Of the initial shipment present distribution plans call for 1,370 tons for the Sicilian provinces, 1,920 (including 500 tons in the province of Naples) for the Southern region and 5,960 tons (including 200 tons in the province of Rome) for the Central region.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several staff visits were undertaken during the past week. Wing Commander H. Thompson M. B. E., Chief Technical Officer inspected the High Speed Launch Base in Ischia and Wing Commander C. M. M. Greee D. F. C., Air I visited units in the Naples area and Northern Staging Posts. During the latter trip Air I investigated accomodation complaints by the I. A. F. at Treviso. He then went on to Udine and confirmed arrangements with the Commanding Officer of Campoformido airfield following a request to extend the daily military courier schedule Rome, Bologna, Venice, Treviso, to include Udine.

### Decoration.

Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, Commander, American Forces, MTOUSA, on 22 October presented the American Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander, to General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, Commanding General Italian Air Force in a ceremony held during a reception at the Excelsior Hotel in Rome. The presentation was witnessed by a large number of high ranking officers and diplomatic officials.

General Ajmone-Cat was awarded the decoration for meritorious service in connection with Allied Military activities from December 1944 to May 1945. His citation which was signed by the President of the United States read as follows:

"General of Air Squadron Mario Ajmone-Cat, as Commanding General, Italian Air Force, rendered meritorious service from December 1944 to May 1945 in connection with Allied Military activities in the Mediterranean Theater. General Ajmone-Cat directed his units in the per-

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



formance of many important tasks and contributed materially to the success of Allied Air Forces ".

In a brief address following presentation of the award, General Ajmone-Cat expressed his appreciation for the award and then paid high tribute to his subordinates to whom he gave full credit for the receipt of the decoration.

" It is therefore my duty ", he said, " to state that whatever success I may have achieved and for which I am amply rewarded today, is due to the superb support of my subordinates who, having been involved in the tremendous crisis which would have wrecked the highest moral and material values of lesser men, nevertheless found in themselves sufficient strength and energy to faithfully carry on their service with fidelity and military devotion to duty sacrifice and honor ".

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Several interesting and some well reasoned articles on the Italian Army are now appearing in the Italian Press. Hostile and ill-informed criticism is less frequent; it is still, however, difficult for anyone to foresee clearly the future of the Italian Army until the conditions of the Peace Treaty are more certain and the policy of the Italian Government more definite.

The chief criticism seems to be that the small Italian Army is still carrying too much in the way of overhead; in this connection it should be remembered that too big changes involving the lives of a large number of persons must be carefully geared, even after policy has been decided, if the machine is to continue work smoothly. Many changes in overhead organization, reduction of surplus officers and civilian employees, rates of pay, and conditions of service are already under consideration, and some adjustments have already been made.

Equipment for the Italian Army, including material for its repair and replacemet, will, it is hoped, be considerably augmented when the appropriate items in the ex-British Ordnance Depots in the neighborhood of Salerno are released by disposal authorities. The GOC, MMIA visted these depots on 18 October and saw the vast quantities of War Material of all sorts (some 80,000 tons) which will shortly be at the disposal of the Italian Government. At present, officers of the Ministry of War are busy sorting those parts of this material in which they are likely to be interested. After permission to move and issue these stores has been received, it will take a long time and much personnel, transportation and storage accomodation to complete the transfer.

" S. S. CHITRAL " arrive at Naples on 24 October with nearly 3,000 Italian P. W. from Australia. Less than 14,000 men now await repatriation from Australia.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

On 3 October 1946 Pantelleria was revisited by representatives of the Committee on demilitarization of the Island, including Colonel Norman E. Fiske, Chairman, Lieut. H. A. V. Hall, RNVR, Navy Sub-Commission and Captain D. H. Greenhalgh, from AFHQ. The process of demilitarizing the Island has been carried out satisfactorily under the command of Captain S. Amato, Italian Navy, in spite of the very limited means at his disposal for this work. A total of 1500 tons of warlike stores, composed of guns and ammunition, have been removed to date.

The party returned to Rome the same day accompanied by Captain Amato. Captain Amato has been successful in making arrangements for obtaining suitable ships to remove the material collected from the Island, and for better equipment with which to complete his work.

A quantity of captured enemy naval stores located in the Bologna area have been turned over to the Ministry of Marine for the maintenance of the Italian Navy.

## ODDS AND ENDS

1st Lt. Everett A. Carleton, Jr., (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has left the Allied Commission to return to the United States for discharge from the armed forces.

Maj. G. H. F. Bothey, (B), (Commerce Branch) is returning to the United Kingdom for release. Maj N. M. Harrisson, (B), (Archives Branch) and J/Comd. M. T. Bourne, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) have left for the United Kingdom on leave. Maj. B. Woodcock, (B), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission) has recently returned from the United Kingdom from leave.

* * * 439

One American officer and four enlisted men have recently been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon. They are: Lt. Col. Roscoe R. Snapp; S/Sgt. Donald P. Boever; Sgt. Oliver T. Wills; Sgt. Melvin W. Weich; and Cpl. Robert H. Scoggins.

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

Vol. III, No. 26

October 12, 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The long hard enervating struggle was drawing to a close. Italy had made her pleas. The members of the various commissions had presented their pros and cons and now it was up to the plenary session of the Peace Conference and after—the Council of Ministers. The emphasis was on speed. The work of the conference must finish. The United Nations were waiting. That was the picture in Paris this week as weary delegates having hastily wound up their commission sessions at the end of last week assembled for examination of the product of their toil and to vote on its execution.

The Italian Peace Treaty was approved by the Conference at the end of a very late session begun on 9 October. There was very little if any change in the articles as proposed by the various commissions. Reparations of 225,000,000 dollars to Greece, Yugoslavia and Ethiopia were set. The military articles were speedily voted. These provided for a navy of 25,500 men, an army of 185,000 men and a force of Carabinieri of 65,000 men. (The latter could be increased by 10,000 with equal reduction of the Army). The Air Force would consist of 200 combat and 150 transport planes and 25,000 men.

A free port was ordered established at Trieste that would serve as a port of registration for ships of Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Switzerland. The Governor of the Free Territory was made responsible for the application of the territory's statute and it was voted that the legislative assembly be elected by proportional representation through universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage.

In the case of the colonies, the Conference followed the line proposed by the Council of Foreign Ministers. Italy would be shorn of her African Empire; a special council of Deputy Foreign Ministers would study the problem of disposition for one year and if at the end of that time no agreement were reached, the matter would be turned over to the United Nations for final disposition. Other articles provided for guarantee of fundamental human rights by France and Yugoslavia in territories ceded to those countries by Italy; cession of Tenda and Briga and other small areas to France along the Alpine frontier with Italy; guarantee by Italy to recognize the sovereignty of Albania; obligation of Italy to register with the United Nations within six months all bilateral treaties she might have with other countries; satisfaction of Albanian claims from Italian resources within that country. The French line was set as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary and the boundaries of Trieste were established without comment or objection.

### Problems Still Remain.

But the fate of Italy was by no means sealed. There was much still to be settled. Although the commissions had reached nominal or "voting" agreements on all points under discussion, the knottiest of the problems still remained to be settled exactly where they first came under consideration—in the Council of Ministers.

This was particularly true of the Trieste problem. The French line had been set as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary and the statute for the administration of the Free Territory had been voted. But Yugoslavia had reiterated her stand that she would sign no Treaty that set the French line as her boundary with Italy. People everywhere wondered: were things really settled?

On Thursday 3 October 1946, the Council of Ministers recommended to the conference that each of the delegations be limited at the plenary session to speeches of thirty minutes on each draft treaty. This was to be made possible by examining each treaty as a whole rather than clause by clause. Further effort at speed was sought with the request that delegates submit their texts in advance so that they might be translated and published in order to avoid the time necessary to interpret them into other languages.

Other recommendations of the Ministers were: (1) That reports of the working commissions be

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



distributed but not read to the entire conference; (2) Ban on all amendments other than those already mentioned in commission reports; (3) Treaties would be voted on, article by article but there would be no roll-calls unless demanded from the floor; (4) Should the thirty minutes allotted, be insufficient, remarks might be submitted for insertion in the record; and (5) Treaties would be examined in the following order: Italy, Roumania, Hungary and Finland.

**Reparations.**

Reparations occupied the attention of the delegates at the close of last week as they rushed to close the affairs of the commissions before the inauguration of the plenary sessions. On Saturday 5 October, 225,000,000 dollars was fixed by the Italian Economic Commission as the sum Italy must pay to Greece, Yugoslavia and Ethiopia in war reparations. This sum was added to 100,000,000 dollars already conceded to Russia. Broken down, the total sum would yield 100,000,000 each to Greece and Yugoslavia and 25,000,000 dollars to Ethiopia. The question of reparations to Albania was not decided as the delegates split in a ten to ten tie. However the Russian delegate A. A. Arutinian declared that Russia would reserve the right to reopen the question of Albanian reparations in the Council of Ministers.

Italy's reparations figure was not reached without furious debate, both in the setting of the figure and in the mechanics of supervision of payment.

On Friday 4 October a British amendment to the effect that Yugoslavia, Greece and Ethiopia should share 225,000,000 dollars had been termed an "insult" by the Yugoslav delegate. The same term had been applied to the proposal of the United States that Yugoslavia receive 80,000,000 dollars. In the course of his argument against both proposals Milan Bartes Yugoslav spokesman said that 400,000,000 dollars was the least his government could accept from Italy. Both Greece and Albania voiced mild protests to the effect that the proposals were unsatisfactory but, unlike Yugoslavia, neither country voiced a counter-proposal. Further differences of opinion were indicated when Russia charged that votes by the United States and Great Britain to adopt an amendment put forth by Australia establishing machinery to supervise reparations payments by Italy was a violation of Big Four agreements. The amendment, carried by a vote of twelve to eight provided for setting up an international commission consisting of the Big Four and countries who received reparations. If finally adopted by the conference and subsequently by the Council of Foreign Ministers the new commission will meet, select a chairman, determine procedure and employ such staff as required. The Italian Government would be charged with the cost of the Commission's operations.

Agreement however was quickly reached on other points. It was determined that Italy's payment of reparations would be spaced over a period of seven years after the treaty becomes effective but a two year moratorium on deliveries from Italy's current production was allowed. Reparations would take the form of Italian factory and tool equipment designed for munitions, capital goods such as merchant vessels and other products to be manufactured from raw materials to be furnished by the beneficiary countries on commercial terms.

Trieste came once more into the spotlight at the very opening of the first plenary session of the Peace Conference on Monday 7 October. The first speaker at the Conference Senator Tom Connally of the United States declared flatly that his country would make no further concessions on the issue. He reminded the delegates that the outline of the principles for the Free Territory of Trieste had been approved by two thirds of the Italian Political and Territorial Commission. "The city", he said, "must be founded on democratic principles. It must be free and independent, so organized that it can have a life of is own, free from outside influence, from any one power or group of powers".

That the so-called Slav bloc was considering no retreat from its stand of the previous weeks was evidenced a little later in the session when Dmitri Manuilsky Foreign Minister of the Ukraine, spoke with insistence that the compromise be set aside and Yugoslavia be given what she asked for.

**Secretary Bevin.**

The rift persisted. No minds were changed. On the following day Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary continued the defense of the Trieste compromise. After stating that the terms of the Italian peace treaty were not harsh he went on to take up charges made previously by Yugoslavia that the Western Powers sought to turn Trieste into a military base.

"It has been suggested that Great Britain approached this problem from a strategical point of view in order to create an Anglo-Saxon military base. But under our proposals it will be

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



for the Security Council to decide when our troops which we are willing to leave at their disposal during the transition period are to be withdrawn. Thereafter, no foreign troops can enter the Free Territory unless the Security Council decide. I hope it will make it clear that we have no strategical interests in Trieste at all and I trust therefore that these unfounded allegations will not be repeated ".

But they were repeated that night by Eduard Kardelj in the course of an address in which he reiterated that Yugoslavia would not accept the Trieste Compromise.

Speeches before the final voting on the treaty were completed on 9 October. The principal address of the day was delivered by Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov. He took issue with the proposed Trieste statute demanding that administration of the Free Territory be placed in the hands of a government elected by the popular assembly rather than in those of a governor with veto powers. " The Anglo-American proposals for Trieste mean in actual fact making the city something like a colony ", and he went on to term the French proposal as adopted by the Political Commission, nothing more than a revised version of the British-American proposals. The Soviet Foreign Minister declared that the statute was not in accord with previous decisions on Trieste reached by the Council of Foreign Ministers. " The plan " he said, " embodies such restriction on the Legislature and Executive and grants such wide powers to the Governor that hardly anything remains of democracy ".

### Saragat's Press Conference.

On the same day at Paris, Giuseppe Saragat, President of the Italian Constituent Assembly, predicted that " uncontrolled inflation and social unrest " will take place in Italy upon the application of the economic clauses of the treaty. In the course of a press conference the leader of the delegation at Paris declared that already Italy can foresee a deficit of 430,000,000,000 lire for the coming year and that " disastrous consequences " may be brought about by the imposition of the additional financial burden. Discussing the Trieste question the leader of the delegation affirmed that " no Italian is satisfied with the statute ", and continued that the entire Istrian peninsula should have remained Italian on ethnic grounds. He strongly refuted allegations made in some quarters of the Italian press that Italy had refused to come to bilateral agreement with Yugoslavia.

Mr. Saragat made two points in his objections to the economic clauses of the treaty. First he declared that Italian reparations should be fixed and then adjusted to the country's capacity to pay. Secondly he contended that the resultant figure should have been divided among the creditor nations in proportion to the damage suffered by them as a result of Italian action. The President of the Constituent Assembly expressed regrets that no court of arbitration had been set up to settle disputes that may arise in carrying out the economic clauses. For example, he declared that Italy will have no means of claiming Italian property in Allied countries that may be in excess of the damages suffered by those countries. Mr. Saragat took note of efforts made by various delegations to have the burden of reparations reduced and expressed the hope that this viewpoint might prevail among the Foreign Ministers.

On the labor front relations continued spotty. The rash of strikes in public services had caused Prime Minister De Gasperi to declare in the Council of Ministers on 3 October that State employees and workers in public services could not and must not go on strike. *Unità* in particular took a dim view of this, asserting that compulsory arbitration of disputes with State employees and public services personnel would prevent the expansion of working class organizations. The paper called for adoption of proposals made by the telephone and gas workers that those services be nationalized. Be that as it may, *Risorgimento Liberale* reported on 10 October that the next Council of Ministers' session would take up and possibly approve a draft decree enforcing compulsory arbitration for such labor disputes. The paper said the decree would probably call for the setting up of three kinds of commissions having respectively a national, regional and provincial character.

### Labor Negotiations.

Relations between the Italian Confederation of Labor and the Italian Confederation of Industrialists also followed a wavy pattern. Representatives met on 4 October and discussed increase of wages. Neither side got much further than presenting their own proposals. The C.G.I.L. asked for a minimum pay of 9,000 lire for a 40-hour week and 10,750 lire for a 48-hour work week. It also demanded a 15-day annual vacation. The Confederation of Industrialists countered with an offer of a 20 % increase in wages over the December 1945 scale and a 12-day annual vacation.

At another meeting on 7 October the atmosphere was strained. The Confederation of Industrialists charged that the meetings were being

437

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



sabotaged by strong attacks from the leftist press and demanded that the C. G. I. L. should pledge to discuss the various questions on a technical basis without giving consideration to directives coming from the political parties represented therein. The C. G. I. L. denied the charge that its negotiations were colored by party influence. *Risorgimento Liberale* at this point, declared that the time-tested remedy for general prosperity was increase in production and quantity of goods. *Unità* headlined "Industrialists—the times of fascists are over". *Italia Nuova* charged the left with double-dealing in the matter of wage negotiations. *Avanti* reported a "denunciation by the C. G. I. L. against the inflation desired by the industrialists".

The bickering in the press had its effect. At the meeting of the representatives of the two organizations on 8 October it was agreed that they would draft in common agreement the press announcements as to the progress of the negotiations. At week's end, things were calming down. The joint communique issued by the two organizations after the meeting of 9 October stated that the conversations had led to a remarkable rapprochment.

But it was not all a matter of negotiation. The most serious riot since the armistice, broke out on 9 October when a throng of workers variously estimated at from 8,000 to 10,00 stormed the Viminal Palace in protest against their dismissal resulting from the decision taken by the Genio Civile to suspend the works "a regia", in the Rome area. In spite of efforts by Ministers Nenni and Macrelli to calm the crowd, blows and shots were exchanged between the men and the police. When order had been restored three men had died and 141 had been injured.

## NO U. S. NAVAL BASE AT NAPLES

With reference to published reports that the United States Navy was seeking facilities for a port base at Naples, Vice Admiral B. H. Bieri, U. S. Navy, Commander United States Naval Forces in the Mediterranean, issued the following statement today:

"Throughout the war, the headquarters of the U. S. Naval Forces in the Mediterranean have been located ashore—first at Algiers and subsequently at Palermo and Naples. In line with our policy to interfere as little as possible with the Italian economy, the Palermo headquarters have long since been closed down and arrangements have now been completed to close down our Naples headquarters ashore and establish them aboard the USS GRAND CANYON, recently arrived. For this purpose, an additional berth for docking the GRAND CANYON was assigned by the port authorities and an unused and open part of the same dock has been set aside for naval trucks and automobiles.

"As part of the move, we are derequisitioning six large buildings in Naples, including storehouses, and their functions will be established aboard the GRAND CANYON.

"Any report that the United States Navy is establishing a naval base at Naples or elsewhere in Italy is incorrect".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Eighty-one per-cent of the wheat amassing goal has been collected according to figures provided by UNNRA and the Economic Section. The figures are published in tabular form. Toscana, Umbria and Lucania all of which exceeded their goals two weeks ago continued to forge ahead. However the largest increase this week was turned in by Piemonte which jumped from 84.1 per-cent last week to 91 per-cent in the current tabulation. Investigations regarding estimated production and retention are being carried out and revisions will be made upon completion.

Italy's housing situation critical even before the war is one of the most urgent problems faced by the Government. As reported by UNNRA'S *Economic Notes*, a study by Sig. Barberi, Director of the Istituto Centrale di Statistica, entitled "Le Condizioni delle Popolazioni Italiane nei riguardi delle Case di Abitazione" showed that during the period from 1931 to 1941, housing accomodation increased in Lombardy by approximately 350,000 rooms, in Lazio by nearly 300,000 rooms and in Piedmont by about 190,000 rooms. A total of less than 42,000 rooms, however constituted the increase in Umbria, Lucania and Abruzzi.

The population increase from the 1931 census has been more than 4,000,000. The increase in housing (based on the ratio established by the 1931 census) to accomodate this increase in population should have been double the actual net increase. Added to this delicieney of adequate housing due to lack of construction activity before the war is the decrease in housing as a direct result of war damage. The Ministry of Public Works in estimates corrected up to 30 April 1946 declares that a total of 4,026,081 rooms were damaged or destroyed. Of these 1,145,000 rooms were destroyed, 645,400 heavily damaged and 2,226,680, lightly damaged.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 27/9/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 4/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 73,307 | 89.0 | 77,500 | 94.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 213 | 55.6 | 223 | 58.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 221,353 | 67.8 | 225,046 | 68.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 16,700 | 3,431 | 135 | 3.9 | 143 | 4.2 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 298,756 | 74.0 | 300,651 | 74.4 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 506,022 | 88.0 | 508,568 | 88.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,099,786 | 79.0 | 1,112,131 | 79.9 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 191,923 | 105.1 | 192,913 | 105.7 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 250,859 | 99.5 | 251,241 | 99.6 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 104,618 | 101.6 | 105,010 | 102.0 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 84,268 | 82.3 | 84,871 | 82.9 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 631,668 | 98.7 | 634,035 | 99.1 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 69,070 | 78.3 | 70,017 | 79.4 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 27,464 | 60.1 | 27,963 | 61.2 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 76,334 | 75.9 | 77,044 | 76.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 42,742 | 104.7 | 43,127 | 105.6 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 12,699 | 43.2 | 13,100 | 44.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 228,309 | 74.9 | 231,251 | 75.9 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 71,280 | 35.9 | 73,487 | 37.0 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 35,890 | 84.1 | 36,381 | 85.3 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 107,170 | 44.4 | 109,868 | 45.6 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,066,933 | 80.2 | 2,087,285 | 81.0 |

"The cost of providing Italy with the minimum number of houses both new and repaired, to meet present, urgent needs would be about 640,000 million lire", says UNRRA. "Both directly and indirectly, UNRRA is contributing towards repairing and rebuilding the houses that Italy needs. The chief contribution is indirect—through the provision of coal needed for the manufacture of building materials. Of UNRRA's total coal shipments which amounted to over 3,500,000 tons by the end of September, it is estimated some 147,000 tons were allocated to brick kilns, cement, glass and lime works. October allocations amounted to a further 32,200 tons".

The direct contribution of UNRRA is through the CASAS (Comitato Amministrativo Soccorsi ai Senzatetto) project designed to help the neediest of those who have lost their homes through the war. CASAS plans to help in the repair of about 78,000 rooms by the end of the year and the building of 700 new family apartments by February 1947. The CASAS project is financed by an allocation of 1,000 million lire from the Lire Fund created by the sale of UNRRA-imported goods delivered free of charge to the Italian Government.

As of 15 September CASAS had made possible the repair of 32,843 rooms. During the four week period from mid-August to mid-September, repairs were completed on 7,115 rooms while repairs were in progress on a further 8,654.

As to new construction, work is in progress on 25 of the 26 contracts approved by the Executive Committee of CASAS. This construction will provide 700 new apartments.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On his return from leave Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., has resumed duty as Director, Air Forces Sub-Commission. Lt. Col. F. E. Marek, Deputy Director, was Acting Director during the Air Vice Marshal's absence.

Lt. Col. A. V. Reinero, I. A. F., was presented the Medal of Freedom with Bronze Palm by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commis-

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



sioner, Allied Commission, on 10 October, 1946, for outstanding services in connection with the Aleom Military Courier Service.

The Military Courier continues to give good service and in spite of bad weather in the past week all schedules have been completed.

The seaplane Base on Lake Bracciano was visited and in addition to a routine inspection, a flight test was carried out on a C Z 501 converted to carry six passengers. The test proved successful and this type of aircraft will in future be used on the Military Courier run between Rome and Genoa.

Staff officers of Air Forces Sub-Commission, flew to Pantelleria to inspect progress in demilitarization of the island. All efforts are at first being directed to the completion of destruction of all military installations on Lampedusa and in the near future the working party will begin operations in Pantelleria.

Two special Military Courier flights were flown between Centocelle and Paris carrying Italian delegates and mail to the Peace Conference.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Major General E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., spent a day at the Army School of Administration at Rieti where he found great keenness in evidence and considerable progress made towards the indoctrination of new ideas in such details of administration as hygiene, cooking, welfare, management, education and personnel selection.

Lt. Col. R. A. Curtiss (AQMG) has just returned from a tour of the northern BLT's where all is going reasonably well.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

Until recently all official business relating to the Italian Merchant Marine has been conducted between the Navy Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, and the Italian Ministry of Marine. To this end the Ministry of Marine had appointed an English speaking officer as Liaison Officer with the Navy Sub-Commission. Now that the Ministry of Mercantile Marine has been separated from the Ministry of Marine and in view of the large amount of business conducted between the Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Navy Sub-Commission it has been requested that an English speaking representative be appointed by the Ministry to act as Liaison Officer with the Navy Sub-Commission.

The C. I. D. has completed an investigation and secured confessions from the operators of a counterfeiting ring that issued $500,000 worth of forged U. S. Navy checks.

A communication has recently been received confirming previous instructions to the effect that Italy is now in a position to make arrangements for the supply of necessary funds to cover expenses of Italian warships and auxiliaries incurred abroad, and that particular attention should be given to the supply of funds to meet the requirements of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports and transitting the Suez Canal.

It is estimated that the Battleships in the Bitter Lakes require funds:

1. For pay of officers and ships company in local currency including arrangements for exchanging a limited quantity of lire.

2. To pay for supplies of fresh water provided through the Suez Canal company.

3. To obtain from commercial sources fuel oil, lubricating oil, and any other stores which are not sent from Italy and have to be provided locally.

1. To pay for fresh provisions obtained from the shore.

Italian warships or Italian Merchant ships under Italian Government charter visiting Egyptian ports require funds:

1. To pay harbour dues.

2. To obtain from commercial sources fuel oil, lubricating oil, fresh water and provisions.

3. To obtain local currency for advances of pay to officers and men.

It is expected that in the future all Italian ships will draw the majority of their supplies from Italy in order to reduce the consumption of foreign exchange.

## DECORATIONS

Three American decorations were presented by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's office on Wednesday 9 October 1946. The recipients were Col. James J. Carnes who received the Legion of Merit, Lt. Col. Virginio Reinero of the Italian Air Force who received the Medal of Freedom with Bronze Palm and Massimiliano Gaston, civilian, who received the Medal of Freedom.

Col. Carnes' award was received for meritorious service during the period from 12 March 1944 to 1 March 1946. During this period, as Chief of the Road Section, Transportation Sub-Commission, he was in charge of the organizing of all ci-

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



vilian truck pools for the entire mainland of Italy as far north as Pisa-Rimini line. Col. Carnes with the assistance of some of the members of his staff and the Italian Government was responsible for the establishment of ENAC which organization eventually took over the responsibility of movement of civilian supplies by truck. Col. Carnes is presently assigned to the Legal Sub-Commission.

Lt. Col. Reinero was decorated for exceptionally meritorious achievement and outstanding service in connection with Allied Military activities in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations from 1 October 1944 to 28 February 1946. As Commanding Officer, Italian Air Force Transport Wing Lt. Col. Reinero was charged with the responsibility of organizing and operating this newly activated Wing and executing many important Allied functions pertinent to the successful conduct of the war. His work in meeting the pressing Allied transport requirements occasioned by the prevailing necessity for concerted aerial evacuation of wounded troops and transport of essential supplies to the fighting units rendered services of inestimable value to Allied combat operations.

Mr. Gaston received the Medal of Freedom for exceptionally meritorius conduct in the performance of outstanding services in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations from July 1944 to 12 January 1946. As investigator and Senior Administrative Assistant, Security Division, Public Safety Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, Mr. Gaston organized and developed sources of reliable information of high security value.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. M. C. Eyston, (B), (Public Safety) has left the Allied Commission and is proceeding to the United Kingdom for release. Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal Sub-Commission) has left for the United Kingdom on leave. Capt. Charles E. De Saro, (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission), W/O JG Gerald B. Pate, (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission), and Capt. W. J. Warren, (B), (Public Safety) have joined the Allied Commission. Maj. D. D. McColm, (B), (Legal Sub-Commission) and Capt. L. G. Cannings, (B), (Archives) have recently returned from the United Kingdom on leave.

* * *

Major Clayton C. Craig S-4, G-4 (A) formerly of the 15th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division represented the 3rd Division on the speakers stand at Caserta on 5 October 1946 at the ceremony commemorating the third anniversary of the liberation of Caserta by his former organization.

* * *

Officers of the 2675th Regiment held a formal dance on 5 October 1946 at the Army Rest Center.

* * *

Technical Sergeant Eligio Lithgow, Jr., clerk-stenographer in the Chief Commissioner's office was presented with the American Army Commendation Ribbon on 3 October 1946. Presentation was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross Commanding Officer 2675th Regiment.

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

October 12, 1946

Vol. III, No. 26

# ALLIED COMMISSION WEEKLY BULLETIN

OCT 14 1946

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL.

The long hard enervating struggle was drawing to a close. Italy had made her pleas. The members of the various commissions had presented their pros and cons and now it was up to the plenary session of the Peace Conference and after—the Council of Ministers. The emphasis was on speed. The work of the conference must finish. The United Nations were waiting. That was the picture in Paris this week as weary delegates having hastily wound up their commission sessions at the end of last week assembled for examination of the product of their toil and to vote on its execution.

The Italian Peace Treaty was approved by the Conference at the end of a very late session begun on 9 October. There was very little if any change in the articles as proposed by the various commissions. Reparations of 225,000,000 dollars to Greece, Yugoslavia and Ethiopia were set. The military articles were speedily voted. These provided for a navy of 22,500 men, an army of 185,000 men and a force of Carabinieri of 65,000 men. (The latter could be increased by 10,000 with equal reduction of the Army). The Air Force would consist of 200 combat and 150 transport planes and 25,000 men.

A free port was ordered established at Trieste that would serve as a port of registration for ships of Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Switzerland. The Governor of the Free Territory was made responsible for the application of the territory's statute and it was voted that the legislative assembly be elected by proportional representation through universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage.

In the case of the colonies, the Conference followed the line proposed by the Council of Foreign Ministers. Italy would be shorn of her African Empire; a special council of Deputy Foreign Ministers would study the problem of disposition for one year and if at the end of that time no agreement were reached, the matter would be turned over to the United Nations for final disposition. Other articles provided for guarantee of fundamental human rights by France and Yugoslavia in territories ceded to those countries by Italy; cession of Tenda and Briga and other small areas to France along the Alpine frontier with Italy; guarantee by Italy to recognize the sovereignty of Albania; obligation of Italy to register with the United Nations within six months all bilateral treaties she might have with other countries; satisfaction of Albanian claims from Italian resources within that country. The French line was set as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary and the boundaries of Trieste were established without comment or objection.

### Problems Still Remain.

But the fate of Italy was by no means sealed. There was much still to be settled. Although the commissions had reached nominal or "voting" agreements on all points under discussion, the knottiest of the problems still remained to be settled exactly where they first came under consideration—in the Council of Ministers.

This was particularly true of the Trieste problem. The French line had been set as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary and the statute for the administration of the Free Territory had been voted. But Yugoslavia had reiterated her stand that she would sign no Treaty that set the French line as her boundary with Italy. People everywhere wondered: were things really settled?

On Thursday 3 October 1946, the Council of Ministers recommended to the conference that each of the delegations be limited at the plenary session to speeches of thirty minutes on each draft treaty. This was to be made possible by examining each treaty as a whole rather than clause by clause. Further effort at speed was sought with the request that delegates submit their texts in advance so that they might be translated and published in order to avoid the time necessary to interpret them into other languages.

Other recommendations of the Ministers were: (1) That reports of the working commissions be

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



distributed but not read to the entire conference; (2) Ban on all amendments other than those already mentioned in commission reports; (3) Treaties would be voted on, article by article but there would be no roll-calls unless demanded from the floor; (4) Should the thirty minutes allotted, be insufficient, remarks might be submitted for insertion in the record; and (5) Treaties would be examined in the following order: Italy, Roumania, Hungary and Finland.

**Reparations.**

Reparations occupied the attention of the delegates at the close of last week as they rushed to close the affairs of the commissions before the inauguration of the plenary sessions. On Saturday 5 October, 225,000,000 dollars was fixed by the Italian Economic Commission as the sum Italy must pay to Greece, Yugoslavia and Ethiopia in war reparations. This sum was added to 100,000,000 dollars already conceded to Russia. Broken down, the total sum would yield 100,000,000 each to Greece and Yugoslavia and 25,000,000 dollars to Ethiopia. The question of reparations to Albania was not decided as the delegates split in a ten to ten tie. However the Russian delegate A. A. Arutinian declared that Russia would reserve the right to reopen the question of Albanian reparations in the Council of Ministers.

Italy's reparations figure was not reached without furious debate, both in the setting of the figure and in the mechanics of supervision of payment.

On Friday 4 October a British amendment to the effect that Yugoslavia, Greece and Ethiopia should share 225,000,000 dollars had been termed an "insult" by the Yugoslav delegate. The same term had been applied to the proposal of the United States that Yugoslavia receive 80,000,000 dollars. In the course of his argument against both proposals Milan Bartes Yugoslav spokesman said that 400,000,000 dollars was the least his government could accept from Italy. Both Greece and Albania voiced mild protests to the effect that the proposals were unsatisfactory but, unlike Yugoslavia, neither country voiced a counter-proposal. Further differences of opinion were indicated when Russia charged that votes by the United States and Great Britain to adopt an amendment put forth by Australia establishing machinery to supervise reparations payments by Italy was a violation of Big Four agreements. The amendment, carried by a vote of twelve to eight provided for setting up an international commission consisting of the Big Four and countries who received reparations. If finally adopted by the conference and subsequently by the Council of Foreign Ministers the new commission will meet, select a chairman, determine procedure and employ such staff as required. The Italian Government would be charged with the cost of the Commission's operations.

Agreement however was quickly reached on other points. It was determined that Italy's payment of reparations would be spaced over a period of seven years after the treaty becomes effective but a two year moratorium on deliveries from Italy's current production was allowed. Reparations would take the form of Italian factory and tool equipment designed for munitions, capital goods such as merchant vessels and other products to be manufactured from raw materials to be furnished by the beneficiary countries on commercial terms.

Trieste came once more into the spotlight at the very opening of the first plenary session of the Peace Conference on Monday 7 October. The first speaker at the Conference Senator Tom Connally of the United States declared flatly that his country would make no further concessions on the issue. He reminded the delegates that the outline of the principles for the Free Territory of Trieste had been approved by two thirds of the Italian Political and Territorial Commission. "The city", he said, "must be founded on democratic principles. It must be free and independent, so organized that it can have a life of is own, free from outside influence, from any one power or group of powers".

That the so-called Slav bloc was considering no retreat from its stand of the previous weeks was evidenced a little later in the session when Dmitri Manuilsky Foreign Minister of the Ukraine, spoke with insistence that the compromise be set aside and Yugoslavia be given what she asked for.

**Secretary Bevin.**

The rift persisted. No minds were changed. On the following day Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary continued the defense of the Trieste compromise. After stating that the terms of the Italian peace treaty were not harsh he went on to take up charges made previously by Yugoslavia that the Western Powers sought to turn Trieste into a military base.

"It has been suggested that Great Britain approached this problem from a strategical point of view in order to create an Anglo-Saxon military base. But under our proposals it will be

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



for the Security Council to decide when our troops which we are willing to leave at their disposal during the transition period are to be withdrawn. Thereafter, no foreign troops can enter the Free Territory unless the Security Council decide. I hope it will make it clear that we have no strategical interests in Trieste at all and I trust therefore that these unfounded allegations will not be repeated ".

But they were repeated that night by Edvard Kardelj in the course of an address in which he reiterated that Yugoslavia would not accept the Trieste Compromise.

Speeches before the final voting on the treaty were completed on 9 October. The principal address of the day was delivered by Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov. He took issue with the proposed Trieste statute demanding that administration of the Free Territory be placed in the hands of a government elected by the popular assembly rather than in those of a governor with veto powers. " The Anglo-American proposals for Trieste mean in actual fact making the city something like a colony ", and he went on to term the French proposal as adopted by the Political Commission, nothing more than a revised version of the British-American proposals. The Soviet Foreign Minister declared that the statute was not in accord with previous decisions on Trieste reached by the Council of Foreign Ministers. " The plan " he said, " embodies such restriction on the Legislature and Executive and grants such wide powers to the Governor that hardly anything remains of democracy ".

### Saragat's Press Conference.

On the same day at Paris, Giuseppe Saragat, President of the Italian Constituent Assembly, predicted that " uncontrolled inflation and social unrest " will take place in Italy upon the application of the economic clauses of the treaty. In the course of a press conference the leader of the delegation at Paris declared that already Italy can foresee a deficit of 430,000,000,000 lire for the coming year and that " disastrous consequences " may be brought about by the imposition of the additional financial burden. Discussing the Trieste question the leader of the delegation affirmed that " no Italian is satisfied with the statute ", and continued that the entire Istrian peninsula should have remained Italian on ethnic grounds. He strongly refuted allegations made in some quarters of the Italian press that Italy had refused to come to bilateral agreement with Yugoslavia.

Mr. Saragat made two points in his objections to the economic clauses of the treaty. First he declared that Italian reparations should be fixed and then adjusted to the country's capacity to pay. Secondly he contended that the resultant figure should have been divided among the creditor nations in proportion to the damage suffered by them as a result of Italian action. The President of the Constituent Assembly expressed regrets that no court of arbitration had been set up to settle disputes that may arise in carrying out the economic clauses. For example, he declared that Italy will have no means of claiming Italian property in Allied countries that may be in excess of the damages suffered by those countries. Mr. Saragat took note of efforts made by various delegations to have the burden of reparations reduced and expressed the hope that this viewpoint might prevail among the Foreign Ministers.

On the labor front relations continued spotty. The rash of strikes in public services had caused Prime Minister De Gasperi to declare in the Council of Ministers on 3 October that State employees and workers in public services could not and must not go on strike. *Unità* in particular took a dim view of this, asserting that compulsory arbitration of disputes with State employees and public services personnel would prevent the expansion of working class organizations. The paper called for adoption of proposals made by the telephone and gas workers that those services be nationalized. Be that as it may, *Risorgimento Liberale* reported on 10 October that the next Council of Ministers' session would take up and possibly approve a draft decree enforcing compulsory arbitration for such labor disputes. The paper said the decree would probably call for the setting up of three kinds of commissions having respectively a national, regional and provincial character.

### Labor Negotiations.

Relations between the Italian Confederation of Labor and the Italian Confederation of Industrialists also followed a wavy pattern. Representatives met on 4 October and discussed increase of wages. Neither side got much further than presenting their own proposals. The C.G.I.L. asked for a minimum pay of 9,000 lire for a 40-hour week and 10,750 lire for a 48-hour work week. It also demanded a 15-day annual vacation. The Confederation of Industrialists countered with an offer of a 20 % increase in wages over the December 1945 scale and a 12-day annual vacation.

At another meeting on 7 October the atmosphere was strained. The Confederation of Industrialists charged that the meetings were being

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



sabotaged by strong attacks from the leftist press and demanded that the C. G. I. L. should pledge to discuss the various questions on a technical basis without giving consideration to directives coming from the political parties represented therein. The C. G. I. L. denied the charge that its negotiations were colored by party influence. *Risorgimento Liberale* at this point, declared that the time-tested remedy for general prosperity was increase in production and quantity of goods. *Unità* headlined "Industrialists—the times of fascists are over". *Italia Nuova* charged the left with double-dealing in the matter of wage negotiations. *Avanti* reported a "denunciation by the C. G. I. L. against the inflation desired by the industrialists".

The bickering in the press had its effect. At the meeting of the representatives of the two organizations on 8 October it was agreed that they would draft in common agreement the press announcements as to the progress of the negotiations. At week's end, things were calming down. The joint communique issued by the two organizations after the meeting of 9 October stated that the conversations had led to a remarkable rapprochment.

But it was not all a matter of negotiation. The most serious riot since the armistice, broke out on 9 October when a throng of workers variously estimated at from 8,000 to 10,00 stormed the Viminal Palace in protest against their dismissal resulting from the decision taken by the Genio Civile to suspend the works "a regia", in the Rome area. In spite of efforts by Ministers Nenni and Macrelli to calm the crowd, blows and shots were exchanged between the men and the police. When order had been restored three men had died and 141 had been injured.

## NO U. S. NAVAL BASE AT NAPLES

With reference to published reports that the United States Navy was seeking facilities for a port base at Naples, Vice Admiral B. H. Bieri, U. S. Navy, Commander United States Naval Forces in the Mediterranean, issued the following statement today:

"Throughout the war, the headquarters of the U. S. Naval Forces in the Mediterranean have been located ashore—first at Algiers and subsequently at Palermo and Naples. In line with our policy to interfere as little as possible with the Italian economy, the Palermo headquarters have long since been closed down and arrangements have now been completed to close down our Naples headquarters ashore and establish them aboard the USS GRAND CANYON, recently arrived. For this purpose, an additional berth for docking the GRAND CANYON was assigned by the port authorities and an unused and open part of the same dock has been set aside for naval trucks and automobiles.

"As part of the move, we are derequisitioning six large buildings in Naples, including storehouses, and their functions will be established aboard the GRAND CANYON.

"Any report that the United States Navy is establishing a naval base at Naples or elsewhere in Italy is incorrect".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Eighty-one per-cent of the wheat amassing goal has been collected according to figures provided by UNNRA and the Economic Section. The figures are published in tabular form. Toscana, Umbria and Lucania all of which exceeded their goals two weeks ago continued to forge ahead. However the largest increase this week was turned in by Piemonte which jumped from 84.1 per-cent last week to 94 per-cent in the current tabulation. Investigations regarding estimated production and retention are being carried out and revisions will be made upon completion.

Italy's housing situation critical even before the war is one of the most urgent problems faced by the Government. As reported by UNNRA'S *Economic Notes*, a study by Sig. Barberi, Director of the Istituto Centrale di Statistica, entitled "Le Condizioni delle Popolazioni Italiane nei riguardi delle Case di Abitazione" showed that during the period from 1931 to 1941, housing accomodation increased in Lombardy by approximately 350,000 rooms, in Lazio by nearly 300,000 rooms and in Piedmont by about 190,000 rooms. A total of less than 42,000 rooms, however constituted the increase in Umbria, Lucania and Abruzzi.

The population increase from the 1931 census has been more than 4,000,000. The increase in housing (based on the ratio established by the 1931 census) to accomodate this increase in population should have been double the actual net increase. Added to this deficiency of adequate housing due to lack of construction activity before the war is the decrease in housing as a direct result of war damage. The Ministry of Public Works in estimates corrected up to 30 April 1946 declares that a total of 4,026,081 rooms were damaged or destroyed. Of these 1,145,000 rooms were destroyed, 645,400 heavily damaged and 2,226,680, lightly damaged.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 27/9/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 4/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,650 | 82,403 | 73,307 | 89.0 | 77,500 | 94.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 213 | 55.6 | 223 | 58.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,650 | 326,662 | 221,353 | 67.8 | 225,046 | 68.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 135 | 3.9 | 143 | 4.2 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 298,756 | 74.0 | 300,661 | 74.4 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 506,022 | 88.0 | 508,568 | 88.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,099,786 | 79.0 | 1,112,131 | 79.9 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 191,923 | 105.1 | 192,913 | 105.7 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 250,859 | 99.5 | 251,241 | 99.6 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 104,618 | 101.6 | 105,010 | 102.0 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 84,268 | 82.3 | 84,871 | 82.9 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 631,668 | 98.7 | 634,035 | 99.1 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 69,070 | 78.3 | 70,017 | 79.4 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 27,464 | 60.1 | 27,963 | 61.2 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 160,545 | 76,334 | 75.9 | 77,044 | 76.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 42,742 | 104.7 | 43,127 | 105.6 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 12,699 | 43.2 | 13,100 | 44.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 364,661 | 228,309 | 74.9 | 231,251 | 75.9 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 71,280 | 35.9 | 73,487 | 37.0 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 35,890 | 84.1 | 36,381 | 85.3 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 107,170 | 44.4 | 109,868 | 45.6 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,066,933 | 80.2 | 2,087,285 | 81.0 |

"The cost of providing Italy with the minimum number of houses both new and repaired, to meet present, urgent needs would be about 640,000 million lire", says UNNRA. "Both directly and indirectly, UNNRA is contributing towards repairing and rebuilding the houses that Italy needs. The chief contribution is indirect—through the provision of coal needed for the manufacture of building materials. Of UNNRA's total coal shipments which amounted to over 3,500,000 tons by the end of September, it is estimated some 147,000 tons were allocated to brick kilns, cement, glass and lime works. October allocations amounted to a further 32,200 tons".

The direct contribution of UNNRA is through the CASAS (Comitato Amministrativo Soccorsi ai Senzatetto) project designed to help the neediest of those who have lost their homes through the war. CASAS plans to help in the repair of about 78,000 rooms by the end of the year and the building of 700 new family apartments by February 1947. The CASAS project is financed by an allocation of 1,000 million lire from the Lire Fund created by the sale of UNNRA-imported goods delivered free of charge to the Italian Government.

As of 15 September CASAS had made possible the repair of 32,843 rooms. During the four week period from mid-August to mid-September, repairs were completed on 7,115 rooms while repairs were in progress on a further 8,654.

As to new construction, work is in progress on 25 of the 26 contracts approved by the Executive Committee of CASAS. This construction will provide 700 new apartments.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On his return from leave Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., has resumed duty as Director, Air Forces Sub-Commission. Lt. Col. F. E. Marck, Deputy Director, was Acting Director during the Air Vice Marshal's absence.

Lt. Col. A. V. Reinero, I. A. F., was presented the Medal of Freedom with Bronze Palm by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commis-

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



sioner, Allied Commission, on 10 October, 1946, for outstanding services in connection with the Aleom Military Courier Service.

The Military Courier continues to give good service and in spite of bad weather in the past week all schedules have been completed.

The seaplane Base on Lake Bracciano was visited and in addition to a routine inspection, a flight test was carried out on a C Z 501 converted to carry six passengers. The test proved successful and this type of aircraft will in future be used on the Military Courier run between Rome and Genoa.

Staff officers of Air Forces Sub-Commission, flew to Pantelleria to inspect progress in demilitarization of the island. All efforts are at first being directed to the completion of destruction of all military installations on Lampedusa and in the near future the working party will begin operations in Pantelleria.

Two special Military Courier flights were flown between Centocelle and Paris carrying Italian delegates and mail to the Peace Conference.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Major General E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., spent a day at the Army School of Administration at Rieti where he found great keenness in evidence and considerable progress made towards the indoctrination of new ideas in such details of administration as hygiene, cooking, welfare, management, education and personnel selection.

Lt. Col. R. A. Curtiss (AQMG) has just returned from a tour of the northern BLU's where all is going reasonably well.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

Until recently all official business relating to the Italian Merchant Marine has been conducted between the Navy Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, and the Italian Ministry of Marine. To this end the Ministry of Marine had appointed an English speaking officer as Liaison Officer with the Navy Sub-Commission. Now that the Ministry of Mercantile Marine has been separated from the Ministry of Marine and in view of the large amount of business conducted between the Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Navy Sub-Commission it has been requested that an English speaking representative be appointed by the Ministry to act as Liaison Officer with the Navy Sub-Commission.

The C. I. D. has completed an investigation and secured confessions from the operators of a counterfeiting ring that issued $500,000 worth of forged U. S. Navy checks.

A communication has recently been received confirming previous instructions to the effect that Italy is now in a position to make arrangements for the supply of necessary funds to cover expenses of Italian warships and auxiliaries incurred abroad, and that particular attention should be given to the supply of funds to meet the requirements of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports and transitting the Suez Canal.

It is estimated that the Battleships in the Bitter Lakes require funds:

1. For pay of officers and ships company in local currency including arrangements for exchanging a limited quantity of lire.

2. To pay for supplies of fresh water provided through the Suez Canal company.

3. To obtain from commercial sources fuel oil, lubricating oil, and any other stores which are not sent from Italy and have to be provided locally.

4. To pay for fresh provisions obtained from the shore.

Italian warships or Italian Merchant ships under Italian Government charter visiting Egyptian ports require funds:

1. To pay harbour dues.

2. To obtain from commercial sources fuel oil, lubricating oil, fresh water and provisions.

3. To obtain local currency for advances of pay to officers and men.

It is expected that in the future all Italian ships will draw the majority of their supplies from Italy in order to reduce the consumption of foreign exchange.

## DECORATIONS

Three American decorations were presented by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's office on Wednesday 9 October 1946. The recipients were Col. James J. Carnes who received the Legion of Merit, Lt. Col. Virginio Reinero of the Italian Air Force who received the Medal of Freedom with Bronze Palm and Massimiliano Gaston, civilian, who received the Medal of Freedom.

Col. Carnes' award was received for meritorious service during the period from 12 March 1944 to 1 March 1946. During this period, as Chief of the Road Section, Transportation Sub-Commission, he was in charge of the organizing of all ci-

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



vilian truck pools for the entire mainland of Italy as far north as Pisa-Rimini line. Col. Carnes with the assistance of some of the members of his staff and the Italian Government was responsible for the establishment of ENAC which organization eventually took over the responsibility of movement of civilian supplies by truck. Col. Carnes is presently assigned to the Legal Sub-Commission.

Lt. Col. Reinero was decorated for exceptionally meritorious achievement and outstanding service in connection with Allied Military activities in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations from 1 October 1944 to 28 February 1946. As Commanding Officer, Italian Air Force Transport Wing Lt. Col. Reinero was charged with the responsibility of organizing and operating this newly activated Wing and executing many important Allied functions pertinent to the successful conduct of the war. His work in meeting the pressing Allied transport requirements occasioned by the prevailing necessity for concerted aerial evacuation of wounded troops and transport of essential supplies to the fighting units rendered services of inestimable value to Allied combat operations.

Mr. Gaston received the Medal of Freedom for exceptionally meritorius conduct in the performance of outstanding services in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations from July 1944 to 12 January 1946. As investigator and Senior Administrative Assistant, Security Division, Public Safety Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, Mr. Gaston organized and developed sources of reliable information of high security value.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. M. C. Eyston, (B), (Public Safety) has left the Allied Commission and is proceeding to the United Kingdom for release. Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal Sub-Commission) has left for the United Kingdom on leave. Capt. Charles E. De Saro, (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission), W/O JG Gerald B. Pate, (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission), and Capt. W. J. Warren, (B), (Public Safety) have joined the Allied Commission. Maj. D. D. McColm, (B), (Legal Sub-Commission) and Capt. L. G. Cannings, (B), (Archives) have recently returned from the United Kingdom on leave.

* * *

Major Clayton C. Craig S-4, G-4 (A) formerly of the 15th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division represented the 3rd Division on the speakers stand at Caserta on 5 October 1946 at the ceremony commemorrting the third anniversary of the liberation of Caserta by his former organization.

* * *

Officers of the 2675th Regiment held a formal dance on 5 October 1946 at the Army Rest Center.

* * *

Technical Sergeant Eligio Lithgow, Jr., clerk-stenographer in the Chief Commissioner's office was presented with the American Army Commendation Ribbon on 3 October 1946. Presentation was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross Commanding Officer 2675th Regiment.

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

Vol. III, No. 26

October 12, 1946

OCT 14 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLTICAL

The long hard enervating struggle was drawing to a close. Italy had made her pleas. The members of the various commissions had presented their pros and cons and now it was up to the plenary session of the Peace Conference and after—the Council of Ministers. The emphasis was on speed. The work of the conference must finish. The United Nations were waiting. That was the picture in Paris this week as weary delegates having hastily wound up their commission sessions at the end of last week assembled for examination of the product of their toil and to vote on its execution.

The Italian Peace Treaty was approved by the Conference at the end of a very late session begun on 9 October. There was very little if any change in the articles as proposed by the various commissions. Reparations of 225,000,000 dollars to Greece, Yugoslavia and Ethiopia were set. The military articles were speedily voted. These provided for a navy of 22,500 men, an army of 185,000 men and a force of Carabinieri of 65,000 men. (The latter could be increased by 10,000 with equal reduction of the Army). The Air Force would consist of 200 combat and 150 transport planes and 25,000 men.

A free port was ordered established at Trieste that would serve as a port of registration for ships of Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Switzerland. The Governor of the Free Territory was made responsible for the application of the territory's statute and it was voted that the legislative assembly be elected by proportional representation through universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage.

In the case of the colonies, the Conference followed the line proposed by the Council of Foreign Ministers. Italy would be shorn of her African Empire; a special council of Deputy Foreign Ministers would study the problem of disposition for one year and if at the end of that time no agreement were reached, the matter would be turned over to the United Nations for final disposition. Other articles provided for guarantee of fundamental human rights by France and Yugoslavia in territories ceded to those countries by Italy; cession of Tenda and Briga and other small areas to France along the Alpine frontier with Italy; guarantee by Italy to recognize the sovereignty of Albania; obligation of Italy to register with the United Nations within six months all bilateral treaties she might have with other countries; satisfaction of Albanian claims from Italian resources within that country. The French line was set as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary and the boundaries of Trieste were established without comment or objection.

### Problems Still Remain.

But the fate of Italy was by no means sealed. There was much still to be settled. Although the commissions had reached nominal or "voting" agreements on all points under discussion, the knottiest of the problems still remained to be settled exactly where they first came under consideration—in the Council of Ministers.

This was particularly true of the Trieste problem. The French line had been set as the Italo-Yugoslav boundary and the statute for the administration of the Free Territory had been voted. But Yugoslavia had reiterated her stand that she would sign no Treaty that set the French line as her boundary with Italy. People everywhere wondered: were things really settled?

On Thursday 3 October 1946, the Council of Ministers recommended to the conference that each of the delegations be limited at the plenary session to speeches of thirty minutes on each draft treaty. This was to be made possible by examining each treaty as a whole rather than clause by clause. Further effort at speed was sought with the request that delegates submit their texts in advance so that they might be translated and published in order to avoid the time necessary to interpret them into other languages.

Other recommendations of the Ministers were: (1) That reports of the working commissions be

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



distributed but not read to the entire conference; (2) Ban on all amendments other than those already mentioned in commission reports; (3) Treaties would be voted on, article by article but there would be no roll-calls unless demanded from the floor; (4) Should the thirty minutes allotted, be insufficient, remarks might be submitted for insertion in the record; and (5) Treaties would be examined in the following order: Italy, Romania, Hungary and Finland.

**Reparations.**

Reparations occupied the attention of the delegates at the close of last week as they rushed to close the affairs of the commissions before the inauguration of the plenary sessions. On Saturday 5 October, 225,000,000 dollars was fixed by the Italian Economic Commission as the sum Italy must pay to Greece, Yugoslavia and Ethiopia in war reparations. This sum was added to 100,000,000 dollars already conceded to Russia. Broken down, the total sum would yield 100,000,000 each to Greece and Yugoslavia and 25,000,000 dollars to Ethiopia. The question of reparations to Albania was not decided as the delegates split in a ten to ten tie. However the Russian delegate A. A. Arutinian declared that Russia would reserve the right to reopen the question of Albanian reparations in the Council of Ministers.

Italy's reparations figure was not reached without furious debate, both in the setting of the figure and in the mechanics of supervision of payment.

On Friday 4 October a British amendment to the effect that Yugoslavia, Greece and Ethiopia should share 225,000,000 dollars had been termed an "insult" by the Yugoslav delegate. The same term had been applied to the proposal of the United States that Yugoslavia receive 80,000,000 dollars. In the course of his argument against both proposals Milan Bartes Yugoslav spokesman said that 400,000,000 dollars was the least his government could accept from Italy. Both Greece and Albania voiced mild protests to the effect that the proposals were unsatisfactory but, unlike Yugoslavia, neither country voiced a counter-proposal. Further differences of opinion were indicated when Russia charged that votes by the United States and Great Britain to adopt an amendment put forth by Australia establishing machinery to supervise reparations payments by Italy was a violation of Big Four agreements. The amendment, carried by a vote of twelve to eight provided for setting up an international commission consisting of the Big Four and countries who received reparations. If finally adopted by the conference and subsequently by the Council of Foreign Ministers the new commission will meet, select a chairman, determine procedure and employ such staff as required. The Italian Government would be charged with the cost of the Commission's operations.

Agreement however was quickly reached on other points. It was determined that Italy's payment of reparations would be spaced over a period of seven years after the treaty becomes effective but a two year moratorium on deliveries from Italy's current production was allowed. Reparations would take the form of Italian factory and tool equipment designed for munitions, capital goods such as merchant vessels and other products to be manufactured from raw materials to be furnished by the beneficiary countries on commercial terms.

Trieste came once more into the spotlight at the very opening of the first plenary session of the Peace Conference on Monday 7 October. The first speaker at the Conference Senator Tom Connally of the United States declared flatly that his country would make no further concessions on the issue. He reminded the delegates that the outline of the principles for the Free Territory of Trieste had been approved by two thirds of the Italian Political and Territorial Commission. "The city", he said, "must be founded on democratic principles. It must be free and independent, so organized that it can have a life of is own, free from outside influence, from any one power or group of powers".

That the so-called Slav bloc was considering no retreat from its stand of the previous weeks was evidenced a little later in the session when Dmitri Manuilsky Foreign Minister of the Ukraine, spoke with insistence that the compromise be set aside and Yugoslavia be given what she asked for.

**Secretary Bevin.**

The rift persisted. No minds were changed. On the following day Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary continued the defense of the Trieste compromise. After stating that the terms of the Italian peace treaty were not harsh he went on to take up charges made previously by Yugoslavia that the Western Powers sought to turn Trieste into a military base.

"It has been suggested that Great Britain approached this problem from a strategical point of view in order to create an Anglo-Saxon military base. But under our proposals it will be

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



for the Security Council to decide when our troops which we are willing to leave at their disposal during the transition period are to be withdrawn. Thereafter, no foreign troops can enter the Free Territory unless the Security Council decide. I hope it will make it clear that we have no strategical interests in Trieste at all and I trust therefore that these unfounded allegations will not be repeated ".

But they were repeated that night by Eduard Kardelj in the course of an address in which he reiterated that Yugoslavia would not accept the Trieste Compromise.

Speeches before the final voting on the treaty were completed on 9 October. The principal address of the day was delivered by Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov. He took issue with the proposed Trieste statute demanding that administration of the Free Territory be placed in the hands of a government elected by the popular assembly rather than in those of a governor with veto powers. " The Anglo-American proposals for Trieste mean in actual fact making the city something like a colony ", and he went on to term the French proposal as adopted by the Political Commission, nothing more than a revised version of the British-American proposals. The Soviet Foreign Minister declared that the statute was not in accord with previous decisions on Trieste reached by the Council of Foreign Ministers. " The plan " he said, " embodies such restriction on the Legislature and Executive and grants such wide powers to the Governor that hardly anything remains of democracy ".

### Saragat's Press Conference.

On the same day at Paris, Giuseppe Saragat, President of the Italian Constituent Assembly, predicted that " uncontrolled inflation and social unrest " will take place in Italy upon the application of the economic clauses of the treaty. In the course of a press conference the leader of the delegation at Paris declared that already Italy can foresee a deficit of 430,000,000,000 lire for the coming year and that " disastrous consequences " may be brought about by the imposition of the additional financial burden. Discussing the Trieste question the leader of the delegation affirmed that " no Italian is satisfied with the statute ", and continued that the entire Istrian peninsula should have remained Italian on ethnic grounds. He strongly refuted allegations made in some quarters of the Italian press that Italy had refused to come to bilateral agreement with Yugoslavia.

Mr. Saragat made two points in his objections to the economic clauses of the treaty. First he declared that Italian reparations should be fixed and then adjusted to the country's capacity to pay. Secondly he contended that the resultant figure should have been divided among the creditor nations in proportion to the damage suffered by them as a result of Italian action. The President of the Constituent Assembly expressed regrets that no court of arbitration had been set up to settle disputes that may arise in carrying out the economic clauses. For example, he declared that Italy will have no means of claiming Italian property in Allied countries that may be in excess of the damages suffered by those countries. Mr. Saragat took note of efforts made by various delegations to have the burden of reparations reduced and expressed the hope that this viewpoint might prevail among the Foreign Ministers.

On the labor front relations continued spotty. The rash of strikes in public services had caused Prime Minister De Gasperi to declare in the Council of Ministers on 3 October that State employees and workers in public services could not and must not go on strike. *Unità* in particular took a dim view of this, asserting that compulsory arbitration of disputes with State employees and public services personnel would prevent the expansion of working class organizations. The paper called for adoption of proposals made by the telephone and gas workers that those services be nationalized. Be that as it may, *Risorgimento Liberale* reported on 10 October that the next Council of Ministers' session would take up and possibly approve a draft decree enforcing compulsory arbitration for such labor disputes. The paper said the decree would probably call for the setting up of three kinds of commissions having respectively a national, regional and provincial character.

### Labor Negotiations.

Relations between the Italian Confederation of Labor and the Italian Confederation of Industrialists also followed a wavy pattern. Representatives met on 4 October and discussed increase of wages. Neither side got much further than presenting their own proposals. The C.G.I.L. asked for a minimum pay of 9,000 lire for a 40-hour week and 10,750 lire for a 48-hour work week. It also demanded a 15-day annual vacation. The Confederation of Industrialists countered with an offer of a 20 % increase in wages over the December 1945 scale and a 12-day annual vacation.

At another meeting on 7 October the atmosphere was strained. The Confederation of Industrialists charged that the meetings were being

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



sabotaged by strong attacks from the leftist press and demanded that the C. G. I. L. should pledge to discuss the various questions on a technical basis without giving consideration to directives coming from the political parties represented therein. The C. G. I. L. denied the charge that its negotiations were colored by party influence. *Risorgimento Liberale* at this point, declared that the time-tested remedy for general prosperity was increase in production and quantity of goods. *Unità* headlined "Industrialists—the times of fascists are over". *Italia Nuova* charged the left with double-dealing in the matter of wage negotiations. *Avanti* reported a "denunciation by the C. G. I. L. against the inflation desired by the industrialists".

The bickering in the press had its effect. At the meeting of the representatives of the two organizations on 8 October it was agreed that they would draft in common agreement the press announcements as to the progress of the negotiations. At week's end, things were calming down. The joint communiqué issued by the two organizations after the meeting of 9 October stated that the conversations had led to a remarkable rapprochment.

But it was not all a matter of negotiation. The most serious riot since the armistice, broke out on 9 October when a throng of workers variously estimated at from 8,000 to 10,00 stormed the Viminal Palace in protest against their dismissal resulting from the decision taken by the Genio Civile to suspend the works "a regia", in the Rome area. In spite of efforts by Ministers Nenni and Macrelli to calm the crowd, blows and shots were exchanged between the men and the police. When order had been restored three men had died and 141 had been injured.

## NO U. S. NAVAL BASE AT NAPLES

With reference to published reports that the United States Navy was seeking facilities for a port base at Naples, Vice Admiral R. H. Bieri, U. S. Navy, Commander United States Naval Forces in the Mediterranean, issued the following statement today:

"Throughout the war, the headquarters of the U. S. Naval Forces in the Mediterranean have been located ashore—first at Algiers and subsequently at Palermo and Naples. In line with our policy to interfere as little as possible with the Italian economy, the Palermo headquarters have long since been closed down and arrangements have now been completed to close down our Naples headquarters ashore and establish them aboard the USS GRAND CANYON, recently arrived. For this purpose, an additional berth for docking the GRAND CANYON was assigned by the port authorities and an unused and open part of the same dock has been set aside for naval trucks and automobiles.

"As part of the move, we are derequisitioning six large buildings in Naples, including storehouses, and their functions will be established aboard the GRAND CANYON.

"Any report that the United States Navy is establishing a naval base at Napies or elsewhere in Italy is incorrect".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Eighty-one per-cent of the wheat amassing goal has been collected according to figures provided by UNNRA and the Economic Section. The figures are published in tabular form. Toscana, Umbria and Lucania all of which exceeded their goals two weeks ago continued to forge ahead. However the largest increase this week was turned in by Piemonte which jumped from 84.1 per-cent last week to 94 per-cent in the current tabulation. Investigations regarding estimated production and retention are being carried out and revisions will be made upon completion.

Italy's housing situation critical even before the war is one of the most urgent problems faced by the Government. As reported by UNNRA'S *Economic Notes*, a study by Sig. Barberi, Director of the Istituto Centrale di Statistica, entitled "Le Condizioni delle Popolazioni Italiane nei riguardi delle Case di Abitazione" showed that during the period from 1931 to 1941, housing accomodation increased in Lombardy by approximately 350,000 rooms, in Lazio by nearly 300,000 rooms and in Piedmont by about 190,000 rooms. A total of less than 42,000 rooms, however constituted the increase in Umbria, Lucania and Abruzzi.

The population increase from the 1931 census has been more than 4,000,000. The increase in housing (based on the ratio established by the 1931 census) to accommodate this increase in population should have been double the actual net increase. Added to this deficiency of adequate housing due to lack of construction activity before the war is the decrease in housing as a direct result of war damage. The Ministry of Public Works in estimates corrected up to 30 April 1946 declares that a total of 4,026,081 rooms were damaged or destroyed. Of these 1,145,000 rooms were destroyed, 645,400 heavily damaged and 2,226,680, lightly damaged.

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 27/9/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 4/10/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 73,307 | 89.0 | 77,500 | 94.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 213 | 55.6 | 223 | 58.2 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 221,353 | 67.8 | 225,046 | 68.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 135 | 3.9 | 143 | 4.2 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 298,756 | 74.0 | 300,651 | 74.4 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 506,022 | 88.6 | 508,568 | 88.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,099,786 | 79.0 | 1,112,131 | 79.9 |
| Toscana | 464,290 | 182,535 | 191,923 | 105.1 | 192,913 | 105.7 |
| Marche | 463,260 | 252,200 | 250,859 | 99.5 | 251,241 | 99.6 |
| Umbria | 242,000 | 103,000 | 104,618 | 101.6 | 105,010 | 102.0 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 84,268 | 82.3 | 84,871 | 82.9 |
| Central Italy | 1,446,900 | 640,096 | 631,668 | 98.7 | 634,035 | 99.1 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 69,070 | 78.3 | 70,017 | 79.4 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 27,464 | 60.1 | 27,963 | 61.2 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 76,334 | 75.9 | 77,044 | 76.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 42,742 | 104.7 | 43,127 | 105.6 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 12,699 | 43.2 | 13,100 | 44.5 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 228,309 | 74.9 | 231,251 | 75.9 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 71,280 | 35.9 | 73,487 | 37.0 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 35,890 | 84.1 | 36,381 | 85.3 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 107,170 | 44.4 | 109,868 | 45.6 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,066,933 | 80.2 | 2,087,285 | 81.0 |

"The cost of providing Italy with the minimum number of houses both new and repaired, to meet present, urgent needs would be about 640,000 million lire", says UNNRA. "Both directly and indirectly, UNNRA is contributing towards repairing and rebuilding the houses that Italy needs. The chief contribution is indirect—through the provision of coal needed for the manufacture of building materials. Of UNNRA's total coal shipments which amounted to over 3,500,000 tons by the end of September, it is estimated some 147,000 tons were allocated to brick kilns, cement, glass and lime works. October allocations amounted to a further 32,200 tons".

The direct contribution of UNNRA is through the CASAS (Comitato Amministrativo Soccorsi ai Senzatetto) project designed to help the neediest of those who have lost their homes through the war. CASAS plans to help in the repair of about 78,000 rooms by the end of the year and the building of 700 new family apartments by February 1947. The CASAS project is financed by an allocation of 1,000 million lire from the Lire Fund created by the sale of UNNRA-imported goods delivered free of charge to the Italian Government.

As of 15 September CASAS had made possible the repair of 32,843 rooms. During the four week period from mid-August to mid-September, repairs were completed on 7,115 rooms while repairs were in progress on a further 8,654.

As to new construction, work is in progress on 25 of the 26 contracts approved by the Executive Committee of CASAS. This construction will provide 700 new apartments.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On his return from leave Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., has resumed duty as Director, Air Forces Sub-Commission. Lt. Col. F. E. Marek, Deputy Director, was Acting Director during the Air Vice Marshal's absence.

Lt. Col. A. V. Reinero, I. A. F., was presented the Medal of Freedom with Bronze Palm by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commis-

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



sioner, Allied Commission, on 10 October, 1946, for outstanding services in connection with the Aleonn Military Courier Service.

The Military Courier continues to give good service and in spite of bad weather in the past week all schedules have been completed.

The seaplane Base on Lake Bracciano was visited and in addition to a routine inspection, a flight test was carried out on a C Z 501 converted to carry six passengers. The test proved successful and this type of aircraft will in future be used on the Military Courier run between Rome and Genoa.

Staff officers of Air Forces Sub-Commission, flew to Pantelleria to inspect progress in demilitarization of the island. All efforts are at first being directed to the completion of destruction of all military installations on Lampedusa and in the near future the working party will begin operations in Pantelleria.

Two special Military Courier flights were flown between Centocelle and Paris carrying Italian delegates and mail to the Peace Conference.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Major General E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., spent a day at the Army School of Administration at Rieti where he found great keenness in evidence and considerable progress made towards the indoctrination of new ideas in such details of administration as hygiene, cooking, welfare, management, education and personnel selection.

Lt. Col. R. A. Curtis (AQMG) has just returned from a tour of the northern BLU's where all is going reasonably well.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

Until recently all official business relating to the Italian Merchant Marine has been conducted between the Navy Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, and the Italian Ministry of Marine. To this end the Ministry of Marine had appointed an English speaking officer as Liaison Officer with the Navy Sub-Commission. Now that the Ministry of Mercantile Marine has been separated from the Ministry of Marine and in view of the large amount of business conducted between the Ministry of Mercantile Marine and the Navy Sub-Commission it has been requested that an English speaking representative be appointed by the Ministry to act as Liaison Officer with the Navy Sub-Commission.

The C. I. D. has completed an investigation and secured confessions from the operators of a counterfeiting ring that issued $500,000 worth of forged U. S. Navy checks.

A communication has recently been received confirming previous instructions to the effect that Italy is now in a position to make arrangements for the supply of necessary funds to cover expenses of Italian warships and auxiliaries incurred abroad, and that particular attention should be given to the supply of funds to meet the requirements of the Italian Battleships in the Bitter Lakes and Italian warships and auxiliaries visiting Egyptian ports and transitting the Suez Canal.

It is estimated that the Battleships in the Bitter Lakes require funds:

1. For pay of officers and ships company in local currency including arrangements for exchanging a limited quantity of lire.

2. To pay for supplies of fresh water provided through the Suez Canal company.

3. To obtain from commercial sources fuel oil, lubricating oil, and any other stores which are not sent from Italy and have to be provided locally.

4. To pay for fresh provisions obtained from the shore.

Italian warships or Italian Merchant ships under Italian Government charter visiting Egyptian ports require funds:

1. To pay harbour dues.

2. To obtain from commercial sources fuel oil, lubricating oil, fresh water and provisions.

3. To obtain local currency for advances of pay to officers and men.

It is expected that in the future all Italian ships will draw the majority of their supplies from Italy in order to reduce the consumption of foreign exchange.

## DECORATIONS

Three American decorations were presented by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, in a simple ceremony held in the Chief Commissioner's office on Wednesday 9 October 1946. The recipients were Col. James J. Carnes who received the Legion of Merit, Lt. Col. Virginio Reinero of the Italian Air Force who received the Medal of Freedom with Bronze Palm and Massimiliano Gaston, civilian, who received the Medal of Freedom.

Col. Carnes' award was received for meritorious service during the period from 12 March 1944 to 1 March 1946. During this period, as Chief of the Road Section, Transportation Sub-Commission, he was in charge of the organizing of all ci-

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



vilian truck pools for the entire mainland of Italy as far north as Pisa-Rimini line. Col. Carnes with the assistance of some of the members of his staff and the Italian Government was responsible for the establishment of ENAC which organization eventually took over the responsibility of movement of civilian supplies by truck. Col. Carnes is presently assigned to the Legal Sub-Commission.

Lt. Col. Reinero was decorated for exceptionally meritorious achievement and outstanding service in connection with Allied Military activities in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations from 1 October 1944 to 28 February 1946. As Commanding Officer, Italian Air Force Transport Wing Lt. Col. Reinero was charged with the responsibility of organizing and operating this newly activated Wing and executing many important Allied functions pertinent to the successful conduct of the war. His work in meeting the pressing Allied transport requirements occasioned by the prevailing necessity for concerted aerial evacuation of wounded troops and transport of essential supplies to the fighting units rendered services of inestimable value to Allied combat operations.

Mr. Gaston received the Medal of Freedom for exceptionally meritorius conduct in the performance of outstanding services in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations from July 1944 to 12 January 1946. As investigator and Senior Administrative Assistant, Security Division, Public Safety Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, Mr. Gaston organized and developed sources of reliable information of high security value.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. M. C. Eyston, (B), (Public Safety) has left the Allied Commission and is proceeding to the United Kingdom for release. Lt. Col. G. G. Hannaford, (B), (Legal Sub-Commission) has left for the United Kingdom on leave. Capt. Charles E. De Saro, (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission), WO JG Gerald B. Pate, (A), (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission), and Capt. W. J. Warren, (B), (Public Safety) have joined the Allied Commission. Maj. D. D. McColm, (B), (Legal Sub-Commission) and Capt. L. G. Cannings, (B), (Archives) have recently returned from the United Kingdom on leave.

* * *

Major Clayton C. Craig S-4, G-4 (A) formerly of the 15th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division represented the 3rd Division on the speakers stand at Caserta on 5 October 1946 at the ceremony commemorrting the third anniversary of the liberation of Caserta by his former organization.

* * *

Officers of the 2675th Regiment held a formal dance on 5 October 1946 at the Army Rest Center.

* * *

Technical Sergeant Eligio Lithgow, Jr., clerk-stenographer in the Chief Commissioner's office was presented with the American Army Commendation Ribbon on 3 October 1946. Presentation was made by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross Commanding Officer 2675th Regiment.

428

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

October 5, 1946

Vol. III, No. 25

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Party politics which had kept at a feverish pitch for several weeks suddenly cooled down last week and reached the normal level of inter-party bickering in the newspapers as Prime Minister De Gasperi speaking before the Constituent Assembly on 26 September replied to the critics of his government and emerged with a decisive vote of confidence 331 to 58. The vote was considered a personal victory for the Prime Minister as not even members of his own party had witheld their fire during the crisis incident to the resignation of Corbino as Minister of the Treasury. It is to be noted that the dissident votes represented only the Qualunquisti, a few other rightist elements and the Action Party.

During the course of his speech, De Gasperi set forth the economic plan which had been unanimously agreed upon by the Council of Ministers. Besides the immediate floating of an internal loan and before the application of a general property tax the program calls for heavy taxation of real property and a severer estimate of ordinary taxes. The speaker dwelt upon Italy's pressing need for textiles and called upon textile industrialists to process quickly all wool and cotton available and warned that government action would follow their failure to do so. Continuing, the Prime Minister gave assurance that measures had been taken to insure efficient state support of building reconstruction and that public works would continue at the highest speed permitted by availability of materials and credits. The problem of unemployment would thus be solved to a great extent. As to production, he said that this problem was connected with internal order and economy. Industrial production was increasing steadily and had already reached 70 per cent. of the 1938 output.

De Gasperi then reviewed what Italy had gained at Paris. These points he declared included affirmation of Italy's co-belligerance, establishment of the rights of minorities, the well-founded hope that reparations would not exceed 200 to 300 million dollars and improvement of articles 65, 68, and 69 of the draft treaty.

The President of the Council concluded by making a statement which he said he would have been happy to utter to the representatives of the Big Powers at Paris " By detaching Italian territories you deeply hurt the national soul and weaken the start of the Italian people towards international democratic elevation; by setting unbearable burdens on us you would repeat the Versailles mistake. If your final decisions are such, co-responsibility cannot fall upon the Italian people and their representatives who for two years have raised their invocation for justice and their voice of protest ".

### Press Comment.

*Italia Nuova* declared the speech was inconclusive and stated that the Prime Minister might better have saved his words for the Paris Peace conference. Mario Missiroli in *Messaggero* declared in reference to De Gasperi's call for unity that the monarchy had survived only through a compromise between democracy and dictatorship and then was overthrown as a result of the imperialistic polity of fascism. He quoted a paraphrase by Pietro Nenni of a Leon Blum sentence to the effect that " today, there is only one alternative for the various states: dictatorship or the regime of the parties ". The Republic in Italy, he declared, will be a success only if it means a step forward with respect to the monarchical regime, a step toward democracy. *Risorgimento Liberale* complained that the Prime Minister in his reference to industrialists, menaced peaceful citizens " who prefer to work for export rather than for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry ", adding that De Gasperi wasted his energies since this difficulty could be solved by a decree which did not even need the agreement of the Constituent Assembly. Carlo Bassano in *Tempo* wrote: " Before trying anything, it is necessary that De Gasperi have confidence in himself. Before asking and obtaining the confidence of the Assembly, he should have asked

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



for the confidence of the leaders of the Parties who collaborate with him in the Government and who with their confidence would have started a loyal and fruitful collaboration...".

With the easing of the crisis the Government could turn its attention to other matters which were causing concern. Chief of these were labor problems. On 26 September, telephone workers went on strike for an increase in wages after their demand had been refused by management. The strike did not affect urban centers but the employees declared that if their demands were not met it would result in full discontinuance of service. They had received no increase since November 1945. In addition to the wage increase the employees asked to be allowed to manage the telephone systems declaring that they could do so with a consequent reduction in rates of 10 per cent. Also, according to *Figaro* they presented a plan to the Council of Ministers for the nationalization of the telephone systems. The strike was short-lived. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 27 September, Minister Scelba (Posts and Telegraphs) according to *Avanti*, reported that the employees had been given immediate payment of a monthly basic wage and the acknowledgement that the national labor contract under discussion would be retroactive from 1 September. *Messaggero* reported that Minister Nenni suggested considering the proposal to nationalize the telephone services or alternatively the proposal favoring management of the telephone concerns by the workers under control of the State.

**State employees.**

Further evidence of progress in the field of labor relations was indicated with an agreement on the long drawn-out problem of the state workers. Under the agreement which was reached on 28 September during a meeting at the Ministry of Treasury, State employees will receive a 70 per cent. increase which in any case will not be less than 2,500 lire. Also they receive the "thirteenth" month to be paid in a single installment. Pensions will be increased by 150 per cent. on the first 1,000 lire and by 70 per cent. on the remaining amount of the pension. There were indications also, that the Italian Confederation of Industry and the General Confederation of Labor were at long last getting together with the agreement in principle of a 40 lire per day increase for millions of industrial workers.

But the overall labor picture was still difficult. After more than eight months of fruitless negotiations gas workers started a nation-wide strike on 30 September in a demand for increase of minimum wages from 7,000 to 10,000 lire monthly. Management had claimed that it could not meet the workers demands without increasing the gas rate. The workers thought otherwise and furthermore asked Minister of Labor D'Aragona to nationalize the gas industry. At week's end negotiations were still going on with housewives all over Italy deprived of cooking gas and those in Rome further going without electricity four hours a day as electric power, due to the water shortage, underwent rationing. Newspapers were almost unanimous in calling on labor and management to reach an agreement. On 2 October De Gasperi declared, according to *Tempo* that "strikes in the public services cannot be admitted". The paper added that about 14 million people were affected by the strike and that the Prime Minister had said that if gas workers did not resume work within 24 hours or if an agreement was not reached between management and the workers the Council of Ministers would provide for the settlement of the question and the restoration of service.

**Strike Ends.**

Whether or not the statement of De Gasperi was the reason, the strike came to an end on 3 October after a night-long negotiation session at the Labor Ministry. While it was not completely settled, the gas workers returned to their jobs leaving the details to be ironed out in further conferences. Wage increases had been settled but it was reported that no agreement had been reached in the demand by the workers that the industry be nationalized.

Other strike news: At Pisa on 30 September there was a general work stoppage to protest failure of factory owners in the area to grant higher wages. According to *Messaggero* 60,000 miners went on strike on 3 October. They demanded: (1) a six-hour work day; (2) extension of indemnity which they assert benefits only 40 % of the workers at present; (3) institution of messes; (4) institution of free transport service; (5) free working clothes and (6) additional pay for night work. On 3 October all road-transport workers of Rome and Lazio provinces struck in an attempt to have their wages raised to the level of Northern Italy.

In Paris a "voting" solution of the Italo-Yugoslav border problem was reached by the Political and Territorial Commission on 28 September when the commission approved the so called French Line by a vote of twelve to five. However the issue was far from settled as the

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



vote merely removed the question from the books of the commission. Immediately after the vote, Edward Kardelj, Vice Premier of Yugoslavia, informed the commission that his country would never accept the French Line, and in the event it was finally established would not sign the peace treaty and would not remove the Yugoslav army from its present position in Venezia Giulia. The Yugoslav representative said, "The Yugoslav delegation regretfully notes that the group of states which voted for the French Line is trying to impose its will on the people of Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia then will not sign the peace treaty with Italy and will not withdraw its troops from northwest Istria".

Following the Yugoslav statement, the United States delegation proposed the following: "The provision of the present treaty shall not confer any rights or benefits on any state named in the preamble of the present treaty as one of the Allied and associated powers or on its nationals unless such state become a party of the treaty by deposit of its instrument of ratification".

The motion was apparently aimed at preventing Yugoslavia from receiving reparations or other benefits from Italy if the former country did not sign the treaty. The proposal was voted affirmatively eleven to eight with China abstaining. France and Ethiopia were among those voting against the proposal.

### Yugoslav Proposal.

Before the question of the borders was put to a vote, Yugoslavia had attempted to remove it completely from the hands of the commission and give it back to the Council of Foreign Ministers to settle. However, the delegation went on record as insisting that any decision reached by the Council must be first subject to a preliminary agreement with Yugoslavia. United States Senator Tom Connolly immediately took the floor with the following: "We cannot side-step the issue as the Yugoslav delegation suggests. Their resolution proposes that the frontier be determined by the Council of Foreign Ministers but with the condition that there should be preliminary agreement with Yugoslavia. Does this mean that there can be no decision by the Council of Foreign Ministers unless Yugoslavia agree? I regret that we have had a renewal of the Yugoslav statement that unless we decide on the line as Yugoslavia desires she will not sign the treaty or be bound by any of its provisions..."

Subsequent events showed the various powers no closer to agreement. On 1 October Senator Connolly introduced a draft providing for a Trieste frontier with Yugoslavia. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vishinsky contended that the draft was contrary to the principles agreed upon by the Council of Foreign Ministers. When Senator Connolly attempted to show that such was not the case the Russian representative contended that the American proposal contained "risky expressions" and that in any case the American document should not be voted on until the commission had discussed the report of the sub-commission that was preparing recommendations for the Trieste statute. This point of view was upheld by Lief Egeland of South Africa, the Commission's Chairman.

The following day, Yugoslavia charged that Great Britain and the United States had set aside the Big Four agreement in order to establish an Anglo-American military base on the Adriatic. Moisha Piyade, Yugoslav delegate, assailed British proposals as placing Trieste in the category of a British colony. "We cannot see why the people of Trieste should be forced to accept a colonial type regime in a military stronghold..." This evidently referred to the proposals supported by Great Britain, the United States and France that the administration of Free Territory of Trieste should be supervised by a governor appointed by the Security Council of the United Nations with the power to propose legislation and to veto it.

### Free Territory Statute.

In any event a statute for the Free Territory of Trieste was approved by the political and territorial commission along the lines of a French compromise on 3 October. The establishment of the statute was achieved step by step with arguments and votes on every step of the way. At one point a proposal of the Polish delegation declaring the Trieste solution impossible and referring the question back to the Council of Foreign Ministers was defeated by a vote of 14 to 6.

As adopted, the Trieste statute provides for United Nations guarantee of human rights, demilitarization of the Territory except by command of the Security Council and limitations on the power of the Assembly by a Governor to be appointed by the Security Council after consultation with Yugoslavia and Italy. In addition to having the power to propose legislation and to veto it, the Governor would be responsible for conduct of foreign relations, maintenance of order, appointment of the judiciary after consultation with the zone council, and have the power of their removal. The port would have no exclusive

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



economic relations with any neighboring state and free transit both in and out of the port would be assured. Those who were residents of the area on June 1940 would be given original citizenship.

## BRIGADIER LUSH LEAVES COMMISSION

Brigadier Maurice Lush, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.' Executive Commissioner of the Allied Commission since the amalgamation in January 1944 of all Military Government agencies in Italy, departed today for the United Kingdom where he will be released from military service and prepare to assume, as a civilian, the post of Resident Representative of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees, in Germany and Austria.

Taking over the post of Executive Commissioner will be Brigadier M. Carr, C.B.E., M.C., Vice-President of the Civil Affairs Section and Acting Vice-President of the Economic Section.

Brigadier Lush first became identified with civil affairs in Italy when in late 1943 he succeeded Lord Rennell of Rodd as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for the 15th Army Group. His next important post was as Executive Commissioner with the Allied Commission at that time headed as Chief Commissioner by Lieutenant-General Sir Frank Noel Mason-MacFarlan.

He continued to serve as Executive Commissioner with Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone who succeeded General MacFarlane as Chief Commissioner on 22 June 1944. In his capacity as Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Lush directed the activities of the field staff of military government personnel and was responsible for the coordination of the execution of Allied Commission policies. Brigadier Lush was awarded the American Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer. The presentation was made by Rear Admiral Stone on 15 December 1945.

During World War I Brigadier Lush served from 1915 to 1919 in the Royal Artillery. He was awarded the Military Cross with Bar and at the conclusion of hostilities held a high post in the demobilization of the British Army. After completing his activity the Brigadier joined the Sudan Political Service and from that point on continued to be identified with his country's foreign service. Among the posts held by him were Secretary in the British Legation at Addis Ababa in Abyssinia, Sudan Agent in Cairo, and finally Governor of the Northern Province of the Sudan which post he held at the outbreak of World War II.

The value of the experience gained in these posts was recognized by the British Army for when recalled to active service Brigadier Lush was appointed Deputy Chief Political Officer for Ethiopia in which capacity he contributed to the restoration of the Emperor of Abyssinia to his throne. When Madagascar was taken by the Allies in 1942 the Executive Commissioner was appointed Military Administrator of the island and within the same year, the job completed, became Deputy Chief Civil Affairs Officer of the British Military Administration in Tripolitania.

While taking his departure today, Brigadier Lush hopes to return to Rome again in about 10 to 14 days and then to have the opportunity to say farewell to his friends.

### Brigadier Carr.

Brigadier Carr, the new Executive Commissioner, is a serving Regular Officer and was commissioned in 1915 to the Royal Scots Fusiliers (21st Foot). In 1921 he transferred to the Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) (1st Regiment of Foot). He served throughout the first World War in France winning the Military Cross and Bar and the French Legion of Honor. He has a wide experience of Allied Commission and AMG activities. He arrived in Naples in October 1943 as the head of AMG Region IV which at that time covered the compartments of Lazio and Umbria and the Marche. During the winter of 1943-1944 he assisted in the planning for the AMG organization in Rome. In March 1944 he relieved Brigadier J. K. Dunlop as Regional Commissioner for Sardinia. In August, 1944 he was transferred to Sicily as Regional Commissioner of that island and was in office during the troublous period December 1944-January 1945. He left Sicily at the end of March 1945 when the regional organization was withdrawn from the island. He was then appointed Regional Commissioner, Liguria Region and entered Genoa on April, 27, 1945 with the leading troops of the American 92nd Division. He left Liguria in the middle of August 1945 to take over the appointment of Vice-President, Civil Affairs Section, HQ Allied Commission vice Brigadier Upjohn, KC and recently has also held the appointment of Acting Vice-President Economic Section. Brigadier Carr has been awarded the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer). The presentation was made by Rear Admiral Stone on 5 March 1946.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The urgency of Italy's planning for the continuance of imports during the transition period between the end of UNNRA's program of assistance

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



at the end of this year and the final shutting off of the pipe line of supplies estimated to take place about seven or eight months from now was stressed in Milan last week (as reported in UNNRA's *Economic Notes*) by Mr. Harlan Cleveland Deputy Chief of the Italy Mission for Requirements and Distribution.

The problem is being closely studied by UNNRA in conjunction with the Italian Government. The gap left by the closing of UNNRA activities was stressed by Mr. Cleveland who pointed out that in August 1946 UNNRA imported into Italy about 900,000 tons of coal alone—more than 80 per cent. of Italy's normal imports before the war. Also, UNNRA is undertaking to bring in, between now and the next harvest more than one-third of the wheat needed to meet Italy's grain deficit during this crop year. In addition according to *Economic Notes*, UNNRA will buy during the fourth quarter of this year alone, 10,000 tons of rubber for Italy—enough to make 300,000 tires or fully equip 50,000 trucks. Other materials also being brought in are large quantities of steel, pig iron, chemicals, refractories, medical raw materials and agricultural supplies.

"But UNNRA's 1946 program great as it is, cannot solve Italy's 1947 problems," Mr. Cleveland urged. "It is succeeding in its primary objectives—to maintain the basic supply line of food; to get Italy's industrial production going again by injecting fuel and basic raw materials; and to contribute to the defense of the lira by providing that universal antidote for inflation—goods.

"The problem which now faces the Italian Government and the Italian people is to make sure that the momentum created by the UNNRA import program is not lost during the first few months of 1947. Therefore I invite the attention of every Italian to this critical transition period.

"But time is all important," Mr. Cleveland continued. "Even if Italy gets all the help she needs in April, the problem will not be solved. Money made available in April will not put goods

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 20/9/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 27/9/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 69,311 | 84.1 | 73,307 | 89.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 206 | 53.8 | 213 | 55.6 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 217,717 | 66.6 | 221,353 | 67.8 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 113 | 3.3 | 135 | 3.9 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 463,984 | 297,183 | 73.6 | 298,756 | 74.0 |
| Emilia | 1,664,929 | 574,858 | 504,240 | 87.7 | 506,022 | 88.0 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,088,770 | 78.2 | 1,099,786 | 79.0 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 190,890 | 104.6 | 191,923 | 105.1 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 250,298 | 99.2 | 250,859 | 99.5 |
| Umbria | 242,000 | 103,060 | 104,140 | 101.1 | 104,618 | 101.6 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 83,558 | 81.6 | 84,268 | 82.3 |
| Central Italy | 1,446,900 | 640,096 | 628,886 | 98.2 | 631,668 | 98.7 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 68,401 | 77.6 | 69,070 | 78.3 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 26,723 | 58.5 | 27,464 | 60.1 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 75,653 | 75.2 | 76,334 | 75.9 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 42,322 | 103.6 | 42,742 | 104.7 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 12,523 | 42.6 | 12,699 | 43.2 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 225,622 | 74.1 | 228,309 | 74.9 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 69,495 | 35.0 | 71,280 | 35.9 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 35,473 | 83.1 | 35,890 | 84.1 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 104,968 | 43.5 | 107,170 | 44.4 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,048,246 | 79.5 | 2,066,933 | 80.2 |

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



in Italy until July. For Italy must find a minimum of 100,000,000 dollars (25,000,000 pounds sterling) before the end of the year and another 150,000,000 dollars (37,500,000 pounds sterling) by March 1947 just to keep the supply line going in the most basic commodities—wheat, coal and petroleum products.

"Strictly speaking, our responsibility as UNNRA will be discharged if we bring in supplies still remaining on the Italian program. But we are anxions that our program shall have the maximum effect of helping the Italian people to help themselves.

"Based on some experience of previous transition periods, we have this advice to give: concentrate on wheat coal and petroleum—and the rest of the import requirements will not prove too difficult to meet".

### Wheat Amassing.

Eighty and two tenths perecnt of Italy's wheat amassing goal has been collected according to figures supplied by UNNRA and the Economies Section, Allied Commission. The figures are as usual given in tabular form. There is practically no change in the relative standings of the various regions. Toscana still leds all regions with 105.1 per cent. of its goal collected, followed by Lucania with 104.7 per cent. and Umbria with 101.6 per cent. Revision of figures on estimated production and retentions will be made apon completion of investigations now in progress.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Lt. Col. Frank E. Marek, U. S. A. A. F., is Acting Director of the Allied Commission Air Forces Sub-Commission during the temporary absence of Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., R. A. F.

On 1 October, General Matricardi and Prof. Ambrosini of the Italian Air Ministry left Ciampino Airport for Cairo to attend a conference on aircraft safety sponsored by the Provisional International Civil Air Organization. This conference is to arrange for the conversion from military to civil control of all international passenger-carrying air traffic in this area.

The Milan Industrial Fair which closed on 2 October was visited by Wing Commander H. Thompson, the Chief Technical Officer of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. There was an extensive display of light and heavy machinery and particular interest was shown in a Fiat G-12 aircraft which was on display completely asembled in the exhibition hall.

Wing Commander C. M. M. Greece, D. F. C., Air Staff I visited all the Pilot Training Schools and Fighter Schools in the South during the week. Limited flying is progressing successfully and there have been no accidents. One Stormo Wing of spitfires has ben grounded for two months for lack of tires.

A Cant 506C which has been converted to passenger-carrying was inspected. This aircraft has adjustable seats which can be converted to bunks and the capacity is twelve passengers or four stretcher cases with two nurses.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Monday, 30th September, Major General E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., Brigadier M. Hope, D. S. O., and Colonel Norman E. Fiske paid a visit to the Folgore Division in the neighborhood of Florence to witness a field firing demonstration and attack practice. The exercise showed that in spite of training difficulties and shortage of equipment and personnel, a good deal of useful training is being done. This Division, it will be remembered, is composed of the Nembo and Garibaldi Regiments carrying in the case of the former the tradition of considerable parachute activity, and in the case of the latter that of particularly good work in the Balkans.

This week the whole of the British Ordnance equipment contained in No. 557 Base Ordnance Depot in the Naples area has been passed through disposal agencies to A. R. A. R. for distribution to the various Italian Official and business organizations. Arrangements have been made whereby essential war-like material needed for the Italian Army, particularly as spares and replacements for British equipment already held, shall be placed at the disposal of the War Minister. Teams representing the various interests concerned are already in the depot making preliminary arrangements for the transfer of the stores concerned.

Another subject calculated to improve the mechanical efficiency of the Italian Army is the projected contract between the War Ministry and the Caproni Works in Milan which it is hoped will be possible by reason of the cancellation of a contract between that firm and the withdrawing British Mechanical Engineering Services. Small quantities of British weapons are still becoming available towards completion of the scale of issue previously authorized.

The September call up, which was expected to yield approximately 42,000 men has, as far as preliminary figures show, proceeded according to plan. Full details are not yet, however, available.

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



Repatriation of Italian Prisoners of War continues. 14,000 Italian P. W. will arrive in Italy during October from Australia, India, and South and East Africa.

A domestic point of interest which it is assumed will also interest other Sub-Commissions is the question of how the isolated detachments are to make both ends meet financially when the various Allied amenities and welfare services withdraw themselves to so great a distance as to make enjoyment of them impossible. The Military Mission is exploring this question as to whether it can be satisfactorily answered from available resources or whether some extra living allowance might not be justified. A discussion on this matter from anyone interested would be welcomed by Colonel A/Q of M. M. I. A.

The new football league arrangements have been much welcomed and elimination contests are being held this week.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The insignia worn on the uniforms of Italian Naval Officers will be changed on 15 October. Essentially the change involves the removal of all monarchical devices. On the cap insignia a mural crown will be substituted for the Royal Crown. The shoulder boards for officers up to the Rank of Captain will resemble those now worn by the British Navy, while the number of gold stripes will correspond to the practise in use in the U. S. and British Navies.

Rank insignia for Flag Officers will be as follows:

| No. of Stars | Italian Rank | U. S. Equivalent |
|---|---|---|
| 4 stars | Grande Ammiraglio | Admiral of the Fleet |
| 3 stars | Ammiraglio d'Armata | Admiral |
| 2 stars | Ammiraglio designato d'Armata | Vice Admiral |
| | Ammiraglio di Squadra | Vice Admiral |
| | Tenente Generale Ispettore | Vice Admiral |
| | Ammiraglio di Divisione | Rear Admiral, Upper Half |
| | Tenente Generale | Rear Admiral, Upper Half |
| 1 star | Contrammiraglio | Rear Admiral, Lower Half |
| | Maggiore Generale | Rear Admiral, Lower Half |

In addition, the shoulder boards of "Ammiragli designati d'Armata" will have two rows of gold cord ending in knots, placed between the stars and the end of the shoulder boards. For "Ammiragli di Squadra" and "Generali Ispettori" there will be one row of gold cord, placed in the same position.

The Ministry of Marine has just completed an investigation of the possibility of transferring four French river craft from Venice to Toulon for the French Government. An inspection of the boats in question disclosed that before they could be towed safely they would have to have hatches and ports inspected and made watertight and numerous minor bullet holes in the hull structure repaired. In any case there is a serious shortage of tugs in the northern Adriatic, so that no tugs are immediately available. The repairs and the lack of tugs make it advisable to postpone the towing operation until the weather improves next spring.

The following changes have been made in the appointments of Italian Flag Officers:

Senior Rear-Admiral Emilio Ferreri — From Commanding Officer Cruiser Group to Secretary General of the Navy.

Vice-Admiral Bruto Brivonesi – From Secretary General of the Navy to Inspector of Naval Forces.

Vice-Admiral Alberto Da Zara – From Inspector of Naval Forces to "available for appointment."

Senior Rear Admiral Carlo Balsamo – From "available for appointment" to Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Department of the Lower Tyrrhenian, Naples.

Vice-Admiral Romeo Oliva – From Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Department of the Lower Tyrrhenian, Naples, to Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Department of the Ionian and Lower Adriatic, Taranto.

Vice-Admiral Angelo Parona – From Commander-in-Chief Naval Department of the Ionian and Lower Adriatic, Taranto, to "available for appointment".

Rear-Admiral Giuseppe Lubrano di Negozio – From Commanding Officer Taranto Naval Base, to Admiral Superintendent of the La Spezia Naval Dockyard.

## SERGEANT MALAY COMMISSIONED

Technical Sergeant John V. Malay, Chief Clerk in the Office of the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, is the second enlisted man of the 2675th Regiment in one week, to received the gold bars of a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States. Sergeant Malay was sworn in on Tuesday morning 1 October 1946 in the office of Col. Charles L. Dasher, Jr., Commanding

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



Officer Rome Area, Allied Command, and his bars were pinned on by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer of the 2675th Regiment. Second Lieutenant James W. Sidney was sworn in during a similar ceremony on Wednesday, 25 September.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, congratulated Lieutenant Malay and welcomed him into the ranks of officers serving with the Allied Commission in a brief ceremony in the Chief Commissioner's office Wednesday afternoon.

Lieutenant Malay is a native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, U. S. A., and is the son of Mrs. Leah C. Malay who resides at St. Joseph's Hospital in that city. He attended Central High School in Fort Wayne and following his graduation was employed by the International Harvester Company. The new Lieutenant entered the army in January 1941 in his home town and was immediately assigned to the Coast Artillery joining the 3rd Coast Artillery at Fort Mac-Arthur in California. His early service was identified to a great degree with Artillery communications as shortly after joining his organization he was sent to the Coast Artillery School at Fort Monroe, Virginia, for special training. Following completion of this training he was placed in charge of the Net Control Station of the 3rd Coast Artillery Command continuing in that capacity until ordered to school again in the Seacoast Special Equipment Course also at the Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe.

Lieutenant Malay went overseas in January 1943 with the 6608th Signal Surface Warning Platoon which operated in the vicinity of Oran. He came to Italy in October 1944 and five months later was assigned to the Allied Commission as Technical Supervisor in the A. T. A. C. work shops. While in this assignment he was responsible for the setting up of two double assembly lines for the assembly of new trucks for which achievement he has been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon.

The new officer, then Technician Third Grade came to the office of the Chief Commissioner in October 1945 as Chief Clerk and was promoted to Technical Sergeant on 1 June.

In addition to the Army Commendation Ribbon, already mentioned, Lieutenant Malay wears the Good Conduct Ribbon, the American Defense Ribbon, the American Theater Campaign Ribbon, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with two battle stars, the Victory Ribbon World War II and the Italian War Cross of Merit.

## REGIMENTAL TRAINING PROGRAM

In compliance with MTOUSA directives effective 1 October all officers and enlisted men of the 2675th Regiment this week began participation in a scheduled training program. The program calls for training of three hours weekly. One period is given over to physical exercise and the other two to Information and Education, and Allied Commission orientation respectively. All meetings are held at the Rest Center. Physical Training and Dismounted Drill is held at 1400 every Wednesday. Allied Commission activities and Orientation at 0830 on Thursday and Information and Education on Friday at 0830. All officers are required to certify by noon every Saturday that they have engaged in at least one hour of physical activity during the week.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. C. A. Ragona, (A), (Adjutant Section) is leaving the Allied Commission this coming week for the United States for release from the Army.

Lt. Col. Paul Revere, (A), (Legal Sub-Commission) joined the Allied Commission the past week.

* * *

Lt. Col. N. W. Hind-Smith, after spending a 19-day leave to the United Kingdom, has returned to the Allied Commission.

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

October 5, 1946 Vol. III, No. 25

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Party politics which had kept at a feverish pitch for several weeks suddenly cooled down last week and reached the normal level of inter-party bickering in the newspapers as Prime Minister De Gasperi speaking before the Constituent Assembly on 26 September replied to the critics of his government and emerged with a decisive vote of confidence 331 to 58. The vote was considered a personal victory for the Prime Minister as not even members of his own party had withheld their fire during the crisis incident to the resignation of Corbino as Minister of the Treasury. It is to be noted that the dissident votes represented only the Quadunquisti, a few other rightist elements and the Action Party.

During the course of his speech, De Gasperi set forth the economic plan which had been unanimously agreed upon by the Council of Ministers. Besides the immediate floating of an internal loan and before the application of a general property tax the program calls for heavy taxation of real property and a severer estimate of ordinary taxes. The speaker dwelt upon Italy's pressing need for textiles and called upon textile industrialists to process quickly all wool and cotton available and warned that government action would follow their failure to do so. Continuing, the Prime Minister gave assurance that measures had been taken to insure efficient state support of building reconstruction and that public works would continue at the highest speed permitted by availability of materials and credits. The problem of unemployment would thus be solved to a great extent. As to production, he said that this problem was connected with internal order and economy. Industrial production was increasing steadily and had already reached 70 per cent. of the 1938 output.

De Gasperi then reviewed what Italy had gained at Paris. These points he declared included affirmation of Italy's co-belligerance, establishment of the rights of minorities, the well-founded hope that reparations would not exceed 200 to 300 million dollars and improvement of articles 65, 68, and 69 of the draft treaty.

The President of the Council concluded by making a statement which he said he would have been happy to utter to the representatives of the Big Powers at Paris "By detaching Italian territories you deeply hurt the national soul and weaken the start of the Italian people towards international democratic elevation; by setting unbearable burdens on us you would repeat the Versailles mistake. If your final decisions are such, co-responsibility cannot fall upon the Italian people and their representatives who for two years have raised their invocation for justice and their voice of protest".

### Press Comment.

*Italia Nuova* declared the speech was inconclusive and stated that the Prime Minister might better have saved his words for the Paris Peace conference. Mario Missiroli in *Messaggero* declared in reference to De Gasperi's call for unity that the monarchy had survived only through a compromise between democracy and dictatorship and then was overthrown as a result of the imperialistic polity of fascism. He quoted a paraphrase by Pietro Nenni of a Leon Blum sentence to the effect that "today, there is only one alternative for the various states: dictatorship or the regime of the parties". The Republic in Italy, he declared, will be a success only if it means a step forward with respect to the monarchical regime, a step toward democracy. *Risorgimento Liberale* complained that the Prime Minister in his reference to industrialists, menaced peaceful citizens "who prefer to work for export rather than for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry", adding that De Gasperi wasted his energies since this difficulty could be solved by a decree which did not even need the agreement of the Constituent Assembly. Carlo Bassano in *Tempo* wrote: "Before trying anything, it is necessary that De Gasperi have confidence in himself. Before asking and obtaining the confidence of the Assembly, he should have asked

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



for the confidence of the leaders of the Parties who collaborate with him in the Government and who with their confidence would have started a loyal and fruitful collaboration...".

With the easing of the crisis the Government could turn its attention to other matters which were causing concern. Chief of these were labor problems. On 26 September, telephone workers went on strike for an increase in wages after their demand had been refused by management. The strike did not affect urban centers but the employees declared that if their demands were not met it would result in full discontinuance of service. They had received no increase since November 1945. In addition to the wage increase the employees asked to be allowed to manage the telephone systems declaring that they could do so with a consequent reduction in rates of 10 per cent. Also, according to *Figaro* they presented a plan to the Council of Ministers for the nationalization of the telephone systems. The strike was short-lived. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 27 September, Minister Scelba (Posts and Telegraphs) according to *Avanti*, reported that the employees had been given immediate payment of a monthly basic wage and the acknowledgement that the national labor contract under discussion would be retroactive from 1 September. *Messaggero* reported that Minister Nenni suggested considering the proposal to nationalize the telephone services or alternatively the proposal favoring management of the telephone concerns by the workers under control of the State.

### State employees.

Further evidence of progress in the field of labor relations was indicated with an agreement on the long drawn-out problem of the state workers. Under the agreement which was reached on 28 September during a meeting at the Ministry of Treasury, State employees will receive a 70 per cent. increase which in any case will not be less than 2,500 lire. Also they receive the "thirteenth" month to be paid in a single installment. Pensions will be increased by 150 per cent. on the first 1,000 lire and by 70 per cent. on the remaining amount of the pension. There were indications also, that the Italian Confederation of Industry and the General Confederation of Labor were at long last getting together with the agreement in principle of a 40 lire per day increase for millions of industrial workers.

But the overall labor picture was still difficult. After more than eight months of fruitless negotiations gas workers started a nation-wide strike on 30 September in a demand for increase of minimum wages from 7,000 to 10,000 lire monthly. Management had claimed that it could not meet the workers demands without increasing the gas rate. The workers thought otherwise and furthermore asked Minister of Labor D'Aragona to nationalize the gas industry. At week's end negotiations were still going on with housewives all over Italy deprived of cooking gas and those in Rome further going without electricity four hours a day as electric power, due to the water shortage, underwent rationing. Newspapers were almost unanimous in calling on labor and management to reach an agreement. On 2 October De Gasperi declared, according to *Tempo* that "strikes in the public services cannot be admitted". The paper added that about 14 million people were affected by the strike and that the Prime Minister had said that if gas workers did not resume work within 24 hours or if an agreement was not reached between management and the workers the Council of Ministers would provide for the settlement of the question and the restoration of service.

### Strike Ends.

Whether or not the statement of De Gasperi was the reason, the strike came to an end on 3 October after a night-long negotiation session at the Labor Ministry. While it was not completely settled, the gas workers returned to their jobs leaving the details to be ironed out in further conferences. Wage increases had been settled but it was reported that no agreement had been reached in the demand by the workers that the industry be nationalized.

Other strike news: At Pisa on 30 September there was a general work stoppage to protest failure of factory owners in the area to grant higher wages. According to *Messaggero* 60,000 miners went on strike on 3 October. They demanded: (1) a six-hour work day; (2) extension of indemnity which they assert benefits only 40 % of the workers at present; (3) institution of messes; (4) institution of free transport service; (5) free working clothes and (6) additional pay for night work. On 3 October all road-transport workers of Rome and Lazio provinces struck in an attempt to have their wages raised to the level of Northern Italy.

In Paris a "voting" solution of the Italo-Yugoslav border problem was reached by the Political and Territorial Commission on 28 September when the commission approved the so called French Line by a vote of twelve to five. However the issue was far from settled as the

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



vote merely removed the question from the books of the commission. Immediately after the vote, Edward Kardelj, Vice Premier of Yugoslavia, informed the commission that his country would never accept the French Line, and in the event it was finally established would not sign the peace treaty and would not remove the Yugoslav army from its present position in Venezia Giulia. The Yugoslav representative said, "The Yugoslav delegation regretfully notes that the group of states which voted for the French Line is trying to impose its will on the people of Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia then will not sign the peace treaty with Italy and will not withdraw its troops from northwest Istria".

Following the Yugoslav statement, the United States delegation proposed the following: "The provision of the present treaty shall not confer any rights or benefits on any state named in the preamble of the present treaty as one of the Allied and associated powers or on its nationals unless such state become a party of the treaty by deposit of its instrument of ratification".

The motion was apparently aimed at preventing Yugoslavia from receiving reparations or other benefits from Italy if the former country did not sign the treaty. The proposal was voted affirmatively eleven to eight with China abstaining. France and Ethiopia were among those voting against the proposal.

### Yugoslav Proposal.

Before the question of the borders was put to a vote, Yugoslavia had attempted to remove it completely from the hands of the commission and give it back to the Council of Foreign Ministers to settle. However, the delegation went on record as insisting that any decision reached by the Council must be first subject to a preliminary agreement with Yugoslavia. United States Senator Tom Connolly immediately took the floor with the following: "We cannot side-step the issue as the Yugoslav delegation suggests. Their resolution proposes that the frontier be determined by the Council of Foreign Ministers but with the condition that there should be preliminary agreement with Yugoslavia. Does this mean that there can be no decision by the Council of Foreign Ministers unless Yugoslavia agree? I regret that we have had a renewal of the Yugoslav statement that unless we decide on the line as Yugoslavia desires she will not sign the treaty or be bound by any of its provisions..."

Subsequent events showed the various powers no closer to agreement. On 1 October Senator Connolly introduced a draft providing for a Trieste frontier with Yugoslavia. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vishinsky contended that the draft was contrary to the principles agreed upon by the Council of Foreign Ministers. When Senator Connolly attempted to show that such was not the case the Russian representative contended that the American proposal contained "risky expressions" and that in any case the American document should not be voted on until the commission had discussed the report of the sub-commission that was preparing recommendations for the Trieste statute. This point of view was upheld by Lief Egeland of South Africa, the Commission's Chairman.

The following day, Yugoslavia charged that Great Britain and the United States had set aside the Big Four agreement in order to establish an Anglo-American military base on the Adriatic. Moisha Piyade, Yugoslav delegate, assailed British proposals as placing Trieste in the category of a British colony. "We cannot see why the people of Trieste should be forced to accept a colonial type regime in a military stronghold..." This evidently referred to the proposals supported by Great Britain, the United States and France that the administration of Free Territory of Trieste should be supervised by a governor appointed by the Security Council of the United Nations with the power to propose legislation and to veto it.

### Free Territory Statute.

In any event a statute for the Free Territory of Trieste was approved by the political and territorial commission along the lines of a French compromise on 3 October. The establishment of the statute was achieved step by step with arguments and votes on every step of the way. At one point a proposal of the Polish delegation declaring the Trieste solution impossible and referring the question back to the Council of Foreign Ministers was defeated by a vote of 14 to 6.

As adopted, the Trieste statute provides for United Nations guarantee of human rights, demilitarization of the Territory except by command of the Security Council and limitations on the power of the Assembly by a Governor to be appointed by the Security Council after consultation with Yugoslavia and Italy. In addition to having the power to propose legislation and to veto it, the Governor would be responsible for conduct of foreign relations, maintenance of order, appointment of the judiciary after consultation with the zone council, and have the power of their removal. The port would have no exclusive

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



economic relations with any neighboring state and free transit both in and out of the port would be assured. Those who were residents of the area on June 1940 would be given original citizenship.

## BRIGADIER LUSH LEAVES COMMISSION

Brigadier Maurice Lush, C.B., C.B.E., M.C. Executive Commissioner of the Allied Commission since the amalgamation in January 1944 of all Military Government agencies in Italy, departed today for the United Kingdom where he will be released from military service and prepare to assume, as a civilian, the post of Resident Representative of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees, in Germany and Austria.

Taking over the post of Executive Commissioner will be Brigadier M. Carr, C.B.E., M.C., Vice-President of the Civil Affairs Section and Acting Vice-President of the Economic Section.

Brigadier Lush first became identified with civil affairs in Italy when in late 1943 he succeeded Lord Rennell of Rodd as Chief Civil Affairs Officer for the 15th Army Group. His next important post was as Executive Commissioner with the Allied Commission at that time headed as Chief Commissioner by Lieutenant-General Sir Frank Noel Mason-MacFarlan.

He continued to serve as Executive Commissioner with Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone who succeeded General MacFarlane as Chief Commissioner on 22 June 1944. In his capacity as Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Lush directed the activities of the field staff of military government personnel and was responsible for the coordination of the execution of Allied Commission policies. Brigadier Lush was awarded the American Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer. The presentation was made by Rear Admiral Stone on 15 December 1945.

During World War I Brigadier Lush served from 1915 to 1919 in the Royal Artillery. He was awarded the Military Cross with Bar and at the conclusion of hostilities held a high post in the demobilization of the British Army. After completing his activity the Brigadier joined the Sudan Political Service and from that point on continued to be identified with his country's foreign service. Among the posts held by him were Secretary in the British Legation at Addis Ababa in Abyssinia, Sudan Agent in Cairo, and finally Governor of the Northern Province of the Sudan which post he held at the outbreak of World War II.

The value of the experience gained in these posts was recognized by the British Army for when recalled to active service Brigadier Lush was appointed Deputy Chief Political Officer for Ethiopia in which capacity he contributed to the restoration of the Emperor of Abyssinia to his throne. When Madagascar was taken by the Allies in 1942 the Executive Commissioner was appointed Military Administrator of the island and within the same year, the job completed, became Deputy Chief Civil Affairs Officer of the British Military Administration in Tripolitania.

While taking his departure today, Brigadier Lush hopes to return to Rome again in about 10 to 14 days and then to have the opportunity to say farewell to his friends.

### Brigadier Carr.

Brigadier Carr, the new Executive Commissioner, is a serving Regular Officer and was commissioned in 1915 to the Royal Scots Fusiliers (21st Foot). In 1921 he transferred to the Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) (1st Regiment of Foot). He served throughout the first World War in France winning the Military Cross and Bar and the French Legion of Honor. He has a wide experience of Allied Commission and AMG activities. He arrived in Naples in October 1943 as the head of AMG Region IV which at that time covered the compartments of Lazio and Umbria and the Marche. During the winter of 1943-1944 he assisted in the planning for the AMG organization in Rome. In March 1944 he relieved Brigadier J. K. Dunlop as Regional Commissioner for Sardinia. In August, 1944 he was transferred to Sicily as Regional Commissioner of that island and was in office during the troublous period December 1944-January 1945. He left Sicily at the end of March 1945 when the regional organization was withdrawn from the island. He was then appointed Regional Commissioner, Liguria Region and entered Genoa on April, 27, 1945 with the leading troops of the American 92nd Division. He left Liguria in the middle of August 1945 to take over the appointment of Vice-President, Civil Affairs Section, HQ Allied Commission vice Brigadier Upjohn, KC and recently has also held the appointment of Acting Vice-President Economic Section. Brigadier Carr has been awarded the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer). The presentation was made by Rear Admiral Stone on 5 March 1946.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The urgency of Italy's planning for the continuance of imports during the transition period between the end of UNNRA's program of assistance

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



at the end of this year and the final shutting off of the pipe line of supplies estimated to take place about seven or eight months from now was stressed in Milan last week (as reported in UNNRA's *Economic Notes*) by Mr. Harlan Cleveland Deputy Chief of the Italy Mission for Requirements and Distribution.

The problem is being closely studied by UNNRA in conjunction with the Italian Government. The gap left by the closing of UNNRA activities was stressed by Mr. Cleveland who pointed out that in August 1946 UNNRA imported into Italy about 900,000 tons of coal alone—more than 80 per cent. of Italy's normal imports before the war. Also, UNNRA is undertaking to bring in, between now and the next harvest more than one-third of the wheat needed to meet Italy's grain deficit during this crop year. In addition according to *Economic Notes*, UNNRA will buy during the fourth quarter of this year alone, 10,000 tons of rubber for Italy—enough to make 300,000 tires or fully equip 50,000 trucks. Other materials also being brought in are large quantities of steel, pig iron, chemicals, refractories, medical raw materials and agricultural supplies.

"But UNNRA's 1946 program great as it is, cannot solve Italy's 1947 problems," Mr. Cleveland urged. "It is succeeding in its primary objectives—to maintain the basic supply line of food; to get Italy's industrial production going again by injecting fuel and basic raw materials; and to contribute to the defense of the lira by providing that universal antidote for inflation—goods.

"The problem which now faces the Italian Government and the Italian people is to make sure that the momentum created by the UNNRA import program is not lost during the first few months of 1947. Therefore I invite the attention of every Italian to this critical transition period.

"But time is all important," Mr. Cleveland continued. "Even if Italy gets all the help she needs in April, the problem will not be solved. Money made available in April will not put goods

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production as of 10/9/46 | Amassing Goal as of 10/9/46 | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 20/9/46 | Percent of Goal Collected | Collections Reported by Fed. Cons. Agrari as of 27/9/46 | Percent of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 69,311 | 84.1 | 73,307 | 89.0 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 206 | 53.8 | 213 | 55.6 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 217,717 | 66.6 | 221,353 | 67.8 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 113 | 3.3 | 135 | 3.9 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 297,183 | 73.6 | 298,756 | 74.0 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 504,240 | 87.7 | 506,022 | 88.0 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,088,770 | 78.2 | 1,099,786 | 79.0 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 190,890 | 104.6 | 191,923 | 105.1 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 250,298 | 99.2 | 250,859 | 99.5 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 104,149 | 101.1 | 104,618 | 101.6 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 83,558 | 81.6 | 84,268 | 82.3 |
| Central Italy | 1,416,900 | 640,096 | 628,886 | 98.2 | 631,668 | 98.7 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 68,401 | 77.6 | 69,070 | 78.3 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 26,723 | 58.5 | 27,464 | 60.1 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 75,653 | 75.2 | 76,334 | 75.9 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 42,322 | 103.6 | 42,749 | 104.7 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 12,523 | 42.6 | 12,699 | 43.2 |
| Southern Italy | 1,189,070 | 304,661 | 225,622 | 74.1 | 228,309 | 74.9 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 69,495 | 35.0 | 71,280 | 35.9 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 35,473 | 83.1 | 35,890 | 84.1 |
| Insular Italy | 736,450 | 241,174 | 104,968 | 43.5 | 107,170 | 44.4 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 2,048,246 | 79.5 | 2,066,933 | 80.2 |

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



in Italy until July. For Italy must find a minimum of 100,000,000 dollars (25,000,000 pounds sterling) before the end of the year and another 150,000,000 dollars (37,500,000 pounds sterling) by March 1947 just to keep the supply line going in the most basic commodities—wheat, coal and petroleum products.

"Strictly speaking, our responsibility as UNNRA will be discharged if we bring in supplies still remaining on the Italian program. But we are anxious that our program shall have the maximum effect of helping the Italian people to help themselves.

"Based on some experience of previous transition periods, we have this advice to give: concentrate on wheat coal and petroleum—and the rest of the import requirements will not prove too difficult to meet".

### Wheat Amassing.

Eighty and two tenths percent of Italy's wheat amassing goal has been collected according to figures supplied by UNNRA and the Economics Section, Allied Commission. The figures are as usual given in tabular form. There is practically no change in the relative standings of the various regions. Toscana still leds all regions with 105.1 per cent. of its goal collected, followed by Lucania with 104.7 per cent. and Umbria with 101.6 per cent. Revision of figures on estimated production and retentions will be made upon completion of investigations now in progress.

## AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

Lt. Col. Frank E. Marek, U. S. A. A. F., is Acting Director of the Allied Commission Air Forces Sub-Commission during the temporary absence of Air Vice Marshal I. E. Brodie, O. B. E., R. A. F.

On 1 October, General Matricardi and Prof. Ambrosini of the Italian Air Ministry left Ciampino Airport for Cairo to attend a conference on aircraft safety sponsored by the Provisional International Civil Air Organization. This conference is to arrange for the conversion from military to civil control of all international passenger-carrying air traffic in this area.

The Milan Industrial Fair which closed on 2 October was visited by Wing Commander H. Thompson, the Chief Technical Officer of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. There was an extensive display of light and heavy machinery and particular interest was shown in a Fiat G-12 aircraft which was on display completely asembled in the exhibition hall.

Wing Commander C. M. M. Greece, D. F. C., Air Staff I visited all the Pilot Training Schools and Fighter Schools in the South during the week. Limited flying is progressing successfully and there have been no accidents. One Stormo Wing of spitfires has ben grounded for two months for lack of tires.

A Cant 506C which has been converted to passenger-carrying was inspected. This aircraft has adjustable seats which can be converted to bunks and the capacity is twelve passengers or four stretcher cases with two nurses.

## LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

On Monday, 30th September, Major General E. H. Goulburn, D. S. O., Brigadier M. Hope, D. S. O., and Colonel Norman E. Fiske paid a visit to the Folgore Division in the neighborhood of Florence to witness a field firing demonstration and attack practice. The exercise showed that in spite of training difficulties and shortage of equipment and personnel, a good deal of useful training is being done. This Division, it will be remembered, is composed of the Nembo and Garibaldi Regiments carrying in the case of the former the tradition of considerable parachute activity, and in the case of the latter that of particularly good work in the Balkans.

This week the whole of the British Ordnance equipment contained in No. 557 Base Ordnance Depot in the Naples area has been passed through disposal agencies to A. R. A. R. for distribution to the various Italian Official and business organizations. Arrangements have been made whereby essential war-like material needed for the Italian Army, particularly as spares and replacements for British equipment already held, shall be placed at the disposal of the War Minister. Teams representing the various interests concerned are already in the depot making preliminary arrangements for the transfer of the stores concerned.

Another subject calculated to improve the mechanical efficiency of the Italian Army is the projected contract between the War Ministry and the Caproni Works in Milan which it is hoped will be possible by reason of the cancellation of a contract between that firm and the withdrawing British Mechanical Engineering Services. Small quantities of British weapons are still becoming available towards completion of the scale of issue previously authorized.

The September call up, which was expected to yield approximately 42,000 men has, as far as preliminary figures show, proceeded according to plan. Full details are not yet, however, available.

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



Repatriation of Italian Prisoners of War continues. 14,000 Italian P. W. will arrive in Italy during October from Australia, India, and South and East Africa.

A domestic point of interest which it is assumed will also interest other Sub-Commissions is the question of how the isolated detachments are to make both ends meet financially when the various Allied amenities and welfare services withdraw themselves to so great a distance as to make enjoyment of them impossible. The Military Mission is exploring this question as to whether it can be satisfactorily answered from available resources or whether some extra living allowance might not be justified. A discussion on this matter from anyone interested would be welcomed by Colonel A/Q of M. M. I. A.

The new football league arrangements have been much welcomed and elimination contests are being held this week.

## NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

The insignia worn on the uniforms of Italian Naval Officers will be changed on 15 October. Essentially the change involves the removal of all monarchical devices. On the cap insignia a mural crown will be substituted for the Royal Crown. The shoulder boards for officers up to the Rank of Captain will resemble those now worn by the British Navy, while the number of gold stripes will correspond to the practise in use in the U. S. and British Navies.

Rank insignia for Flag Officers will be as follows:

| No. of Stars | Italian Rank | U. S. Equivalent |
|---|---|---|
| 4 stars | Grande Ammiraglio | Admiral of the Fleet |
| 3 stars | Ammiraglio d' Armata | Admiral |
| 2 stars | Ammiraglio designato d'Armata | Vice Admiral |
| | Ammiraglio di Squadra | Vice Admiral |
| | Tenente Generale Ispettore | Vice Admiral |
| | Ammiraglio di Divisione | Rear Admiral, Upper Half |
| | Tenente Generale | Rear Admiral, Upper Half |
| 1 star | Contrammiraglio | Rear Admiral, Lower Half |
| | Maggiore Generale | Rear Admiral, Lower Half |

In addition, the shoulder boards of "Ammiragli designati d'Armata" will have two rows of gold cord ending in knots, placed between the stars and the end of the shoulder boards. For "Ammiragli di Squadra" and "Generali Ispettori" there will be one row of gold cord, placed in the same position.

The Ministry of Marine has just completed an investigation of the possibility of transferring four French river craft from Venice to Toulon for the French Government. An inspection of the boats in question disclosed that before they could be towed safely they would have to have hatches and ports inspected and made watertight and numerous minor bullet holes in the hull structure repaired. In any case there is a serious shortage of tugs in the northern Adriatic, so that no tugs are immediately available. The repairs and the lack of tugs make it advisable to postpone the towing operation until the weather improves next spring.

The following changes have been made in the appointments of Italian Flag Officers:

Senior Rear-Admiral Emilio Ferreri – From Commanding Officer Cruiser Group to Secretary General of the Navy.

Vice-Admiral Bruto Brivonesi – From Secretary General of the Navy to Inspector of Naval Forces.

Vice-Admiral Alberto Da Zara – From Inspector of Naval Forces to "available for appointment."

Senior Rear Admiral Carlo Balsamo – From "available for appointment" to Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Department of the Lower Tyrrhenian, Naples.

Vice-Admiral Romeo Oliva – From Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Department of the Lower Tyrrhenian, Naples, to Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Department of the Ionian and Lower Adriatic, Taranto.

Vice-Admiral Angelo Parona – From Commander-in-Chief Naval Department of the Ionian and Lower Adriatic, Taranto, to "available for appointment".

Rear-Admiral Giuseppe Lubrano di Negozio – From Commanding Officer Taranto Naval Base, to Admiral Superintendent of the La Spezia Naval Dockyard.

## SERGEANT MALAY COMMISSIONED

Technical Sergeant John V. Malay, Chief Clerk in the Office of the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, is the second enlisted man of the 2675th Regiment in one week, to received the gold bars of a second lieutenant in the Army of the United States. Sergeant Malay was sworn in on Tuesday morning 1 October 1946 in the office of Col. Charles L. Dasher, Jr., Commanding

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



Officer Rome Area, Allied Command, and his bars were pinned on by Lt. Col. Robert C. Ross, Commanding Officer of the 2675th Regiment. Second Lieutenant James W. Sidney was sworn in during a similar ceremony on Wednesday, 25 September.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, congratulated Lieutenant Malay and welcomed him into the ranks of officers serving with the Allied Commission in a brief ceremony in the Chief Commissioner's office Wednesday afternoon.

Lieutenant Malay is a native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, U. S. A., and is the son of Mrs. Leah C. Malay who resides at St. Joseph's Hospital in that city. He attended Central High School in Fort Wayne and following his graduation was employed by the International Harvester Company. The new Lieutenant entered the army in January 1941 in his home town and was immediately assigned to the Coast Artillery joining the 3rd Coast Artillery at Fort Mac-Arthur in California. His early service was identified to a great degree with Artillery communications as shortly after joining his organization he was sent to the Coast Artillery School at Fort Monroe, Virginia, for special training. Following completion of this training he was placed in charge of the Net Control Station of the 3rd Coast Artillery Command continuing in that capacity until ordered to school again in the Seacoast Special Equipment Course also at the Coast Artillery School, Fort Monroe.

Lieutenant Malay went overseas in January 1943 with the 6608th Signal Surface Warning Platoon which operated in the vicinity of Oran. He came to Italy in October 1944 and five months later was assigned to the Allied Commission as Technical Supervisor in the A. T. A. C. work shops. While in this assignment he was responsible for the setting up of two double assembly lines for the assembly of new trucks for which achievement he has been awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon.

The new officer, then Technician Third Grade came to the office of the Chief Commissioner in October 1945 as Chief Clerk and was promoted to Technical Sergeant on 1 June.

In addition to the Army Commendation Ribbon, already mentioned, Lieutenant Malay wears the Good Conduct Ribbon, the American Defense Ribbon, the American Theater Campaign Ribbon, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with two battle stars, the Victory Ribbon World War II and the Italian War Cross of Merit.

## REGIMENTAL TRAINING PROGRAM

In compliance with MTOUSA directives effective 1 October all officers and enlisted men of the 2675th Regiment this week began participation in a scheduled training program. The program calls for training of three hours weekly. One period is given over to physical exercise and the other two to Information and Education, and Allied Commission orientation respectively. All meetings are held at the Rest Center. Physical Training and Dismounted Drill is held at 1400 every Wednesday. Allied Commission activities and Orientation at 0830 on Thursday and Information and Education on Friday at 0830. All officers are required to certify by noon every Saturday that they have engaged in at least one hour of physical activity during the week.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Capt. C. A. Ragona, (A), (Adjutant Section) is leaving the Allied Commission this coming week for the United States for release from the Army.

Lt. Col. Paul Revere, (A), (Legal Sub-Commission) joined the Allied Commission the past week.

* * *

Lt. Col. N. W. Hind-Smith, after spending a 19-day leave to the United Kingdom, has returned to the Allied Commission.

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

September 14, 1946 Vol. III, No. 21

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

The optimistic tone of the Italian press and Italian diplomats which had been very much in evidence the previous week, changed to something only a little short of despair last week as the Paris Conference, leaving the field of the preamble to the Draft Treaty in which Italy had made some gains, got down to the hard business of the numbered articles.

Reparations, Venezia Giulia, and the Italo-French boundary all came up for discussion and in none of these discussions could the Italian press find a full measure of comfort. On 28 August 1946 Giuseppe Saragat, President of the Constituent Assembly, addressed the Political and Territorial Commission of the Conference on the question of the Italo-French boundary. His speech started with the statement that "The Italian people feel themselves responsible for the crimes committed by fascism, because a people is always responsible for the crimes committed by its governments, even if it is not guilty and had fought for two years side by side with the Allies". Turning to the matter of the boundary Saragat announced that two of the points in question, Little St. Bernard and "Terre di Caccia", would be freely released from Italian sovereignty as they were on the French side of the watershed. However he asked for reconsideration as to the other three the Bardonecchia Narrow Valley, Monteenis and the region of Mount Chaberton. In the desire to reach an agreement with France, Saragat declared that Italy would accept the proposed French lines for the Bardonecchia Narrow Valley and Mount Chaberton but in view of these sacrifices she requested that the Bardonecchia dams necessary to the electric power plants which fed the Italian State Railways be left in Italian Territory. As for the Monteenis flat, he said, it was completely on the Italian side. Saragat concluded by saying that neither the feeling of the inhabitants, nor their language nor geographical reasons justified the detachment of the zone of Tenda and Briga (Roja Valley) from Italian territory.

The French representative then declared that France wished to help the development of Italian Democracy and for that reason had limited her claims as much as possible. As for the dams France would carry on negotiations with Italy as she did not want to deprive Italy of her electric power resources. The Australian representative then declaring that the Commission did not have sufficient information on the subject suggested setting up a seven-member sub-commission to study the matter.

The atmosphere at the meeting of the commission was so completely cordial that the Italian press continued on its optimistic way. *Avanti*, stressed "the spirit of mutual comprehension to be seen in these discussions which was above all motives of disagreement". *Italia Libera* declared Saragat's speech was just what the paper wished De Gasperi had said. "The Conference Welcomes Saragat's Objections as to the Italian-French Frontier", was the headline in *Momento*.

The following day brought an awakening. Australia's proposal for setting up a Sub-Commission to study the question was rejected. Saragat was quoted by ANSA as laying the rejection not so much to French initiative as to the "Big-Four", who were, he said, "interested in avoiding the creation of a precedent that might have been instanced for other sectors and especially for Trieste".

### The Decision.

On 31 August the Commission approved cession to France of Monteenis, Narrow Valley, (leaving Italy the power plant of Bardonecchia), Mount Chaberton and the Roja Valley (Briga and Tenda) leaving to Italy the Commune of Olivetta San Michele. The Italian press reaction was bitter. The Commune of Olivetta San Michele had been claimed by France and *Popolo* ventured to affirm that France had made this claim only to renounce it later thus giving an impression of good will at the moment of the final settlement of the whole question. *Risorgimento Liberale* called the decision an "iniquitous" verdict and hotly stated

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



that the discussion preceding it was nothing but a waste of time as the "diktat" had been decided on beforehand. *Avanti*, in a milder but still sorrowful tone called it a "hard day for Italy". *Tempo* headlines stated that "In Spite of False Promises, France will have the Dominion of our Western Valleys".

In the matter of reparations the going was still hard. On 30 August, the Paris Conference Economic Commission approved the first article of the draft peace treaty economic clauses. Under this article Italy will have to pay Russia 100 million dollars over a period of seven years. The same day Bitossi, Lizzadri, and Morelli, the CGIL delegates at Paris were received by the Russian Foreign Minister Molotov who is reported to have declared that the Russian delegation would do its best to have the economic clauses improved provided that the British, U. S., and French delegations recognized the necessity for revisions. To this *Italia Nuova* retorted "Italy sentenced to pay 100 million dollars to the U.S.S.R. Having gotten what he wanted, Molotov declares to the representatives of the Italian Confederation of Labor that he will do his best to improve the economic clauses of the treaty".

On the heel of the grant to Russia Great Britain presented a memorandum to the Conference Secretary naming a sum in connection with reparations in amount of 2,880 million pounds or a figure approximately 80 times the Russian request. The *Tempo* correspondent observed that the British request was allegedly made to induce the other nations to cancel their requests and possibly to balance the flow towards the East of Italian industry, resulting from the payment in kind of war reparations to Russia and Yugoslavia.

### De Gasperi's Appeal.

With the predicted claims against Italy totalling in the neighborhood of from 15 to 26 billion dollars, De Gasperi in an interview at Paris with the Director of the International News Service, Italian Branch appealed to the 21 nations "to reduce their claims for war reparations to the level of Italy's ability to pay in order to avoid compelling Italy to declare her insolvency and bankruptcy as Germany did after World War I." He declared that he would ask for the elimination of Article 69 (pertaining to Italian property abroad) and also creation of a commission to investigate Italy's capacity to pay. He stressed the necessity of obtaining a loan from the United States but pointed out that Secretary of State Byrnes was already on record as opposed to that loan if it was to be used to pay reparations to other countries. But, the Prime Minister said, if the claims are reasonable and their payment deferred into a proper number of years then the guarantees requested by the United States might be achieved.

On 4 September ANSA reported from London that it had learned from Foreign Office circles that the British Government would renounce any payment of war reparations from Italy. It was declared that the British statement of damage suffered during the campaign against Italy had a double aim, "that is to recall the amount of loss suffered and the resulting gravity of sacrifice in renouncing the payment of war reparations and secondly to put the claim of war reparations presented by other countries in their just proportion considering that it was advisable, in the interest of all, not to destroy completely, Italy's possibilities of economic rehabilitation".

### Bonomi's Speech.

In his speech before the Paris Conference Political and Territorial Commission Ivanoe Bonomi delved into history in an attempt to show that for centuries Venezia Giulia had been considered by the Italian people as an integral part of the National territory. He declared that it was well to recall in World War I, Italy had entered on the side of Russia, England and France not only to destroy German aggression but also to free Venezia Giulia and rejoin it with the motherland. He said that it was good to recall that on the occasion, Italy's war drew the solidarity of the Yugoslav people and that occupied Serbia was helped by Italy in a most brotherly fashion. Bonomi went on to say that in the past war, fascism participated in the German aggression against Yugoslavia and endeavored to lay hands on Yugoslav territory. This offence, he said, demanded reparations but reparations should not offend justice. Speaking about the proposed Trieste Free Territory, Bonomi declared that if assurance of a high degree of efficiency was required, it was necessary to grant it a maximum independence regarding communications with the hinterland of Central Europe. But, he continued, if one granted that the French line achieved ethnical equilibrium, and was in agreement with a sound principle of just distribution, that very equilibrium was broken when one created the Trieste Free Territory within the area assigned to Italy. In fact, he said, this solution detached 166,000 Italians and 50,000 Slavs from the Ita-

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



lian sovereignty and if one wanted to re-establish the ethnical equilibrium which was the foundation on which rested the "French Line", it was necessary to enlarge the Free Territory southward so that an equal number of Italians would be detached from Yugoslav sovereignty. This was easily achievable by incorporation into the Free Territory of the western and southern part of Istria as marked out by the English line. Such a solution would respect the national character and the historical tradition of the population and the territory.

The Yugoslav representative Bebler replied to the address of Bonomi, on the following day. He affirmed the claim that all Venezia Giulia should be given to Yugoslavia. He accused the Italian delegation of having disguised facts in order to keep Venezia Giulia for Italy. He then made a sharp attack on Bonomi declaring that in 1912 he had been expelled from the Socialist party owing to his policy of colonial expansion, and that he had been Minister of War in one of Mussolini's governments. Bebler also stated that the ethnical data presented by the Italian delegation were distorted.

Seventeen of the twenty-four articles of the draft military clauses were approved by the Paris Conference Military Commission on 3 September with no changes. The reaction of the press was immediate. *Risorgimento Liberale* even asserted that there was only one decision left for the Italian delegation to make: leave the conference. Heatedly it declared that the Italian memorandum had not even been taken into consideration. "Neither the speeches of De Gasperi, Saragat and Bonomi nor Byrnes hand-shaking along with De Fontoura's signs of friendship changed anything and we have reason to believe that the economic stipulations of the Four will be approved as were the military clauses". *Giornale della Sera* headed its story, "Do Not Sign Our Enslavment". *Avanti*, however, quietly criticized the demand by *Risorgimento Liberale*, that the Italian delegation leave the Conference, saying that "international confidence cannot be obtained by banging the doors".

### Corbino's Resignation.

However about this time it was a domestic matter that occupied most of the Italian papers. On 2 September Epicarmo Corbino, Minister of the Treasury, announced to De Gasperi his intention of resigning. In interviews with the press Corbino declared that his position had become untenable. He charged that while there were no differences within the government although the Communist party had four Ministers and four Undersecretaries, attacks on him by the Communist party newspaper had been virulent and continual. "It is clear", he said, "that the Communist Party wants to precipitate a crisis. Having ascertained that the field of foreign policy was little suitable as it would have placed them in an unfavourable light from the national point of view, they have turned on the economic policy where it is much easier for them and not dangerous to follow a demagogical line". Referring to the Communist representation in the government he declared that it was not understandable that the economic policy should be attacked by the communists as his own policy. "It is a kind of double-dealing that benefits nobody and therefore must end", he said. Either the Communist Party accepts the policy of monetary stability and therefore assumes full corresponsibility for it and stops attacking it through myself, or it does not accept it and therefore has the duty to propose another one and—in case of a refusal by the other parties—to take the consequences.

Nenni talked with De Gasperi on the telephone and the Prime Minister asked him to prevail upon Corbino to remain until he, De Gasperi, had returned from Paris.

The same day Minister Scoccimarro stated to an ANSA correspondent that the government economic policy had failed. "If the present government does not urgently enact a sound programme allowing the masses of unemployed to be put to work and accruing confidence in the economic life of the country by bringing into reality an economic and financial plan leading Italy towards reconstruction, the Communists prefer to go on the opposition".

### Press Comment.

Press comment was mixed. *Avanti*, under the heading "A Strategic Retreat", asked if Corbino had lost his nerve because of Communist criticism. *Italia Libera* was critical of the Government declaring that it had pursued a policy of letting things go stressing the question of unemployment and the "caro vita". *Messaggero*, under the title "Sudden crisis in the composition of the Italian Government", stressed the necessity of a prompt settlement of the difficulty. *Unità*, under the heading of: "Consistency With The Programme", attacked the reasons given by Corbino for his resignation, stating that the real reason for criticism are the closed factories, the great number of houses not yet re-built, the masses of

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



unemployed and hungry workers, the empty state coffers and the flight of capital abroad. As to the threat of crisis by the Communists, *Unità* stated, " A few days ago an American, Mr. Keeny, Director of UNRRA, said Italy has no time to wait". Because he said so could we ever charge him with being willing to bring about at all costs a government crisis, as Corbino complains that Communists are doing now ?" *Giornale d'Italia* asked whether the Communists could show a programme stating that general ideas on planning, nationalization, and state management and ownership of industry are not a programme.

Following a meeting with Togliatti, Pacciardi, and Corbino on 3 September Nenni declared that the crisis could be solved only after De Gasperi had returned. In the meantime Corbino will remain Minister of Treasury.

*Messaggero* said that the prospective solution of the crisis is one of three: 1. Corbino's confirmation; 2. appointment of another independent; 3. appointment of a representative of one of the parties of the masses. The paper says that the first solution is unlikely owing to Corbino's firm intention to resign. The second solution seems to be out of the question because after the recent experience, an independent would hesitate to participate in the responsibility of the Government without being backed by one of the major parties. There remains the third solution says the paper but in this case the question of the distribution of the ministries among the parties would come up again.

## ASTI PARTISANS

Swift and sympathetic action by the Italian government coupled with the influence of cooler heads, last week, seemed to have averted a threatened general uprising of partisans in the North. The general problem of the partisans and its handling by the government, aroused great interest in the Rome press as the situation unfolded, with most papers holding to the view that most of the claims were justified but deploring that the partisans had not seen fit to achieve their ends by more legal means.

The situation started at Asti where on 22 August 1946 thirty members of the Auxiliary Police (all former partisans) as a protest against the dismissal of their captain, left their barracks, seized arms and took to the hills. That this was not an isolated rebellion was intimated the following day by *Buonsenso*, which declared that it was only the prelude to a wider action to be undertaken by partisan forces. According to the paper over 500 partisans were already gathered in the Santo Stefano Belbo zone.

The group was not slow to make known its desires. Among these were: 1. The constitution of a single police force; 2. Dismissal of officials compromised with the old regime; 3. The employment of veterans and partisans without limit as to percentage; 4. Continuation of the dismissals blocking and 5. Abrogation of the amnesty law.

A delegation was invited to come to Rome to discuss the partisan requests. They were received by Minister Nenni who reported to the Council of Ministers on 24 August that Captain Lavagnino, on whose account the uprising had started, had resigned and that the group of thirty had returned to their barracks.

Subsequent events however showed that the matter was far from settled. A "General Command of Revolutionary partisans" had been formed in the Asti zone under the leadership of Armando Valpreda who justified his action in a leaflet in which he said, " We have gone into hiding and have taken arms again because after 15 months of continuous humiliations and various efforts we considered it impossible to achieve in a peaceful manner those ideals for which many of our comrades died ".

### Newspaper Reports.

Rumors and counter-rumors started to fly in the press. *Tempo*'s correspondent in Asti reported that the revolt of the Asti partisans was to be extended to the whole of Northern Italy. *Momento* reported from Genoa that the unrest of the partisans was spreading to that town and there was a good possibility that partisan members of the Genoa Auxiliary Police might answer " Armando's " appeal and join him in Piedmont. *Messaggero*, expressed concern that the rebellion might spread in the whole region of Piedmont, Liguria and elsewhere.

Following the reception at Rome of the delegation from the partisans, Col. Moscatelli, commander of the "Garibaldi" partisan units succeeded in convincing the Asti partisans that they should return to their homes. A public meeting was held at Asti and Moscatelli and other commanders addressed the group. The National Committee of the Italian Partisans' National Association also expressed confidence in the attitude of the government toward the problems of the partisans and made a quick appeal for them to return to the employment of legal methods.

About the same time however, commanders of partisan units met at Milan and issued a resolution

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



expressing their solidarity with the partisans of Piedmont. ANPI did not represent their legitimate interests, they declared, and consequently the Milan partisans had decided to found a "Movement of Partisan Resistance".

In the meantime the Council of Ministers was taking full cognizance of the situation. At the meeting of 28 August Prime Minister De Gasperi acknowledged the justification of many of the requests of the Partisans but pointed out that the government was in fact confronted with a rebellion although arms had not been used. He declared that he fully intended to prevent any infringement of democratic order no matter by what group of the people it was caused. He felt it necessary to condemn methods such as those employed by the partisans declaring that no one could expect to be rendered justice by the Government if he did not abide by the law.

Minister Scoccimarro is reported by *Momento* to have objected at this point asserting that the partisans had been promised a solution of their problems several times by the Government but that all legislation affecting the interests of the partisans had been slowed down by "bureaucratic machinery". He is also reported to have declared that the present feeling of unrest among the partisans was caused in great measure by the recent amnesty following which several fascists previously sentenced to death, were now again in circulation.

### The Council's Resolution.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Council, as reported in *Messaggero*, unanimously approved a resolution which while expressing gratitude to a certain section of the citizens for its contribution to the liberation of the country at the same time deplored that its claims had been linked with a measure of indiscipline. The resolution also listed the various measures taken or announced in favor of the partisans. Among these were placement of partisans on the same footing with voluntary servicemen; acknowledgement of partisans rank qualifications; war pensions to injured and incapacitated partisans; reconstruction of houses damaged by the Germans in reprisal and extension to partisans of the same economic treatment accorded to servicemen.

At the Council's meeting the following day, discussion of the situation continued precipitated by the fact that an armed group had invaded the prison at Pallanza and had set free some prisoners guilty of political crimes. Nenni is reported to have expressed the belief that these incidents were final spurts and that reports from Turin, Casale Monferrato and Asti indicated that for the most part the leadership of the partisans was satisfied with the action taken by the Council at the previous day's meeting. In this connection *Messaggero* reported from Vercelli that an attempt at rebellion by some local partisans had been frustrated by leaders of the ANPI. This organization also voted a resolution declaring that although the partisan movement must be maintained "the partisans should absolutely abstain from performing any inconsiderate act which might affect the superior interests of the country". At the same time the Florence Partisans Committee warned partisans of the province not to commit any act which might compromise the outcome of present negotiations with the Government. At the Council meeting it was unanimously resolved that Minister of War Facchinetti should go to Milan and carry out an investigation aided by representatives of all parties.

Following the day of this Council meeting, news of the partisans faded considerably from the press aside from editorial comments pro and con as to the justification of the action taken by those partisans at Asti. On 4 September, Minister Facchinetti declared to journalists at Milan that he had concluded his conferences with representatives of the partisans and had received the impression that the movement had ceased.

### Government and Press.

For the most part the Government fared rather well in its treatment by the press during the entire situation. Many editorial comments were completely non-political as different newspapers hammered at the thesis that authority and order must be maintained. There were of course some criticisms of the government these mostly taking the line that the government had itself brought on the situation by slowness in acting. Among the critics of this sort was *Voce Repubblicana* which while disapproving revolt against a duly constituted democratic government declared that diplomacy, beauracracy and the armed forces of Italy are still under the control of the fascists and that veterans have a choice either to become bandits or starve. *Giornale della Sera* declared that the disorders of the Asti partisans would lead to more serious things owing to alleged weakness of the government but added, "authentic and worthy warriers of the war of Liberation castigate the behaviour of the rebels and those who joined them". *Messaggero* complimented the Council of Ministers on its handling of the problem, point-

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



ing out with satisfaction that even the partisan leaders had urged their followers to avoid all inconsiderate action and abide by law. The paper concluded "This country needs discipline, security and stability. To disregard this expectation of our people would be a dangerous business for any government or party". *Avanti* quietly declared that there is no question of a crisis if it is still possible for men, exasperated by misery and thousands of other causes to appeal to reason. The crisis is in sabotaging republican institutions the paper concluded.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

As of the average date of 29 August 1,971,830 metric tons or 76.5 % of the wheat amassing goal had been collected according to figures supplied by UNRRA and the Economic Section A. C. The figures are once again published in tabular form. With a revision last week of the figures for estimated production and amassing goal the percentage of goal collected by the various regions became more realistic. Several regions had previously surpassed their amassing goals by substantial margins. Toscana this week again led all regions and as a matter of fact increased its lead over the second region Marche. Sicily with 30.2 % of goal collected trailed the others but on the whole showed a satisfactory jump during the week.

An article which appeared in *Globo* on 2 September gives some interesting details on the road haulage situation, especially with reference to Genoa. Freight rates from Genoa to other places in Italy are falling sharply owing to trucks arriving at the port with loads for export and the difficulty of finding return loads. Freight from Genoa to Rome, for instance, is about 400 lire per quintal, which compares favorably with rail tariffs at *piccola velocità*.

As ever, haulage concerns are faced with the two great problems of fuel and tires. Imports of fuel oils have been decreased, while the number of vehicles on the roads has risen. Fuel allotments have been cut from 16 to 11 liters per quintal of load capacity, and it is feared that the figure might be still further reduced. Free-market prices

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collections at last Report | Percentage of Goal Collected | Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 52,205 | 63.3 | 56,596 | 68.7 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 161 | 42.0 | 182 | 47.5 |
| Lombardia | 559,559 | 326,662 | 208,262 | 63.8 | 211,232 | 64.7 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 65 | 1.9 | 79 | 2.3 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 290,818 | 72.0 | 291,819 | 72.2 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 494,085 | 85.9 | 497,060 | 86.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,045,596 | 75.1 | 1,056,968 | 75.9 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 178,264 | 97.7 | 181,889 | 99.6 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 245,907 | 97.5 | 246,797 | 97.9 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 98,137 | 95.3 | 100,232 | 97.3 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 79,280 | 77.5 | 80,206 | 78.4 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 63,376 | 71.9 | 65,118 | 73.8 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 20,999 | 46.0 | 23,327 | 51.1 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 109,545 | 72,006 | 71.6 | 73,407 | 73.0 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 37,227 | 91.2 | 39,026 | 95.6 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 11,329 | 38.5 | 11,588 | 39.4 |
| Sicilia | 590,180 | 198,504 | 55,831 | 28.1 | 60,004 | 30.2 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 31,643 | 74.2 | 33,268 | 78.0 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,342,420 | 1,185,931 | 893,999 | 75.4 | 914,862 | 77.1 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 1,939,595 | 75.2 | 1,971,830 | 76.5 |

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



for truck fuels are naphtha 45-50 lire per kilo and diesel oil 150 lire per kilo. Improvement, however, is expected in the tire situation following ARAR's promise of extra allotments and hopes of increased production from the Pirelli and Michelin factories, though Thursday's fire at the Pirelli Milan factory may have rather damped these hopes. Prices of tires in the free market range from 70,000 lire each in the case of truck tires to 30-35 thousand lire for *topolino* tires.

It is announced that following an agreement between the C. I. P., UNRRA, the American and British Vacuum Oil and Shell companies, oil refining is to be resumed in Italy at Naples, Bari, La Spezia and Porto Marghera. The current issue of *UNRRA Economic Notes* explains that the crude oil for the first six months' requirements will be imported and paid for by UNRRA, with the result that Italy will receive more refined petroleum products than would otherwise have been the case, though it must not be expected that this will mean that more gasoline will be immediately available to users, the *Notes* hastens to add.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Three more American Officers are leaving the Allied Commission this week. They are: Lt. Col. Roscoe R. Snapp, (Food and Agriculture); Maj. Arthur M. McPhail, (Motor Transportation Officer); and 1st Lt. Marley R. Brown, (Signal Officer).

The following American officers have recently been assigned to the Allied Commission: Lt. Col. Paul T. Graves, (Economic Section); Maj. John R. Hayes, (Regimental Headquarters); and 1st Lt. Paul Cole, (Adjutant, A. C.).

416

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

Vol. III, No. 20

August 31, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

There were indications last week that the efforts of De Gasperi in Paris were finding sympathetic ears in some quarters. Italy had friends at court although there were questions in some minds as to whether or not the gains (changes in the preamble to the draft peace treaty) were of the substantial variety. But most of the Italian Press thought so and more important De Gasperi expressed satisfaction that progress was being made. As to the belief that changes in the preamble meant little in the eventual evaluation of the terms of the numbered articles of the treaty De Gasperi differed. Upon his return to Rome he declared to interviewing journalists among other things, " As we have to fight on juridical ground, we must cling to everything that may be on our side. What really matters is that we establish the fundamental question that we are something different from the masters of fascist wars ".

That his fight at Paris was not in vain was established by subsequent changes in the Preamble to the draft Peace Treaty. The changes were proposed among others by Holland whose participation in the war had been considered in some quarters belittled by Italy's assertion that she had never made a formal declaration of war against that country. This was interpreted in certain quarters as a discrimination between Holland's war effort and that of the big Allied Powers. The same assertion had been made in the cases of Belgium, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Be that as it may, the fact remained that on 23 August the Paris Conference Political Commission for the peace treaty with Italy approved an amendment which changes the sentence, " Italy declared a war of aggression and entered the war ", into " Italy undertook a war of aggression and therefore provoked a state of war ".

Another friend entered the picture when the proposal of China for a further amendment was approved. In this case the sentence, " The fascist regime was overthrown under pressure of military events " was changed to read, " the fascist regime was overthrown following the victories of the allied forces and with the assistance of the democratic elements of the Italian people." In this case De Gasperi definitely won a point — " that we are something different from the masters of fascist war ".

Further evidence of Holland's good-will was evidenced in the approval 26 August of her proposal that Italy's co-belligerence be formally recognized. This amendment was voted favorably by all delegates excluding the Yugoslav, which abstained. This section now reads " Considering that after the armistice, the Italian armed forces, both the regular ones and those of the underground movement, took an active part in the war against Germany, and that Italy declared war on Germany on 13 October 1943 becoming thereby a co-belligerent against Germany... ".

### Press Reactions.

Changes in the preamble were received by the Rome press with varying enthusiasm. However all agreed that progress was being made. Many played up the part that had been taken by the smaller nations. These ranged in force from " Victory For the Small Nations ", in *Giornale della Sera*, to *Tempo*'s, milder " First Results Of the Intervention of the Small Powers—Indictment of Italy Slightly Modified ". Other papers noting the contribution of the small powers in their headlines were *Momento*, and *Unità*, while *Avanti* was pleased that the " contribution of our patriots " was recognized by both small and big powers. Tomajuoli in *Tempo* paid special tribute to the effectiveness of De Gasperi's personal contact work at Paris crediting it with improving Italy's diplomatic position and facilitating the task of the entire delegation.

In the matter of reparations, the method rather than the matter occasioned most discussion. At a meeting of the Economic Commission held 27 August, the Australian representative proposed that war reparations be paid by the debtor states on the basis of a quota of their yearly exports,

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



to be ascertained year by year. Articles in *Avanti*, and *Unità*, however, stated that the Italian delegation was inclined to favor the payment of reparations through the finishing of goods, the raw materials for which would be supplied by the creditor nations. *Unità* was not slow to assert that this method of payment had been put forth originally by Russia.

Italian interest in domestic politics which had been whetted by criticism of De Gasperi on the part of the Communists at Paris increased with the return of the Prime Minister to Rome. While he was at Paris there had been frequent predictions of a governmental crisis inspired by allegations that his actions had not had the full support of the Italian delegation. In an interview at Paris last week De Gasperi had asserted that Nenni the Socialist leader and acting president of the ministerial council had definitely supported him and that he had in fact been supported by the delegation and the Council of Ministers in his proposal to postpone the Venezia Giulia question.

### De Gasperi's Report.

De Gasperi's report to the Council of Ministers at its meeting of 24 August dealt in great part with the criticism that had been levelled at the action of the Delegation at Paris by the Communists. Referring to his proposal to postpone the question of the Venezia Giulia dispute he strongly asserted that he had no intention of postponing the conclusion of peace but merely one particular question. This question was tied up with the possibilities of dealing directly with Yugoslavia. In this connection he recounted attempts that had been made since 1944 to open direct negotiations with Yugoslavia. He said as reported in *Il Popolo* that the Italian representative in Moscow had sought a rapprochement with Subasitch who considered the projected negotiations useless. In his talk with Kardelj, Reale also had urged direct negotiations but in reply, had been told that the negotiations might be useful only after the settlement of the Trieste question. In *Messaggero*, it was reported that De Gasperi made the following statement as to the failure to deal directly with Yugoslavia: "Among other conditions the Yugoslavs demanded that the members of the armed forces and Chetniks in Italian territory should be handed over to them—a demand that could not be countenanced because the persons in question were in concentration camps under the jurisdiction of British Military authorities. Moreover the Yugoslavs refused to accept our request for a possible exchange between members of the Yugoslav armed forces in Italy and members of the Italian armed forces in Yugoslavia. On that occasion, Togliatti agreed with me that the Yugoslav requests could not be accepted".

Five days after this meeting of the Council of Ministers Giuseppe Saragat, President of the Constituent Assembly met with Vladimir Simic President of the Yugoslav Parliament. Details of the meeting were not given out but according to ANSA the latter manifested his desire for a sincere rapprochement in order to establish a fruitful collaboration in the future.

In regard to the attacks by the communists, De Gasperi emphasized that the Communist Party was represented in the government and had full opportunity to exploit its right to criticism in the proper place. He called for unity of action declaring as reported in *Il Popolo*, that "If I spoke from the standpoint of my party's interests I might even say that my party has profited by the attack, but national interests demand a truce during the Conference. The decision lies with the Constituent Assembly". Whether or not the Prime Minister's plea for unity was the direct cause, Scoccimarro is mentioned in *Il Messaggero* as declaring that the polemics had gone beyond limits but this was unintentional. There was no intention of provoking a crisis and Pastore's dispatches from Paris were articles by a journalist and therefore did not involve the Direction of the Communist Party.

### Order of the Day.

The Council of Ministers then unanimously voted the following order of the day: "The Council of Ministers having heard the declarations on the action of the Italian Delegation to the Paris Conference made by the President of the Council, approves them with the firm conviction that the just demands formulated in the President's speech at the Luxembourg Palace and in the memoranda of the Delegation in accordance with the Government's directives, express the essential requirements of the nation for its existence and development and represent the Italian Republic's positive contribution to European and world peace which must have its indestructible basis in justice".

## ECONOMIC FRONT

With the exception of Venezia Giulia for which there were no returns this week, the tabulated figures for the amassing of wheat are once again published. The table is based on figures supplied by UNRRA and the Economics Section.

1015

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collections at last Report | Percentage of Goal Collected | Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 395,550 | 82,403 | 46,353 | 50.8 | 52,205 | 63.3 |
| Liguria | 19,450 | 383 | 143 | 14.0 | 161 | 42.0 |
| Lombardia | 559,550 | 326,662 | 203,290 | 56.6 | 208,262 | 63.8 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,700 | 3,431 | 52 | 1.8 | 65 | 1.9 |
| Veneto | 691,750 | 403,984 | 289,265 | 71.3 | 290,818 | 72.0 |
| Emilia | 1,064,920 | 574,858 | 489,673 | 94.1 | 494,085 | 85.9 |
| Northern Italy | 2,746,920 | 1,391,721 | 1,028,776 | 74.5 | 1,045,596 | 75.1 |
| Toscana | 464,200 | 182,535 | 169,232 | 98.0 | 178,264 | 97.7 |
| Marche | 463,200 | 252,200 | 244,251 | 141.8 | 245,907 | 97.5 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 103,000 | 90,636 | 111.9 | 98,137 | 95.3 |
| Lazio | 277,500 | 102,361 | 76,544 | 108.2 | 79,280 | 77.5 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 327,500 | 88,183 | 60,691 | 79.9 | 63,376 | 71.9 |
| Campania | 270,320 | 45,675 | 18,688 | 50.5 | 20,999 | 46.0 |
| Puglie | 297,350 | 100,545 | 69,426 | 66.4 | 72,006 | 71.6 |
| Lucania | 156,000 | 40,836 | 33,474 | 68.5 | 37,227 | 91.2 |
| Calabria | 137,900 | 29,422 | 10,815 | 39.5 | 11,329 | 38.5 |
| Sicilia | 500,180 | 198,504 | 49,669 | 27.9 | 55,831 | 28.1 |
| Sardegna | 146,270 | 42,670 | 28,206 | 92.4 | 31,643 | 74.2 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,342,420 | 1,185,931 | 851,632 | 85.2 | 893,999 | 75.4 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 6,089,340 | 2,577,652 | 1,880,408 | 79.0 | 1,939,595 | 75.2 |

Most noteworthy is the fact that the amassing goal has been revised upwards from 2,379,852 metric tons to 2,577,652 metric tons, both figures excluding Venezia Giulia. Last week, in addition to Venezia Giulia with 102.5 %, three regions exceeded their amassing goals by rather substantial margins. They were Marche with 141.8 % Umbria with 111.9 % and Lazio with 108.2 %. With the new goal figures, these regions have now collected 97.5 %, 95.3 % and 77.5 % respectively.

Of the 197,800 metric tons increase in the amassing goal, these three regions are charged with 123,395 tons or 62.4 % of the increase. Other regions bearing the increase are Venezia T., Emilia, Toscana, Abruzzi e M., Campania, Calabria, Sicilia, and Sardinia. Amassing goals for Piemonte, Liguria, Lombardia, Veneto, Puglie and Lucania have been decreased.

Estimated production data as of 10 August has been supplied by the Central Institute of Statistics and have been modified according to data furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture. All estimates will be revised as of 15 September 1946. Amassing goals have been estimated as of 10 August. These, too, will be revised. It should be pointed out that figures "percentage of goal collected", in the fourth column are based on estimated production as of 30 June 1946 and the amassing goal figures of 10 July. In the sixth column, the percentage of goal collected is based on the estimated production and amassing goal of 10 August.

### Sicily's Grain Deliveries.

Less than 70,000 tons of wheat or about 14 % of a crop exceeding 500,000 tons will be delivered this year to the Sicilian "Granai del Popolo" says *Il Globo* while searching for the reasons for the poor showing. This performance compares with an average delivery of more than 30 % during the years 1936-1938.

While the surface sewed with grain this year has been reduced about 460,000 odd acres as compared with the acreage of 1938, the paper believes this is not enough to account for this serious phenomena. "With a production of even 500,000 tons the delivery to the "ammassi" should have amounted to at least 170,000 tons if we exclude 330,000 tons for the personal needs of the farmer".

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



This compares with the figure delivered of about 50,000 tons. Threats against the little farmers will be of little avail, says the paper. The economic problems of the island must be taken into account. The paper then goes on to state that in Sicily, grain is the only resource of the little farmer and is also the fundamental food (bread and pasta) of the farmers, peasants and the farm workers. "As a farmer's family needs at the present 2 ½ pounds of grain per day for bread and pasta, the 150 pounds per year the Government allows the farmer to keep is insufficient".

### Fruit Exports.

Great Britain has become an almost unlimited market for Italian fruit, *Il Globo*, reports, commenting on the fact that at the present time there are no price limits on apricots and peaches of which the British people are very desirous after being deprived of them for nearly seven years. "Whoever has been in wartime England can well remember the day when peaches sold for 27 shillings each in West End or, at the present rate of exchange something like 15,000 lire a kilogram." About two months ago, however, imports of peaches by plane from France reduced the price to two shillings each or about 600 lire per kilogram. A little later, the paper notes, Italian fruit began reaching England and the present rate is about 75 carloads weekly with an elapsed time of 90 hours from the time they are shipped from Italy. It is expected that soon, these exports of Italian fruit will increase by crossing the Channel in train-ferries between Zeebrugge and Harwich instead of using only the Boulogne-Folkstone and the Ostend-Tilsbury routes which require the unloading of the fruit in these ports and the transport to the British ports in freighters.

Italian grapes which may be exported until 31 October 1946 must compete in price with French and Spanish grapes, but lemons, cabbages, cauliflower, almonds, onions, and pears which will soon be exported will be sold in England at controlled prices which are nevertheless about double the selling price in Italy.

## CHIEF COMMISSIONERS TRIP

A steady succession of visits and conferences with Allied officials and inspection tours of various installations marked the trip to Venezia Giulia made last week by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission. The Admiral visited the northern region in order to obtain information and data at first hand from authorities directly concerned with the administration of the region.

Accompanied by his Aide, Lt. (jg) Edward J. Behn, USNR, Admiral Stone left in his plane from Ciampino Airport at 0845, Thursday 22 August, and landed at Campo Formido Airfield, Udine at 1045. He was met at the field by Col. Alfred C. Bowman, Senior Civil Affairs Officer, Venezia Giulia and following a visit to the office of Lt. Col. H. N. Bright, Provincial Commissioner, Udine, the Admiral proceeded to Headquarters, 88th Division, where he was received by Major General Bryant E. Moore, U. S. A., Commanding General. Following lunch with General Moore and his Staff and a brief inspection trip with the General, Admiral Stone drove to Trieste and that evening dined with Col. Bowman at the Colonel's villa.

On Friday, 23 August, the Chief Commissioner was escorted on a launch tour of the harbor of Trieste by Capt. Cecil S. Noakes, R. N., Naval Officer in Charge, Trieste Harbor. After the tour, the remainder of the morning was occupied by visits to Col. Bowman's office, the Headquarters of Venezia Giulia Police and the Venezia Giulia Police School. At Col. Bowman's office and at Police Headquarters, the Admiral met the respective staffs.

The Chief Commissioner's last visit of the morning was to the office of Col. H. P. P. Robertson, Trieste Area Commissioner. Here he received representatives of the local civil government. Later the Admiral lunched with Col. Robertson and his wife. After lunch, Col. Bowman escorted the Admiral on a tour of Monfalcone shipyards. Admiral Stone later visited the Commanding Officers of the destroyers USS Corey and USS Wilson.

That evening the Chief Commissioner dined with Lieutenant General Sir John Harding, Commanding General XIII Corps at his Castle at Duino, returning to spend the night in Trieste.

On Saturday 24 August, accompanied by Col. Bowman, Admiral Stone motored to Campo Formido Airfield at Udine and took off at 1005 arriving in Rome at noon.

## COOPERATIVES IN UDINE

The Economic Section reports that statal and parastatal cooperatives have been set up in Udine during the latter part of this month to afford members an opportunity of obtaining basic food items at reasonable prices. This is one of the projects which the Provincial Commissioner is developing to counter the danger

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



that employees of public utilities and other basic industries will strike for higher wages to offset the high cost of living.

Both imported food items which are surplus to the needs of ration card holders and fresh fruits and vegetables which are transported without expense from outlying farms are now being made available to some 26,000 people in Udine at prices below those prevailing on the free market.

## A BOW FROM BELL TELEPHONE

The prompt restoration of the Rome telephone system and establishment of telephone communication with the United States at the direction of the Allied Commission is the subject of favorable comment in the Spring 1946 edition of "Bell Telephone Magazine", published by American Telephone and Telegraph Co. The magazine pays note also to the novel practice introduced by the Allied Commission to reduce the impatience and tension of soldiers waiting to complete calls to their homes. The magazine states:

"When the Allied Command took over in Rome, it found the telephone system of the city in a deplorable state. Nobody could place a call with any certainty of completing it. Transmission was poor and cut-offs frequent. However, the Germans in retreating, had sent non-technical troops to destroy the radio transmitting equipment.

At the station they found some massive but obsolete long-wave transmitters which they thoroughly destroyed—fortunately leaving the smaller, modern, short-wave equipment virtually intact. At the direction of the Allied Commission and with the assistance of the U. S. Army Signal Corps, Italcable Company conditioned the equipment and established contact with the United States.

"Because the telephone system in Italy was in such poor shape, it was decided that overseas service for both G. I.s and all other users in Italy would be confined to a single booth location near the Pincio Gardens in Rome. Here, beginning on July 1, 1945, calls were booked, scheduled, and completed to the United States. The demand was so great that it was necessary at first to limit all calls to three minutes, in order that as many as possible might enjoy the privilege.

"The Allied Commission found that G. I.s, impatient to complete their calls, became restless when inevitable delays occurred. At such times, a loudspeaker was switched on in the waiting room and the voices of the operators working on their calls could be heard. Such evidence of activity on the circuit and the sound of American voices, naming American towns and cities, relieved the tension considerably.

"This efficiently run unit which handled as many as 3,500 calls a month became a model for terminals which were later set up in other war-torn areas. When long-distance lines became available to Northern Italy, overseas telephone centers were also established at Udine and Leghorn."

## DISPLACED PERSONS

Professor M. W. Royce will spend six weeks in Italy and Austria under the aegis of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees studying the problem of displaced persons. Accompanied by Col. O. B. Findlay Director of the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission, Allied Commission and Lt. Col. Edward Purdy, Assistant Deputy Director, Professor Royce left on 30 August for AFHQ and the Naples area and on Tuesday 3 September will proceed to the Northern camps.

## COLONEL WALTON LEAVING

It is announced that Acting Vice-President Colonel Charles W. Walton will leave the Commission shortly for the United States and reassignment. Brigadier Matthew Carr, C. B. E., M. C., will take over as Acting Vice-President in addition to his other duties as Vice-President of the Civil Affairs Section.

Colonel Walton came to the Allied Commission in April 1945 and has been associated with it during some of its most important phases. He became Chief of the Supply Group which included Transportation, Food and Agriculture, War Materials Disposal, and Commerce Sub-Commissions and the Requisition Branch.

As the Allied Commission was reduced and consolidated, the activities of the Finance, and Labor and Industry Sub-Commissions also came under Colonel Walton's direction.

During the period of Colonel Walton's assignment there was great activity in the military supplies for Italy under the "disease and unrest" formula. Commencing on 1 September 1945 procurement of supplies for Italy under the above formula was assumed by the Foreign Economic Administration. The Allied Commission however continued to be the active agency on this end of the supply line.

Colonel Walton was appointed Acting Vice-President of the Economics Section on 1 March 1946.

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



## ODDS AND ENDS

The following American officers are leaving the Allied Commission the end of August for release from the Army: 1st. Lt. Walter C. Applegate, (Displaced Persons Sub-Commission); CWO Henry L. Ellenbast (S-4); and CWO Nicholas Piombino, (Assistant Adjutant). Major Richard B. Bullock, (Adjutant), is leaving the first of September for England to attend a Senior Officers School. One British officer, Major W. Ronnie, (Tenda Briga Liaison Group) is proceeding to the UK for release.

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

August 24, 1946 Vol. III, No. 19

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

During the last week even more attention has been paid in Italy to party quarrels than to the Peace Conference, at least so far as the writers of newspaper polemics are concerned. Interviewers have questioned the President of the Council of Ministers about his views on Communist opposition to the attitude he took over Trieste at Paris, and Togliatti on his return to Italy was cross-examined at length by *Unità*'s representative. Extremists of the right and left used language that was to say the least of it uncomplimentay, and finally the Socialist Party, which had been keeping out of the crossfire came in for sniping from the right. At first there was much talk of a Government crisis, but the scribes now seem to doubt this.

De Gasperi gave two interviews to UP and ANSA Agencies in which he referred to the Communist views and the alleged crisis in the government. According to ANSA he said that Nenni, the Socialist leader and acting president of the ministerial council, had expressed approval of his action and had encouraged him to "strike while the iron was hot", and that he had been authorised to propose the postponement of the Venezia Giulia question by the Delegation, by the Council of Ministers, and by common sense. He concluded by saying that domestic squabbles seemed petty to him, that "There is talk of a crisis. What do men represent compared with Italy? We are doing our duty, trying to safeguard our vital requirements within the framework of world democracy. What does it matter if the fulfillment of our duty is followed by applause or by criticism?"

The Communists, represented by *Unità*, found De Gasperi's declarations "unhappy and evasive" and said his statement confirmed that he had no authorisation from the Constituent Assembly Foreign Affairs Commission to propose postponing the Trieste problem; they felt that the discussions at Paris had shown conclusively that the Big Four were resolved to uphold the Free State solution and went on "Only a rupture between the Big Four can now bring about a modification of the fundamental points of the solution of the Venezia Giulia question. Rupture means war. Does De Gasperi want war? And if he does want it why demand a postponement? The only results would be a prolongation of the foreign occupation, and an aggravation of the already tense situation in Venezia Giulia and a delay in the establishment of the necessary collaboration between Italians and Yugoslavs". The communists have also been trying to persuade Italians that the Americans and the British are trying to make Trieste into a Malta or a Gibraltar.

### Socialist View.

Various writers from the right have attacked the Socialists for being in the middle and taking sides neither with the Christian Democrats nor with the Communists. Possibly in reply a leading article in *Avanti* examines this position. It maintains that the Socialist party cannot be satisfied with assuming the role of mediators between the Christian Democrats and the Communists—"a policy which has yielded poor results in France"; nor can they adhere to or submit to either of the other parties; there would be no harm in favouring the Communists if the Socialists were convinced that the Communist Party represented the most effective means of bringing about the Socialist state; "but the Socialists feel that they have cultural traditions of their own and that it is their task to interpret and carry into effect the aspirations of the working classes".

The decision of the Peace Conference to accept the British proposal that Austria be invited to state her views on the Italian treaty is given wide and unfavourable publicity by all parties. Even De Gasperi is reported to have made a rather odd statement to a press conference that Italy had "no objection to the application of the principle of selfdetermination to the Tyrol provided that the same principle is applied to all Germans throughout the world".

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



Minister Corbino returned to Italy from Paris during the week and reported to the Council of Ministers. He is reported to have confirmed that De Gasperi's speech was agreed upon by the Delegation, and to have declared that his talks with the heads of the American, British, and French economic delegations were most cordial even if they did not lead to specific assurances; in his opinion everything depended upon the spirit in which the treaty would be applied and if Italy realised the need for making great sacrifices and for working hard her recovery is certain.

### A Tactical Mistake?

The rejection by the Political and Territorial Committee of the Peace Conference of the Italian Memorandum proposing amendments to the treaty preamble caused great mortification among Italians, and several newspapers stated that a tactical mistake had been made in even presenting it; the bitter opposition to proposed amendments shown by delegates of such countries as Holland and Belgium appear to have shocked Italians, many of whom had been comforting themselves because their representatives had had "Cordial Talks" with this personnality or that or had spoken of Brazil or Field Marshal Smuts as though they were fairy godmothers. After this blow hopes of revision of other parts of the treaty sank very low. At the same time *Avanti* drew attention to what Nenni had said on his return from Paris, that Italy must cultivate all friendships instead of wasting time in moaning, in cursing, and in indulging in "stupid Chauvinisms", and claimed that the treaty was a compromise which had all the disadvantages but also all the possibilities of development characteristic of a compromise.

Several writers have recently urged on the Italian Government that too many former fascists are still to be found in the Italian Diplomatic Corps, especially in South America, and that the presence at Paris of a wellknown fascist journalist covering the Peace Conference also did not help to convince foreigners that Italy really had reformed since her fascist days.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Published once again are the weekly tabulated figures for the amassing of wheat. The table is based on figures supplied by UNRRA and the Economics Section. Figures on wheat collected are based on reports as of 15 August 1946. Estimated production figures continue to be as of 30 June 1946 and amassing goals as of 10 July 1946; all quantities are in metric tons.

The week's results showed the collections of four Regions exceeding their amassing goals. Marche with collections amounting to 141.8 % leads all Regions. Other exceeding their goals were Umbria with 111.9 %, Lazio with 109.2 % and Venezia Giulia with 102.5 %. Investigations regarding estimated production and retentions are being made. Revision will be made upon completion.

As to the increase, during the week, in "Percentage of Goal Collected", Sardinia led with 12.8 %. Campania was next with an increase of 10.3 %. Sicily and Calabria continue to be disappointing.

### Italian Wine Exports.

For four days of broiling heat this week the wine producers and their kin have held serious congress at Siena, so serious indeed that *Globo* reports that though in the land of Broglio and Ricasoli they drank fresh water. Great interest was shown in the problem of recovering foreign markets, and on this subject Baron Ricasoli spoke at length. Italy can and must export two classes of wine, ordinary wine and special *vini pregiati;* in the case of the former the price is the governing factor, in the case of the second a good reputation is more important. Italy's production of wine reached four thousand six hundred million litres in the period 1909-1914, but in 1945 had dropped to three thousand million litres; even so with an internal consumption of just under three thousand million litres a year she is in a position to export and production has begun to rise again; in the first six months of this year nearly fourteen million litres were exported, representing nearly five per cent. of Italy's exports in value, to countries as far apart as the United States, Brazil, England, Argentina, Egypt, India, Switzerland, the Low Countries, Malta, Germany, Denmark, Belgium, and Austria.

### Plea for Fishing Industry.

A plea has been made to the government by the commercial newspaper *Globo* on behalf of the fishing industry, especially in view of the fact that Italy is short of foreign credits to buy food. Before the war Italians ate only about eleven pounds of fish a head a year against an English consumption of some fifty pounds a head and a Norwegian consumption of over eighty pounds a head. Included in this fish supply there is a considerable quantity of imports; all told before the war the imports were about one hundred and

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collections at last Report | Percentage of Goal Collected | Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 403,650 | 91,274 | 40,871 | 44.8 | 46,353 | 50.8 |
| Liguria | 20,250 | 1,024 | 132 | 12.9 | 143 | 14.0 |
| Lombardia | 592,200 | 359,312 | 199,154 | 55.4 | 203,290 | 56.6 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,200 | 2,931 | 47 | 1.6 | 52 | 1.8 |
| Veneto | 693,400 | 405,634 | 285,987 | 70.5 | 289,265 | 71.3 |
| Venezia Giulia | 10,000 | 4,000 | 3,989 | 99.7 | 4,100 | 102.5 |
| Emilia | 1,028,000 | 520,537 | 480,358 | 92.3 | 489,673 | 94.1 |
| Northern Italy | 2,762,700 | 1,384,712 | 1,010,538 | 72.9 | 1,032,876 | 74.5 |
| Toscana | 461,400 | 172,757 | 159,316 | 92.2 | 169,232 | 98.0 |
| Marche | 385,500 | 172,294 | 239,137 | 138.8 | 244,251 | 141.8 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 80,986 | 85,626 | 105.7 | 90,636 | 111.9 |
| Lazio | 244,500 | 70,721 | 71,106 | 100.5 | 76,544 | 108.2 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 325,000 | 75,926 | 57,325 | 75.5 | 60,691 | 79.9 |
| Campania | 263,470 | 37,007 | 14,876 | 40.2 | 18,688 | 50.5 |
| Puglie | 301,350 | 104,545 | 65,853 | 63.0 | 69,426 | 66.4 |
| Lucania | 164,000 | 48,836 | 29,642 | 60.7 | 33,474 | 68.5 |
| Calabria | 138,000 | 27,346 | 9,989 | 36.5 | 10,815 | 39.5 |
| Sicilia | 570,100 | 178,184 | 43,076 | 24.2 | 49,669 | 27.9 |
| Sardegna | 147,000 | 30,538 | 24,299 | 79.6 | 28,206 | 92.4 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,212,320 | 999,140 | 800,245 | 80.0 | 851,632 | 85.2 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 5,975,020 | 2,383,852 | 1,810,783 | 75.9 | 1,884,508 | 79.0 |

seventy thousand tons and in the first six months of this year the total was about twenty thousand tons. All along Italy's five thousand miles of coastline fishing goes on steadily and the catch is good, about sixty-eight thousand tons, but the deep sea catch is disappointing; Italy had, for example, only seven boats totalling 3,174 tons engaged in this trade before the war, which landed some ten thousand tons of fish against 55 French ships of about fifty thousand tons landing one hundred and sixty three thousand tons. UNRRA has helped greatly this year by making available ample supplies of fuel for the various types of motor vessel engaged in the trade, but the catch has not increased correspondingly and the main answer seems to lie in deep sea fishing.

## DISMISSALS STILL BLOCKED

The Council of Ministers has approved a decree extending until 30 September the provisions of the decree of 8 February 1946, which itself extended the ban on the dismissal of workers in Northern Italy, and setting up a Central Commission to review the industrial situation and propose the necessary measures before 20 September.

## DECORATION

With Lt. General John C. H. Lee, U. S. Commander in the Mediterranean attending, The Legion of Merit, Degree of Commander, was presented to Rear Admiral Guy L. Warren, Royal Navy, during ceremonies conducted in the office of Col. Charles L. Dasher Jr., Commanding Officer Rome Area, MTOUSA, on 15 August 1946. Presentation to Admiral Warren was made by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, at the invitation of General Lee. Admiral Warren who received the decoration for exceptionally meritorious services as Chief of the Naval Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, was commander of the HMS Berwick during the early stages of the war and later was Rear Admiral Assault Ships and Craft at Greenock.

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



## ODDS AND ENDS

On 18 August 1946 Col. Bowman, SCAO AMG XIII Corps, presented the Bronze Star to Lt. Col. J. C. Smuts and Lt. Col. Harry C. Quartier, the Legion of Merit to 1st Lt. J. Bellotti, and the Medal of Freedom to Major E. J. Scicluna.

* * *

Fruit trains are now running regularly from Milan to England and from Bolzano to Stockholm.

* * *

The following British officers have been released from assignment and duty with the Allied Commission, on proceeding to the United Kingdom for release from the Army: Lt. Col. L. Montague (Press Relations, late Public Safety), Major R. A. Savill (G-1 British), Captain F. G. Geach (Public Safety), Captain B. Fielden (Public Safety), Captain W. L. Willis (Public Safety) and Captain P. H. Tunnard (Liaison Division).

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

August 17, 1946 Vol. III, No. 18

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

The speech made to the Peace Conference in Paris by the President of the Italian Council of Ministers, A. De Gasperi, was in the main very well received by the Italian Press.

His main theme was that the men and women of the world are today looking to Paris anxiously awaiting a peace which will lead to the independence and fraternal cooperation of all peoples, that the 47 million Italians want to assist in this work, and that the Italian Peace Treaty must fit into the picture of the general peace; that the terms of the treaty as they stand at present, are not, however, wise and will not contribute to national independence and fraternal cooperation since they are intrinsically unjust to Italy, the new young Italian Republic, and indeed threaten her economy and her security. He opposed specifically the spirit of the treaty, the naval clauses, the territorial clauses affecting the home land, the premature renunciation of the African colonies, the renunciation of claims on Germany, the burden of the costs of occupation, and the clause allowing the Allied and Associated Powers to sequestrate Italian property in their countries to satisfy claims against Italy and Italians. He suggested that the problem of Trieste be shelved for one year like the question of the colonies and that in this year Yugoslavia and Italy should try to come to agreement between themselves.

*Messaggero* had a headline "The voice of a great people at the Peace Conference—Italy's just cause and rights upheld by De Gasperi with unanswerable arguments and fervent eloquence", and in his message from Paris to the paper Jacchia wrote "De Gasperi's speech reflected Italy's honest and realistic will to make equitable amends and to take part in a foresighted policy of cooperation in Europe but also her determination to defend her national rights".

*Tempo*'s Paris correspondent speaks of a worthy, solemn, and dignified stand and says that De Gasperi, an ex-enemy, summoned before his judges, has started the peace conversations on the basis of principles acceptable to victors and vanquished. *Momento* in an unsigned leading article says that De Gasperi's address was an indictment rather than a speech and that he discharged his task "with the passion of an Italian, the sincerity of a democrat, and the awareness of a good European". *Popolo* hoped that "the serious, measured, and opportune warning" he gave the conference would be heeded as it lies with the 21 Powers to restore peace and justice to the world. *Mondo* and *Risorgimento Liberale* also praised the speech.

*Avanti* has an article by A. B. which says De Gasperi spoke nobly and with measure, and that his speech contained many things which deserved to be remembered in the future; the article rebukes the Yugoslav representative for not being willing to discuss the Trieste problem as suggested and says that his reply to De Gasperi's appeal has not served the interests of his country.

### Communist opposition.

The rift in the lute came on 13 August, when *Unità*, which had hitherto refrained from comment, carried as leading article a message from Paris, (where P. Togliatti, the leader of the Italian Communist Party, is on a visit to old friends) signed Ottavio Pastore, which is a slashing attack on first the United States and England for abandoning the principle of a two thirds majority for recommendations to be considered by the Big Four and so "attempting the formation of an anti-Soviet block"; second England again for wanting to admit Austria, Mexico, Cuba, and Egypt to express their views on the treaties after Yugoslavia had wanted to invite Albania, because "Clearly for England it is not a question of judging countries by their behaviour during the war but by the adhesion which they can give or refuse to her anti-soviet policy"; thirdly De Gasperi for his request to the Powers to postpone the Trieste problem for a year while Yugoslavia and Italy try to solve the matter between themselves. *Unità*

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



claims that De Gasperi's request was disussed and disapproved by all the parties in the Parliamentary Committee for Foreign Treaties, and does not represent a policy approved by the Italian people. It says the delay would poison internal Italian politics and international politics and would inflict Allied troops permanently on Italy, and asks whether De Gasperi hopes that the international situation is growing worse and is perhaps waiting to get Trieste as the result of another war.

This and succeeding articles brought a strong of protests from the press of the centre and right. *Buonsenso* for the Qualunquisti said that in any other European country an article like Pastore's would have led at least to the seizure of the issue. In *Popolo* G. Gonella, the Christian Democrat Minister of Education, attacked "the Italian press which runs down De Gasperi while he is fighting a battle which is the one of the Italian people, instead of recalling to those who talk of 'Italian Imperialism' how the Serbs, the Croats, and the Slovenes were freed in 1918 from the Habsburg Imperialism with the support of the Italians who died not only to free Venezia Giulia but also to free the Slav peoples from the Central European Empire"; gave Pastore the lie direct on his statement that the parties had all heard and unanimously rejected the proposal to defer the Trieste problem for a year; and concluded by saying "this Italian press, instead of attacking De Gasperi, should better ask those who at the Luxembourg are giving lessons of democracy to Italy if there is really in their own countries a freedom of organisation of parties and a freedom of speech and of the press whose existence in our political life is clearly shown by the damage they bring to our own country".

*Risorgimento Liberale* had an equally angry leading article during which it said "We have repeatedly asked why the Italian Communists should be ready to accept all renunciations and uphold the standpoints of Italy's adversaries when the Russian Communists pursue a typically Russian imperialistic and expansionist policy and when the Yugoslav Communists pursue a typically Yugoslav, aggressive, and militarist policy. We must now call attention to the really scandalous aspects of this policy of complicity with the foreigner and of servile subjection. De Gasperi is still in Paris and cannot rebut the insults and calumnies of the renegade Cardelli [Kardelj, the Yugoslav speaker at Paris is meant] and the insinuations of Molotow which pass the limits of decency, and Togliatti goes there to receive and give orders, the docile instrument of his soviet master, the zealous intermediary between Stalin's policy and the deluded Italian Proletariat".

### A Calmer Note.

Such broadsides naturally brought angry replies, and once more it was *Avanti* which retained dignity and courtesy in a couple of notes which pointed out that it is quite possible to fulminate against Togliatti without bringing the Soviet Union and its leading representatives into polemics, and equally possible to disagree with Russian policy, as *Avanti* does over Venezia Giulia, without giving vent to anti-Soviet rancour "regardless of national interests". The paper marks with particular disapproval Gonella's "full blast attack on the Soviet Union". *Avanti*, it may be noted, has right from the first announcement of the Big Four Foreign Ministers decisions at Paris two months ago maintained an attitude which is often critical but could hardly be called offensive by the most sensitive.

There was once more talk of a Government crisis being certain to arise, for many said that the position was intolerable with Togliatti and the Communist Press attacking De Gasperi almost daily and four Communist ministers in the Government; the Christian Democrat *Minuto* as long ago as 26 July had taken this line saying "the pseudo-collaboration between the Christian Democrats and the Communists cannot last" and "the sooner it comes to an end the better it will be for everybody".

A new addition to the ranks of the critics of the Government, but not one likely to have much influence is Giuliano, the famous Sicilian Bandit King, who is alleged to have complained in an open letter to De Gasperi in a Palermo newspaper that none of the promises made by the candidates to the Costituente before 2 June have been kept and that the victory of the Republic over the Monarchy has not in the least improved the conditions of the Italian people; another promise to Giuliano is, however, likely to be fulfilled and its fulfilment is hardly likely to cheer him up for it is the one made him by the comrades of murdered Carabinieri of the Palermo Legion.

As regards the colonies both Jacchia in *Messaggero* and "Africanus" in *Giornale d'Italia* make request of England that she should soften in her attitude. Jacchia says that will constitute the real test of Great Britain's goodwill towards Italy and that if England earnestly desires, as Italians do, the effective restoration of Anglo-

1056

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



Italian friendship he cannot imagine that England will not offer Italy some acceptable compromise. "Africanus" says that Italians are willing to recognise Great Britain's vital requirements in Africa and to respect the new conditions of her strategy and of her Arab policy.

### Interview with the Press.

On the same day that he had a long and cordial conversation with Molotov at Paris and discussed with him, according to press reports, the possibility of direct negotiations with Yugoslavia, De Gasperi gave an important press interview. He first expressed appreciation of Molotov's recognition of the past and present Italian civilisation and hopeful words about Italy's future. As to Molotov's charges that Italy's home policy was not all that it ought to be, he said that although the State control of economy had not a modern and systematic form, the substance was that through IRI the State controlled 87 % of saving, 60 % of the ironworking industry, 90 % of the shipyards, 100 % of passenger ships, 75 % of the telephone system, and 35 % of the electric power; the State was also studying land reform and as a first step had already resolved to apportion 100,000 hectares, allotting ten thousand million lire for carrying out this plan. He said that any charge of his having underestimated the economic clauses was baseless as he had clearly informed the conference that the full application of the articles governing renunciation of claims on Germany and the seizure of Italian property abroad would have "Unbearable consequences on the Italian economy", and that if the economic clauses were applied in their entirety they would cause Italy monetary chaos and the loss of her economic independence. As regards civil aviation the government had decided to allow Russia the same conditions as the United States and Great Britain. Italy was not willing to participate in any bloc and regarded as most important the economic relations with Russia. He denied absolutely that he was thinking of an adjournment of the treaty as a whole when he spoke of postponing the Trieste decision until a solution be reached in agreement with Yugoslavia. Anyway, he concluded, even if the treaty were approved as it was now its ratification by the United States Senate (and so coming into force after ratification by the USSR and the United Kingdom) could not possibly take place before January or February and therefore the withdrawal of the Allied troops would not start before April; there was still time enough to remedy the ill done.

## INDUSTRY AND FASCISM

One of the Socialist members of the Costituente has put up the following motion for a parliamentary enquiry:

"The undersigned proposes, under article 135 of the Regulations, that a parliamentary enquiry be setup in order to establish the amount, the manner, the destination and the use of subsidies, subventions, and aids without accounting, made by the state under any heading to individuals and commercial, industrial and agricultural firms during the fascist regime. The proposal is intended to (1) prove beyond contradiction the permanent collusion between the hierarchy of the past regime and a certain type of so-called business men; (2) show how the burdens of taxation, imposed even on the most humble workers, served to create scandalous private fortunes; (3) make easier the work of the Commission for the confiscation of profits of the regime; (4) improve the morals of certain circles in our country in which it is believed that one can continue not only to enjoy fortunes built up so evilly but to stuff oneself at the expense of the tax payers".

## RECONSTRUCTION PROPOSALS

Although the greater part of their meagre two or four pages is perforce devoted to home and foreign political battles and to reports of crime and of labour agitations, several of the Roman newspapers are finding space regularly for articles on different aspects of reconstruction.

*Italia Libera* (Action) has an article on the struggle against adult illiteracy by Giulio Battici, who draws attention to the notable total of invalid votes cast in the election and referendum and the very small total of first preferences expressed, and claims that this was in the main due to illiteracy among electors. If the number of electors who cannot write a name or even a number is so high, what hope, he asks, can we have that the electoral body can form for itself by means of necessary reading that political consciousness which is the supreme ideal of democratic education. He draws attention, too, to the distressing feature that many would-be emigrants at present are illiterate and so are ignorant regarding the country they leave and the new one they seek and cannot even write a letter home. He urges that many of the unemployed who are illiterate would gladly fill in part of their hours of present boredom by learning to read and write and that an immediate emergency programme for adult education should be put in hand, not only employ-

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



ing many teachers who at present are out of work but also being making a valuable contribution to the real reconstruction of the country at a low cost which should be part of the emergency budget.

Illiteracy was diminishing fairly rapidly in Italy between the two World Wars, but was still extremely common, especially among the older age groups. In 1921 27 % of those over six years old were illiterate against 21 % in 1931. The extent of illiteracy varies enormously with the district, the North having a much better record than the South. For example in 1931 illiterates were 2 % of the population in Venezia Tridentina, 4 % in Piemonte, 5 % in Lombardia, between 10 % and 20 % in Veneto, Venezia Giulia, Emilia, Toscana, and Lazio, between 20 % and 40 % in Marche, Umbria, the Abruzzi, Campania, Apulia, and Sardinia, and over 40 % in Lucania, Calabria, and Sicily. These figures are probably reduced a good deal since 1931 but the proportions between regions are not likely to have changed greatly.

### The Port of Rome.

Two other articles in the same newspaper draw attention to the need for reactivating navigation on the River Tiber between Rome and the sea. Alberto Corsi describes in passing how from the times of Ancient Rome right down to 1940 with the exception of certain war years much traffic came to the city by water, especially after 1870 when Rome was united to the rest of Italy instead of being Papal City. Even before the 1915 war one of the bigger companies had many tugboats and 400 ton barges and a fleet of ten 250-300 ton steam cargo boats; the former brought coal from the ocean going colliers that docked at Civitavecchia and the latter traded direct with Sardinia, Sicily, and Liguria. During the war the ships were used as guard boats or minesweepers, but in the twenties trade was resumed and in six years during the thirties over 2,500 vessels brought to Rome over 120,000 metric tons of goods and exported over 90,000 tons. Imports were mainly petrol, bitumen, colours, farm produce, wood pulp, metals, flour, rubber, oils, died fruit, wine, and cheese, and exports included building materials, sanitary articles, cheese, and bone phosphates; today exports could include also artificial fibres, paper goods, pottery, alimentary pastes, and beer. Among imports Corsi would like to see once more the coal for Rome's gasworks which could be delivered almost to the front door in S. Paolo Harbour; after the 1915 war this trade was transferred to the railways from Civitavecchia by an agreement whose moral character he impugns, and the resulting increase in costs was passed on cheerfully to the customer.

Much will have to be done, however, to restore the river to good order after six years lack of shipping and more years of mistaken policy. In 1936 the Minister of Public Works instructed the Official for the Tiber of the Civil Engineer's Department to construct two sluices, one at Capo Due Rami and the other at Mezzocammino which would have raised the depth to 3 ½ metres—an enormous advantage. Alas for the rivermen's hopes, in 1937 there came one of those terrible floods which have afflicted the river four times in 70 years (in 1870, 1909, 1915, and 1937), Mussolini flew over the flooded lands and ordered work on the sluice gates to stop; instead double dykes were begun each 36 kilometres long from Rome to the sea at Fiumicino. The result of this is, says Corsi, a widening but lowering of the river but the dykes will not contain the big flood and the cut at Mezzocammino to Fiumicino has also had a very bad effect on navigation as by cutting out a 2 km bend and increasing the speed of flow it has caused there to be very little water in dry weather and has led to dangerous undermining of piers and docks at flood water. Corsi pleads that work on these dykes should stop at once and that instead to combat the floods a cut be made from Ponte Galeria to Maccarese which would easily be able to dispose of the floods and in normal times would provide most useful irrigation. Then with proper sluices, dredging of silted up reaches and removal of old walls and other obstacles the river might once more become a valuable artery of Rome's traffic.

A passionate plea for another and far more important port is put up by a Neapolitan, Alfredo Annunziata, in *Italia Nuova*. He recalls many vain promises and unproductive commissions and tells the Minister of Public Works that what Naples really wants is the reconstruction of her port to handle the largest liners and cargo boats. The big dry dock is no longer qualified to take the largest transatlantic ships, and modernisation of this is regarded as essential to the full recovery of the port.

### A Railway Plan.

These are all suggestions to Ministers. On the other hand the Minister of Transport, Ferrari, has announced a three year plan for the state railways which it is intended shall not only restore them to prewar standards but add the latest

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



improvements. His plan which has still to be fully approved by the Council of Ministers involves spending about 450 million pounds and giving work to some 350,000 workers; about fifty million pounds have been spent in the year ending 30 June 1946 and about half the remainder is to be spent in each of the next two years. Twentytwo million are earmarked for building houses for employees of the state railways, and if this part is completed these railways will have about 30,000 homes available, sufficient for a quarter of the regular staff. State contributions to reconstruction of the privately owned railways also is planned to give two years employment to a further 35,000.

## LABOUR PROBLEMS

The long series of discussions between the representatives of the employers and those of the workers regarding the unblocking of dismissals having brought agreement only in the sense that they could not agree, and the mediation of Ministers Campilli, D'Aragona, and Morandi having finally proved unsuccessful, a further meeting took place on 12 August under the chairmanship of P. Nenni, head of the Council of Ministers, at the end of which the Press Office of the Presidency of the Council issued the following statement:

" Representatives of the General Confederation of Labour and the Confederation of Industry met under the presidency of Hon. Nenni at the Presidency of the Council. The result of the examination made of the situation created in the industrial field by the question of the blocking of dismissals was that the Confederation of Labour and the Confindustria are not actually in a position to form a direct agreement. In these circumstances the parties have asked for the intervention of the Government. The latter will meet in the next few days to decide the matter. Hon. Pietro Nenni asked for and obtained from both organisations, that of the workers and that of the employers, an assurance that they would collaborate with the Government in the solution of the problem ".

*Messaggero* states that at the meeting Nenni proposed that the commission of enquiry to be formed under the Campilli-Morandi plan, reported last week, should complete its work before 30 September, after which the Government if no positive result has been obtained would intervene directly and decide what steps were to be taken; and that Dr Costa, representing the industrialists, asked that Nenni's proposal should be made binding in a decree law, and that this was agreed to by both parties.

*Avanti* carries a fuller report of the final meeting with Nenni, and says that after Nenni had opened the meeting by saying that it was greatly in the interests of the country that there should be no agitation at the present time both sides agreed to accept the Campilli-Morandi plan, and it was also decided that if following this plan they made an agreement no action would be taken by the Government, which would however take the matter into its own hands if no agreement was reached by 30 September. Both sides were urged by Nenni to meet as soon as possible to settle the question of holidays and the revision and renewal of the Buozzi-Manzini agreement on the working of the internal commissions.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The weekly table of the latest figures for amassing of wheat based on figures from UNRRA and the Economic Section is given as usual, except for Venezia Giulia, for which returns have not arrived. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on an average to 8 August 1946; the estimated production figures are still those of 30 June, though it is known that the total estimate is now well over six million tons, and amassing goals generally are those of 10 July though here again an increase is now forecast; all quantities are in metric tons.

The rate of amassing dropped considerably during the week ending 8 August, but there were good results in Sardinia and Lazio, and Marche continues to forge ahead. Sicily and Calabria are again disappointing.

The Provincial Commissioner of Udine writes that press reports of smuggling of wheat out of his province were greatly exaggerated and that so far only one attempt to export wheat illegally has come to notice, and this was thwarted by Questura agenti. Many steps has been taken in advance to deal with persons wishing to dodge the amassing laws, and by the end of July the Guardia di Finanza had sequestered over 1600 quintals. By 31 July 208,638 quintals of wheat had been amassed in the province and operations were still in full swing.

Probably partly as a result of the good crop and partly because of the increase in the basic bread and pasta ration, the black market prices of bread and pasta have decreased sharply in recent weeks in many parts; for example in Rome bread has dropped from 230 lire a kilo to 175 and

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



| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collections at last Report | Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 403,650 | 91,274 | 37,312 | 40,871 | 44.8 |
| Liguria | 20,250 | 1,024 | 115 | 132 | 12.9 |
| Lombardia | 592,200 | 359,312 | 193,518 | 199,154 | 55.4 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,200 | 2,931 | 42 | 47 | 1.6 |
| Veneto | 693,400 | 405,634 | 283,066 | 285,987 | 70.5 |
| Emilia | 1,028,000 | 520,537 | 471,300 | 480,358 | 92.3 |
| Northern Italy | 2,752,700 | 1,380,712 | 985,353 | 1,006,549 | 72.9 |
| Toscana | 461,400 | 172,757 | 151,627 | 159,316 | 92.2 |
| Marche | 385,500 | 172,294 | 225,985 | 239,137 | 138.8 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 80,986 | 78,690 | 85,626 | 105.7 |
| Lazio | 244,500 | 70,721 | 68,175 | 71,106 | 100.5 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 325,000 | 75,926 | 53,640 | 57,325 | 75.5 |
| Campania | 263,470 | 37,007 | 11,960 | 14,876 | 40.2 |
| Puglie | 301,350 | 104,545 | 63,835 | 65,853 | 63.0 |
| Lucania | 164,000 | 48,836 | 27,168 | 29,642 | 60.7 |
| Calabria | 138,000 | 27,346 | 9,642 | 9,989 | 36.5 |
| Sicilia | 570,100 | 178,184 | 37,302 | 43,076 | 24.2 |
| Sardegna | 147,000 | 30,538 | 16,554 | 24,299 | 79.6 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,212,320 | 999,140 | 744,578 | 800,245 | 80.0 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 5,965,020 | 2,379,852 | 1,729,931 | 1,806,794 | 75.9 |

pasta from 160 to 110, and in Palermo bread from 180 to 150 and pasta from 120 to 100. On the other hand the black market price of olive oil has risen very sharply; this is attributed by various authorities to firstly the gradual drying up of last year's supplies and secondly the permission granted to producers in the South to sell to Northern Provinces any oil they had managed to save out of the retention permitted to them and their dependents. For weeks several newspapers have been attacking this latter and having been saying that it is in fact authority to those who had failed to turn in olive oil to sell at great profit without fear, and have quoted cases where producers have sold out of their "savings from their legal retention" more than their total production as reported to the official organisations. Olive oil on the Rome black market has risen from 460 lire in the first week of May to 520 in the second week of July and 570 in the first week of August; corresponding figures for Naples are 480, 450 and 530.

**Derequisitioning.**

The month of July was one of the best for derequisition of industrial premises, but not much progress has been made in the two base depots of Naples and Leghorn, where there has been a good deal of local dissatisfaction expressed. Among premises completely derequisitioned were the Alfa Romeo motor repair shops at Bari, the Chamber of Commerce at Benevento, the Vincenzo Porcelli straw paper works at Tolentino, the I. T. A. L. Co. textile plant at Lanciano, and tobacco and wheat warehouses at Lecce and Montegoldo. The continued requisition of the coal pier and dump at Bagnoli causes local difficulties for they are urgently desired for the coal due to operate the local coke ovens and blast furnaces.

The coal situation continues to show improvement after the disastrous month of June, when only 135,000 tons were imported. During July 100,000 tons came from the Ruhr and total imports rose to about 514,000 tons; in August expected imports are about 700,000 tons. Sardinian coal production, which means much to the Italian economy, rose from 78,000 tons in June to only just under the monthly target of 100,000 in July; lignite production continues at a rate of about 160,000 tons a month, equivalent to about 64,000 tons of hard coal. Final arrangements for the first postwar importation of Polish coal have been completed and Italian trucks have been despatched to fetch 15,000 tons.

UNRRA imports of fuel oil are being heavily cut this month and next owing to a reported world shortage; there are sufficiently large stocks at Taranto, Bari, and Palermo to cover the cut, but they will have to be shuttled to Vado Ligure and Venice if the rate of supply from these two ports to the industrial North is not to drop. There was a difficult situation as regards heavy motor

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



lubricating oils in June, but this has now been overcome by increased imports and prospects for the future are satisfactory.

### Suggested Customs Union.

The British Foreign Secretary is recently reported to have mentioned the possibility of a customs union between Italy and Austria. A statement is now reported to have been issued by the Vienna Chamber of Commerce hailed such a union as likely to be the economic salvation of Austria—"There is no country with which Austria could more easily sign a customs union than Italy. Austria has an oversupply of iron and lumber which Italy lacks. The textile industries of the two countries complete each other... Furthermore it would open to Austria routes to most of the accessible seaports... Culturally an intimate connection with the Latin element to the South also would be most valuable".

The statement also appeared to indicate that such a customs union would be regarded by Austrians as the best solution of the Tyrolese problem, but added. "Only the political objections to a customs union are really difficult to overcome. A one sided relationship to the south would weaken Austria's traditional bonds to the east and southeast. Economic relationships are today more than ever political and even in liberal times a customs union never had a purely economic character. The question of a customs union is a political question and will not find a solution until the great powers have reached an honest relationship of mutual confidence and the suspicions efforts to preserve an artificial balance of power have been abandoned".

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. F. J. Wilson and Major J. Kane, both of Public Safety, have proceeded to the United Kingdom for release from the Army. Captain J. PS. Amoore (CEM) also has left the Allied Commission, on transfer to the Allied Screening Commission (Italy).

* * *

Italy, Czechoslovakia, Finland, the Republic of the Philippines, and Switzerland have been admitted as new members to the International Emergency Food Council. The other members are Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Cuba, Denmark, France, Greece, Holland, India, New Zealand, Norway, Siam, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

* * *

Lt Abraham Rosner, American P. A. to Col. Bowman, the SCAO of XIII Corps, on 14 August assisted Dr Fausto Pecorari, a Triestino elected to the Costituente in the National College, to rescue the latter's three year old son from drowning when he fell off the end of a pier at Trieste. Both men dived into the water simultaneously on hearing the splash and their action was so quick that the child was unharmed.

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

August 10, 1946 Vol. III, No. 17

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

P. Nenni returned to Italy on 5 August after his visits to Oslo, the Hague, Brussels, and Paris, and his many conversations with other Foreign Ministers (he will himself become a Foreign Minister after the Peace Treaty).

In his report to the Council of Ministers Nenni said that though the Peace Treaty today seems pretty hard there are good hopes for the future in view of the fact that all the big states, especially in more recent times, have been turning a more favourable eye on Italy. He also stated to journalists that his journey had had two aims, the first to inform Foreign Governments about Italy's viewpoint concerning the problem of peace, the second to notify the Italian Government about the intentions of the Big Four and of the Minor Powers as regards the conditions of peace; he asserted again that the draft peace treaty could be accepted by Italy only after some changes, such as the enlargement of the Trieste International State, which should include Pola and all the western coast of Istria, the postponement of the question of the colonies without forcing Italy to renounce her sovereignty, and the improvement of the conditions for using the electric power produced at Briga, Tenda, and Monecnisio if these localities were to be ceded to France. Nenni also stated that he believed the economic and financial section of the treaty was that which most probably would undergo some changes in favour of Italy, and added: "Naturally the Big Four defend the fundamental principles on which they based their decisions, but they do not insist that these decisions be accepted just as they have been formulated. They are willing to examine the documents which we may produce. Our Delegation will be heard by the two special sub-commissions, and I am convinced that if an agreement is not reached with these sub-commissions the delegation will be able to put its case before the Twentyone".

Particularly interesting was Nenni's statement that "Going out of Italy one appreciates at once that we are not the only ones to suffer and strive for a better future but that this is the fate of almost all peoples after the accursed fascist war" and "I wish to say that everywhere I met desire to help Italy recover her full autonomy and political and economic authority; nevertheless memory of the war has not faded. We suffer in Italy but other countries suffer too and among these the countries which were provoked and attacked by fascism. So our reactions are not always understood beyond the Alps and the sea, even in countries where Italy is rapidly refinding her friends of another time".

### Ministers' Discussion.

After hearing Nenni's report the Council of Ministers had a spirited discussion. De Gasperi after thanking Nenni for his work said that the whole treaty had a provisional look in that so many points were left unsolved, and that it is therfore changeable with the passage of time; at present it represents a compromise laboriusly reached by the Big Four and so it is impossible to expect substantial modifications in its principles at this moment.

The Council concluded by giving the same instructions to the Delegation as it had on 31 July and wishing De Gasperi the very best of luck, and on the next day 6 August, De Gasperi, Saragat, Bonomi, Corbino, and Facchinetti left for Paris.

Meanwhile it has been reported from Paris that the special commission appointed by the Big Four to prepare a Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste has presented four different proposals; the drafts from the western powers are said to differ slightly from one another, to take into some consideration Italy's demands, and to stress the internationalisation of the area; that of Russia is said to support the Yugoslav viewpoint. At the same time the Venezia Giulia CLN has sent a note to the 21 members of the Peace Conference and their Associate Powers and to the Vatican protesting on behalf of the population represented by it against the compromise solution

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



to the Venezia Giulia problem proposed by the Four Foreign Ministers as being against the principles of the Atlantic Charter and the solemn obligation undertaken by the Big Four at London to have the problem solved on the basis of the ethnical principle. The note concludes by proposing that the question be left out of the treaty until such time as the passions now disturbing the zone will not be prejudicial to the implementation of any given solution, that the zone now occupied by Yugoslav troops be also taken over by a neutral administration, that the necessary conditions for a direct agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia be created, and that if such agreement be not reached within a fixed time the solution be reached through a procedure set by UNO.

**Further Press Reaction.**

The Italian Press continues to devote much space to blaming one or other of the Big Four for the assumed harshness of the treaty terms. Jacchia writes from Paris in the *Messaggero* that the Rules Committee debates have shown that the conference will be dominated by the antagonism between two world polices, the American and the Russian, and says that Great Britain has undoubtedly positions and interests of her own to defend, but has so far participated in the struggle behind the scenes ably guiding the small powers faithful to her and intervening in support of the United States when Molotov's "aggressive tactics" threaten to prevail. He claims that in this duel there is very little the small states can do, as each state thinks of its future relations with this Great Power or that; he adds that Quaroni has confirmed that the Russian attitude towards Italy has stiffened. *Minuto* argues that Russia is mainly responsible for the peace treaty the Allies want to impose upon Italy, but goes on to say: "The peace treaty is so iniquitous that we are led to believe that our enemies are afraid of us. Let us admit it frankly that they are all afraid of the re-emergence of Italy as a great colonial Mediterranean Power".

*Avanti* takes its key from Nenni's statements on his return from his circular tour. Borgoni writes in it that Italy made the mistake of throwing herself into the arms of the Western Powers, thereby placing herself in a state of latent hostility vis-a-vis the East, her diplomats taking a conflict between East and West for granted; and continues: "In these mistaken calculations no account was taken of the fact that the potential conflict is not inevitable, and that the leaders of the Great Powers are doing their utmost to avert the clash. Given the present situation, an agreement between the Great Powers could only be reached by sacrificing those who had imprudently intervened in the dispute. The peace compromise was necessarily concluded at our expense. Hence the profound disillusionment of those who had gambled on the white against the red, on the Anglo-Saxon Powers against Russia. Outside Italy they say that we have not changed in the least. It cannot be denied that the liquidation of the disastrous Fascist policy was a difficult process but we are bound to admit that we have done all we could in the diplomatic and journalistic sphere to render it more difficult. We hope that the desperate last attempt to save what can still be saved will succeed, but we must consider it our duty to warn the public that the chances are few and that the few chances we have must not be lost through ill-advised agitation of national sentiments".

Recent disorders of one kind and another up and down the country have clearly disturbed the government and in the absence of De Gasperi Undersecretary for Home Affairs Corsi has addressed a circular to all prefects, the High Commissioners of Sardinia and Sicily, and the President of the Val d'Aosta Council, affirming that at a moment when Italy is seeking justice in Paris the Italian people of all parties and creeds must give proof of their sense responsibility and discipline and give to those who are safeguarding the supreme interests of the country the encouragement of their unanimous support; let their support manifest itself in a concrete form by calling a truce to all agitations, by eliminating all frictions, by settling in a peaceful way all controversies.

After the departure of De Gasperi for Paris the Council of Ministers had an important meeting under the presidency of Nenni. After announcing that according to news from Paris the Italian Delegation will be heard by a plenary session of the Peace Conference, Nenni turned to home affairs and deplored the various disorderly incidents of recent weeks, especially that at Caccamo referred to later in this issue of the *Weekly Bulletin*.

The decree issued by the old De Gasperi Government on 24 June cancelling the legislative powers of the Senate had been returned to the Council of Ministers by the Corte dei Conti, which had refused to register it as in the opinion of the court this was a change in the constitution and the prerogative of the Costituente and not within the power of the Ministers; the Ministers have now decided to ask the court to register the decree *con riserva*. Other decisions included the

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



empowering of some four thousand promotions to *appuntato* in the Guardia di Finanza, allocation of a free issue of 200 grams of tobacco to labourers in the state tobacco factories, and transfer to the list of permanent employees of the state monopolies (and therefore the list of those with pension rights) of a considerable number of those whose temporary service has now exceeded two years.

It is reported by *Mondo* that the new "National Monarchist Party" has begun to function; that Deputies Misuri, Fabbri, and Buonocore form part of its executive, Covelli is the secretary-general and Buffa, L. Marchesano, and Zucchi the vice-secretaries.

During the week an official delegation of Piemonte partisans was received by the Ministers of Post-war Assistance and Justice and the Under-secretaries of War and the Treasury, and was assured, states *Avanti*, that before the national convention of Italian partisans at Florence on 8 September the following provisions will have been made: recognition of partisans as volunteer soldiers with extension in their favour of provisions which the regular army enjoys, and recognition of partisan ranks for administrative purposes.

## GRAVE INCIDENTS IN SICILY

On 5 August remarkable scenes took place at Caccamo, a small commune near Termini Imerese in the Province of Palermo, and they continued on a minor scale for several days. It seems to be generally agreed that originally a number of UPSEA officials accompanied by police went to the commune as part of a drive to enforce amassing of wheat in Sicily following a recent speech of Fiorello La Guardia's in which he urged on Italians the importance of contributing the full quota to the *ammasso*; remarks particularly apposite in the case of Sicily, where up to 27 July only 22,807 tons out of a proposed total of 178,181 had been amassed. Early in the proceedings fire was opened on the *carabinieri* and a Lt. G. Esposito was killed by machine gun fire. Reinforcements of *carabinieri* and *agenti* from Palermo arrived in very large numbers, headed by the Legion Commander and the *Vice-Questore* of Palermo. Heavy fire took place on both sides and at one time some twenty *carabinieri* were captured by the rebels; the latter demanded that the police withdraw immediately or the prisoners would be killed, a threat which was replied to firmly by the *carabinieri* colonel's giving them fifteen minutes to return the prisoners unharmed before drastic action was taken against the rebels and their village; the prisoners were released. Gradually the rebels were surrounded and captured together with many firearms. Casualties amounted to one officer and three men killed and eighteen wounded among the police and the average estimate of countrymen casualties is about 16 killed, more than a hundred wounded and about a hundred taken prisoner.

### What was the Cause?

Most newspapers take the view that this refusal to confer wheat to the *ammasso* is very serious at a time when Italy faces so many difficulties and is particularly serious in view of La Guardia's remarks about UNRRA's not sending wheat to replace wheat not amassed. Corsi, Under-secretary for Home Affairs mentioned this and also spoke of the seriousness of the affair as an aspect of national lawlessness, according to *Messaggero*.

*Unità* has a special view of the causes of the trouble. It reports that after the speech of La Guardia a meeting of all prefects in Sicily was called at which the Minister of Agriculture, Segni, a Communist Deputy, Li Causi, and others were present to discuss the problem of amassing in Sicily; that the prefects declared they had not sufficient police to enforce the Law, but Li Causi claimed it was not a matter of force but of calling to the *Prefettura* the fifty or sixty big producers of Palermo Province, for example, and pointing out to them firmly how much wheat they had to confer by law or else—, and that if the big producers were dealt with in this way the road of persuasion among the small producers would have been greatly eased. *Unità* claims that the prefects completely ignored this suggestion and that when orders came from Rome that the *ammassi* law must be enforced the Prefect of Palermo began operations by attacking the small farmers rather than the big ones in a province where out of 27,000 tons subject to the *ammasso* only eight hundred have been conferred. Moreover *Unità* asserts that these small farmers were egged on by the big producers and so reacted to the threats of the law by taking to firearms, thereby drawing off attention from far worse offenders.

### Illegal Exports.

A non-communist visitor to Rome from Sicily has assured the editor of the *Weekly Bulletin* that he too thinks that it was bound to cause trouble attacking small producers first when it is well known in Sicily that there is a huge black market of wheat for export to Yugoslavia for which they cannot carry the majority of the blame. One

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



recalls too how good an impression was created among the small producers in Foggia Province during the harvest of 1944 when they saw the AMG Public Safety Officers and the Italian Police concentrating above all on the biggest producers and checking them down to the last quintal. The fact remains that this village was armed to such a degree that in order to subdue it some two thousand police armed with automatic weapons and armoured cars had to be called. One of the reasons given for the usual refusal of the Sicilians to amass is the National Government's insisting on the bread and *pasta* ration's being the same for Sicily and some Southern parts of the mainland, where these two form almost the complete diet, as for Northern Italy where *polenta*, rice, cheese, eggs, and meat are available to a far higher degree; parts of Sicily were near starvation just before the harvest.

## LABOUR PROBLEMS

While the Italian Delegation to the Peace Conference is away the remaining members of the government in Rome have plenty of headaches over the labour situation.

First and foremost there are about two million unemployed, and demonstrations by them or alleged to be on their behalf are taking place daily in many parts of Italy, not always in good order. For example on one day unemployed held a demonstration in Milan, stopping traffic in the main city crossroads in the Piazza del Duomo and attempting to invade shops until controlled by the police; general strikes were called at Codigoro and Migliarino (Ferrara) to protest against unemployment and a train due to leave for Ferrara was stopped by demonstrators; and at Bari some 3,500 unemployed attempted to invade the Prefettura and were dispersed by the police after shots had been fired on both sides and both civilians and *agenti* had been wounded.

G. Romita, the Minister of Public Works, has sent a circular to all Prefects, Regional Public Works Officers, and Chief Engineers with reference to his 260,000,000,000 lire public works scheme, in which he has urged them to confer immediately with a view to getting work in hand at once and has instructed them to invite to their discussions the local political leaders, including those of the Camera del Lavoro.

### Question of Dismissals.

Meanwhile the order blocking the dismissal of workers became out of date on 31 July and there have been several meetings between the CGIL and the Confindustria over what is to be done next, and they decided to put the matter before a government committee, being quite unable to agree among themselves as the employers felt that industrial firms were not only going bankrupt through paying non-workers on their books but also were handicapped in any efforts to expand and give more employment by having such huge unproductive expenses, whereas the workers organisations were afraid of the lifting of the block simply resulting in the addition of another half million to the number of unemployed. Lizzadri, the secretary general of the CGIL explained their point of view to journalists and said they had sent what they thought was a practical solution to the government and to the Confindustria. He said the uncontrolled unblocking of dismissals without considering the possibility of re-employment was out of the question and that as regards re-employment the case of the big firms who claim to have a great many workers *in sospeso*, that is paid without being required, should be examined first; he said these numbers were greatly exaggerated and that many of these firms who were bound to the forty hour week were in fact making their employees work 48 or even in some cases 60 hours a week; from figures in their possession they believed that if the forty hour week were observed properly or made legally binding the greater number of these persons would in fact be genuinely employed. Secondly he thought it necessary to examine the state of those firms whose equipment and basic material resources permitted them to produce goods essential for the economic recovery of the country such as railway material, shipping, tools, etc. The CGIL also thought that the huge sums which the country was proposing to give in the form of help to unemployed or the industrialists had offered as a contribution to alleviating distress among the unmployed would be much better spent on giving productive work than on accustoming the workers to inactivity.

### Campilli's Proposal.

The matter was discussed at the Ministry of Labour on 7 August at a meeting presided over by Minister D'Aragona and attended by Ministers Campilli (Foreign Trade) and Morandi (Industry and Commerce) and Undersecretaries Corsi (Interior), Cassiani (Labour) and Petrilli (Treasury) in addition to representatives of the CGIL and the Confindustria. After a full and spirited exchange Campilli proposed, with the support of D'Aragona, that the dismissals should remain blocked until 30 September and that in the mean-

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



time a small mixed committee should study the situation as regards the productive sectors and great industries with a view to resolving the matter in accordance with the plan for national productivity, attempting to cut out everything that appears artificial in the industrial field and develop instead everything that corresponds to the economic needs of Italian life.

Dottore Costa, on behalf of the Confindustria, spoke of the bad effect which an announcement that the committee's enquiries would be confined to the major industries would have on medium and small undertakings, but said the employers were inclined to accept Campilli's proposal provided the workers would lay aside the other demands they had made in their letter of 29 July to the Confindustria, mainly with regard to wages. The CGIL representatives were in favour of accepting Campilli's plan but needed the next day to consult the leaders of various unions regarding the proviso put forward on behalf of the Confindustria.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The weekly table giving the latest figures for amassing, based on figures from UNRRA and the Economic Section, is again published. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on an average to 1 August; the estimated production figures still are those of 30 June and amassing goals generally those of 10 July. If the rate of amassing in the last fortnight of July is continued for another fortnight not only Marche and Venezia Giulia will be well over the total estimated as amassable, but also Emilia, Toscana, Umbria, and Lazio. All the regions south of the Abruzzi are still far behind schedule. All figures are in metric tons.

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collected previous week | Total Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 403,650 | 91,274 | 22,925 | 38,312 | 40.9 |
| Liguria | 20,250 | 1,024 | 86 | 115 | 11.2 |
| Lombardia | 592,200 | 359,312 | 160,863 | 193,518 | 53.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,200 | 2,931 | 6 | 42 | 1.4 |
| Veneto | 693,400 | 405,631 | 247,439 | 283,066 | 69.8 |
| Venezia Giulia | 10,000 | 4,000 | 3,700 | 3,989 | 99.7 |
| Emilia | 1,028,000 | 520,537 | 417,536 | 471,300 | 90.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,762,700 | 1,384,712 | 852,555 | 989,342 | 71.5 |
| Toscana | 461,400 | 172,757 | 83,966 | 151,627 | 87.8 |
| Marche | 385,500 | 172,294 | 203,768 | 225,985 | 131.2 |
| Umbria | 242,000 | 80,986 | 55,170 | 78,690 | 97.2 |
| Lazio | 244,500 | 70,721 | 56,455 | 68,175 | 96.4 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 325,000 | 75,926 | 42,380 | 53,640 | 70.6 |
| Campania | 263,470 | 37,007 | 8,114 | 11,960 | 32.3 |
| Puglie | 304,350 | 104,545 | 54,467 | 63,853 | 61.1 |
| Lucania | 164,000 | 48,836 | 18,806 | 27,168 | 55.6 |
| Calabria | 138,000 | 27,346 | 7,693 | 9,642 | 35.3 |
| Sicilia | 570,100 | 178,184 | 22,807 | 37,302 | 20.9 |
| Sardegna | 147,000 | 30,538 | 9,687 | 16,554 | 54.2 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,212,320 | 999,140 | 563,313 | 744,578 | 74.5 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 5,975,020 | 2,383,852 | 1,415,868 | 1,733,920 | 72.7 |

Indignant reports continue to appear in the Italian press of smuggling of wheat from the east coast, Calabria, and Sicily to Yugoslavia, Albania, and Greece, and in Piemonte police precautions have again been intensified after the seizure of illegal cargoes apparently destined for France. In addition to the increase in penalties for smuggling wheat abroad announced last week the Council of Ministers has before it a draft decree under which public restaurants will be allowed to serve only one type of meal daily at a fixed price and customers will have to surrender ration coupons for bread and *pasta* dishes; penalties for black market restaurant operators will go up to one hundred thousand lire and imprisonment, loss of license for ten years, and the seizure of their premises for use by the state.

In Trieste ACEGAT members of the Sindacati Unici this weeks asked the SCAO for the restitution of contraband food seized from them by the police. Their request was refused emphatically.

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



### An Unusual Stoppage.

The Communist Party newspaper *Il Lavoratore* of Trieste had published the same day as the Sindacati made their request to Colonel Bowman a statement alleged to have been issued by the Sindacati that unless fifteen tons of contraband flour and half a ton of contraband sugar confiscated in the Trieste Tramway Company's yards were restored the Trams Union would disclaim any responsibility for whatever action the workers might take. The following morning the city's public transportation system was completely paralysed by what was at first thought to be a strike in protest against the seizure of the contraband. It was later announced that the stoppage was due to bands of masked men having entered three tram barns in the small hours and stolen the tram driving rods and other essential parts of trams and busses.

Once again Central and Southern Italy are having trouble with their electricity supplies apart from the temporary failures which have irritated the citizens of Rome especially for many months. A reduction in the allocation of power has been made owing to drought conditions affecting stream flow plants and relief is not expected until after the heavy rains begin in late November. In Rome all sectors will have to be without power for four hours a day. All industries are asked to reduce their power consumption by 15 % below that of June last with the exception of railways, traction lines, hospitals, water systems, and important food industries.

A small and perhaps little known, but useful, Italian export to many countries is found in queen bees, and *Espresso* reports that prices are now about 600 lire a piece and that Sweden alone is awaiting a shipment of 3,000 queens.

### Purchase of "Liberty" Ships.

The Italian Government's request to purchase fifty "Liberty" ships has been approved by the United States Maritime Committee, and it is understood that by the terms of the contract Italy will pay a minimum of 544,506 dollars per ship, 25 % in cash and the rest over 20 years at 3 ½ interest.

According to a United Press report from Washington the United States State Department has asked to be informed about the details of Italy's food, economic, and financial programme for next year with a view to examining the possibility of continuing to help Italy after the cessation of UNRRA's activities next year. An Italian delegation is attending the UNRRA meeting at Geneva also to explain this situation. At this meeting representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, China, Norway, and Austria have all appealed for the continuation of UNRRA for another year, as they, like Italy, cannot carry reconstruction sufficiently far this year to be in a reasonable economic state next year without considerable assistance.

### The Building Trade.

R. Morandi, the Minister of Industry and Commerce, had an interesting press conference on 8 August at which he spoke on several important problems. He said that the government considered the recovery of the building trade essential as one of the first steps in general recovery since it would affect so many ancillary trades; he spoke of the possibility of major trades being helped financially by the government, whereas medium and small trades would be financed through the normal banking procedure; as regards basic raw materials Italy had still to depend to a great extent on UNRRA imports, and whereas in the first six months of the year owing to the critical food situation basic materials for industry had been only 35 % of UNRRA's imports the percentage in the second six months would rise to 53 %, an 80 % increase in coal imports over the first six months also was anticipated. The Minister was in touch with the United States authorities with regard to imports in 1947 and the financing of them. The Minister finally stressed the importance of the works Consigli di Gestione, which formerly had a political but now, he said, a purely technical character.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. T. W. J. Walters, late CLO Bologna Liaison Group and formerly Public Safety, and Major T. Marsh, Carabiniere Section of MMLA and formerly Public Safety, have proceeded to the United Kingdom for release from the Army.

* * *

M. Sgt Abbott, Chief Clerk of the Requisitioned Vehicles Section at Allied Commission Headquarters, became on 3 August father of one of the largest boys ever born in 34 Station Hospital weighing ten pounds at birth. Mother and child are doing well and Sgt Abbott should be all right shortly. On 6 August Sgt Abbott received the Army Commendation Ribbon, as did Colonel Walton, Captain Natale, and Lieutenant Bayles.

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

August 10, 1946 Vol. III, No. 17

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

P. Nenni returned to Italy on 5 August after his visits to Oslo, the Hague, Brussels, and Paris, and his many conversations with other Foreign Ministers (he will himself become a Foreign Minister after the Peace Treaty).

In his report to the Council of Ministers Nenni said that though the Peace Treaty today seems pretty hard there are good hopes for the future in view of the fact that all the big states, especially in more recent times, have been turning a more favourable eye on Italy. He also stated to journalists that his journey had had two aims, the first to inform Foreign Governments about Italy's viewpoint concerning the problem of peace, the second to notify the Italian Government about the intentions of the Big Four and of the Minor Powers as regards the conditions of peace; he asserted again that the draft peace treaty could be accepted by Italy only after some changes, such as the enlargement of the Trieste International State, which should include Pola and all the western coast of Istria, the postponement of the question of the colonies without forcing Italy to renounce her sovereignty, and the improvement of the conditions for using the electric power produced at Briga, Tenda, and Monecenisio if these localities were to be ceded to France. Nenni also stated that he believed the economic and financial section of the treaty was that which most probably would undergo some changes in favour of Italy, and added: "Naturally the Big Four defend the fundamental principles on which they based their decisions, but they do not insist that these decisions be accepted just as they have been formulated. They are willing to examine the documents which we may produce. Our Delegation will be heard by the two special sub-commissions, and I am convinced that if an agreement is not reached with these sub-commissions the delegation will be able to put its case before the Twenty-one".

Particularly interesting was Nenni's statement that "Going out of Italy one appreciates at once that we are not the only ones to suffer and strive for a better future but that this is the fate of almost all peoples after the accursed fascist war" and "I wish to say that everywhere I met desire to help Italy recover her full autonomy and political and economic authority; nevertheless memory of the war has not faded. We suffer in Italy but other countries suffer too and among these the countries which were provoked and attacked by fascism. So our reactions are not always understood beyond the Alps and the sea, even in countries where Italy is rapidly refinding her friends of another time".

### Ministers' Discussion.

After hearing Nenni's report the Council of Ministers had a spirited discussion. De Gasperi after thanking Nenni for his work said that the whole treaty had a provisional look in that so many points were left unsolved, and that it is therfore changeable with the passage of time; at present it represents a compromise laboriusly reached by the Big Four and so it is impossible to expect substantial modifications in its principles at this moment.

The Council concluded by giving the same instructions to the Delegation as it had on 31 July and wishing De Gasperi the very best of luck, and on the next day 6 August, De Gasperi, Saragat, Bonomi, Corbino, and Facchinetti left for Paris.

Meanwhile it has been reported from Paris that the special commission appointed by the Big Four to prepare a Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste has presented four different proposals; the drafts from the western powers are said to differ slightly from one another, to take into some consideration Italy's demands, and to stress the internationalisation of the area; that of Russia is said to support the Yugoslav viewpoint. At the same time the Venezia Giulia CLN has sent a note to the 21 members of the Peace Conference and their Associate Powers and to the Vatican protesting on behalf of the population represented by it against the compromise solution

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



to the Venezia Giulia problem proposed by the Four Foreign Ministers as being against the principles of the Atlantic Charter and the solemn obligation undertaken by the Big Four at London to have the problem solved on the basis of the ethnical principle. The note concludes by proposing that the question be left out of the treaty until such time as the passions now disturbing the zone will not be prejudicial to the implementation of any given solution, that the zone now occupied by Yugoslav troops be also taken over by a neutral administration, that the necessary conditions for a direct agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia be created, and that if such agreement be not reached within a fixed time the solution be reached through a procedure set by UNO.

**Further Press Reaction.**

The Italian Press continues to devote much space to blaming one or other of the Big Four for the assumed harshness of the treaty terms. Jacchia writes from Paris in the *Messaggero* that the Rules Committee debates have shown that the conference will be dominated by the antagonism between two world polices, the American and the Russian, and says that Great Britain has undoubtedly positions and interests of her own to defend, but has so far participated in the struggle behind the scenes ably guiding the small powers faithful to her and intervening in support of the United States when Molotov's "aggressive tactics" threaten to prevail. He claims that in this duel there is very little the small states can do, as each state thinks of its future relations with this Great Power or that; he adds that Quaroni has confirmed that the Russian attitude towards Italy has stiffened. *Minuto* argues that Russia is mainly responsible for the peace treaty the Allies want to impose upon Italy, but goes on to say: "The peace treaty is so iniquitous that we are led to believe that our enemies are afraid of us. Let us admit it frankly that they are all afraid of the re-emergence of Italy as a great colonial Mediterranean Power".

*Avanti* takes its key from Nenni's statements on his return from his circular tour. Borgoni writes in it that Italy made the mistake of throwing herself into the arms of the Western Powers, thereby placing herself in a state of latent hostility vis-a-vis the East, her diplomats taking a conflict between East and West for granted; and continues: "In these mistaken calculations no account was taken of the fact that the potential conflict is not inevitable, and that the leaders of the Great Powers are doing their utmost to avert the clash. Given the present situation, an agreement between the Great Powers could only be reached by sacrificing those who had imprudently intervened in the dispute. The peace compromise was necessarily concluded at our expense. Hence the profound disillusionment of those who had gambled on the white against the red, on the Anglo-Saxon Powers against Russia. Outside Italy they say that we have not changed in the least. It cannot be denied that the liquidation of the disastrous Fascist policy was a difficult process but we are bound to admit that we have done all we could in the diplomatic and journalistic sphere to render it more difficult. We hope that the desperate last attempt to save what can still be saved will succeed, but we must consider it our duty to warn the public that the chances are few and that the few chances we have must not be lost through ill-advised agitation of national sentiments".

Recent disorders of one kind and another up and down the country have clearly disturbed the government and in the absence of De Gasperi Undersecretary for Home Affairs Corsi has addressed a circular to all prefects, the High Commissioners of Sardinia and Sicily, and the President of the Val d'Aosta Council, affirming that at a moment when Italy is seeking justice in Paris the Italian people of all parties and creeds must give proof of their sense responsibility and discipline and give to those who are safeguarding the supreme interests of the country the encouragement of their unanimous support; let their support manifest itself in a concrete form by calling a truce to all agitations, by eliminating all frictions, by settling in a peaceful way all controversies.

After the departure of De Gasperi for Paris the Council of Ministers had an important meeting under the presidency of Nenni. After announcing that according to news from Paris the Italian Delegation will be heard by a plenary session of the Peace Conference, Nenni turned to home affairs and deplored the various disorderly incidents of recent weeks, especially that at Caccamo referred to later in this issue of the *Weekly Bulletin*.

The decree issued by the old De Gasperi Government on 24 June cancelling the legislative powers of the Senate had been returned to the Council of Ministers by the Corte dei Conti, which had refused to register it as in the opinion of the court this was a change in the constitution and the prerogative of the Costituente and not within the power of the Ministers; the Ministers have now decided to ask the court to register the decree *con riserva*. Other decisions included the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



empowering of some four thousand promotions to *appuntato* in the Guardia di Finanza, allocation of a free issue of 200 grams of tobacco to labourers in the state tobacco factories, and transfer to the list of permanent employees of the state monopolies (and therefore the list of those with pension rights) of a considerable number of those whose temporary service has now exceeded two years.

It is reported by *Minuto* that the new "National Monarchist Party" has begun to function; that Deputies Misuri, Fabbri, and Buonocore form part of its executive, Covelli is the secretary-general and Buffa, L. Marchesano, and Zucchi the vice-secretaries.

During the week an official delegation of Piemonte partisans was received by the Ministers of Post-war Assistance and Justice and the Under-secretaries of War and the Treasury, and was assured, states *Avanti*, that before the national convention of Italian partisans at Florence on 8 September the following provisions will have been made: recognition of partisans as volunteer soldiers with extension in their favour of provisions which the regular army enjoys, and recognition of partisan ranks for administrative purposes.

## GRAVE INCIDENTS IN SICILY

On 5 August remarkable scenes took place at Caccamo, a small commune near Termini Imerese in the Province of Palermo, and they continued on a minor scale for several days. It seems to be generally agreed that originally a number of UPSEA officials accompanied by police went to the commune as part of a drive to enforce amassing of wheat in Sicily following a recent speech of Fiorello La Guardia's in which he urged on Italians the importance of contributing the full quota to the *ammasso;* remarks particularly apposite in the case of Sicily, where up to 27 July only 22,807 tons out of a proposed total of 178,184 had been amassed. Early in the proceedings fire was opened on the *carabinieri* and a Lt. G. Esposito was killed by machine gun fire. Reinforcements of *carabinieri* and *agenti* from Palermo arrived in very large numbers, headed by the Legion Commander and the *Vice-Questore* of Palermo. Heavy fire took place on both sides and at one time some twenty *carabinieri* were captured by the rebels; the latter demanded that the police withdraw immediately or the prisoners would be killed, a threat which was replied to firmly by the *carabinieri* colonel's giving them fifteen minutes to return the prisoners unharmed before drastic action was taken against the rebels and their village; the prisoners were released. Gradually the rebels were surrounded and captured together with many firearms. Casualties amounted to one officer and three men killed and eighteen wounded among the police and the average estimate of countrymen casualties is about 16 killed, more than a hundred wounded and about a hundred taken prisoner.

### What was the Cause?

Most newspapers take the view that this refusal to confer wheat to the *ammasso* is very serious at a time when Italy faces so many difficulties and is particularly serious in view of La Guardia's remarks about UNRRA's not sending wheat to replace wheat not amassed. Corsi, Under-secretary for Home Affairs mentioned this and also spoke of the seriousness of the affair as an aspect of national lawlessness, according to *Messaggero*.

*Unità* has a special view of the causes of the trouble. It reports that after the speech of La Guardia a meeting of all prefects in Sicily was called at which the Minister of Agriculture, Segni, a Communist Deputy, Li Causi, and others were present to discuss the problem of amassing in Sicily; that the prefects declared they had not sufficient police to enforce the law, but Li Causi claimed it was not a matter of force but of calling to the *Prefettura* the fifty or sixty big producers of Palermo Province, for example, and pointing out to them firmly how much wheat they had to confer by law or else—, and that if the big producers were dealt with in this way the road of persuasion among the small producers would have been greatly eased. *Unità* claims that the prefects completely ignored this suggestion and that when orders came from Rome that the *ammassi* law must be enforced the Prefect of Palermo began operations by attacking the small farmers rather than the big ones in a province where out of 27,000 tons subject to the *ammasso* only eight hundred have been conferred. Moreover *Unità* asserts that these small farmers were egged on by the big producers and so reacted to the threats of the law by taking to firearms, thereby drawing off attention from far worse offenders.

### Illegal Exports.

A non-communist visitor to Rome from Sicily has assured the editor of the *Weekly Bulletin* that he too thinks that it was bound to cause trouble attacking small producers first when it is well known in Sicily that there is a huge black market of wheat for export to Yugoslavia for which they cannot carry the majority of the blame. One

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



recalls too how good an impression was created among the small producers in Foggia Province during the harvest of 1944 when they saw the AMG Public Safety Officers and the Italian Police concentrating above all on the biggest producers and checking them down to the last quintal. The fact remains that this village was armed to such a degree that in order to subdue it some two thousand police armed with automatic weapons and armoured cars had to be called. One of the reasons given for the usual refusal of the Sicilians to amass is the National Government's insisting on the bread and *pasta* ration's being the same for Sicily and some Southern parts of the mainland, where these two form almost the complete diet, as for Northern Italy where *polenta*, rice, cheese, eggs, and meat are available to a far higher degree; parts of Sicily were near starvation just before the harvest.

## LABOUR PROBLEMS

While the Italian Delegation to the Peace Conference is away the remaining members of the government in Rome have plenty of headaches over the labour situation.

First and foremost there are about two million unemployed, and demonstrations by them or alleged to be on their behalf are taking place daily in many parts of Italy, not always in good order. For example on one day unemployed held a demonstration in Milan, stopping traffic in the main city crossroads in the Piazza del Duomo and attempting to invade shops until controlled by the police; general strikes were called at Codigoro and Migliarino (Ferrara) to protest against unemployment and a train due to leave for Ferrara was stopped by demonstrators; and at Bari some 3,500 unemployed attempted to invade the Prefettura and were dispersed by the police after shots had been fired on both sides and both civilians and *agenti* had been wounded.

G. Romita, the Minister of Public Works, has sent a circular to all Prefects, Regional Public Works Officers, and Chief Engineers with reference to his 250,000,000,000 lire public works scheme, in which he has urged them to confer immediately with a view to getting work in hand at once and has instructed them to invite to their discussions the local political leaders, including those of the Camera del Lavoro.

### Question of Dismissals.

Meanwhile the order blocking the dismissal of workers became out of date on 31 July and there have been several meetings between the CGIL and the Confindustria over what is to be done next, and they decided to put the matter before a government committee, being quite unable to agree among themselves as the employers felt that industrial firms were not only going bankrupt through paying non-workers on their books but also were handicapped in any efforts to expand and give more employment by having such huge unproductive expenses, whereas the workers organisations were afraid of the lifting of the block simply resulting in the addition of another half million to the number of unemployed. Lizzadri, the secretary general of the CGIL explained their point of view to journalists and said they had sent what they thought was a practical solution to the government and to the Confindustria. He said the uncontrolled unblocking of dismissals without considering the possibility of re-employment was out of the question and that as regards re-employment the case of the big firms who claim to have a great many workers *in sospeso*, that is paid without being required, should be examined first; he said these numbers were greatly exaggerated and that many of these firms who were bound to the forty hour week were in fact making their employees work 48 or even in some cases 60 hours a week; from figures in their possession they believed that if the forty hour week were observed properly or made legally binding the greater number of these persons would in fact be genuinely employed. Secondly he thought it necessary to examine the state of those firms whose equipment and basic material resources permitted them to produce goods essential for the economic recovery of the country such as railway material, shipping, tools, etc. The CGIL also thought that the huge sums which the country was proposing to give in the form of help to unemployed or the industrialists had offered as a contribution to alleviating distress among the unmployed would be much better spent on giving productive work than on accustoming the workers to inactivity.

### Campilli's Proposal.

The matter was discussed at the Ministry of Labour on 7 August at a meeting presided over by Minister D'Aragona and attended by Ministers Campilli (Foreign Trade) and Morandi (Industry and Commerce) and Undersecretaries Corsi (Interior), Cassinni (Labour) and Petrilli (Treasury) in addition to representatives of the CGIL and the Confindustria. After a full and spirited exchange Campilli proposed, with the support of D'Aragona, that the dismissals should remain blocked until 30 September and that in the mean-

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



time a small mixed committee should study the situation as regards the productive sectors and great industries with a view to resolving the matter in accordance with the plan for national productivity, attempting to cut out everything that appears artificial in the industrial field and develop instead everything that corresponds to the economic needs of Italian life.

Dottore Costa, on behalf of the Confindustria, spoke of the bad effect which an announcement that the committee's enquiries would be confined to the major industries would have on medium and small undertakings, but said the employers were inclined to accept Campilli's proposal provided the workers would lay aside the other demands they had made in their letter of 29 July to the Confindustria, mainly with regard to wages. The CGIL representatives were in favour of accepting Campilli's plan but needed the next day to consult the leaders of various unions regarding the proviso put forward on behalf of the Confindustria.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The weekly table giving the latest figures for amassing, based on figures from UNRRA and the Economic Section, is again published. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on an average to 1 August; the estimated production figures still are those of 30 June and amassing goals generally those of 10 July. If the rate of amassing in the last fortnight of July is continued for another fortnight not only Marche and Venezia Giulia will be well over the total estimated as amassable, but also Emilia, Toscana, Umbria, and Lazio. All the regions south of the Abruzzi are still far behind schedule. All figures are in metric tons.

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collected previous week | Total Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 403,650 | 91,274 | 22,925 | 38,312 | 40.9 |
| Liguria | 20,250 | 1,024 | 86 | 115 | 11.2 |
| Lombardia | 592,200 | 359,312 | 160,863 | 193,548 | 53.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,200 | 2,931 | 8 | 42 | 1.4 |
| Veneto | 693,480 | 405,634 | 247,439 | 283,066 | 69.8 |
| Venezia Giulia | 10,000 | 4,000 | 3,700 | 3,989 | 99.7 |
| Emilia | 1,028,000 | 520,537 | 417,536 | 471,360 | 90.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,762,700 | 1,384,712 | 852,555 | 989,342 | 71.5 |
| Toscana | 461,400 | 172,757 | 83,966 | 151,627 | 87.8 |
| Marche | 385,560 | 172,294 | 203,768 | 225,985 | 131.2 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 80,986 | 55,170 | 78,690 | 97.2 |
| Lazio | 244,560 | 70,721 | 56,455 | 68,175 | 96.4 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 325,000 | 75,926 | 42,380 | 53,640 | 70.6 |
| Campania | 263,470 | 37,007 | 8,114 | 11,960 | 32.3 |
| Puglie | 301,350 | 104,545 | 54,467 | 63,853 | 61.1 |
| Lucania | 164,000 | 48,836 | 18,806 | 27,168 | 55.6 |
| Calabria | 138,000 | 27,346 | 7,693 | 9,642 | 35.3 |
| Sicilia | 570,100 | 178,184 | 22,807 | 37,302 | 20.9 |
| Sardegna | 147,000 | 30,538 | 9,687 | 16,554 | 54.2 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,212,320 | 999,140 | 563,313 | 744,578 | 74.5 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 5,975,020 | 2,383,852 | 1,415,868 | 1,733,920 | 72.7 |

Indignant reports continue to appear in the Italian press of smuggling of wheat from the east coast, Calabria, and Sicily to Yugoslavia, Albania, and Greece, and in Piemonte police precautions have again been intensified after the seizure of illegal cargoes apparently destined for France. In addition to the increase in penalties for smuggling wheat abroad announced last week the Council of Ministers has before it a draft decree under which public restaurants will be allowed to serve only one type of meal daily at a fixed price and customers will have to surrender ration coupons for bread and *pasta* dishes; penalties for black market restaurant operators will go up to one hundred thousand lire fine & imprisonment, loss of license for ten years, and the seizure of their premises for use by the state.

In Trieste ACEGAT members of the Sindacati Unici this weeks asked the SCAO for the restitution of contraband food seized from them by the police. Their request was refused emphatically.

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



### An Unusual Stoppage.

The Communist Party newspaper *Il Lavoratore* of Trieste had published the same day as the Sindacati made their request to Colonel Bowman a statement alleged to have been issued by the Sindacati that unless fifteen tons of contraband flour and half a ton of contraband sugar confiscated in the Trieste Tramway Company's yards were restored the Trams Union would disclaim any responsibility for whatever action the workers might take. The following morning the city's public transportation system was completely paralysed by what was at first thought to be a strike in protest against the seizure of the contraband. It was later announced that the stoppage was due to bands of masked men having entered three tram barns in the small hours and stolen the tram driving rods and other essential parts of trams and busses.

Once again Central and Southern Italy are having trouble with their electricity supplies apart from the temporary failures which have irritated the citizens of Rome especially for many months. A reduction in the allocation of power has been made owing to drought conditions affecting stream flow plants and relief is not expected until after the heavy rains begin in late November. In Rome all sectors will have to be without power for four hours a day. All industries are asked to reduce their power consumption by 15 % below that of June last with the exception of railways, traction lines, hospitals, water systems, and important food industries.

A small and perhaps little known, but useful, Italian export to many countries is found in queen bees, and *Espresso* reports that prices are now about 600 lire a piece and that Sweden alone is awaiting a shipment of 3,000 queens.

### Purchase of "Liberty" Ships.

The Italian Government's request to purchase fifty "Liberty" ships has been approved by the United States Maritime Committee, and it is understood that by the terms of the contract Italy will pay a minimum of 544,506 dollars per ship, 25 % in cash and the rest over 20 years at 3 ½ interest.

According to a United Press report from Washington the United States State Department has asked to be informed about the details of Italy's food, economic, and financial programme for next year with a view to examining the possibility of continuing to help Italy after the cessation of UNRRA's activities next year. An Italian delegation is attending the UNRRA meeting at Geneva also to explain this situation. At this meeting representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, China, Norway, and Austria have all appealed for the continuation of UNRRA for another year, as they, like Italy, cannot carry reconstruction sufficiently far this year to be in a reasonable economic state next year without considerable assistance.

### The Building Trade.

R. Morandi, the Minister of Industry and Commerce, had an interesting press conference on 8 August at which he spoke on several important problems. He said that the government considered the recovery of the building trade essential as one of the first steps in general recovery since it would affect so many ancillary trades; he spoke of the possibility of major trades being helped financially by the government, whereas medium and small trades would be financed through the normal banking procedure; as regards basic raw materials Italy had still to depend to a great extent on UNRRA imports, and whereas in the first six months of the year owing to the critical food situation basic materials for industry had been only 35 % of UNRRA's imports the percentage in the second six months would rise to 53 %, an 80 % increase in coal imports over the first six months also was anticipated. The Minister was in touch with the United States authorities with regard to imports in 1947 and the financing of them. The Minister finally stressed the importance of the works Consigli di Gestione, which formerly had a political but now, he said, a purely technical character.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. T. W. J. Walters, late CLO Bologna Liaison Group and formerly Public Safety, and Major T. Marsh, Carabiniere Section of MMIA and formerly Public Safety, have proceeded to the United Kingdom for release from the Army.

* * *

M. Sgt Abbott, Chief Clerk of the Requisitioned Vehicles Section at Allied Commission Headquarters, became on 3 August father of one of the largest boys ever born in 34 Station Hospital weighing ten pounds at birth. Mother and child are doing well and Sgt Abbott should be all right shortly. On 6 August Sgt Abbott received the Army Commendation Ribbon, as did Colonel Walton, Captain Natale, and Lieutenant Bayles.

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

August 10, 1946 Vol. III, No. 17

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

P. Nenni returned to Italy on 5 August after his visits to Oslo, the Hague, Brussels, and Paris, and his many conversations with other Foreign Ministers (he will himself become a Foreign Minister after the Peace Treaty).

In his report to the Council of Ministers Nenni said that though the Peace Treaty today seems pretty hard there are good hopes for the future in view of the fact that all the big states, especially in more recent times, have been turning a more favourable eye on Italy. He also stated to journalists that his journey had had two aims, the first to inform Foreign Governments about Italy's viewpoint concerning the problem of peace, the second to notify the Italian Government about the intentions of the Big Four and of the Minor Powers as regards the conditions of peace; he asserted again that the draft peace treaty could be accepted by Italy only after some changes, such as the enlargement of the Trieste International State, which should include Pola and all the western coast of Istria, the postponement of the question of the colonies without forcing Italy to renounce her sovereignty, and the improvement of the conditions for using the electric power produced at Briga, Tenda, and Monecnisio if these localities were to be ceded to France. Nenni also stated that he believed the economic and financial section of the treaty was that which most probably would undergo some changes in favour of Italy, and added: "Naturally the Big Four defend the fundamental principles on which they based their decisions, but they do not insist that these decisions be accepted just as they have been formulated. They are willing to examine the documents which we may produce. Our Delegation will be heard by the two special sub-commissions, and I am convinced that if an agreement is not reached with these sub-commissions the delegation will be able to put its case before the Twentyone".

Particularly interesting was Nenni's statement that "Going out of Italy one appreciates at once that we are not the only ones to suffer and strive for a better future but that this is the fate of almost all peoples after the accursed fascist war" and "I wish to say that everywhere I met desire to help Italy recover her full autonomy and political and economic authority; nevertheless memory of the war has not faded. We suffer in Italy but other countries suffer too and among these the countries which were provoked and attacked by fascism. So our reactions are not always understood beyond the Alps and the sea, even in countries where Italy is rapidly refinding her friends of another time".

### Ministers' Discussion.

After hearing Nenni's report the Council of Ministers had a spirited discussion. De Gasperi after thanking Nenni for his work said that the whole treaty had a provisional look in that so many points were left unsolved, and that it is therfore changeable with the passage of time; at present it represents a compromise laboriusly reached by the Big Four and so it is impossible to expect substantial modifications in its principles at this moment.

The Council concluded by giving the same instructions to the Delegation as it had on 31 July and wishing De Gasperi the very best of luck, and on the next day 6 August, De Gasperi, Saragat, Bonomi, Corbino, and Facchinetti left for Paris.

Meanwhile it has been reported from Paris that the special commission appointed by the Big Four to prepare a Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste has presented four different proposals; the drafts from the western powers are said to differ slightly from one another, to take into some consideration Italy's demands, and to stress the internationalisation of the area; that of Russia is said to support the Yugoslav viewpoint. At the same time the Venezia Giulia CLN has sent a note to the 21 members of the Peace Conference and their Associate Powers and to the Vatican protesting on behalf of the population represented by it against the compromise solution

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



to the Venezia Giulia problem proposed by the Four Foreign Ministers as being against the principles of the Atlantic Charter and the solemn obligation undertaken by the Big Four at London to have the problem solved on the basis of the ethnical principle. The note concludes by proposing that the question be left out of the treaty until such time as the passions now disturbing the zone will not be prejudicial to the implementation of any given solution, that the zone now occupied by Yugoslav troops be also taken over by a neutral administration, that the necessary conditions for a direct agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia be created, and that if such agreement be not reached within a fixed time the solution be reached through a procedure set by UNO.

**Further Press Reaction.**

The Italian Press continues to devote much space to blaming one or other of the Big Four for the assumed harshness of the treaty terms. Jacchia writes from Paris in the *Messaggero* that the Rules Committee debates have shown that the conference will be dominated by the antagonism between two world polices, the American and the Russian, and says that Great Britain has undoubtedly positions and interests of her own to defend, but has so far participated in the struggle behind the scenes ably guiding the small powers faithful to her and intervening in support of the United States when Molotov's "aggressive tactics" threaten to prevail. He claims that in this duel there is very little the small states can do, as each state thinks of its future relations with this Great Power or that; he adds that Quaroni has confirmed that the Russian attitude towards Italy has stiffened. *Mianto* argues that Russia is mainly responsible for the peace treaty the Allies want to impose upon Italy, but goes on to say: "The peace treaty is so iniquitous that we are led to believe that our enemies are afraid of us. Let us admit it frankly that they are all afraid of the re-emergence of Italy as a great colonial Mediterranean Power".

*Avanti* takes its key from Nenni's statements on his return from his circular tour. Borgoni writes in it that Italy made the mistake of throwing herself into the arms of the Western Powers, thereby placing herself in a state of latent hostility vis-a-vis the East, her diplomats taking a conflict between East and West for granted; and continues: "In these mistaken calculations no account was taken of the fact that the potential conflict is not inevitable, and that the leaders of the Great Powers are doing their utmost to avert the clash. Given the present situation, an agreement between the Great Powers could only be reached by sacrificing those who had imprudently intervened in the dispute. The peace compromise was necessarily concluded at our expense. Hence the profound disillusionment of those who had gambled on the white against the red, on the Anglo-Saxon Powers against Russia. Outside Italy they say that we have not changed in the least. It cannot be denied that the liquidation of the disastrous Fascist policy was a difficult process but we are bound to admit that we have done all we could in the diplomatic and journalistic sphere to render it more difficult. We hope that the desperate last attempt to save what can still be saved will succeed, but we must consider it our duty to warn the public that the chances are few and that the few chances we have must not be lost through ill-advised agitation of national sentiments".

Recent disorders of one kind and another up and down the country have clearly disturbed the government and in the absence of De Gasperi Undersecretary for Home Affairs Corsi has addressed a circular to all prefects, the High Commissioners of Sardinia and Sicily, and the President of the Val d'Aosta Council, affirming that at a moment when Italy is seeking justice in Paris the Italian people of all parties and creeds must give proof of their sense responsibility and discipline and give to those who are safeguarding the supreme interests of the country the encouragement of their unanimous support; let their support manifest itself in a concrete form by calling a truce to all agitations, by eliminating all frictions, by settling in a peaceful way all controversies.

After the departure of De Gasperi for Paris the Council of Ministers had an important meeting under the presidency of Nenni. After announcing that according to news from Paris the Italian Delegation will be heard by a plenary session of the Peace Conference, Nenni turned to home affairs and deplored the various disorderly incidents of recent weeks, especially that at Caccamo referred to later in this issue of the *Weekly Bulletin*.

The decree issued by the old De Gasperi Government on 24 June cancelling the legislative powers of the Senate had been returned to the Council of Ministers by the Corte dei Conti, which had refused to register it as in the opinion of the court this was a change in the constitution and the prerogative of the Costituente and not within the power of the Ministers; the Ministers have now decided to ask the court to register the decree *con riserva*. Other decisions included the

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



empowering of some four thousand promotions to *appuntato* in the Guardia di Finanza, allocation of a free issue of 200 grams of tobacco to labourers in the state tobacco factories, and transfer to the list of permanent employees of the state monopolies (and therefore the list of those with pension rights) of a considerable number of those whose temporary service has now exceeded two years.

It is reported by *Mondo* that the new "National Monarchist Party" has begun to function; that Deputies Misuri, Fabbri, and Buonocore form part of its executive, Covelli is the secretary-general and Buffa, L. Marchesano, and Zucchi the vice-secretaries.

During the week an official delegation of Piemonte partisans was received by the Ministers of Post-war Assistance and Justice and the Under-secretaries of War and the Treasury, and was assured, states *Avanti*, that before the national convention of Italian partisans at Florence on 8 September the following provisions will have been made: recognition of partisans as volunteer soldiers with extension in their favour of provisions which the regular army enjoys, and recognition of partisan ranks for administrative purposes.

## GRAVE INCIDENTS IN SICILY

On 5 August remarkable scenes took place at Caccamo, a small commune near Termini Imerese in the Province of Palermo, and they continued on a minor scale for several days. It seems to be generally agreed that originally a number of UPSEA officials accompanied by police went to the commune as part of a drive to enforce amassing of wheat in Sicily following a recent speech of Fiorello La Guardia's in which he urged on Italians the importance of contributing the full quota to the *ammasso*; remarks particularly apposite in the case of Sicily, where up to 27 July only 22,807 tons out of a proposed total of 178,181 had been amassed. Early in the proceedings fire was opened on the *carabinieri* and a L. G. Esposito was killed by machine gun fire. Reinforcements of *carabinieri* and *agenti* from Palermo arrived in very large numbers, headed by the Legion Commander and the *Vice-Questore* of Palermo. Heavy fire took place on both sides and at one time some twenty *carabinieri* were captured by the rebels; the latter demanded that the police withdraw immediately or the prisoners would be killed, a threat which was replied to firmly by the *carabinieri* colonel's giving them fifteen minutes to return the prisoners unharmed before drastic action was taken against the rebels and their village; the prisoners were released. Gradually the rebels were surrounded and captured together with many firearms. Casualties amounted to one officer and three men killed and eighteen wounded among the police and the average estimate of countrymen casualties is about 16 killed, more than a hundred wounded and about a hundred taken prisoner.

### What was the Cause?

Most newspapers take the view that this refusal to confer wheat to the *ammasso* is very serious at a time when Italy faces so many difficulties and is particularly serious in view of La Guardia's remarks about UNRRA's not sending wheat to replace wheat not amassed. Corsi, Under-secretary for Home Affairs mentioned this and also spoke of the seriousness of the affair as an aspect of national lawlessness, according to *Messaggero*.

*Unità* has a special view of the causes of the trouble. It reports that after the speech of La Guardia a meeting of all prefects in Sicily was called at which the Minister of Agriculture, Segni, a Communist Deputy, Li Causi, and others were present to discuss the problem of amassing in Sicily; that the prefects declared they had not sufficient police to enforce the law, but Li Causi claimed it was not a matter of force but of calling to the *Prefettura* the fifty or sixty big producers of Palermo Province, for example, and pointing out to them firmly how much wheat they had to confer by law or else—, and that if the big producers were dealt with in this way the road of persuasion among the small producers would have been greatly eased. *Unità* claims that the prefects completely ignored this suggestion and that when orders came from Rome that the *ammassi* law must be enforced the Prefect of Palermo began operations by attacking the small farmers rather than the big ones in a province where out of 27,000 tons subject to the *ammasso* only eight hundred have been conferred. Moreover *Unità* asserts that these small farmers were egged on by the big producers and so reacted to the threats of the law by taking to firearms, thereby drawing off attention from far worse offenders.

### Illegal Exports.

A non-communist visitor to Rome from Sicily has assured the editor of the *Weekly Bulletin* that he too thinks that it was bound to cause trouble attacking small producers first when it is well known in Sicily that there is a huge black market of wheat for export to Yugoslavia for which they cannot carry the majority of the blame. One

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



recalls too how good an impression was created among the small producers in Foggia Province during the harvest of 1944 when they saw the AMG Public Safety Officers and the Italian Police concentrating above all on the biggest producers and checking them down to the last quintal. The fact remains that this village was armed to such a degree that in order to subdue it some two thousand police armed with automatic weapons and armoured cars had to be called. One of the reasons given for the usual refusal of the Sicilians to amass is the National Government's insisting on the bread and *pasta* ration's being the same for Sicily and some Southern parts of the mainland, where these two form almost the complete diet, as for Northern Italy where *polenta*, rice, cheese, eggs, and meat are available to a far higher degree; parts of Sicily were near starvation just before the harvest.

## LABOUR PROBLEMS

While the Italian Delegation to the Peace Conference is away the remaining members of the government in Rome have plenty of headaches over the labour situation.

First and foremost there are about two million unemployed, and demonstrations by them or alleged to be on their behalf are taking place daily in many parts of Italy, not always in good order. For example on one day unemployed held a demonstration in Milan, stopping traffic in the main city crossroads in the Piazza del Duomo and attempting to invade shops until controlled by the police; general strikes were called at Codigoro and Migliarino (Ferrara) to protest against unemployment and a train due to leave for Ferrara was stopped by demonstrators; and at Bari some 3,500 unemployed attempted to invade the Prefettura and were dispersed by the police after shots had been fired on both sides and both civilians and *agenti* had been wounded.

G. Romita, the Minister of Public Works, has sent a circular to all Prefects, Regional Public Works Officers, and Chief Engineers with reference to his 260,000,000,000 lire public works scheme, in which he has urged them to confer immediately with a view to getting work in hand at once and has instructed them to invite to their discussions the local political leaders, including those of the Camera del Lavoro.

### Question of Dismissals.

Meanwhile the order blocking the dismissal of workers became out of date on 31 July and there have been several meetings between the CGIL and the Confindustria over what is to be done next, and they decided to put the matter before a government committee, being quite unable to agree among themselves, as the employers felt that industrial firms were not only going bankrupt through paying non-workers on their books but also were handicapped in any efforts to expand and give more employment by having such huge unproductive expenses, whereas the workers organisations were afraid of the lifting of the block simply resulting in the addition of another half million to the number of unemployed. Lizzadri, the secretary general of the CGIL explained their point of view to journalists and said they had sent what they thought was a practical solution to the government and to the Confindustria. He said the uncontrolled unblocking of dismissals without considering the possibility of re-employment was out of the question and that as regards re-employment the case of the big firms who claim to have a great many workers *in sospeso*, that is paid without being required, should be examined first; he said these numbers were greatly exaggerated and that many of these firms who were bound to the forty hour week were in fact making their employees work 48 or even in some cases 60 hours a week; from figures in their possession they believed that if the forty hour week were observed properly or made legally binding the greater number of these persons would in fact be genuinely employed. Secondly he thought it necessary to examine the state of those firms whose equipment and basic material resources permitted them to produce goods essential for the economic recovery of the country such as railway material, shipping, tools, etc. The CGIL also thought that the huge sums which the country was proposing to give in the form of help to unemployed or the industrialists had offered as a contribution to alleviating distress among the unemployed would be much better spent on giving productive work than on accustoming the workers to inactivity.

### Campilli's Proposal.

The matter was discussed at the Ministry of Labour on 7 August at a meeting presided over by Minister D'Aragona and attended by Ministers Campilli (Foreign Trade) and Morandi (Industry and Commerce) and Undersecretaries Corsi (Interior), Cassiani (Labour) and Petrilli (Treasury) in addition to representatives of the CGIL and the Confindustria. After a full and spirited exchange Campilli proposed, with the support of D'Aragona, that the dismissals should remain blocked until 30 September and that in the mean-

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



time a small mixed committee should study the situation as regards the productive sectors and great industries with a view to resolving the matter in accordance with the plan for national productivity, attempting to cut out everything that appears artificial in the industrial field and develop instead everything that corresponds to the economic needs of Italian life.

Dottore Costa, on behalf of the Confindustria, spoke of the bad effect which an announcement that the committee's enquiries would be confined to the major industries would have on medium and small undertakings, but said the employers were inclined to accept Campilli's proposal provided the workers would lay aside the other demands they had made in their letter of 29 July to the Confindustria, mainly with regard to wages. The CGIL representatives were in favour of accepting Campilli's plan but needed the next day to consult the leaders of various unions regarding the proviso put forward on behalf of the Confindustria.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The weekly table giving the latest figures for amassing, based on figures from UNRRA and the Economic Section, is again published. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on an average to 1 August; the estimated production figures still are those of 30 June and amassing goals generally those of 10 July. If the rate of amassing in the last fortnight of July is continued for another fortnight not only Marche and Venezia Giulia will be well over the total estimated as amassable, but also Emilia, Toscana, Umbria, and Lazio. All the regions south of the Abruzzi are still far behind schedule. All figures are in metric tons.

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collected previous week | Total Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 403,650 | 91,274 | 22,925 | 38,312 | 40.9 |
| Liguria | 20,250 | 1,024 | 86 | 115 | 11.2 |
| Lombardia | 592,200 | 359,312 | 160,863 | 193,518 | 53.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,200 | 2,931 | 6 | 42 | 1.4 |
| Veneto | 693,400 | 405,634 | 247,439 | 283,066 | 69.8 |
| Venezia Giulia | 10,000 | 4,000 | 3,700 | 3,989 | 99.7 |
| Emilia | 1,028,000 | 520,537 | 417,536 | 471,300 | 90.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,762,700 | 1,384,712 | 852,555 | 989,342 | 71.5 |
| Toscana | 461,400 | 172,757 | 83,966 | 151,627 | 87.8 |
| Marche | 385,500 | 172,294 | 203,768 | 225,985 | 131.2 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 80,986 | 55,170 | 78,690 | 97.2 |
| Lazio | 244,500 | 70,721 | 56,455 | 68,175 | 96.4 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 325,000 | 75,926 | 42,380 | 53,640 | 70.6 |
| Campania | 263,470 | 37,007 | 8,114 | 11,960 | 32.3 |
| Puglie | 301,350 | 104,545 | 54,467 | 63,853 | 61.1 |
| Lucania | 164,000 | 48,836 | 18,806 | 27,168 | 55.6 |
| Calabria | 138,000 | 27,346 | 7,693 | 9,642 | 35.3 |
| Sicilia | 570,100 | 178,184 | 22,807 | 37,302 | 20.9 |
| Sardegna | 147,000 | 30,538 | 9,687 | 16,554 | 54.2 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,212,320 | 999,140 | 563,313 | 744,578 | 74.5 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 5,975,020 | 2,383,852 | 1,415,868 | 1,733,920 | 72.7 |

Indignant reports continue to appear in the Italian press of smuggling of wheat from the east coast, Calabria, and Sicily to Yugoslavia, Albania, and Greece, and in Piemonte police precautions have again been intensified after the seizure of illegal cargoes apparently destined for France. In addition to the increase in penalties for smuggling wheat abroad announced last week the Council of Ministers has before it a draft decree under which public restaurants will be allowed to serve only one type of meal daily at a fixed price and customers will have to surrender ration coupons for bread and *pasta* dishes; penalties for black market restaurant operators will go up to one hundred thousand lire fine, imprisonment, loss of license for ten years, and the seizure of their premises for use by the state.

In Trieste ACEGAT members of the Sindacati Unici this weeks asked the SCAO for the restitution of contraband food seized from them by the police. Their request was refused emphatically.

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



### An Unusual Stoppage.

The Communist Party newspaper *Il Lavoratore* of Trieste had published the same day as the Sindacati made their request to Colonel Bowman a statement alleged to have been issued by the Sindacati that unless fifteen tons of contraband flour and half a ton of contraband sugar confiscated in the Trieste Tramway Company's yards were restored the Trams Union would disclaim any responsibility for whatever action the workers might take. The following morning the city's public transportation system was completely paralysed by what was at first thought to be a strike in protest against the seizure of the contraband. It was later announced that the stoppage was due to bands of masked men having entered three tram barns in the small hours and stolen the tram driving rods and other essential parts of trams and busses.

Once again Central and Southern Italy are having trouble with their electricity supplies apart from the temporary failures which have irritated the citizens of Rome especially for many months. A reduction in the allocation of power has been made owing to drought conditions affecting stream flow plants and relief is not expected until after the heavy rains begin in late November. In Rome all sectors will have to be without power for four hours a day. All industries are asked to reduce their power consumption by 15 % below that of June last with the exception of railways, traction lines, hospitals, water systems, and important food industries.

A small and perhaps little known, but useful, Italian export to many countries is found in queen bees, and *Espresso* reports that prices are now about 600 lire a piece and that Sweden alone is awaiting a shipment of 5,000 queens.

### Purchase of "Liberty" Ships.

The Italian Government's request to purchase fifty "Liberty" ships has been approved by the United States Maritime Committee, and it is understood that by the terms of the contract Italy will pay a minimum of 544,506 dollars per ship, 25 % in cash and the rest over 20 years at 3 ½ interest.

According to a United Press report from Washington the United States State Department has asked to be informed about the details of Italy's food, economic, and financial programme for next year with a view to examining the possibility of continuing to help Italy after the cessation of UNRRA's activities next year. An Italian delegation is attending the UNRRA meeting at Geneva also to explain this situation. At this meeting representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, China, Norway, and Austria have all appealed for the continuation of UNRRA for another year, as they, like Italy, cannot carry reconstruction sufficiently far this year to be in a reasonable economic state next year without considerable assistance.

### The Building Trade.

R. Morandi, the Minister of Industry and Commerce, had an interesting press conference on 8 August at which he spoke on several important problems. He said that the government considered the recovery of the building trade essential as one of the first steps in general recovery since it would affect so many ancillary trades; he spoke of the possibility of major trades being helped financially by the government, whereas medium and small trades would be financed through the normal banking procedure; as regards basic raw materials Italy had still to depend to a great extent on UNRRA imports, and whereas in the first six months of the year owing to the critical food situation basic materials for industry had been only 35 % of UNRRA's imports the percentage in the second six months would rise to 53 %, an 80 % increase in coal imports over the first six months also was anticipated. The Minister was in touch with the United States authorities with regard to imports in 1947 and the financing of them. The Minister finally stressed the importance of the works Consigli di Gestione, which formerly had a political but now, he said, a purely technical character.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. T. W. J. Walters, late CLO Bologna Liaison Group and formerly Public Safety, and Major T. Marsh, Carabiniere Section of MMIA and formerly Public Safety, have proceeded to the United Kingdom for release from the Army.

* * *

M. Sgt Abbott, Chief Clerk of the Requisitioned Vehicles Section at Allied Commission Headquarters, became on 3 August father of one of the largest boys ever born in 31 Station Hospital weighing ten pounds at birth. Mother and child are doing well and Sgt Abbott should be all right shortly. On 6 August Sgt Abbott received the Army Commendation Ribbon, as did Colonel Walton, Captain Natale, and Lieutenant Bayles.

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

August 10, 1946

Vol. III, No. 17

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL.

P. Nenni returned to Italy on 5 August after his visits to Oslo, the Hague, Brussels, and Paris, and his many conversations with other Foreign Ministers (he will himself become a Foreign Minister after the Peace Treaty).

In his report to the Council of Ministers Nenni said that though the Peace Treaty today seems pretty hard there are good hopes for the future in view of the fact that all the big states, especially in more recent times, have been turning a more favourable eye on Italy. He also stated to journalists that his journey had had two aims, the first to inform Foreign Governments about Italy's viewpoint concerning the problem of peace, the second to notify the Italian Government about the intentions of the Big Four and of the Minor Powers as regards the conditions of peace; he asserted again that the draft peace treaty could be accepted by Italy only after some changes, such as the enlargement of the Trieste International State, which should include Pola and all the western coast of Istria, the postponement of the question of the colonies without forcing Italy to renounce her sovereignty, and the improvement of the conditions for using the electric power produced at Briga, Tenda, and Monecnisio if these localities were to be ceded to France. Nenni also stated that he believed the economic and financial section of the treaty was that which most probably would undergo some changes in favour of Italy, and added: "Naturally the Big Four defend the fundamental principles on which they based their decisions, but they do not insist that these decisions be accepted just as they have been formulated. They are willing to examine the documents which we may produce. Our Delegation will be heard by the two special sub-commissions, and I am convinced that if an agreement is not reached with these sub-commissions the delegation will be able to put its case before the Twentyone".

Particularly interesting was Nenni's statement that "Going out of Italy one appreciates at once that we are not the only ones to suffer and strive for a better future but that this is the fate of almost all peoples after the accursed fascist war" and "I wish to say that everywhere I met desire to help Italy recover her full autonomy and political and economic authority; nevertheless memory of the war has not faded. We suffer in Italy but other countries suffer too and among these the countries which were provoked and attacked by fascism. So our reactions are not always understood beyond the Alps and the sea, even in countries where Italy is rapidly refinding her friends of another time".

### Ministers' Discussion.

After hearing Nenni's report the Council of Ministers had a spirited discussion. De Gasperi after thanking Nenni for his work said that the whole treaty had a provisional look in that so many points were left unsolved, and that it is therfore changeable with the passage of time; at present it represents a compromise laboriusly reached by the Big Four and so it is impossible to expect substantial modifications in its principles at this moment.

The Council concluded by giving the same instructions to the Delegation as it had on 31 July and wishing De Gasperi the very best of luck, and on the next day 6 August, De Gasperi, Saragat, Bonomi, Corbino, and Facchinetti left for Paris.

Meanwhile it has been reported from Paris that the special commission appointed by the Big Four to prepare a Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste has presented four different proposals; the drafts from the western powers are said to differ slightly from one another, to take into some consideration Italy's demands, and to stress the internationalisation of the area; that of Russia is said to support the Yugoslav viewpoint. At the same time the Venezia Giulia CLN has sent a note to the 21 members of the Peace Conference and their Associate Powers and to the Vatican protesting on behalf of the population represented by it against the compromise solution

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



to the Venezia Giulia problem proposed by the Four Foreign Ministers as being against the principles of the Atlantic Charter and the solemn obligation undertaken by the Big Four at London to have the problem solved on the basis of the ethnical principle. The note concludes by proposing that the question be left out of the treaty until such time as the passions now disturbing the zone will not be prejudicial to the implementation of any given solution, that the zone now occupied by Yugoslav troops be also taken over by a neutral administration, that the necessary conditions for a direct agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia be created, and that if such agreement be not reached within a fixed time the solution be reached through a procedure set by UNO.

**Further Press Reaction.**

The Italian Press continues to devote much space to blaming one or other of the Big Four for the assumed harshness of the treaty terms. Jacchia writes from Paris in the *Messaggero* that the Rules Committee debates have shown that the conference will be dominated by the antagonism between two world polices, the American and the Russian, and says that Great Britain has undoubtedly positions and interests of her own to defend, but has so far participated in the struggle behind the scenes ably guiding the small powers faithful to her and intervening in support of the United States when Molotov's "aggressive tactics" threaten to prevail. He claims that in this duel there is very little the small states can do, as each state thinks of its future relations with this Great Power or that; he adds that Quaroni has confirmed that the Russian attitude towards Italy has stiffened. *Mondo* argues that Russia is mainly responsible for the peace treaty the Allies want to impose upon Italy, but goes on to say: "The peace treaty is so iniquitous that we are led to believe that our enemies are afraid of us. Let us admit it frankly that they are all afraid of the re-emergence of Italy as a great colonial Mediterranean Power".

*Avanti* takes its key from Nenni's statements on his return from his circular tour. Borgoni writes in it that Italy made the mistake of throwing herself into the arms of the Western Powers, thereby placing herself in a state of latent hostility vis-a-vis the East, her diplomats taking a conflict between East and West for granted; and continues: "In these mistaken calculations no account was taken of the fact that the potential conflict is not inevitable, and that the leaders of the Great Powers are doing their utmost to avert the clash. Given the present situation, an agreement between the Great Powers could only be reached by sacrificing those who had imprudently intervened in the dispute. The peace compromise was necessarily concluded at our expense. Hence the profound disillusionment of those who had gambled on the white against the red, on the Anglo-Saxon Powers against Russia. Outside Italy they say that we have not changed in the least. It cannot be denied that the liquidation of the disastrous Fascist policy was a difficult process but we are bound to admit that we have done all we could in the diplomatic and journalistic sphere to render it more difficult. We hope that the desperate last attempt to save what can still be saved will succeed, but we must consider it our duty to warn the public that the chances are few and that the few chances we have must not be lost through ill-advised agitation of national sentiments".

Recent disorders of one kind and another up and down the country have clearly disturbed the government and in the absence of De Gasperi Undersecretary for Home Affairs Corsi has addressed a circular to all prefects, the High Commissioners of Sardinia and Sicily, and the President of the Val d'Aosta Council, affirming that at a moment when Italy is seeking justice in Paris the Italian people of all parties and creeds must give proof of their sense responsibility and discipline and give to those who are safeguarding the supreme interests of the country the encouragement of their unanimous support; let their support manifest itself in a concrete form by calling a truce to all agitations, by eliminating all frictions, by settling in a peaceful way all controversies.

After the departure of De Gasperi for Paris the Council of Ministers had an important meeting under the presidency of Nenni. After announcing that according to news from Paris the Italian Delegation will be heard by a plenary session of the Peace Conference, Nenni turned to home affairs and deplored the various disorderly incidents of recent weeks, especially that at Cocanno referred to later in this issue of the *Weekly Bulletin*.

The decree issued by the old De Gasperi Government on 24 June cancelling the legislative powers of the Senate had been returned to the Council of Ministers by the Corte dei Conti, which had refused to register it as in the opinion of the court this was a change in the constitution and the prerogative of the Costituente and not within the power of the Ministers; the Ministers have now decided to ask the court to register the decree *con riserva*. Other decisions included the

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



empowering of some four thousand promotions to *appuntato* in the Guardia di Finanza, allocation of a free issue of 200 grams of tobacco to labourers in the state tobacco factories, and transfer to the list of permanent employees of the state monopolies (and therefore the list of those with pension rights) of a considerable number of those whose temporary service has now exceeded two years.

It is reported by *Mondo* that the new "National Monarchist Party" has begun to function; that Deputies Misuri, Fabbri, and Buonocore form part of its executive, Covelli is the secretary-general and Buffa, L. Marchesano, and Zucchi the vice-secretaries.

During the week an official delegation of Piemonte partisans was received by the Ministers of Post-war Assistance and Justice and the Under-secretaries of War and the Treasury, and was assured, states *Avanti*, that before the national convention of Italian partisans at Florence on 8 September the following provisions will have been made: recognition of partisans as volunteer soldiers with extension in their favour of provisions which the regular army enjoys, and recognition of partisan ranks for administrative purposes.

## GRAVE INCIDENTS IN SICILY

On 5 August remarkable scenes took place at Caccamo, a small commune near Termini Imerese in the Province of Palermo, and they continued on a minor scale for several days. It seems to be generally agreed that originally a number of UPSEA officials accompanied by police went to the commune as part of a drive to enforce amassing of wheat in Sicily following a recent speech of Fiorello La Guardia's in which he urged on Italians the importance of contributing the full quota to the *ammasso*; remarks particularly apposite in the case of Sicily, where up to 27 July only 22,807 tons out of a proposed total of 178,484 had been amassed. Early in the proceedings fire was opened on the *carabinieri* and a Lt. G. Esposito was killed by machine gun fire. Reinforcements of *carabinieri* and *agenti* from Palermo arrived in very large numbers, headed by the Legion Commander and the *Vice-Questore* of Palermo. Heavy fire took place on both sides and at one time some twenty *carabinieri* were captured by the rebels; the latter demanded that the police withdraw immediately or the prisoners would be killed, a threat which was replied to firmly by the *carabinieri* colonel's giving them fifteen minutes to return the prisoners unharmed before drastic action was taken against the rebels and their village; the prisoners were released. Gradually the rebels were surrounded and captured together with many firearms. Casualties amounted to one officer and three men killed and eighteen wounded among the police and the average estimate of countrymen casualties is about 16 killed, more than a hundred wounded and about a hundred taken prisoner.

### What was the Cause?

Most newspapers take the view that this refusal to confer wheat to the *ammasso* is very serious at a time when Italy faces so many difficulties and is particularly serious in view of La Guardia's remarks about UNRRA's not sending wheat to replace wheat not amassed. Corsi, Under-secretary for Home Affairs mentioned this and also spoke of the seriousness of the affair as an aspect of national lawlessness, according to *Messaggero*.

*Unità* has a special view of the causes of the trouble. It reports that after the speech of La Guardia a meeting of all prefects in Sicily was called at which the Minister of Agriculture, Segni, a Communist Deputy, Li Causi, and others were present to discuss the problem of amassing in Sicily; that the prefects declared they had not sufficient police to enforce the law, but Li Causi claimed it was not a matter of force but of calling to the *Prefettura* the fifty or sixty big producers of Palermo Province, for example, and pointing out to them firmly how much wheat they had to confer by law or else—, and that if the big producers were dealt with in this way the road of persuasion among the small producers would have been greatly eased. *Unità* claims that the prefects completely ignored this suggestion and that when orders came from Rome that the *ammassi* law must be enforced the Prefect of Palermo began operations by attacking the small farmers rather than the big ones in a province where out of 27,000 tons subject to the *ammasso* only eight hundred have been entered. Moreover *Unità* asserts that these small farmers were egged on by the big producers and so reacted to the threats of the law by taking to firearms, thereby drawing off attention from far worse offenders.

### Illegal Exports.

A non-communist visitor to Rome from Sicily has assured the editor of the *Weekly Bulletin* that he too thinks that it was bound to cause trouble attacking small producers first when it is well known in Sicily that there is a huge black market of wheat for export to Yugoslavia for which they cannot carry the majority of the blame. One

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



recalls too how good an impression was created among the small producers in Foggia Province during the harvest of 1944 when they saw the AMG Public Safety Officers and the Italian Police concentrating above all on the biggest producers and checking them down to the last quintal. The fact remains that this village was armed to such a degree that in order to subdue it some two thousand police armed with automatic weapons and armoured cars had to be called. One of the reasons given for the usual refusal of the Sicilians to amass is the National Government's insisting on the bread and *pasta* ration's being the same for Sicily and some Southern parts of the mainland, where these two form almost the complete diet, as for Northern Italy where *polenta*, rice, cheese, eggs, and meat are available to a far higher degree; parts of Sicily were near starvation just before the harvest.

## LABOUR PROBLEMS

While the Italian Delegation to the Peace Conference is away the remaining members of the government in Rome have plenty of headaches over the labour situation.

First and foremost there are about two million unemployed, and demonstrations by them or alleged to be on their behalf are taking place daily in many parts of Italy, not always in good order. For example on one day unemployed held a demonstration in Milan, stopping traffic in the main city crossroads in the Piazza del Duomo and attempting to invade shops until controlled by the police; general strikes were called at Codigoro and Migliarino (Ferrara) to protest against unemployment and a train due to leave for Ferrara was stopped by demonstrators; and at Bari some 3,500 unemployed attempted to invade the Prefettura and were dispersed by the police after shots had been fired on both sides and both civilians and *agenti* had been wounded.

G. Romita, the Minister of Public Works, has sent a circular to all Prefects, Regional Public Works Officers, and Chief Engineers with reference to his 260,000,000,000 lire public works scheme, in which he has urged them to confer immediately with a view to getting work in hand at once and has instructed them to invite to their discussions the local political leaders, including those of the Camera del Lavoro.

### Question of Dismissals.

Meanwhile the order blocking the dismissal of workers became out of date on 31 July and there have been several meetings between the CGIL and the Confindustria over what is to be done next, and they decided to put the matter before a government committee, being quite unable to agree among themselves as the employers felt that industrial firms were not only going bankrupt through paying non-workers on their books but also were handicapped in any efforts to expand and give more employment by having such huge unproductive expenses, whereas the workers organisations were afraid of the lifting of the block simply resulting in the addition of another half million to the number of unemployed. Lizzadri, the secretary general of the CGIL explained their point of view to journalists and said they had sent what they thought was a practical solution to the government and to the Confindustria. He said the uncontrolled unblocking of dismissals without considering the possibility of re-employment was out of the question and that as regards re-employment the case of the big firms who claim to have a great many workers *in sospeso*, that is paid without being required, should be examined first; he said these numbers were greatly exaggerated and that many of these firms who were bound to the forty hour week were in fact making their employees work 48 or even in some cases 60 hours a week; from figures in their possession they believed that if the forty hour week were observed properly or made legally binding the greater number of these persons would in fact be genuinely employed. Secondly he thought it necessary to examine the state of those firms whose equipment and basic material resources permitted them to produce goods essential for the economic recovery of the country such as railway material, shipping, tools, etc. The CGIL also thought that the huge sums which the country was proposing to give in the form of help to unemployed or the industrialists had offered as a contribution to alleviating distress among the unemployed would be much better spent on giving productive work than on accustoming the workers to inactivity.

### Campilli's Proposal.

The matter was discussed at the Ministry of Labour on 7 August at a meeting presided over by Minister D'Aragona and attended by Ministers Campilli (Foreign Trade) and Morandi (Industry and Commerce) and Undersecretaries Corsi (Interior), Cassiani (Labour) and Petrilli (Treasury) in addition to representatives of the CGIL and the Confindustria. After a full and spirited exchange Campilli proposed, with the support of D'Aragona, that the dismissals should remain blocked until 30 September and that in the mean-

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



time a small mixed committee should study the situation as regards the productive sectors and great industries with a view to resolving the matter in accordance with the plan for national productivity, attempting to cut out everything that appears artificial in the industrial field and develop instead everything that corresponds to the economic needs of Italian life.

Dottore Costa, on behalf of the Confindustria, spoke of the bad effect which an announcement that the committee's enquiries would be confined to the major industries would have on medium and small undertakings, but said the employers were inclined to accept Campilli's proposal provided the workers would lay aside the other demands they had made in their letter of 29 July to the Confindustria, mainly with regard to wages. The CGIL representatives were in favour of accepting Campilli's plan but needed the next day to consult the leaders of various unions regarding the proviso put forward on behalf of the Confindustria.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The weekly table giving the latest figures for amassing, based on figures from UNRRA and the Economic Section, is again published. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on an average to 1 August; the estimated production figures still are those of 30 June and amassing goals generally those of 10 July. If the rate of amassing in the last fortnight of July is continued for another fortnight not only Marche and Venezia Giulia will be well over the total estimated as amassable, but also Emilia, Toscana, Umbria, and Lazio. All the regions south of the Abruzzi are still far behind schedule. All figures are in metric tons.

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collected previous week | Total Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 403,659 | 91,274 | 22,926 | 38,312 | 40.9 |
| Liguria | 20,250 | 1,024 | 86 | 115 | 11.2 |
| Lombardia | 592,200 | 359,312 | 160,863 | 193,518 | 53.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,360 | 2,931 | 6 | 42 | 1.4 |
| Veneto | 693,400 | 405,634 | 247,439 | 283,066 | 69.8 |
| Venezia Giulia | 10,000 | 4,000 | 3,700 | 3,989 | 99.7 |
| Emilia | 1,028,000 | 520,537 | 417,536 | 471,300 | 90.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,762,700 | 1,384,712 | 852,555 | 989,342 | 71.5 |
| Toscana | 464,400 | 172,757 | 83,966 | 151,627 | 87.8 |
| Marche | 385,500 | 172,294 | 203,768 | 225,985 | 131.2 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 80,986 | 55,170 | 78,690 | 97.2 |
| Lazio | 244,500 | 70,721 | 56,455 | 68,175 | 96.4 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 325,000 | 75,926 | 42,380 | 53,640 | 70.6 |
| Campania | 263,470 | 37,007 | 8,114 | 11,960 | 32.3 |
| Puglie | 361,350 | 104,545 | 54,467 | 63,863 | 61.1 |
| Lucania | 164,000 | 48,836 | 18,806 | 27,168 | 55.6 |
| Calabria | 138,000 | 27,346 | 7,693 | 9,642 | 35.3 |
| Sicilia | 570,100 | 178,184 | 22,807 | 37,302 | 20.9 |
| Sardegna | 147,000 | 30,538 | 9,687 | 16,554 | 54.2 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,212,320 | 999,140 | 563,313 | 744,578 | 74.5 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 5,975,020 | 2,383,852 | 1,415,868 | 1,733,920 | 72.7 |

Indignant reports continue to appear in the Italian press of smuggling of wheat from the east coast, Calabria, and Sicily to Yugoslavia, Albania, and Greece, and in Piemonte police precautions have again been intensified after the seizure of illegal cargoes apparently destined for France. In addition to the increase in penalties for smuggling wheat abroad announced last week the Council of Ministers has before it a draft decree under which public restaurants will be allowed to serve only one type of meal daily at a fixed price and customers will have to surrender ration coupons for bread and *pasta* dishes; penalties for black market restaurant operators will go up to one hundred thousand lire fine, imprisonment, loss of license for ten years, and the seizure of their premises for use by the state.

In Trieste ACEGAT members of the Sindacati Unici this weeks asked the SCAO for the restitution of contraband food seized from them by the police. Their request was refused emphatically.

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



### An Unusual Stoppage.

The Communist Party newspaper *Il Lavoratore* of Trieste had published the same day as the Sindacati made their request to Colonel Bowman a statement alleged to have been issued by the Sindacati that unless fifteen tons of contraband flour and half a ton of contraband sugar confiscated in the Trieste Tramway Company's yards were restored the Trams Union would disclaim any responsibility for whatever action the workers might take. The following morning the city's public transportation system was completely paralysed by what was at first thought to be a strike in protest against the seizure of the contraband. It was later announced that the stoppage was due to bands of masked men having entered three tram barns in the small hours and stolen the tram driving rods and other essential parts of trams and busses.

Once again Central and Southern Italy are having trouble with their electricity supplies apart from the temporary failures which have irritated the citizens of Rome especially for many months. A reduction in the allocation of power has been made owing to drought conditions affecting stream flow plants and relief is not expected until after the heavy rains begin in late November. In Rome all sectors will have to be without power for four hours a day. All industries are asked to reduce their power consumption by 15 % below that of June last with the exception of railways, traction lines, hospitals, water systems, and important food industries.

A small and perhaps little known, but useful, Italian export to many countries is found in queen bees, and *Espresso* reports that prices are now about 600 lire a piece and that Sweden alone is awaiting a shipment of 3,000 queens.

### Purchase of "Liberty" Ships.

The Italian Government's request to purchase fifty "Liberty" ships has been approved by the United States Maritime Committee, and it is understood that by the terms of the contract Italy will pay a minimum of 544,506 dollars per ship, 25 % in cash and the rest over 20 years at 3,43 interest.

According to a United Press report from Washington the United States State Department has asked to be informed about the details of Italy's food, economic, and financial programme for next year with a view to examining the possibility of continuing to help Italy after the cessation of UNRRA's activities next year. An Italian delegation is attending the UNRRA meeting at Geneva also to explain this situation. At this meeting representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, China, Norway, and Austria have all appealed for the continuation of UNRRA for another year, as they, like Italy, cannot carry reconstruction sufficiently far this year to be in a reasonable economic state next year without considerable assistance.

### The Building Trade.

R. Morandi, the Minister of Industry and Commerce, had an interesting press conference on 8 August at which he spoke on several important problems. He said that the government considered the recovery of the building trade essential as one of the first steps in general recovery since it would affect so many ancillary trades; he spoke of the possibility of major trades being helped financially by the government, whereas medium and small trades would be financed through the normal banking procedure; as regards basic raw materials Italy had still to depend to a great extent on UNRRA imports, and whereas in the first six months of the year owing to the critical food situation basic materials for industry had been only 35 % of UNRRA's imports the percentage in the second six months would rise to 53 %, an 80 % increase in coal imports over the first six months also was anticipated. The Minister was in touch with the United States authorities with regard to imports in 1947 and the financing of them. The Minister finally stressed the importance of the works Consigli di Gestione, which formerly had a political but now, he said, a purely technical character.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. T. W. J. Walters, late CLO Bologna Liaison Group and formerly Public Safety, and Major T. Marsh, Carabiniere Section of MMIA and formerly Public Safety, have proceeded to the United Kingdom for release from the Army.

* * *

M. Sgt Abbott, Chief Clerk of the Requisitioned Vehicles Section at Allied Commission Headquarters, became on 3 August father of one of the largest boys ever born in 34 Station Hospital weighing ten pounds at birth. Mother and child are doing well and Sgt Abbott should be all right shortly. On 6 August Sgt Abbott received the Army Commendation Ribbon, as did Colonel Walton, Captain Natale, and Lieutenant Bayles.

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

August 10, 1946 Vol. III, No. 17

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 749

## POLITICAL

P. Nenni returned to Italy on 5 August after his visits to Oslo, the Hague, Brussels, and Paris, and his many conversations with other Foreign Ministers (he will himself become a Foreign Minister after the Peace Treaty).

In his report to the Council of Ministers Nenni said that though the Peace Treaty today seems pretty hard there are good hopes for the future in view of the fact that all the big states, especially in more recent times, have been turning a more favourable eye on Italy. He also stated to journalists that his journey had had two aims, the first to inform Foreign Governments about Italy's viewpoint concerning the problem of peace, the second to notify the Italian Government about the intentions of the Big Four and of the Minor Powers as regards the conditions of peace; he asserted again that the draft peace treaty could be accepted by Italy only after some changes, such as the enlargement of the Trieste International State, which should include Pola and all the western coast of Istria, the postponement of the question of the colonies without forcing Italy to renounce her sovereignty, and the improvement of the conditions for using the electric power produced at Briga, Tenda, and Monnecinisio if these localities were to be ceded to France. Nenni also stated that he believed the economic and financial section of the treaty was that which most probably would undergo some changes in favour of Italy, and added: "Naturally the Big Four defend the fundamental principles on which they based their decisions, but they do not insist that these decisions be accepted just as they have been formulated. They are willing to examine the documents which we may produce. Our Delegation will be heard by the two special sub-commissions, and I am convinced that if an agreement is not reached with these sub-commissions the delegation will be able to put its case before the Twentyone".

Particularly interesting was Nenni's statement that "Going out of Italy one appreciates at once that we are not the only ones to suffer and strive for a better future but that this is the fate of almost all peoples after the accursed fascist war" and "I wish to say that everywhere I met desire to help Italy recover her full autonomy and political and economic authority; nevertheless memory of the war has not faded. We suffer in Italy but other countries suffer too and among these the countries which were provoked and attacked by fascism. So our reactions are not always understood beyond the Alps and the sea, even in countries where Italy is rapidly refinding her friends of another time".

### Ministers' Discussion.

After hearing Nenni's report the Council of Ministers had a spirited discussion. De Gasperi after thanking Nenni for his work said that the whole treaty had a provisional look in that so many points were left unsolved, and that it is therfore changeable with the passage of time; at present it represents a compromise laboriusly reached by the Big Four and so it is impossible to expect substantial modifications in its principles at this moment.

The Council concluded by giving the same instructions to the Delegation as it had on 31 July and wishing De Gasperi the very best of luck, and on the next day 6 August, De Gasperi, Saragat, Bonomi, Corbino, and Facchinetti left for Paris.

Meanwhile it has been reported from Paris that the special commission appointed by the Big Four to prepare a Statute for the Free Territory of Trieste has presented four different proposals; the drafts from the western powers are said to differ slightly from one another, to take into some consideration Italy's demands, and to stress the internationalisation of the area; that of Russia is said to support the Yugoslav viewpoint. At the same time the Venezia Giulia CLN has sent a note to the 21 members of the Peace Conference and their Associate Powers and to the Vatican protesting on behalf of the population represented by it against the compromise solution

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



to the Venezia Giulia problem proposed by the Four Foreign Ministers as being against the principles of the Atlantic Charter and the solemn obligation undertaken by the Big Four at London to have the problem solved on the basis of the ethnical principle. The note concludes by proposing that the question be left out of the treaty until such time as the passions now disturbing the zone will not be prejudicial to the implementation of any given solution, that the zone now occupied by Yugoslav troops be also taken over by a neutral administration, that the necessary conditions for a direct agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia be created, and that if such agreement be not reached within a fixed time the solution be reached through a procedure set by UNO.

**Further Press Reaction.**

The Italian Press continues to devote much space to blaming one or other of the Big Four for the assumed harshness of the treaty terms. Jacchia writes from Paris in the *Messaggero* that the Rules Committee debates have shown that the conference will be dominated by the antagonism between two world polices, the American and the Russian, and says that Great Britain has undoubtedly positions and interests of her own to defend, but has so far participated in the struggle behind the scenes ably guiding the small powers faithful to her and intervening in support of the United States when Molotov's "aggressive tactics" threaten to prevail. He claims that in this duel there is very little the small states can do, as each state thinks of its future relations with this Great Power or that; he adds that Quaroni has confirmed that the Russian attitude towards Italy has stiffened. *Mianda* argues that Russia is mainly responsible for the peace treaty the Allies want to impose upon Italy, but goes on to say: "The peace treaty is so iniquitous that we are led to believe that our enemies are afraid of us. Let us admit it frankly that they are all afraid of the re-emergence of Italy as a great colonial Mediterranean Power".

*Avanti* takes its key from Nenni's statements on his return from his circular tour. Borgoni writes in it that Italy made the mistake of throwing herself into the arms of the Western Powers, thereby placing herself in a state of latent hostility vis-a-vis the East, her diplomats taking a conflict between East and West for granted; and continues: "In these mistaken calculations no account was taken of the fact that the potential conflict is not inevitable, and that the leaders of the Great Powers are doing their utmost to avert the clash. Given the present situation, an agreement between the Great Powers could only be reached by sacrificing those who had imprudently intervened in the dispute. The peace compromise was necessarily concluded at our expense. Hence the profound disillusionment of those who had gambled on the white against the red, on the Anglo-Saxon Powers against Russia. Outside Italy they say that we have not changed in the least. It cannot be denied that the liquidation of the disastrous Fascist policy was a difficult process but we are bound to admit that we have done all we could in the diplomatic and journalistic sphere to render it more difficult. We hope that the desperate last attempt to save what can still be saved will succeed, but we must consider it our duty to warn the public that the chances are few and that the few chances we have must not be lost through ill-advised agitation of national sentiments".

Recent disorders of one kind and another up and down the country have clearly disturbed the government and in the absence of De Gasperi Undersecretary for Home Affairs Corsi has addressed a circular to all prefects, the High Commissioners of Sardinia and Sicily, and the President of the Val d'Aosta Council, affirming that at a moment when Italy is seeking justice in Paris the Italian people of all parties and creeds must give proof of their sense responsibility and discipline and give to those who are safeguarding the supreme interests of the country the encouragement of their unanimous support; let their support manifest itself in a concrete form by calling a truce to all agitations, by eliminating all frictions, by settling in a peaceful way all controversies.

After the departure of De Gasperi for Paris the Council of Ministers had an important meeting under the presidency of Nenni. After announcing that according to news from Paris the Italian Delegation will be heard by a plenary session of the Peace Conference, Nenni turned to home affairs and deplored the various disorderly incidents of recent weeks, especially that at Caccamo referred to later in this issue of the *Weekly Bulletin*.

The decree issued by the old De Gasperi Government on 24 June cancelling the legislative powers of the Senate had been returned to the Council of Ministers by the Corte dei Conti, which had refused to register it as in the opinion of the court this was a change in the constitution and the prerogative of the Costituente and not within the power of the Ministers; the Ministers have now decided to ask the court to register the decree *con riserva*. Other decisions included the

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



empowering of some four thousand promotions to *appuntato* in the Guardia di Finanza, allocation of a free issue of 200 grams of tobacco to labourers in the state tobacco factories, and transfer to the list of permanent employees of the state monopolies (and therefore the list of those with pension rights) of a considerable number of those whose temporary service has now exceeded two years.

It is reported by *Mondo* that the new "National Monarchist Party" has begun to function; that Deputies Misuri, Fabbri, and Buonocore form part of its executive, Covelli is the secretary-general and Buffa, L. Marchesano, and Zucchi the vice-secretaries.

During the week an official delegation of Piemonte partisans was received by the Ministers of Post-war Assistance and Justice and the Under-secretaries of War and the Treasury, and was assured, states *Avanti*, that before the national convention of Italian partisans at Florence on 8 September the following provisions will have been made: recognition of partisans as volunteer soldiers with extension in their favour of provisions which the regular army enjoys, and recognition of partisan ranks for administrative purposes.

## GRAVE INCIDENTS IN SICILY

On 5 August remarkable scenes took place at Caccamo, a small commune near Termini Imerese in the Province of Palermo, and they continued on a minor scale for several days. It seems to be generally agreed that originally a number of UPSEA officials accompanied by police went to the commune as part of a drive to enforce amassing of wheat in Sicily following a recent speech of Fiorello La Guardia's in which he urged on Italians the importance of contributing the full quota to the *ammasso*; remarks particularly apposite in the case of Sicily, where up to 27 July only 22,807 tons out of a proposed total of 178,184 had been amassed. Early in the proceedings fire was opened on the *carabinieri* and a Lt. G. Esposito was killed by machine gun fire. Reinforcements of *carabinieri* and *agenti* from Palermo arrived in very large numbers, headed by the Legion Commander and the *Vice-Questore* of Palermo. Heavy fire took place on both sides and at one time some twenty *carabinieri* were captured by the rebels; the latter demanded that the police withdraw immediately or the prisoners would be killed, a threat which was replied to firmly by the *carabinieri* colonel's giving them fifteen minutes to return the prisoners unharmed before drastic action was taken against the rebels and their village; the prisoners were released. Gradually the rebels were surrounded and captured together with many firearms. Casualties amounted to one officer and three men killed and eighteen wounded among the police and the average estimate of countrymen casualties is about 16 killed, more than a hundred wounded and about a hundred taken prisoner.

### What was the Cause?

Most newspapers take the view that this refusal to confer wheat to the *ammasso* is very serious at a time when Italy faces so many difficulties and is particularly serious in view of La Guardia's remarks about UNRRA's not sending wheat to replace wheat not amassed. Corsi, Under-secretary for Home Affairs mentioned this and also spoke of the seriousness of the affair as an aspect of national lawlessness, according to *Messaggero*.

*Unità* has a special view of the causes of the trouble. It reports that after the speech of La Guardia a meeting of all prefects in Sicily was called at which the Minister of Agriculture, Segni, a Communist Deputy, Li Causi, and others were present to discuss the problem of amassing in Sicily; that the prefects declared they had not sufficient police to enforce the law, but Li Causi claimed it was not a matter of force but of calling to the *Prefettura* the fifty or sixty big producers of Palermo Province, for example, and pointing out to them firmly how much wheat they had to confer by law or else—, and that if the big producers were dealt with in this way the road of persuasion among the small producers would have been greatly eased. *Unità* claims that the prefects completely ignored this suggestion and that when orders came from Rome that the *ammassi* law must be enforced the Prefect of Palermo began operations by attacking the small farmers rather than the big ones in a province where out of 27,000 tons subject to the *ammasso* only eight hundred have been confered. Moreover *Unità* asserts that these small farmers were egged on by the big producers and so reacted to the threats of the law by taking to firearms, thereby drawing off attention from far worse offenders.

### Illegal Exports.

A non-communist visitor to Rome from Sicily has assured the editor of the *Weekly Bulletin* that he too thinks that it was bound to cause trouble attacking small producers first when it is well known in Sicily that there is a huge black market of wheat for export to Yugoslavia for which they cannot carry the majority of the blame. One

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



recalls too how good an impression was created among the small producers in Foggia Province during the harvest of 1944 when they saw the AMG Public Safety Officers and the Italian Police concentrating above all on the biggest producers and checking them down to the last quintal. The fact remains that this village was armed to such a degree that in order to subdue it some two thousand police armed with automatic weapons and armoured cars had to be called. One of the reasons given for the usual refusal of the Sicilians to amass is the National Government's insisting on the bread and *pasta* ration's being the same for Sicily and some Southern parts of the mainland, where these two form almost the complete diet, as for Northern Italy where *polenta*, rice, cheese, eggs, and meat are available to a far higher degree; parts of Sicily were near starvation just before the harvest.

## LABOUR PROBLEMS

While the Italian Delegation to the Peace Conference is away the remaining members of the government in Rome have plenty of headaches over the labour situation.

First and foremost there are about two million unemployed, and demonstrations by them or alleged to be on their behalf are taking place daily in many parts of Italy, not always in good order. For example on one day unemployed held a demonstration in Milan, stopping traffic in the main city crossroads in the Piazza del Duomo and attempting to invade shops until controlled by the police; general strikes were called at Codigoro and Migliarino (Ferrara) to protest against unemployment and a train due to leave for Ferrara was stopped by demonstrators; and at Bari some 3,500 unemployed attempted to invade the Prefettura and were dispersed by the police after shots had been fired on both sides and both civilians and *agenti* had been wounded.

G. Romita, the Minister of Public Works, has sent a circular to all Prefects, Regional Public Works Officers, and Chief Engineers with reference to his 260,000,000,000 lire public works scheme, in which he has urged them to confer immediately with a view to getting work in hand at once and has instructed them to invite to their discussions the local political leaders, including those of the Camera del Lavoro.

### Question of Dismissals.

Meanwhile the order blocking the dismissal of workers became out of date on 31 July and there have been several meetings between the CGIL and the Confindustria over what is to be done next, and they decided to put the matter before a government committee, being quite unable to agree among themselves as the employers felt that industrial firms were not only going bankrupt through paying non-workers on their books but also were handicapped in any efforts to expand and give more employment by having such huge unproductive expenses, whereas the workers organisations were afraid of the lifting of the block simply resulting in the addition of another half million to the number of unemployed. Lizzadri, the secretary general of the CGIL explained their point of view to journalists and said they had sent what they thought was a practical solution to the government and to the Confindustria. He said the uncontrolled unblocking of dismissals without considering the possibility of re-employment was out of the question and that as regards re-employment the case of the big firms who claim to have a great many workers *in sospeso*, that is paid without being required, should be examined first; he said these numbers were greatly exaggerated and that many of these firms who were bound to the forty hour week were in fact making their employees work 48 or even in some cases 60 hours a week; from figures in their possession they believed that if the forty hour week were observed properly or made legally binding the greater number of these persons would in fact be genuinely employed. Secondly he thought it necessary to examine the state of those firms whose equipment and basic material resources permitted them to produce goods essential for the economic recovery of the country such as railway material, shipping, tools, etc. The CGIL also thought that the huge sums which the country was proposing to give in the form of help to unemployed or the industrialists had offered as a contribution to alleviating distress among the unmployed would be much better spent on giving productive work than on accustoming the workers to inactivity.

### Campilli's Proposal.

The matter was discussed at the Ministry of Labour on 7 August at a meeting presided over by Minister D'Aragona and attended by Ministers Campilli (Foreign Trade) and Morandi (Industry and Commerce) and Undersecretaries Corsi (Interior), Cassiani (Labour) and Petrilli (Treasury) in addition to representatives of the CGIL and the Confindustria. After a full and spirited exchange Campilli proposed, with the support of D'Aragona, that the dismissals should remain blocked until 30 September and that in the mean-

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



time a small mixed committee should study the situation as regards the productive sectors and great industries with a view to resolving the matter in accordance with the plan for national productivity, attempting to cut out everything that appears artificial in the industrial field and develop instead everything that corresponds to the economic needs of Italian life.

Dottore Costa, on behalf of the Confindustria, spoke of the bad effect which an announcement that the committee's enquiries would be confined to the major industries would have on medium and small undertakings, but said the employers were inclined to accept Campilli's proposal provided the workers would lay aside the other demands they had made in their letter of 29 July to the Confindustria, mainly with regard to wages. The CGIL representatives were in favour of accepting Campilli's plan but needed the next day to consult the leaders of various unions regarding the proviso put forward on behalf of the Confindustria.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The weekly table giving the latest figures for amassing, based on figures from UNRRA and the Economic Section, is again published. The figures for wheat collected are corrected on an average to 1 August; the estimated production figures still are those of 30 June and amassing goals generally those of 10 July. If the rate of amassing in the last fortnight of July is continued for another fortnight not only Marche and Venezia Giulia will be well over the total estimated as amassable, but also Emilia, Toscana, Umbria, and Lazio. All the regions south of the Abruzzi are still far behind schedule. All figures are in metric tons.

| COMPARTMENTS | Estimated Production | Amassing Goal | Collected previous week | Total Collected at latest Report | Percentage of Goal Collected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Piemonte | 403,650 | 91,274 | 22,925 | 38,312 | 40.9 |
| Liguria | 20,250 | 1,024 | 86 | 115 | 11.2 |
| Lombardia | 592,200 | 359,312 | 160,863 | 193,548 | 53.9 |
| Venezia Tridentina | 15,200 | 2,931 | 6 | 42 | 1.4 |
| Veneto | 693,400 | 405,634 | 247,439 | 283,066 | 69.8 |
| Venezia Giulia | 16,000 | 4,000 | 3,700 | 3,989 | 99.7 |
| Emilia | 1,028,000 | 520,537 | 417,536 | 471,300 | 90.5 |
| Northern Italy | 2,762,700 | 1,384,712 | 852,555 | 989,342 | 71.5 |
| Toscana | 461,400 | 172,767 | 83,966 | 151,627 | 87.8 |
| Marche | 385,500 | 172,294 | 203,768 | 225,985 | 131.2 |
| Umbria | 212,000 | 80,986 | 55,170 | 78,690 | 97.2 |
| Lazio | 244,500 | 70,721 | 56,455 | 68,175 | 96.4 |
| Abruzzi e Molise | 325,000 | 75,926 | 42,380 | 53,640 | 70.6 |
| Campania | 263,470 | 37,007 | 8,114 | 11,960 | 32.3 |
| Puglie | 301,350 | 104,545 | 54,467 | 63,853 | 61.1 |
| Lucania | 164,000 | 48,836 | 18,806 | 27,168 | 55.6 |
| Calabria | 138,000 | 27,346 | 7,693 | 9,642 | 35.3 |
| Sicilia | 570,100 | 178,184 | 22,807 | 37,302 | 20.9 |
| Sardegna | 147,000 | 30,538 | 9,687 | 16,554 | 54.2 |
| Central, Southern and Insular Italy | 3,212,320 | 999,140 | 563,313 | 744,578 | 74.5 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 5,975,020 | 2,383,852 | 1,415,868 | 1,733,920 | 72.7 |

Indignant reports continue to appear in the Italian press of smuggling of wheat from the east coast, Calabria, and Sicily to Yugoslavia, Albania, and Greece, and in Piemonte police precautions have again been intensified after the seizure of illegal cargoes apparently destined for France. In addition to the increase in penalties for smuggling wheat abroad announced last week the Council of Ministers has before it a draft decree under which public restaurants will be allowed to serve only one type of meal daily at a fixed price and customers will have to surrender ration coupons for bread and *pasta* dishes; penalties for black market restaurant operators will go up to one hundred thousand lire fine, imprisonment, loss of license for ten years, and the seizure of their premises for use by the state.

In Trieste ACEGAT members of the Sindacati Unici this weeks asked the SCAO for the restitution of contraband food seized from them by the police. Their request was refused emphatically.

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



### An Unusual Stoppage.

The Communist Party newspaper *Il Lavoratore* of Trieste had published the same day as the Sindacati made their request to Colonel Bowman a statement alleged to have been issued by the Sindacati that unless fifteen tons of contraband flour and half a ton of contraband sugar confiscated in the Trieste Tramway Company's yards were restored the Trams Union would disclaim any responsibility for whatever action the workers might take. The following morning the city's public transportation system was completely paralysed by what was at first thought to be a strike in protest against the seizure of the contraband. It was later announced that the stoppage was due to bands of masked men having entered three tram barns in the small hours and stolen the tram driving rods and other essential parts of trams and busses.

Once again Central and Southern Italy are having trouble with their electricity supplies apart from the temporary failures which have irritated the citizens of Rome especially for many months. A reduction in the allocation of power has been made owing to drought conditions affecting stream flow plants and relief is not expected until after the heavy rains begin in late November. In Rome all sectors will have to be without power for four hours a day. All industries are asked to reduce their power consumption by 15 % below that of June last with the exception of railways, traction lines, hospitals, water systems, and important food industries.

A small and perhaps little known, but useful, Italian export to many countries is found in queen bees, and *Espresso* reports that prices are now about 600 lire a piece and that Sweden alone is awaiting a shipment of 3,000 queens.

### Purchase of "Liberty" Ships.

The Italian Government's request to purchase fifty "Liberty" ships has been approved by the United States Maritime Committee, and it is understood that by the terms of the contract Italy will pay a minimum of 544,506 dollars per ship, 25 % in cash and the rest over 20 years at 3 ½ interest.

According to a United Press report from Washington the United States State Department has asked to be informed about the details of Italy's food, economic, and financial programme for next year with a view to examining the possibility of continuing to help Italy after the cessation of UNRRA's activities next year. An Italian delegation is attending the UNRRA meeting at Geneva also to explain this situation. At this meeting representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, China, Norway, and Austria have all appealed for the continuation of UNRRA for another year, as they, like Italy, cannot carry reconstruction sufficiently far this year to be in a reasonable economic state next year without considerable assistance.

### The Building Trade.

R. Morandi, the Minister of Industry and Commerce, had an interesting press conference on 8 August at which he spoke on several important problems. He said that the government considered the recovery of the building trade essential as one of the first steps in general recovery since it would affect so many ancillary trades; he spoke of the possibility of major trades being helped financially by the government, whereas medium and small trades would be financed through the normal banking procedure; as regards basic raw materials Italy had still to depend to a great extent on UNRRA imports, and whereas in the first six months of the year owing to the critical food situation basic materials for industry had been only 35 % of UNRRA's imports the percentage in the second six months would rise to 53 %, an 80 % increase in coal imports over the first six months also was anticipated. The Minister was in touch with the United States authorities with regard to imports in 1947 and the financing of them. The Minister finally stressed the importance of the works Consigli di Gestione, which formerly had a political but now, he said, a purely technical character.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lt. Col. T. W. J. Walters, late CLO Bologna Liaison Group and formerly Public Safety, and Major T. Marsh, Carabiniere Section of MMLA and formerly Public Safety, have proceeded to the United Kingdom for release from the Army.

* * *

M. Sgt Abbott, Chief Clerk of the Requisitioned Vehicles Section at Allied Commission Headquarters, became on 3 August father of one of the largest boys ever born in 34 Station Hospital weighing ten pounds at birth. Mother and child are doing well and Sgt Abbott should be all right shortly. On 6 August Sgt Abbott received the Army Commendation Ribbon, as did Colonel Walton, Captain Natale, and Lieutenant Bayles.

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

June 8, 1946 Vol. III, No. 10

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The historic decision of the Italian people, the beginning of the consummation of Mazzini's republican dream of 1831, in voting for a republic over the monarchy of the House of Savoy on June 2 and 3 came almost like an anti-climax after the hot polemics of the pre-election days. The results of the referendum were kept from the public until June 6 but news of the overturn of the Royal House began to be bruited about as early as the night of June 5 and a general air of expectancy of weighty events hung over the nation. When the news came, there were no celebrations and all the new citizens were calm, the republicans exultingly so but rather unbelieving, as it were, while the royalists were utterly despondent, feeling the worse for the thought that perhaps, *perhaps* they might have done better had they realized the result would have been so close. This, in effect, describes the general tenor of the after-election press in Rome.

All the newspapers accompanied publication of the result with calls for national unity and for mutual tolerance to heal the wounds of the political battles, *Unità* and *Avanti* leading this chorus. *Risorgimento Liberale* warned the republicans not to make "*faux pas*" and "not to impose any distinction between victors and vanquished" while *Italia Nuova* played up that Venezia Giulia, POWs and many eligible non-receivers of electoral certificates had not voted. Prime Minister De Gasperi took to the radio to ask for order and harmony and Minister of Interior Romita sent instructions to prefects to be on special guard against incidents and asked the parties to prevent demonstrations among their adherents. No disturbances occurred until the 7th in Naples when crowds and bombs resulted in several casualties; in addition there were monarchist demonstrations of a minor nature in Rome.

Today, the 8th, it had been the original intention to have the Court of Cassation announce the official election results and thereafter make the proclamation of the Republic. At press time, however, it was still uncertain that the event would happen today because all returns were not yet in. King Umberto II, who held his title as Head of the State until formal handing over at the Court of Cassation ceremony, was reported to be preparing to fly to Lisbon. In the meantime, however, because of the narrow margin between the two votes—54 per cent. for the republic against 46 for the monarchy—monarchist supporters, notably, Minister of Public Works Cattani, asked De Gasperi to ascertain whether the referendum vote was valid, it being asserted that perhaps the republic did not receive the required number of votes under the law. At the same time, *Tempo* said, a committee of jurists had filed an appeal with the Court of Cassation, aiming to have the proclamation of the republic suspended until all appeals and contested votes had been first examined, and further stating that the voice of the electorate of Venezia Giulia and the Alto Adige was needed before the referendum process was complete.

The parties in the interim, while closely attending to the referendum situation, were counting over their gains in the *Costituente* elections and preparing for the convocation of that assembly on the 24th. As the table in this issue shows, the Christian Democrats, Socialists and Communists, in that order, will have the most seats, with the National Democratic Union, Uomo Qualunque, Republican party and National Bloc of Liberty being also represented in that order. *Secolo XX* forecast the relative strengths in the *Costituente* as 240 to the Left, 200 to the Center and 80 to the Right. The Council of Ministers is expected to meet today to discuss the general situation and also to study a new amnesty decree submitted by Togliatti. The press further speculated on possible candidacies for the new President of the Republic, mentioned being De Gasperi, Nenni, Orlando, Nitti, Bonomi and Sforza.

391

## ELECTION NOTES

Allied Commission liaison officers and Local Government Sub-Commission experts were out in force 2 and 3 June to observe the Italian na-

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



| CONSTITUENCY (1) | SEATS | CONSTITUENT: Communist | Socialist | Action | Republican Democrat Concentration | Christian Social Party |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **NORTHERN ITALY** | | | | | | |
| *Piemonte* | | | | | | |
| I Turin | 28 | 312,717 | 410,336 | 23,822 | 8,927 | — |
| II Cuneo | 18 | 134,981 | 191,558 | 18,217 | 16,263 | — |
| *Liguria* | | | | | | |
| III Genoa | 20 | 267,599 | 243,637 | 7,926 | — | — |
| *Lombardia* | | | | | | |
| IV Milan | 36 | 309,767 | 529,216 | — | 21,527 | — |
| V Como | 14 | 85,164 | 228,034 | 5,954 | — | — |
| VI Brescia | 18 | 103,956 | 176,636 | 21,505 | — | — |
| VII Mantua | 10 | 127,562 | 146,774 | 9,508 | — | — |
| *Venezia Tridentina* | | | | | | |
| VIII Trento (2) | 9 | 18,382 | 62,505 | — | — | — |
| *Veneto* | | | | | | |
| IX Verona | 29 | 155,151 | 332,264 | 15,083 | — | — |
| X Venezia | 16 | 99,091 | 155,103 | 20,987 | — | 12,455 |
| XI Udine | 12 | 72,827 | 172,013 | 16,309 | — | — |
| *Venezia Giulia and Zara* (3) | | | | | | |
| XII Trieste (3) | 13 | — | — | — | — | — |
| *Emilia* | | | | | | |
| XIII Bologna | 24 | 121,093 | 301,402 | 15,786 | — | — |
| XIV Parma | 20 | 333,938 | 262,797 | — | 6,253 | — |
| SUB-TOTAL | 267 | 2,563,228 | 3,212,274 | 155,097 | 46,970 | 12,455 |
| **CENTRAL ITALY** | | | | | | |
| *Toscana* | | | | | | |
| XV Florence | 14 | 246,717 | 160,396 | 9,597 | — | 4,424 |
| XVI Pisa | 15 | 185,941 | 132,704 | 12,005 | 6,244 | 7,086 |
| XVII Siena | 10 | 175,226 | 103,960 | 6,694 | — | 7,604 |
| *Marche* | | | | | | |
| XVIII Ancona * | 17 | 152,815 | 131,851 | 18,788 | — | — |
| *Umbria* | | | | | | |
| XIX Perugia * (4) | 12 | 120,932 | 98,962 | 7,990 | — | 10,485 |
| *Lazio* | | | | | | |
| XX Rome | 33 | 194,584 | 148,494 | 17,025‡ | 6,855 | 4,155 |
| *Abruzzi-Molise* | | | | | | |
| XXI L'Aquila | 16 | 67,286 | 77,559 | 19,111 | — | — |
| SUB-TOTAL | 117 | 1,143,501 | 853,926 | 91,210 | 13,099 | 33,754 |
| **SOUTHERN ITALY** | | | | | | |
| *Campania* | | | | | | |
| XII Benevento (5) | 9 | 14,660 | 24,761 | 7,201 | — | — |
| XXIII Naples * | 30 | 85,046 | 65,337 | 17,214 | 6,139 | — |
| XXIV Salerno | 15 | 36,165 | 40,939 | 11,203 | 15,465 | — |
| *Puglie* | | | | | | |
| XXV Bari | 21 | 146,007 | 96,918 | — | — | — |
| XXVI Lecce * | 15 | 47,277 | 42,765 | 6,210 | — | 4,069 |
| *Lucania* | | | | | | |
| XXVII Potenza | 7 | 32,925 | 41,907 | — | — | — |
| *Calabria* | | | | | | |
| XXVIII Catanzaro | 24 | 97,362 | 88,701 | 19,407 | — | — |
| *Sicily* | | | | | | |
| XXIX Catania | 27 | 63,946 | 107,058 | 16,482 | — | — |
| XXX Palermo * | 26 | 87,354 | 126,140 | 10,114 | 15,301 | — |
| *Sardinia* | | | | | | |
| XXXI Cagliari | 11 | 66,267 | 46,475 | — | — | — |
| SUB-TOTAL | 188 | 677,009 | 681,001 | 87,831 | 36,905 | 4,069 |
| XXXII Val d'Aosta | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 573 | 4,383,738 | 4,747,201 | 334,138 | 96,974 | 50,278 |
| ESTIMATED ALLOTMENT OF SEATS | 573 | 108 | 118 | 8 | 2 | 1 |

(1) Seat of Central Office. — (2) Includes Bolzano which did not vote. — (3) Did not vote. — (4) Includes the province
* Incomplete returns. — ‡ Excluding Bolzano.

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



| ASSEMBLY – VOTES | | | | | | | REFERENDUM – VOTES | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Christian Democrat | Republican | National Democratic Union | Italian Unionist Movement | Uomo Qualunque | National Liberty Bloc | Other Parties | *Republic* | *Monarchy* |
| | | | | | | | *1,250,320* | *938,736* |
| 448,057 | 7,224 | 72,654 | — | 33,059 | 18,859 | 15,219 | | |
| 311,425 | 4,975 | 46,199 | — | 13,435 | — | 74,247 | *633,130* | *284,692* |
| 301,377 | 37,191 | 39,253 | — | 27,454 | 7,196 | 5,757 | * *2,270,335* | * *12,275,183* |
| 553,282 | 28,502 | 43,038 | — | 63,021 | 25,133 | 5,839 | | |
| 305,472 | 9,585 | 17,819 | — | | 11,874 | 7,211 | | |
| 366,622 | 11,702 | 21,654 | — | 23,930 | 14,952 | — | | |
| 144,100 | 4,204 | 21,399 | — | — | 12,692 | 2,527 | † *191,150* | † *33,728* |
| 128,917 | 10,833 | 4,313 | — | — | — | — | *1,418,991* | *962,839* |
| 601,480 | 9,204 | 33,774 | — | 29,496 | 19,662 | 4,110 | | |
| 304,413 | 23,743 | 14,772 | — | — | — | — | | |
| 263,301 | 7,168 | 10,293 | — | 14,992 | — | — | — | — |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | *1,526,838* | *454,589* |
| 202,102 | 107,031 | 21,019 | — | 34,867 | — | — | | |
| 267,666 | 9,325 | 13,138 | — | 15,475 | — | — | | |
| 4,198,214 | 270,687 | 358,671 | — | 255,730 | 110,368 | 114,991 | *7,291,064* | *3,949,767* |
| | | | | | | | *1,280,815* | *506,167* |
| 193,611 | 12,765 | 18,262 | — | 35,954 | 10,373 | — | | |
| 211,851 | 59,066 | 13,623 | — | 20,216 | 6,444 | — | | |
| 103,963 | 30,629 | 9,333 | — | 19,502 | 3,908 | | *498,667* | *213,621* |
| 214,144 | 115,040 | 21,320 | — | 36,714 | — | 9,955 | *301,909* | *117,755* |
| 131,325 | 51,910 | 12,108 | — | 22,618 | 8,094 | 4,257 | * *753,978* | * *795,501* |
| 448,392 | 211,917 | 96,535 | 4,767 | 97,459 | 92,554 | 69,052 | *347,578* | *459,478* |
| 253,433 | 49,614 | 34,363 | 11,724 | 26,727 | — | 45,610 | | |
| 1,556,619 | 530,941 | 205,574 | 16,491 | 259,190 | 121,373 | 128,874 | *3,182,487* | *2,092,522* |
| | | | | | | | * *137,767* | * *1,431,971* |
| 135,836 | 12,017 | 86,880 | — | 37,156 | 10,347 | 705 | | |
| 346,926 | 18,391 | 199,306 | — | 126,509 | 58,715 | 60,496 | | |
| 150,727 | 14,591 | 99,752 | — | 50,995 | 41,120 | 63,339 | * *465,620* | * *954,754* |
| 251,939 | 19,468 | 59,752 | 13,384 | 138,971 | 10,804 | 57,912 | | |
| 162,442 | 13,668 | 62,468 | 4,231 | — | 97,476 | 26,494 | *107,653* | *158,210* |
| 80,158 | 7,635 | 58,639 | — | 22,067 | — | 13,151 | * *338,898* | * *517,651* |
| 274,396 | 31,782 | 103,473 | 7,865 | 62,733 | 88,702 | 26,369 | * *708,109* | * *1,301,200* |
| 361,909 | 29,893 | 147,231 | — | 89,593 | 52,358 | 123,062 | | |
| 282,808 | 50,758 | 111,497 | 18,718 | 96,156 | 27,698 | 95,652 | *206,098* | *319,557* |
| 217,389 | — | 33,472 | 10,739 | 65,185 | — | 88,865 | *2,264,145* | * *4,683,243* |
| 2,264,530 | 198,203 | 962,470 | 54,937 | 689,365 | 387,256 | 555,955 | | |
| 26,348 | — | — | — | — | — | 21,868 | | |
| 8,039,711 | 999,831 | 1,526,715 | 71,428 | 1,264,285 | 618,997 | 821,598 | *12,737,396* | *10,725,532* |
| 202 | 24 | 38 | 2 | 30 | 15 | 20 | | |

of Rieti which is in *Lazio*. — (5) Includes the province of Campobasso which is in *Molise*.

395

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



tional elections from a respectable distance. We bring you the chief points of their observations, which, as everybody now knows, were admirable calm and order throughout the nation. In this issue you will also find a table of the returns, not entirely complete, as announced by the Ministry of Interior for both the *Costituente* elections and the history-making referendum.

Major Ralph R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, whose direction of a most complicated and arduous task in advising on the mechanics of the elections and of observing the results has been highly praised by both the Chief Commissioner and the Executive Commissioner, made his election day tours in Rome. To preserve order and guard the ballot boxes in the Province of Rome were 7,430 men, of whom the main elements were 5,100 Agents of Public Security and 1,550 Carabinieri. There were 1,028 polling stations in Rome and 342 in the rest of the province. By the time the booths closed at noon June 3, there were still some 75,000 or 8 per cent. of the electoral certificates undelivered. Electors had moved, were dead, could not be found, had changed their names, errors in the population registers had not been corrected, married women often had not notified the authorities of their change of name.

Great crowds gathered early to vote, many getting up as early as 4 a.m. In many stations ingress and egress was by the same door; result: a little confusion. Morning voting was light but by nightfall some 60 to 90 per cent. of the electorate had voted and precinct presidents were allowed to keep open until 12 midnight to accommodate late voters. In one place, the voting section president was so conscientious he refused to allow any of his assistants to do any of the work, insisting on handling it all himself. This section ran rather behind schedule. Three cases came to Major Temple's attention of persons trying to vote in the evening who found that some other person had very kindly performed that chore for them during the day. Special sections handled refugees and the military.

Eighty per cent. of Rome voted. One per cent. of the votes cast for the referendum were declared invalid for various reasons. The city went monarchical—413,141 to 352,448, while another feature was that the Republican party (Rome had a four-months republic some 80 years ago, it will be recalled) garnered 103,555 votes, running second to the Christian Democrats.

In Naples was Major C. G. R. Williams (B), Major Temple's right-hand man. Undelivered certificates amounted to 7 per cent. or some 35,000. Nearly 75 per cent. of the electorate voted. Naples had been rather lax in putting its population registers in order although all cities had been warned to do so 18 months ago. The change in address of many homeless from Naples' considerable destruction added to the mixups. The same war damage forced crowding of many of the city's 707 polling stations into few buildings—some had 10 to 14—and produced perforce long queues of waiting voters, many of whom stood six hours in the sun for their turn. The correct sealing of the ballots proved to be a nuisance, one woman having to return to the booths ten times before she caught on to the trick. Reporting arrangements by wireless to Rome were excellent.

Capt. J. V. Vella (B) of the sub-commission had Milan under his eye. In the province some 92 per cent. of the voters cast ballots, several communes registering a 97 per cent. vote. Milan was as quiet as London on a summer week-end, Capt. Vella said. There were no queues anywhere. Undelivered were about 45,000 certificates or 5 per cent. of the 870,000 eligible voters. Milan newspapers were so well organized for election coverage that they consistently got the news of results before the Prefect did. American and British consular staffs also pinch-hit as election observers. All officers, including the CLOs (whose reports were of the same tenor), agreed that voting was heavier than in the administrative elections.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the elections and the referendum, observers agree, was the quiet dignity with which they were conducted—a marked contrast with the ominous reports, so widely circulated, of the disorders which were billed to occur. Observers could sense a determination among all types of people to see to it that Italy's first chance at expressing the people's will was fully taken. One gained the impression last week-end that whatever might be the result Italy had taken a great step forward along the path of democratic freedom. May the next step be as firm and orderly.

## SICILY

To the traditional picture of Sicily as the land of Mount Etna, bandits, idyllic waters, *latifundia* and idiosyncratic peasants, the current observer had better add another note: sporadic but real desperation concerning food. We gather all this from a DO letter at hand from Lieut. Col. L. Montague (B) which is the most concrete report from Sicily in many a day. The food situation is ag-

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



gravated by the fact that, of all Italians, the Sicilians eat the most bread and pasta since it virtually constitutes their whole diet. And bread has disappeared even from many black markets, says Col. Montague. Only the arrival of a grain ship on 26 May at Palermo, in his opinion, averted complete collapse of the bread ration and certain riots.

The crop in the ground is good and will be ready for cutting soon but what will happen in the meantime is anybody's guess. Sicilians, incidentally, feel that the official 200-gram bread ration, because of their aforementioned food habits, means habitual semi-starvation. In Messina Province, the poorest on the island, the official flour stocks have run out this week and even the black market has none, which is almost a catastrophe of a kind since the manual laborers always bought such bread to supplement the official issue. Col. Montague noticed what he described as malnutrition as prevalent while the condition of children was often pitiable.

Catania Province is somewhat better off for bread, its stocks reportedly holding out until next week, but Siracusa Province is the worst of all. The Colonel witnessed a food riot there on 29 May when women, enraged by the sharp rise, day by day, of the black market price of bread to 290 lire a kilo (it was 180 in Palermo), swept through the marketplaces, raising ned. They cried they could not afford such prices. The price of fish has also risen sharply, the fishermen saying they have to get high prices to be able to buy the bread they need. Col. Montague also tells a story about the town of Pachino which had such a good wine crop that, so they say, there are at least 200 persons who made over 20 million lire a-piece. But these millionaires, too, have to come to towne ach day, bag in hand, to find bread in the black market of Pachino.

There were other sidelights to the tour: The Prefect of Palermo says he cannot visit the country because of bandits. The *Sindaco* of Palermo was stopped recently by the same gentry, relieved of his purse and made to kiss the earth. The Mafia rolls along quietly, many of its victims being unsavory characters themselves so the police pay little attention. Eastern Sicily officialdom seems more cool and efficient and successfully coping with banditry. Messina officials also complained that the big soap factory in that town is not allowed to operate, allegedly because fats are supposed to be distributed on the food ration card, which, however, they have not been. Trapani seems to have the most crime, as ever.

## UDINE

We are happy to be able at long last to print a full report on one of the few areas in Italy still under Allied Military Government, the Province of Udine where, since the liberation of the North, Lieut Col. H. N. Bright (B) has been sitting on a delicate situation, which, the story will show, has clearly improved under his administration since the first hectic days. Currently, Col. Bright's team, riddled by redeployment and largely staffed with willing but new and inexperienced CAOs, is still plugging away. This article comes from a most amusing and comprehensive report which Col. Bright got up to mark the first anniversary of Udine AMG, May 2, 1946. To the Colonel and his staff, we simply say the delay in printing an Udine story has been occasioned by the deficiencies of our own undermanned office and the desire to get some further technical details from the specialist sub-commissions. The story that here unfolds, taken largely from Col. Bright's own words, are a bright chapter indeed in AMG.

For those who are not familiar with the Province, its boundaries are Austria on the North, Venezia Giulia and Yugoslavia on the East, the Adriatic on the South, and the Piave River on the West. Its normal population is approximately 800,000 but refugees have swollen this to about one million. It has 172 communes in an area of more than 7,000 square kilometres.

On May 2, 1945, the Allied Military Government representatives consisting of Colonel Bright, the Provincial Commissioner; Major Mannel, Police; Major Keysell, Legal, and Major Culverhouse, Food, with Serjeant-Major Robinson, Corporal Pritchard, Private Law and Private Lawrence, arrived at 7.30 p.m., after a long journey from Cesena. Udine town bore a weird appearance. There were no civilians on the streets and no sign of Allied occupation. The only troops seen were Yugoslav and partisans in green and red scarves. The *Prefettura* was guarded by six stalwart-looking partisans bristling with revolvers, daggers and bombs. They did not seem too interested in the AMG representatives and said that there was no Prefect and no Sindaco, and that they were the sole representatives of law and order.

Eventually, they were persuaded to send for an interpreter, and the now well-known figure of Charlie appeared. Without inquiring too closely into Charlie's past, Col. Bright et al. soon found in him a real guide, philosopher and friend, who took them to the Palazzo del Prefetto and to a good restaurant. Throughout that night shots

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



were going off all over the town and it was difficult to understand what it was all about, the Colonel adds. The patriots, at Charlie's suggestions, magnanimously offered to guard the AMG billet. The second relief of this guard consisted of two boys, one 15 and the other 17, both armed from top to toe.

The following day the CLN arrived, a Prefect was appointed, and a Sindaco took office. AMG was housed in the Palazzo della Provincia, the former German Governor's HQ. He had apparently left hastily. The place was a shambles. Something had to be done quickly, so the nearest asylum was asked to assist. Some 60 or 70 Italian lunatics paraded under their Sisters and feverishly swept and garnished the offices. Every ten minutes they stopped work and giggled at each other for ten minutes, and then continued with renewed zeal. By noon everything was back in its place and work commenced in all the offices.

Conditions in the Province were somewhat confused. In the north-west 20,000 Cossacks (who had fought for the Germans) were plundering and burning the countryside. Several thousand Yugoslav troops were living off the country. Partisans, whose strength had suddenly jumped from two or three thousand to 22,000, were careering all over the country in vehicles which they had newly acquired on the pretext of operational necessity and demanding everything free. A battle was in progress near Gemona between SS troops and elements of the 6th Armoured Division. Some 15,000 Chetniks were endeavouring to make good their escape from Tito's troops. Allied troops were beginning to stream into the town without a Town Major. All the northern part of the Province was without food. Yugoslavs were setting up military government wherever their troops were in force. Refugees were streaming through the refugee center and more than 100 ferries a day were transporting them to the west.

In a few days, however, with the arrival of more Allied troops and the final surrender of all enemy forces in the area, things began to take shape. The Cossacks surrendered and were returned to Russia. The Chetniks were saved from their Tito enemies. Partisans began to declare to AMG some of their vehicles. Food was sent out night and day to the starving villages in the north. Allied Military Government was thoroughly established. A month or so later some 12,000 Partisans paraded for the last time and gave up their arms, amid much pomp and ceremonial.

Since then, despite administrative difficulties, some serious crime and low morale in the public safety forces at the beginning, good, hard work has brought the province to much more like normal. Elections have been held and a summary of the work of the special AMG divisions tells a tale by itself. More than 850 cases have been tried by AMG courts, of which some 40 were Superior Court cases. Italian courts have heard about 3,000 cases including those of the Special Court of Assizes which has tried more than 250 cases. The province had about 1,600 CC. RR. a year ago but now only about 650, too few in Col. Bright's opinion, though the commanders are happy at the new transport the Colonel procured for them. A year ago, too, there were 1,200 prisoners in jail but now less than half that. Food has been adequate, once the original critical situation was corrected. Udine residents, however, are still sore about not receiving an April sugar ration and missing out on sweets for Easter.

Finances have been in poor shape owing to the lack of experienced officials. In its first year, AMG authorized two billion lire of expenditure but red tape at the Italian regional office at Venice is at the moment holding up 300 million lire worth of public works projects in Udine, where there are some 50,000 unemployed. Allied authorities in Austria have asked for Italian labor but Italian Government arrangements on this matter have been rather slow.

Flour mills have been issuing a monthly output of 50,000 quintals. Pasta-making factories are working 25 per cent. of normal production, averaging 8,000 quintals monthly. Breweries, formerly requisitioned by NAAFI, are now in full production. Liquor factories and distilleries are turning out 50 per cent. of normal. Coal mines, heavily war-damaged, have increased production from 750 tons to 5,500 tons a month, but the province needs 6,000 tons a month. Cement factories, also damaged by the war, now turn out 600 tons monthly. Seventy per cent. of the brick and tile factories are working, but only about a third of mechanical and metal industries. Steel factories, short of raw materials, show a 40 per cent. production. Cotton industries, thanks to the arrival of some American cotton, are in operation in part while shoe factories are going well as is the tanning industry. The silk industry, half of which is busy, is suffering from lack of markets. Two yeast factories are booming and the cellulose and paper factories at Torviscosa, heavily damaged by bombing, have transferred production from rayon to paper

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



pulp, with an approximate output of 600 tons a month. Thanks to the large number of captured enemy vehicles found in the Province, transport facilities have been adequate.

Public works initiated under AMG amount to 743 projects involving expenditure of nearly 500 million lire. Military and civilian bridges repaired, or nearing completion, total 60, with a further 40 planned for repair this summer, leaving another 100 still to be repaired. Over 600 other projects, including water supply, *bonifica*, public buildings, schools, etc., totalling nearly 110 millions, have been approved during the year.

Prospects for the coming harvest are good, and approximately 110,000 hectares have been cultivated. Livestock production is on the increase, and over 600 head of cattle have been transferred to other provinces. Over 10,000 horses passed through Udine from Austria into other provinces, and in consequence a severe strain was imposed upon the forage resources of the Province. A rash of foot and mouth disease hit the province this spring.

Other items include the opening of many new hospitals, equipped from captured enemy material, most important being the new 300-bed T.B. hospital at Pauzza for the treatment of T.B.-infected ex-POWS and ex-internees. Ambulances have been provided everywhere and huts released by the Army have been put up in a.d devastated communes to relieve the housing conditions. ENDSI has distributed some 30,000 parcels to deserving cases and UNRRA have assisted with thousands of additional rations, while the Provincial Commissioner's fund for the Orphanages at Christmas totalled over 2 ½ million lire. Some 60,000 American blankets are also being distributed.

## GENOA

The wind above the Ligurian Sea is blowing a tang of hope into Genoa these days. So reports Lieut. Col. W. Turner-Coles (B), the CLO there. The myriad import-export firms are coming to life again after a nine year eclipse during the last years of the Fascist regime (and its autarchy) and the German occupation when the Po Valley capitals were used as trade centers. But the city of Christopher Columbus is above all a large importing community and therein lies this particular tale.

The city has old and specialized groups of firms for the leading importing currents: wheat from the U. S. A., Canada, Australia and the Argentine; timber from the American Western States; coal from England, India and Wales; preserved fish from Norway, Portugal and Spain; coffee from Cuba, Central and South America, and so on. These firms in normal times worked with the assistance of a large number (easily 400) of forwarding agents, all small independent firms. This well-worn and solidly established network of importing firms, forwarding agents and ship agents, had created up to 1935 a center of maritime and international trade which was certainly the most important in Italy.

In addition there were in Genoa many agents of foreign exporting firms (most important being groups of agents for English coal exporting firms, Central American coffee exporting firms, South and North American and Australian wheat exporting firms, etc.). In many cases these agents owned exclusively the agency for Northern Italy, and often for all of Italy. The number of import-export firms before the war was 914. Since then only 34 have gone out of business and of the remainder about 352 can be considered of importance. A typical feature of these firms is that they have no financial links with industry but trade on their own capital.

Markets for imported goods, besides Genoa itself and Liguria, include the Milan and Turin market, Tuscany and much of Central Italy, Switzerland, and parts of Central Europe. The competition is expected to be keen again with Marseilles for Western Switzerland, and with Trieste for Eastern Italy. Although the present outlook is not too bright as yet, the Genoese importers, perennial optimists, feel that world economic conditions are bound to return gradually to normal.

The condition of the harbor naturally plays a part in the eventual restoration of Genoa's sea trade. Although the total destruction of the port was avoided in spite of the Germans, yet it suffered heavily. Before the war quays and piers had a total length of 18,000 metres while it is estimated that less than half is usable now, or shortly. There has been, of course, a heavy reduction in traffic since pre-war days when the port presented returns for an average of 350 to 400 incoming ships a month, totalling an average of 900,000 tons in 1937-38. Now only one half the tonnage (and that mostly UNRRA) is arriving. Now, too, only one ship in three or four is Italian, the reverse of pre-war.

The current lack of export tonnage brings as a consequence an increase in freight charges, since ships coming to Genoa cannot rely on outward freight. This fact was already noticeable

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



before the war and freight for Genoa was 3 or 4 shillings higher, for instance, than freight on Antwerp-bound ships which were always sure to find in that port a cargo for the journey home. This lack of outward-bound cargo keeps freight rates in the Genoa shipping movement high.

There are several other insects in the soup. Genoa shipowners are awaiting international decision concerning the disposal of Italian ships still tied up in the residual UMA pool. There are 10,000 unemployed seamen, stewards and other maritime personnel in Genoa. A fight is being waged against thieves of imported goods which command sky-high prices on the black market. And as for the shipyards (a 9,500-ton tanker was launched 28 April), there have been British complaints against too many *feste* delaying essential ship repairs to British merchant vessels. But today grain, coal, steel, cotton and phosphates and industrial products are beginning to sail again into the finally mine-free Genoa harbor and that is the sweetest sight a Genoese can dream of.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The food situation is as bad if not worse than last week, which is saying a lot... By MTOUSA order, Company J. of 2675th Regiment has been transferred en masse to the 88th Division in Venezia Giulia... Four officers and 10 EM have left under June redeployment orders to be in Leghorn by tomorrow night (9 June)... It is now Lieut. Col. N. W. Hind-Smith (B), CSO to the Executive Commissioner, a well-deserved promotion... Sorry we were apparently a bit premature in the OBE announcements for American officers last week: the dope is that the *recommendations* have been concurred in by the U. S. WD... In addition to being adjutant of A. C. and the Regiment, Major Richard B. Bullock has now assumed the jobs of S-1 of the Regiment and G-1 (A) of A. C. in the current shaking down of the staff... The following British promotions have come through (in addition to Col. Hind-Smith's): R. A. Savill, G. F. Rothey and T. G. Elliot to Major; N. J. Coombs to Captain, and L. E. Weston to Senior Commander... The following awards are announced: *Medal of Freedom* — Mr. Joseph di Fede; *Legion of Merit* — Lieut. Col. Carleton W. Washbourne and Capt. George W. Barnes III...

## «CIAREA, RAGAZZI»

This particular Ed., my fine-feathered laddybucks, has his orders in hand and is awaiting transport to the U. S. A. After two years, eight months and 18 days overseas, it's about time. And if by some miserable concatenation of events another *Bulletin has* to be written before our departing the hallowed halls of the *Corporazioni*, be assured, gentle reader, that it will consist only of *Political* and *Odds*, an issue often lovingly plotted but somehow never yet achieved. So, we want to say a word of thanks for the record before we go—briefly, inadequately, but sincerely.

In this general dispensation of grace we would like to include our colleagues of echelons above and to the right and left of us (we have none below)—CMF and MTOUSA and AFHQ PRO and G-5 and RAAC and the British and American Embassies, especially Mr. Halford and Mr. Jones, respectively, for their constant courtesies concerning *Political* and our inevitable rush before deadlines; the Italian press, newspapers and agencies; the Allied and neutral correspondents for their personal cooperation, their coverage and their profitable critiques.

Particularly, do we wish to express our appreciation to the men in the field, past and present, who have been our chief readers and supporters. We thank them for their excellent contributions and voice real regret we have probably not done justice to their accomplishments in this record, though we tried to. A load of gratitude goes, too, to the officers and men at Hq. whom this Branch has badgered to give last-minute news and interrupted important conferences to get pieces cleared. And the boys on the PRB staff—Drummond, Williams, Henry, Sergio, Gaetano, Pino—who physically made the *Bulletin* possible come in for a large share of thanks (and let the truth be told) apologies for an execrable temper that boils hottest on *Bulletin* Saturdays. And lastly and for the topside that has run the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government in Italy (not to mention running *us*), to the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, thanks for both his 100 per cent. standing by the *Bulletin* and for his *ex cathedra* benvolence, and to the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, thanks, for both his heart-chilling strictures and his heart-warming praise. Good bye and good luck to all of you.

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

May 25, 1946 Vol. III, No. 8

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The week of politics just passed seemed more or less a lull while the parties girded their loins for their final pre-election efforts in the next few days before the June 2 balloting. Charges and counter-charges of attempts at intimidation, plots to overthrow the state—depending on who won the elections, accusations that the Monarchists were tampering with the Navy or that the Communists were allegedly subverting the loyalty of the Army, filled the party newspapers. Minister of Interior Romita held numerous conferences on the state of public order, with which he declared himself satisfied.

May 24, the date of Italy's entry into World War I, was celebrated in Rome fairly quietly. General Bencivenga (Monarchist) spoke at Piazza del Popolo while the Council of Ministers led by Prime Minister De Gasperi paid tribute at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Gasparotto doing the oratorical honors. Much of the Piazza del Popolo crowd later made its way to the Quirinal where it cheered King Umberto II and brawled a bit with the police, nearly 40 persons, mostly youngsters, being arrested and later released after severe reprimands.

The Monarchist press, led by *Italia Nuova*, made hay of the apparent electoral initiative being shown by the King who made surprise visits to Sardinia (the 19th), Naples (the 20th) and Turin (the 22nd). In Naples the republicans organized a counter-demonstration the day after the King left while the Leftist papers in general, *Unità* in particular, loudly deprecated whatever significance the King's movements may have had. Early in the week, too, was published King Victor Emanuel's farewell abdication letter to his son, Umberto, in which he said that he "always intended to serve the interests of the nation, although sometimes I might have been mistaken".

*Messaggero* discussed future developments after the elections, saying that the new *Costituente* will meet for the first time on June 24 to elect its president, who will address the assembly on the next day. If the republicans win the referendum, the 26th will be devoted to choosing a provisional head of the State, which will take some time. If the monarchy wins, the assembly will proceed at once to studying a new constitution. The *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican organ, also this week published the declarations of the Umbrian and Calabrian episcopates on the elections which were quoted as prohibiting any adherence by Catholics "to ideologies condemned by the Church, such as those inspired by Marxism, notwithstanding their much-claimed respect for religion".

De Gasperi gave the United Press an interview in which he suggested placing the Trieste dispute before the United Nations and denounced what he termed French and Austrian attempts to transform "minor frontier rectifications" (as approved in principle by the Big Four Foreign Ministers) into large territorial annexations. He stressed again that no Italian Government could stand which signed a treaty giving up Italian rights in Venezia Giulia including Pola, Rovigno and other towns "which are more Italian than Trieste itself". It is expected that De Gasperi will go to Paris again to present Italy's case on Austrian and French claims.

The Council of Ministers, which met twice on the 23rd, of course, had its fingers in all the pies. Nenni voiced concern over possible infringement of Italian rights in allowing TWA to help in setting up Italian internal air lines. The recent seizure of Italian fishing boats by the Yugoslavs was discussed. A spirited exchange took place over the presence of alleged "action squads" of some parties in Milan, De Gasperi asking if it were true and pointing out that private elements should not be allowed to interfere with the action of the State organizations in matters of public order. Nenni and Togliatti responded that most likely such squads were only used to support the action of the Government to make restoration of public order speedier. After a debate led off by Cattani for a Government declaration on the

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



matter, the Council passed the following resolution, which reads in part:

"The Council of Ministers, recalling that the (Election) Law which was approved by the *Consulta*, passed by the Council of Ministers itself, and confirmed and promulgated by the Head of the State, pledges everybody to respect the result of the popular referendum; reaffirms its decision with the utmost energy and objectivity so that the voting may be carried out in an atmosphere of liberty, and under the full authority of the State, which alone has the task and the right to safeguard public order which is its exclusive responsibility. The Government, therefore, intends to prevent and repress any intimidation or violence and to impede any possible attempt to prepare or to constitute any armed party organization, and appeals to the parties and the press to support its efforts to instill in the people the sense of responsibility and self-discipline which they proved to have during the recent administrative elections".

The Council also approved a declaration of confidence in the armed forces in which it also warned against illegal partisan activity. Finally, decrees were also approved for the periodical increase of wages for temporary State employes, abrogation of Fascist rules concerning magistrates, increasing by 20 billion lire the economic rehabilitation fund and putting Partisans on the same civil footing as persons who volunteered for the War of Liberation (against Germany).

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Italian grain situation remains extremely grave. Press reports that the bread ration will be cut or will not be cut succeed each other devastatingly. As we are informed by Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B), director of the Food and Agriculture Branch, from his UNRRA sources, the position is as follows: The danger period looks to be the first half of June. On June 1, the estimated stock position is expected to be 40,600 tons. This includes the special amassing results (whose goal is 68,500, set by the Italian Government, instead of the 150,000 tons originally recommended by UNRRA). In the period from May 1 to May 20 inclusive, the special drive brought in some 18,000 tons or nearly 27 per cent. of the target. (Rice amassed under the same program brought in 9,300 tons up to May 18.) The May special grain amassing expectation is 24,000 tons. In June 150,000 tons are expected to arrive from ships loaded in May but nearly 100,000 tons of this is Argentine wheat whose actual delivery to Italian ports may occur very late in June. Consumption in May is figured at 9,000 tons a day or 279,000 for the month. But the first week of Junew ill find the cupboard quite bare in several regions.

Col. H. R. Walker (A), director of the Industry and Utilities Branch, gives us more hopeful news from his UNRRA pipelines. Through assidnous scrounging for the month of June, it is estimated that as much as 336,000 tons of coal will arrive in Italy from all sources and despite the recent coal strike in the States. This includes 133,000 tons from the Ruhr, 18,000 from South Africa, 36,000 from the U. K., 94,000 from the U. S., 32,600 from the Persian Gulf and 33,000 for British military use, from which stocks some is usually left over for civilian use. Col. Walker also reports that the POL situation is better, there being a 60-day reserve in all except diesel oil.

The Mixed Advisory Committee on Italian International Trade held its third meeting this week and is going through the ritual of setting up procedures and plans. The committee is composed of Italian Government, American Embassy, British Embassy, UNRRA and Allied Commission representatives and in a measure takes the place of the once-suggested Tri-partite Economic Council (of Italy, U. S. and the U. K.) as an instrument for spurring Italian foreign trade. The importation of sugar was considered, among other matters, at this last meeting, there being available 20,000 tons in Switzerland. The problem is to get allocation authority from the Combined Food Board.

In the general expediting of the distribution of imported supplies undertaken by A. C., Brigadier Matthew Carr, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, reports on a plan which should solve the difficulty in medical supplies if applied with dispatch. The plan envisages (1) immediate credits to needy hospitals (for which the Italian Treasury will advance 200 million lire), (2) a request to all provinces to submit hospital medical supply needs at once, 3) listing of the needs of welfare and benefical societies which supply drugs to an estimated 18,000,000 workers, and (4) a promise to put all that remains at the disposal of public drug stores. The priorities of reception are in the order just stated. All ENDIMEA warehouses, it is hoped, will be emptied of their supplies by December, 1946, the date being thus fixed to allow Italian drug production to get going first. Anent the same general subject, Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of the Italian UNRRA Mission, points out that the approximately 50,000 tons of imported fertilizer referred to in *Bulletin* No. 5

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



consisted of stuff imported on AC-FEA or Italian Government account, since the first UNRRA imports of fertilizer (240 tons of ammonium nitrate) did not arrive in Italy until April 30.

There are various odd pieces of news: The Italian trawler *Aringa* got into port recently with 50 tons of refrigerated fish caught off West Africa. Lieut. Col. F. W. Tooby (B) is back from LIAP and at work on Economic Section Special Projects. Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), CLO in Venezie, reports that the average cost of living for a family of three in his area is 18,000 lire a month. Free and black market prices in representative Italian cities, as of May 19, are reported as follows from sources tapped by Col. Cowper's Food and Agriculture staff:

*White bread* – 175 lire a kilo in Rome, 190 in Palermo, 120 in Florence, 160 in Naples and 140 in Milan; *white pasta* – 230 in Rome, 150 Palermo, 160 Florence, 145 Naples and 170 Milan; *olive oil* – 450 Rome, 330 Palermo, 800 Florence, 450 Naples, 630 Milan; *sugar* – 1,300 Rome, 1,100 Palermo, 1,200 Florence, 1,300 Naples, 1,300 Milan; *butter* – 700 Rome, 700 Palermo, 850 Florence, 750 Naples, 660 Milan; *eggs* – 18 lire each in Rome, 15 Palermo, 14 Florence, 20 Naples, 15 Milan.

## ELECTION NOTES

With eight days to go before the climacteric national elections of Italy's new political era, it is of interest to report several developments in the preparations for the voting, as given to us by Major Ralph R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, who is keeping constant liaison with the Ministry of Interior in order to be kept completely informed. Here are the latest available facts on various points:

POWs – With repatriation of POWs proceeding at an accelerated rate, the problem of insuring that the returnees get their vote has been preoccupying the authorities. POWs, we are told, are in the same position as any resident Italian since electors' lists are based on the permanent population registers in which the name of all Italians, including POWs, are inscribed at birth and which remain there until the resident himself gives notice of a permanent change of residence. Relatives of POWs looked after their interests in many cases. Thus, theoretically a POW *should* find his name on the rolls of his place of birth or last place or town of permanent residence but actually may often not succeed because of destroyed, damaged or improperly kept registers. Now, however, all the electoral lists are closed, and for obvious reasons of getting ready for the elections, it may be too late to do anything about getting unregistered POWs on the electoral lists. Even those returned POWs who were on registers and were therefore listed on the electoral rolls had better make sure to call for their certificates since many could not be found at their pre-war place of residence when the town messenger called. Town halls will stay open from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. every day up to and including election day so that anyone can call and obtain his voting certificate.

Military Personnel – Active members of the Italian armed forces are also having their own difficulties on the same subject, about which steps are being taken. Under the law, military commanders were required to apply to the sindacos of their soldiers' towns. This requirement was fulfilled quite carefully by the commanders. However, in many cases the sindacos replied that the soldier in question was not on the lists, for which there are several cogent reasons: many soldiers, sailors and airmen have been serving with the armed forces for years and have been out of touch with their native towns or their hometown records were lost or their homes destroyed and families moved. Remedies have been fashioned by allowing such cases to be registered in communes where they are stationed after having affidavits filed by the commanders where soldiers were unregistered through no fault of their own. In this manner some 13,000 such soldiers were inscribed on the electoral rolls in Rome alone by 18 May when the additional lists were closed. The same procedure has applied in Naples and other Italian cities. Military commanders have been instructed to handle the matter through the prefects of the provinces. The Ministries of War, Marine and Air are all cooperating.

Protection Arrangements – The Electoral Service of the Ministry of Interior plans to have at least four guards at each polling place no matter how many polling places are located in the same building. Two of the four guards will be Carabinieri and Agents of Public Security and the other two will be drawn from forest guards, finance guards, fire brigade, municipal police and troops. Arrangements have been made with the Ministry of War to obtain the service of several thousand troops. Further, each political party has the right to appoint two "representatives of the list" or polling agents for each station, who are the only civilians allowed to approach the polling stations during the nights of June 1-2 and 2-3 when the stations will be under guard with their stores of ballots. After the polls close, the

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



police and troops will be regrouped to form escorts for the convoy of the ballots to the nearest Tribunale, thence to the Central Office of the constituency and again lastly to the Court of Cassation in Rome.

DELIVERY OF ELECTORAL CERTIFICATES – In Naples, there were some 60,000 certificates undelivered as of 14 May. Out of the 547,133 electoral certificates in that city, 155,133 had been undelivered by 2 May. Many had been so because of the negligence of messengers, several since punished. Further, 12,000 were found to be those of prisoners or deceased persons. In Rome by 2 May there were 256,000 certificates not delivered. However, by 14 May, nearly 80,000 had been called for at the big electoral office in Via Nazionale. Other deliveries will be made following checks of tax records and food cards being made to trace owners of certificates still not called for. Another difficulty was the assignment of voters to sections distant from their residence which, however, had been adjusted in part by a sindacal manifesto allowing complainants to apply for rectification, though when the names of the 960,000 registered electors of Rome were publicly posted for inspection and complaint in February, only 123 appeals were made then by voters against their assignment to distant voting sections. The original errors in mal-assignments had been made, it was explained, because Rome registers were woefully out-of-date because of the lack of adequate quarters for polling stations in many parts of the city and because of the distribution at random and without plan of voters' names to sections several kilometers away.

NATIONAL CONSTITUENCY – Under the Italian proportional system of voting and counting ballots, there is a national college or constituency where unused votes and seats are proportionally redistributed. The business works as follows: There are 32 constituencies. All will vote except none of Venezia Giulia and only Trento Province in the Alto Adige constituency, Bolzano not being ready to vote. There are 573 seats to be contested among the 30 ½ election districts and the seats assigned by law to each district are distributed among the contending parties in proportion to votes gained. The arithmetic of this proportional representation, however, often results in not filling every one of the seats assigned to the election district and in leaving a certain number of unused votes, as remainders left over from long division. These unfilled seats and the unused votes revert to the national constituency. The votes then are distributed among the parties who have registered for the national constituency, the unused party votes from the field going to party candidates in the national college. Eleven parties have registered for the national college – Communists, Unionist Movement, Uomo Qualunque, Republicans, Social Christians, Christian Democrats, Socialists, Democratic Republican Concentration, Action, National Democratic Union and National Bloc of Liberty. The candidates on the national constituency lists must have already been nominated for seats in the field but if elected on the national ticket must give up their local seat. All the well-known political leaders of Italy are represented on the national ticket except Prime Minister De Gasperi who is a candidate in Trento, his birthplace. In the national lists, each party has listed its candidates numerically in order of preference and the proportion of unused party votes accruing from the field will thus go to each national candidate in the order of his listing.

INSTRUCTIONS TO A. C. LIAISON OFFICERS – Observation of the national elections by Allied Commission liaison officers in the field will follow the same lines taken at the administrative elections, according to a directive sent out by the Civil Affairs Section. The A. C. officers will report on law and order, any unusual incidents, how the proceedings went, whether many electors had to apply to the town Municipio for their electoral certificates on voting day, whether there was any electioneering within 200 meters of a polling station (which is prohibited by law), guarding of the ballot boxes, etc. A. C. officers MUST NOT ENTER polling stations. Officers of the Local Government Sub-Commission will observe elections in Rome, Milan and Naples.

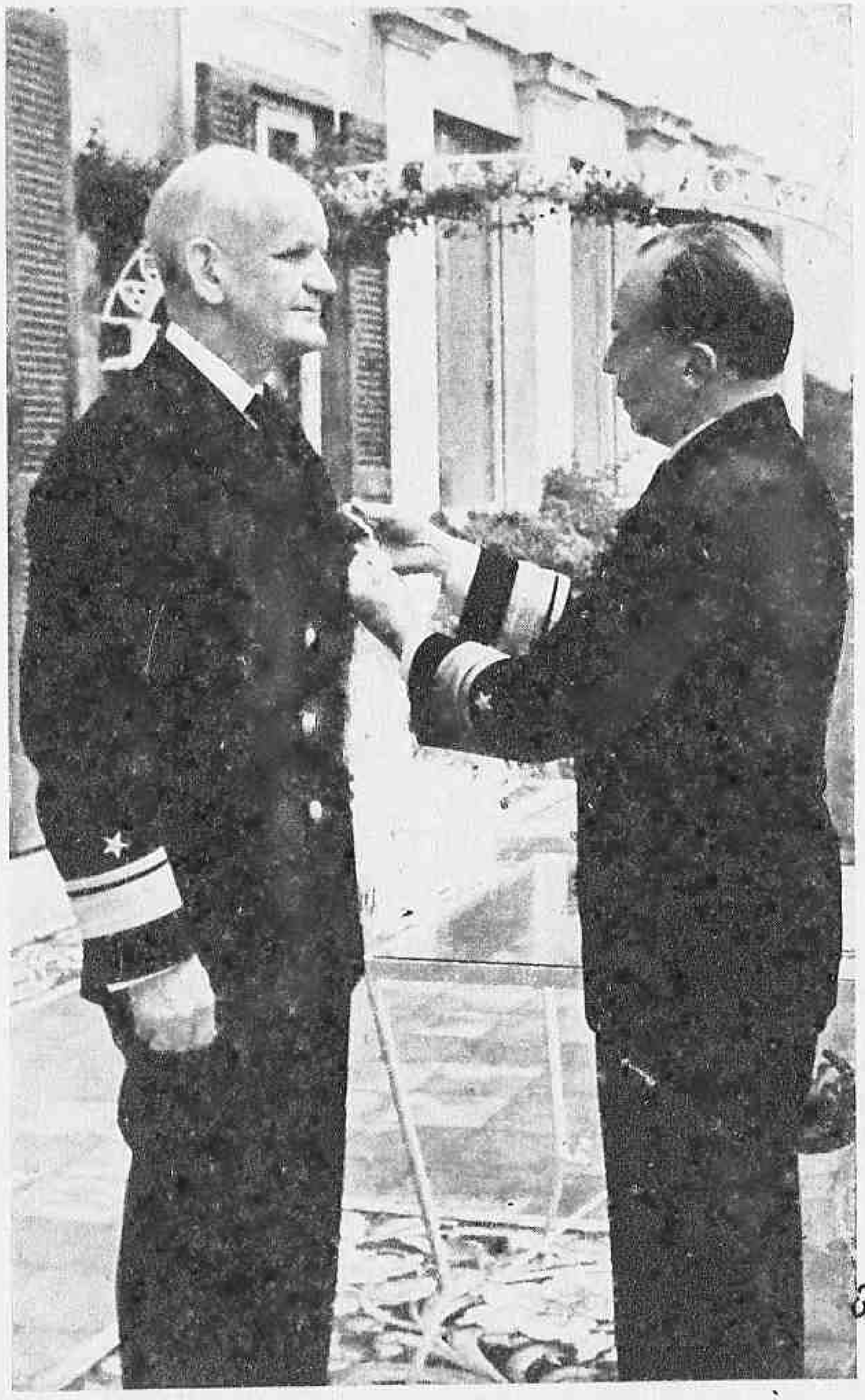
## THE "OLD MAN" SCORES AGAIN

Feeling almost as if we were sharing in the kudos, we are proud to report that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, has been awarded the United States Navy Distinguished Service Medal, which, as is only natural, must be dear to his heart, coming from his own service. He received the United States Army Distinguished Service Medal last fall.

The Admiral was decorated with the prized honor by Rear Admiral Jules James, Commander, United States Naval Forces, Mediterranean, in a ceremony yesterday (May 24) at Villa Emma in Naples, famed as the abode in the Napoleonic era of Lord Nelson's Lady Hamilton and incidentally, the scene of a previous ceremony last year when the Admiral got the C. B. E. from the British Government.

1133

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



Rear Admiral Emory W. Stone, USNR, receiving the United States Navy Distinguished Service Medal from Rear Admiral Jules James, USN, Commander, United States Naval Forces, Mediterranean, at Naples yesterday.

391

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



The document from the U. S. Secretary of Navy accompanying the award reads as follows:

"The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the *Distinguished Service Medal* to

REAR ADMIRAL ELLERY WHEELER STONE
UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following

*Citation:*

'For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission for Italy, and Chief Civil Affairs Officer of Occupied Territory under Allied Military Government in Italy from May 1, 1945, to May 1, 1946. Assuming full executive responsibility for the activities of the Allied Commission in connection with all relations with the government of Italy, the interpretation and execution of the surrender terms between the Allied Nations and the Italian government, Rear Admiral Stone also served with distinction in supervising the many involved aspects of civil affairs within those parts of Italy under Allied Military Government. Called upon to coordinate the activities of various nations, to face and solve the most difficult political problems and to represent the Allied Nations before the Italian people, he displayed the highest qualities of intelligence, tact, administrative ability, sound judgment, broad vision, exceptional energy and diplomatic skill. As a result of his wise leadership and his keen understanding of the varied problems confronting him, the relations between the Allied Nations and the government of Italy have steadily progressed toward a satisfactory conclusion. His distinguished service in the fulfillment of a mission of international importance reflects the highest credit upon Rear Admiral Stone and the United States Naval Service.'

For the President,
(*Sd.*) JAMES FORRESTAL,
*Secretary of the Navy.*"

*P. S.* — Last night the "Old Man" was wearing his Navy DSM *before* his Army one. He insisted it was Navy regulations but we had our own mind about it—and we don't blame him.

## DISPLACED PERSONS

After many months of endeavor to unite all the Displaced Persons in Italy under the care of UNRRA, the pendulum has now been swung to top speed in reverse. Some 12,000 DPs whom UNRRA took over from Allied Commission in January and February of this year have been found outside the UNRRA Charter and are being thrown back into the arms of the very depleted A. C. Displaced Persons Sub-Commission to hold them until some other organization can be found to take care of them.

Fortunately for D.P.R.S.C. some of the former camp staff, and more especially, it is hoped, the British Red Cross Welfare Section, are comig back also. To those who do not realize the devotion of the Welfare worker to the Displaced Persons in their care, the letters and requests received by Headquarters D. P. R. S. C. and the British Red Cross would seem strange but very pleasing in this somewhat money-minded post-war world. The hope is to get the DPs to go home to their own kindred and countries and to see those who, unfortunately, have too strong political ideas to go home, well on their way to resettlement in other lands beyond the seas.

As to UNRRA's Charter, it is somewhat difficult for many to comprehend, but it involves a dead-line and unfortunately many of the DPs now in Italy did not enter this country until after the 2 May 1945, the date of the German surrender, which is the period covered by the UNRRA Charter. For those of Jewish faith who have suffered so much, no such date exists.

Thus our sub-commission, whose W/E at present calls for administration of only five camps, with about 4,000 inhabitants, must now take over about 10 others, with the 12,000 UNRRA "unacceptables", plus two Polish camps with 7,000 Poles at Barletta-Trani which were also slated for UNRRA. This means a load of about 29,000 refugee DPs in 15 camps again under A. C. By fast action, Col. C. B. Findlay, the director, got military commanders back into all the camps by last Saturday.

This is not all of the strange story. The DPRSC has been having a devil of a time getting supplies and stores even before the new old load returned. Col. Findlay has been getting materials from the Italian Government that had been turned over by the Allied Commission from captured enemy goods. This and the whole problem of the DPs was throughly discussed with several DP representatives last week in a conference called by the Executive Commissioner to try to set some pattern whereby individual countries possibly might make a start on the solution of this vexing international problem.

We might add a postscript on the sub-commission's adventures with the repatriation of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



Italians to Tripolitania. Many Italians left Tripolitania for Italy prior to Italy's entering the war. Of these persons the largest group consisted of children sent to Italy to be educated in the purest Fascist Educational methods. These children whose return to Tripoli was asked for, because of the length of the war, have become adult persons. Of these so-called children, 1,671 have been returned in four groups between August 1945 and April 1946.

On humanitarian grounds BMA in Tripoli agreed to accept back certain compassionate cases and the head of the family if a breadwinner. Under this category 100 persons have returned. At present no movement to Tripoli is permitted and some 800 Italians under the breadwinner scheme are held up, not to mention the "children".

Actual natives of Tripoli have been repatriated between August 1945 and April 1946 as follows: 250 Lybian Jews and 45 Arabs.

## AWARDS

After recording the award of many Italian decorations to American personnel, we are happy to report that several officers and men of the Italian Army have been awarded American decorations. On a recent tour of Northern and Central Italy Colonel Clayton P. Kerr, Senior American Officer with Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMLA), presented awards at impressive ceremonies in the cities of Turin, Novara, Bolzano and Florence.

The awards given on this tour are as follows: *Distinguished Service Cross* – Lieut. Col. Giuseppe Izzo; *Silver Star* – Lt. Michele Pericoli and Mar. Nicola di Lella; *Bronze Star* – Lieutenants Carlo Casati (posthumous), Silvestro de Simone, Vincenzo Rosato, Oberdan Ruggi and Omero Scaroni, and Sergeants Emanuele Anedda and Egidio Turrini.

At a ceremony which took place this morning at the Regina Margherita Barracks, Rome, Col. Kerr also awarded *Bronze Stars* to Colonel Canani Berni, who "as Commanding Officer of the 20th Italian Pack Mule Group rendered outstanding services in support of the Fifth Army from April 1944 to May 1945", and to WO II Cesare Simoni, of the San Marco Regiment of Marines, and Private Luigi Palazzo, of the Cremona Infantry Group, both for heroic service in action.

American officers of the Navy Sub-Commission were also honored this morning when they received Italian decorations from His Majesty King Humbert II at a ceremony held in the Quirinal Palace. These awards are as follows: Commodore H. W. Ziroli, Deputy Chief, *Grand Cross, Crown of Italy;* Captain G. F. Mentz, Chief Staff Officer, *Knight Officer, Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus;* Commander W. F. Bahlman, Admin. Officer, and Lieut. Commander J. C. Risk, Liaison Officer, *Knight Officer, Crown of Italy;* and Lieut. A. R. Conklin, Aide to Commodore Ziroli, *Knight, Crown of Italy.*

Other awards announced are: *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* – (*Commander*) Col. Henry M. Walker; (*Knight*) Lieut. Col. Lloyd W. Stearns. *Italian Cross of War Merit* – Sgt. Samuel Salinsky. *Crown of Italy* – (*Knight Officer*) Major C. C. Craig and Capt. Michael Tor; (*Knight*) Captains Almond M. Allyn, Frederick C. Barr and William W. Sampson, and Lieutenants W. Haase and Frank N. Spencer.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Green (B) has been named CLO in Piemonte... Col. C. M. Parkin, former CO of 2675th Regiment and now with G-5, was looking over the Regiment this week as to how WD civilian employes could replace officers and men... Major Joseph C. Rively (A) has succeeded Lieut. Col. Lloyd W. Stearns as CSO to the CC... Col. C. P. Kerr (A), deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, has just returned from a 17-day swing through the North where he inspected Italian Army installations; he reports quiet and order, the troops confident of being able to handle any matters of public safety, the combat divisions in peak trim but the territorial regiments, except those stationed in Milan and Turin, rather less up to snuff... Up to 19 May, the month saw 23,235 POWs return to Italy from Britain, Land Forces S.C. reveals... We are in receipt of a chatty note from L/Cpl. J. Munro stationed with Lieut. Col. A. H. Gardner (B) at Tenda in Piemonte, 3,000 feet up in the Alps near the French border, from which we lift the following tidbits: the nearest Allied troops are 145 kilometers away; the nearest bath (for H & C) is in Cuneo, 45 kms. away; for relaxation, the team goes, when transport is available, to the nearest Italian movie 30 miles distant or to a dance in Tenda once a week or plays billiards with the *Sindaco* or other local notables, for which play the Tenda press, saith our deponent, has given rave notices; lastly, there are always the mountains where the streams quiver with trout and there are paths to stroll and sheep and goats to talk to...

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

May 25, 1946 Vol. III, No. 8

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The week of politics just passed seemed more or less a lull while the parties girded their loins for their final pre-election efforts in the next few days before the June 2 balloting. Charges and counter-charges of attempts at intimidation, plots to overthrow the state—depending on who won the elections, accusations that the Monarchists were tampering with the Navy or that the Communists were allegedly subverting the loyalty of the Army, filled the party newspapers. Minister of Interior Romita held numerous conferences on the state of public order, with which he declared himself satisfied.

May 24, the date of Italy's entry into World War I, was celebrated in Rome fairly quietly. General Bencivenga (Monarchist) spoke at Piazza del Popolo while the Council of Ministers led by Prime Minister De Gasperi paid tribute at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Gasparotto doing the oratorical honors. Much of the Piazza del Popolo crowd later made its way to the Quirinal where it cheered King Umberto II and brawled a bit with the police, nearly 10 persons, mostly youngsters, being arrested and later released after severe reprimands.

The Monarchist press, led by *Italia Nuova*, made hay of the apparent electoral initiative being shown by the King who made surprise visits to Sardinia (the 19th), Naples (the 20th) and Turin (the 22nd). In Naples the republicans organized a counter-demonstration the day after the King left while the leftist papers in general, *Unità* in particular, loudly deprecated whatever significance the King's movements may have had. Early in the week, too, was published King Victor Emanuel's farewell abdication letter to his son, Umberto, in which he said that he "always intended to serve the interests of the nation, although sometimes I might have been mistaken".

*Messaggero* discussed future developments after the elections, saying that the new *Costituente* will meet for the first time on June 24 to elect its president, who will address the assembly on the next day. If the republicans win the referendum, the 26th will be devoted to choosing a provisional head of the State, which will take some time. If the monarchy wins, the assembly will proceed at once to studyung a new constitution. The *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican organ, also this week published the declarations of the Umbrian and Calabrian episcopates on the elections which were quoted as prohibiting any adherence by Catholics " to ideologies condemned by the Church, such as those inspired by Marxism, notwithstanding their much-claimed respect for religion ".

De Gasperi gave the United Press an interview in which he suggested placing the Trieste dispute before the United Nations and denounced what he termed French and Austrian attempts to transform " minor frontier rectifications " (as approved in principle by the Big Four Foreign Ministers) into large territorial annexations. He stressed again that no Italian Government could stand which signed a treaty giving up Italian rights in Venezia Giulia including Pola, Rovigno and other towns " which are more Italian than Trieste itself". It is expected that De Gasperi will go to Paris again to present Italy's case on Austrian and French claims.

The Council of Ministers, which met twice on the 23rd, of course, had its fingers in all the pies. Nenni voiced concern over possible infringement of Italian rights in allowing TWA to help in setting up Italian internal air lines. The recent seizure of Italian fishing boats by the Yugoslavs was discussed. A spirited exchange took place over the presence of alleged "action squads" of some parties in Milan, De Gasperi asking if it were true and pointing out that private elements should not be allowed to interfere with the action of the State organizations in matters of public order. Nenni and Togliatti responded that most likely such squads were only used to support the action of the Government to make restoration of public order speedier. After a debate led off by Cattani for a Government declaration on the

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



matter, the Council passed the following resolution, which reads in part:

"The Council of Ministers, recalling that the (Election) Law which was approved by the *Consulta*, passed by the Council of Ministers itself, and confirmed and promulgated by the Head of the State, pledges everybody to respect the result of the popular referendum; reaffirms its decision with the utmost energy and objectivity so that the voting may be carried out in an atmosphere of liberty and under the full authority of the State, which alone has the task and the right to safeguard public order which is its exclusive responsibility. The Government, therefore, intends to prevent and repress any intimidation or violence and to impede any possible attempt to prepare or to constitute any armed party organization, and appeals to the parties and the press to support its efforts to instill in the people the sense of responsibility and self-discipline which they proved to have during the recent administrative elections".

The Council also approved a declaration of confidence in the armed forces in which it also warned against illegal partisan activity. Finally, decrees were also approved for the periodical increase of wages for temporary State employes, abrogation of Fascist rules concerning magistrates, increasing by 20 billion lire the economic rehabilitation fund and putting Partisans on the same civil footing as persons who volunteered for the War of Liberation (against Germany).

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Italian grain situation remains extremely grave. Press reports that the bread ration will be cut or will not be cut succeed each other devastatingly. As we are informed by Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B), director of the Food and Agriculture Branch, from his UNRRA sources, the position is as follows: The danger period looks to be the first half of June. On June 1, the estimated stock position is expected to be 40,600 tons. This includes the special amassing results (whose goal is 68,500, set by the Italian Government, instead of the 150,000 tons originally recommended by UNRRA). In the period from May 1 to May 20 inclusive, the special drive brought in some 18,000 tons or nearly 27 per cent. of the target. (Rice amassed under the same program brought in 9,300 tons up to May 18.) The May special grain amassing expectation is 24,000 tons. In June 150,000 tons are expected to arrive from ships loaded in May but nearly 100,000 tons of this is Argentine wheat whose actual delivery to Italian ports may occur very late in June. Consumption in May is figured at 9,000 tons a day or 279,000 for the month. But the first week of Junew ill find the cupboard quite bare in several regions.

Col. H. R. Walker (A), director of the Industry and Utilities Branch, gives us more hopeful news from his UNRRA pipelines. Through assiduous scrounging for the month of June, it is estimated that as much as 336,000 tons of coal will arrive in Italy from all sources and despite the recent coal strike in the States. This includes 133,000 tons from the Ruhr, 18,000 from South Africa, 36,000 from the U. K., 94,000 from the U. S., 32,000 from the Persian Gulf and 33,000 for British military use, from which stocks some is usually left over for civilian use. Col. Walker also reports that the POL situation is better, there being a 60-day reserve in all except diesel oil.

The Mixed Advisory Committee on Italian International Trade held its third meeting this week and is going through the ritual of setting up procedures and plans. The committee is composed of Italian Government, American Embassy, British Embassy, UNRRA and Allied Commission representatives and in a measure takes the place of the once-suggested Tri-partite Economic Council (of Italy, U. S. and the U. K.) as an instrument for spurring Italian foreign trade. The importation of sugar was considered, among other matters, at this last meeting, there being available 20,000 tons in Switzerland. The problem is to get allocation authority from the Combined Food Board.

In the general expediting of the distribution of imported supplies undertaken by A. C., Brigadier Matthew Carr, vice president of the Civil Affairs Section, reports on a plan which should solve the difficulty in medical supplies if applied with dispatch. The plan envisages (1) immediate credits to needy hospitals (for which the Italian Treasury will advance 200 million lire), (2) a request to all provinces to submit hospital medical supply needs at once, (3) listing of the needs of welfare and beneficial societies which supply drugs to an estimated 18,000,000 workers, and (4) a promise to put all that remains at the disposal of public drug stores. The priorities of reception are in the order just stated. All ENDIMEA warehouses, it is hoped, will be emptied of their supplies by December, 1946, the date being thus fixed to allow Italian drug production to get going first. Anent the same general subject, Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of the Italian UNRRA Mission, points out that the approximately 50,000 tons of imported fertilizer referred to in *Bulletin* No. 5

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



consisted of stuff imported on AC-FEA or Italian Government account, since the first UNRRA imports of fertilizer (240 tons of ammonium nitrate) did not arrive in Italy until April 30.

There are various odd pieces of news: The Italian trawler *Aringa* got into port recently with 50 tons of refrigerated fish caught off West Africa. Lieut. Col. F. W. Tooby (B) is back from LIAP and at work on Economic Section Special Projects. Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), CLO in Venezie, reports that the average cost of living for a family of three in his area is 18,000 lire a month. Free and black market prices in representative Italian cities, as of May 19, are reported as follows from sources tapped by Col. Cowper's Food and Agriculture staff:

*White bread* – 175 lire a kilo in Rome, 190 in Palermo, 120 in Florence, 160 in Naples and 140 in Milan; *white pasta* – 230 in Rome, 150 Palermo, 160 Florence, 145 Naples and 170 Milan; *olive oil* – 450 Rome, 330 Palermo, 800 Florence, 450 Naples, 630 Milan; *sugar* – 1,300 Rome, 1,100 Palermo, 1,200 Florence, 1,300 Naples, 1,300 Milan; *butter* – 700 Rome, 700 Palermo, 850 Florence, 750 Naples, 660 Milan; *eggs* – 18 lire each in Rome, 15 Palermo, 14 Florence, 20 Naples, 15 Milan.

## ELECTION NOTES

With eight days to go before the climacteric national elections of Italy's new political era, it is of interest to report several developments in the preparations for the voting, as given to us by Major Ralph R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, who is keeping constant liaison with the Ministry of Interior in order to be kept completely informed. Here are the latest available facts on various points:

POWs – With repatriation of POWs proceeding at an accelerated rate, the problem of insuring that the returnees get their vote has been preoccupying the authorities. POWs, we are told, are in the same position as any resident Italian since electors' lists are based on the permanent population registers in which the name of all Italians, including POWs, are inscribed at birth and which remain there until the resident himself gives notice of a permanent change of residence. Relatives of POWs looked after their interests in many cases. Thus, theoretically a POW *should* find his name on the rolls of his place of birth or last place or town of permanent residence but actually may often not succeed because of destroyed, damaged or improperly kept registers. Now, however, all the electoral lists are closed, and for obvious reasons of getting ready for the elections, it may be too late to do anything about getting unregistered POWs on the electoral lists. Even those returned POWs who were on registers and were therefore listed on the electoral rolls had better make sure to call for their certificates since many could not be found at their pre-war place of residence when the town messenger called. Town halls will stay open from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. every day up to and including election day so that anyone can call and obtain his voting certificate.

Military Personnel – Active members of the Italian armed forces are also having their own difficulties on the same subject, about which steps are being taken. Under the law, military commanders were required to apply to the sindacos of their soldiers' towns. This requirement was fulfilled quite carefully by the commanders. However, in many cases the sindacos replied that the soldier in question was not on the lists, for which there are several cogent reasons: many soldiers, sailors and airmen have been serving with the armed forces for years and have been out of touch with their native towns or their hometown records were lost or their homes destroyed and families moved. Remedies have been fashioned by allowing such cases to be registered in communes where they are stationed after having affidavits filed by the commanders where soldiers were unregistered through no fault of their own. In this manner some 13,000 such soldiers were inscribed on the electoral rolls in Rome alone by 18 May when the additional lists were closed. The same procedure has applied in Naples and other Italian cities. Military commanders have been instructed to handle the matter through the prefects of the provinces. The Ministries of War, Marine and Air are all cooperating.

Protection Arrangements – The Electoral Service of the Ministry of Interior plans to have at least four guards at each polling place no matter how many polling places are located in the same building. Two of the four guards will be Carabinieri and Agents of Public Security and the other two will be drawn from forest guards, finance guards, fire brigade, municipal police and troops. Arrangements have been made with the Ministry of War to obtain the service of several thousand troops. Further, each political party has the right to appoint two "representatives of the list" or polling agents for each station, who are the only civilians allowed to approach the polling stations during the nights of June 1-2 and 2-3 when the stations will be under guard with their stores of ballots. After the polls close, the

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



police and troops will be regrouped to form escorts for the convoy of the ballots to the nearest Tribunale, thence to the Central Office of the constituency and again lastly to the Court of Cassation in Rome.

DELIVERY OF ELECTORAL CERTIFICATES – In Naples, there were some 60,000 certificates undelivered as of 14 May. Out of the 547,133 electoral certificates in that city, 155,133 had been undelivered by 2 May. Many had been so because of the negligence of messengers, several since punished. Further, 12,000 were found to be those of prisoners or deceased persons. In Rome by 2 May there were 256,000 certificates not delivered. However, by 14 May, nearly 80,000 had been called for at the big electoral office in Via Nazionale. Other deliveries will be made following checks of tax records and food cards being made to trace owners of certificates still not called for. Another difficulty was the assignment of voters to sections distant from their residence which, however, had been adjusted in part by a sindacal manifesto allowing complainants to apply for rectification, though when the names of the 960,000 registered electors of Rome were publicly posted for inspection and complaint in February, only 123 appeals were made then by voters against their assignment to distant voting sections. The original errors in mal-assignments had been made, it was explained, because Rome registers were woefully out-of-date because of the lack of adequate quarters for polling stations in many parts of the city and because of the distribution at random and without plan of voters' names to sections several kilometers away.

NATIONAL CONSTITUENCY – Under the Italian proportional system of voting and counting ballots, there is a national college or constituency where unused votes and seats are proportionally redistributed. The business works as follows: There are 32 constituencies. All will vote except none of Venezia Giulia and only Trento Province in the Alto Adige constituency, Bolzano not being ready to vote. There are 573 seats to be contested among the 30 ½ election districts and the seats assigned by law to each district are distributed among the contending parties in proportion to votes gained. The arithmetic of this proportional representation, however, often results in not filling every one of the seats assigned to the election district and in leaving a certain number of unused votes, as remainders left over from long division. These unfilled seats and the unused votes revert to the national constituency. The votes then are distributed among the parties who have registered for the national constituency, the unused party votes from the field going to party candidates in the national college. Eleven parties have registered for the national college – Communists, Unionist Movement, Uomo Qualunque, Republicans, Social Christians, Christian Democrats, Socialists, Democratic Republican Concentration, Action, National Democratic Union and National Bloc of Liberty. The candidates on the national constituency lists must have already been nominated for seats in the field but if elected on the national ticket must give up their local seat. All the well-known political leaders of Italy are represented on the national ticket except Prime Minister De Gasperi who is a candidate in Trento, his birthplace. In the national lists, each party has listed its candidates numerically in order of preference and the proportion of unused party votes accruing from the field will thus go to each national candidate in the order of his listing.

INSTRUCTIONS TO A. C. LIAISON OFFICERS – Observation of the national elections by Allied Commission liaison officers in the field will follow the same lines taken at the administrative elections, according to a directive sent out by the Civil Affairs Section. The A. C. officers will report on law and order, any unusual incidents, how the proceedings went, whether many electors had to apply to the town Municipio for their electoral certificates on voting day, whether there was any electioneering within 200 meters of a polling station (which is prohibited by law), guarding of the ballot boxes, etc. A. C. officers MUST NOT ENTER polling stations. Officers of the Local Government Sub-Commission will observe elections in Rome, Milan and Naples.

## THE "OLD MAN" SCORES AGAIN

Feeling almost as if we were sharing in the kudos, we are proud to report that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, has been awarded the United States Navy Distinguished Service Medal, which, as is only natural, must be dear to his heart, coming from his own service. He received the United States Army Distinguished Service Medal last fall.

The Admiral was decorated with the prized honor by Rear Admiral Jules James, Commander, United States Naval Forces, Mediterranean, in a ceremony yesterday (May 24) at Villa Emma in Naples, famed as the abode in the Napoleonic era of Lord Nelson's Lady Hamilton and incidentally, the scene of a previous ceremony last year when the Admiral got the C. B. E. from the British Government.

1140

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

Rear Admiral Ernest W. Stroh, USNR, receiving the United States Navy Distinguished Service Medal from Rear Admiral Allen James, USN, Commander, United States Naval Forces, Mediterranean, at Naples yesterday.

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



The document from the U. S. Secretary of Navy accompanying the award reads as follows:

"The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the *Distinguished Service Medal* to

REAR ADMIRAL ELLERY WHEELER STONE
UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following

*Citation:*

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in a duty of great responsibility as Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission for Italy, and Chief Civil Affairs Officer of Occupied Territory under Allied Military Government in Italy from May 1, 1945, to May 1, 1946. Assuming full executive responsibility for the activities of the Allied Commission in connection with all relations with the government of Italy, the interpretation and execution of the surrender terms between the Allied Nations and the Italian government, Rear Admiral Stone also served with distinction in supervising the many involved aspects of civil affairs within those parts of Italy under Allied Military Government. Called upon to coordinate the activities of various nations, to face and solve the most difficult political problems and to represent the Allied Nations before the Italian people, he displayed the highest qualities of intelligence, tact, administrative ability, sound judgment, broad vision, exceptional energy and diplomatic skill. As a result of his wise leadership and his keen understanding of the varied problems confronting him, the relations between the Allied Nations and the government of Italy have steadily progressed toward a satisfactory conclusion. His distinguished service in the fulfillment of a mission of international importance reflects the highest credit upon Rear Admiral Stone and the United States Naval Service."

For the President,
*(Sd.)* JAMES FORRESTAL
*Secretary of the Navy*"

*P. S.* — Last night the "Old Man" was wearing his Navy DSM *before* his Army one. He insisted it was Navy regulations but we had our own mind about it—and we don't blame him.

## DISPLACED PERSONS

After many months of endeavor to unite all the Displaced Persons in Italy under the care of UNRRA, the pendulum has now been swung to top speed in reverse. Some 12,000 DPs whom UNRRA took over from Allied Commission in January and February of this year have been found outside the UNRRA Charter and are being thrown back into the arms of the very depleted A. C. Displaced Persons Sub-Commission to hold them until some other organization can be found to take care of them.

Fortunately for D.P.R.S.C. some of the former camp staff, and more especially, it is hoped, the British Red Cross Welfare Section, are coming back also. To those who do not realize the devotion of the Welfare worker to the Displaced Persons in their care, the letters and requests received by Headquarters D.P.R.S.C. and the British Red Cross would seem strange but very pleasing in this somewhat money-minded post-war world. The hope is to get the DPs to go home to their own kindred and countries and to see those who, unfortunately, have too strong political ideas to go home, well on their way to resettlement in other lands beyond the seas.

As to UNRRA's Charter, it is somewhat difficult for many to comprehend, but it involves a dead-line and unfortunately many of the DPs now in Italy did not enter this country until after the 2 May 1945, the date of the German surrender, which is the period covered by the UNRRA Charter. For those of Jewish faith who have suffered so much, no such date exists.

Thus our sub-commission, whose W/E at present calls for administration of only five camps, with about 4,000 inhabitants, must now take over about 10 others, with the 12,000 UNRRA "unacceptables", plus two Polish camps with 7,000 Poles at Barletta-Trani which were also slated for UNRRA. This means a load of about 20,000 refugee DPs in 15 camps again under A. C. By fast action, Col. C. B. Findlay, the director, got military commanders back into all the camps by last Saturday.

This is not all of the strange story. The DPRSC has been having a devil of a time getting supplies and stores even before the new old load returned. Col. Findlay has been getting materials from the Italian Government that had been turned over by the Allied Commission from captured enemy goods. This and the whole problem of the DPs was throughly discussed with several DP representatives last week in a conference called by the Executive Commissioner to try to set some pattern whereby individual countries possibly might make a start on the solution of this vexing international problem.

We might add a postscript on the sub-commission's adventures with the repatriation of

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



Italians to Tripolitania. Many Italians left Tripolitania for Italy prior to Italy's entering the war. Of these persons the largest group consisted of children sent to Italy to be educated in the purest Fascist Educational methods. These children whose return to Tripoli was asked for, because of the length of the war, have become adult persons. Of these so-called children, 1,671 have been returned in four groups between August 1945 and April 1946.

On humanitarian grounds BMA in Tripoli agreed to accept back certain compassionate cases and the head of the family if a breadwinner. Under this category 100 persons have returned. At present no movement to Tripoli is permitted and some 800 Italians under the breadwinner scheme are held up, not to mention the "children".

Actual natives of Tripoli have been repatriated between August 1945 and April 1946 as follows: 250 Lybian Jews and 45 Arabs.

## AWARDS

After recording the award of many Italian decorations to American personnel, we are happy to report that several officers and men of the Italian Army have been awarded American decorations. On a recent tour of Northern and Central Italy Colonel Clayton P. Kerr, Senior American Officer with Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA), presented awards at impressive ceremonies in the cities of Turin, Novara, Bolzano and Florence.

The awards given on this tour are as follows: *Distinguished Service Cross* – Lieut. Col. Giuseppe Izzo; *Silver Star* – Lt. Michele Pericoli and Mar. Nicola di Lella; *Bronze Star* – Lieutenants Carlo Casati (posthumous), Silvestro de Simone, Vincenzo Rosato, Oberdan Ruggi and Omero Scaroni, and Sergeants Emanuele Anedda and Egidio Turrini.

At a ceremony which took place this morning at the Regina Margherita Barracks, Rome, Col. Kerr also awarded *Bronze Stars* to Colonel Canani Berni, who "as Commanding Officer of the 20th Italian Pack Mule Group rendered outstanding services in support of the Fifth Army from April 1944 to May 1945", and to WO II Cesare Simoni, of the San Marco Regiment of Marines, and Private Luigi Palazzo, of the Cremona Infantry Group, both for heroic service in action.

American officers of the Navy Sub-Commission were also honored this morning when they received Italian decorations from His Majesty King Humbert II at a ceremony held in the Quirinal Palace. These awards are as follows: Commodore H. W. Ziroli, Deputy Chief, *Grand Cross, Crown of Italy;* Captain G. F. Mentz, Chief Staff Officer, *Knight Officer, Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus;* Commander W. F. Bahlman, Admin. Officer, and Lieut. Commander J. C. Risk, Liaison Officer, *Knight Officer, Crown of Italy;* and Lieut. A. R. Conklin, Aide to Commodore Ziroli, *Knight, Crown of Italy.*

Other awards announced are: *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* – (*Commander*) Col. Henry M. Walker; (*Knight*) Lieut. Col. Lloyd W. Stearns. *Italian Cross of War Merit* – Sgt. Samuel Salinsky. *Crown of Italy* – (*Knight Officer*) Major C. C. Craig and Capt. Michael Tor; (*Knight*) Captains Almond M. Allyn, Frederick C. Barr and William W. Sampson, and Lieutenants W. Haase and Frank N. Spencer.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Green (B) has been named CLO in Piemonte... Col. C. M. Parkin, former CO of 2675th Regiment and now with G-5, was looking over the Regiment this week as to how WD civilian employes could replace officers and men... Major Joseph C. Rively (A) has succeeded Lieut. Col. Lloyd W. Stearns as CSO to the CC... Col. C. P. Kerr (A), deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, has just returned from a 17-day swing through the North where he inspected Italian Army installations; he reports quiet and order, the troops confident of being able to handle any matters of public safety, the combat divisions in peak trim but the territorial regiments, except those stationed in Milan and Turin, rather less up to snuff... Up to 19 May, the month saw 23,235 POWs return to Italy from Britain, Land Forces S/C reveals... We are in receipt of a chatty note from L/Cpl. J. Munro stationed with Lieut. Col. A. H. Gardner (B) at Tenda in Piemonte, 3,000 feet up in the Alps near the French border, from which we lift the following tidbits: the nearest Allied troops are 110 kilometers away; the nearest bath (for H & C) is in Cuneo, 45 kms. away; for relaxation, the team goes, when transport is available, to the nearest Italian movie 30 miles distant or to a dance in Tenda once a week or plays billiards with the *Sindaco* or other local notables, for which play the Tenda press, saith our deponent, has given rave notices; lastly, there are always the mountains where the streams quiver with trout and there are paths to stroll and sheep and goats to talk to...

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

May 18, 1946 Vol. III, No. 7

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Furious activity on both foreign and domestic scene characterized the political picture of the week. The revision of the Italian Armistice, practically sole fruit of the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers (who, on Italian matters, had reached tentative and informal agreements, press reports said, on the payment of $100,000,000 reparations to Russia, division of the Italian fleet, retention of the Alto Adige by Italy, administration of Tripolitania by Italy under the UN, but that deadlock on Trieste and indecision on French border claims), was greeted by the Rome press as at least better than nothing and as "the first act of justice" of the Conference.

The actual signing of the revised Armistice is some time off, of course, only the preliminary documents for study having been delivered to Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi from Paris, according to *Il Messaggero*, which sums up the points of the proposed revision as follows: abolition of the Allied Commission; establishment of a military committee under AFHQ; discussions between Italy, the United States and Great Britain as to payment of occupation costs; non-prejudice of Italy's territorial position pending a final peace treaty; Italy to hand over all war criminals requested; an Italian pledge to hold free, democratic elections; immediate repatriation of all Italian POWs; recognition of Italian co-belligerency, and some further economic easements.

De Gasperi, in a statement to *Orbis* agency, stressed that Italy's contributions to the war against Germany were thus officially recognized for the first time and that the chance to discuss occupation costs would be a boon. He added that the revision would probably be discussed and authorized by the Council of Ministers. On the Trieste question, De Gasperi reiterated, on the occasion of a visit by Venezia Giulia representatives, that the Italian Government could not consider the French line of demarcation in Venezia Giulia (giving four fifths to the Yugoslavs) as a subject for discussion and that it would stubbornly insist that no Italian nucleus of population in Istria be abandoned to Yugoslavia.

Domestically, the past days have witnessed a campaign of high-pressure lobbying whose object was to postpone the referendum and which in great measure was directed at the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR. The Admiral finally issued a statement on May 16th completely disassociating himself and the Allied Commission from the question of postponement on the grounds that the matter had not been raised with him by either the King or the Italian Government and that, further, any move by the Allied Commission in the matter would be an "unwarranted intervention in Italian internal affairs". The Leftist press naturally seized upon the statement with whoops of glee while the conservative organs printed it, for the most part, with no comment, although on the 18th (today), however, *Buonsenso* asserted that Allied non-interference in the present political scene was a mistake, adding that the Allies should be concerned with whatever may occur in Europe, and that "instructed by experience, they have not done the same in Japan, where they have left the old regime," allegedly profiting by "the tragic Italian example".

The campaign of republic versus monarchy burned brighter than ever, not only as a result of the postponement pressure, but as a result of the amnesty proposal which King Umberto II sent the Government on the 11th. The Council of Ministers, after two sessions on the 15th, finally accepted the suggestion but rejected revisions that would make the amnesty effective immediately but to be published only after the June 2 elections. The decree does not cover Fascist crimes, amassing offenses or violations of Allied ordinances; in fact, it deals only with unpremeditated crimes. *Italia Nuova* charged the Government with postponing the amnesty while the Left cried that the King's idea was another electoral device. The mounting institutional issue

38

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



also resulted in a major fracas at Naples where a monarchist demonstration and Communist spectators clashed to the tune of exploding bombs.

De Gasperi himself came under heavy personal attack for the first time from the Left, *Avanti's* leader this morning calling him "two-faced" as the consequence of recent speeches by the Prime Minister (in Rome, Trento and Verona) in which De Gasperi had warned republicans not to vote for those parties, who, as in France, want a republic dominated by a single assembly that might lead to the a "Commitee of Public Safety" and the dictatorship of a single party or individual. "We respect" he said, "the freedom of conscience of the elector concerning the referendum, even if he does not vote at all." *Avanti* called the speeches among the "most alarming symptoms in the present political tension" and wondered if the reason for De Gasperi's alleged reversal of his party's position (in favor of a republic) lay in his knowledge of some plan of the monarchy which he presumably thought hopeful of success.

While parties met and speakers sounded off all through Italy, the Council of Ministers, besides taking full part in the major political decisions of the day, also disposed of other business in their two meetings of the 15th and 16th. The Council resolved to forbid open-air electoral meetings on May 31 and June 1 but left unchanged other discretionary powers of Minister of Interior Romita. It approved a non-political demonstration on May 24 by veterans and POWs to the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and also passed decrees reforming the Courts of Assizes, allotting 1,300 million lire for a railway line between Naples and Cuma and five billion for land reclamation, protecting the job tenure of veterans and authorizing publication of the OVRA lists, names of dead persons and public safety officials being excluded; studied the coal and food situations, on the latter approving a communique which stated that the Government hoped again to win over the new grain crisis by speeding up amassing.

## NEW NAPLES SHORELINE

Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick, CAO, Naples, reports that the proposed town plan and reconstruction of the Naples waterfront is almost rivalling politics in interest in that always lively town. The colonel is giving the project his full support. As everyone knows, by both Allied and German bombardments and by German demolitions, Naples was severely damaged during the war. Most of the damage was done to the port and industrial area, east of the main railway station. Also deliberately destroyed were the large ILVA steel works at Pozzuoli and other factories, and some historic buildings and churches.

The first step in reconstruction was to get damaged areas and roads cleared and this has been going on steadily. The clearing was at first somewhat haphazard, but a year ago AMG took a firm hand and got the Municipality to organize clearing on a proper basis. Aid was also given in getting transport, the Ministry of Public Works also helping in this matter. By this means employment has been given to a steadily increasing number of men who now number over 3,000, and a huge dump has been formed in the sea near Santa Lucia for the purpose of forming a new esplanade.

At the same time the Sindaco of Naples—Avv. Fermariello—appointed one of his engineers, Ing. Isabella, to plan a new and dignified waterfront, to replace the destroyed docks area. Naples has one of the most beautiful bays in the world, so the point was made that the destruction of war provided an opportunity for really good planning and architecture. Neapolitans remembered that past Italian architects had been world famous, design of the celebrated Taj Mahal at Agra in India being attributed to the Italian architect Geronimo Verroneo.

Engineer Isabella's planning team of architects and artists includes over 50 persons. They have produced plans for a new circular road round the docks area, with alternative proposals for blocks of office buildings, new appartments, hotels, etc. which look good on paper. They have also produced plans for moving the freight railway station further east and lowering the level of the railway so that the passenger station could be cleared and a large and valuable area now occupied by unsightly buildings thus freed for new developments. Plans have also been prepared for improving the water supply and drainage systems, road circuits and so forth. A big plastic model of the plans has been put on view for the public. The financing of the project is expected to come from Government and Municipal loans which eventually will bring a good return from rents. Most of the materials needed are available in Italy, besides providing many jobs.

There are the inevitable pros and cons of the planning enthusiasts. The clergy noticed that no new churches had been provided for. This, of course, will be rectified though there are already a large number of churches in Naples. The

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



circular road also passes through the site of the Caserma Bianchi opposite the fish market. This edifice was built by the architect Vanvitelli (who also built the Royal Palace at Caserta) and is a national monument. It was, however, hit by bombs and completely gutted so there seems to be no point in rebuilding it, though there are some anguished pleas to do so. Finally, as a long term project, the rebuilding of Naples should help bring trade and cash, not only to Naples itself, but also to Southern Italy of which Naples is the capital.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Ten U. S. officers of A. C. are being redeployed on the ship that leaves Livorno this coming week... Each Section and independent sub-commission of the A. C. must appoint a Records Officer to work with the Archives Branch on preparing the old files, and now that the show is about to fold up some day soon, this becomes an operational matter... About 600 civilian internees were released from Allied (AFHQ) internment camps during April, of whom about 10 per cent. were re-arrested by Italian authorities on collaboration charges, the Public Safety Sub-Commission reports... Superior Court cases in Venezia Giulia jumped from 35 in March to 135 in April while Summary Court cases went from 518 in March to 82 in April, the Legal Sub-Commission reveals... Civilian telephone lines were opened in April between Milan, Bologna, Trieste and Vienna while new telegraph circuits were put into operation between Milan and London and Milan, Turin, Genoa, Rome and Paris... Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse, CLO, Rome area, reports a measles epidemic in Terni Province—511 cases, of which 423 are in the city of Terni... The Public Health Sub-Commission states that the infant mortality rate for Rome for March was 66.9, a decrease from 84.8 in February while tuberculosis in the latter month resulted in 312 deaths compared to 188 in March... ADD to romance in the Chief Commissioner's household: the butler, Piero Villani, and CC. RR. guard, Giuseppe Jacono, got married, respectively, to Miss Lilia Zini and Miss Annunziata Boccanera; the dog had four pups and the cat three kittens; what next?... The following U. S. awards have been made: *Legion of Merit*—Colonels A. N. Hancock and Harry M. Walker; *Bronze Star*—Lieut. Col. Walter P. Scoggins, Major Daniel J. Mahoney, Captains Rosario A. Gaziano and Charles E. Perry, CWO Sexson E. Humphreys and Pfc. Albert V. Di Martino; *Soldier's Medal*—Lieut. Col. Robert A. Martina; *Army Commendation Ribbon*—Lieutenant Colonels Paul S. Andrews and Howard K. Seith, Majors Richard B. Bullock, Simeon R. Holmes, Norman I. Shapiro and Arthur M. McPhail, Captains Lester Bern and Ward D. Carpenter, jr., and CWOs Humphreys and Henry Ellenbast...

38;

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

May 18, 1946 Vol. III, No. 7

# ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

Furious activity on both foreign and domestic scene characterized the political picture of the week. The revision of the Italian Armistice, practically sole fruit of the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers (who, on Italian matters, had reached tentative and informal agreements, press reports said, on the payment of $100,000,000 reparations to Russia, division of the Italian fleet, retention of the Alto Adige by Italy, administration of Tripolitania by Italy under the UN, but that deadlock on Trieste and indecision on French border claims), was greeted by the Rome press as at least better than nothing and as "the first act of justice" of the Conference.

The actual signing of the revised Armistice is some time off, of course, only the preliminary documents for study having been delivered to Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi from Paris, according to *Il Messaggero*, which sums up the points of the proposed revision as follows: abolition of the Allied Commission; establishment of a military committee under AFHQ; discussions between Italy, the United States and Great Britain as to payment of occupation costs; non-prejudice of Italy's territorial position pending a final peace treaty; Italy to hand over all war criminals requested; an Italian pledge to hold free, democratic elections; immediate repatriation of all Italian POWs; recognition of Italian co-belligereney, and some further economic easements.

De Gasperi, in a statement to *Orbis* agency, stressed that Italy's contributions to the war against Germany were thus officially recognized for the first time and that the chance to discuss occupation costs would be a boon. He added that the revision would probably be discussed and authorized by the Council of Ministers. On the Trieste question, De Gasperi reiterated, on the occasion of a visit by Venezia Giulia representatives, that the Italian Government could not consider the French line of demarcation in Venezia Giulia (giving four fifths to the Yugoslavs) as a subject for discussion and that it would stubbornly insist that no Italian nucleus of population in Istria be abandoned to Yugoslavia.

Domestically, the past days have witnessed a campaign of high-pressure lobbying whose object was to postpone the referendum and which in great measure was directed at the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR. The Admiral finally issued a statement on May 16th completely disassociating himself and the Allied Commission from the question of postponement on the grounds that the matter had not been raised with him by either the King or the Italian Government and that, further, any move by the Allied Commission in the matter would be an "unwarranted intervention in Italian internal affairs". The Leftist press naturally seized upon the statement with whoops of glee while the conservative organs printed it, for the most part, with no comment, although on the 18th (today), however, *Buonsenso* asserted that Allied non-interference in the present political scene was a mistake, adding that the Allies should be concerned with whatever may occur in Europe, and that "instructed by experience, they have not done the same in Japan, where they have left the old regime," allegedly profiting by "the tragic Italian example".

The campaign of republic versus monarchy burned brighter than ever, not only as a result of the postponement pressure, but as a result of the amnesty proposal which King Umberto II sent the Government on the 14th. The Council of Ministers, after two sessions on the 15th, finally accepted the suggestion but 3a suggested revisions that would make the amnesty effective immediately but to be published only after the June 2 elections. The decree does not cover Fascist crimes, amassing offenses or violations of Allied ordinances; in fact, it deals only with unpremeditated crimes. *Italia Nuova* charged the Government with postponing the amnesty while the Left cried that the King's idea was another electoral device. The mounting institutional issue

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



also resulted in a major fracas at Naples where a monarchist demonstration and Communist spectators clashed to the tune of exploding bombs.

De Gasperi himself came under heavy personal attack for the first time from the Left. *Avanti's* leader this morning calling him "two-faced" as the consequence of recent speeches by the Prime Minister (in Rome, Trento and Verona) in which De Gasperi had warned republicans not to vote for those parties, who, as in France, want a republic dominated by a single assembly that might lead to the a "Commitee of Public Safety" and the dictatorship of a single party or individual. "We respect" he said, "the freedom of conscience of the elector concerning the referendum, even if he does not vote at all." *Avanti* called the speeches among the "most alarming symptoms in the present political tension" and wondered if the reason for De Gasperi's alleged reversal of his party's position (in favor of a republic) lay in his knowledge of some plan of the monarchy which he presumably thought hopeful of success.

While parties met and speakers sounded off all through Italy, the Council of Ministers, besides taking full part in the major political decisions of the day, also disposed of other business in their two meetings of the 15th and 16th. The Council resolved to forbid open-air electoral meetings on May 31 and June 1 but left unchanged other discretionary powers of Minister of Interior Romita. It approved a non-political demonstration on May 24 by veterans and POWs to the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and also passed decrees reforming the Courts of Assizes, allotting 1,300 million lire for a railway line between Naples and Cuma and five billion for land reclamation, protecting the job tenure of veterans and authorizing publication of the OVRA lists, names of dead persons and public safety officials being excluded; studied the coal and food situations, on the latter approving a communique which stated that the Government hoped again to win over the new gram crisis by speeding up amassing.

## NEW NAPLES SHORELINE

Col. J. A. C. Pennycnick, CLO, Naples, reports that the proposed town plan and reconstruction of the Naples waterfront is almost rivalling politics in interest in that always lively town. The colonel is giving the project his full support. As everyone knows, by both Allied and German bombardments and by German demolitions, Naples was severely damaged during the war. Most of the damage was done to the port and industrial area, east of the main railway station. Also deliberately destroyed were the large ILVA steel works at Pozzuoli and other factories, and some historic buildings and churches.

The first step in reconstruction was to get damaged areas and roads cleared and this has been going on steadily. The clearing was at first somewhat haphazard, but a year ago AMG took a firm hand and got the Municipality to organize clearing on a proper basis. Aid was also given in getting transport, the Ministry of Public Works also helping in this matter. By this means employment has been given to a steadily increasing number of men who now number over 3,000, and a huge dump has been formed in the sea near Santa Lucia for the purpose of forming a new esplanade.

At the same time the Sindaco of Naples—Avv. Fermariello—appointed one of his engineers, Ing. Isabella, to plan a new and dignified waterfront, to replace the destroyed docks area. Naples has one of the most beautiful bays in the world, so the point was made that the destruction of war provided an opportunity for really good planning and architecture. Neapolitans remembered that past Italian architects had been world famous, design of the celebrated Taj Mahal at Agra in India being attributed to the Italian architect Geronimo Verraneo.

Engineer Isabella's planning team of architects and artists includes over 50 persons. They have produced plans for a new circular road round the docks area, with alternative proposals for blocks of office buildings, new appartaments, hotels, etc. which look good on paper. They have also produced plans for moving the freight railway station further east and lowering the level of the railway so that the passenger station could be cleared and a large and valuable area now occupied by unsightly buildings thus freed for new developments. Plans have also been prepared for improving the water supply and drainage systems, road circuits and so forth. A big plastic model of the plans has been put on view for the public. The financing of the project is expected to come from Government and Municipal loans which eventually will bring a good return from rents. Most of the materials needed are available in Italy, besides providing many jobs.

There are the inevitable pros and cons of the planning enthusiasts. The clergy noticed that no new churches had been provided for. This, of course, will be rectified though there are already a large number of churches in Naples. The

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



circular road also passes through the site of the Caserma Bianchi opposite the fish market. This edifice was built by the architect Vanvitelli (who also built the Royal Palace at Caserta) and is a national monument. It was, however, hit by bombs and completely gutted so there seems to be no point in rebuilding it, though there are some anguished pleas to do so. Finally, as a long term project, the rebuilding of Naples should help bring trade and cash, not only to Naples itself, but also to Southern Italy of which Naples is the capital.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Ten U. S. officers of A. C. are being redeployed on the ship that leaves Livorno this coming week... Each Section and independent sub-commission of the A. C. must appoint a Records Officer to work with the Archives Branch on preparing the old files, and now that the show is about to fold up some day soon, this becomes an operational matter... About 600 civilian internees were released from Allied (AFHQ) internment camps during April, of whom about 10 per cent. were re-arrested by Italian authorities on collaboration charges, the Public Safety Sub-Commission reports... Superior Court cases in Venezia Giulia jumped from 35 in March to 135 in April while Summary Court cases went from 518 in March to 82 in April, the Legal Sub-Commission reveals... Civilian telephone lines were opened in April between Milan, Bologna, Trieste and Vienna while new telegraph circuits were put into operation between Milan and London and Milan, Turin, Genoa, Rome and Paris... Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse, CLO, Rome area, reports a measles epidemic in Terni Province—511 cases, of which 423 are in the city of Terni... The Public Health Sub-Commission states that the infant mortality rate for Rome for March was 66.9, a decrease from 81.8 in February while tuberculosis in the latter month resulted in 342 deaths compared to 188 in March... ADD to romance in the Chief Commissioner's household: the butler, Piero Villani, and CC. RR. guard, Giuseppe Jacono, got married, respectively, to Miss Lilia Zini and Miss Annunziata Boccanera; the dog had four pups and the cat three kittens; what next?... The following U. S. awards have been made: *Legion of Merit*—Colonels A. N. Hancock and Harry M. Walker; *Bronze Star*—Lieut. Col. Walter P. Scoggins, Major Daniel J. Mahoney, Captains Rosario A. Gaziano and Charles E. Perry, CWO Sexson E. Humphreys and Pfc. Albert V. Di Martino; *Soldier's Medal*—Lieut. Col. Robert A. Martino; *Army Commendation Ribbon*—Lieutenant Colonels Paul S. Andrews and Howard K. Seith, Majors Richard B. Bullock, Simeon B. Holmes, Norman I. Shapiro and Arthur M. McPhail, Captains Lester Bern and Ward D. Carpenter, jr., and CWOs Humphreys and Henry Ellenbast...

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

May 11, 1946 Vol. III, No. 6

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Despite the rumor buzzing of preceding weeks, the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and the succession of King Umberto II when it finally came dramatically overshadowed all developments of the week and in fact gave the national electoral campaign, which "officially" opened last Sunday May 5, its first great climax. The historic event developed as follows:

On the 9th King Victor Emanuel, who had signed over his royal powers to the Crown Prince, as the *Luogotenente del Regno* in April, 1944, signed the decree of abdication at Naples and left aboard the Italian cruiser, *Duca degli Abruzzi*, (which was going to Port Said to bring back POW repatriates) for exile in Egypt, probably at Alexandria. Prime Minister De Gasperi, who had returned from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers the evening before, conferred with Umberto before the latter left for Naples to bid farewell to his father. Umberto, under what he stated was legal and constitutional succession, then sent a letter to De Gasperi, and also a draft of a proclamation to the Italian people, the first of which read in part thus:

"My father's abdication has brought me *ope legis* to inherit his title. This action does not bring any change to the powers I already exercise as Lieutenant General, and in no way modifies the pledge I took concerning the referendum and the *Costituente*. Trusting that the Government will continue to collaborate with me in the interest of the Country until election day, I send you, Mr. President, my most cordial regards."

After a series of inter-party conferences, the full Council of Ministers met on the 10th and after a five-hour session of storm and stress finally decided to accept the new King, though on a strictly limited basis. De Gasperi early pointed out that the new King's letter was quite reassuring as to the temporary character of the powers of the Crown and its reaffirmation of respect for the results of the June 2 elections and referendum. The Prime Minister suggested that the whole matter could be disposed of by a one-sentence decree simply altering the heading of State bills and using the name of Umberto II. Togliatti formally protested on behalf of the Communist party to the "breaking" of the institutional truce by the Monarchy and asseverated that Umberto should not be King of Italy until the people and the *Costituente* so decided. Togliatti added that he feared serious demonstrations in view of the initiative now taken by the House of Savoy, on which count he was at once attacked by Cattani and Corbino, Liberals, who said that if the Communists meant to move on to revolutionary tactics, they would have to resign from the Government. The saving formula, plus the reassurances of the new King's intentions, was offered by Bracci (Action) who proposed that Umberto should be King of Italy but without the title "by the grace of God and the will of the Nation". The Council thereupon approved a decree stating that the limits of the royal powers were those fixed in the Decree No. 98 of March 6, 1944, and that the heading of bills would be, "Umberto II, King of Italy".

In the proclamation addressed to the people at large, King Umberto paid tribute to the fallen, commiserated with the suffering, pledged again to respect the will of the electorate and called upon Italians to "all get close around the flag under which Italy accomplished her unity and four generations of Italians learned to live industriously and die gallantly".

The monarchist campaign, which had also opened on the 5th with several meetings and a demonstration in front of the Quirinal, of course, took on new life. *Italia Nuova* crowed that Umberto II was the inheritor of a "glorious tradition" representative of "the only institution which will be able to save Italy from a new dictatorship". *Tempo* made the remark that if Victor Emanuel had taken the abdication step long ago, the position of the Monarchy would have been assured but doubted if the belated decision would now have any effect.

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



The Leftist parties and press did not take the monarchist moves lying down. They immediately scheduled a big meeting for the republic at the *Piazza del Popolo* today (as we go to press), the manifesto, according to *Unità*, being signed by the following parties: Action, Communist, Socialist, Christian Democrat, Republican, and the CGIL. *Avanti* termed the whole abdication business a "gesture" and an "electoral diversion" while *Italia Libera* simply referred to King Umberto as the new "King of 23 days," that is, for the period up to the referendum.

The campaign, everybody expected, would now go into high gear. Police and armed forces representatives have been meeting Undersecretary of Interior Spataro on plans for 150,000 men on duty to preserve public order. In last Sunday's speechmaking, Togliatti expressed a desire to take in and convert Neo-Fascist youths and Nenni stated that Italy should remain neutral in the big power play, drawing prolonged cheers.

On the international front, De Gasperi reported to the Council on the results of his trip to Paris, where he had also pressed Italy's case in private to all four of the Foreign Ministers. He said that the "rigidity" of the Yugoslav position on Venezia Giulia and general deadlock might make a postponement of the issue advisable and indeed more favorable to Italy if re-examined later.

## RETROSPECT

(In response to our frantic appeals for articles we have the good fortune to get another piece from our amiable and esteemed superior, Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, now functioning as CLO at Milan. He called the opus "*From the Toe to the Top of Italy—Not to Mention Sardinia.*" but we put in the short title because of the classic publishing reason—space. Now to the rolling periods of our good Brigadier.—*Ed.*)

The *Bulletin* has asked me to pass in review the two years and more spent in the service of the Allied Commission. That is a clear excuse to sit back in the armchair and think. There can be no doubt what the first thought will be—gratitude to Providence for having, in the afternoon of my life, such a marvellous experience. Then, one after another, come back to mind high lights of the past months: the majestic spectacle of the eruption of Vesuvius; that marvellous moment when Colonel Jake Zellars waved a sheaf of his Lucanian wheat in the middle of a Chief Commissioner's conference; the day I got the Chief Commissioner shelled, wandering in my jeep in sight of Cassino... True it was only a small shell and not too near, but the responsibility was heavy and we went down the next hill faster than the old jeep has ever travelled before. Then, one remembers the wonderful sight of the almond groves of the Apulian plain in blossom in the Spring of 1944; mount Etna, three quarters covered with snow, seen across the blue straits of Messina on a brilliant day of February. Later on came the North: the first Te Deum in the church of the *Santo* in Padova, packed with citizens come to thank God for the deliverance of their city... The festival of the *Redentore* at Venice, the illuminated gondolas, and the soft summer night... The *partigiani* of the Dolomites, tough and battle-worn.

Just about a year ago today I was travelling North with the advancing Fifth Army. I had left my caravan camp at dawn, driving my faithful jeep "Pertinax", determined to see if I could get to Verona. We crossed the Po near Ostiglia over an American pontoon bridge and went on in the middle of the Brenner carriers of the Italian Legnano Division and in the middle of a cheering countryside. Something made me look right ahead. There, away on the far horizon, were mountains flecked with snow. Then, I knew that, at long last, I was looking on the foothills of the Alps. We had waited so long for that moment; all the days at Tizi Ouzou, the days before the Cassino line, the days of disappointment when the armies were bogged down north of Rimini; now at last it was true.

It was a few days later that I was able to fulfill a somewhat boyish wish and complete the final miles of distance, Reggio Calabria to the Brenner; every yard of which I had covered at the wheel of Pertinax.

Out of all this welter of memories emerge one or two salient impressions. First, one has a deep and abiding personal hatred of Mussolini and all his gang. When one saw what Italy needed: sound finance, simplification of government, revival of the South, and then one saw the fruits of Mussolini's madness, one was almost too sad to be angry. One tenth of the money squandered in Africa or Albania would have transformed the backward South. The pompous façade of Fascismo was covering every sort of false value. The ruin was mental and moral as well as physical. That, I think, was the second important impression: that the country was sick in heart as well as damaged in body. That perhaps our most important task was to give,

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



to the Italians, courage to go on with the struggle to put their country on its feet. By the nature of things it was the better brains and the better spirits who were the most depressed. The jobbers, and the black market operators, were happy enough grubbing for spoil amid the wreckage of a nation. It was the decent professional men or young army officers who felt the future too dark for Italy and for themselves, and who talked of going to the States or to the Argentine. They were the people whom we have had to spur with the faith of a second *Risorgimento*.

**Impressions.**

Then there was the realization that the world could not face the prospect of a derelict Italy, that this people—so friendly, so exasperating, so talented, so inexact, so generous, so self-centred—represented something the preservation of which was vital to the world. Most of us, I think, got our first feeling of confidence from the peasantry. Especially was that the case if one had a chance of speaking to our Allied prisoners of war who had been helped by the *contadini* to hide and escape. One began to realize that the commonly held idea that the Italian is lazy is very mistaken—at any rate in respect of the *contadino*—still more so in respect of his wife. We saw that to keep a small family fed and housed on a half share of the produce of a ten-acre holding did not give much margin for *dolce far niente*. We saw that the coastwise fishermen were hardy and hardworking, even if their fishing methods were sometimes a bit irregular. Gradually some of us felt that a people who could get such obvious enjoyment, a real sense of harmony of life, out of a game of *bocce* at the local trattoria, a dance on the tar macadam of the main road on a summer evening to the music of a single accordion, who could be happy with little expense, with a minimum of alcohol, that such a people had a hidden reserve of vitality, an age-old sense of living, which must not perish from the world.

We all felt the existence of an almost overwhelming desire for friendship and for understanding. If it be true, and I think it so, that the typical Italian is always tending to dramatize himself or his current situation, then it is all the more understandable how intolerable was the feeling, to a cultured and proud people, that Italians were outcasts from the world of free thought and free ideals. Of course there was a certain amount of trimming, a certain amount of being wise after the event, but I am convinced, after my pilgrimage through the length of Italy, that the spiritual link with Germany was a very tenuous and unnatural bond. It was to the United States with its generous acceptance of Italian emigration, it was to the England of Browning and Shelley, to the traditional friendship of the *Risorgimento* that the thoughts of the sick Italy turned. As a man emerging from delirium fastens onto every sane and kindly sound or sight, so Italy was striving desperately to secure some mental basis for a new way of spiritual alliance with the democratic nations. The comradeship of the last war was one obvious mental salve. How often have I found, in meetings in small townhalls, or among chance-met groups of business or professional men, that the one gambit which was sure to secure cooperation and mutual confidence, was to find one or more among the company who had fought on the Piave or on Monte Grappa. Then would come out the stories of General Cavan or of the Prince of Wales, of where the British troops were billeted or of how the narrator guided the Grenadier Guards to their assault position. Then the bad years between disappeared from sight and Italy was fighting alongside the armies of America, Great Britain and France.

Finally, at the end of it all I think we can say without boasting that the officers and men of the Allied Commission have great reason to be proud of our work. I have seen something of Germany and Austria and have followed closely military government in those parts. It is certain that we have been most fortunate in that we have been able to operate as an integrated mission in an Italy without zones. I know full well that, elsewhere, such an integration might well have been impossible; too many nations were involved. So A. C. Italy remains a unique experiment and it worked very well.

In operations I have nothing but heartfelt thankfulness for the complete cooperation of my own Allied staff which became a long roster of very good friends.

## ODDS AND ENDS

On the heels of the marriage of Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran while with the Chief Commissioner in the States comes another bit of romantic news that another of the Admiral's entourage, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn, USN, has become engaged to Signorina Francesca B. Sapuppo, daughter of the late Italian ambassador to Peru... Col. C. R. Ross, CO of the Regiment, who has just left for an inspection trip through the North, has been awarded the *Crown of Italy* (*Commander*)... The *Crown of Italy* (*Knight*) has also been

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



awarded to Capt. Rosario A. Gaziano... Allied news agencies are beginning to press for providing their private services to newspapers in Zone A, a function now handled by AIS... Mr. W. J. Legg, our former A. C. food director who now holds down the same post in UNRRA, told the Vice Presidents at their meeting the other day that studies are being made to start a national drive on false ration cards and perhaps to permit only three-course meals in public restaurants... The Piemonte CLO reports that the Fiat works at Turin are employing 60,000 persons, with a similar number working in the many small firms supplying parts; Fiat production, as of the report, is 20 per cent. of capacity or about 40 trucks and passenger cars a day... The Communications Sub-Commission tells us that U. S. gift parcels up to 20 kilograms can be sent to Italy but gift parcels up to only five kilograms can go through the Italian mails; the packages over five kilos have to come as freight through import firms or other means...

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

May 11, 1946 Vol. III, No. 6

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Despite the rumor buzzing of preceding weeks, the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and the succession of King Umberto II when it finally came dramatically overshadowed all developments of the week and in fact gave the national electoral campaign, which "officially" opened last Sunday May 5, its first great climax. The historic event developed as follows:

On the 9th King Victor Emanuel, who had signed over his royal powers to the Crown Prince, as the *Luogotenente del Regno* in April, 1944, signed the decree of abdication at Naples and left aboard the Italian cruiser, *Duca degli Abruzzi*, (which was going to Port Said to bring back POW repatriates) for exile in Egypt, probably at Alexandria. Prime Minister De Gasperi, who had returned from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers the evening before, conferred with Umberto before the latter left for Naples to bid farewell to his father. Umberto, under what he stated was legal and constitutional succession, then sent a letter to De Gasperi, and also a draft of a proclamation to the Italian people, the first of which read in part thus:

"My father's abdication has brought me *ope legis* to inherit his title. This action does not bring any change to the powers I already exercise as Lieutenant General, and in no way modifies the pledge I took concerning the referendum and the *Costituente*. Trusting that the Government will continue to collaborate with me in the interest of the Country until election day, I send you, Mr. President, my most cordial regards."

After a series of inter-party conferences, the full Council of Ministers met on the 10th and after a five-hour session of storm and stress finally decided to accept the new King, though on a strictly limited basis. De Gasperi early pointed out that the new King's letter was quite reassuring as to the temporary character of the powers of the Crown and its reaffirmation of respect for the results of the June 2 elections and referendum. The Prime Minister suggested that the whole matter could be disposed of by a one-sentence decree simply altering the heading of State bills and using the name of Umberto II. Togliatti formally protested on behalf of the Communist party to the "breaking" of the institutional truce by the Monarchy and asseverated that Umberto should not be King of Italy until the people and the *Costituente* so decided. Togliatti added that he feared serious demonstrations in view of the initiative now taken by the House of Savoy, on which count he was at once attacked by Cattani and Corbino, Liberals, who said that if the Communists meant to move on to revolutionary tactics, they would have to resign from the Government. The saving formula, plus the reassurances of the new King's intentions, was offered by Bracci (Action) who proposed that Umberto should be King of Italy but without the title "by the grace of God and the will of the Nation". The Council thereupon approved a decree stating that the limits of the royal powers were those fixed in the Decree No. 98 of March 6, 1944, and that the heading of bills would be, "Umberto II, King of Italy".

In the proclamation addressed to the people at large, King Umberto paid tribute to the fallen, commiserated with the suffering, pledged again to respect the will of the electorate and called upon Italians to "all get close around the flag under which Italy accomplished her unity and four generations of Italians learned to live industriously and die gallantly".

The monarchist campaign, which had also opened on the 5th with several meetings and a demonstration in front of the Quirinal, of course, took on new life. *Italia Nuova* crowed that Umberto II was the inheritor of a "glorious tradition" representative of "the institution which will be able to save Italy from a new dictatorship". *Tempo* made the remark that if Victor Emanuel had taken the abdication step long ago, the position of the Monarchy would have been assured but doubted if the belated decision would now have any effect.

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



The Leftist parties and press did not take the monarchist moves lying down. They immediately scheduled a big meeting for the republic at the *Piazza del Popolo* today (as we go to press), the manifesto, according to *Unità*, being signed by the following parties: Action, Communist, Socialist, Christian Democrat, Republican, and the CGIL. *Avanti* termed the whole abdication business a "gesture" and an "electoral diversion" while *Italia Libera* simply referred to King Umberto as the new "King of 23 days," that is, for the period up to the referendum.

The campaign, everybody expected, would now go into high gear. Police and armed forces representatives have been meeting Undersecretary of Interior Spataro on plans for 150,000 men on duty to preserve public order. In last Sunday's speechmaking, Togliatti expressed a desire to take in and convert Neo-Fascist youths and Nenni stated that Italy should remain neutral in the big power play, drawing prolonged cheers.

On the international front, De Gasperi reported to the Council on the results of his trip to Paris, where he had also pressed Italy's case in private to all four of the Foreign Ministers. He said that the "rigidity" of the Yugoslav position on Venezia Giulia and general deadlock might make a postponement of the issue advisable and indeed more favorable to Italy if re-examined later.

## RETROSPECT

(In response to our frantic appeals for articles we have the good fortune to get another piece from our amiable and esteemed superior, Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, now functioning as CLO at Milan. He called the opus "*From the Toe to the Top of Italy—Not to Mention Sardinia,*" but we put in the short title because of the classic publishing reason—space. Now to the rolling periods of our good Brigadier.—*Ed.*)

The *Bulletin* has asked me to pass in review the two years and more spent in the service of the Allied Commission. That is a clear excuse to sit back in the armchair and think. There can be no doubt what the first thought will be—gratitude to Providence for having, in the afternoon of my life, such a marvellous experience. Then, one after another, come back to mind high lights of the past months: the majestic spectacle of the eruption of Vesuvius; that marvellous moment when Colonel Jake Zeltars waved a sheaf of his Lucanian wheat in the middle of a Chief Commissioner's conference; the day I got the Chief Commissioner shelled, wandering in my jeep in sight of Cassino... True it was only a small shell and not too near, but the responsibility was heavy and we went down the next hill faster than the old jeep has ever travelled before. Then, one remembers the wonderful sight of the almond groves of the Apulian plain in blossom in the Spring of 1944; mount Etna, three quarters covered with snow, seen across the blue straits of Messina on a brilliant day of February. Later on came the North; the first Te Deum in the church of the *Santo* in Padova, packed with citizens come to thank God for the deliverance of their city... The festival of the *Redentore* at Venice, the illuminated gondolas, and the soft summer night... The *partigiani* of the Dolomites, tough and battle-worn.

Just about a year ago today I was travelling North with the advancing Fifth Army. I had left my caravan camp at dawn, driving my faithful jeep "Pertinax", determined to see if I could get to Verona. We crossed the Po near Ostiglia over an American pontoon bridge and went on in the middle of the Bren carriers of the Italian Legnano Division and in the middle of a cheering countryside. Something made me look right ahead. There, away on the far horizon, were mountains flecked with snow. Then, I knew that, at long last, I was looking on the foothills of the Alps. We had waited so long for that moment; all the days at Tizi Ouzou, the days before the Cassino line, the days of disappointment when the armies were bogged down north of Rimini; now at last it was true.

It was a few days later that I was able to fulfill a somewhat boyish wish and complete the final miles of distance, Reggio Calabria to the Brenner; every yard of which I had covered at the wheel of Pertinax.

Out of all this welter of memories emerge one or two salient impressions. First, one has a deep and abiding personal hatred of Mussolini and all his gang. When one saw what Italy needed: sound finance, simplification of government, revival of the South, and then one saw the fruits of Mussolini's madness, one was almost too sad to be angry. One tenth of the money squandered in Africa or Albania would have transformed the backward South. The pompous façade of Fascismo was covering every sort of false value. The ruin was mental and moral as well as physical. That, I think, was the second important impression: that the country was sick in heart as well as damaged in body. That perhaps our most important task was to give,

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



to the Italians, courage to go on with the struggle to put their country on its feet. By the nature of things it was the better brains and the better spirits who were the most depressed. The jobbers, and the black market operators, were happy enough grubbing for spoil amid the wreckage of a nation. It was the decent professional men or young army officers who felt the future too dark for Italy and for themselves, and who talked of going to the States or to the Argentine. They were the people whom we have had to spur with the faith of a second *Risorgimento*.

**Impressions.**

Then there was the realization that the world could not face the prospect of a derelict Italy, that this people—so friendly, so exasperating, so talented, so inexact, so generous, so self-centred—represented something the preservation of which was vital to the world. Most of us, I think, got our first feeling of confidence from the peasantry. Especially was that the case if one had a chance of speaking to our Allied prisoners of war who had been helped by the *contadini* to hide and escape. One began to realize that the commonly held idea that the Italian is lazy is very mistaken—at any rate in respect of the *contadino*—still more so in respect of his wife. We saw that to keep a small family fed and housed on a half share of the produce of a ten-acre holding did not give much margin for *dolce far niente*. We saw that the coastwise fishermen were hardy and hardworking, even if their fishing methods were sometimes a bit irregular. Gradually some of us felt that a people who could get such obvious enjoyment, a real sense of harmony of life, out of a game of *bocce* at the local trattoria, a dance on the tar macadam of the main road on a summer evening to the music of a single accordion, who could be happy with little expense, with a minimum of alcohol, that such a people had a hidden reserve of vitality, an age-old sense of living, which must not perish from the world.

We all felt the existence of an almost overwhelming desire for friendship and for understanding. If it be true, and I think it so, that the typical Italian is always tending to dramatize himself or his current situation, then it is all the more understandable how intolerable was the feeling, to a cultured and proud people, that Italians were outcasts from the world of free thought and free ideals. Of course there was a certain amount of trimming, a certain amount of being wise after the event, but I am convinced, after my pilgrimage through the length of Italy, that the spiritual link with Germany was a very tenuous and unnatural bond. It was to the United States with its generous acceptance of Italian emigration, it was to the England of Browning and Shelley, to the traditional friendship of the *Risorgimento* that the thoughts of the sick Italy turned. As a man emerging from delirium fastens onto every sane and kindly sound or sight, so Italy was striving desperately to secure some mental basis for a new way of spiritual alliance with the democratic nations. The comradeship of the last war was one obvious mental salve. How often have I found, in meetings in small townhalls, or among chance-met groups of business or professional men, that the one gambit which was sure to secure cooperation and mutual confidence, was to find one or more among the company who had fought on the Piave or on Monte Grappa. Then would come out the stories of General Cavan or of the Prince of Wales, of where the British troops were billeted or of how the narrator guided the Grenadier Guards to their assault position. Then the bad years between disappeared from sight and Italy was fighting alongside the armies of America, Great Britain and France.

Finally, at the end of it all I think we can say without boasting that the officers and men of the Allied Commission have great reason to be proud of our work. I have seen something of Germany and Austria and have followed closely military government in those parts. It is certain that we have been most fortunate in that we have been able to operate as an integrated mission in an Italy without zones. I know full well that, elsewhere, such an integration might well have been impossible; too many nations were involved. So A. C. Italy remains a unique experiment and it worked very well.

In operations I have nothing but heartfelt thankfulness for the complete cooperation of my own Allied staff which became a long roster of very good friends.

## ODDS AND ENDS

On the heels of the marriage of Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran while with the Chief Commissioner in the States comes another bit of romantic news that another of the Admiral's entourage, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn, USNR has become engaged to Signorina Francesca B. Sapuppo, daughter of the late Italian ambassador to Peru... Col. C. R. Ross, CO of the Regiment, who has just left for an inspection trip through the North, has been awarded the *Crown of Italy (Commander)*... The *Crown of Italy (Knight)* has also been

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



awarded to Capt. Rosario A. Gaziano... Allied news agencies are beginning to press for providing their private services to newspapers in Zone A, a function now handled by AIS... Mr. W. J. Legg, our former A. C. food director who now holds down the same post in UNRRA, told the Vice Presidents at their meeting the other day that studies are being made to start a national drive on false ration cards and perhaps to permit only three-course meals in public restaurants... The Piemonte CLO reports that the Fiat works at Turin are employing 60,000 persons, with a similar number working in the many small firms supplying parts; Fiat production, as of the report, is 20 per cent. of capacity or about 40 trucks and passenger cars a day... The Communications Sub-Commission tells us that U. S. gift parcels up to 20 kilograms can be sent to Italy but gift parcels up to only five kilograms can go through the Italian mails; the packages over five kilos have to come as freight through import firms or other means...

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

May 11, 1946 Vol. III, No. 6

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Despite the rumor buzzing of preceding weeks, the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and the succession of King Umberto II when it finally came dramatically overshadowed all developments of the week and in fact gave the national electoral campaign, which "officially" opened last Sunday May 5, its first great climax. The historic event developed as follows:

On the 9th King Victor Emanuel, who had signed over his royal powers to the Crown Prince, as the *Luogotenente del Regno* in April, 1944, signed the decree of abdication at Naples and left aboard the Italian cruiser, *Duca degli Abruzzi*, (which was going to Port Said to bring back POW repatriates) for exile in Egypt, probably at Alexandria. Prime Minister De Gasperi, who had returned from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers the evening before, conferred with Umberto before the latter left for Naples to bid farewell to his father. Umberto, under what he stated was legal and constitutional succession, then sent a letter to De Gasperi, and also a draft of a proclamation to the Italian people, the first of which read in part thus:

"My father's abdication has brought me *ope legis* to inherit his title. This action does not bring any change to the powers I already exercise as Lieutenant General, and in no way modifies the pledge I took concerning the referendum and the *Costituente*. Trusting that the Government will continue to collaborate with me in the interest of the Country until election day, I send you, Mr. President, my most cordial regards."

After a series of inter-party conferences, the full Council of Ministers met on the 10th and after a five-hour session of storm and stress finally decided to accept the new King, though on a strictly limited basis. De Gasperi early pointed out that the new King's letter was quite reassuring as to the temporary character of the powers of the Crown and its reaffirmation of respect for the results of the June 2 elections and referendum. The Prime Minister suggested that the whole matter could be disposed of by a one-sentence decree simply altering the heading of State bills and using the name of Umberto II. Togliatti formally protested on behalf of the Communist party to the "breaking" of the institutional truce by the Monarchy and asseverated that Umberto should not be King of Italy until the people and the *Costituente* so decided. Togliatti added that he feared serious demonstrations in view of the initiative now taken by the House of Savoy, on which count he was at once attacked by Cattani and Corbino, Liberals, who said that if the Communists meant to move on to revolutionary tactics, they would have to resign from the Government. The saving formula, plus the reassurances of the new King's intentions, was offered by Bracci (Action) who proposed that Umberto should be King of Italy but without the title "by the grace of God and the will of the Nation". The Council thereupon approved a decree stating that the limits of the royal powers were those fixed in the Decree No. 98 of March 6, 1944, and that the heading of bills would be, "Umberto II, King of Italy".

In the proclamation addressed to the people at large, King Umberto paid tribute to the fallen, commiserated with the suffering, pledged again to respect the will of the electorate and called upon Italians to "all get close around the flag under which Italy accomplished her unity and four generations of Italians learned to live industriously and die gallantly".

The monarchist campaign, which had also opened on the 5th with several meetings and a demonstration in front of the Quirinal, of course, took on new life. *Italia Nuova* crowed that Umberto II was the inheritor of a "glorious tradition" representative of "the only institution which will be able to save Italy from a new dictatorship". *Tempo* made the remark that if Victor Emanuel had taken the abdication step long ago, the position of the Monarchy would have been assured but doubted if the belated decision would now have any effect.

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



The Leftist parties and press did not take the monarchist moves lying down. They immediately scheduled a big meeting for the republic at the *Piazza del Popolo* today (as we go to press), the manifesto, according to *Unità*, being signed by the following parties: Action, Communist, Socialist, Christian Democrat, Republican, and the CGIL. *Avanti* termed the whole abdication business a "gesture" and an "electoral diversion" while *Italia Libera* simply referred to King Umberto as the new "King of 25 days," that is, for the period up to the referendum.

The campaign, everybody expected, would now go into high gear. Police and armed forces representatives have been meeting Undersecretary of Interior Spataro on plans for 150,000 men on duty to preserve public order. In last Sunday's speechmaking, Togliatti expressed a desire to take in and convert Neo-Fascist youths and Nenni stated that Italy should remain neutral in the big power play, drawing prolonged cheers.

On the international front, De Gasperi reported to the Council on the results of his trip to Paris, where he had also pressed Italy's case in private to all four of the Foreign Ministers. He said that the "rigidity" of the Yugoslav position on Venezia Giulia and general deadlock might make a postponement of the issue advisable and indeed more favorable to Italy if re-examined later.

## RETROSPECT

(In response to our frantic appeals for articles we have the good fortune to get another piece from our amiable and esteemed superior, Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, now functioning as CLO at Milan. He called the opus "*From the Toe to the Top of Italy—Not to Mention Sardinia*," but we put in the short title because of the classic publishing reason—space. Now to the rolling periods of our good Brigadier.—*Ed.*)

The *Bulletin* has asked me to pass in review the two years and more spent in the service of the Allied Commission. That is a clear excuse to sit back in the armchair and think. There can be no doubt what the first thought will be—gratitude to Providence for having, in the afternoon of my life, such a marvellous experience. Then, one after another, come back to mind high lights of the past months: the majestic spectacle of the eruption of Vesuvius; that marvellous moment when Colonel Jake Zellars waved a sheaf of his Lucanian wheat in the middle of a Chief Commissioner's conference; the day I got the Chief Commissioner shelled, wandering in my jeep in sight of Cassino... True it was only a small shell and not too near, but the responsibility was heavy and we went down the next hill faster than the old jeep has ever travelled before. Then, one remembers the wonderful sight of the almond groves of the Apulian plain in blossom in the Spring of 1944; mount Etna, three quarters covered with snow, seen across the blue straits of Messina on a brilliant day of February. Later on came the North: the first Te Deum in the church of the *Santo* in Padova, packed with citizens come to thank God for the deliverance of their city... The festival of the *Redentore* at Venice, the illuminated gondolas, and the soft summer night... The *partigiani* of the Dolomites, tough and battle-worn.

Just about a year ago today I was travelling North with the advancing Fifth Army. I had left my caravan camp at dawn, driving my faithful jeep "Pertinax", determined to see if I could get to Verona. We crossed the Po near Ostiglia over an American pontoon bridge and went on in the middle of the Bren carriers of the Italian Legnano Division and in the middle of a cheering countryside. Something made me look right ahead. There, away on the far horizon, were mountains flecked with snow. Then, I knew that, at long last, I was looking on the foothills of the Alps. We had waited so long for that moment; all the days at Tizi Ouzou, the days before the Cassino line, the days of disappointment when the armies were bogged down north of Rimini; now at last it was true.

It was a few days later that I was able to fulfill a somewhat boyish wish and complete the final miles of distance, Reggio Calabria to the Brenner; every yard of which I had covered at the wheel of Pertinax.

Out of all this welter of memories emerge one or two salient impressions. First, one has a deep and abiding personal hatred of Mussolini and all his gang. When one saw what Italy needed: sound finance, simplification of government, revival of the South, and then one saw the fruits of Mussolini's madness, one was almost too sad to be angry. One tenth of the money squandered in Africa or Albania would have transformed the backward South. The pompous façade of Fascismo was covering every sort of false value. The ruin was mental and moral as well as physical. That, I think, was the second important impression: that the country was sick in heart as well as damaged in body. That perhaps our most important task was to give,

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



to the Italians, courage to go on with the struggle to put their country on its feet. By the nature of things it was the better brains and the better spirits who were the most depressed. The jobbers, and the black market operators, were happy enough grubbing for spoil amid the wreckage of a nation. It was the decent professional men or young army officers who felt the future too dark for Italy and for themselves, and who talked of going to the States or to the Argentine. They were the people whom we have had to spur with the faith of a second *Risorgimento*.

**Impressions.**

Then there was the realization that the world could not face the prospect of a dereliet Italy, that this people—so friendly, so exasperating, so talented, so inexact, so generous, so self-centred—represented something the preservation of which was vital to the world. Most of us, I think, got our first feeling of confidence from the peasantry. Especially was that the case if one had a chance of speaking to our Allied prisoners of war who had been helped by the *contadini* to hide and escape. One began to realize that the commonly held idea that the Italian is lazy is very mistaken—at any rate in respect of the *contadino*—still more so in respect of his wife. We saw that to keep a small family fed and housed on a half share of the produce of a ten-acre holding did not give much margin for *dolce far niente*. We saw that the coastwise fishermen were hardy and hardworking, even if their fishing methods were sometimes a bit irregular. Gradually some of us felt that a people who could get such obvious enjoyment, a real sense of harmony of life, out of a game of *bocce* at the local trattoria, a dance on the far macadam of the main road on a summer evening to the music of a single accordion, who could be happy with little expense, with a minimum of alcohol, that such a people had a hidden reserve of vitality, an age-old sense of living, which must not perish from the world.

We all felt the existence of an almost overwhelming desire for friendship and for understanding. If it be true, and I think it so, that the typical Italian is always tending to dramatize himself or his current situation, then it is all the more understandable how intolerable was the feeling, to a cultured and proud people, that Italians were outcasts from the world of free thought and free ideals. Of course there was a certain amount of trimming, a certain amount of being wise after the event, but I am convinced, after my pilgrimage through the length of Italy, that the spiritual link with Germany was a very tenuous and unnatural bond. It was to the United States with its generous acceptance of Italian emigration, it was to the England of Browning and Shelley, to the traditional friendship of the *Risorgimento* that the thoughts of the sick Italy turned. As a man emerging from delirium fastens onto every sane and kindly sound or sight, so Italy was striving desperately to secure some mental basis for a new way of spiritual alliance with the democratic nations. The comradeship of the last war was one obvious mental salve. How often have I found, in meetings in small townhalls, or among chance-met groups of business or professional men, that the one gambit which was sure to secure cooperation and mutual confidence, was to find one or more among the company who had fought on the Piave or on Monte Grappa. Then would come out the stories of General Cavan or of the Prince of Wales, of where the British troops were billeted or of how the narrator guided the Grenadier Guards to their assault position. Then the bad years between disappeared from sight and Italy was fighting alongside the armies of America, Great Britain and France.

Finally, at the end of it all I think we can say without boasting that the officers and men of the Allied Commission have great reason to be proud of our work. I have seen something of Germany and Austria and have followed closely military government in those parts. It is certain that we have been most fortunate in that we have been able to operate as an integrated mission in an Italy without zones. I know full well that, elsewhere, such an integration might well have been impossible; too many nations were involved. So A. C. Italy remains a unique experiment and it worked very well.

In operations I have nothing but heartfelt thankfulness for the complete cooperation of my own Allied staff which became a long roster of very good friends.

## ODDS AND ENDS

On the heels of the marriage of Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran while with the Chief Commissioner in the States comes another bit of romantic news that another of the Admiral's entourage, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn, USNR, has become engaged to Signorina Francesca B. Sapuppo, daughter of the late Italian ambassador to Peru... Col. C. R. Ross, CO of the Regiment, who has just left for an inspection trip through the North, has been awarded the *Crown of Italy (Commander)*... The *Crown of Italy (Knight)* has also been

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



awarded to Capt. Rosario A. Gaziano... Allied news agencies are beginning to press for providing their private services to newspapers in Zone A, a function now handled by AIS... Mr. W. J. Legg, our former A. C. food director who now holds down the same post in UNRRA, told the Vice Presidents at their meeting the other day that studies are being made to start a national drive on false ration cards and perhaps to permit only three-course meals in public restaurants... The Piemonte CLO reports that the Fiat works at Turin are employing 60,000 persons, with a similar number working in the many small firms supplying parts; Fiat production, as of the report, is 20 per cent. of capacity or about 40 trucks and passenger cars a day... The Communications Sub-Commission tells us that U. S. gift parcels up to 20 kilograms can be sent to Italy but gift parcels up to only five kilograms can go through the Italian mails; the packages over five kilos have to come as freight through import firms or other means...

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

June 1, 1946 Vol. III, No. 9

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

## POLITICAL

The most vocal, exciting and momentous political campaign in Italian history is over, Ascension Day (30 May) having seen the close of the big meetings. Today, on the eve of voting for a monarchy or a republic and for the *Costituente*'s delegates, town and country was quiet but simmering beneath with indoor meetings (outdoor ones are forbidden), buttonholing last-minute converts and general state of tension and uncertainty over the results.

Publicly, the various parties were not so uncertain. *Tempo* reported that Minister of Interior Romita predicted a republican victory on the basis of his estimate that 75 per cent. of the votes cast in the administrative elections were republican. *Italia Nuova* came back at this statement with a report from the "Doxa" Institute which said that 34 per cent. of Italians were confirmed monarchists, 23 per cent. confirmed republicans and 40 per cent. either republicans afraid of the possible future of a republic in Italy, or else undecided. *Italia Libera* analysed the prospects as follows: 24 millions will vote, of whom 14 million will vote republican, this strength being made up of eight to nine million Socialists-Communists, three or four million Christian Democrats, and the rest, of the other republican parties. Five to seven million voters are still undecided and hold the balance of power. If they vote for the monarchy, the republic will still have a 60 per cent. majority but the newspaper added that such a development would start the putative republic off in an atmosphere of tension in which it would have to defend itself against jacobinism and adventurers.

The upward rush of the monarchist efforts in the last days has provided the color of the campaign, the Leftist papers indicating some alarm in the violence of their counter-attacks and the Right splashing their alleged gains. The King, Umberto II, of course, has spearheaded the monarchist campaign, making appearances in Sicily—Palermo (on the 28th), Catania, Messina—and jumping the straits to appear also at Reggio Calabria. On the 31st, he showed up in Genoa and this afternoon he is slated to arrive in Milan. Today, too, was published a proclamation by the King in which he spoke sympathetically of the voter's personal attempts to find his duty in the present crisis, reiterated his pledge to accept the results of the referendum and, further, stated that he would ask supporters of the monarchy also to respect "with no reservation the decision of the majority". In regard to those "high-minded and pure-hearted people who, with honest consciences, long for a radical change in the form of the State", the King went on to say:

"In case the monarchical institution is returned, I pledge myself to allow that, as soon as the Constitutent Assembly shall have accomplished its task, the (institutional) question be again asked the Italian people in such a form as the representatives of the people might suggest. By that time many a passion shall be appeased, many persons who now are perplexed shall have had enough time to make a mature choice."

Togliatti in *Unità* immediately attacked the King's statement as "a last attempt to confuse people who are still uncertain". He added that in the event of victory for the monarchy, Umberto would in no wise ascend the throne but would have to abide the decision of the *Costituente* on selection of the Head of the State. As for a second referendum, the Communist leader said the electors have had enough of the business.

All the main political figures have been whirling through the country electioneering, Prime Minister De Gasperi perhaps making a record for the geographical spread of his appearances through the week, speaking in Sicily, Southern Italy, Rome, Florence and Milan. Togliatti made his principal speech of the week at a large Communist gathering on Rome's Palatine Hill on the 30th (the Republicans meeting the same day in the Piazza della Cancelleria, the Socialists at the Basilica of Maxentius) while Orlando of the National Democratic Union and Selvaggo of the Italian Democrats (monarchists) spoke at indoor meetings. Togliatti particularly attacked Orlando for his "reactionary" attitude and stated the Commu-

873

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



nists would never cooperate with him in a Government because of his attacks on the Communists. (Orlando has been mentioned as one of the possible candidates for president of a republic.) The Communist chief also potshot at De Gasperi for saying that the Communists exaggerated the Fascist peril and said that De Gasperi collaborated with the Fascists in the early days when he was leading the remnants of the Popular party.

Speaking of post-election possibilities, *Tempo* speculated that the composition of the new Government after the elections would probably follow the pattern of the present coalition one, though with more correspondence to the wishes of the electorate. The paper said the three mass parties (Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats) and the National Democratic Union would be represented, and that in the event of a republican solution, more moderate elements from the Left should come in and also representatives of the monarchy as a minority group.

As for the elections themselves, Minister Romita announced, after a meeting with the eleven parties represented in the national constituency, that delegates from each of these parties would sit at the Viminal from June 2 through the 5th to handle problems of electoral procedure and that the results of the referendum would be announced on the 8th and 9th. The Minister of Marine, Admiral De Courten, issued an order of the day asking the Navy to respect the results of the election, following the precedent of the Army (last week), the Air Forces (on the 29th) and the Council of Ministers (on the 23rd). The Council, incidentally, did not meet this week, for obvious reasons.

## SARDINIA

(We were lucky to wangle a last piece out of Brigadier J. K. Dunlop after a flying visit to his old stamping grounds in Cagliari before leaving for Milan and thence to England and home after more than two and half years of valiant service in Allied military government in Italy. — *Ed.*)

Sardinia, they tell us, gave to literature the adjective 'sardonic'. One thing is certain, a 'sardonic' smile is a pretty grim sort of smile. Well, there is a note of grimness about Sardinian gaiety today, for fate is hitting the island hard. All looked fair for a fine harvest, the islanders had planted a larger acreage of grain than normal in order that Sardinia might be self-supporting. The Spring weather was favorable and the crops looked wonderful. Then came two scourges—the locusts and the wheat fungus. It is the locusts that have caught the public imagination, but it is the disease in the wheat that is the more deadly. Right across the southwest corner of Sardinia stretches the *Campidano*, the big field. Not so long ago, geologically speaking, it was a shallow sea between two islands. Now that plain represents the only large agricultural area in the island and for miles and miles it is planted with wheat, bearded wheat now near maturity.

The tall ears waving in the wind seem to give promise of plenty in the months to come; but it is a hollow promise. If the fields are looked at more closely, it will be seen that the golden colour is blotched with a yellow green. The fields are diseased and instead of full plump ears, there will be shrivelled grain. Experts are on the ground but they can do little except evaluate the disaster. Some 50 per cent. of the wheat of the *Campidano* is lost; it is lost before the locusts get near it. As for these insects, they swarm everywhere. Some call them locusts, some say grasshoppers. The Italians call them *cavallette* and to avoid disputation we shall use that word. They are greenish red, about an inch and half long, and at present they are hopping. In about two weeks time they will grow wings and fly. They breed in all the rocky scrub land, and, as they grow, they start moving in search of food. As long as they are confined to hopping as a means of progress, their daily distance is limited and measurable. Once they start to fly their radius of action is vastly increased and no man can tell where a swarm will settle. At present the fiercest battle against the *cavallette* is being waged along the northern boundary of the *Campidano*. Portable flame throwers, gas sprayers mounted on UNRRA trucks, poison by the ton, all are being used. The smoke cloud rising from half a dozen points north and east of Oristano remind one of a battlefield—and such indeed it is.

A new poison—sammexane—is being flown out from England at the instance of UNRRA. It seems deadly to the *cavallette* who are unwise enough to like its taste. It is innocuous to farm stock. No doubt sammexane is a great discovery but large quantities are required. The infested area is so large and the *cavallette* so numerous. Seven kilometres north of Oristano the main road for hundreds of yards was brown with them, as they crossed it on their way from the hills to the plain. A truck spraying poison was moving up and down the road and the slaughter was prodigious, but still the *cavallette* came on. In the north of the island between Chilivani and Sassari the trains ran for five miles along rails thickly strewn with *cavallette*. The weather plays its part in the struggle. When it rains the beasts

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



stop their march and tend to congregate. Then they are vulnerable. But rainy weather also delays the ripening of the wheat and the ears cannot reach the certain degree of hardness which makes the wheat nearly immune to pests.

Between fungus and locusts, the battle has become desperate. The island is threatened with the loss of more than half its grain. The other crops are good, the tunny fishing has opened well, the lambing season normal. The production of charcoal has been excellent. But the Sard, like every Italian, lives on bread and pasta, and the island will this year produce only enough flour to last to October. The faces of the natives are blank as they watch their food disappear under their very eyes, prey to the whims of nature's underworld.

## BOLZANO

We have long wanted to give a report on Bolzano and here it is. It is made up from the various monthly reports filed by the Chief Liaison Officer, Col. S. W. (Dusty) Miller (B), and by headquarters sub-commissions on their specialities, plus a most fascinating seven-page travelogue which Col. Miller sent us in response to a plea for some news about his interesting assignment. From the facts and impressions that follow, anyone can see that the good Colonel has been having himself a time, not only because the area is a focus of international interest, but more because the Colonel and the populace seem to be in sympathetic *rapport*, as the freedom of the cities of Bolzano, Merano, Bressanone and Brunico recently conferred on him (and Brigadier J. K. Dunlop) testifies in part.

The decision of the Big Four Foreign Ministers not to give the Alto Adige outright to Austria was, of course, received with some resentment by the South Tyrolean inhabitants but with no outward demonstrations as were reported in the North Tyrol. All 91 communes have compiled their electoral lists but approval is another matter, so Bolzano Province will not vote in the coming national Italian elections (though Trento will) mainly because of delays and complications in solving the problem of Italian citizenship for the German-speaking population, some of whom opted for incorporation in the German Reich at one time. Described in the last stages of the war as one of the outskirts of Hitler's Bavarian last-ditch redoubt, Bolzano was also rumored to be crawling with diehard Nazis, though Allied security police have pretty well taken care of that business. As for other Nazi sympathizers, a movement has been organized in Bolzano itself to expel them from the province.

The territory is also becoming Italianized in a degree. Since the German surrender in Italy in May, 1945, some 20,000 Italians have moved into the province. In Welsberg or Val Pusteria (towns, streets, signs are all named in both German and Italian), for example, there used to be only 810 Tyroleans; now there are 810 Tyroleans plus 242 Italians, the heads of the families being classified as follows: 50 police, 16 railroad workers, 14 officials, three teachers, four foresters, three lawyers, two merchants and six "loafers". Further, in May, 1945, there were 38 Italian officials and 38 South Tyrolean officials administering the province. A year later, there are 33 Tyrolean functionaries and 62 Italian.

Eduation seems to be in hand. With the distribution of German elementary and secondary schoolbooks supplied from Switzerland, the German schools are now, especially the secondary ones, better off than the Italian. There are 27,528 children enrolled in the German-speaking schools and 9,244 in the Italian-speaking. Italian children outnumber the German only in the communes of Bolzano, Merano, Laives and Fortezza. A recent discovery that there were Nazi and Fascist doctrinaire books on view in a Bressanone school library was soon put to rights. In other fields, it is reported that 766 displaced persons awaiting return to Germany in a Bolzano camp are somewhat restless; there are 2,500 unemployed in the province; frontier control facing the French zone in Austria presents occasional problems; crime is luckily scarce, and grain is short, which is no news. The promise of autonomy for the region made by the Italian Government was received with satisfaction, naturally.

We now take you, dear readers, on a scenic tour as guests of Col. Miller who must have spent hours on his Baedeker-rivalling masterpiece, and, it is clear, must have had much enjoyment from personally travelling over the ground he so vividly describes. He takes us from the Brenner Pass, oldest and lowest of all the passes over the Alps, right down to the Po Valley. The Colonel recalls that no fewer than 46 military expeditions from Germany traversed the Brenner between 951 and 1251 A.D. (not to mention the inrushes of the Goths, Huns, Eruli and Ostrogoths before then), so that for almost 1,000 years the adjacent land has resounded periodically to the [illegible] and ravages of war. The normal traffic promoted many prosperous wayside villages and inns which the railroad's arrival in 1867 laid low, though this economic blow was later softened by influx of tourists. The Brenner Pass valley narrows to a defile at Fortezza where Tyroleans

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



have classically catapulted stone avalanches on the enemies below using the highroad. Pine forests are replaced by vines and chestnut trees by the time the road reaches Bressanone (Brixen), seat of the Prince Bishop of the South Tyrol and of many seminaries and monasteries for centuries.

From Bressanone, Col. Miller conducts us up the Gardena (Gröden) Valley to the Dolomites. Ortisei (S. Ulrich), the principal village of the Gardena Valley, sits beneath two solemn-looking peaks, Sasso Lungo and Sasso Piatto, whose pale and livid colors contrast startlingly with the green meadows at their feet. Ortisei is in the heart of the wood-carving industry which began in the seventeenth century by supplying carved figures of saints to the neighboring churches. Today some 3,000 villagers work at wood carving and before the war used to export their handicraft throughout the world. Generations from this village have also served as peddlars of their own wares through Europe, present families recalling how their grandfathers walked many times with enormous loads to Paris and back while one native used regularly to walk to Lisbon and thence to Memel before returning home.

The Dolomites themselves, whose weird pinnacles are composed of magnesian limestone (the same type of stone from which the Houses of Parliament were built), are prevailingly an ashy pale gray, which legend says comes from beams of moonlight spun by dwarfs. In many places, owing to mineral deposits, the gray is stained a rich orange, dark brown, deep red or violet. To top it all, the Dolomites take on colors seen nowhere else on earth at sunrise and sunset while the afterglow suffuses the peaks with rose color as if they had just been dipped up fresh from some furnace. A few tiny, clear lakes dot the region, the most beautiful being the Lake of Carezza (Karersee) in which you can see rainbows almost always. Dante's *Inferno* seems familiar after looking at the unearthly peaks and the poet himself is said to have visited the region, a large statue of him standing in the public square of Trento (scene of the famous Council of Trent), though Col. Miller adds that local gossip still differs as to whether the bard conducted himself with propriety while sojourning there.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Note on electoral certificate delivery: a last-minute survey of the situation from Ministry of Interior sources, says Major R. R. Temple, director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, reveals that of 75 provinces heard from, the percentage of undelivered certificates in the great majority of provinces is less than five per cent., that the worst place is in Sicily where there is an average of 10 per cent. undelivered, and that in Rome 80,000 certificates are now undelivered; in all cases, however, it is expected that the biggest proportion of the certificates will be called for personally since the town offices will be open throughout election day... We announce with regret that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, has been confined the last several days to the 34th Station Hospital; we hope for an early recovery of his indisposition... Col. A. N. Hancock, CLO at Milan, is going to the British Embassy as an aide to the economic advisor there, Sir Quintin Hill; Brigadier J. K. Dunlop is replacing Col. Hancock temporarily at Milan... Co. O of 2675th Regiment will be shut down in Milan and Turin by 10 June... Col. C. R. Ross, the Regiment's CO, made the Memorial Day speech at Tarquinia; as he began his address, the sky opened up, too... All U. S. and U. K. military personnel have been ordered to stick to their billets and offices and keep away from the polls on election day, tomorrow and Monday... All civilian restaurants are out of bounds to British personnel and off limits to U. S. personnel, an order which will be strictly enforced because of the Italian food crisis... The recent junket of U. S. editors and publishers under the aegis of the War Department was apparently successful enough to warrant another starting 22 June from Washington, PRB has been informed... A physical nose-counting of all U. S. personnel in the Regiment will take place at 1600 hours 14 June; only those officers and EM *physically incapacitated* will be excused... Lieut. Col. L. Montague (B) has replaced Major John Lund as CLO in Palermo... The following awards are announced: *Order of the British Empire (Officer)*: Colonels E. O. Howell, H. H. Scudder and R. B. Menapace, Lieut. Col. T.G. Bergin; (*Member*) Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons and Lieut. D. A. Tesauro (who has also been awarded the *Bronze Star*); *Medal of Freedom* – Sig. Oscar Cedrangolo (with Silver Palm) and Miss Grace S. Westbrook (A); *Crown of Italy (Knight)*: MMS Charles Cravotta, USNR, for services in helping repair of Italian warships at the U. S. Naval Base in Palermo during the war... Speaking of U. S. decorations, all further recommendations must be in the Regiment's hands by 15 June...

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

May 4, 1946 Vol. III, No. 5

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

The news from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers discussing the Italian peace treaty evoked this week spiritual agonies, soul-searchings and wide and profound unease in the press, compounded over the degree of Italy's redemption from her Fascist past and that of the aid which Italy gave the United Nations war effort against Germany. The item which touched off the black editorials referred to the reported partition of the Italian Navy among the Big Four and Greece and Yugoslavia. "Bitter epilogue of an honorable surrender", cried *Tempo*. "Italy's fate and property on the bargaining counter in the Big Power game", said *Il Messaggero*.

The gloom was little lifted by the report that the Conference had decided against Austria's claims to Bolzano and by reports of the apparently good impression that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi made in his personal presentation of the Italian case concerning Venezia Giulia to the Big Four personages at Paris on May 3. De Gasperi praised the unanimously approved report of the Allied Investigating Commission of experts as accurate and objective. He spoke after Kardelj, the Yugoslav spokesman who had attacked the experts' report and asked for the 1914 frontier, by saying that Italy favored the Wilson Line. U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes explicitly thanked De Gasperi for the concision of his explanations at the end, dispatches said.

Earlier in the week (on the 29th) De Gasperi had cabled the Conference of Italy's deep disquiet over the handling of Italy's case after the navy news came out, while the newspapers (*Espresso*, *Minuto*, *Italia Nuova*, among many) published leaders that Italian sailors would scuttle their own ships rather than accept "this supreme disgrace". In the ebb and flow of public feeling, the arrival of another expert commission at Briga and Tenda in Northwest Italy, dispatched by the Conference to find the facts on the French-Italian frontier rectification, was reported to have been received with demonstrations in favor of the Italianity of the areas concerned. Foreign news agency dispatches of a *modus vivendi* for Italy, now supposedly promised speedily, produced little reaction, the consensus being that it was way overdue. Another foreign affairs item, for the record, was the appointment of Ambassador Meli Lupi di Soragna as head of the Italian delegation to the Peace Conference (if invited). Soragna and Carandini, ambassador to London, accompanied De Gasperi to the Conference.

Italy's painful climb back to international good graces was the subject of acrid comment at the Liberal Party congress which opened in Rome April 29 and closed May 3. Bonomi, Nitti and Orlando, three of the four elder statesmen of the National Democratic Union, were guests of the Liberal Party and all deplored the Allies' treatment of Italy, Bonomi most bitterly. Croce, the fourth of the Union's leaders and Liberal party head, opened the congress with a speech in which he said that the Liberal party was principally interested in preserving liberty under no matter what type of institutions. Speeches and analysis of the party's positon were made by Brosio, who reaffirmed his republican sentiments; Cattani; Carandini; Corbino; Parente, who advocated a noncommital stand on the institutional question; Zanetti, who declared monarchy was the only means available to avoid dictatorships, and De Caro, whose speech on the Italian Navy elicited the dignified gathering's only demonstrations of prolonged enthusiasm.

The party congress adjourned after coming out for the monarchy, as expected, the Monarchist motion winning with 412 votes, to 121 for the republican one. Parts of the latter motion, however, were adopted as concerned political, economic and social matters while the majority motion itself stated that the "continuity of the (monarchical) institution in the present political crisis offered the greatest guarantee for public freedom, democratic setup of the state, juridical order and social progress, leaving its members an

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



absolute freedom of propaganda and vote". Croce was elected party president and Carandini and De Caro vice presidents.

The Christian Democrat congress was closing as the Liberals convened, with its getting off the fence on the republican side understandably throwing dismay in monarchist ranks. De Gasperi, who in his concluding speech had asked the Communists to "speak openly of the whole of Communism" as he said he had done of Catholicism, finally drew searching fire (but also pats on the back) from the Left. *Unità and Avanti* praised the party's republican stand but again deprecated talk of a "Red peril", while *Unità* went a step further and said De Gasperi's handling of Italy's foreign affairs had undermined the nation's position by lip service to anti-Fascism, encouragement of nationalist propaganda and siding with the Anglo-Saxons against the Slavs. The party congress re-elected De Gasperi secretary general and Piccioni vice secretary.

Among the *ordini del giorno* that marked a week that included May Day on the 1st (which saw a large but peaceful meeting in the Piazza del Popolo), was that of the Communists who announced a membership of 1,870,707, a party loan subscription of 50 million lire and a program of constitutional, land and industrial reform, including nationalization of big industries and banks, expropriation of abandoned large estates and a republic parliamentary (not presidential, like the American) in character. *Unità* also revealed Communist preoccupation with Monarchist-Liberal plans, alleging that the conservatives were plotting a *coup de main* by an early announcement of the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and a renunciation of the throne by Prince Umberto in favor of his son, the Prince of Naples.

The Council of Ministers met May 3 with Nenni presiding as Vice Premier. Several decrees reducing staffs of the armed forces were passed, eleven million lire awarded to St. Cecilia Musical Academy, permission granted to use saccharine instead of sugar in pastry making, instructions drawn up for distribution of relief goods to state employes, final decision taken to publish the full list of 727 OVRA agents, approval given to a decree re-establishing people's juries of ten registered electors for the Courts of Assizes and a message of solidarity drafted for dispatch to De Gasperi at Paris.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

UNRRA now estimate that the total expected arrivals for May will be 190,000 tons of wheat, our Food and Agriculture Branch relays to us. The balance to meet the 200-gram bread ration is to be found by the Italian Government by their additional amassing scheme. In future weekly arrivals of wheat tonnage, with the figure of grain amassed during the same week, will be published. The May crisis thus seems to be in hand. Now eyes are turned toward June, when, on the 1st, apart from whatever may be the balance of the amassing scheme on that date, there will be an anticipated stock position (as of present calculations) of 48,000 tons.

Non-distribution of fertilizers is still giving considerable concern at the moment. Roughly about 50,000 tons of fertilizer have been imported into Italy between January and April and although a certain small quantity of this has now been distributed, a considerable balance still remains in the warehouses. There are various reasons for this, the principal one being delay in producing a plan for distribution and the high price set by the Italians which makes the farmer loathe to take up his allocation, especially with regard to nitrogen fertilizer, as this is somewhat in the nature of a gamble. The farmer tends to hold off using this fertilizer during periods of drought such as has prevailed this spring, as fertilizer used during dry wheather does more harm than good.

Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), director of the Finance Branch, Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section—to name all his titles—is being redeployed after two and a half years with the A. C., all in finance, in which he has been known as the "works" of the staff and for his grasp of technical detail and lucid exposition of complicated policies. Before he left yesterday, the Colonel was telling us about the problem that has arisen concerning lire spent in Italy by Allied troops on leave from Germany and Austria and by Allied forces buying fruits and vegetables in Italy. The question is: whether and how to give the Italian Government equivalent foreign exchange credits. Speaking of Germany, the Commerce Branch has been meeting recently with Italian fruit growers from the North who wish to resume their pre-war export trade with Germany. It is questionable if such export for civilian use can be arranged under present conditions.

## THE ADMIRAL'S TRAVELS

We announced last week that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, had arrived safely in Rome on April 27 after having been away since April 4. On the 29th,

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



the "Old Man" officially was back on board and you could practically see the old A. C. ship snap ahead at full speed on its course as orders issued, conferences met in his quarters and reports were made to SACMED. What the course of the A. C. will be was one of the matters which the Admiral discussed in the States in his first trip there in nearly three years. What has been decided will be known in the coming days as directives on reducing the size and scope of the Allied Commission are awaited from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

As to the trip itself, it was made both ways on TWA Skymasters. With the Admiral were his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn and Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran, who, by the way, got married while in the States and had to leave his bride in Attleboro, Mass., after two days' bliss, to return to Italy. On the flight over, bad weather grounded the party at Paris for one night, the U. S. shore being finally touched on April 6 at 7 a.m. in New York. The Admiral then went on to Washington and started his official round of calls on April 8, which, it might be said, like the plane's flight, also took place in the stratosphere, as can be seen from the list of personages he saw.

The most important, of course, was President Harry S. Truman, who was described as a keenly interested listener as the Admiral stressed that Italy needed speedy succor in (1) food, (2) fuel and raw materials, and (3) a just peace. In his talks with high officials of the War, Navy and State Departments and the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Admiral made the point over and again of the necessity of a just recognition for Italy's contribution to the war on the side of the Allies and itemized the contributions of the Italian Army, Navy, Air Forces and Partisans, the Chief Commissioner terming the aid of the Italian Partisans as second to none among the guerillas who fought for the Allies in all countries.

Besides the President, Admiral Stone saw Fleet Admiral Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations; Fleet Admiral Leahy, Presidential Chief of Staff; Vice Admiral Denfeld, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Personnel; Vice Admiral Ramsey, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Rear Admiral Inglis, director of Naval Intelligence; Major General Lemnitzer, former AFHQ Chief of Staff and now on the CCS; Mr. Dowling, who used to be one of the Political Advisors of the Allied Commission and now holds down the Italian desk in the State Department; Dr. Sacerdoti, chief of the Italian commercial mission now in the States on a purchasing program; Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson; Major General Hilldring, Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Territories; Mr. Ben Cohen, Counsellor of the State Department and former brain truster for the late President Roosevelt; Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States; Field Marshal Wilson, head of the British Joint Staff Mission on the CCS and former SACMED here; Major General Al Gruenther, formerly Chief of Staff of the 5th Army; Mr. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State; Major General Echols, director of the War Department's Civil Affairs Division; Col. Ed Foley, formerly Joint Director of the A. C. Finance Sub-Commission, now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Brigadier General Holmes, former head of G-5 at AFHQ and now back in civilian life; and Signor Tarchiani, Italian Ambassador to the United States. Among ex-A. C. officers whom the Admiral saw were Col. Poletti, Col. Wilmer, and Lt. Atkinson—all keenly interested and active in promoting American support for Italy.

The Admiral's party left the United States April 25 but had to stop at Newfoundland for a whole day because of fog. The journey thenceforwards was uneventful.

## REFERENDUM PLANS

The decree describing the procedure to be followed in voting for the referendum on the institutional question has been signed and will be published in a few days. We are indebted (as usual) to Major R. R. Temple (A) for a description of its highlights. The ballot, which is marked simply at the top "Referendum on the institutional form of the State", has no question *per se* to be interpreted or misinterpreted but simply two emblems over which are the words, "Republic" and "Monarchy". The republican emblem is the head of a woman surrounded by oak and laurel leaves and that of the monarchy a crown and below, the coat of arms of the House of Savoy. Both emblems are superimposed on outline maps of the Italian peninsula.

Voting for the *Costituente* representatives and for the referendum will take place simultaneously. Separate boxes will hold the two ballots, which will be deposited in separate urns after voting. The added complications will need eight observers in each polling station (instead of five, as previously), which, with the president and secretary of the voting district, will make ten officials in the booths. In places of 500 voters or less, polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, the day of the vote. In places of larger populations, polls will open at 7 a.m. and

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



close at 10 p.m. and then will reopen on June 3 at 7 a.m. and close at noon.

The ballot boxes will be opened and counting of the votes begun at noon on June 3 in *all* polling districts. Results must be completed and announced by noon June 4. The ballots and documents will then be forwarded to the central offices of each college or constituency, which will tabulate the totals for the constituency and forward the results and file of papers to the Court of Cassation in Rome by special courier as soon as possible (it is hoped by June 7). At each level the *Costituente* votes are counted first.

The Court of Cassation will tot up the reports from the colleges and announce the final results of the referendum not later than the fifteenth day after the election or by June 17. The time given is also for the Court to consider objections filed on the conduct of the elections. Press reports should have the results, however, by June 5 or 6.

## STRAIGHTENING OUT THE RECORD

If one will peer beneath what may appear the sometime somnolence of the Allied Commission at headquarters, one is apt to find all kinds of jobs quietly going on, one of which is a monumental review of AMG court cases by the Legal Sub-Commission, whose director, Col. John Weber (A), the former San Antonio (Texas) judge, is devoting practically his whole time to the matter. In brief, Col. Weber is cleaning up for posterity the A. C. legal record in its administration of military government jurisprudence.

The work, according to the Colonel, has three objectives: (1) To review the status of all persons held in Italian jails under the authority of AMG courts; (2) to adjust AMG court sentences on a uniform basis, for persons still in jail and (3) to apply to all cases possible a mitigation based on time earned for good behavior and for contributions to prison service. Under the first heading, cases of all persons in jail are reviewed to make sure they are there under legal authority and to release them if no justifiable grounds can be found to hold them.

The second rubric, that of adjusting AMG sentences, is the biggest problem. Violation of AMG proclamations and ordinances were punished on a deterrent basis on the grounds of military security. In practically all cases some part of the Italian civil code also was applicable to the same offense and the policy was early instituted of switching the prosecution over to the Italian courts as much as possible. In Sicily and Naples, for example, severe 10- and 20-year sentences were common in the early days, while as the armies moved North, as Italy became co-belligerent, and as the North was liberated and the Partisans and the population were openly helpful to the Allied armed forces, sentences became lighter until the early-day heavy sentences got down as low as 18 months. The job now is to adjust the earlier sentences in light of the later ones.

The entire task has been complicated by lack of records or confusion in the varying kinds of records kept by the different AMG regions. In all, Col. Weber estimates that AMG courts have handled approximately 75,000 cases, of which some 30,000 were in Naples alone and 21,000 in Tuscany, which includes Livorno, the port cities always showing the greatest incidence of AMG crimes, naturally. The great bulk of all cases were of sentences of under two years, which in the normal course of time have since expired or are doing so every day. Indeed, as of February 1, there were only 1,345 prisoners in jail with sentences of less than two years to serve and it is expected that all but about 80 of these will be free by the end of this year through the normal running out of their short-term sentences.

The problem, therefore, has become one of reviewing the sentences where there are *more* than two years to serve. This type includes 603 prisoners. Of these, Col. Weber has reviewed about 250 *cases*. Sentences have been altered in 251 instances (where there was more than two years to serve), which means that the sentences of these 251 persons were lowered to be in line with the norm of sentences. In general, about 65 per cent. of the deterrent sentences are being thus adjusted while 35 per cent. are not, the latter because they represent crimes which are *mal per se* and felonious violations of the civil code as well, such as counterfeiting, robbery with arms, murder, mail thefts, etc. The majority of the adjusted sentences refer to military crimes such as black marketeering, possession of Allied goods and possession of firearms, a violation, incidentally, which once used to draw ten years in Sicily and later only one year in the North.

All of the 251 sentences adjusted will further benefit by the allowances granted for time off for good behavior—to amount to 2 ½ days a month—and for contribution to prison service such as labor in the prison workshops, kitchen or administration, which, in effect, is an Allied effort to parallel the Italian system of grace and amnesty granted to prisoners. Recaptured prison escapees and prison rioters will not of course benefit by this latter adjustment.

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



## CLEANSING THE AUGEAN STABLES

The deadline just passed on April 30 in the North (by which time epuration proceedings must have been initiated), makes a report at hand on the subject of epuration from Brigadier Matthew Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, timely reading. Inevitably the statistics are somewhat old but represent the latest information available to the Allied Commission. All in all, Brigadier Carr said, although it is diffient to assess the degree of success of epuration, it can be considered that the Italian Government has made a genuine and effective effort to carry out its obligations of defascistization as called for by the Armistice terms.

Fascist epuration began way back on August 2, 1943 when Decree No. 704 was issued by the Italian Government in Rome before the Armistice, suppressing the National Fascist Party. Under Marshal Badoglio, epuration after the Armistice became the responsibility of a minister later known as the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism. Only after the Government was installed in Rome was Decree No. 159 issued, on July 27, 1944, setting up an epurative machinery, including a High Court for the Fascist big shots and Court of Assize trials for lesser fry. Commissions were set up in every ministry and in every province to try the national and local suspects, a legion of a generation under Fascism. Some 120 supplementary decrees and 300 special commissions eventually buttressed the defascistization plan.

To speed up the process and remove the atmosphere of uncertainty from public administration, Decree No. 702 was issued on November 9, 1945, limiting epuration proceedings to the first seven grades of civil servants but widening the scope of action possible against industrial concerns who may have supported Fascism. Professions were expected to purge their own ranks, the High Commissionership was to be abolished and each Ministry was made responsible for cleaning out its staff.

The actual defascism reports comprise those received directly by the Allied Commission subcommissions from their Italian Government counterparts and from the Italian Government central epuration office. The A. C. report covers employees in the first seven grades, as of February 28, and includes returns by the following sub-commissions: education, legal, local government, public safety, agriculture, finance, industry and commerce, transportation, communications and public relations. The number of Italian ministry employes represented was 30,084. Of these, 23,213 were investigated and epuration proceedings initiated against 4,765 and concluded against 3,817. Appeals were filed by 1,343, of which appeals 728 were dismissed while 640 employes were retired.

The report of the Italian Government (dated January 16, 1946) as to epuration in its central ministries covering all grades shows that of 394,041 employes, 219,613 were investigated. Proceedings were begun against 27,454 and concluded against 17,387, of whom 4,307 lodged appeals. Sanctions included dismissal of 1,580, retirement of 531 and lesser punishment for 8,803. Provincial commissions, reporting from all of Italy outside of the North, as of January 15, 1946, reveal that of 276,843 local officials, 144,728 were investigated, 14,076 were proceeded against, cases being concluded in 4,818 instances and 1,569 persons being dismissed as a result.

Abolition of Fascist organizations was another aspect of the epurative process taken up early in 1944 but not prosecuted until Rome fell. The first type of organization was that of a statal character whose objects were deemed objectionable, the second, that whose objects were partially beneficial but whose methods were reprehensible, and lastly, the type which, not exactly a statal enterprise, being indeed often private concerns, was partly useful and partly a racket. Of 27 principal Fascist organizations on record, nine were abolished, eleven have been epurated, one was non-political or semi-religions and in six epuration is still in progress.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. R. Findlay (B), director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, tells us some items as follows: the La Spezia Jews seem to have been taken care of by 679 of them receiving certificates for legal entry into Palestine while the rest are going to take advantage of the A. C. camp nearby until their cases are settled; some 200 to 300 illegal entrees into Italy are getting across the frontiers, with Col. Findlay hazarding a guess that the number may rise to 2,000 a week as soon as the snow melts from the passes; talk of 100,000 certificates for entry into Palestine being distributed through Central Europe and a definite assignment of ports to be used may cut down the Italy rush... Mr. Joseph Silber (A), former Red Cross worker attached to Col. Findlay's outfit and now director for Austria of the American Joint Distribution Committee (Jewish relief) was in town the other day... Another regimental party, again a success, was held last

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



night at the Grand... Brigadier General William L. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, has been awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* and Legion of Honor... A. C. officers and men who are expecting their families from the States will be glad to learn that they will begin to arrive the first weeks of May... Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis, CLO, Venezie, reports (through Col. R. C. Ross, regimental CO who saw him on a recent visit) that A. C. officers and former A. C. civilians now with other agencies, have an uncanny faculty of having their automobiles break down near Treviso during week-ends, which has forced Col. Mavis to run an impromptu hostelry for guests until every Monday, not to mention providing transport into nearby Venice... The complete story of the Education Sub-Commission, plus a review of Italian education, is well worth reading for anyone who wants to know how democratic ideals were put across to the Italians; the *Closing Report*, dated April 19, is on file in the Library Section of PRB for those interested... The U. S. Army demotion policy, to keep in line with the reduced U. S. war establishment, has begun to touch the 2675th Regiment, worse luck: As is their privilege, Colonels George F. Parker and John S. Arnold will retire at once from active duty, Col. H. H. Scudder will do the same on May 30, all so acting instead of accepting demotion for being the most recently made colonels in the A. C.; and lastly, the Regiment's CO himself, Col. R. C. Ross, a Regular Army and West Point man, will be affected, becoming a lieutenant colonel on June 1... G-1 (A) announces that, under the new MTOUSA policy, only those American officers on assignments whose principal duty is in connection with civil affairs and military government in occupied areas (Venezia Giulia and Udine) can now be held six months beyond the time they were originally eligible for redeployment... The following new awards have come in: *Bronze Star* — Colonel Robert B. Menapace, Lieut. Col. Richard L. Lollar, Major Donald C. Little... Major General L. Browning (B), Commander of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, reports that, as of the most recent report, 262,855 Italian POWs are still abroad in all areas, including 8,100 in Russia; repatriation is proceeding at the rate of 10,000 a month or better... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, CLO, Lombardia, sends this postscript on the recent Milan prison riot: The whole affair has been the subject of very great exaggeration, rumor having it that there were 2,000 well-armed criminals, whereas our Public Safety Officer's reasoned opinion is that the number of prisoners who used firearms throughout the action did not exceed 50. There was a good deal of unnecessary firing on the part of the police, with resultant inaccurate return fire. The riot collapsed at 1525 April 24, ten minutes after the Bersaglieri commander sent in an ultimatum to the prisoners...

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

May 4, 1946 Vol. III, No. 5

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

The news from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers discussing the Italian peace treaty evoked this week spiritual agonies, soul-searchings and wide and profound unease in the press, compounded over the degree of Italy's redemption from her Fascist past and that of the aid which Italy gave the United Nations war effort against Germany. The item which touched off the black editorials referred to the reported partition of the Italian Navy among the Big Four and Greece and Yugoslavia. "Bitter epilogue of an honorable surrender", cried *Tempo*. "Italy's fate and property on the bargaining counter in the Big Power game", said *Il Messaggero*.

The gloom was little lifted by the report that the Conference had decided against Austria's claims to Bolzano and by reports of the apparently good impression that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi made in his personal presentation of the Italian case concerning Venezia Giulia to the Big Four personages at Paris on May 3. De Gasperi praised the unanimously approved report of the Allied Investigating Commission of experts as accurate and objective. He spoke after Kardelj, the Yugoslav spokesman who had attacked the experts' report and asked for the 1914 frontier, by saying that Italy favored the Wilson Line. U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes explicitly thanked De Gasperi for the concision of his explanations at the end, dispatches said.

Earlier in the week (on the 29th) De Gasperi had cabled the Conference of Italy's deep disquiet over the handling of Italy's case after the navy news came out, while the newspapers (*Espresso*, *Mondo*, *Italia Nuova*, among many) published leaders that Italian sailors would scuttle their own ships rather than accept "this supreme disgrace". In the ebb and flow of public feeling, the arrival of another expert commission at Briga and Tenda in Northwest Italy, dispatched by the Conference to find the facts on the French-Italian frontier rectification, was reported to have been received with demonstrations in favor of the Italianity of the areas concerned. Foreign news agency dispatches of a *modus vivendi* for Italy, now supposedly promised speedily, produced little reaction, the consensus being that it was way overdue. Another foreign affairs item, for the record, was the appointment of Ambassador Meli Lupi di Soragna as head of the Italian delegation to the Peace Conference (if invited). Soragna and Carandini, ambassador to London, accompanied De Gasperi to the Conference.

Italy's painful climb back to international good graces was the subject of acrid comment at the Liberal Party congress which opened in Rome April 29 and closed May 3. Bonomi, Nitti and Orlando, three of the four elder statesmen of the National Democratic Union, were guests of the Liberal Party and all deplored the Allies' treatment of Italy, Bonomi most bitterly. Croce, the fourth of the Union's leaders and Liberal party head, opened the congress with a speech in which he said that the Liberal party was principally interested in preserving liberty under no matter what type of institutions. Speeches and analysis of the party's positon were made by Brosio, who reaffirmed his republican sentiments; Cattani; Carandini; Corbino; Parente, who advocated a noncommital stand on the institutional question; Zanetti, who declared monarchy was the only means available to avoid dictatorships, and De Caro, whose speech on the Italian Navy elicited the dignified gathering's only demonstrations of prolonged enthusiasm.

The party congress adjourned after coming out for the monarchy, as expected, the Monarchist motion winning with 412 votes, to 321 for the republican one. Parts of the latter motion, however, were adopted as concerned political, economic and social matters while the majority motion itself stated that the "continuity of the (monarchical) institution in the present political crisis offered the greatest guarantee for public freedom, democratic setup of the state, juridical order and social progress, leaving its members an

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



absolute freedom of propaganda and vote". Croce was elected party president and Carandini and De Caro vice presidents.

The Christian Democrat congress was closing as the Liberals convened, with its getting off the fence on the republican side understandably throwing dismay in monarchist ranks. De Gasperi, who in his concluding speech had asked the Communists to "speak openly of the whole of Communism" as he said he had done of Catholicism, finally drew searching fire (but also pats on the back) from the Left. *Unità and Avanti* praised the party's republican stand but again deprecated talk of a "Red peril", while *Unità* went a step further and said De Gasperi's handling of Italy's foreign affairs had undermined the nation's position by lip service to anti-Fascism, encouragement of nationalist propaganda and siding with the Anglo-Saxons against the Slavs. The party congress re-elected De Gasperi secretary general and Piccioni vice secretary.

Among the *ordini del giorno* that marked a week that included May Day on the 1st (which saw a large but peaceful meeting in the Piazza del Popolo), was that of the Communists who announced a membership of 1,870,707, a party loan subscription of 50 million lire and a program of constitutional, land and industrial reform, including nationalization of big industries and banks, expropriation of abandoned large estates and a republic parliamentary (not presidential, like the American) in character. *Unità* also revealed Communist preoccupation with Monarchist-Liberal plans, alleging that the conservatives were plotting a *coup de main* by an early announcement of the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and a renunciation of the throne by Prince Umberto in favor of his son, the Prince of Naples.

The Council of Ministers met May 3 with Nenni presiding as Vice Premier. Several decrees reducing staffs of the armed forces were passed, eleven million lire awarded to St. Cecilia Musical Academy, permission granted to use saccharine instead of sugar in pastry making, instructions drawn up for distribution of relief goods to state employes, final decision taken to publish the full list of 727 QVRA agents, approval given to a decree re-establishing people's juries of ten registered electors for the Courts of Assizes and a message of solidarity drafted for dispatch to De Gasperi at Paris.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

UNRRA now estimate that the total expected arrivals for May will be 190,000 tons of wheat, our Food and Agriculture Branch relays to us. The balance to meet the 200-gram bread ration is to be found by the Italian Government by their additional amassing scheme. In future weekly arrivals of wheat tonnage, with the figure of grain amassed during the same week, will be published. The May crisis thus seems to be in hand. Now eyes are turned toward June, when, on the 1st, apart from whatever may be the balance of the amassing scheme on that date, there will be an anticipated stock position (as of present calculations) of 48,000 tons.

Non-distribution of fertilizers is still giving considerable concern at the moment. Roughly about 50,000 tons of fertilizer have been imported into Italy between January and April and although a certain small quantity of this has now been distributed, a considerable balance still remains in the warehouses. There are various reasons for this, the principal one being delay in producing a plan for distribution and the high price set by the Italians which makes the farmer loathe to take up his allocation, especially with regard to nitrogen fertilizer, as this is somewhat in the nature of a gamble. The farmer tends to hold off using this fertilizer during periods of drought such as has prevailed this spring, as fertilizer used during dry wheather does more harm than good.

Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), director of the Finance Branch, Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section—to name all his titles—is being redeployed after two and a half years with the A. C., all in finance, in which he has been known as the "works" of the staff and for his grasp of technical detail and lucid exposition of complicated policies. Before he left yesterday, the Colonel was telling us about the problem that has arisen concerning lire spent in Italy by Allied troops on leave from Germany and Austria and by Allied forces buying fruits and vegetables in Italy. The question is: whether and how to give the Italian Government equivalent foreign exchange credits. Speaking of Germany, the Commerce Branch has been meeting recently with Italian fruit growers from the North who wish to resume their pre-war export trade with Germany. It is questionable if such export for civilian use can be arranged under present conditions.

## THE ADMIRAL'S TRAVELS

We announced last week that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, had arrived safely in Rome on April 27 after having been away since April 4. On the 29th,

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



the "Old Man" officially was back on board and you could practically see the old A. C. ship snap ahead at full speed on its course as orders issued, conferences met in his quarters and reports were made to SACMED. What the course of the A. C. will be was one of the matters which the Admiral discussed in the States in his first trip there in nearly three years. What has been decided will be known in the coming days as directives on reducing the size and scope of the Allied Commission are awaited from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

As to the trip itself, it was made both ways on TWA Skymasters. With the Admiral were his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn and Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran, who, by the way, got married while in the States and had to leave his bride in Attleboro, Mass., after two days' bliss, to return to Italy. On the flight over, bad weather grounded the party at Paris for one night, the U. S. shore being finally touched on April 6 at 7 a.m. in New York. The Admiral then went on to Washington and started his official round of calls on April 8, which, it might be said, like the plane's flight, also took place in the stratosphere, as can be seen from the list of personages he saw.

The most important, of course, was President Harry S. Truman, who was described as a keenly interested listener as the Admiral stressed that Italy needed speedy succor in (1) food, (2) fuel and raw materials, and (3) a just peace. In his talks with high officials of the War, Navy and State Departments and the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Admiral made the point over and again of the necessity of a just recognition for Italy's contribution to the war on the side of the Allies and itemized the contributions of the Italian Army, Navy, Air Forces and Partisans, the Chief Commissioner terming the aid of the Italian Partisans as second to none among the guerillas who fought for the Allies in all countries.

Besides the President, Admiral Stone saw Fleet Admiral Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations; Fleet Admiral Leahy, Presidential Chief of Staff; Vice Admiral Denfeld, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Personnel; Vice Admiral Ramsey, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Rear Admiral Inglis, director of Naval Intelligence; Major General Lemnitzer, former AFHQ Chief of Staff and now on the CCS; Mr. Dowling, who used to be one of the Political Advisors of the Allied Commission and now holds down the Italian desk in the State Department; Dr. Sacerdoti, chief of the Italian commercial mission now in the States on a purchasing program; Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson; Major General Hildring, Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Territories; Mr. Ben Cohen, Counsellor of the State Department and former brain truster for the late President Roosevelt; Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States; Field Marshal Wilson, head of the British Joint Staff Mission on the CCS and former SACMED here; Major General Al Gruenther, formerly Chief of Staff of the 5th Army; Mr. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State; Major General Echols, director of the War Department's Civil Affairs Division; Col. Ed Foley, formerly Joint Director of the A. C. Finance Sub-Commission, now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Brigadier General Holmes, former head of G-5 at AFHQ and now back in civilian life; and Signor Tarchiani, Italian Ambassador to the United States. Among ex-A. C. officers whom the Admiral saw were Col. Poletti, Col. Wilmer, and Lt. Atkinson—all keenly interested and active in promoting American support for Italy.

The Admiral's party left the United States April 25 but had to stop at Newfoundland for a whole day because of fog. The journey thenceforwards was uneventful.

## REFERENDUM PLANS

The decree describing the procedure to be followed in voting for the referendum on the institutional question has been signed and will be published in a few days. We are indebted (as usual) to Major R. R. Temple (A) for a description of its highlights. The ballot, which is marked simply at the top "Referendum on the institutional form of the State", has no question *per se* to be interpreted or misinterpreted but simply two emblems over which are the words, "Republic" and "Monarchy". The republican emblem is the head of a woman surrounded by oak and laurel leaves and that of the monarchy a crown and below, the coat of arms of the House of Savoy. Both emblems are superimposed on outline maps of the Italian peninsula.

Voting for the *Costituente* representatives and for the referendum will take place simultaneously. Separate boxes will hold the two ballots, which will be deposited in separate urns after voting. The added complications will need eight observers in each polling station (instead of five, as previously), which, with the president and secretary of the voting district, will make ten officials in the booths. In places of 500 voters or less, polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, the day of the vote. In places of larger populations, polls will open at 7 a.m. and

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



close at 10 p.m. and then will reopen on June 3 at 7 a.m. and close at noon.

The ballot boxes will be opened and counting of the votes begun at noon on June 3 in *all* polling districts. Results must be completed and announced by noon June 4. The ballots and documents will then be forwarded to the central offices of each college or constituency, which will tabulate the totals for the constituency and forward the results and file of papers to the Court of Cassation in Rome by special courier as soon as possible (it is hoped by June 7). At each level the *Costituente* votes are counted first.

The Court of Cassation will tot up the reports from the colleges and announce the final results of the referendum not later than the fifteenth day after the election or by June 17. The time given is also for the Court to consider objections filed on the conduct of the elections. Press reports should have the results, however, by June 5 or 6.

## STRAIGHTENING OUT THE RECORD

If one will peer beneath what may appear the sometime somnolence of the Allied Commission at headquarters, one is apt to find all kinds of jobs quietly going on, one of which is a monumental review of AMG court cases by the Legal Subcommission, whose director, Col. John Weber (A), the former San Antonio (Texas) judge, is devoting practically his whole time to the matter. In brief, Col. Weber is cleaning up for posterity the A. C. legal record in its administration of military government jurisprudence.

The work, according to the Colonel, has three objectives: (1) To review the status of all persons held in Italian jails under the authority of AMG courts; (2) to adjust AMG court sentences on a uniform basis, for persons still in jail and (3) to apply to all cases possible a mitigation based on time earned for good behavior and for contributions to prison service. Under the first heading, cases of all persons in jail are reviewed to make sure they are there under legal authority and to release them if no justifiable grounds can be found to hold them.

The second rubric, that of adjusting AMG sentences, is the biggest problem. Violation of AMG proclamations and ordinances were punished on a deterrent basis on the grounds of military security. In practically all cases some part of the Italian civil code also was applicable to the same offense and the policy was early instituted of switching the prosecution over to the Italian courts as much as possible. In Sicily and Naples, for example, severe 10- and 20-year sentences were common in the early days, while as the armies moved North, as Italy became co-belligerent, and as the North was liberated and the Partisans and the population were openly helpful to the Allied armed forces, sentences became lighter until the early-day heavy sentences got down as low as 18 months. The job now is to adjust the earlier sentences in light of the later ones.

The entire task has been complicated by lack of records or confusion in the varying kinds of records kept by the different AMG regions. In all, Col. Weber estimates that AMG courts have handled approximately 75,000 cases, of which some 30,000 were in Naples alone and 21,000 in Tuscany, which includes Livorno, the port cities always showing the greatest incidence of AMG crimes, naturally. The great bulk of all cases were of sentences of under two years, which in the normal course of time have since expired or are doing so every day. Indeed, as of February 1, there were only 1,345 prisoners in jail with sentences of less than two years to serve and it is expected that all but about 80 of these will be free by the end of this year through the normal running out of their short-term sentences.

The problem, therefore, has become one of reviewing the sentences where there are *more* than two years to serve. This type includes 603 prisoners. Of these, Col. Weber has reviewed about 250 *cases*. Sentences have been altered in 251 instances (where there was more than two years to serve), which means that the sentences of these 251 persons were lowered to be in line with the norm of sentences. In general, about 65 per cent. of the deterrent sentences are being thus adjusted while 35 per cent. are not, the latter because they represent crimes which are *mal per se* and felonious violations of the civil code as well, such as counterfeiting, robbery with arms, murder, mail thefts, etc. The majority of the adjusted sentences refer to military crimes such as black marketeering, possession of Allied goods and possession of firearms, a violation, incidentally, which once used to draw ten years in Sicily and later only one year in the North.

All of the 251 sentences adjusted will further benefit by the allowances granted for time off for good behavior—to amount to 2 ½ days a month—and for contribution to prison service such as labor in the prison workshops, kitchen or administration, which, in effect, is an Allied effort to parallel the Italian system of grace and amnesty granted to prisoners. Recaptured prison escapees and prison rioters will not of course benefit by this latter adjustment.

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



## CLEANSING THE AUGEAN STABLES

The deadline just passed on April 30 in the North (by which time epuration proceedings must have been initiated), makes a report at hand on the subject of epuration from Brigadier Matthew Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, timely reading. Inevitably the statistics are somewhat old but represent the latest information available to the Allied Commission. All in all, Brigadier Carr said, although it is difficult to assess the degree of success of epuration, it can be considered that the Italian Government has made a genuine and effective effort to carry out its obligations of defascistization as called for by the Armistice terms.

Fascist epuration began way back on August 2, 1943 when Decree No. 704 was issued by the Italian Government in Rome before the Armistice, suppressing the National Fascist Party. Under Marshal Badoglio, epuration after the Armistice became the responsibility of a minister later known as the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism. Only after the Government was installed in Rome was Decree No. 159 issued, on July 27, 1944, setting up an epurative machinery, including a High Court for the Fascist big shots and Court of Assize trials for lesser fry. Commissions were set up in every ministry and in every province to try the national and local suspects, a legion of a generation under Fascism. Some 120 supplementary decrees and 300 special commissions eventually buttressed the defascistization plan.

To speed up the process and remove the atmosphere of uncertainty from public administration, Decree No. 702 was issued on November 9, 1945, limiting epuration proceedings to the first seven grades of civil servants but widening the scope of action possible against industrial concerns who may have supported Fascism. Professions were expected to purge their own ranks, the High Commissionership was to be abolished and each Ministry was made responsible for cleaning out its staff.

The actual defascism reports comprise those received directly by the Allied Commission subcommissions from their Italian Government counterparts and from the Italian Government central epuration office. The A. C. report covers employees in the first seven grades, as of February 28, and includes returns by the following sub-commissions: education, legal, local government, public safety, agriculture, finance, industry and commerce, transportation, communications and public relations. The number of Italian ministry employes represented was 30,084. Of these, 23,213 were investigated and epuration proceedings initiated against 4,765 and concluded against 3,817. Appeals were filed by 1,343, of which appeals 728 were dismissed while 640 employes were retired.

The report of the Italian Government (dated January 16, 1946) as to epuration in its central ministries covering all grades shows that of 394,041 employes, 219,613 were investigated. Proceedings were begun against 27,454 and concluded against 17,387, of whom 4,307 lodged appeals. Sanctions included dismissal of 1,580, retirement of 531 and lesser punishment for 8,803. Provincial commissions, reporting from all of Italy outside of the North, as of January 15, 1946, reveal that of 276,843 local officials, 144,728 were investigated, 14,076 were proceeded against, cases being concluded in 4,818 instances and 1,569 persons being dismissed as a result.

Abolition of Fascist organizations was another aspect of the epurative process taken up early in 1944 but not prosecuted until Rome fell. The first type of organization was that of a statal character whose objects were deemed objectionable, the second, that whose objects were partially beneficial but whose methods were reprehensible, and lastly, the type which, not exactly a statal enterprise, being indeed often private concerns, was partly useful and partly a racket. Of 27 principal Fascist organizations on record, nine were abolished, eleven have been epurated, one was non-political or semi-religious and in six epuration is still in progress.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. B. Findlay (B), director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, tells us some items as follows: the La Spezia Jews seem to have been taken care of by 679 of them receiving certificates for legal entry into Palestine while the rest are going to take advantage of the A. C. camp nearby until their cases are settled; some 200 to 300 illegal entrees into Italy are getting across the frontiers, with Col. Findlay hazarding a guess that the number may rise to 2,000 a week as soon as the snow melts from the passes; talk of 100,000 certificates for entry into Palestine being distributed through Central Europe and a definite assignment of ports to be used may cut down the Italy rush... Mr. Joseph Silber (A), former Red Cross worker attached to Col. Findlay's outfit and now director for Austria of the American Joint Distribution Committee (Jewish relief) was in town the other day... Another regimental party, again a success, was held last

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



night at the Grand... Brigadier General William L. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, has been awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* and Legion of Honor... A. C. officers and men who are expecting their families from the States will be glad to learn that they will begin to arrive the first weeks of May... Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis, CLO, Venezie, reports (through Col. R. C. Ross, regimental CO who saw him on a recent visit) that A. C. officers and former A. C. civilians now with other agencies, have an uncanny faculty of having their automobiles break down near Treviso during week-ends, which has forced Col. Mavis to run an impromptu hostelry for guests until every Monday, not to mention providing transport into nearby Venice... The complete story of the Education Sub-Commission, plus a review of Italian education, is well worth reading for anyone who wants to know how democratic ideals were put across to the Italians; the *Closing Report*, dated April 19, is on file in the Library Section of PRB for those interested... The U. S. Army demotion policy, to keep in line with the reduced U. S. war establishment, has begun to touch the 2675th Regiment, worse luck: As is their privilege, Colonels George F. Parker and John S. Arnold will retire at once from active duty, Col. H. H. Scudder will do the same on May 30, all so acting instead of accepting demotion for being the most recently made colonels in the A. C.; and lastly, the Regiment's CO himself, Col. R. C. Ross, a Regular Army and West Point man, will be affected, becoming a lieutenant colonel on June 1... G-1 (A) announces that, under the new MTOUSA policy, only those American officers on assignments whose principal duty is in connection with civil affairs and military government in occupied areas (Venezia Giulia and Udine) can now be held six months beyond the time they were originally eligible for redeployment... The following new awards have come in: *Bronze Star* — Colonel Robert B. Menapace; Lieut. Col. Richard L. Lollar, Major Donald C. Little... Major General L. Browning (B), Commander of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, reports that, as of the most recent report, 262,855 Italian POWs are still abroad in all areas, including 8,400 in Russia; repatriation is proceeding at the rate of 10,000 a month or better... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, CLO, Lombardia, sends this postscript on the recent Milan prison riot: The whole affair has been the subject of very great exaggeration, rumor having it that there were 2,000 well-armed criminals, whereas our Public Safety Officer's reasoned opinion is that the number of prisoners who used firearms throughout the action did not exceed 50. There was a good deal of unnecessary firing on the part of the police, with resultant inaccurate return fire. The riot collapsed at 1525 April 24, ten minutes after the Bersaglieri commander sent in an ultimatum to the prisoners...

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

May 4, 1946

Vol. III, No. 5

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

The news from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers discussing the Italian peace treaty evoked this week spiritual agonies, soul-searchings and wide and profound unease in the press, compounded over the degree of Italy's redemption from her Fascist past and that of the aid which Italy gave the United Nations war effort against Germany. The item which touched off the black editorials referred to the reported partition of the Italian Navy among the Big Four and Greece and Yugoslavia. "Bitter epilogue of an honorable surrender", cried *Tempo*. "Italy's fate and property on the bargaining counter in the Big Power game", said *Il Messaggero*.

The gloom was little lifted by the report that the Conference had decided against Austria's claims to Bolzano and by reports of the apparently good impression that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi made in his personal presentation of the Italian case concerning Venezia Giulia to the Big Four personages at Paris on May 3. De Gasperi praised the unanimously approved report of the Allied Investigating Commission of experts as accurate and objective. He spoke after Kardelj, the Yugoslav spokesman who had attacked the experts' report and asked for the 1914 frontier, by saying that Italy favored the Wilson Line. U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes explicitly thanked De Gasperi for the concision of his explanations at the end, dispatches said.

Earlier in the week (on the 29th) De Gasperi had cabled the Conference of Italy's deep disquiet over the handling of Italy's case after the navy news came out, while the newspapers (*Espresso*, *Minuto*, *Italia Nuova*, among many) published leaders that Italian sailors would scuttle their own ships rather than accept "this supreme disgrace". In the ebb and flow of public feeling, the arrival of another expert commission at Briga and Tenda in Northwest Italy, dispatched by the Conference to find the facts on the French-Italian frontier rectification, was reported to have been received with demonstrations in favor of the Italianity of the areas concerned. Foreign news agency dispatches of a *modus vivendi* for Italy, now supposedly promised speedily, produced little reaction, the consensus being that it was way overdue. Another foreign affairs item, for the record, was the appointment of Ambassador Meli Lupi di Soragna as head of the Italian delegation to the Peace Conference (if invited). Soragna and Carandini, ambassador to London, accompanied De Gasperi to the Conference.

Italy's painful climb back to international good graces was the subject of acrid comment at the Liberal Party congress which opened in Rome April 29 and closed May 3. Bonomi, Nitti and Orlando, three of the four elder statesmen of the National Democratic Union, were guests of the Liberal Party and all deplored the Allies' treatment of Italy, Bonomi most bitterly. Croce, the fourth of the Union's leaders and Liberal party head, opened the congress with a speech in which he said that the Liberal party was principally interested in preserving liberty under no matter what type of institutions. Speeches and analysis of the party's positon were made by Brosio, who reaffirmed his republican sentiments; Cattani; Carandini; Corbino; Parente, who advocated a noncommital stand on the institutional question; Zanetti, who declared monarchy was the only means available to avoid dictatorships, and De Caro, whose speech on the Italian Navy elicited the dignified gathering's only demonstrations of prolonged enthusiasm.

The party congress adjourned after coming out for the monarchy, as expected, the Monarchist motion winning with 412 votes, to 121 for the republican one. Parts of the latter motion, however, were adopted as concerned political, economic and social matters while the majority motion itself stated that the "continuity of the (monarchical) institution in the present political crisis offered the greatest guarantee for public freedom, democratic setup of the state, juridical order and social progress, leaving its members an

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



absolute freedom of propaganda and vote". Croce was elected party president and Carandini and De Caro vice presidents.

The Christian Democrat congress was closing as the Liberals convened, with its getting off the fence on the republican side understandably throwing dismay in monarchist ranks. De Gasperi, who in his concluding speech had asked the Communists to "speak openly of the whole of Communism" as he said he had done of Catholicism, finally drew searching fire (but also pats on the back) from the Left. *Unità and Avanti* praised the party's republican stand but again deprecated talk of a "Red peril", while *Unità* went a step further and said De Gasperi's handling of Italy's foreign affairs had undermined the nation's position by lip service to anti-Fascism, encouragement of nationalist propaganda and siding with the Anglo-Saxons against the Slavs. The party congress re-elected De Gasperi secretary general and Piccioni vice secretary.

Among the *ordini del giorno* that marked a week that included May Day on the 1st (which saw a large but peaceful meeting in the Piazza del Popolo), was that of the Communists who announced a membership of 1,870,707, a party loan subscription of 50 million lire and a program of constitutional, land and industrial reform, including nationalization of big industries and banks, expropriation of abandoned large estates and a republic parliamentary (not presidential, like the American) in character. *Unità* also revealed Communist preoccupation with Monarchist-Liberal plans, alleging that the conservatives were plotting a *coup de main* by an early announcement of the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and a renunciation of the throne by Prince Umberto in favor of his son, the Prince of Naples.

The Council of Ministers met May 3 with Nenni presiding as Vice Premier. Several decrees reducing staffs of the armed forces were passed, eleven million lire awarded to St. Cecilia Musical Academy, permission granted to use saccharine instead of sugar in pastry making, instructions drawn up for distribution of relief goods to state employes, final decision taken to publish the full list of 727 OVRA agents, approval given to a decree re-establishing people's juries of ten registered electors for the Courts of Assizes and a message of solidarity drafted for dispatch to De Gasperi at Paris.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

UNRRA now estimate that the total expected arrivals for May will be 190,000 tons of wheat, our Food and Agriculture Branch relays to us. The balance to meet the 200-gram bread ration is to be found by the Italian Government by their additional amassing scheme. In future weekly arrivals of wheat tonnage, with the figure of grain amassed during the same week, will be published. The May crisis thus seems to be in hand. Now eyes are turned toward June, when, on the 1st, apart from whatever may be the balance of the amassing scheme on that date, there will be an anticipated stock position (as of present calculations) of 18,000 tons.

Non-distribution of fertilizers is still giving considerable concern at the moment. Roughly about 50,000 tons of fertilizer have been imported into Italy between January and April and although a certain small quantity of this has now been distributed, a considerable balance still remains in the warehouses. There are various reasons for this, the principal one being delay in producing a plan for distribution and the high price set by the Italians which makes the farmer loathe to take up his allocation, especially with regard to nitrogen fertilizer, as this is somewhat in the nature of a gamble. The farmer tends to hold off using this fertilizer during periods of drought such as has prevailed this spring, as fertilizer used during dry wheather does more harm than good.

Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), director of the Finance Branch, Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section—to name all his titles—is being redeployed after two and a half years with the A. C., all in finance, in which he has been known as the "works" of the staff and for his grasp of technical detail and lucid exposition of complicated policies. Before he left yesterday, the Colonel was telling us about the problem that has arisen concerning lire spent in Italy by Allied troops on leave from Germany and Austria and by Allied forces buying fruits and vegetables in Italy. The question is: whether and how to give the Italian Government equivalent foreign exchange credits. Speaking of Germany, the Commerce Branch has been meeting recently with Italian fruit growers from the North who wish to resume their pre-war export trade with Germany. It is questionable if such export for civilian use can be arranged under present conditions.

## THE ADMIRAL'S TRAVELS

We announced last week that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, had arrived safely in Rome on April 27 after having been away since April 4. On the 29th,

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



the "Old Man" officially was back on board and you could practically see the old A. C. ship snap ahead at full speed on its course as orders issued, conferences met in his quarters and reports were made to SACMED. What the course of the A. C. will be was one of the matters which the Admiral discussed in the States in his first trip there in nearly three years. What has been decided will be known in the coming days as directives on reducing the size and scope of the Allied Commission are awaited from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

As to the trip itself, it was made both ways on TWA Skymasters. With the Admiral were his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn and Chief Yeoman Joseph Dorn, who, by the way, got married while in the States and had to leave his bride in Attleboro, Mass., after two days' bliss, to return to Italy. On the flight over, bad weather grounded the party at Paris for one night, the U. S. shore being finally touched on April 6 at 7 a.m. in New York. The Admiral then went on to Washington and started his official round of calls on April 8, which, it might be said, like the plane's flight, also took place in the stratosphere, as can be seen from the list of personages he saw.

The most important, of course, was President Harry S. Truman, who was described as a keenly interested listener as the Admiral stressed that Italy needed speedy succor in (1) food, (2) fuel and raw materials, and (3) a just peace. In his talks with high officials of the War, Navy and State Departments and the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Admiral made the point over and again of the necessity of a just recognition for Italy's contribution to the war on the side of the Allies and itemized the contributions of the Italian Army, Navy, Air Forces and Partisans, the Chief Commissioner terming the aid of the Italian Partisans as second to none among the guerillas who fought for the Allies in all countries.

Besides the President, Admiral Stone saw Fleet Admiral Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations; Fleet Admiral Leahy, Presidential Chief of Staff; Vice Admiral Denfeld, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Personnel; Vice Admiral Ramsey, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Rear Admiral Inglis, director of Naval Intelligence; Major General Lemnitzer, former AFHQ Chief of Staff and now on the CCS; Mr. Dowling, who used to be one of the Political Advisors of the Allied Commission and now holds down the Italian desk in the State Department; Dr. Sacerdoti, chief of the Italian commercial mission now in the States on a purchasing program; Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson; Major General Hildring, Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Territories; Mr. Ben Cohen, Counsellor of the State Department and former brain truster for the late President Roosevelt; Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States; Field Marshal Wilson, head of the British Joint Staff Mission on the CCS and former SACMED here; Major General Al Gruenther, formerly Chief of Staff of the 5th Army; Mr. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State; Major General Echols, director of the War Department's Civil Affairs Division; Col. Ed Foley, formerly Joint Director of the A. C. Finance Sub-Commission, now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Brigadier General Holmes, former head of G-5 at AFHQ and now back in civilian life; and Signor Tarchiani, Italian Ambassador to the United States. Among ex-A. C. officers whom the Admiral saw were Col. Poletti, Col. Wilmer, and Lt. Atkinson—all keenly interested and active in promoting American support for Italy.

The Admiral's party left the United States April 25 but had to stop at Newfoundland for a whole day because of fog. The journey thenceforwards was uneventful.

## REFERENDUM PLANS

The decree describing the procedure to be followed in voting for the referendum on the institutional question has been signed and will be published in a few days. We are indebted (as usual) to Major R. R. Temple (A) for a description of its highlights. The ballot, which is marked simply at the top "Referendum on the institutional form of the State", has no question *per se* to be interpreted or misinterpreted but simply two emblems over which are the words, "Republic" and "Monarchy". The republican emblem is the head of a woman surrounded by oak and laurel leaves and that of the monarchy a crown and below, the coat of arms of the House of Savoy. Both emblems are superimposed on outline maps of the Italian peninsula.

Voting for the *Costituente* representatives and for the referendum will take place simultaneously. Separate boxes will hold the two ballots, which will be deposited in separate urns after voting. The added complications will need eight observers in each polling station (instead of five, as previously), which, with the president and secretary of the voting district, will make ten officials in the booths. In places of 500 voters or less, polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, the day of the vote. In places of larger populations, polls will open at 7 a.m. and

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



close at 10 p.m. and then will reopen on June 3 at 7 a.m. and close at noon.

The ballot boxes will be opened and counting of the votes begun at noon on June 3 in *all* polling districts. Results must be completed and announced by noon June 4. The ballots and documents will then be forwarded to the central offices of each college or constituency, which will tabulate the totals for the constituency and forward the results and file of papers to the Court of Cassation in Rome by special courier as soon as possible (it is hoped by June 7). At each level the *Costituente* votes are counted first.

The Court of Cassation will tot up the reports from the colleges and announce the final results of the referendum not later than the fifteenth day after the election or by June 17. The time given is also for the Court to consider objections filed on the conduct of the elections. Press reports should have the results, however, by June 5 or 6.

## STRAIGHTENING OUT THE RECORD

If one will peer beneath what may appear the sometime somnolence of the Allied Commission at headquarters, one is apt to find all kinds of jobs quietly going on, one of which is a monumental review of AMG court cases by the Legal Sub-Commission, whose director, Col. John Weber (A), the former San Antonio (Texas) judge, is devoting practically his whole time to the matter. In brief, Col. Weber is cleaning up for posterity the A. C. legal record in its administration of military government jurisprudence.

The work, according to the Colonel, has three objectives: (1) To review the status of all persons held in Italian jails under the authority of AMG courts; (2) to adjust AMG court sentences on a uniform basis, for persons still in jail and (3) to apply to all cases possible a mitigation based on time earned for good behavior and for contributions to prison service. Under the first heading, cases of all persons in jail are reviewed to make sure they are there under legal authority and to release them if no justifiable grounds can be found to hold them.

The second rubric, that of adjusting AMG sentences, is the biggest problem. Violation of AMG proclamations and ordinances were punished on a deterrent basis on the grounds of military security. In practically all cases some part of the Italian civil code also was applicable to the same offense and the policy was early instituted of switching the prosecution over to the Italian courts as much as possible. In Sicily and Naples, for example, severe 10- and 20-year sentences were common in the early days, while as the armies moved North, as Italy became co-belligerent, and as the North was liberated and the Partisans and the population were openly helpful to the Allied armed forces, sentences became lighter until the early-day heavy sentences got down as low as 18 months. The job now is to adjust the earlier sentences in light of the later ones.

The entire task has been complicated by lack of records or confusion in the varying kinds of records kept by the different AMG regions. In all, Col. Weber estimates that AMG courts have handled approximately 75,000 cases, of which some 30,000 were in Naples alone and 21,000 in Tuscany, which includes Livorno, the port cities always showing the greatest incidence of AMG crimes, naturally. The great bulk of all cases were of sentences of under two years, which in the normal course of time have since expired or are doing so every day. Indeed, as of February 1, there were only 1,345 prisoners in jail with sentences of less than two years to serve and it is expected that all but about 80 of these will be free by the end of this year through the normal running out of their short-term sentences.

The problem, therefore, has become one of reviewing the sentences where there are *more* than two years to serve. This type includes 603 prisoners. Of these, Col. Weber has reviewed about 250 *cases*. Sentences have been altered in 251 instances (where there was more than two years to serve), which means that the sentences of these 251 persons were lowered to be in line with the norm of sentences. In general, about 65 per cent. of the deterrent sentences are being thus adjusted while 35 per cent. are not, the latter because they represent crimes which are *mal per se* and felonious violations of the civil code as well, such as counterfeiting, robbery with arms, murder, mail thefts, etc. The majority of the adjusted sentences refer to military crimes such as black marketeering, possession of Allied goods and possession of firearms, a violation, incidentally, which once used to draw ten years in Sicily and later only one year in the North.

All of the 251 sentences adjusted will further benefit by the allowances granted for time off for good behavior—to amount to 2½ days a month—and for contribution to prison service such as labor in the prison workshops, kitchen or administration, which, in effect, is an Allied effort to parallel the Italian system of grace and amnesty granted to prisoners. Recaptured prison escapees and prison rioters will not of course benefit by this latter adjustment.

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



## CLEANSING THE AUGEAN STABLES

The deadline just passed on April 30 in the North (by which time epuration proceedings must have been initiated), makes a report at hand on the subject of epuration from Brigadier Matthew Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, timely reading. Inevitably the statistics are somewhat old but represent the latest information available to the Allied Commission. All in all, Brigadier Carr said, although it is difficult to assess the degree of success of epuration, it can be considered that the Italian Government has made a genuine and effective effort to carry out its obligations of defascistization as called for by the Armistice terms.

Fascist epuration began way back on August 2, 1943 when Decree No. 704 was issued by the Italian Government in Rome before the Armistice, suppressing the National Fascist Party. Under Marshal Badoglio, epuration after the Armistice became the responsibility of a minister later known as the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism. Only after the Government was installed in Rome was Decree No. 159 issued, on July 27, 1944, setting up an epurative machinery, including a High Court for the Fascist big shots and Court of Assize trials for lesser fry. Commissions were set up in every ministry and in every province to try the national and local suspects, a legion of a generation under Fascism. Some 120 supplementary decrees and 300 special commissions eventually buttressed the defascistization plan.

To speed up the process and remove the atmosphere of uncertainty from public administration, Decree No. 702 was issued on November 9, 1945, limiting epuration proceedings to the first seven grades of civil servants but widening the scope of action possible against industrial concerns who may have supported Fascism. Professions were expected to purge their own ranks, the High Commissionership was to be abolished and each Ministry was made responsible for cleaning out its staff.

The actual defascism reports comprise those received directly by the Allied Commission subcommissions from their Italian Government counterparts and from the Italian Government central epuration office. The A. C. report covers employees in the first seven grades, as of February 28, and includes returns by the following sub-commissions: education, legal, local government, public safety, agriculture, finance, industry and commerce, transportation, communications and public relations. The number of Italian ministry employes represented was 30,084. Of these, 23,213 were investigated and epuration proceedings initiated against 4,765 and concluded against 3,817. Appeals were filed by 1,343, of which appeals 728 were dismissed while 640 employes were retired.

The report of the Italian Government (dated January 16, 1946) as to epuration in its central ministries covering all grades shows that of 394,041 employes, 219,613 were investigated. Proceedings were begun against 27,454 and concluded against 17,387, of whom 4,307 lodged appeals. Sanctions included dismissal of 1,580, retirement of 531 and lesser punishment for 8,803. Provincial commissions, reporting from all of Italy outside of the North, as of January 15, 1946, reveal that of 276,843 local officials, 144,728 were investigated, 14,076 were proceeded against, cases being concluded in 4,818 instances and 1,569 persons being dismissed as a result.

Abolition of Fascist organizations was another aspect of the epurative process taken up early in 1944 but not prosecuted until Rome fell. The first type of organization was that of a statal character whose objects were deemed objectionable, the second, that whose objects were partially beneficial but whose methods were reprehensible, and lastly, the type which, not exactly a statal enterprise, being indeed often private concerns, was partly useful and partly a racket. Of 27 principal Fascist organizations on record, nine were abolished, eleven have been epurated, one was non-political or semi-religious and in six epuration is still in progress.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. B. Findlay (B), director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, tells us some items as follows: the La Spezia Jews seem to have been taken care of by 679 of them receiving certificates for legal entry into Palestine while the rest are going to take advantage of the A. C. camp nearby until their cases are settled; some 200 to 300 illegal entrees into Italy are getting across the frontiers, with Col. Findlay hazarding a guess that the number may go to 2,000 a week as soon as the snow melts from the passes; talk of 100,000 certificates for entry into Palestine being distributed through Central Europe and a definite assignment of ports to be used may cut down the Italy rush... Mr. Joseph Silber (A), former Red Cross worker attached to Col. Findlay's outfit and now director for Austria of the American Joint Distribution Committee (Jewish relief) was in town the other day... Another regimental party, again a success, was held last

308

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



night at the Grand... Brigadier General William L. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, has been awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* and Legion of Honor... A. C. officers and men who are expecting their families from the States will be glad to learn that they will begin to arrive the first weeks of May... Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis, CLO, Venezie, reports (through Col. R. C. Ross, regimental CO who saw him on a recent visit) that A. C. officers and former A. C. civilians now with other agencies, have an uncanny faculty of having their automobiles break down near Treviso during week-ends, which has forced Col. Mavis to run an impromptu hostelry for guests until every Monday, not to mention providing transport into nearby Venice... The complete story of the Education Sub-Commission, plus a review of Italian education, is well worth reading for anyone who wants to know how democratic ideals were put across to the Italians; the *Closing Report*, dated April 19, is on file in the Library Section of PRB for those interested... The U. S. Army demotion policy, to keep in line with the reduced U. S. war establishment, has begun to touch the 2675th Regiment, worse luck: As is their privilege, Colonels George F. Parker and John S. Arnold will retire at once from active duty, Col. H. H. Scudder will do the same on May 30, all so acting instead of accepting demotion for being the most recently made colonels in the A. C.; and lastly, the Regiment's CO himself, Col. R. C. Ross, a Regular Army and West Point man, will be affected, becoming a lieutenant colonel on June 1... G-1 (A) announces that, under the new MTOUSA policy, only those American officers on assignments whose principal duty is in connection with civil affairs and military government in occupied areas (Venezia Giulia and Udine) can now be held six months beyond the time they were originally eligible for redeployment... The following new awards have come in: *Bronze Star* – Colonel Robert B. Menapace, Lieut. Col. Richard L. Lollar, Major Donald C. Little... Major General L. Browning (B), Commander of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, reports that, as of the most recent report, 262,855 Italian POWs are still abroad in all areas, including 8,100 in Russia; repatriation is proceeding at the rate of 10,000 a month or better... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, CLO, Lombardia, sends this postscript on the recent Milan prison riot: The whole affair has been the subject of very great exaggeration, rumor having it that there were 2,000 well-armed criminals, whereas our Public Safety Officer's reasoned opinion is that the number of prisoners who used firearms throughout the action did not exceed 50. There was a good deal of unnecessary firing on the part of the police, with resultant inaccurate return fire. The riot collapsed at 1525 April 24, ten minutes after the Bersaglieri commander sent in an ultimatum to the prisoners...

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

MAY 6 RECD

Vol. III, No. 5

May 4, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

The news from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers discussing the Italian peace treaty evoked this week spiritual agonies, soul-searchings and wide and profound unease in the press, compounded over the degree of Italy's redemption from her Fascist past and that of the aid which Italy gave the United Nations war effort against Germany. The item which touched off the black editorials referred to the reported partition of the Italian Navy among the Big Four and Greece and Yugoslavia. "Bitter epilogue of an honorable surrender", cried *Tempo*. "Italy's fate and property on the bargaining counter in the Big Power game", said *Il Messaggero*.

The gloom was little lifted by the report that the Conference had decided against Austria's claims to Bolzano and by reports of the apparently good impression that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi made in his personal presentation of the Italian case concerning Venezia Giulia to the Big Four personages at Paris on May 3. De Gasperi praised the unanimously approved report of the Allied Investigating Commission of experts as accurate and objective. He spoke after Kardelj, the Yugoslav spokesman who had attacked the experts' report and asked for the 1914 frontier, by saying that Italy favored the Wilson Line. U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes explicitly thanked De Gasperi for the concision of his explanations at the end, dispatches said.

Earlier in the week (on the 29th) De Gasperi had cabled the Conference of Italy's deep disquiet over the handling of Italy's case after the navy news came out, while the newspapers (*Expresso, Mundo, Italia Nuova*, among many) published leaders that Italian sailors would scuttle their own ships rather than accept "this supreme disgrace". In the ebb and flow of public feeling, the arrival of another expert commission at Briga and Tenda in Northwest Italy, dispatched by the Conference to find the facts on the French-Italian frontier rectification, was reported to have been received with demonstrations in favor of the Italianity of the areas concerned. Foreign news agency dispatches of a *modus vivendi* for Italy, now supposedly promised speedily, produced little reaction, the consensus being that it was way overdue. Another foreign affairs item, for the record, was the appointment of Ambassador Meli Lupi di Soragna as head of the Italian delegation to the Peace Conference (if invited). Soragna and Carandini, ambassador to London, accompanied De Gasperi to the Conference.

Italy's painful climb back to international good graces was the subject of acrid comment at the Liberal Party congress which opened in Rome April 29 and closed May 3. Bonomi, Nitti and Orlando, three of the four elder statesmen of the National Democratic Union, were guests of the Liberal Party and all deplored the Allies' treatment of Italy, Bonomi most bitterly. Croce, the fourth of the Union's leaders and Liberal party head, opened the congress with a speech in which he said that the Liberal party was principally interested in preserving liberty under no matter what type of institutions. Speeches and analysis of the party's positon were made by Brosio, who reaffirmed his republican sentiments; Cattani; Carandini; Corbino; Parente, who advocated a noncommital stand on the institutional question; Zanetti, who declared monarchy was the only means available to avoid dictatorships, and De Caro, whose speech on the Italian Navy elicited the dignified gathering's only demonstrations of prolonged enthusiasm.

The party congress adjourned after coming out for the monarchy, as expected, the Monarchist motion winning with 412 votes to 121 for the republican one. Parts of the latter motion, however, were adopted as concerned political, economic and social matters while the majority motion itself stated that the "continuity of the (monarchical) institution in the present political crisis offered the greatest guarantee for public freedom, democratic setup of the state, juridical order and social progress, leaving its members an

367

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



absolute freedom of propaganda and vote". Croce was elected party president and Carandini and De Caro vice presidents.

The Christian Democrat congress was closing as the Liberals convened, with its getting off the fence on the republican side understandably throwing dismay in monarchist ranks. De Gasperi, who in his concluding speech had asked the Communists to "speak openly of the whole of Communism" as he said he had done of Catholicism, finally drew searching fire (but also pats on the back) from the Left. *Unità and Avanti* praised the party's republican stand but again deprecated talk of a "Red peril", while *Unità* went a step further and said De Gasperi's handling of Italy's foreign affairs had undermined the nation's position by lip service to anti-Fascism, encouragement of nationalist propaganda and siding with the Anglo-Saxons against the Slavs. The party congress re-elected De Gasperi secretary general and Piccioni vice secretary.

Among the *ordini del giorno* that marked a week that included May Day on the 1st (which saw a large but peaceful meeting in the Piazza del Popolo), was that of the Communists who announced a membership of 1,870,707, a party loan subscription of 50 million lire and a program of constitutional, land and industrial reform, including nationalization of big industries and banks, expropriation of abandoned large estates and a republic parliamentary (not presidential, like the American) in character. *Unità* also revealed Communist preoccupation with Monarchist Liberal plans, alleging that the conservatives were plotting a *coup de main* by an early announcement of the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and a renunciation of the throne by Prince Umberto in favor of his son, the Prince of Naples.

The Council of Ministers met May 3 with Nenni presiding as Vice Premier. Several decrees reducing staffs of the armed forces were passed, eleven million lire awarded to St. Cecilia Musical Academy, permission granted to use saccharine instead of sugar in pastry making, instructions drawn up for distribution of relief goods to state employes, final decision taken to publish the full list of 727 OVRA agents, approval given to a decree re-establishing people's juries of ten registered electors for the Courts of Assizes and a message of solidarity drafted for dispatch to De Gasperi at Paris.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

UNRRA now estimate that the total expected arrivals for May will be 190,000 tons of wheat, our Food and Agriculture Branch relays to us. The balance to meet the 200-gram bread ration is to be found by the Italian Government by their additional amassing scheme. In future weekly arrivals of wheat tonnage, with the figure of grain amassed during the same week, will be published. The May crisis thus seems to be in hand. Now eyes are turned toward June, when, on the 1st, apart from whatever may be the balance of the amassing scheme on that date, there will be an anticipated stock position (as of present calculations) of 48,000 tons.

Non-distribution of fertilizers is still giving considerable concern at the moment. Roughly about 50,000 tons of fertilizer have been imported into Italy between January and April and although a certain small quantity of this has now been distributed, a considerable balance still remains in the warehouses. There are various reasons for this, the principal one being delay in producing a plan for distribution and the high price set by the Italians which makes the farmer loathe to take up his allocation, especially with regard to nitrogen fertilizer, as this is somewhat in the nature of a gamble. The farmer tends to hold off using this fertilizer during periods of drought such as has prevailed this spring, as fertilizer used during dry wheather does more harm than good.

Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), director of the Finance Branch, Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section—to name all his titles—is being redeployed after two and a half years with the A. C., all in finance, in which he has been known as the "works" of the staff and for his grasp of technical detail and lucid exposition of complicated policies. Before he left yesterday, the Colonel was telling us about the problem that has arisen concerning lire spent in Italy by Allied troops on leave from Germany and Austria and by Allied forces buying fruits and vegetables in Italy. The question is: whether and how to give the Italian Government equivalent foreign exchange credits. Speaking of Germany, the Commerce Branch has been meeting recently with Italian fruit growers from the North who wish to resume their pre-war export trade with Germany. It is questionable if such export for civilian use can be arranged under present conditions.

## THE ADMIRAL'S TRAVELS

We announced last week that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, had arrived safely in Rome on April 27 after having been away since April 4. On the 29th,

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



the "Old Man" officially was back on board and you could practically see the old A. C. ship snap ahead at full speed on its course as orders issued, conferences met in his quarters and reports were made to SACMED. What the course of the A. C. will be was one of the matters which the Admiral discussed in the States in his first trip there in nearly three years. What has been decided will be known in the coming days as directives on reducing the size and scope of the Allied Commission are awaited from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

As to the trip itself, it was made both ways on TWA Skymasters. With the Admiral were his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn and Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran, who, by the way, got married while in the States and had to leave his bride in Attleboro, Mass., after two days' bliss, to return to Italy. On the flight over, bad weather grounded the party at Paris for one night, the U. S. shore being finally touched on April 6 at 7 a.m. in New York. The Admiral then went on to Washington and started his official round of calls on April 8, which, it might be said, like the plane's flight, also took place in the stratosphere, as can be seen from the list of personages he saw.

The most important, of course, was President Harry S. Truman, who was described as a keenly interested listener as the Admiral stressed that Italy needed speedy succor in (1) food, (2) fuel and raw materials, and (3) a just peace. In his talks with high officials of the War, Navy and State Departments and the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Admiral made the point over and again of the necessity of a just recognition for Italy's contribution to the war on the side of the Allies and itemized the contributions of the Italian Army, Navy, Air Forces and Partisans, the Chief Commissioner terming the aid of the Italian Partisans as second to none among the guerillas who fought for the Allies in all countries.

Besides the President, Admiral Stone saw Fleet Admiral Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations; Fleet Admiral Leahy, Presidential Chief of Staff; Vice Admiral Denfeld, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Personnel; Vice Admiral Ramsey, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Rear Admiral Inglis, director of Naval Intelligence; Major General Lemnitzer, former AFHQ Chief of Staff and now on the CCS; Mr. Dowling, who used to be one of the Political Advisors of the Allied Commission and now holds down the Italian desk in the State Department; Dr. Sacerdoti, chief of the Italian commercial mission now in the States on a purchasing program; Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson; Major General Hilldring, Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Territories; Mr. Ben Cohen, Counsellor of the State Department and former brain truster for the late President Roosevelt; Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States; Field Marshal Wilson, head of the British Joint Staff Mission on the CCS and former SACMED here; Major General Al Gruenther, formerly Chief of Staff of the 5th Army; Mr. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State; Major General Echols, director of the War Department's Civil Affairs Division; Col. Ed Foley, formerly Joint Director of the A. C. Finance Sub-Commission, now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Brigadier General Holmes, former head of G-5 at AFHQ and now back in civilian life; and Signor Tarchiani, Italian Ambassador to the United States. Among ex-A. C. officers whom the Admiral saw were Col. Poletti, Col. Wilmer, and Lt. Atkinson—all keenly interested and active in promoting American support for Italy.

The Admiral's party left the United States April 25 but had to stop at Newfoundland for a whole day because of fog. The journey thenceforwards was uneventful.

## REFERENDUM PLANS

The decree describing the procedure to be followed in voting for the referendum on the institutional question has been signed and will be published in a few days. We are indebted (as usual) to Major R. R. Temple (A) for a description of its highlights. The ballot, which is marked simply at the top "Referendum on the institutional form of the State", has no question *per se* to be interpreted or misinterpreted but simply two emblems over which are the words, "Republic" and "Monarchy". The republican emblem is the head of a woman surrounded by oak and laurel leaves and that of the monarchy a crown and below, the coat of arms of the House of Savoy. Both emblems are superimposed on outline maps of the Italian peninsula.

Voting for the *Costituente* representatives and for the referendum will take place simultaneously. Separate boxes will hold the two ballots, which will be deposited in separate urns after voting. The added complications will need eight observers in each polling station (instead of five, as previously), which, with the president and secretary of the voting district, will make ten officials in the booths. In places of 500 voters or less, polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, the day of the vote. In places of larger populations, polls will open at 7 a.m. and

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



close at 10 p.m. and then will reopen on June 3 at 7 a.m. and close at noon.

The ballot boxes will be opened and counting of the votes begun at noon on June 3 in *all* polling districts. Results must be completed and announced by noon June 4. The ballots and documents will then be forwarded to the central offices of each college or constituency, which will tabulate the totals for the constituency and forward the results and file of papers to the Court of Cassation in Rome by special courier as soon as possible (it is hoped by June 7). At each level the *Costituente* votes are counted first.

The Court of Cassation will tot up the reports from the colleges and announce the final results of the referendum not later than the fifteenth day after the election or by June 17. The time given is also for the Court to consider objections filed on the conduct of the elections. Press reports should have the results, however, by June 5 or 6.

## STRAIGHTENING OUT THE RECORD

If one will peer beneath what may appear the sometime somnolence of the Allied Commission at headquarters, one is apt to find all kinds of jobs quietly going on, one of which is a monumental review of AMG court cases by the Legal Sub-Commission, whose director, Col. John Weber (A), the former San Antonio (Texas) judge, is devoting practically his whole time to the matter. In brief, Col. Weber is cleaning up for posterity the A. C. legal record in its administration of military government jurisprudence.

The work, according to the Colonel, has three objectives: (1) To review the status of all persons held in Italian jails under the authority of AMG courts; (2) to adjust AMG court sentences on a uniform basis, for persons still in jail and (3) to apply to all cases possible a mitigation based on time earned for good behavior and for contributions to prison service. Under the first heading, cases of all persons in jail are reviewed to make sure they are there under legal authority and to release them if no justifiable grounds can be found to hold them.

The second rubric, that of adjusting AMG sentences, is the biggest problem. Violation of AMG proclamations and ordinances were punished on a deterrent basis on the grounds of military security. In practically all cases some part of the Italian civil code also was applicable to the same offense and the policy was early instituted of switching the prosecution over to the Italian courts as much as possible. In Sicily and Naples, for example, severe 10- and 20-year sentences were common in the early days, while as the armies moved North, as Italy became co-belligerent, and as the North was liberated and the Partisans and the population were openly helpful to the Allied armed forces, sentences became lighter until the early-day heavy sentences got down as low as 18 months. The job now is to adjust the earlier sentences in light of the later ones.

The entire task has been complicated by lack of records or confusion in the varying kinds of records kept by the different AMG regions. In all, Col. Weber estimates that AMG courts have handled approximately 75,000 cases, of which some 30,000 were in Naples alone and 21,000 in Tuscany, which includes Livorno, the port cities always showing the greatest incidence of AMG crimes, naturally. The great bulk of all cases were of sentences of under two years, which in the normal course of time have since expired or are doing so every day. Indeed, as of February 1, there were only 1,345 prisoners in jail with sentences of less than two years to serve and it is expected that all but about 80 of these will be free by the end of this year through the normal running out of their short-term sentences.

The problem, therefore, has become one of reviewing the sentences where there are *more* than two years to serve. This type includes 603 prisoners. Of these, Col. Weber has reviewed about 250 *cases*. Sentences have been altered in 251 instances (where there was more than two years to serve), which means that the sentences of these 251 persons were lowered to be in line with the norm of sentences. In general, about 65 per cent. of the deterrent sentences are being thus adjusted while 35 per cent. are not, the latter because they represent crimes which are *mala per se* and felonious violations of the civil code as well, such as counterfeiting, robbery with arms, murder, mail thefts, etc. The majority of the adjusted sentences refer to military crimes such as black marketeering, possession of Allied goods and possession of firearms, a violation, incidentally, which once used to draw ten years in Sicily and later only one year in the North.

All of the 251 sentences adjusted will further benefit by the allowances granted for time off for good behavior—to amount to 2½ days a month—and for contribution to prison service such as labor in the prison workshops, kitchen or administration, which, in effect, is an Allied effort to parallel the Italian system of grace and amnesty granted to prisoners. Recaptured prison escapees and prison rioters will not of course benefit by this latter adjustment.

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



## CLEANSING THE AUGEAN STABLES

The deadline just passed on April 30 in the North (by which time epuration proceedings must have been initiated), makes a report at hand on the subject of epuration from Brigadier Matthew Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, timely reading. Inevitably the statistics are somewhat old but represent the latest information available to the Allied Commission. All in all, Brigadier Carr said, although it is difficult to assess the degree of success of epuration, it can be considered that the Italian Government has made a genuine and effective effort to carry out its obligations of defascistization as called for by the Armistice terms.

Fascist epuration began way back on August 2, 1943 when Decree No. 704 was issued by the Italian Government in Rome before the Armistice, suppressing the National Fascist Party. Under Marshal Badoglio, epuration after the Armistice became the responsibility of a minister later known as the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism. Only after the Government was installed in Rome was Decree No. 159 issued, on July 27, 1944, setting up an epurative machinery, including a High Court for the Fascist big shots and Court of Assize trials for lesser fry. Commissions were set up in every ministry and in every province to try the national and local suspects, a legion of a generation under Fascism. Some 120 supplementary decrees and 300 special commissions eventually buttressed the defascistization plan.

To speed up the process and remove the atmosphere of uncertainty from public administration, Decree No. 702 was issued on November 9, 1945, limiting epuration proceedings to the first seven grades of civil servants but widening the scope of action possible against industrial concerns who may have supported Fascism. Professions were expected to purge their own ranks, the High Commissionership was to be abolished and each Ministry was made responsible for cleaning out its staff.

The actual defascism reports comprise those received directly by the Allied Commission subcommissions from their Italian Government counterparts and from the Italian Government central epuration office. The A. C. report covers employees in the first seven grades, as of February 28, and includes returns by the following sub-commissions: education, legal, local government, public safety, agriculture, finance, industry and commerce, transportation, communications and public relations. The number of Italian ministry employes represented was 30,084. Of these, 23,243 were investigated and epuration proceedings initiated against 4,765 and concluded against 3,817. Appeals were filed by 1,343, of which appeals 728 were dismissed while 640 employes were retired.

The report of the Italian Government (dated January 16, 1946) as to epuration in its central ministries covering all grades shows that of 394,041 employes, 219,613 were investigated. Proceedings were begun against 27,454 and concluded against 17,387, of whom 4,307 lodged appeals. Sanctions included dismissal of 1,580, retirement of 531 and lesser punishment for 8,803. Provincial commissions, reporting from all of Italy outside of the North, as of January 15, 1946, reveal that of 276,843 local officials, 144,728 were investigated. 14,076 were proceeded against, cases being concluded in 4,818 instances and 1,569 persons being dismissed as a result.

Abolition of Fascist organizations was another aspect of the epurative process taken up early in 1944 but not prosecuted until Rome fell. The first type of organization was that of a statal character whose objects were deemed objectionable, the second, that whose objects were partially beneficial but whose methods were reprehensible, and lastly, the type which, not exactly a statal enterprise, being indeed often private concerns, was partly useful and partly a racket. Of 27 principal Fascist organizations on record, nine were abolished, eleven have been epurated, one was non-political or semi-religious and in six epuration is still in progress.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. B. Findlay (B), director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, tells us some items as follows: the La Spezia Jews seem to have been taken care of by 679 of them receiving certificates for legal entry into Palestine while the rest are going to take advantage of the A. C. camp nearby until their cases are settled; some 200 to 300 illegal entrees into Italy are getting across the frontiers, with Col. Findlay hazarding a guess that the number may rise to 2,000 a week as soon as the snow melts from the passes; talk of 100,000 certificates for entry into Palestine being distributed through Central Europe and a definite assignment of ports to be used may cut down the Italy rush... Mr. Joseph Silber (A), former Red Cross worker attached to Col. Findlay's outfit and now director for Austria of the American Joint Distribution Committee (Jewish relief) was in town the other day... Another regimental party, again a success, was held last

1188

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



night at the Grand... Brigadier General William L. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, has been awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* and Legion of Honor... A. C. officers and men who are expecting their families from the States will be glad to learn that they will begin to arrive the first weeks of May... Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis, CLO, Venezie, reports (through Col. R. C. Ross, regimental CO who saw him on a recent visit) that A. C. officers and former A. C. civilians now with other agencies, have an uncanny faculty of having their automobiles break down near Treviso during week-ends, which has forced Col. Mavis to run an impromptu hostelry for guests until every Monday, not to mention providing transport into nearby Venice... The complete story of the Education Sub-Commission, plus a review of Italian education, is well worth reading for anyone who wants to know how democratic ideals were put across to the Italians; the *Closing Report*, dated April 19, is on file in the Library Section of PRB for those interested... The U. S. Army demotion policy, to keep in line with the reduced U. S. war establishment, has begun to touch the 2675th Regiment, worse luck: As is their privilege, Colonels George F. Parker and John S. Arnold will retire at once from active duty, Col. H. H. Scudder will do the same on May 30, all so acting instead of accepting demotion for being the most recently made colonels in the A. C.; and lastly, the Regiment's CO himself, Col. R. C. Ross, a Regular Army and West Point man, will be affected, becoming a lieutenant colonel on June 1... G-1 (A) announces that, under the new MTOUSA policy, only those American officers on assignments whose principal duty is in connection with civil affairs and military government in occupied areas (Venezia Giulia and Udine) can now be held six months beyond the time they were originally eligible for redeployment... The following new awards have come in: *Bronze Star* — Colonel Robert B. Menapace, Lieut. Col. Richard L. Lollar, Major Donald C. Little... Major General L. Browning (B), Commander of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, reports that, as of the most recent report, 262,855 Italian POWs are still abroad in all areas, including 8,400 in Russia; repatriation is proceeding at the rate of 10,000 a month or better... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, CLO, Lombardia, sends this postscript on the recent Milan prison riot: The whole affair has been the subject of very great exaggeration, rumor having it that there were 2,000 well-armed criminals, whereas our Public Safety Officer's reasoned opinion is that the number of prisoners who used firearms throughout the action did not exceed 50. There was a good deal of unnecessary firing on the part of the police, with resultant inaccurate return fire. The riot collapsed at 1525 April 24, ten minutes after the Bersaglieri commander sent in an ultimatum to the prisoners...

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

May 4, 1946 Vol. III, No. 5

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

The news from the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers discussing the Italian peace treaty evoked this week spiritual agonies, soul-searchings and wide and profound unease in the press, compounded over the degree of Italy's redemption from her Fascist past and that of the aid which Italy gave the United Nations war effort against Germany. The item which touched off the black editorials referred to the reported partition of the Italian Navy among the Big Four and Greece and Yugoslavia. "Bitter epilogue of an honorable surrender", cried *Tempo*. "Italy's fate and property on the bargaining counter in the Big Power game", said *Il Messaggero*.

The gloom was little lifted by the report that the Conference had decided against Austria's claims to Bolzano and by reports of the apparently good impression that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi made in his personal presentation of the Italian case concerning Venezia Giulia to the Big Four personages at Paris on May 3. De Gasperi praised the unanimously approved report of the Allied Investigating Commission of experts as accurate and objective. He spoke after Kardelj, the Yugoslav spokesman who had attacked the experts' report and asked for the 1914 frontier, by saying that Italy favored the Wilson Line. U. S. Secretary of State Byrnes explicitly thanked De Gasperi for the concision of his explanations at the end, dispatches said.

Earlier in the week (on the 29th) De Gasperi had cabled the Conference of Italy's deep disquiet over the handling of Italy's case after the navy news came out, while the newspapers (*Espresso*, *Mondo*, *Italia Nuova*, among many) published leaders that Italian sailors would scuttle their own ships rather than accept "this supreme disgrace". In the ebb and flow of public feeling, the arrival of another expert commission at Briga and Tenda in Northwest Italy, dispatched by the Conference to find the facts on the French-Italian frontier rectification, was reported to have been received with demonstrations in favor of the Italianity of the areas concerned. Foreign news agency dispatches of a *modus vivendi* for Italy, now supposedly promised speedily, produced little reaction, the consensus being that it was way overdue. Another foreign affairs item, for the record, was the appointment of Ambassador Meli Lupi di Soragna as head of the Italian delegation to the Peace Conference (if invited). Soragna and Carandini, ambassador to London, accompanied De Gasperi to the Conference.

Italy's painful climb back to international good graces was the subject of acrid comment at the Liberal Party congress which opened in Rome April 29 and closed May 3. Bonomi, Nitti and Orlando, three of the four elder statesmen of the National Democratic Union, were guests of the Liberal Party and all deplored the Allies' treatment of Italy, Bonomi most bitterly. Croce, the fourth of the Union's leaders and Liberal party head, opened the congress with a speech in which he said that the Liberal party was principally interested in preserving liberty under no matter what type of institutions. Speeches and analysis of the party's positon were made by Brosio, who reaffirmed his republican sentiments; Cattani; Carandini; Corbino; Parente, who advocated a noncommital stand on the institutional question; Zanetti, who declared monarchy was the only means available to avoid dictatorships, and De Caro, whose speech on the Italian Navy elicited the dignified gathering's only demonstrations of prolonged enthusiasm.

The party congress adjourned after coming out for the monarchy, as expected, the Monarchist motion winning with 412 votes, to 311 for the republican one. Parts of the latter motion, however, were adopted as concerned political, economic and social matters while the majority motion itself stated that the "continuity of the (monarchical) institution in the present political crisis offered the greatest guarantee for public freedom, democratic setup of the state, juridical order and social progress, leaving its members an

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



absolute freedom of propaganda and vote". Croce was elected party president and Carandini and De Caro vice presidents.

The Christian Democrat congress was closing as the Liberals convened, with its getting off the fence on the republican side understandably throwing dismay in monarchist ranks. De Gasperi, who in his concluding speech had asked the Communists to "speak openly of the whole of Communism" as he said he had done of Catholicism, finally drew searching fire (but also pats on the back) from the Left. *Unità and Avanti* praised the party's republican stand but again deprecated talk of a "Red peril", while *Unità* went a step further and said De Gasperi's handling of Italy's foreign affairs had undermined the nation's position by lip service to anti-Fascism, encouragement of nationalist propaganda and siding with the Anglo-Saxons against the Slavs. The party congress re-elected De Gasperi secretary general and Piccioni vice secretary.

Among the *ordini del giorno* that marked a week that included May Day on the 1st (which saw a large but peaceful meeting in the Piazza del Popolo), was that of the Communists who announced a membership of 1,870,707, a party loan subscription of 50 million lire and a program of constitutional, land and industrial reform, including nationalization of big industries and banks, expropriation of abandoned large estates and a republic parliamentary (not presidential, like the American) in character. *Unità* also revealed Communist preoccupation with Monarchist-Liberal plans, alleging that the conservatives were plotting a *coup de main* by an early announcement of the abdication of King Victor Emanuel and a renunciation of the throne by Prince Umberto in favor of his son, the Prince of Naples.

The Council of Ministers met May 3 with Nenni presiding as Vice Premier. Several decrees reducing staffs of the armed forces were passed, eleven million lire awarded to St. Cecilia Musical Academy, permission granted to use saccharine instead of sugar in pastry making, instructions drawn up for distribution of relief goods to state employes, final decision taken to publish the full list of 427 OVRA agents, approval given to a decree re-establishing people's juries of ten registered electors for the Courts of Assizes and a message of solidarity drafted for dispatch to De Gasperi at Paris.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

UNRRA now estimate that the total expected arrivals for May will be 190,000 tons of wheat, our Food and Agriculture Branch relays to us. The balance to meet the 200-gram bread ration is to be found by the Italian Government by their additional amassing scheme. In future weekly arrivals of wheat tonnage, with the figure of grain amassed during the same week, will be published. The May crisis thus seems to be in hand. Now eyes are turned toward June, when, on the 1st, apart from whatever may be the balance of the amassing scheme on that date, there will be an anticipated stock position (as of present calculations) of 48,000 tons.

Non-distribution of fertilizers is still giving considerable concern at the moment. Roughly about 50,000 tons of fertilizer have been imported into Italy between January and April and although a certain small quantity of this has now been distributed, a considerable balance still remains in the warehouses. There are various reasons for this, the principal one being delay in producing a plan for distribution and the high price set by the Italians which makes the farmer loathe to take up his allocation, especially with regard to nitrogen fertilizer, as this is somewhat in the nature of a gamble. The farmer tends to hold off using this fertilizer during periods of drought such as has prevailed this spring, as fertilizer used during dry wheather does more harm than good.

Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), director of the Finance Branch, Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner and Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section—to name all his titles—is being redeployed after two and a half years with the A. C., all in finance, in which he has been known as the "works" of the staff and for his grasp of technical detail and lucid exposition of complicated policies. Before he left yesterday, the Colonel was telling us about the problem that has arisen concerning lire spent in Italy by Allied troops on leave from Germany and Austria and by Allied forces buying fruits and vegetables in Italy. The question is: whether and how to give the Italian Government equivalent foreign exchange credits. Speaking of Germany, the Commerce Branch has been meeting recently with Italian fruit growers from the North who wish to resume their pre-war export trade with Germany. It is questionable if such export for civilian use can be arranged under present conditions.

## THE ADMIRAL'S TRAVELS

We announced last week that the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, had arrived safely in Rome on April 27 after having been away since April 4. On the 29th,

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



the "Old Man" officially was back on board and you could practically see the old A. C. ship snap ahead at full speed on its course as orders issued, conferences met in his quarters and reports were made to SACMED. What the course of the A. C. will be was one of the matters which the Admiral discussed in the States in his first trip there in nearly three years. What has been decided will be known in the coming days as directives on reducing the size and scope of the Allied Commission are awaited from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

As to the trip itself, it was made both ways on TWA Skymasters. With the Admiral were his aide, Flag Lieutenant Edward J. Behn and Chief Yeoman Joseph Doran, who, by the way, got married while in the States and had to leave his bride in Attleboro, Mass., after two days' bliss, to return to Italy. On the flight over, bad weather grounded the party at Paris for one night, the U. S. shore being finally touched on April 6 at 7 a.m. in New York. The Admiral then went on to Washington and started his official round of calls on April 8, which, it might be said, like the plane's flight, also took place in the stratosphere, as can be seen from the list of personages he saw.

The most important, of course, was President Harry S. Truman, who was described as a keenly interested listener as the Admiral stressed that Italy needed speedy succor in (1) food, (2) fuel and raw materials, and (3) a just peace. In his talks with high officials of the War, Navy and State Departments and the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Admiral made the point over and again of the necessity of a just recognition for Italy's contribution to the war on the side of the Allies and itemized the contributions of the Italian Army, Navy, Air Forces and Partisans, the Chief Commissioner terming the aid of the Italian Partisans as second to none among the guerillas who fought for the Allies in all countries.

Besides the President, Admiral Stone saw Fleet Admiral Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations; Fleet Admiral Leahy, Presidential Chief of Staff; Vice Admiral Denfeld, Chief of the Navy Bureau of Personnel; Vice Admiral Ramsey, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Rear Admiral Inglis, director of Naval Intelligence; Major General Lemnitzer, former AFHQ Chief of Staff and now on the CCS; Mr. Dowling, who used to be one of the Political Advisors of the Allied Commission and now holds down the Italian desk in the State Department; Dr. Sacerdoti, chief of the Italian commercial mission now in the States on a purchasing program; Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson; Major General Hildring, Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Territories; Mr. Ben Cohen, Counsellor of the State Department and former brain truster for the late President Roosevelt; Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States; Field Marshal Wilson, head of the British Joint Staff Mission on the CCS and former SACMED here; Major General Al Gruenther, formerly Chief of Staff of the 5th Army; Mr. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State; Major General Echols, director of the War Department's Civil Affairs Division; Col. Ed Foley, formerly Joint Director of the A. C. Finance Sub-Commission, now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Brigadier General Holmes, former head of G-5 at AFHQ and now back in civilian life; and Signor Tarchiani, Italian Ambassador to the United States. Among ex-A. C. officers whom the Admiral saw were Col. Poletti, Col. Wilmer, and Lt. Atkinson—all keenly interested and active in promoting American support for Italy.

The Admiral's party left the United States April 25 but had to stop at Newfoundland for a whole day because of fog. The journey thenceforwards was uneventful.

## REFERENDUM PLANS

The decree describing the procedure to be followed in voting for the referendum on the institutional question has been signed and will be published in a few days. We are indebted (as usual) to Major R. R. Temple (A) for a description of its highlights. The ballot, which is marked simply at the top "Referendum on the institutional form of the State", has no question *per se* to be interpreted or misinterpreted but simply two emblems over which are the words, "Republic" and "Monarchy". The republican emblem is the head of a woman surrounded by oak and laurel leaves and that of the monarchy a crown and below, the coat of arms of the House of Savoy. Both emblems are superimposed on outline maps of the Italian peninsula.

Voting for the *Costituente* representatives and for the referendum will take place simultaneously. Separate boxes will hold the two ballots, which will be deposited in separate urns after voting. The added complications will need eight observers in each polling station (instead of five, as previously), which, with the president and secretary of the voting district, will make ten officials in the booths. In places of 500 voters or less, polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, the day of the vote. In places of larger populations, polls will open at 7 a.m. and

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



close at 10 p.m. and then will reopen on June 3 at 7 a.m. and close at noon.

The ballot boxes will be opened and counting of the votes began at noon on June 3 in *all* polling districts. Results must be completed and announced by noon June 4. The ballots and documents will then be forwarded to the central offices of each college or constituency, which will tabulate the totals for the constituency and forward the results and file of papers to the Court of Cassation in Rome by special courier as soon as possible (it is hoped by June 7). At each level the *Costituente* votes are counted first.

The Court of Cassation will tot up the reports from the colleges and announce the final results of the referendum not later than the fifteenth day after the election or by June 17. The time given is also for the Court to consider objections filed on the conduct of the elections. Press reports should have the results, however, by June 5 or 6.

## STRAIGHTENING OUT THE RECORD

If one will peer beneath what may appear the sometime somnolence of the Allied Commission at headquarters, one is apt to find all kinds of jobs quietly going on, one of which is a monumental review of AMG court cases by the Legal Subcommission, whose director, Col. John Weber (A), the former San Antonio (Texas) judge, is devoting practically his whole time to the matter. In brief, Col. Weber is cleaning up for posterity the A. C. legal record in its administration of military government jurisprudence.

The work, according to the Colonel, has three objectives: (1) To review the status of all persons held in Italian jails under the authority of AMG courts; (2) to adjust AMG court sentences on a uniform basis, for persons still in jail and (3) to apply to all cases possible a mitigation based on time earned for good behavior and for contributions to prison service. Under the first heading, cases of all persons in jail are reviewed to make sure they are there under legal authority and to release them if no justifiable grounds can be found to hold them.

The second rubric, that of adjusting AMG sentences, is the biggest problem. Violation of AMG proclamations and ordinances were punished on a deterrent basis on the grounds of military security. In practically all cases some part of the Italian civil code also was applicable to the same offense and the policy was early instituted of switching the prosecution over to the Italian courts as much as possible. In Sicily and Naples, for example, severe 10- and 20-year sentences were common in the early days, while as the armies moved North, as Italy became co-belligerent, and as the North was liberated and the Partisans and the population were openly helpful to the Allied armed forces, sentences became lighter until the early-day heavy sentences got down as low as 18 months. The job now is to adjust the earlier sentences in light of the later ones.

The entire task has been complicated by lack of records or confusion in the varying kinds of records kept by the different AMG regions. In all, Col. Weber estimates that AMG courts have handled approximately 75,000 cases, of which some 30,000 were in Naples alone and 21,000 in Tuscany, which includes Livorno, the port cities always showing the greatest incidence of AMG crimes, naturally. The great bulk of all cases were of sentences of under two years, which in the normal course of time have since expired or are doing so every day. Indeed, as of February 1, there were only 1,345 prisoners in jail with sentences of less than two years to serve and it is expected that all but about 80 of these will be free by the end of this year through the normal running out of their short-term sentences.

The problem, therefore, has become one of reviewing the sentences where there are *more* than two years to serve. This type includes 603 prisoners. Of these, Col. Weber has reviewed about 250 *cases*. Sentences have been altered in 251 instances (where there was more than two years to serve), which means that the sentences of these 251 persons were lowered to be in line with the norm of sentences. In general, about 65 per cent of the deterrent sentences are being thus adjusted while 35 per cent are not, the latter because they represent crimes which are *mal per se* and felonious violations of the civil code as well, such as counterfeiting, robbery with arms, murder, mail thefts, etc. The majority of the adjusted sentences refer to military crimes such as black marketeering, possession of Allied goods and possession of firearms, a violation, incidentally, which once used to draw ten years in Sicily and later only one year in the North.

All of the 251 sentences adjusted will further benefit by the allowances granted for time off for good behavior—to amount to 2½ days a month—and for contribution to prison service such as labor in the prison workshops, kitchen or administration, which, in effect, is an Allied effort to parallel the Italian system of grace and amnesty granted to prisoners. Recaptured prison escapees and prison rioters will not of course benefit by this latter adjustment.

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



## CLEANSING THE AUGEAN STABLES

The deadline just passed on April 30 in the North (by which time epuration proceedings must have been initiated), makes a report at hand on the subject of epuration from Brigadier Matthew Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, timely reading. Inevitably the statistics are somewhat old but represent the latest information available to the Allied Commission. All in all, Brigadier Carr said, although it is difficult to assess the degree of success of epuration, it can be considered that the Italian Government has made a genuine and effective effort to carry out its obligations of defascistization as called for by the Armistice terms.

Fascist epuration began way back on August 2, 1943 when Decree No. 704 was issued by the Italian Government in Rome before the Armistice, suppressing the National Fascist Party. Under Marshal Badoglio, epuration after the Armistice became the responsibility of a minister later known as the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism. Only after the Government was installed in Rome was Decree No. 159 issued, on July 27, 1944, setting up an epurative machinery, including a High Court for the Fascist big shots and Court of Assize trials for lesser fry. Commissions were set up in every ministry and in every province to try the national and local suspects, a legion of a generation under Fascism. Some 120 supplementary decrees and 300 special commissions eventually buttressed the defascistization plan.

To speed up the process and remove the atmosphere of uncertainty from public administration, Decree No. 702 was issued on November 9, 1945, limiting epuration proceedings to the first seven grades of civil servants but widening the scope of action possible against industrial concerns who may have supported Fascism. Professions were expected to purge their own ranks, the High Commissionership was to be abolished and each Ministry was made responsible for cleaning out its staff.

The actual defascism reports comprise those received directly by the Allied Commission subcommissions from their Italian Government counterparts and from the Italian Government central epuration office. The A. C. report covers employees in the first seven grades, as of February 28, and includes returns by the following sub-commissions: education, legal, local government, public safety, agriculture, finance, industry and commerce, transportation, communications and public relations. The number of Italian ministry employes represented was 30,084. Of these, 23,213 were investigated and epuration proceedings initiated against 4,765 and concluded against 3,817. Appeals were filed by 1,343, of which appeals 728 were dismissed while 640 employes were retired.

The report of the Italian Government (dated January 16, 1946) as to epuration in its central ministries covering all grades shows that of 394,041 employes, 219,613 were investigated. Proceedings were begun against 27,454 and concluded against 17,387, of whom 1,307 lodged appeals. Sanctions included dismissal of 1,580, retirement of 531 and lesser punishment for 8,803. Provincial commissions, reporting from all of Italy outside of the North, as of January 15, 1946, reveal that of 276,813 local officials, 144,728 were investigated, 14,076 were proceeded against, cases being concluded in 4,818 instances and 1,569 persons being dismissed as a result.

Abolition of Fascist organizations was another aspect of the epurative process taken up early in 1944 but not prosecuted until Rome fell. The first type of organization was that of a statal character whose objects were deemed objectionable, the second, that whose objects were partially beneficial but whose methods were reprehensible, and lastly, the type which, not exactly a statal enterprise, being indeed often private concerns, was partly useful and partly a racket. Of 27 principal Fascist organizations on record, nine were abolished, eleven have been epurated, one was non-political or semi-religious and in six epuration is still in progress.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. B. Findlay (B), director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, tells us some items as follows: the La Spezia Jews seem to have been taken care of by 679 of them receiving certificates for legal entry into Palestine while the rest are going to take advantage of the A. C. camp nearby until their cases are settled; some 200 to 300 illegal entrees into Italy are getting across the frontiers, with Col. Findlay hazarding a guess that the number may rise to 2,000 a week as soon as the snow melts from the passes; talk of 100,000 certificates for entry into Palestine being distributed through Central Europe and a delinite assignment of ports to be used may cut down the Italy rush... Mr. Joseph Silber (A), former Red Cross worker attached to Col. Findlay's outfit and now director for Austria of the American Joint Distribution Committee (Jewish relief) was in town the other day... Another regimental party, again a success, was held last

1944

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



night at the Grand... Brigadier General William L. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, has been awarded the French *Croix de Guerre* and Legion of Honor... A. C. officers and men who are expecting their families from the States will be glad to learn that they will begin to arrive the first weeks of May... Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis, CLO, Venezie, reports (through Col. R. C. Ross, regimental CO who saw him on a recent visit) that A. C. officers and former A. C. civilians now with other agencies, have an uncanny faculty of having their automobiles break down near Treviso during week-ends, which has forced Col. Mavis to run an impromptu hostelry for guests until every Monday, not to mention providing transport into nearby Venice... The complete story of the Education Sub-Commission, plus a review of Italian education, is well worth reading for anyone who wants to know how democratic ideals were put across to the Italians; the *Closing Report*, dated April 19, is on file in the Library Section of PRB for those interested... The U. S. Army demotion policy, to keep in line with the reduced U. S. war establishment, has begun to touch the 2675th Regiment, worse luck: As is their privilege, Colonels George F. Parker and John S. Arnold will retire at once from active duty, Col. H. H. Scudder will do the same on May 30, all so acting instead of accepting demotion for being the most recently made colonels in the A. C.; and lastly, the Regiment's CO himself, Col. R. C. Ross, a Regular Army and West Point man, will be affected, becoming a lieutenant colonel on June 1... G-1 (A) announces that, under the new MTOUSA policy, only those American officers on assignments whose principal duty is in connection with civil affairs and military government in occupied areas (Venezia Giulia and Udine) can now be held six months beyond the time they were originally eligible for redeployment... The following new awards have come in: *Bronze Star* — Colonel Robert B. Menapace, Lieut. Col. Richard L. Lollar, Major Donald C. Little... Major General L. Browning (B), Commander of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, reports that, as of the most recent report, 262,855 Italian POWs are still abroad in all areas, including 8,460 in Russia; repatriation is proceeding at the rate of 10,000 a month or better... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop, CLO, Lombardia, sends this postscript on the recent Milan prison riot: The whole affair has been the subject of very great exaggeration, rumor having it that there were 2,000 well-armed criminals, whereas our Public Safety Officer's reasoned opinion is that the number of prisoners who used firearms throughout the action did not exceed 50. There was a good deal of unnecessary firing on the part of the police, with resultant inaccurate return fire. The riot collapsed at 1525 April 24, ten minutes after the Bersaglieri commander sent in an ultimatum to the prisoners...

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

Vol. III, No. 4

April 27, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Convening in what most observers termed a spirit of fervent solidarity, the Christian Democrat party, which emerged from the administrative elections (see *Costituente Preparations* in this issue) as the largest single party, opened its national congress in the halls of the University of Rome April 24 to hear Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi, as secretary-general of the party, come out definitely and clearly against what he called the dangers to Italian civilization represented in the programs of the Socialist and Communist parties. The presence, incidentally, of a French delegation of the similar MRP party in France, which has been having its own difficulties with the Social-Communist bloc, had evoked considerable press comment on the eve of the congress on the parallel dangers of Christian Democracy being out-maneuvered by the Left bloc (as expressed by *Mondo*). De Gasperi, who made his address after the French delegate had given his fraternal greetings, answered criticism of both the Left and Right.

The Christian Democrats have had a real program, even in the days of underground activity, but one which has had to be readjusted according to the pressures of immediate action, he said. He declared that violence and intimidation would not affect Christian Democrat views and called on all parties and citizens to disarm. He went on to deny existence of secret documents (as charged by *Italia Nuova*) concerning the Royal House and the crisis at the fall of Fascism in July, 1943. He said: "We are neither for Socialism nor for Communism but for solidarity of groups of opposing interests attained through a system allowing emphasis on work above everything". He asked for "equality of treatment in social life" and said "we need another system of landed property actualizing a real justice. And we must reach all this with the collaboration of the very owners of today, through legal forms based on equality, on the democratic principle of majority without spasms or violence, in general freedom". He said reforms should be made region by region and asserted that industrial reforms could not be decided solely on Marxist principles which aimed at transforming economic matters into political ones. He deprecated the "accomodating statements of the Leftist parties concerning religion" as "nothing but tactical maneuvers". He ended by saying that "should we lose the battle we are fighting at present, we should lose not a mere electoral battle but the battle for the civilization and education of the Italian people".

*Avanti* and *Unità*, organs of the parties De Gasperi attacked, made surprisingly moderate replies, the tenor of both being that the Prime Minister was not specific in his charges. *Momento* charged that De Gasperi's inexplicit references to arms and money "misteriously" reaching Italy and his repeated affirmation of the "irreconcilability between Christian Democrat doctrine and Marxist materialism" was driving the Christian Democrats into an open position of anti-Communism and into the arms of the conservatives of the Right, an act, the paper said, which "purposely aggravates the discord that has arisen between Communists and Christian Democrats".

### Declaration.

The Thursday meeting dealt with Christian Democrat plans for the new Constitution, to be drafted on the principles of freedom (a word used over and over), but without much itemization. The important announcement of the day was to reveal the results of the party's private referendum on the institutional question. Voting were 836,812 members; republicans 503,085 (60 per cent. of the vote), monarchists 146,061 (17 per cent.) and opposers to any statement on the question, 187,666 (23 per cent.). The debate which followed on the institutional question was limited to 14 speakers and continued through Friday, speeches being marked by sharp words between the North and the South as to who had suffered most under Nazi-Fascism and by a remark

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



from Monarchist Genna from Turin who asked: "I should like to knov how many of you wore a black shirt". The ensuing fracas ended when Genna apologized. Finally, the motion for the party to declare itself won and the republican solution was victorious in results announced early Saturday as follows: Out of 1,061,000 members, 739,000 for the republic, 254,000 against, or 73 per cent. for the republic.

The bread crisis (see *Economic Front*) was the headline news of the week, marked by repeated Cabinet meetings, transatlantic telephone calls and conferences with UNRRA. The upshot, after a meeting of the Cabinet Council of Ministers on April 23, was possibly to reduce the ration to 150 grams a day temporarily but not to touch the supplementary rations, but on the 26th, a communiqué was issued announcing the ration would NOT be cut. All the press picked up De Gasperi's remark at a meeting where he said, "What is the *Costituente* and the referendum without bread?" The political attacks on the bread issue were headed as usual by *Italia Nuova* which charged that Communist cooperatives were concealing their grain stocks with the alleged complicity of the Communist Minister of Agriculture Gullo, while the Leftist press called upon the country to make "solidarity of sacrifices" to withstand any temporary cut.

A fillip to international news was given by the declaration of the French Communists, attacking Togliatti and the Italian Communists on their ideological integrity and for their stand on Trieste, which the French Communists said should go to Yugoslavia. The Italian Communists, on the 22nd, met in executive meeting and issued an invitation to their French comrades to come to Italy to discuss the matter and also a statement declaring that, although the Italian Communist party was against all forms of nationalism, it believed that giving Trieste to Yugoslavia would revive nationalist tendencies in Italy and thus slow up the evolution of Italian democracy.

The main foreign attraction, of course, was the Paris conference of the Foreign Ministers which opened on the 25th and which most Italian editorial eyes viewed somewhat darkly, chief stumbling blocks listed being reparations, Trieste, colonies and disposal of the Italian fleet, though hope picked up one or two points after the first day when it was reported that Russia had agreed to giving first place on the agenda to the Italian treaty and to French participation in the discussions on Italy (Bidault had stated he would try to mediate in Anglo-American-Russian differences over Italy).

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The bread situation has appreciably improved in the last few days by the announcement of a diversion of 16,000 tons of wheat in two ships of extra UNRRA allocation to Italy, plus the fact that 121,000 tons have now been cleared for April loadings with a firm promise of an additional 46,000 tons to be cleared by the end of the month in another six ships. The Government's scheme for increased local production in short is to allot a definite amassing target to each province and only sufficient bread grains will be supplied over and above this target to meet the established ration scales. This will throw the obligation of retaining the 200-gram bread ration on to the Provinces. It may, of course, possibly lead to local reductions, but it will avoid the official cut in the ration scale by the Government.

For many months the Economic Section has been disturbed by the slow movement of imported commodities to the consuming public and in the last couple of weeks has been waging an all-out campaign to locate idle stockpiles and to bring their existence to the attention of the Italian Government. Prices set too high or merely oversight have apparently prevented the flow of goods to those who need them as originally intended. Among the non-moving items have been 664 tractors (in Italy since February), 10,000 tons of medical supplies (from last years' military import program), mining machinery (here since July, 1945), 46,235 tons of fertilizer (from February and March arrivals), considerable used clothing (turned over last year), 45,000 tons of miscellaneous foods, which, however, will probably begin to move out shortly.

There also is the news of Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section and now Deputy Chief of the Italy UNRRA Mission, going to Washington tomorrow with the UNRRA program for the second half of 1946, which was originally planned for the first half but which never went into effect because of the non-delivery of supplies. Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, has made a resumé of the Italian Government's memorandum to the Big Four Foreign Ministers' Deputies concerning economic-financial questions related with the Italian peace treaty. The document among other things lists contributions of 400 billion lire toward the United Nations' war effort, 300 billion lire claims against Germany, 15 billion as spent in developing Albania and seven billion for Ethiopia. Italian

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



coastwise shipping last month amounted to 204,146 tons.

The Italian Government has asked for permission to supplement the present AMG public works program in Venezia Giulia in order to relieve unemployment and the housing situation. The Government's plans have been forwarded for g. k. to 13th Corps, whose public works officer, by the way, points out that one of the handicaps to execution of housing projects is the lack of skilled workmen such as carpenters and bricklayers. The A. C. on 21 April turned over to the Italians the operating responsibility for screening items on the Reserved Commodity Lists for world trade and now the Government has direct access to the Combined Food Board and Combined Commodity Committees in Washington in order to obtain allocation of goods falling outside the scope of the UNRRA program.

The principles originally laid down by the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission of the A. C. have been adopted as the basic policy of the Government's Inter-Ministerial Price Committee in determining future price increases for power, water and gas, Col. George F. Parker, chief of the Utilities Division, reports. Charges had been allowed as follows: *No* changes permitted in rates in effect in 1942; companies allowed to apply a temporary flat percentual surcharge to the *total* bills for power consumed; this surcharge computed from a book-keeping formula of profit and loss in recent operations; only actual "out-of-pocket" expenses were allowed to be covered in the surcharge and no allowances made for depreciation, amortization, interest, dividends or cost of repairs of war damage; for further increases, the companies had to make new application, which involved re-examination of operating costs.

The following representative percentage surcharges are now in effect in Italy:

| | South | Central | North |
|---|---|---|---|
| Electricity . | 350 | 350 | 200 |
| Water . . . | 250 (Naples) | 385 (Rome) | 500 |
| Gas . . . . | 500 (Naples) | 425 (Rome) | |
| | 250 (Salerno) | 600 (Florence) | 350 |
| | 200 (Bari) | | |

## COSTITUENTE PREPARATIONS

With the administrative elections over on April 7 (no further such elections are expected until the autumn) and the filing date for candidates for the *Costituente* elections closed on April 18, we might usefully review the elections just past and those coming up. Below we run what the Local Government Sub-Commission assures is the final, complete, official returns from the Ministry of Interior on the administrative elections. Unfortunately, reliable figures on actual votes cast are not yet available. The administrative elections, which, by the way, are said to have cost the Italian Government 16 million lire in stationery charges alone, saw 66 provincial capitals vote and 49 other cities over 30,000 population. Involved was a population estimated at 7,258,764, of which 5,064,150 were registered voters, a little more than half being women. At least 4,000,000 are reported to have voted.

Communes which did not vote, according to our experts, were not ready to vote, the electoral lists being in arrears. Many large cities were among this group, including Rome, Naples and Palermo in the group over 250,000 and La Spezia and Messina in the group under. Milan, the largest city which voted, did so by an all-out effort to get ready by April 7. Rome got ready a few days after April 7. In Naples, there were, as of April 16, still 42 communes to get ready and as of latest report, three laggard communes are still not ready. In Northern Italy, .8 per cent., in Central Italy .4 per cent., in Southern Italy 1.6 per cent. and in insular Italy, 2 per cent. of the lists were not ready, as of the April 15 report. These figures do not include Venezia Giulia or Bolzano, of course. The table for the administrative elections (on the calm and order of which the acting Chief Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, sent a congratulatory letter to the Italian Prime Minister) here follows:

| PARTY | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total |
| **Left Concentration** . | 8 | 2,008 | **2,016** | 386 | 35,901 | **36,287** |
| Communist . . . | 28 | 122 | **150** | 1,024 | 2,262 | **3,286** |
| Socialist . . . . | 3 | 135 | **144** | 894 | 2,804 | **3,698** |
| Republican . . . | 6 | 33 | **39** | 239 | 722 | **961** |
| Action . . . . . | — | 7 | **7** | 30 | 249 | **279** |
| **Christian Democrat** | 54 | 1,944 | **1,998** | 1,655 | 35,959 | **36,683** |
| **Center Concentration** | 2 | 310 | **312** | 115 | 5,963 | **6,078** |
| **Right Concentration** | — | 125 | **125** | 148 | 2,458 | **2,576** |
| Liberal . . . . . | — | 95 | **95** | 106 | 1,810 | **1,916** |
| Labour Democrat | 1 | 77 | **78** | 45 | 1,777 | **1,428** |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 22 | **22** | 48 | 447 | **495** |
| Italian Democrat | — | 5 | **5** | 1 | 76 | **77** |
| **Independents** . . . | — | 466 | **466** | 23 | 8,553 | **8,576** |
| Local Parties . . | 1 | 172 | **173** | 63 | 2,878 | **2,941** |
| Veterans . . . . | — | 55 | **55** | 24 | 1,072 | **1,096** |
| No majority or unaccounted for | 7 | 32 | **39** | — | — | — |
| TOTALS . . . | 115 | 5,609 | **5,724** | 4,750 | 101,623 | **106,373** |

*A* = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals (proportional representation).
*B* = Communes under 30,000 (majority system).

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



### Constituencies.

For the *Costituente* elections, there are 32 constituencies but only 30 of these are presented for analysis (by the Local Government S/C), Venezia Giulia being again excluded, and for purposes of tabulation, also Aosta, which is a single-member district, where two candidates have been nominated. Only four parties or groups will present lists of candidates in all 30 constituencies or colleges. These are the Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats and the National Democratic Union (of Bonomi *et al.*). The Republican party will offer itself in 29 constituencies, the Action party in 26, Uomo Qualunque in 25, National Bloc of Liberty (Rightists and Monarchists) in 19 and the Democratic Republican Concentration (Parri, etc.) in nine, among the better-known parties. There are also several lists with limited programs such as those of war veterans and refugees, a Sicilian independence movement and also a party which advocates federation with the United States — the *Movimento Unionista Italiano* — which presents itself in seven colleges and has the crossed flags of the United States and Italy as its party emblem, though there is some diplomatic doubt as to whether this latter symbol should be allowed. Thirty-one local groups presented candidates in one college only. Although 59 parties registered their symbols, only 56 parties offered lists of candidates by the filing date.

As for the *Costituente* elections themselves, an excellent analysis has been made by Major R. R. Temple (A), the Local Government's director. The chief points are as follows: Voting is not compulsory but abstainers will be officially but mildly reprimanded by being publicly noticed and by having "did not vote" written on their good conduct certificates for five years. The elections may be postponed and later held in sections where they cannot be held now so as to meet the cases of Venezia Giulia and possibly Bolzano. The ordinary voting mechanics are like those in force for the administrative elections. To be elected are 573 deputies. All preference votes will be counted and affect the total result instead of the previous arrangement whereby they would not count unless they amounted to 20 per cent. of the ordinary votes given for any one list. The list of all 32 constituencies is given herewith:

**Election districts or Constituencies.**

| Constituency * and Provinces member | Seats |
|---|---|
| TORINO – Novara-Vercelli | 28 |
| CUNEO – Alessandria-Asti | 18 |
| GENOVA – Imperia-La Spezia-Savona | 20 |
| MILANO – Pavia | 36 |
| COMO – Sondrio-Varese | 14 |
| BRESCIA – Bergamo | 18 |
| MANTOVA – Cremona | 10 |
| TRENTO – Bolzano | 9 |
| VERONA – Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo | 29 |
| VENEZIA – Treviso | 16 |
| UDINE – Belluno | 12 |
| TRIESTE e Venezia Giulia-Zara | 13 |
| BOLOGNA – Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli | 24 |
| PARMA – Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia | 20 |
| FIRENZE – Pistoia | 14 |
| PISA – Livorno-Lucca-Apuania | 15 |
| SIENA – Arezzo-Grosseto | 10 |
| ANCONA – Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno | 17 |
| PERUGIA – Terni-Rieti | 12 |
| ROMA – Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone | 33 |
| L'AQUILA – Pescara-Chieti-Teramo | 16 |
| BENEVENTO – Campobasso | 9 |
| NAPOLI – Caserta | 30 |
| SALERNO – Avellino | 15 |
| BARI – Foggia | 21 |
| LECCE – Brindisi-Taranto | 15 |
| POTENZA – Matera | 7 |
| CATANZARO – Cosenza-Reggio Calabria | 24 |
| CATANIA – Messina-Siracusa-Ragusa-Enna | 27 |
| PALERMO – Trapani-Agrigento-Caltanissetta | 26 |
| CAGLIARI – Sassari-Nuoro | 14 |
| VAL D'AOSTA | 1 |
| | 573 |

* Seat of central office in capitals.

### LA SCALA

With the first concert of the new *La Scala* slated for May 11, Arturo Toscanini, the old maestro conducting, the story might be told about how AMG in Milan put reconstruction of the world-famed opera house on an A-1 priority basis, a project which from the start has been assisted by Capt. Clement C. Petrillo (A), himself a musician. To him we are indebted for the word that the acoustics of the new *La Scala*, for which the old house was particularly noted, will again be excellent, thanks to the exact rebuilding of the cupola.

Just before the war, Capt. Petrillo tells us, an Italian Government inspector insisted that the cupola was about to collapse, whereupon the Milan Communal Architect made immediate and accurate drawings of the entire cupola. These have come in providentially handy and the restored cupola is now complete and a replica of the one which stood from August, 1778 when *La Scala* first opened its doors.

The opera house was virtually destroyed in a heavy Allied air raid of August, 1943 when two hits of incendiary bombs and a direct blast of an explosive bomb left nothing but the stage

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



(by a miracle) and the four walls standing. Gone were the ballet school, workshops, the scenery warehouse, including 71 sets and 22,000 pairs of shoes. Many of the tapestries, seat coverings and mirrors, however, had been removed to safety in time.

AMG authorized expenditure of 37,000,000 lire for rebuilding immediately, unblocked all necessary materials, provided 80 tons of coal during the past winter to enable work to continue during the bitter weather (the new plaster, etc. had to be kept from freezing). Toscanini himself contributed $10,000 to help and a friend of his matched the gift of the great conductor who began his career at *La Scala*. Toscanini last conducted there in 1929. The new *La Scala*'s season will run until June 28. Toscanini will conduct six performances, three of them encores.

## ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО СССР В СОЮЗНОЙ КОМИССИИ В ИТАЛИИ

We are happy to publish an account of the Russian representative's history in the A. C., following that of the French representative (in French) some months ago. The title in Russian above means simply "The USSR Representation to the Allied Commission in Italy". We have seen our Russian friends pursue their quiet and courteous ways for the past two years and more, asking for information in most punctilious fashion and serving as superb hosts at their vodka-caviar receptions, and we take this opportunity to pass on the comradely greetings of the *Bulletin* (which they tell us is translated faithfully every week and dispatched home) and to wish Colonel Victor V. Savko and his staff the best of everything. The story that follows comes from Col. Savko:

In November 1943 Major General N. S. Solodovnik, nominated by Moscow as the Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Allied Commission for Italy, accompanied by his assistant, Lieutenant Commander M. V. Golubev, arrived in Algiers. After two months stay in Allied Force Headquarters in Algiers, the USSR Representative came to Naples at the end of January 1944. In August 1944 General Solodovnik, being unwell, was obliged to return to USSR for treatment.

When the Allied Control Commission was transferred to Rome, the newly appointed Soviet Representative to ACC, Major General I. A. Susloparov, came at once to the Italian capital. A few days later there also arrived a group of officers of his staff, composed of Colonel V. V. Savko, Red Army, Art.; Major-Engineer N. G. Leonidov, Red Army, Aviation; Captain M. F. Vedmich, Red Army, Art.; Senior Lieutenant G. S. Filatov, Red Army, Inf., and Lieutenant S. D. Zubkov, Red Army, Art.

In the war against Germany all the above-mentioned officers participated in military operations on various battle-fields and have been decorated with different military awards.

At the end of January 1945, General Susloparov was given a new assignment and the duties of the USSR Representative to the A. C. were passed to Major General A. P. Kislenko.

At the time of the successful military operations of the Red Army on the East and of the Allied Anglo-American and French Forces in the West against Nazi Germany, the Allied Military Authorities organized a parade in Piazza Venezia in Rome on 23rd February 1945 to honor the 28th Anniversary of the Red Army. In this parade officers of the Soviet Representation to the AC took part.

General Kislenko remained with the Allied Commission until August 1945 and then returned to Moscow. In his absence his duties are being carried out by his deputy, Colonel Savko, now the Acting USSR Representative to AC.

During the period of the past two years, the officers of the USSR Representation have maintained a continuous contact with all the sub-commissions of the A. C. This contact with the directors, deputy directors and the leading personnel of the sub-commissions has given the USSR Representative the opportunity to keep informed on the work of the Allied Commission in Italy.

The staff of the USSR Representation would like to mention gratefully the former liaison officers of A. C. — Major Magnus, Lieut. Col. E. Brown, Capt. the Earl of Ranfurly, Capt. A. Arnoldy, Capt. W. Newburg and Capt. Reggio — for their constant assistance to the Russian officers in various matters. Appreciation is also expressed to Capt. V. L. Oddi, the present liaison officer, who pays prompt attention to all the problems arising for the Soviet Representation.

361

## BACK ON THE JOB

The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, returned to Rome this afternoon by air after a mission in Washington. The Admiral left Rome April 4. We will tell you about his trip next week.

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



## PAZIENZA, AMICO! PAZIENZA!

The Adjutant passes the following letter to us, which we in turn relay to the Economic Section for action:

11 April 1946

To: *Headquarters*
*Region 3, Allied Control Commission*
*APO 394, U. S. Army.*

On the 5 July 44, I received a letter from this Command of which I make a copy:

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394 U. S. ARMY

Es. 738. PB. 12B. 5 July 1944

SUBJECT: *Diesel Oil at Caianello.*
To: *Sindaco of Caianello* (Naples)

1. The Teano Dist. (Major Richard L. Lollar) has informed us that several hundred litres of diesel oil left in the vicinity of Caianello by the Società Italiana Bonifiche Acquedotti of Rome, have been put in your charge.

2. Will you please communicate to us the exact quantity available.

W. G. BIRT, *Major*
*Economic Supply Section*
*Industrial Controller*

EC/MAS

To this letter I answered that the quantity available was of litres 1900 in charge of Pettoruto Pietro.

In the same letter I asked what I had to do of that Diesel oil because the Compagnia Italiana Petroli (C. I. P.) asked to have returned the empty barrels and in order to stop the payment of the rent that I am still paying. But till to-day I have not got any answer.

I pray you to give me exact orders and as soon as possible because the barrels lose diesel and the quantity is less than before.

I had to put that diesel left in other good barrels.

On other side, I pay 500 lires per month for rent. For that authorize me to sell that said diesely oil at current price and I will keep the amount of the sale, at your disposal, keeping for me the amount of the expenses.

Will you please reply to me quiely.

My best regards.

(PETTORUTO PIETRO)

Here is my address:
Pettornto Pietro
(Caserta) CAIANELLO.

## ODDS AND ENDS

L/Cpl. J. Munro, one of the original wallahs of the early AMG days in Foggia through which have passed most military government officers in this last war, has been invited to be a judge May 19 at a dog show (English, Irish and Gordon setters) at Asti in Piemonte; the corporal used to look over the doggies back home... Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, passed through Rome this week... The Colonel's lady, Mrs. C. R. Ross, wife of the Regiment's CO, is arriving in Naples to join the Colonel April 30... PRB this week has been in receipt of three letters from as many Italian groups (two in Foggia and one in Calabria) who want to organize Friends of America Association; we referred them to the U. S. Embassy Cultural Attaché... Since operations began in Sicily in July, 1943, 1,700 Italian vehicles have been requisitioned by AMG, of which 1,558 have been derequisitioned, leaving a balance of 142 vehicles on the books of the Allied Commission for all of Italy, Major Clayton Craig, G-4 (A), reports, adding that further derequisitions will be made only as the vehicles become surplus to the needs of the A. C.... Public safety conditions in Emilia, says Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters, CLO at Bologna, are still not satisfactory: in March, there were 15 cases of murder or attempts ascribed to political motives, five kidnappings, 11 ordinary murders, 96 robberies or attempts, one try at a prison break (two got killed as a result) and 29 arrests for the above serious crimes... The following U. S. awards to British personnel have been made: *Legion of Merit* — (*Commander*) Brig. G. R. Upjohn; (*Officer*) Brig. A. P. Grafftey-Smith, Colonels P. R. Evans, J. L. Jones and W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters; (*Legionnaire*) Col. A. N. Hancock. *Bronze Star* — Col. T. Parr, Lieutenant Colonels L. R. Battensby and H. Mighall, Capt. T. March. *Medal of Freedom* — (*Silver Palm*) Col. G. M. Frizelle; (*Bronze Palm*) Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper, Capt. G. H. Ryper; (*without Palm*) Major E. J. P. Scicluna, W. Os I R. H. L. Angibault and L. McNeil, Staff Sergt. A. Cash (our old PRB stand-by), Sergts. A. E. Papps and W. C. White... Other awards are: *Crown of Italy* — (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Walter D. Stump; (*Knight*) Captains Lawrence C. Becker, Arber Johnson, Frank J. Moran and Thomas A. Morris... Major Richard B. Bullock, Adjutant of the Allied Commission and of the 2675th Regiment, is being married today to Miss Roberta Wollenhaupt, former FEA employe of the A. C.; the reception

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



afterward is being given by the Regiment's CO, Col. Robert C. Ross; good luck and a long life to the happy couple... Colonels Ross and Charles Walton and Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford represented the A. C. in a conference with Brigadier General A. J. Hamblen aboard a train in Udine concerning arrangements to tie in Udine AMG with 13th Corps... Two (now rare) promotions are announced: Arthur McPhail to Major and William R. Thomson to Captain... In the biggest A. C. redeployment clean-up since last fall, 35 officers got aboard the ship that left Leghorn April 26... New release group dates for British officers and OR have come through, starting with Group 32, which is to be complated by 2 July, to Group 40, which starts 27 September... Good news (perhaps!) for Italian brides of GIs and American officers:

Starting Monday evening (the 29th) at 8:30 p.m., classes in the English language, as it's spoken in the United States, will be held every Monday and Friday at the Hotel Nord Nuova Roma, and classes in American citizenship will be conducted every Wednesday evening at the same time; Capt. H. Armand de Masi, of the Italian Prisoners of War Division, Land Forces Sub-Commission, and CWO Sexson E. Humphreys, Assistant Adjutant of 2675 Regiment, will be the teachers...

301

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

April 27, 1946 Vol. III, No. 4

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Convening in what most observers termed a spirit of fervent solidarity, the Christian Democrat party, which emerged from the administrative elections (see *Costituente Preparations* in this issue) as the largest single party, opened its national congress in the halls of the University of Rome April 24 to hear Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi, as secretary-general of the party, come out definitely and clearly against what he called the dangers to Italian civilization represented in the programs of the Socialist and Communist parties. The presence, incidentally, of a French delegation of the similar MRP party in France, which has been having its own difficulties with the Social-Communist bloc, had evoked considerable press comment on the eve of the congress on the parallel dangers of Christian Democracy being out-maneuvered by the Left bloc (as expressed by *Mondo*). De Gasperi, who made his address after the French delegate had given his fraternal greetings, answered criticism of both the Left and Right.

The Christian Democrats have had a real program, even in the days of underground activity, but one which has had to be readjusted according to the pressures of immediate action, he said. He declared that violence and intimidation would not affect Christian Democrat views and called on all parties and citizens to disarm. He went on to deny existence of secret documents (as charged by *Italia Nuova*) concerning the Royal House and the crisis at the fall of Fascism in July, 1943. He said: "We are neither for Socialism nor for Communism but for solidarity of groups of opposing interests attained through a system allowing emphasis on work above everything". He asked for "equality of treatment in social life" and said "we need another system of landed property actualizing a real justice. And we must reach all this with the collaboration of the very owners of today, through legal forms based on equality, on the democratic principle of majority without spasms or violence, in general freedom". He said reforms should be made region by region and asserted that industrial reforms could not be decided solely on Marxist principles which aimed at transforming economic matters into political ones. He deprecated the "accomodating statements of the Leftist parties concerning religion" as "nothing but tactical maneuvers". He ended by saying that "should we lose the battle we are fighting at present, we should lose not a mere electoral battle but the battle for the civilization and education of the Italian people".

*Avanti* and *Unità*, organs of the parties De Gasperi attacked, made surprisingly moderate replies, the tenor of both being that the Prime Minister was not specific in his charges. *Momento* charged that De Gasperi's inexplicit references to arms and money "misteriously" reaching Italy and his repeated affirmation of the "irreconcilability between Christian Democrat doctrine and Marxist materialism" was driving the Christian Democrats into an open position of anti-Communism and into the arms of the conservatives of the Right, an act, the paper said, which "purposely aggravates the discord that has arisen between Communists and Christian Democrats".

### Declaration.

The Thursday meeting dealt with Christian Democrat plans for the new Constitution, to be drafted on the principles of freedom (a word used over and over), but without much itemization. The important announcement of the day was to reveal the results of the party's private referendum on the institutional question: Voting were 836,812 members; republicans 503,085 (60 per cent. of the vote), monarchists 146,061 (17 per cent.) and opposers to any statement on the question, 187,666 (23 per cent.). The debate which followed on the institutional question was limited to 14 speakers and continued through Friday, speeches being marked by sharp words between the North and the South as to who had suffered most under Nazi-Fascism and by a remark

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



from Monarchist Genna from Turin who asked: "I should like to know how many of you were a black shirt". The ensuing fracas ended when Genna apologized. Finally, the motion for the party to declare itself won and the republican solution was victorious in results announced early Saturday as follows: Out of 1,061,000 members, 739,000 for the republic, 254,000 against, or 75 per cent. for the republic.

The bread crisis (see *Economic Front*) was the headline news of the week, marked by repeated Cabinet meetings, transatlantic telephone calls and conferences with UNRRA. The upshot, after a meeting of the Cabinet Council of Ministers on April 23, was possibly to reduce the ration to 150 grams a day temporarily but not to touch the supplementary rations, but on the 26th, a communiqué was issued announcing the ration would NOT be cut. All the press picked up De Gasperi's remark at a meeting where he said, "What is the *Costituente* and the referendum without bread?" The political attacks on the bread issue were headed as usual by *Italia Nuova* which charged that Communist cooperatives were concealing their grain stocks with the alleged complicity of the Communist Minister of Agriculture Gullo, while the Leftist press called upon the country to make "solidarity of sacrifices" to withstand any temporary cut.

A fillip to international news was given by the declaration of the French Communists, attacking Togliatti and the Italian Communists on their ideological integrity and for their stand on Trieste, which the French Communists said should go to Yugoslavia. The Italian Communists, on the 22nd, met in executive meeting and issued an invitation to their French comrades to come to Italy to discuss the matter and also a statement declaring that, although the Italian Communist party was against all forms of nationalism, it believed that giving Trieste to Yugoslavia would revive nationalist tendencies in Italy and thus slow up the evolution of Italian democracy.

The main foreign attraction, of course, was the Paris conference of the Foreign Ministers which opened on the 25th and which most Italian editorial eyes viewed somewhat darkly, chief stumbling blocks listed being reparations, Trieste, colonies and disposal of the Italian fleet, though hope picked up one or two points after the first day when it was reported that Russia had agreed to giving first place on the agenda to the Italian treaty and to French participation in the discussions on Italy (Bidault had stated he would try to mediate in Anglo-American-Russian differences over Italy).

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The bread situation has appreciably improved in the last few days by the announcement of a diversion of 16,000 tons of wheat in two ships of extra UNRRA allocation to Italy, plus the fact that 121,000 tons have now been cleared for April loadings with a firm promise of an additional 46,000 tons to be cleared by the end of the month in another six ships. The Government's scheme for increased local production in short is to allot a definite amassing target to each province and only sufficient bread grains will be supplied over and above this target to meet the established ration scales. This will throw the obligation of retaining the 200-gram bread ration on to the Provinces. It may, of course, possibly lead to local reductions, but it will avoid the official cut in the ration scale by the Government.

For many months the Economic Section has been disturbed by the slow movement of imported commodities to the consuming public and in the last couple of weeks has been waging an all-out campaign to locate idle stockpiles and to bring their existence to the attention of the Italian Government. Prices set too high or merely oversight have apparently prevented the flow of goods to those who need them as originally intended. Among the non-moving items have been 664 tractors (in Italy since February), 10,000 tons of medical supplies (from last years' military import program), mining machinery (here since July, 1945), 46,235 tons of fertilizer (from February and March arrivals), considerable used clothing (turned over last year), 45,000 tons of miscellaneous foods, which, however, will probably begin to move out shortly.

There also is the news of Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Acting Vice President of the Economic Section and now Deputy Chief of the Italy UNRRA Mission, going to Washington tomorrow with the UNRRA program for the second half of 1946, which was originally planned for the first half but which never went into effect because of the non-delivery of supplies. Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, has made a resumé of the Italian Government's memorandum to the Big Four Foreign Ministers' Deputies concerning economic-financial questions related with the Italian peace treaty. The document among other things lists contributions of 400 billion lire toward the United Nations' war effort, 300 billion lire claims against Germany, 15 billion as spent in developing Albania and seven billion for Ethiopia. Italian

I 2 0 4

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



coastwise shipping last month amounted to 204,146 tons.

The Italian Government has asked for permission to supplement the present AMG public works program in Venezia Giulia in order to relieve unemployment and the housing situation. The Government's plans have been forwarded for o. k. to 13th Corps, whose public works officer, by the way, points out that one of the handicaps to execution of housing projects is the lack of skilled workmen such as carpenters and bricklayers. The A. C. on 21 April turned over to the Italians the operating responsibility for screening items on the Reserved Commodity Lists for world trade and now the Government has direct access to the Combined Food Board and Combined Commodity Committees in Washington in order to obtain allocation of goods falling outside the scope of the UNRRA program.

The principles originally laid down by the Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission of the A. C. have been adopted as the basic policy of the Government's Inter-Ministerial Price Committee in determining future price increases for power, water and gas, Col. George F. Parker, chief of the Utilities Division, reports. Charges had been allowed as follows: No changes permitted in rates in effect in 1942; companies allowed to apply a temporary flat percentual surcharge to the *total* bills for power consumed; this surcharge computed from a book-keeping formula of profit and loss in recent operations; only actual "out-of-pocket" expenses were allowed to be covered in the surcharge and no allowances made for depreciation, amortization, interest, dividends or cost of repairs of war damage; for further increases, the companies had to make new application, which involved re-examination of operating costs.

The following representative percentage surcharges are now in effect in Italy:

| | South | Central | North |
|---|---|---|---|
| Electricity | 350 | 350 | 200 |
| Water | 250 (Naples) | 385 (Rome) | 500 |
| Gas | 500 (Naples) | 425 (Rome) | |
| | 250 (Salerno) | 600 (Florence) | 350 |
| | 200 (Bari) | | |

## COSTITUENTE PREPARATIONS

With the administrative elections over on April 7 (no further such elections are expected until the autumn) and the filling date for candidates for the *Costituente* elections closed on April 18, we might usefully review the elections just past and those coming up. Below we run what the Local Government Sub-Commission assures is the final, complete, official returns from the Ministry of Interior on the administrative elections. Unfortunately, reliable figures on actual votes cast are not yet available. The administrative elections, which, by the way, are said to have cost the Italian Government 16 million lire in stationery charges alone, saw 66 provincial capitals vote and 49 other cities over 30,000 population. Involved was a population estimated at 7,258,764, of which 5,064,150 were registered voters, a little more than half being women. At least 4,000,000 are reported to have voted.

Communes which did not vote, according to our experts, were not ready to vote, the electoral lists being in arrears. Many large cities were among this group, including Rome, Naples and Palermo in the group over 250,000 and La Spezia and Messina in the group under. Milan, the largest city which voted, did so by an all-out effort to get ready by April 7. Rome got ready a few days after April 7. In Naples, there were, as of April 16, still 42 communes to get ready and as of latest report, three laggard communes are still not ready. In Northern Italy, .8 per cent., in Central Italy .1 per cent., in Southern Italy 4.6 per cent. and in insular Italy, 2 per cent. of the lists were not ready, as of the April 15 report. These figures do not include Venezia Giulia or Bolzano, of course. The table for the administrative elections (on the calm and order of which the acting Chief Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, sent a congratulatory letter to the Italian Prime Minister) here follows:

| PARTY | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total |
| **Left Concentration** | 28 | 2,003 | 2,016 | 386 | 35,901 | 36,287 |
| Communist | 28 | 122 | 150 | 1,024 | 2,262 | 3,286 |
| Socialist | 8 | 136 | 144 | 894 | 2,804 | 3,698 |
| Republican | 6 | 33 | 39 | 239 | 722 | 961 |
| Action | — | 7 | 7 | 10 | 240 | 279 |
| **Christian Democrat** | 55 | 1,944 | 1,998 | 1,634 | 35,049 | 36,683 |
| **Center Concentration** | 2 | 310 | 312 | 115 | 5,963 | 6,078 |
| **Right Concentration** | — | 125 | 125 | 148 | 2,428 | 2,576 |
| Liberal | — | 95 | 95 | 106 | 1,810 | 1,916 |
| Labour Democrat | 1 | 77 | 78 | 45 | 379 | 424 |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 22 | 22 | 48 | 447 | 495 |
| Italian Democrat | — | 5 | 5 | 1 | 76 | 77 |
| **Independents** | — | 466 | 466 | 23 | 8,553 | 8,576 |
| Local Parties | 1 | 172 | 173 | 63 | 2,878 | 2,941 |
| Veterans | — | 55 | 55 | 24 | 1,072 | 1,096 |
| No majority or unaccounted for | 7 | 32 | 39 | — | — | — |
| TOTALS | 115 | 5,609 | 5,724 | 4,750 | 101,623 | 106,373 |

*A* = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals (proportional representation).
*B* = Communes under 30,000 (majority system).

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



## Constituencies.

For the *Costituente* elections, there are 32 constituencies but only 30 of these are presented for analysis (by the Local Government S/C), Venezia Giulia being again excluded, and for purposes of tabulation, also Aosta, which is a single-member district, where two candidates have been nominated. Only four parties or groups will present lists of candidates in all 30 constituencies or colleges. These are the Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats and the National Democratic Union (of Bonomi *et al.*). The Republican party will offer itself in 29 constituencies, the Action party in 26, Uomo Qualunque in 25, National Bloc of Liberty (Rightists and Monarchists) in 19 and the Democratic Republican Concentration (Parri, etc.) in nine, among the better-known parties. There are also several lists with limited programs such as those of war veterans and refugees, a Sicilian independence movement and also a party which advocates federation with the United States — the *Movimento Unionista Italiano* — which presents itself in seven colleges and has the crossed flags of the United States and Italy as its party emblem, though there is some diplomatic doubt as to whether this latter symbol should be allowed. Thirty-one local groups presented candidates in one college only. Although 59 parties registered their symbols, only 56 parties offered lists of candidates by the filing date.

As for the *Costituente* elections themselves, an excellent analysis has been made by Major R. R. Temple (A), the Local Government's director. The chief points are as follows: Voting is not compulsory but abstainers will be officially but mildly reprimanded by being publicly noticed and by having "did not vote" written on their good conduct certificates for five years. The elections may be postponed and later held in sections where they cannot be held now so as to meet the cases of Venezia Giulia and possibly Bolzano. The ordinary voting mechanics are like those in force for the administrative elections. To be elected are 573 deputies. All preference votes will be counted and affect the total result instead of the previous arrangement whereby they would not count unless they amounted to 20 per cent. of the ordinary votes given for any one list. The list of all 32 constituencies is given herewith:

### Election districts or Constituencies.

| Constituency * and Province member | Seats |
|---|---|
| TORINO – Novara-Vercelli | 28 |
| CUNEO – Alessandria-Asti | 18 |
| GENOVA – Imperia-La Spezia-Savona | 20 |
| MILANO – Pavia | 36 |
| COMO – Sondrio-Varese | 14 |
| BRESCIA – Bergamo | 18 |
| MANTOVA – Cremona | 10 |
| TRENTO – Bolzano | 9 |
| VERONA – Padova-Vicenza-Rovigo | 29 |
| VENEZIA – Treviso | 16 |
| UDINE – Belluno | 12 |
| TRIESTE e Venezia Giulia-Zara | 13 |
| BOLOGNA – Ferrara-Ravenna-Forli | 24 |
| PARMA – Modena-Piacenza-Reggio Emilia | 20 |
| FIRENZE – Pistoia | 14 |
| PISA – Livorno-Lucca-Apuania | 15 |
| SIENA – Arezzo-Grosseto | 10 |
| ANCONA – Pesaro-Macerata-Ascoli Piceno | 17 |
| PERUGIA – Terni-Rieti | 12 |
| ROMA – Viterbo-Latina-Frosinone | 33 |
| L'AQUILA – Pescara-Chieti-Teramo | 16 |
| BENEVENTO – Campobasso | 9 |
| NAPOLI – Caserta | 30 |
| SALERNO – Avellino | 15 |
| BARI – Foggia | 21 |
| LECCE – Brindisi-Taranto | 15 |
| POTENZA – Matera | 7 |
| CATANZARO – Cosenza-Reggio Calabria | 24 |
| CATANIA – Messina-Siracusa-Ragusa-Enna | 27 |
| PALERMO – Trapani-Agrigento-Caltanissetta | 26 |
| CAGLIARI – Sassari-Nuoro | 14 |
| VAL D'AOSTA | 1 |
| | 573 |

* Seat of central office in capitals.

## LA SCALA

With the first concert of the new *La Scala* slated for May 11, Arturo Toscanini, the old maestro conducting, the story might be told about how AMG in Milan put reconstruction of the world-famed opera house on an A-1 priority basis, a project which from the start has been assisted by Capt. Clement C. Petrillo (A), himself a musician. To him we are indebted for the word that the acoustics of the new *La Scala*, for which the old house was particularly noted, will again be excellent, thanks to the exact rebuilding of the cupola.

Just before the war, Capt. Petrillo tells us, an Italian Government inspector insisted that the cupola was about to collapse, whereupon the Milan Communal Architect made immediate and accurate drawings of the entire cupola. These have come in providentially handy and the restored cupola is now complete and a replica of the one which stood from August, 1778 when *La Scala* first opened its doors.

The opera house was virtually destroyed in a heavy Allied air raid of August, 1943 when two hits of incendiary bombs and a direct blast of an explosive bomb left nothing but the stage

1208

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



(by a miracle) and the four walls standing. Gone were the ballet school, workshops, the scenery warehouse, including 71 sets and 22,000 pairs of shoes. Many of the tapestries, seat coverings and mirrors, however, had been removed to safety in time.

AMG authorized expenditure of 37,000,000 lire for rebuilding immediately, unblocked all necessary materials, provided 80 tons of coal during the past winter to enable work to continue during the bitter weather (the new plaster, etc. had to be kept from freezing). Toscanini himself contributed $10,000 to help and a friend of his matched the gift of the great conductor who began his career at *La Scala*. Toscanini last conducted there in 1929. The new *La Scala's* season will run until June 28. Toscanini will conduct six performances, three of them encores.

## ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО СССР В СОЮЗНОЙ КОМИССИИ В ИТАЛИИ

We are happy to publish an account of the Russian representative's history in the A. C., following that of the French representative (in French) some months ago. The title in Russian above means simply "The USSR Representation to the Allied Commission in Italy". We have seen our Russian friends pursue their quiet and courteous ways for the past two years and more, asking for information in most punctilious fashion and serving as superb hosts at their vodka-caviar receptions, and we take this opportunity to pass on the comradely greetings of the *Bulletin* (which they tell us is translated faithfully every week and dispatched home) and to wish Colonel Victor V. Savko and his staff the best of everything. The story that follows comes from Col. Savko:

In November 1943 Major General N. S. Solodovnik, nominated by Moscow as the Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Allied Commission for Italy, accompanied by his assistant, Lieutenant Commander M. V. Golubev, arrived in Algiers. After two months stay in Allied Force Headquarters in Algiers, the USSR Representative came to Naples at the end of January 1944. In August 1944 General Solodovnik, being unwell, was obliged to return to USSR for treatment.

When the Allied Control Commission was transferred to Rome, the newly appointed Soviet Representative to ACC, Major General I. A. Susloparov, came at once to the Italian capital. A few days later there also arrived a group of officers of his staff, composed of Colonel V. V. Savko, Red Army, Art.; Major-Engineer N. G. Leonidov, Red Army, Aviation; Captain M. F. Vedmich, Red Army, Art.; Senior Lieutenant G. S. Fimich, Red Army, Art.; Senior Lieutenant G. S. Filatov, Red Army, Inf., and Lieutenant S. D. Zubkov, Red Army, Art.

In the war against Germany all the above-mentioned officers participated in military operations on various battle-fields and have been decorated with different military awards.

At the end of January 1945, General Susloparov was given a new assignment and the duties of the USSR Representative to the A. C. were passed to Major General A. P. Kislenko.

At the time of the successful military operations of the Red Army on the East and of the Allied Anglo-American and French Forces in the West against Nazi Germany, the Allied Military Authorities organized a parade in Piazza Venezia in Rome on 23rd February 1945 to honor the 28th Anniversary of the Red Army. In this parade officers of the Soviet Representation to the AC took part.

General Kislenko remained with the Allied Commission until August 1945 and then returned to Moscow. In his absence his duties are being carried out by his deputy, Colonel Savko, now the Acting USSR Representative to AC.

During the period of the past two years, the officers of the USSR Representation have maintained a continuous contact with all the sub-commissions of the A. C. This contact with the directors, deputy directors and the leading personnel of the sub-commissions has given the USSR Representative the opportunity to keep informed on the work of the Allied Commission in Italy.

The staff of the USSR Representation would like to mention gratefully the former liaison officers of A. C. — Major Magnus, Lieut. Col. E. Brown, Capt. the Earl of Ranfurly, Capt. A. Arnoldy, Capt. W. Newburg and Capt. Reggio — for their constant assistance to the Russian officers in various matters. Appreciation is also expressed to Capt. V. L. Oddi, the present liaison officer, who pays prompt attention to all the problems arising for the Soviet Representation.

## BACK ON THE JOB

The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, returned to Rome this afternoon by air after a mission in Washington. The Admiral left Rome April 4. We will tell you about his trip next week.

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



## PAZIENZA, AMICO! PAZIENZA!

The Adjutant passes the following letter to us, which we in turn relay to the Economic Section for action:

14 April 1946

To: *Headquarters*
*Region 3, Allied Control Commission*
*APO 394, U. S. Army.*

On the 5 July 44, I received a letter from this Command of which I make a copy:

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394 U. S. ARMY

Es. 738. PB. 42B. 5 July 1944

SUBJECT: *Diesel Oil at Caianello.*
To: *Sindaco of Caianello* (Naples)

1. The Teano Dist. (Major Richard L. Lollar) has informed us that several hundred litres of diesel oil left in the vicinity of Caianello by the Società Italiana Bonifiche Acquedotti of Rome, have been put in your charge.

2. Will you please communicate to us the exact quantity available.

W. G. Biner, *Major*
*Economic Supply Section*
*Industrial Controller*

EC/MAS

To this letter I answered that the quantity available was of litres 1900 in charge of Pettoruto Pietro.

In the same letter I asked what I had to do of that Diesel oil because the Compagnia Italiana Petroli (C. I. P.) asked to have returned the empty barrels and in order to stop the payment of the rent that I am still paying. But till to-day I have not got any answer.

I pray you to give me exact orders and as soon as possible because the barrels lose diesel and the quantity is less than before.

I had to put that diesel left in other good barrels.

On other side, I pay 500 lires per month for rent. For that authorize me to sell that said diesel oil at current price and I will keep the amount of the sale, at your disposal, keeping for me the amount of the expenses.

Will you please reply to me quicly.

My best regards.

(PETTORUTO PIETRO)

Here is my address:
Pettoruto Pietro
(Caserta) CAIANELLO.

## ODDS AND ENDS

L/Cpl. J. Munro, one of the original wallahs of the early AMG days in Foggia through which have passed most military government officers in this last war, has been invited to be a judge May 19 at a dog show (English, Irish and Gordon setters) at Asti in Piemonte; the corporal used to look over the doggies back home... Mr. Harold Macmillan, former Acting President of the Allied Commission, passed through Rome this week... The Colonel's lady, Mrs. C. R. Ross, wife of the Regiment's CO, is arriving in Naples to join the Colonel April 30... PRB this week has been in receipt of three letters from as many Italian groups (two in Foggia and one in Calabria) who want to organize Friends of America Association; we referred them to the U. S. Embassy Cultural Attache... Since operations began in Sicily in July, 1943, 1,700 Italian vehicles have been requisitioned by AMG, of which 1,558 have been derequisitioned, leaving a balance of 142 vehicles on the books of the Allied Commission for all of Italy, Major Clayton Craig, G-4 (A), reports, adding that further derequisitions will be made only as the vehicles become surplus to the needs of the A. C.... Public safety conditions in Emilia, says Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters, CLO at Bologna, are still not satisfactory: in March, there were 15 cases of murder or attempts ascribed to political motives, five kidnappings, 11 ordinary murders, 96 robberies or attempts, one try at a prison break (two got killed as a result) and 29 arrests for the above serious crimes... The following U. S. awards to British personnel have been made: *Legion of Merit* — (*Commander*) Brig. G. R. Upjohn; (*Officer*) Brig. A. P. Grafftey-Smith, Colonels P. R. Evans, J. L. Jones and W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters; (*Legionnaire*) Col. A. N. Hancock. *Bronze Star* — Col. T. Parr, Lieutenant Colonels L. R. Buttensby and H. Mighall, Capt. T. March. *Medal of Freedom* — (*Silver Palm*) Col. G. M. Frizelle; (*Bronze Palm*) Col. W. J. Legg, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper, Capt. G. H. Ryper; (*without Palm*) Major E. J. P. Seichuna, W. Os I R. H. L. Angibault and L. McNeil, Staff Sergt. A. Cash (our old PRB stand-by), Sergts. A. E. Papps and W. C. White... Other awards are: *Crown of Italy* — (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Col. Walter D. Stump; (*Knight*) Captains Lawrence C. Becker, Arber Johnson, Frank J. Moran and Thomas A. Morris... Major Richard B. Bullock, Adjutant of the Allied Commission and of the 2675th Regiment, is being married today to Miss Roberta Wollenhaupt, former FEA employe of the A. C.; the reception

1208

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



afterward is being given by the Regiment's CO, Col. Robert C. Ross; good luck and a long life to the happy couple... Colonels Ross and Charles Walton and Lieut. Col. G. G. Hannaford represented the A. C. in a conference with Brigadier General A. J. Hamblen aboard a train in Udine concerning arrangements to tie in Udine AMG with 13th Corps... Two (now rare) promotions are announced: Arthur McPhail to Major and William R. Thomson to Captain... In the biggest A. C. redeployment clean-up since last fall, 35 officers got aboard the ship that left Leghorn April 26... New release group dates for British officers and OR have come through, starting with Group 32, which is to be completed by 2 July, to Group 40, which starts 27 September... Good news (perhaps!) for Italian brides of GIs and American officers:

Starting Monday evening (the 29th) at 8:30 p. m., classes in the English language, as it's spoken in the United States, will be held every Monday and Friday at the Hotel Nord Nuova Roma, and classes in American citizenship will be conducted every Wednesday evening at the same time; Capt. H. Armand de Masi, of the Italian Prisoners of War Division, Land Forces Sub-Commission, and CWO Sexson E. Humphreys, Assistant Adjutant of 2675 Regiment, will be the teachers...

356

1209

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

APR 24 RECD

Vol. III, No. 3

April 20, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

We are frankly caught with our hands down this week. Normally, this particular column is written Saturday morning, the day of issue, in order to have the very latest facts and comments at our disposal. However, tomorrow is Easter —we wish everybody *buona Pasqua*—and our printers give word that they go off at 1 p.m., which means the *Bulletin* must be entirely off the press by that time. Which further means that this week our readers and the editor will have a respite from extended politics. We at least will try to cover the highlights.

The Socialist congress, which heard a strong anti-Nenni speech by Saragat, former ambassador to France, on April 13, closed in the early hours of April 17 after lively polemics and proceeded to vote a new Executive which, in effect, promoted Nenni upstairs to the post of President of the Socialist Party and elected Ivan Lombardi as secretary-general. While Nenni, according to the *Giornale del Mattino*, got a solid majority (338,346 votes to 300,062 for the Silone-Pertini group) as the result of the victory of his cohorts' motion—the *mozione di base*—the more conservative and anti-fusion bloc showed enough strength to make predictions on future developments dangerous at this time. The Executive includes, besides Nenni and Lombardi, the following: Valcarenghi, Simonini, Saragat, Pertini, Silone, Chignoli, Zagari, Basso, Cacciatore, Morandi, Jacometti, Foscolo Lombardi, Lina Merlin, Lizzadri, and Matteo Matteotti.

The deadline for filing for the national elections of June 2 passed at 4 p.m. April 18, with all parties scrambling to submit lists of candidates and party symbols. In Rome there were 27 different lists filed. The Christian Democrat party will open its national congress in Rome April 24. Nothing much happened in foreign affairs. The Council of Ministers, in their first meetings since April 6, convened on April 17 and 18 (twice that day) to discuss the food situation and other matters.

## WIRE STRINGERS' SWAN SONG

Many of the monthly reports emanating from sub-commissions and branches these days (which it is our chore to plough through) are full of almost nostalgic references to past days when everyone was busy as the devil. A report at hand from the Communications Sub-Commission, which was originally the Communications Section of the Allied Military Mission and headed by Rear Admiral (then Captain) Ellery W. Stone, USNR, now the Chief Commissioner, offers some interesting highlights of a complicated and arduous technical job well done. We are indebted to Col. H. H. Scudder (A), its present head (who is the second director in the history of the sub-commission, Col. J. L. Henderson (B) having been the first).

In those first confusing days in Puglie, Col. Scudder recalls, there was no central Italian telecommunications authority and one did not get started until the Italians complained that the Allied troops were removing stores and equipment without notice, whereupon they were given the gleeful answer that there was no one to give notice to. An Italian Ministry of Communications was consequently set up on November 5, 1943, headed by Dr. Mario Fano, the present Undersecretary for Posts and Telecommunications. Dr. Fano attended every meeting with the Allied authorities and when asked why he did not sometimes send a representative, he successfully concealed the fact he was the Ministry *in toto* himself. He did have a staff of one secretary who, however, objected to getting up early in the morning and came and went as he saw fit. The sub-commission considers itself lucky to have found Dr. Fano from the first and to have had his efficient and loyal help since.

From the beginning, too, and continuing to date, there has always been the problem of the A. C. sub-commission maintaining liaison with the innumerable Allied Signal organizations, for example, the Chief Signal Officers of AFHQ, AAI, L of C, Districts, PBS, Air Corps, RAAC and occa-

375

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



sionally outfits with unidentifiable initials. Early in 1944, April, in fact, in addition to responsibilities for civilian postal, radio and telecommunications matters, the sub-commission took over the Civilian Censorship Group from AFHQ, which added burden was perhaps eased a little by the fact that the Group's extensive marine contacts often resulted in the procurement of essential supplies such as Bourbon, said to be a basic necessity of telephone linemen working in the cold, cold air.

### Tales.

The tale of the accomplishments of the Communications Sub-Commission can be read, complete with statistical detail, in the *Review of the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government in Italy* which PRB published last year. Omitted in that account is one anecdote about the rebuilding of the overhead telephone lines, in which Major J. Leitzner (B) of MMIA, known in Catanzaro as the Uncrowned King of Calabria, virtually dragooned the bulk of the Italian Army in those parts to help out his friends, particularly Lieut. Col. H. G. W. Millar (B), on the sub-commission.

There is also the account of the Civil Censorship Group U. S. Captain who, on his way to Rome, somehow got ahead of the troops (a circumstance in which many AMG officers have found themselves, moving as they often had to on detached orders), and ran into a German tank at a sharp corner. The Captain backtracked his jeep before the surprised Germans could open fire, ran into an upper room of the house on the corner and proceeded to censor the tank out of circulation with a few grenades.

Telephone restoration, incidentally, has been one of the sub-commission's brighter spots. The Naples experience showed the need of a central telecommunications authority for every major city. Advance boards were then planned for Rome, Florence, Bologna, Milan, Genoa and Turin, composed of Signal Corps and A. C. officers. In Rome, where the telephone system was restored to service within a few days after liberation, was also found a telephone factory which was put to work at once manufacturing equipment and is even now one of the chief supply points for long-distance communications material. That equipment was direly needed may be appreciated by the following itemization of telecommunications equipment seriously damaged in Italy: 21 per cent. of telephone pole routes, 40 per cent. of the wire, 53 per cent. of amplifier station equipment, more than 20 per cent. of underground cable, 50 large and hundreds of small telephone exchanges and 15 broadcast transmitters.

### Florence.

In Florence, where German demolition squads had been thorough, within two weeks a 500-line automatic exchange was set up from parts salvaged from the damaged exchanges. In Florence, too the army authorities decided it was more practicable to permit wide use of telephone and postal facilities under firm control rather than have to combat clandestine uncontrolled operations. As a result postal and telephone services were from then on authorized to within short distances from the Army control line.

When the North was opened up, A. C. experts rushed to Milan and were holding a planning meeting with their Signal Corps colleagues for an hour in the main telephone exchange before they discovered that 25 unsurrendered German soldiers were still guarding the building. *Sic itur ad astra*, breathed one of the conferees afterward. In Milan also, which had not had public telegraph service for more than a year, an emergency system was put into immediate operation whereby 18 telegraph channels could function simultaneously over one telephone circuit. A telegraph net was thus rapidly built up which covered eleven Italian towns and even took in some Swiss cities. Another problem in the North was postage stamps, the dies for which were all of Fascist design. Finally, a non-controversial picture of Cesar (55 B.C.) was adopted.

Today nearly all telephone exchanges and telegraph offices in Italy are working on the national network, even though at reduced capacity, The civil telephone network has been restored 10 per cent. of pre-war between large centers and will be greatly extended as Allied military telecommunications requirements are reduced. Postal services and telegraph servies are in effect to all countries of the world except Germany, Japan, Korea and Manchuria. Air mail from the United States to Italy for civilians has been operating for months and civilian air mail from Italy to the United States will shortly be available.

Recent difficulties in the postal service have had to do with, first, parcels, and then, diversion of mail deliveries from abroad. Last Christmas, the U. S. Post Office was swamped with one and a half million parcels to Italy, which they were unable to sort out province by province. Picture then what the Italian Post Office had to contend with. As to the other headache, it seemed that

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



on any ship leaving the States for Italy there was always loaded some Italian mail. However, many of these ships, mostly freighters, did not stop at Naples went on to Genoa, from which place would come sudden, frantic calls that there was a mountain of mail awaiting disposition. By obtaining UNRRA's cooperation on pre-advice of ship movements, advance arrangements are now made to get the mail processed to all parts of Italy no matter what port the mail ships dock in. And speaking of difficulties, there was, and unfortunately still remains, the lack of transport or spare parts or petrol or tires. Indeed, it is slightly risky to ask Col. Scudder about the matter; the answer comes in a startled look, a helpless gesture, as the colonel departs without a word, only his bitter laugh echoing out the door.

## GREEK ELECTORAL MISSION

Col. Norman E. Fiske, former Deputy Executive Commissioner, who left the Allied Commission last November to become MTOUSA representative on the Allied mission observing the Greek elections of March 31 and who is slated to return to us soon to replace Col. C. P. Kerr (who's going home) as deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, came into the office the other day and told us some interesting stories about his Greek job.

The mission was headed by our old friend, Mr. Henry F. Grady (A), former Vice President of the Economic Section, and comprised about 1,500 persons in all, soldiers and civilians. Approximately 600 were American, an equal number British and about 300 French. The men were organized into 240 observation teams of one officer, one EM and one Greek interpreter, plus jeep and trailer. For covering the myriad islands of the Aegean Sea, three C-47s, three PBYs and ten Cub planes were also used. The transport, by the bye, was later disposed of as surplus property to the Greek Government.

The elections were fair and in the opinion of the mission, taking all factors into account, truly reflected the will of the Greek people, the Colonel said, repeating in fact the statement that Mr. Grady, who held the rank of ambassador, gave to the press. As to the campaign of abstention from voting, Col. Fiske revealed that it affected only 9.3 per cent. of the registered votes and that this factor, plus any irregularities found, were not sufficient to alter the result.

The observers' party was organised in Italy and transported to Greece in two ships and several planeloads. The body of the mission was likewise disbanded in Italy—at Naples, Leghorn and Rome—and the last of the Greek electoral observers left April 18. The mission is disbanded and could not be used to observe the Italian election even if there were any plans to do so. It can be stated flatly here that there is no intention afoot to use an Allied mission to observe the national elections in Italy.

## ABOUT US

The Allied Commission *Weekly Bulletin* which you are reading has been called, we are vain enough to pass on, "the best piece of paper to come out of the A.C." and we ourselves think it is a unique enough document in army public relations to waste a little space and become frankly immodest in telling our dear readers about the *Bulletin*, how it started, how it gets done and who reads it. We might start by relating that the *Bulletin* is the original brainchild of the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush (who, after some badgering, quite respectful, of course) sometimes takes pen in hand and gives us vivid reports on his excursions to the field.

Calling in Major Lionel Fielden (B), the first director of the Public Relations Branch, the Brigadier directed that a weekly report be prepared of current events of interest at headquarters and in Italy for the benefit of the officers stationed in the field regions who might find such a quick, informal synopsis of use as a coordinating medium of information. Fielden balked a bit that it was perhaps not properly the task of PRB but set to work and produced the first issue of April 1, 1944 almost single-handed, though it was evident at once that the job of covering the twenty-odd sub-commissions at headquarters, the news from various regions and Italian events themselves should have had a full-time staff who could also use the same material for press releases and background information for the correspondents.

Today, two years and 20 days older, the *Bulletin* not only goes to every officer in all sections of headquarters and to the field liaison groups and to Venezia Giulia AMG but also to the War and State Departments, War and Foreign Offices, (indeed, they sent for it), AFHQ, the British and American Embassies, PBS and all British Districts, Moscow and Paris through the Russian and French representatives to the Allied Commission, to all fellow PROs, to the BMA in Tripolitania and to Allied intelligence offices in Germany and Austria. While the *Bulletin* from the beginning

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



has been used as background filler for war correspondents and authority was obtained more than a year ago to make portions directly available without attribution. the permission was obtained to declassify the document recently and for the last few weeks copies have been mailed directly to all Allied, neutral and Italian correspondents and newspapers as well as to libraries back home.

### Aims.

The original aims of the *Bulletin* were perhaps best stated by Major Fielden in the issue of May 6, 1944 when he said that it was established and intended "for the peculiar delight of Regional or Provincial Commissioners of the A. C. C. who may not always be acquainted with the marvels performed at Hq. It is not, and will not, we trust, ever become (*a*) an official report per se, (*b*) a mere catalogue of events, (*c*) a mighty document of absolute accuracy, though accuracy we seek, of course. We have no Delphic oracle on our staff and we refuse to be badgered out of an occasional note of gaiety."

We might add, parenthetically, that we have been lucky enough to make few errors and, oftimes when we run "corrections"; we do so at official behest to remove all traces of ambiguity in the exalted complainant's mind. When we can solemnly swear and aver that every important executive in the A. C.—from the Chief Commissioner down—has told us that he has learned something new from the *Bulletin* that had escaped his notice before, when we recall the hectic scrounging around for information (it never comes to you), the feverish writing on deadlines (Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings are hell), interruptions by telephone calls, visits of correspondents (who have No. 1 AAA priority) or sudden summons by higher presences, we are of the flat opinion that it is lucky the *Bulletin* is not pockmarked with mistakes.

A word about how we get our news may interest officers who were smart enough never to get into PRO work. First, we try to read practically every regular report that comes into this headquarters from the field and from each sub-commission and branch and when we hear of a special study, we try to get hold of that. We have sat through countless Executive Commissioner's and Vice President's meetings and sometimes come away with a scribbled line of copy and sometimes with a whole sheet, covered with liberally doodled notes for two or three articles. We try to talk to officers visiting headquarters and we visit the field ourselves, though less and less as the bumpf at Hq. became heavier. Thus, we finally had to hit on the device of getting articles written in the field and using them after copyreading and writing in what other information we had at our disposal. Brigadier J. K. Duniop has been a welcome contributor and during the war Lieut. Col. T. L. Bullock (Cdn), Deputy Director (Field), used to send us occasional, peppery notes on his wide travels. But most of our appeals for field material sent directly by us have fallen on barren grounds. The field men are very busy no doubt (but no busier than we are) but probably they are too diffident.

### Producing it.

It has been bad enough to have to beg, pray, cozen and wheedle dope out of our victims (who are also our readers) but the *cobwo* comes with our printing headaches, though let us hasten to say they have not been the fault of our printer, Signor Carlo Colombo, with whom the A. C. printing liaison employe, Signor De Luca, has collaborated in using every resource to see that the *Bulletin* comes out as scheduled every Saturday. In the first days it was stencilled and mimeographed, which was a dreary chore of the first order performed nobly and with rare lament by our much-missed Staff Sergeant Alan Cash of the British Army. We later also used Cash as a reporter and a quite successful one. With all the deference in the world for rank, Cash had enough aplomb to put a major general himself at ease.

Cash was succeeded by another British find for PRB, Corporal John Drummond, a painstaking literates who has put the printed *Bulletin* to bed for more than a year. Besides struggling with the atrocious calligraphy of the much-amended manuscripts, Drummond has had to contend with power shortages and also a printers' strike. The power shortage would invariably occur at 1 p.m. just as the last-minute copy was rushed to the composing room. In the three or four hour interval, corrections could have been made if the type could have been set and often Drummond worked until 8 p.m. before the first copies were off the press. The physical production of the *Bulletin* would have been virtually impossible without Cash or Drummond. Both men, incidentally, have also contributed articles to the *Bulletin*, even attaining a nice American style in their writing. And let us also throw a little laurel on the brows of our loyal and overtime-working Italian clerical staff who do the distribution chore and consists of

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



Enrico Martella, who when not reading detective stories is a whirlwind of efficiency, and his two stalwart aides, Sergio Antinori and Gaetano Loquenzi.

**People.**

A little about the personalities of the *Bulletin* editors. The *Bulletin* under Major Fielden achieved a sparkle that came from his own intense interest in and friendliness for the Italians. The issues after Rome fell are full of human interest reports on riots, trials and amusing interludes. Fielden made people either laugh or get mad as hell, as a consequence of which he had some first-rate rows with Higher Authority as to what could or could not go into the *Bulletin*. The tradition of differences of opinion between the Executive Commissioner and PRB on *Bulletin* contents was continued by later directors but it can safely be said today that both sides have relaxed their points of view. We completely forgot to mention one of our biggest headaches: clearance. An article emanating from a headquarters source has first to be cleared for fact with the originating sub-commission, then with the Vice President of the Section concerned, then with the Executive Commissioner, and sometimes with the Chief Commissioner and the British and American Embassies.

The *Political* article, written at first by Fielden and then by Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin (A)—later Director—had to have clearance of the Political Advisors. Beside Fielden's pungent and brilliant pen, Bergin's was mild but smooth and sentimentally pleasant in the occasional pieces we could browbeat or persuade him to write. His *Political* column, his regular production, was noted for its clarity and wit and sympathetic appreciation of Italian problems. Bergin an easy-going professor of Romance languages from Cornell University, who somewhat loftily brushed off the usual PRO grind of news reports, finally admitted that writing the column had taught him to appreciate what responsible journalists are always up against: making sure what they put in print is accurate and sound.

Although from the start Brigadier Lush has acted as sort of chairman of the board of directors for the *Bulletin*, the weekly job of producing the *Bulletin* fell, with the rare contributions already noted, to three officers—Fielden, Bergin and Major John P. Leacacos (A), who was in turn PRB Chief of News Production, Executive Officer and now Director (and the writer, of course). To Leacacos, the trio's only working newspaperman (from the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*) fell the hack work of obtaining information and doing the heavy pieces and since Rome days he has been the managing editor of the *Bulletin*. In recent months he has had to do the whole business, save for one or two pieces from Capt. Ed Ellison, from *Political* to *Odds*. And he is very tired of it.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. B. Findlay, director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, received the Legion of Merit from the hands of Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general, MTOUSA, this week in Rome... (Major) Lionel Fielden, former PRB director and now correspondent for the *New Statesman*, is in town for a visit... Mines off Cagliari are interfering with the Sardinian fishing industry; the Navy Sub-Commission is helping on getting minesweepers... Lord Stansgate, British Minister for Air and former Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, passed through the capital this week on his way to Anglo-Egyptian treaty talks at Cairo... Sir Quinton Hill, new economic advisor to the British Embassy, has been visiting the A. C. in recent days... The Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission has been aiding the Italian Director-General of Antiquities and Fine Arts to inspect the Foro Mussolini (still occupied by Allied forces) with a view to replacing the decorative frescoes, which are now rather Fascist-tinged... The Public Health Sub-Commission reports that the infant morbality rate for Rome in February (statistics have just come in) was 81.8, compared with 70.9 in January, a normal seasonal fluctuation... Col. C. R. Ross, CO, 2675th Regiment, has just made his first flying inspection trip to U. S. officers stationed at Palermo and Naples... We fear our statement on the Rome hotel position has been a little misleading; here are the facts: Four Rome hotels have been relinquished by the Allied Commission during the past ten months; additionally, another hotel has been taken over by this Headqurters in the last six months; one of the four hotels given up by the Allied Commission has been taken over by another Allied unit...

83

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

APR

Chief Commissioner

April 20, 1946 Vol. III, No. 3

# ALLIED COMMISSION WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

We are frankly caught with our hands down this week. Normally, this particular column is written Saturday morning, the day of issue, in order to have the very latest facts and comments at our disposal. However, tomorrow is Easter —we wish everybody *buona Pasqua*—and our printers give word that they go off at 1 p.m., which means the *Bulletin* must be entirely off the press by that time. Which further means that this week our readers and the editor will have a respite from extended politics. We at least will try to cover the highlights.

The Socialist congress, which heard a strong anti-Nenni speech by Saragat, former ambassador to France, on April 13, closed in the early hours of April 17 after lively polemics and proceeded to vote a new Executive which, in effect, promoted Nenni upstairs to the post of President of the Socialist Party and elected Ivan Lombardi as secretary-general. While Nenni, according to the *Giornale del Mattino*, got a solid majority (338,346 votes to 300,062 for the Silone-Pertini group) as the result of the victory of his cohorts' motion—the *mozione di base*—the more conservative and anti-fusion bloc showed enough strength to make predictions on future developments dangerous at this time. The Executive includes, besides Nenni and Lombardi, the following: Valcarenghi, Simonini, Saragat, Pertini, Silone, Chignoli, Zagari, Basso, Cacciatore, Morandi, Jacometti, Foscolo Lombardi, Lina Merlin, Lizzadri, and Matteo Matteotti.

The deadline for filing for the national elections of June 2 passed at 4 p.m. April 18, with all parties scrambling to submit lists of candidates and party symbols. In Rome there were 27 different lists filed. The Christian Democrat party will open its national congress in Rome April 24. Nothing much happened in foreign affairs. The Council of Ministers, in their first meetings since April 6, convened on April 17 and 18 (twice that day) to discuss the food situation and other matters.

## WIRE STRINGERS' SWAN SONG

Many of the monthly reports emanating from sub-commissions and branches these days (which it is our chore to plough through) are full of almost nostalgic references to past days when everyone was busy as the devil. A report at hand from the Communications Sub-Commission, which was originally the Communications Section of the Allied Military Mission and headed by Rear Admiral (then Captain) Ellery W. Stone, USNR, now the Chief Commissioner, offers some interesting highlights of a complicated and arduous technical job well done. We are indebted to Col. H. H. Scudder (A), its present head (who is the second director in the history of the sub-commission, Col. J. L. Henderson (B) having been the first).

In those first confusing days in Puglie, Col. Scudder recalls, there was no central Italian telecommunications authority and one did not get started until the Italians complained that the Allied troops were removing stores and equipment without notice, whereupon they were given the gleeful answer that there was no one to give notice to. An Italian Ministry of Communications was consequently set up on November 5, 1943, headed by Dr. Mario Fano, the present Undersecretary for Posts and Telecommunications. Dr. Fano attended every meeting with the Allied authorities and when asked why he did not sometimes send a representative, he successfully concealed the fact he was the Ministry *in toto* himself. He did have a staff of one secretary who, however, objected to getting up early in the morning and came and went as he saw fit. The sub-commission considers itself lucky to have found Dr. Fano from the first and to have had his efficient and loyal help since.

From the beginning, too, and continuing to date, there has always been the problem of the A. C. sub-commission maintaining liaison with the innumerable Allied Signal organizations, for example, the Chief Signal Officers of AFHQ, AAI, L of C, Districts, PBS, Air Corps, RAAC and occa-

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



sionally outfits with unidentifiable initials. Early in 1944, April, in fact, in addition to responsibilities for civilian postal, radio and telecommunications matters, the sub-commission took over the Civilian Censorship Group from AFHQ, which added burden was perhaps eased a little by the fact that the Group's extensive marine contacts often resulted in the procurement of essential supplies such as Bourbon, said to be a basic necessity of telephone linemen working in the cold, cold air.

**Tales.**

The tale of the accomplishments of the Communications Sub-Commission can be read, complete with statistical detail, in the *Review of the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government in Italy* which PRB published last year. Omitted in that account is one anecdote about the rebuilding of the overhead telephone lines, in which Major J. Leitzner (B) of MMIA, known in Catanzaro as the Uncrowned King of Calabria, virtually dragooned the bulk of the Italian Army in those parts to help out his friends, particularly Lieut. Col. H. G. W. Millar (B), on the sub-commission.

There is also the account of the Civil Censorship Group U. S. Captain who, on his way to Rome, somehow got ahead of the troops (a circumstance in which many AMG officers have found themselves, moving as they often had to on detached orders), and ran into a German tank at a sharp corner. The Captain backtracked his jeep before the surprised Germans could open fire, ran into an upper room of the house on the corner and proceeded to censor the tank out of circulation with a few grenades.

Telephone restoration, incidentally, has been one of the sub-commission's brighter spots. The Naples experience showed the need of a central telecommunications authority for every major city. Advance boards were then planned for Rome, Florence, Bologna, Milan, Genoa and Turin, composed of Signal Corps and A. C. officers. In Rome, where the telephone system was restored to service within a few days after liberation, was also found a telephone factory which was put to work at once manufacturing equipment and is even now one of the chief supply points for long-distance communications material. That equipment was direly needed may be appreciated by the following itemization of telecommunications equipment seriously damaged in Italy: 21 per cent. of telephone pole routes, 40 per cent. of the wire, 53 per cent. of amplifier station equipment, more than 20 per cent. of underground cable, 50 large and hundreds of small telephone exchanges and 15 broadcast transmitters.

**Florence.**

In Florence, where German demolition squads had been thorough, within two weeks a 500-line automatic exchange was set up from parts salvaged from the damaged exchanges. In Florence, too the army authorities decided it was more practicable to permit wide use of telephone and postal facilities under firm control rather than have to combat clandestine uncontrolled operations. As a result postal and telephone services were from then on authorized to within short distances from the Army control line.

When the North was opened up, A. C. experts rushed to Milan and were holding a planning meeting with their Signal Corps colleagues for an hour in the main telephone exchange before they discovered that 25 unsurrendered German soldiers were still guarding the building. *Sic itur ad astra*, breathed one of the conferees afterward. In Milan also, which had not had public telegraph service for more than a year, an emergency system was put into immediate operation whereby 18 telegraph channels could function simultaneously over one telephone circuit. A telegraph net was thus rapidly built up which covered eleven Italian towns and even took in some Swiss cities. Another problem in the North was postage stamps, the dies for which were all of Fascist design. Finally, a non-controversial picture of Cesar (55 B.C.) was adopted.

Today nearly all telephone exchanges and telegraph offices in Italy are working on the national network, even though at reduced capacity. The civil telephone network has been restored 40 per cent. of pre-war between large centers and will be greatly extended as Allied military telecommunications requirements are reduced. Postal services and telegraph servies are in effect to all countries of the world except Germany, Japan, Korea and Manchuria. Air mail from the United States to Italy for civilians has been operating for months and civilian air mail from Italy to the United States will shortly be available.

Recent difficulties in the postal service have had to do with, first, parcels, and then, diversion of mail deliveries from abroad. Last Christmas, the U. S. Post Office was swamped with one and a half million parcels to Italy, which they were unable to sort out province by province. Picture then what the Italian Post Office had to contend with. As to the other headache, it seemed that

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



on any ship leaving the States for Italy there was always loaded some Italian mail. However, many of these ships, mostly freighters, did not stop at Naples went on to Genoa, from which place would come sudden, frantic calls that there was a mountain of mail awaiting disposition. By obtaining UNRRA's cooperation on pre-advice of ship movements, advance arrangements are now made to get the mail processed to all parts of Italy no matter what port the mail ships dock in. And speaking of difficulties, there was, and unfortunately still remains, the lack of transport or spare parts or petrol or tires. Indeed, it is slightly risky to ask Col. Scudder about the matter; the answer comes in a startled look, a helpless gesture, as the colonel departs without a word, only his bitter laugh echoing out the door.

## GREEK ELECTORAL MISSION

Col. Norman E. Fiske, former Deputy Executive Commissioner, who left the Allied Commission last November to become MTOUSA representative on the Allied mission observing the Greek elections of March 31 and who is slated to return to us soon to replace Col. C. P. Kerr (who's going home) as deputy director of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, came into the office the other day and told us some interesting stories about his Greek job.

The mission was headed by our old friend, Mr. Henry F. Grady (A), former Vice President of the Economic Section, and comprised about 1,500 persons in all, soldiers and civilians. Approximately 600 were American, an equal number British and about 300 French. The men were organized into 240 observation teams of one officer, one EM and one Greek interpreter, plus jeep and trailer. For covering the myriad islands of the Aegean Sea, three C-47s, three PBYs and ten Cub planes were also used. The transport, by the bye, was later disposed of as surplus property to the Greek Government.

The elections were fair and in the opinion of the mission, taking all factors into account, truly reflected the will of the Greek people, the Colonel said, repeating in fact the statement that Mr. Grady, who held the rank of ambassador, gave to the press. As to the campaign of abstention from voting, Col. Fiske revealed that it affected only 9.3 per cent. of the registered votes and that this factor, plus any irregularities found, were not sufficient to alter the result.

The observers' party was organised in Italy and transported to Greece in two ships and several planeloads. The body of the mission was likewise disbanded in Italy—at Naples, Leghorn and Rome—and the last of the Greek electoral observers left April 18. The mission is disbanded and could not be used to observe the Italian election even if there were any plans to do so. It can be stated flatly here that there is no intention afoot to use an Allied mission to observe the national elections in Italy.

## ABOUT US

The Allied Commission *Weekly Bulletin* which you are reading has been called, we are vain enough to pass on, "the best piece of paper to come out of the A.C." and we ourselves think it is a unique enough document in army public relations to waste a little space and become frankly immodest in telling our dear readers about the *Bulletin*, how it started, how it gets done and who reads it. We might start by relating that the *Bulletin* is the original brainchild of the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush (who, after some badgering, quite respectful, of course) sometimes takes pen in hand and gives us vivid reports on his excursions to the field.

Calling in Major Lionel Fielden (B), the first director of the Public Relations Branch, the Brigadier directed that a weekly report be prepared of current events of interest at headquarters and in Italy for the benefit of the officers stationed in the field regions who might find such a quick, informal synopsis of use as a coordinating medium of information. Fielden balked a bit that it was perhaps not properly the task of PRB but set to work and produced the first issue of April 1, 1944 almost single-handed, though it was evident at once that the job of covering the twenty-odd sub-commissions at headquarters, the news from various regions and Italian events themselves should have had a full-time staff who could also use the same material for press releases and background information for the correspondents.

Today, two years and 20 days older, the *Bulletin* not only goes to every officer in all sections of headquarters and to the field liaison groups and to Venezia Giulia AMG but also to the War and State Departments, War and Foreign Offices, (indeed, they sent for it), AFHQ, the British and American Embassies, PBS and all British Districts, Moscow and Paris through the Russian and French representatives to the Allied Commission, to all fellow PROs, to the BMA in Tripolitania and to Allied intelligence offices in Germany and Austria. While the *Bulletin* from the beginning

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



has been used as background filler for war correspondents and authority was obtained more than a year ago to make portions directly available without attribution, the permission was obtained to declassify the document recently and for the last few weeks copies have been mailed directly to all Allied, neutral and Italian correspondents and newspapers as well as to libraries back home.

### Aims.

The original aims of the *Bulletin* were perhaps best stated by Major Fielden in the issue of May 6, 1944 when he said that it was established and intended "for the peculiar delight of Regional an Provincial Commissioners of the A. C. C. who may not always be acquainted with the marvels performed at Hq. It is not, and will not, we trust, ever become (*a*) an official report per se, (*b*) a mere catalogue of events, (*c*) a mighty document of absolute accuracy, though accuracy we seek, of course. We have no Delphic oracle on our staff and we refuse to be badgered out of an occasional note of gaiety."

We might add, parenthetically, that we have been lucky enough to make few errors and, ofttimes when we run "corrections", we do so at official behest to remove all traces of ambiguity in the exalted complainant's mind. When we can solemnly swear and aver that every important executive in the A. C.—from the Chief Commissioner down—has told us that he has learned something new from the *Bulletin* that had escaped his notice before, when we recall the hectic scrounging around for information (it never comes to you), the feverish writing on deadlines (Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings are hell), interruptions by telephone calls, visits of correspondents (who have *No.* 1-AAA priority) or sudden summons by higher presences, we are of the flat opinion that it is lucky the *Bulletin* is not pockmarked with mistakes.

A word about how we get our news may interest officers who were smart enough never to get into PRO work. First, we try to read practically every regular report that comes into this headquarters from the field and from each sub-commission and branch and when we hear of a special study, we try to get hold of that. We have sat through countless Executive Commissioner's and Vice President's meetings and sometimes come away with a scribbled line of copy and sometimes with a whole sheet, covered with liberally doodled notes for two or three articles. We try to talk to officers visiting headquarters and we visit the field ourselves, though less and less as the bumpf at Hq. became heavier. Thus, we finally had to hit on the device of getting articles written in the field and using them after copyreading and writing in what other information we had at our disposal. Brigadier J. K. Dunlop has been a welcome contributor and during the war Lieut. Col. T. L. Bullock (Cdn), Deputy Director (Field), used to send us occasional, peppery notes on his wide travels. But most of our appeals for field material sent directly by us have fallen on barren grounds. The field men are very busy no doubt (but no busier than we are) but probably they are too diffident.

### Producing it.

It has been had enough to have to beg, pray, cozen and wheedle dope out of our victims (who are also our readers) but the *coup* comes with our printing headaches, though let us hasten to say they have not been the fault of our printer, Signor Carlo Colombo, with whom the A. C. printing liaison employe, Signor De Luca, has collaborated in using every resource to see that the *Bulletin* comes out as scheduled every Saturday. In the first days it was stencilled and mimeographed, which was a dreary chore of the first order performed nobly and with rare lament by our much-missed Staff Sergeant Alan Cash of the British Army. We later also used Cash as a reporter and a quite successful one. With all the deference in the world for rank, Cash had enough aplomb to put a major general himself at ease.

Cash was succeeded by another British find for PRB, Corporal John Drummond, a painstaking literatus who has put the printed *Bulletin* to bed for more than a year. Besides struggling with the atrocious calligraphy of the much-amended manuscripts, Drummond has had to contend with power shortages and also a printers' strike. The power shortage would invariably occur at 1 p.m. just as the last-minute copy was rushed to the composing room. In the three or four hour interval, corrections could have been made if the type could have been set and often Drummond worked until 8 p.m. before the first copies were off the press. The physical production of the *Bulletin* would have been virtually impossible without Cash or Drummond. Both men, incidentally, have also contributed articles to the *Bulletin*, even attaining a nice American style in their writing. And let us also throw a little laurel on the brows of our loyal and overtime-working Italian clerical staff who do the distribution chore and consists of

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



Enrico Martella, who when not reading detective stories is a whirlwind of efficiency, and his two stalwart aides, Sergio Antinori and Gaetano Loquenzi.

**People.**

A little about the personalities of the *Bulletin* editors. The *Bulletin* under Major Fielden achieved a sparkle that came from his own intense interest in and friendliness for the Italians. The issues after Rome fell are full of human interest reports on riots, trials and amusing interludes. Fielden made people either laugh or get mad as hell, as a consequence of which he had some first-rate rows with Higher Authority as to what could or could not go into the *Bulletin*. The tradition of differences of opinion between the Executive Commissioner and PRB on *Bulletin* contents was continued by later directors but it can safely be said today that both sides have relaxed their points of view. We completely forgot to mention one of our biggest headaches: clearance. An article emanating from a headquarters source has first to be cleared for fact with the originating sub-commission, then with the Vice President of the Section concerned, then with the Executive Commissioner, and sometimes with the Chief Commissioner and the British and American Embassies.

The *Political* article, written at first by Fielden and then by Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin (A)—later Director—had to have clearance of the Political Advisors. Beside Fielden's pungent and brilliant pen, Bergin's was mild but smooth and sentimentally pleasant in the occasional pieces we could browbeat or persuade him to write. His *Political* column, his regular production, was noted for its clarity and wit and sympathetic appreciation of Italian problems. Bergin an easy-going professor of Romance languages from Cornell University, who somewhat loftily brushed off the usual PRO grind of news reports, finally admitted that writing the column had taught him to appreciate what responsible journalists are always up against: making sure what they put in print is accurate and sound.

Although from the start Brigadier Lush has acted as sort of chairman of the board of directors for the *Bulletin*, the weekly job of producing the *Bulletin* fell, with the rare contributions already noted, to three officers—Fielden, Bergin and Major John P. Leacacos (A), who was in turn PRB Chief of News Production, Executive Officer and now Director (and the writer, of course). To Leacacos, the trio's only working newspaperman (from the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*) fell the hack work of obtaining information and doing the heavy pieces and since Rome days he has been the managing editor of the *Bulletin*. In recent months he has had to do the whole business, save for one or two pieces from Capt. Ed Ellison, from *Political* to *Odds*. And he is very tired of it.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. C. R. Findlay, director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, received the Legion of Merit from the hands of Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general, MTOUSA, this week in Rome... (Major) Lionel Fielden, former PRB director and now correspondent for the *New Statesman*, is in town for a visit... Mines off Cagliari are interfering with the Sardinian fishing industry; the Navy Sub-Commission is helping on getting minesweepers... Lord Stansgate, British Minister for Air and former Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, passed through the capital this week on his way to Anglo-Egyptian treaty talks at Cairo... Sir Quinton Hill, new economic advisor to the British Embassy, has been visiting the A. C. in recent days... The Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission has been aiding the Italian Director-General of Antiquities and Fine Arts to inspect the Foro Mussolini (still occupied by Allied forces) with a view to replacing the decorative frescoes, which are now rather Fascist-tinged... The Public Health Sub-Commission reports that the infant mortality rate for Rome in February (statistics have just come in) was 84.8, compared with 70.9 in January, a normal seasonal fluctuation... Col. C. R. Ross, CO, 2675th Regiment, has just made his first flying inspection trip to U. S. officers stationed at Palermo and Naples... We fear our statement on the Rome hotel position has been a little misleading; here are the facts: Four Rome hotels have been relinquished by the Allied Commission during the past ten months; additionally, another hotel has been taken over by this Headqurters in the last six months; one of the four hotels given up by the Allied Commission has been taken over by another Allied unit...

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

April 13, 1946 Vol. III, No. 2

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Flushed with their Milan victory, the restless hosts of the Socialist party gathered on the banks of the Arno during the week to open their national congress on April 11. In typical political convention style, the delegates were astir over the two big questions before the Florence congress: that of Nenni's leadership and the Communist alliance. And traditionally, there was the *leitmotif* of a Socialist International, the creation of a bloc of Socialist states, which was argued by both idealist and realist, while bending an attentive ear were several foreign delegations (nine had arrived or were arriving). The most prominent of the visitors were the British headed by Mr. Harold Laski, who bore a personal letter from Foreign Secretary Bevin to Nenni in which Bevin said he was greatly pleased that the order and enthusiasm of the elections had confirmed his confidence in the Italian people.

Prof. Laski spoke on the first day of the sessions, prophesying that Italy would have a good peace and stressing that British policy was to give the greatest freedom to all countries. Togliatti, who had led the list of speakers, denied what he called the fable of the Communists having swallowed up the Socialists and declared that it was necessary for the Socialists and Communists to be permanently united for reasons of domestic and foreign politics. Nenni, as secretary general of the party, then gave his report, which, as given in the *Giornale del Mattino*, can be summarized as follows:

After the liberation of Italy, there were three forces in the country—the Allies, the monarchy and the CLN; the Socialists joined the CLN to fight the Rightist trends. The *Costituente* is the problem of problems, which "we have almost won". "Almost", Nenni added, "because many things may happen before June 2. But now we are on the side of right and law. If among the Monarchist Right, there are some who think of a *coup d'état*, they need not be feared." He flourished the statistics of the recent elections, citing Socialist-Communist victories in 2,153 out of 5,614 communes against 1,907 for the Christian Democrats.

The Socialist program, he continued, is for a democratic republic of united states, whose power will be made more flexible by liberal use of local autonomy. There should be a single legislative chamber or House and an associated chamber of economic councils. The president of the republic should be elected by the House to which the Government should be responsible. The constitution should guarantee freedom of conscience, thought, press, speech, organization, the right to work, home, livelihood, and education; limit the right to property by nationalization of public services, and repudiate war.

On foreign policy, the Socialist leader was against joining any big power bloc—American, British or Russian. He advocated regional agreements with France, Greece, Spain and Yugoslavia. The just frontier with Yugoslavia is that known as the "Wilson line" of 1919 and the Italian character of Trieste and the west coast of Istria must be recognized by Yugoslavia. The colonies should have a trusteeship administration. Italians must be allowed raw materials and freedom to emigrate. He termed the Lateran Pact "a well-established fact".

On the ticklish question of the Communist pact, Nenni asserted the unity of the working classes is needed to develop the republic either by a pact of united action or by fusion. Polemics on fusion he called artificial. What mattered, he said, was that unity of action between the Socialists and the Communists should gain the majority in the *Costituente*.

351

### Debates.

The next day, the 12th, the delegates began unburdening themselves on Nenni's speech, with no indication as yet, according to the latest press reports, of the consensus. Zagari and Mandolfo

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



spoke for an international Socialist bloc to prevent power blocs, the latter speaker also hitting out at Nenni as ambiguous on the question of the Socialist-Communist merger. Pertini maintained that the Socialist party must be absolutely autonomous because, he said, the Communists are influenced by Russia and the Christian Democrats by clericalism. He ended, however, by saying a common policy with the Communists was necessary in the present political struggle.

While the Socialist confabulation took most of the press headlines, prominence during the week was also given to the cereal shortage and the bread ration emerged as a political issue. *Avanti* decried "alarmist critics" and the Italian Government officially declared in a communique that the ration of 200 grams was to be maintained, the communique being issued after a transatlantic telephone conversation between Prime Minister De Gasperi and La Guardia, the new Director-General of UNRRA. This prompted *Giornale della Sera* to make cutting remarks about "last-minute telephone calls to avoid the horrible threat of starvation".

New groupings and counter-groupings, manifestoes and *ordini del giorno* continued through the week in heightened preparation for the national elections. The Central Committees of the Action and Republican parties published statements, the former on its general reform program and the latter proclaiming that the republic will be the real rebirth of Italy. A National Bloc for Freedom was announced, composed of Bergamini and Benedetti's Demo-Liberal Concentration, Benevenga's Democratic Center Movement, and Selvaggi's Italian Democrat party. Selvaggi, in his *Italia Nuova* (which continued, by the bye, its charges of electoral fraud) criticized the newly formed National Democratic Union (of the elder statesmen) for having refused his alliance on the grounds of alienating its republican sympathizers. In so doing, Selvaggi charged, the Union was allowing a fatal dispersion of democratic votes. *Buonsenso*, the *Uomo Qualunque* organ, in turn, denied that the U. Q. Front had been excluded from the latest Rightist bloc, that of the National Bloc for Freedom, because, it said, the U. Q.'s policy was to refuse all alliances which were not strictly necessary. In speaking of joining groups, speculation ranged around Sforza again, *Voce Repubblicana* announcing he had joined the Republican party while *Giornale del Mattino* reported he would "certainly" join the National Democratic Union and *Momento* stated that Sforza would head the national Action Party list of candidates.

In foreign affairs, all papers played up a UP dispatch from Washington that if the meeting of the Big Four Foreign Ministers at Paris April 25 did not produce an agreement on an Italian peace treaty, which was reported No. 1 on the agenda, the United States and the British Governments would take their own initiative in regard to Italy, which was described in the dispatch as follows: abolition of the Allied Commission; no war reparations; no change in the present status of the Italian colonies; Dodecanese Islands to Greece; Trieste to Italy. All papers also carried a Tass Agency report from Moscow which said that the Russian demand for Italian reparations was for $300 million dollars, not three billion.

The Council of Ministers did not meet during the week. At its last meeting on April 6 it raised to 15 billion the amount of money to be advanced to industrial concerns by national banks, increased the cost-of-living bonus for state employes and allotted 10 billion lire for jobless and poor relief, 16 billion for harbors, another six billion for housing and five billion for land improvement.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

There are a few driblets of economic news this week. Mr. W. J. Legg, former A. C. Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission head and now chief of the UNRRA Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply, was a visitor to the last Vice Presidents' meeting on the invitation of the Acting Chief Commissioner. Mr. Legg, just returned from a mission to Washington, reported a black cereal situation but surprisingly good results on obtaining miscellaneous food products (meat, sugar, powdered milk) for Italy. Incidentally, the A. C. is in the process of turning over 18,000 tons of blocked foodstuffs in its possession. The Finance Branch hears there is a possibility that the U. S. Government may place the non-troop pay suspense account (for U. S. military expenditures in Italy outside of troop pay) to the account of the Italian Government, which would give Italy another $120 million or thereabouts in U. S. credit. The troop pay credit to date has amounted to approximately $140 million with more to come.

Black market prices of food were rising with the *pasqua* season, experts report. Bread, as of recent weeks, cost 155 lire a kilo in Rome, 180 in Naples and 110 in Palermo. Other prices in the respective cities are: white pasta—190, 210 and 125; olive oil—450, 410 and 305; sugar—850, 800 and 600; butter—900, 690 and 700; eggs (each)—19, 19 and 14, and beef—500, 450 and 300.

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



Sardinian coal production last month rose to a new high—88,000 tons. French and Italian power companies are talking over renewal of a contract exporting 3,000,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month from the Piemonte area to the Nice-Menton area.

Unemployment dots the reports from the field liaison officers: in Naples, U. S. Army and Navy, the biggest employers, have praticaly shut down all of their labor activities, but the British Army still employs about 30,000 Italians. In Lombardia, there are 112,000 registered unemployed in Milan, 45,000 in Como and 50,000 in Bergamo. In the eight provinces of Venezie region, there are 166,000 jobless.

## ELECTION RESULTS

The five-week run of Sunday administrative elections was over last Sunday, April 7, and the country could now catch its breath until the national elections on June 2. A table of cumulative results for the five Sundays accompanies this article, based on incomplete returns from the Ministry of Interior. In our next issue we will present a detailed analysis and the latest official—and we hope, complete—figures. Following the pattern of previous weeks, the LOs in the field again made telegraphic reports of order and heavy polling throughout Italy while the technical experts of the Local Government Sub-Commission,

| PARTY | MARCH 10 | | | | | | MARCH 17 | | | | | | MARCH 24 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | | |
| | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | |
| **Left Concentration** | — | 129 | **129** | 20 | 2,401 | **2,421** | — | 362 | **362** | 21 | 6,368 | **6,389** | 2 | 534 | **536** | 83 | 9 |
| Communist | 2 | 4 | **6** | 81 | 86 | **167** | 1 | 19 | **20** | 31 | 419 | **450** | 2 | 30 | **39** | 284 | |
| Socialist | 2 | 6 | **8** | 50 | 112 | **162** | — | 23 | **23** | 34 | 422 | **456** | 1 | 33 | **34** | 218 | |
| Republican | 1 | 4 | **5** | 31 | 72 | **103** | — | 8 | **8** | 17 | 178 | **195** | 2 | 10 | **12** | 47 | |
| Action | — | 1 | **1** | — | 33 | **33** | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 70 | **71** | — | 4 | **4** | 6 | |
| **Christian Democrat** | 3 | 131 | **134** | 77 | 2,476 | **2,553** | 4 | 338 | **342** | 78 | 6,181 | **6,259** | 10 | 529 | **539** | 383 | 9 |
| **Center Concentration** | — | 44 | **44** | 21 | 768 | **789** | — | 76 | **76** | 1 | 1,479 | **1,480** | 1 | 65 | **66** | 31 | 1 |
| **Right Concentration** | — | 6 | **6** | 6 | 150 | **156** | — | 36 | **36** | 2 | 672 | **674** | — | 30 | **30** | 17 | |
| Liberal | — | 19 | **19** | 2 | 326 | **328** | — | 15 | **15** | 8 | 339 | **347** | — | 27 | **27** | 18 | |
| Labour Democrat | — | 10 | **10** | 6 | 176 | **182** | — | 25 | **25** | — | 376 | **376** | — | 17 | **17** | 5 | |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 3 | **3** | 5 | 63 | **68** | — | 7 | **7** | 6 | 120 | **126** | — | 7 | **7** | 9 | |
| Italian Democrat | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | **2** | — | 33 | **33** | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | |
| **Independents** | — | 42 | **42** | 4 | 715 | **719** | — | 109 | **109** | — | 1,980 | **1,980** | — | 97 | **97** | 5 | 1 |
| Local Parties | — | 8 | **8** | 9 | 173 | **182** | — | 28 | **28** | 11 | 475 | **486** | — | 43 | **43** | 14 | |
| Veterans | — | 8 | **8** | 8 | 158 | **166** | — | 15 | **15** | — | 253 | **253** | — | 7 | **7** | 9 | |
| No majority or unaccounted for | — | 1 | **1** | — | — | — | — | 8 | **8** | — | — | — | 2 | 5 | **7** | — | |
| TOTALS | 8 | 446 | **424** | 320 | 7,709 | **8,029** | 5 | 1,072 | **1,077** | 210 | 19,365 | **19,575** | 27 | 1,439 | **1,466** | 1,130 | 2 |

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincia
B = Communes under 30,000 (majority sy

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



as should be expected, brought back fuller descriptions of their own tours and some interesting tales to boot.

The sub-commission virtually spanned Italy in its coverage of the April 7 elections. Major Ralph R. Temple (A), the director, observing in Milan; Major C. G. R. Williams (B), the executive officer, spending his time in Sicily, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) looked at Perugia and vicinity. Capt. Vella reported the discovery of a sham bomb (that is, without explosive) in the offices of the Liberal party at Perugia (also headlined in the press) and of meeting Signor Romita, Minister of Interior in the Italian Government and the official in general charge of the electoral machinery, who with reason bragged a little about the order and calm of the polling as an evidence of the political maturity of the Italian people.

In Milan, where Fascism was born and where politics was its hottest in the recent electoral campaigns, Major Temple described the city as literally covered with placards, manifestoes, wall signs, sidewalk printing, emblems, pictures and the hundred and one symbols of the politicoes. Huge crowds congregated in the Piazza del Duomo to hear political speeches, with one gathering giving way in orderly fashion to the next, when the time showed another party was scheduled to rally. Electoral certificates were delivered by some 1,000 functionaries five days before the

| Seats | | MARCH 31 | | | | | | APRIL 7 | | | | | | TOTAL TO DATE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | |
| B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total |
| 432 | 9,515 | 3 | 517 | 520 | 158 | 9,455 | 9,613 | 3 | 447 | 450 | 100 | 7,897 | 7,997 | 8 | 1,989 | 1,997 | 382 | 35,553 | 35,935 |
| 548 | 802 | 11 | 48 | 59 | 350 | 826 | 1,166 | 4 | 20 | 24 | 186 | 374 | 560 | 27 | 121 | 148 | 922 | 2,223 | 3,145 |
| 560 | 987 | 1 | 41 | 42 | 286 | 888 | 1,174 | 2 | 32 | 34 | 171 | 576 | 747 | 6 | 135 | 141 | 759 | 2,767 | 3,526 |
| 200 | 247 | — | 8 | 8 | 38 | 186 | 224 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 85 | 86 | 171 | 3 | 33 | 38 | 218 | 722 | 940 |
| 81 | 89 | — | — | — | 9 | 29 | 38 | — | 1 | 1 | 12 | 28 | 40 | — | 7 | 7 | 28 | 243 | 271 |
| 325 | 9,808 | 18 | 568 | 586 | 571 | 9,856 | 10,427 | 12 | 364 | 376 | 361 | 6,735 | 7,095 | 17 | 1,960 | 1,977 | 1,459 | 34,673 | 36,142 |
| 267 | 1,398 | 1 | 74 | 75 | 43 | 1,385 | 1,428 | — | 46 | 46 | 17 | 866 | 883 | 2 | 305 | 307 | 113 | 5,865 | 5,978 |
| 357 | 574 | — | 14 | 14 | 53 | 335 | 388 | — | 38 | 38 | 20 | 738 | 758 | — | 124 | 124 | 98 | 2,452 | 2,550 |
| 403 | 481 | — | 23 | 23 | 27 | 436 | 463 | — | 10 | 10 | 33 | 227 | 260 | — | 94 | 94 | 88 | 1,791 | 1,879 |
| 333 | 338 | — | 17 | 17 | 17 | 326 | 343 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 168 | 181 | 1 | 77 | 78 | 41 | 1,479 | 1,420 |
| 117 | 126 | — | 4 | 4 | 13 | 104 | 117 | — | 1 | 1 | 13 | 42 | 55 | — | 22 | 22 | 46 | 446 | 492 |
| 15 | 14 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 18 | 18 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 12 | 12 | — | 5 | 5 | 1 | 76 | 77 |
| 583 | 1,928 | — | 126 | 126 | 6 | 2,263 | 2,269 | — | 93 | 93 | 8 | 1,676 | 1,684 | — | 467 | 467 | 23 | 8,557 | 8,580 |
| 668 | 682 | 1 | 51 | 52 | 25 | 820 | 845 | — | 41 | 41 | — | 723 | 723 | 1 | 171 | 172 | 59 | 2,859 | 2,918 |
| 187 | 196 | — | 18 | 18 | 4 | 283 | 287 | — | 7 | 7 | 2 | 182 | 184 | — | 55 | 55 | 23 | 1,063 | 1,086 |
| — | — | 4 | 12 | 16 | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 5 | — | — | — | 7 | 30 | 37 | — | — | — |
| 5,866 | 27,185 | 39 | 1,522 | 1,561 | 1,598 | 27,210 | 28,800 | 25 | 1,116 | 1,141 | 1,020 | 20,330 | 21,350 | 104 | 5,565 | 5,669 | 4,270 | 100,669 | 104,939 |

) Capitals (proportional representation).
stem).

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



voting. However, due to the usual causes of changes in addresses, nobody at home to accept delivery, etc., Major Temple said there were some 70,000 certificates undelivered by election day. Large crowds of voters then gathered around the distribution offices on April 7 and by special order certificates were handed over personally by 150 clerks and special assistants to qualified electors right up to almost the time the polls closed at 10 p.m., thus reducing considerably the total number of undelivered documents.

Party workers were present in large numbers to direct voters to the correct locations of voting booths in places where the locations had been changed. All of the 903 election districts had official *scrutatori* or party observers. Out of a population estimated at 1,244,049, there were 835,781 electors, of whom 445,327 were women and 390,454 men. Approximately 80 per cent. cast a ballot. In the battle for the 80 council seats, the six competing lists finished in the following order: 1 – Socialists, 2 – Christian Democrats, 3 – Communists, 4 – *Madonnina* ticket of Liberals and Rightists, 5 – Mazzini ticket of Republican and Action Party, and 6 – *Esercente* ticket of shopkeepers. The Socialists ran more than 60,000 ahead of the next party, according to incomplete returns.

Major Williams' report shows he had a good time in Sicily, where personal rivalries counted more in the voting, apparently, than did political divisions. He looked in at Marsala and Trapani among other places. At Marsala, he tells us, he arrived the day before the elections to find the *Municipio* in an uproar. Throngs of poor in rags were yelling for relief aid. The election official in charge was not around. The electoral lists were in a room *senza* clerk or guards while the public leafed through the registers. The arrival of the major and the Italian inspector-general who accompanied, however, soon got around and order and efficiency were put into effect rather quickly and the next day the polling went off in fairly good order. Marsala, Maj. Williams says, was beflagged and plastered with election slogans such as no place he had yet seen in Italy. One item not remedied in time in Marsala, which is a large commune with several country villages within its limits, was the proper provision of voting booths for town and country folk. There were 27 booths in town and 12 in the country and, somehow, many town people were forced to go to the country to vote while many country dwellers had to come to town to vote.

Trapani was a model of efficiency, the major said. Electric light for night voting was provided on a priority basis but, to be on the safe side, the officials had placed in every booth an oil lamp and extra oil—in the event of a power failure. Extra sub-offices for the distribution of electoral certificates had been set up. A last-minute emergency problem was also solved in short order. For some reason or other, the community of Paceco in Trapani got the right to become a separate commune as of April 1, which necessitated a fast sorting out of the commune's voters from those of Trapani itself and arrangements had to be made to hold separate balloting. Sixty-six per cent. of the electors voted in Marsala and 64 per cent. in Trapani.

Major Williams has one more tale to pass on: at Sperlinga in the heart of Sicily, the villagers for generations have been known as rabid individualists (which must be gilding the lily for Sicily) and as traditional "agin'ers". Although the Italian Government has made woman suffrage the law of the land, the men of Sperlinga must have had their own ideas. In the elections just held, not a single wife, mother, daughter or sister showed up at the polls. The only women who voted were two spinster schoolmarms.

## LA SPEZIA

Col. C. B. Findlay, director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, gives us the latest facts about the Jews at La Spezia, the story of which broke on the unsuspecting heads of the authorities last week. About 0400 on 4 April, the story goes, 1,200 young Jewish men and women, riding in 38 lorries and provisioned with 12 days' rations, appeared at a small fishing port near La Spezia on the gulf of the same name. Awaiting them there was a schooner (later pronounced unseaworthy in case of storm by the naval authorities) which was to transport them to Palestine.

Italian police, however, stopped the embarkation since the caravan had no Allied or Italian permit. Col. Findlay explains that none of the 1,200 came from Allied Commission or UNRRA displaced persons camps. It is believed they gathered near Genoa from farm training camps and hostels in the North operated by private organizations. In any event, the group of would-be travellers proceeded to go on a 72-hour hunger strike, which ended April 10. The Displaced Persons S/C immediately had made available an emergency camp for those of the party who wished to avail themselves of it and who were not held by Italian authorities at Chiavari north of La Spezia. So far none has done so.

1224

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



## TRIESTE IMPASSE

Lieut. Col. Carleton W. Washburne, director of the Education Sub-Commission, who has been acting as a special adviser on Venezia Giulia education problems, brings the following anecdote back to Rome concerning the merry tug-of-war between AMG and the PNOO (Slovene Committee of Liberation):

The PNOO beat the School Administration to the punch recently by publishing a primer in Slovene, liberally interlarded with propaganda and with a full-page portrait of Tito as frontiecpiece, before AMG could get its primer printed. PNOO ordered all parents to buy these for their children; AMG banned their use from the schools. As soon as the AMG primer was published last month it was distributed free through the civil affairs officers and any of the PNOO primers found in the schools or in possession of the children while in school were confiscated. At Aurisina the irate Slovene mothers then proceeded to confiscate the AMG primers, and presented them to the CAO.

Result: A draw and Aurisina children have no books.

Col. H. H. P. Roberston (B), Acting SCAO, has decided to let the school remain bookless for a while and then, if the parents refuse to allow the use of the AMG primer (lily-white in its freedom from propaganda of any kind), recognition and its material perquisites will be withdrawn from the school.

## DECLASSIFICATION

This paragraph constitutes notice to all holders of classified issues of the Allied Commission *Weekly Bulletin* that it has been properly declassified and downgraded by competent authority of this headquarters under U. S. Army regulations (AR 380-5, Paragraph 15) and British Army rules (Classification and Handling of Protected Documents, 1944).

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly (A), CLO at Livorno, is in the 64th General Hospital for a short stay... Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is back from the States... As a result of a survey now going on, with the aim to reduce civilian personnel to a minimum, these figures have emerged: A. C. civilian (mostly Italian) employes of all kinds (messes, garages, office, laborers) at peak operations in June, 1945, totalled 5,928, of whom 4,060 were in the regions and 1,868 at headquarters; reports from the field have not come in as yet but at headquarters there are now 1,246... Venezia Giulia AMG recently sent an officer to Rome to study election preparations, though it will be some time before elections can be held in Zone A... The first officers' party ever held of the 2675th Regiment last Tuesday was a great success... PRB is making arrangements for 25 French journalists to visit Trieste on a tour of Italy sponsored by the Italian Government... Speaking of Trieste public relations, which have had their full in recent weeks, nearly 60 correspondents of Allied, neutral and Central European countries (as well as from Yugoslavia) visited the area last month... Col. Charles M. Parkin, former commanding officer of 2675th Regiment, has left the A. C. for G-5 after staying on to accompany the MTOUSA Inspector General on the latter's annual tour of this unit; to Col. Parkin, a Regular Army officer who came overseas with the first U. S. forces in Northern Ireland in 1942 and has been associated with U. S. military government in the MTO since Tizi-Ouzou, which he commanded, we wish the best of luck on his future assignments... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop is succeeding Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary (B) as CLO in Lombardia... All wives of U. S. EM have been moved to the Nord Roma Hotel in Rome... Four hotels now under A. C. direction will be taken over by Rome Area Allied Command (though, with no change affecting the occupants) in the near future; they are the Grand, Inghilterra, Bella Vista and California... Approximately 45 U. S. families of officers and EM are slated to come to Italy, of which about 18 are of A. C. personnel; the first wives and children are expected in early May... U. S. officers slated to be redeployed on April 1 are still waiting for orders... The latest awards: *Crown of Italy* – (*Commander*) Colonel G. F. Parker; (*Knight*) Major Anthony P. Nugent, Captain Lester C. Bern, Lieuts. Joseph W. Durber and John J. Ward... Incidentally, since last December, when MTOUSA authority to accept Italian awards was received, there have been to U. S. officers 144 awards of the Order of the Crown of Italy, 11 of the Order of SS. Maurizius and Lazarus and 19 of the Italian Cross of War Merit... Col. Robert C. Ross, CO, 2675th Regiment, is happy to report that the MTOUSA Inspector General, Col. C. H. Middleton of Rome Area Command, has given Headquarters Company (the American side of A. C. headquarters) an "excellent rating" after his annual tour of inspection... A slight correction to a recent Bulletin statement in this department: Five hotels (not eight) once occupied by A. C. personnel in Rome have been given up by this command...

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

Vol. III, No. 2

April 13, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Flushed with their Milan victory, the restless hosts of the Socialist party gathered on the banks of the Arno during the week to open their national congress on April 11. In typical political convention style, the delegates were astir over the two big questions before the Florence congress: that of Nenni's leadership and the Communist alliance. And traditionally, there was the *leitmotif* of a Socialist International, the creation of a bloc of Socialist states, which was argued by both idealist and realist, while bending an attentive ear were several foreign delegations (nine had arrived or were arriving). The most prominent of the visitors were the British headed by Mr. Harold Laski, who bore a personal letter from Foreign Secretary Bevin to Nenni in which Bevin said he was greatly pleased that the order and enthusiasm of the elections had confirmed his confidence in the Italian people.

Prof. Laski spoke on the first day of the sessions, prophesying that Italy would have a good peace and stressing that British policy was to give the greatest freedom to all countries. Togliatti, who had led the list of speakers, denied what he called the fable of the Communists having swallowed up the Socialists and declared that it was necessary for the Socialists and Communists to be permanently united for reasons of domestic and foreign politics. Nenni, as secretary general of the party, then gave his report, which, as given in the *Giornale del Mattino*, can be summarized as follows:

After the liberation of Italy, there were three forces in the country—the Allies, the monarchy and the CLN; the Socialists joined the CLN to fight the Rightist trends. The *Costituente* is the problem of problems, which "we have almost won". "Almost", Nenni added, "because many things may happen before June 2. But now we are on the side of right and law. If among the Monarchist Right, there are some who think of a *coup d'état*, they need not be feared." He flourished the statistics of the recent elections, citing Socialist-Communist victories in 2,153 out of 5,614 communes against 1,907 for the Christian Democrats.

The Socialist program, he continued, is for a democratic republic of united states, whose power will be made more flexible by liberal use of local autonomy. There should be a single legislative chamber or House and an associated chamber of economic councils. The president of the republic should be elected by the House to which the Government should be responsible. The constitution should guarantee freedom of conscience, thought, press, speech, organization, the right to work, home, livelihood, and education; limit the right to property by nationalization of public services, and repudiate war.

On foreign policy, the Socialist leader was against joining any big power bloc—American, British or Russian. He advocated regional agreements with France, Greece, Spain and Yugoslavia. The just frontier with Yugoslavia is that known as the "Wilson line" of 1919 and the Italian character of Trieste and the west coast of Istria must be recognized by Yugoslavia. The colonies should have a trusteeship administration. Italians must be allowed raw materials and freedom to emigrate. He termed the Lateran Pact "a well-established fact".

On the ticklish question of the Communist pact, Nenni asserted the unity of the working classes is needed to develop the republic either by a pact of united action or by fusion. Polemics on fusion he called artificial. What mattered, he said, was that unity of action between the Socialists and the Communists should gain the majority in the *Costituente*.

349

### Debates.

The next day, the 12th, the delegates began unburdening themselves on Nenni's speech, with no indication as yet, according to the latest press reports, of the consensus. Zagari and Mandolfo

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



spoke for an international Socialist bloc to prevent power blocs, the latter speaker also hitting out at Nenni as ambiguous on the question of the Socialist-Communist merger. Pertini maintained that the Socialist party must be absolutely autonomous because, he said, the Communists are influenced by Russia and the Christian Democrats by clericalism. He ended, however, by saying a common policy with the Communists was necessary in the present political struggle.

While the Socialist confabulation took most of the press headlines, prominence during the week was also given to the cereal shortage and the bread ration emerged as a political issue. *Avanti* decried "alarmist critics" and the Italian Government officially declared in a communique that the ration of 200 grams was to be maintained, the communique being issued after a transatlantic telephone conversation between Prime Minister De Gasperi and La Guardia, the new Director-General of UNRRA. This prompted *Giornale della Sera* to make cutting remarks about "last-minute telephone calls to avoid the horrible threat of starvation".

New groupings and counter-groupings, manifestoes and *ordini del giorno* continued through the week in heightened preparation for the national elections. The Central Committees of the Action and Republican parties published statements, the former on its general reform program and the latter proclaiming that the republic will be the real rebirth of Italy. A National Bloc for Freedom was announced, composed of Bergamini and Benedetti's Demo-Liberal Concentration, Benevenga's Democratic Center Movement, and Selvaggi's Italian Democrat party. Selvaggi, in his *Itália Nuova* (which continued, by the bye, its charges of electoral fraud) criticized the newly formed National Democratic Union (of the elder statesmen) for having refused his alliance on the grounds of alienating its republican sympathizers. In so doing, Selvaggi charged, the Union was allowing a fatal dispersion of democratic votes. *Buonsenso*, the *Uomo Qualunque* organ, in turn, denied that the U. Q. Front had been excluded from the latest Rightist bloc, that of the National Bloc for Freedom, because, it said, the U. Q.'s policy was to refuse all alliances which were not strictly necessary. In speaking of joining groups, speculation ranged around Sforza again, *Voce Repubblicana* announcing he had joined the Republican party while *Giornale del Mattino* reported he would "certainly" join the National Democratic Union and *Momento* stated that Sforza would head the national Action Party list of candidates.

In foreign affairs, all papers played up a UP dispatch from Washington that if the meeting of the Big Four Foreign Ministers at Paris April 25 did not produce an agreement on an Italian peace treaty, which was reported No. 1 on the agenda, the United States and the British Governments would take their own initiative in regard to Italy, which was described in the dispatch as follows: abolition of the Allied Commission; no war reparations; no change in the present status of the Italian colonies; Dodecanese Islands to Greece; Trieste to Italy. All papers also carried a Tass Agency report from Moscow which said that the Russian demand for Italian reparations was for $300 million dollars, not three billion.

The Council of Ministers did not meet during the week. At its last meeting on April 6 it raised to 15 billion the amount of money to be advanced to industrial concerns by national banks, increased the cost-of-living bonus for state employes and allotted 10 billion lire for jobless and poor relief, 16 billion for harbors, another six billion for housing and five billion for land improvement.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

There are a few driblets of economic news this week. Mr. W. J. Legg, former A. C. Food and Agriculture Sub-Commission head and now chief of the UNRRA Sub-Bureau of Relief Supply, was a visitor to the last Vice Presidents' meeting on the invitation of the Acting Chief Commissioner. Mr. Legg, just returned from a mission to Washington, reported a black cereal situation but surprisingly good results on obtaining miscellaneous food products (meat, sugar, powdered milk) for Italy. Incidentally, the A. C. is in the process of turning over 18,000 tons of blocked foodstuffs in its possession. The Finance Branch hears there is a possibility that the U. S. Government may place the non-troop pay suspense account (for U. S. military expenditures in Italy outside of troop pay) to the account of the Italian Government, which would give Italy another $120 million or thereabouts in U. S. credit. The troop pay credit to date has amounted to approximately $140 million with more to come.

Black market prices of food were rising with the *pasqua* season, experts report. Bread, as of recent weeks, cost 155 lire a kilo in Rome, 180 in Naples and 110 in Palermo. Other prices in the respective cities are: white pasta—190, 210 and 125; olive oil—450, 410 and 305; sugar—850, 800 and 600; butter—900, 690 and 700; eggs (each)—19, 19 and 14, and beef—500, 450 and 300.

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



Sardinian coal production last month rose to a new high—88,000 tons. French and Italian power companies are talking over renewal of a contract exporting 3,000,000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month from the Piemonte area to the Nice-Menton area.

Unemployment dots the reports from the field liaison officers: in Naples, U. S. Army and Navy, the biggest employers, have pratically shut down all of their labor activities, but the British Army still employs about 30,000 Italians. In Lombardia, there are 112,000 registered unemployed in Milan, 45,000 in Como and 50,000 in Bergamo. In the eight provinces of Venezie region, there are 166,000 jobless.

## ELECTION RESULTS

The five-week run of Sunday administrative elections was over last Sunday, April 7, and the country could now catch its breath until the national elections on June 2. A table of cumulative results for the five Sundays accompanies this article, based on incomplete returns from the Ministry of Interior. In our next issue we will present a detailed analysis and the latest official—and we hope, complete—figures. Following the pattern of previous weeks, the LOs in the field again made telegraphic reports of order and heavy polling throughout Italy while the technical experts of the Local Government Sub-Commission,

| PARTY | MARCH 10 | | | | | | MARCH 17 | | | | | | MARCH 24 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | |
| | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A |
| **Left Concentration** | — | 129 | **129** | 20 | 2,401 | **2,421** | — | 362 | **362** | 21 | 6,368 | **6,369** | 2 | 534 | **536** | 83 |
| Communist | 2 | 4 | **6** | 81 | 86 | **167** | 1 | 19 | **20** | 31 | 419 | **450** | 9 | 30 | **39** | 284 |
| Socialist | 2 | 6 | **8** | 50 | 112 | **162** | — | 23 | **23** | 34 | 422 | **456** | 1 | 33 | **34** | 218 |
| Republican | 1 | 4 | **5** | 31 | 72 | **103** | — | 8 | **8** | 17 | 178 | **195** | 2 | 10 | **12** | 47 |
| Action | — | 1 | **1** | — | 33 | **33** | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 70 | **71** | — | 4 | **4** | 6 |
| **Christian Democrat** | 3 | 131 | **134** | 77 | 2,476 | **2,553** | 4 | 338 | **342** | 78 | 6,181 | **6,259** | 10 | 529 | **539** | 383 |
| **Center Concentration** | — | 43 | **44** | 21 | 768 | **789** | — | 76 | **76** | 1 | 1,479 | **1,480** | 1 | 65 | **66** | 31 |
| **Right Concentration** | — | 6 | **6** | 6 | 150 | **156** | — | 36 | **36** | 2 | 672 | **674** | — | 30 | **30** | 17 |
| Liberal | — | 19 | **19** | 2 | 326 | **328** | — | 15 | **15** | 8 | 339 | **347** | — | 27 | **27** | 18 |
| Labour Democrat | — | 10 | **10** | 6 | 176 | **182** | — | 25 | **25** | — | 376 | **376** | — | 17 | **17** | 5 |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 3 | **3** | 5 | 63 | **68** | — | 7 | **7** | 6 | 120 | **126** | — | 7 | **7** | 9 |
| Italian Democrat | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | **2** | — | 33 | **33** | — | 1 | **1** | 1 |
| **Independents** | — | 42 | **42** | 4 | 715 | **719** | — | 109 | **109** | — | 1,980 | **1,980** | — | 97 | **97** | 5 |
| Local Parties | — | 8 | **8** | 9 | 173 | **182** | — | 28 | **28** | 11 | 475 | **486** | — | 43 | **43** | 14 |
| Veterans | — | 8 | **8** | 8 | 158 | **166** | — | 15 | **15** | — | 253 | **253** | — | 7 | **7** | 9 |
| No majority or unaccounted for | — | 1 | **1** | — | — | — | — | 8 | **8** | — | — | — | 2 | 5 | **7** | — |
| TOTALS | 8 | 416 | **424** | 320 | 7,709 | **8,029** | 5 | 1,072 | **1,077** | 210 | 19,365 | **19,575** | 27 | 1,439 | **1,466** | 1,130 |

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial
B = Communes under 30,000 (majority sy

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



as should be expected, brought back fuller descriptions of their own tours and some interesting tales to boot.

The sub-commission virtually spanned Italy in its coverage of the April 7 elections, Major Ralph R. Temple (A), the director, observing in Milan; Major C. G. R. Williams (B), the executive officer, spending his time in Sicily, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) looked at Perugia and vicinity. Capt. Vella reported the discovery of a sham bomb (that is, without explosive) in the offices of the Liberal party at Perugia (also headlined in the press) and of meeting Signor Romita, Minister of Interior in the Italian Government and the official in general charge of the electoral machinery, who with reason bragged a little about the order and calm of the polling as an evidence of the political maturity of the Italian people.

In Milan, where Fascism was born and where politics was its hottest in the recent electoral campaigns, Major Temple described the city as literally covered with placards, manifestoes, wall signs, sidewalk printing, emblems, pictures and the hundred and one symbols of the politicoes. Huge crowds congregated in the Piazza del Duomo to hear political speeches, with one gathering giving way in orderly fashion to the next, when the time showed another party was scheduled to rally. Electoral certificates were delivered by some 1,000 functionaries five days before the

| Seats | | MARCH 31 | | | | | | APRIL 7 | | | | | | TOTAL TO DATE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | |
| B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total |
| 432 | 9,515 | 3 | 517 | 520 | 458 | 9,155 | 9,613 | 3 | 447 | 450 | 100 | 7,897 | 7,997 | 8 | 1,989 | 1,997 | 382 | 35,553 | 35,935 |
| 518 | 802 | 11 | 48 | 59 | 340 | 826 | 1,166 | 4 | 20 | 24 | 186 | 374 | 560 | 25 | 121 | 146 | 922 | 2,223 | 3,145 |
| 709 | 987 | 1 | 41 | 42 | 286 | 888 | 1,174 | 2 | 32 | 34 | 171 | 576 | 747 | 6 | 135 | 141 | 750 | 2,767 | 3,526 |
| 200 | 247 | — | 8 | 8 | 38 | 186 | 224 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 85 | 86 | 171 | 5 | 33 | 38 | 218 | 722 | 940 |
| 83 | 89 | — | — | — | 9 | 29 | 38 | — | 1 | 1 | 12 | 28 | 40 | — | 7 | 7 | 28 | 243 | 271 |
| 425 | 9,808 | 18 | 568 | 586 | 571 | 9,856 | 10,427 | 12 | 364 | 376 | 330 | 6,765 | 7,095 | 47 | 1,930 | 1,977 | 1,509 | 34,673 | 36,142 |
| 367 | 1,398 | 1 | 74 | 75 | 43 | 1,386 | 1,428 | — | 46 | 46 | 17 | 866 | 883 | 2 | 305 | 307 | 113 | 5,865 | 5,978 |
| 557 | 574 | — | 14 | 14 | 50 | 338 | 388 | — | 38 | 38 | 20 | 738 | 758 | — | 124 | 124 | 98 | 2,452 | 2,550 |
| 463 | 481 | — | 23 | 23 | 27 | 436 | 463 | — | 10 | 10 | 33 | 227 | 260 | — | 94 | 94 | 88 | 1,791 | 1,879 |
| 333 | 338 | — | 17 | 17 | 17 | 326 | 343 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 168 | 181 | 1 | 77 | 78 | 41 | 1,379 | 1,420 |
| 117 | 126 | — | 4 | 4 | 13 | 104 | 117 | — | 1 | 1 | 13 | 42 | 55 | — | 22 | 22 | 16 | 446 | 492 |
| 13 | 14 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 18 | 18 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 12 | 12 | — | 5 | 5 | 1 | 76 | 77 |
| 923 | 1,928 | — | 126 | 126 | 6 | 2,263 | 2,269 | — | 93 | 93 | 8 | 1,676 | 1,684 | — | 467 | 467 | 23 | 8,557 | 8,580 |
| 608 | 682 | 1 | 51 | 52 | 25 | 820 | 845 | — | 41 | 41 | — | 723 | 723 | 1 | 171 | 172 | 59 | 2,859 | 2,918 |
| 187 | 196 | — | 18 | 18 | 4 | 283 | 287 | — | 7 | 7 | 2 | 182 | 184 | — | 55 | 55 | 24 | 1,063 | 1,086 |
| — | — | 4 | 12 | 16 | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 5 | — | — | — | 7 | 30 | 37 | — | — | — |
| 055 | 27,185 | 39 | 1,522 | 1,561 | 1,596 | 27,210 | 28,800 | 25 | 1,116 | 1,141 | 1,020 | 20,330 | 21,350 | 104 | 5,565 | 5,669 | 4,270 | 100,669 | 104,939 |

Capitals (proportional representation).
ton).

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



voting. However, due to the usual causes of changes in addresses, nobody at home to accept delivery, etc., Major Temple said there were some 70,000 certificates undelivered by election day. Large crowds of voters then gathered around the distribution offices on April 7 and by special order certificates were handed over personally by 150 clerks and special assistants to qualified electors right up to almost the time the polls closed at 10 p.m., thus reducing considerably the total number of undelivered documents.

Party workers were present in large numbers to direct voters to the correct locations of voting booths in places where the locations had been changed. All of the 903 election districts had official *scrutatori* or party observers. Out of a population estimated at 1,244,019, there were 835,781 electors, of whom 445,327 were women and 390,454 men. Approximately 80 per cent. cast a ballot. In the battle for the 80 council seats, the six competing lists finished in the following order: 1 – Socialists, 2 – Christian Democrats, 3 – Communists, 4 – *Madonnina* ticket of Liberals and Rightists, 5 – Mazzini ticket of Republican and Action Party, and 6 – *Esercente* ticket of shopkeepers. The Socialists ran more than 60,000 ahead of the next party, according to incomplete returns.

Major Williams' report shows he had a good time in Sicily, where personal rivalries counted more in the voting, apparently, than did political divisions. He looked in at Marsala and Trapani among other places. At Marsala, he tells us, he arrived the day before the elections to find the *Municipio* in an uproar. Throngs of poor in rags were yelling for relief aid. The election official in charge was not around. The electoral lists were in a room *senza* clerk or guards while the public leafed through the registers. The arrival of the major and the Italian inspector-general who accompanied, however, soon got around and order and efficiency were put into effect rather quickly and the next day the polling went off in fairly good order. Marsala, Maj. Williams says, was bellagged and plastered with election slogans such as no place he had yet seen in Italy. One item not remedied in time in Marsala, which is a large commune with several country villages within its limits, was the proper provision of voting booths for town and country folk. There were 27 booths in town and 12 in the country and, somehow, many town people were forced to go to the country to vote while many country dwellers had to come to town to vote.

Trapani was a model of efficiency, the major said. Electric light for night voting was provided on a priority basis but, to be on the safe side, the officials had placed in every booth an oil lamp and extra oil—in the event of a power failure. Extra sub-offices for the distribution of electoral certificates had been set up. A last-minute emergency problem was also solved in short order. For some reason or other, the community of Paceco in Trapani got the right to become a separate commune as of April 1, which necessitated a fast sorting out of the commune's voters from those of Trapani itself and arrangements had to be made to hold separate balloting. Sixty-six per cent. of the electors voted in Marsala and 64 per cent. in Trapani.

Major Williams has one more tale to pass on: at Sperlinga in the heart of Sicily, the villagers for generations have been known as rabid individualists (which must be gilding the lily for Sicily) and as traditional "agin'ers". Although the Italian Government has made woman suffrage the law of the land, the men of Sperlinga must have had their own ideas. In the elections just held, not a single wife, mother, daughter or sister showed up at the polls. The only women who voted were two spinster schoolmarms.

## LA SPEZIA

Col. C. B. Findlay, director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, gives us the latest facts about the Jews at La Spezia, the story of which broke on the unsuspecting heads of the authorities last week. About 0400 on 4 April, the story goes, 1,200 young Jewish men and women, riding in 38 lorries and provisioned with 12 days' rations, appeared at a small fishing port near La Spezia on the gulf of the same name. Awaiting them there was a schooner (later pronounced unseaworthy in case of storm by the naval authorities) which was to transport them to Palestine.

Italian police, however, stopped the embarkation since the caravan had no Allied or Italian permit. Col. Findlay explains that none of the 1,200 came from Allied Commission or UNRRA displaced persons camps. It is believed they gathered near Genoa from farm training camps and hostels in the North operated by private organizations. In any event, the group of would-be travellers proceeded to go on a 72-hour hunger strike, which ended April 10. The Displaced Persons S/C immediately had made available an emergency camp for those of the party who wished to avail themselves of it and who were not held by Italian authorities at Chiavari north of La Spezia. So far none has done so.

12301

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



## TRIESTE IMPASSE

Lieut. Col. Carleton W. Washburne, director of the Education Sub-Commission, who has been acting as a special adviser on Venezia Giulia education problems, brings the following anecdote back to Rome concerning the merry tug-of-war between AMG and the PNOO (Slovene Committee of Liberation):

The PNOO beat the School Administration to the punch recently by publishing a primer in Slovene, liberally interlarded with propaganda and with a full-page portrait of Tito as frontiecpiece, before AMG could get its primer printed. PNOO ordered all parents to buy these for their children; AMG banned their use from the schools. As soon as the AMG primer was published last month it was distributed free through the civil affairs officers and any of the PNOO primers found in the schools or in possession of the children while in school were confiscated. At Aurisina the irate Slovene mothers then proceded to confiscate the AMG primers, and presented them to the CAO.

Result: A draw and Aurisina children have no books.

Col. H. H. P. Roberston (B), Acting SCAO, has decided to let the school remain bookless for a while and then, if the parents refuse to allow the use of the AMG primer (lily-white in its freedom from propaganda of any kind), recognition and its material perquisites will be withdrawn from the school.

## DECLASSIFICATION

This paragraph constitutes notice to all holders of classified issues of the Allied Commission *Weekly Bulletin* that it has been properly declassified and downgraded by competent authority of this headquarters under U. S. Army regulations (AR 380-5, Paragraph 15) and British Army rules (Classification and Handling of Protected Documents, 1944).

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly (A), CLO at Livorno, is in the 64th General Hospital for a short stay... Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is back from the States... As a result of a survey now going on, with the aim to reduce civilian personnel to a minimum, these figures have emerged: A. C. civilian (mostly Italian) employes of all kinds (messes, garages, office, laborers) at peak operations in June, 1945, totalled 5,928, of whom 4,060 were in the regions and 1,868 at headquarters; reports from the field have not come in as yet but at headquarters there are now 1,246... Venezia Giulia AMG recently sent an officer to Rome to study election preparations, though it will be some time before elections can be held in Zone A... The first officers' party ever held of the 2675th Regiment last Tuesday was a great success... PRB is making arrangements for 25 French journalists to visit Trieste on a tour of Italy sponsored by the Italian Government... Speaking of Trieste public relations, which have had their full in recent weeks, nearly 60 correspondents of Allied, neutral and Central European countries (as well as from Yugoslavia) visited the area last month... Col. Charles M. Parkin, former commanding officer of 2675th Regiment, has left the A. C. for G-5 after staying on to accompany the MTOUSA Inspector General on the latter's annual tour of this unit; to Col. Parkin, a Regular Army officer who came overseas with the first U. S. forces in Northern Ireland in 1942 and has been associated with U. S. military government in the MTO since Tizi-Ouzou, which he commanded, we wish the best of luck on his future assignments... Brigadier J. K. Dunlop is succeeding Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary (B) as CLO in Lombardia... All wives of U. S. EM have been moved to the Nord Roma Hotel in Rome... Four hotels now under A. C. direction will be taken over by Rome Area Allied Command (though, with no change affecting the occupants) in the near future; they are the Grand, Inghilterra, Bella Vista and California... Approximately 45 U. S. families of officers and EM are slated to come to Italy, of which about 18 are of A. C. personnel; the first wives and children are expected in early May... U. S. officers slated to be redeployed on April 1 are still waiting for orders... The latest awards: *Crown of Italy* – (*Commander*) Colonel G. F. Parker; (*Knight*) Major Anthony P. Nugent, Captain Lester C. Bern, Lieuts. Joseph W. Durber and John J. Ward... Incidentally, since last December, when MTOUSA authority to accept Italian awards was received, there have been to U. S. officers 141 awards of the Order of the Crown of Italy, 11 of the Order of SS. Maurizius and Lazarus and 19 of the Italian Cross of War Merit... Col. Robert C. Ross, CO, 2675th Regiment, is happy to report that the MTOUSA Inspector General, Col. C. H. Middleton of Rome Area Command, has given Headquarters Company (the American side of A. C. headquarters) an "excellent rating" after his annual tour of inspection... A slight correction to a recent Bulletin statement in this department: Five hotels (not eight) once occupied by A. C. personnel in Rome have been given up by this command...

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

April 6, 1946 Vol. III, No. 1

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394

## POLITICAL

Invoking the spirit of the Italian *risorgimento* and making the basis of its appeal the "guarantee of the freedom of the individual Italian citizens", the old guard of Italian elder statesmen, namely, Croce for the Liberal party, Bonomi for the Labour Democrats, Orlando for the Independents, and Nitti for his National Union for Reconstruction, on April 1st published a manifesto announcing the National Democratic Union as an alliance of the forces therein represented for the battles of the coming political elections. The reception of the statement itself was generally restrained, the conservative press, *Tempo*, for one, voicing satisfaction that the experience of the former prime ministers (all have held that position except Croce) would be put to effective use in the current political discussions, while *Lavoro*, the CGIL organ, plaintively asked what did it all mean and why do all elder statesmen use such "tortuous language".

But the ink on the signatures of the agreement had hardly dried before the press quite eagerly rushed in to report that already there were dissidents within the new Union, it being reported that the Labour Democrats had not yet formally approved the pact and that the republican sympathizers of the Liberal party were openly against the Union. The upshot was that Bonomi, who had engineered the Union from the start, succeeded in calming his own cohorts, notably Mole and Cevelotto, by pointing out that they were free to vote for the republic and asking for party unity, but the "liberal" Liberals fared otherwise: in a letter to the party Executive, they deplored the "ever stiffening" attitude of the Directorate of the party and its monarchist trend, likewise deprecated the party's election alliance with the *Uomo Qualunque* Front and subsequently 18 of them resigned from the Liberal Party. They are reported to be holding conversations with Parri and La Malfa's Democratic Republican Concentration. The dissident Liberals have also objected to the postponement of the party's national congress in Rome to April 29th at which time the concensus is that the party will come out for the monarchy (the Rome section plumped for the monarchy on the 3rd) according to the *Giornale del Mattino*.

The Rome congress of the Christian Democrat party also postponed this week to the 24th, apparently for tactical reasons. The Socialists went ahead with plans for their own national congress at Florence on the 11th at which a sizeable British delegation, headed by Harold Laski, and a French and Bulgarian delegation, will be present. The Florence meeting is expected by the press to be a rip-roaring event, with four main resolutions coming up for debate, not to mention an attempt by the anti-Nenni faction to oust him as the chief Socialist proponent of close liaison with the Communists. The four resolutions are said to be the *Basso-Cacciatore* reaffirming the pact of united action with the Communists; the *Matteotti-Calosso-Zagari* demanding party autonomy and a new executive; the *Modigliani-Greppi* asking for a Socialist International, and the *Silone-Saragat-Pertini* resolution distinguishing clearly between the Socialists and Communists. There was a fifth resolution of Lizzadri asking for outright fusion with the Communists, but the press reports the this one has received little support and may be considered in limbo.

The chief of the Italian Communists, Togliatti, in the meanwhile, spoke at Milan on March 31st, where he asserted that the Communists have no religious bones to pick, adding moreover, that a majority of the Communist party were Catholics. In Milan he gave an important interview to the *Sera* in which he continued his critique on the Christian Democrats, disclaiming the notice that he was engaging in a "personal duel" with Prime Minister De Gasperi, who, Togliatti said, has always found it easier to reach an agreement with him (Togliatti) than with any other member of the Government. The current elections, he continued, indicate that the Communists and Christian Democrats, will be two of the parties in the forefront, and

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



thus making a coalition government necessary. For that reason, he maintained, it is necessary for all parties to clearly define their political programs. He pointed to what he described as the inconsistency of progressive Cristian Democrats of the CGIL in Naples alongside aristocratic landowners in the South and conservative industrial magnates in the North as all sharing the Christian Democrat lists of candidates. In brief, he asked, will the Christian Democrat party "become a factor of social and political progress ... or a factor of conservatism and retrogression, as most of those who give it their votes would like". Togliatti had also a parting shot for the Liberals whom he termed "a factor of confusion and disorder, above all because not even they know what they are after".

The report of the imminent abdication of King Victor Emanuel, which touched off the republican charge (in *Avanti*) that it was only a monarchist maneuver to "suppress the chief culprit of the House of Savoy", was the highlight, as it were, of the monarchist news of the week during which the opposition press grew more pointed but not any less vocal in their countercharges against the Left. *Secolo XX* commented that the Leftist trend was nothing less than towards disguised forms of dictatorship and that the monarchy would be the guarantee of a "hereditary democratic republic". *Italia Nuova* charged that the Government was withholding documents of value in clearing the King's name during the time of the fall of Fascism.

For the first time since the administrative elections began, the week saw charges of electoral fraud aired (by *Italia Nuova* again) which listed alleged irregularities—personal violence, excessive use of funds, voting by the dead, non-delivery of electoral certificates, intimidation. A one-day flurry in the press was also caused by the publication of a rumor by the *Italia d'Oggi* press agency (immediately denied by the Ministry of Interior) which asserted that the Allied Commission was making an inquiry into the election. This was flatly untrue, of course, the A. C. having had nothing to do with the elections other than the routine observations made by its liaison officers (see *Election Results* in this issue) whose duty is to report all matters of public interest occurring in their bailiwicks. The entire press made capital of the disorders at Florence, Naples and near Bari, occasioned allegedly by returning Italian prisoners-of-war from Russia, the Left charging that they were monarchist-inspired, the Right attacking the Government for not maintaining order.

On the international front, developments affecting Italy were few. The Allied Commission of Experts concluded its business and left Venezia Giulia today for London where it will report to the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers. It had visited a portion of Udine Province before its departure, which visit drew a note from the Italian Government (according to the *Giornale del Mattino*), pointing out that the Allies had clearly stated at the time of the hand-over of the North to Italian administration that the Province of Udine had been retained under AMG for purely military reasons and not in any sense because it was a disputed area. *SIDI* also reported that the British Government intended to press for a *modus vivendi* pending ratification of the formal peace treaty.

The Council of Ministers met on the 5th in its only meeting of the week and discussed the food situation, revision of the amassing laws, and approved decrees on mine clearing; extending the press law until 31 July (leaving it to the *Costituente* to decide the press problem); continuing for six months more the present requisition regulations, and raising the living bonus of state officials living in touristically important towns (where the cost of living is higher). The Council then returned to talk about speeding up the machinery for the *Costituente* elections and the referendum and, finally, the ministers were each given copies of the first list of about 1,000 OVRA members, whose names will be published shortly.

**(The above column is NOT for *direct* attribution.)**

## ECONOMIC FRONT

With major supply responsibilities taken over by UNRRA and the Economic Section whittled down, economic news these days results from inquiries to the Italian Government and UNRRA. Mr. Harlan Cleveland, former Acting Vice President of the Section and now Deputy Chief of the Italian UNRRA Mission in charge of the Bureau of Requirements and Distribution, is, however, a regular visitor to the Vice Presidents' meetings every Wednesday on the invitation of the Chief Commissioner, and thus we learn the highlights of what UNRRA is doing, mainly, concerning the nip-and-tuck battle to keep the supply of grain flowing to Italy.

There are several other incidental facts which it may be of interest to record. The quondam Labor Sub-Commission told us of a matter some time ago which now seems about to jell. This

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



was the proposed emigration of 6,000 Italian miners to France and Belgium to work in the mines there. To date, 1,500 miners have gone to Belgium where they used to work prior to the war and the rest are slated to leave soon for both countries. Belgium, in fact, has asked for 50,000 more miners. The French, in all, would like 60,000 miners, of whom a third are said to be readily available. The CGIL, of course, is helping at all stages of the negotiations to protect the interests of the Italian workers.

Capt. G. A. F. Bothey (B) has been appointed director of the Commerce Branch. The $100,000,000 FEA program (minus one ship) is practically completed, to date 1,549,821 long tons having been delivered to Italy in wheat (389,476 tons), sugar (17,109), coal (1,138,894), flour (13,603), dried milk (5,670), dried peas (2,735), coffee (225), cotton (9,157), wool (936), farm tractors (960) and oleomargarine (1,051). Food and Agriculture Branch reports that 70,000 trout eggs imported by air in January from the U. S. Agriculture Department's fisheries at La Crosse, Wis. are doing nicely in the lakes around Tivoli. Fifteen FEA employes, transferred from the Economic Section to the U. S. Embassy to man its proposed industrial projects division, have been ordered back to the States as a result of budgetary difficulties. Funds chargeable to the Italian Government in Venezia Giulia for transport of UNRRA supplies to other countries will be reimbursed as a result of a meeting in Trieste of UNRRA mission heads from four nations. A stock of 300 tons of powdered eggs was found in a Northern warehouse. Customs controls have been established on the Morgan Line between Zones A and B to clear economic transactions and expedite resumption of normal trade. A 30 per cent. increase in productivity and 4.6 per cent. increase in acreage is anticipated in Italian wheat crop prospects.

The Food and Agriculture Branch estimates that the Italian consumer is getting 600 calories on his official daily ration, with a supplement of perhaps another 1,000 found on the free market. A recent survey of prices on the uncontrolled market shows some interesting variations. Prices naturally vary from one city to another as transport availability varies. Bread was costing about 60 lire a kilo in the large northern cities, 116 in Rome and 137 in Naples. Rice likewise was 60 lire a kilo in the North and 225 in Rome and 255 in Naples. Fats cost more in the North, too, butter being priced at 800 lire up North, while olive oil was 500 lire in Rome and about 300 in Palermo. Black market bread cost three times the legal price (18 lire a kilo) in Milan, six times the legal price (19 lire) in Rome and eight times the legal price (17 lire) in Naples.

## DISPLACED PERSONS

Col. C. B. Findlay, our roving director of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, whose energy and affability are more than equal to his tremendous height, is back in Rome after a month's tour to, first, London, and then refugee camps in Austria and Germany, where he observed the problems of the pulsating millions of DPs and calculated their future effect on the displaced persons' problem in Italy, for which land's sunny clime and easier controls many, the colonel feels, are bent, legally or not.

The main objective of the trip was to inquire as to how the transfer of the care of displaced persons in Italy could entirely and speedily be turned over to UNRRA, keeping in mind that UNRRA has already taken over much of the task here but remembering that the problem for the future appears to lie in the possible large influx of DPs from Germany. The Colonel, who tells of using a variety of transport—plane, train with sleepers and heat (in fact, too much heat, he says) and automobiles of all kinds but usually driven by demon drivers, —visited Berlin, Frankfurt (where he talked with Lieut. Gen. Fred Morgan, head of UNRRA in Germany), Munchhausen (where he saw the steeple to which the famous Baron allegedly tied his horse), Munich, Mittenwald, Innsbruck and came back into Italy by way of Bolzano. He boasts that besides the data he picked up, he has come back to headquarters richer by four pieces of soap and three packets of Lux, which he feels is quite a haul.

As a result of his talks with UNRRA officials and army military government officials in charge of displaced persons (all UNRRA units, incidentally, operate within the military framework in Germany), Col. Findlay said that the Italian DP problem was better understood and appreciated and that progress has been made in attempting to insure that, first, all persons coming into Italy from Germany are properly screened and, second, that only bona fide Italians be permitted to re-enter Italy (that is, outside of persons with specially authorized Italian transit permits).

The Colonel further related that 80 per cent. of the DP camps are run by UNRRA, though overall supervision has not yet been assumed by that organization in the British zone. At present about 50 per cent. of the food for DPs comes from

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



German civilian sources and 50 per cent. is imported. Food prospects, as might be expected, are not good. The U. S. Zone has had thousands of illegal entrees continually on the move and expects more when the passes are clear of snow. This zone also is taking care of some 2,500,000 Sudeten Germans from Czechoslovakia. In all, six and a half million Sudeten are expected to enter Germany.

As for Italy, the Colonel tells us that the agreement between UNRRA and the A. C. for the former to take over most of the DP camps is awaiting the O.K. of CCS. As soon as UNRRA assumes control of four more camps, they will have taken over 20 camps in all, five in the South and 15 in the North. This will leave the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission with seven camps still on its hands; three in the North, two in Central Italy, and two in the South which are Polish camps from which several hundred DPS have been repatriated but whose population is expected to be increased shortly by virtue of the presence therein of approximately 600 expectant mothers. The other main issue under discussion is that of UNRRA policy concerning the taking over of certain DPS, it being estimated that there is a considerable figure, who, according to the UNRRA charter, would not be entitled to UNRRA care. This problem is being taken up on higher levels.

| PARTY | MARCH 10 | | | | | | MARCH 17 | | | | | | Maj |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | |
| | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* |
| **Left Concentration** | — | 129 | **129** | 20 | 2,501 | **2,421** | — | 362 | **362** | 21 | 6,368 | **6,389** | |
| Communist | 2 | 4 | **6** | 81 | 86 | **167** | 1 | 19 | **20** | 31 | 419 | **450** | |
| Socialist | 2 | 6 | **8** | 50 | 112 | **162** | — | 23 | **23** | 34 | 422 | **456** | |
| Republican | 1 | 4 | **5** | 31 | 72 | **103** | — | 8 | **8** | 17 | 178 | **195** | |
| Action | — | 1 | **1** | — | 33 | **33** | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 70 | **71** | — |
| **Christian Democrat** | 3 | 131 | **134** | 77 | 2,476 | **2,553** | 4 | 338 | **342** | 78 | 6,181 | **6,259** | 10 |
| **Center Concentration** | — | 44 | **44** | 21 | 768 | **789** | — | 76 | **76** | 1 | 1,479 | **1,480** | 1 |
| **Right Concentration.** | — | 6 | **6** | 6 | 150 | **156** | — | 36 | **36** | 2 | 672 | **674** | — |
| Liberal | — | 19 | **19** | 2 | 326 | **328** | — | 15 | **15** | 8 | 339 | **347** | — |
| Labour Democrat | — | 10 | **10** | 6 | 176 | **182** | — | 25 | **25** | — | 376 | **376** | — |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 3 | **3** | 5 | 63 | **68** | — | 7 | **7** | 6 | 120 | **126** | — |
| Italian Democrat | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | **2** | — | 33 | **33** | — |
| **Independents** | — | 42 | **42** | 4 | 715 | **719** | — | 109 | **109** | — | 1,980 | **1,980** | — |
| Local Parties | — | 8 | **8** | 9 | 173 | **182** | — | 28 | **28** | 11 | 475 | **486** | — |
| Veterans | — | 8 | **8** | 8 | 158 | **166** | — | 15 | **15** | — | 253 | **253** | — |
| No majority or unaccounted for | — | 1 | **1** | — | — | — | — | 8 | **8** | — | — | — | 2 |
| TOTALS | 8 | 416 | **424** | 320 | 7,709 | **8,029** | 5 | 1,072 | **1,077** | 210 | 19,385 | **19,575** | 27 |

*A* = Communes over 30,000 and Provinci
*B* = Communes under 30,000 (majority sy

1235

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



## ELECTION RESULTS

A. C.'s liaison officers in the seven field groups again did yeoman work for the fourth successive Sunday of the administrative elections in looking at what went on and reporting their obervations to headquarters. Col. John S. Arnold (A), back from leave in the States and now CLO of Piemonte, organized his staff of nine to observe electoral conditions and reported general good order, good weather and *bocce* and soccer games acting as rival attractions to the polling. Indeed, quiet and order, with no untoward incidents anywhere within observation of the liaison officers, was the uniform news received by the Local Government Sub-Commission. Venezie—Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), the Naples area—Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B), Tuscany—Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly (A), and Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse (B)— Rome, were among those who reported similarly. The self-explanatory table below shows the latest official, corrected, though not yet complete results up to and including the March 31 elections.

The Local Government Sub-Commission's director, Major P. R. Temple (A), and executive officer, Major C. G. R. Williams (B), also made field trips, the former to the Bari-Brindisi area and the latter to Terni. Major Temple visted four communes near Bari—Bisceglie, Corato,

| | MARCH 24 | | | | MARCH 31 | | | | | | TOTAL TO DATE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities in Communes | | Seats | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats | | |
| | C | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 1,523 | 1,526 | 194 | 27,307 | 27,501 |
| | 334 | 536 | 83 | 9,432 | 9,515 | 1 | 498 | 499 | 70 | 9,106 | 9,176 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 18 | 98 | 116 | 616 | 1,819 | 2,435 |
| | 20 | 39 | 284 | 518 | 802 | 6 | 45 | 51 | 220 | 796 | 1,016 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | 102 | 106 | 483 | 2,160 | 2,643 |
| | 761 | 34 | 218 | 749 | 987 | 1 | 40 | 41 | 181 | 857 | 1,038 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 30 | 33 | 106 | 636 | 742 |
| | 10 | 12 | 47 | 200 | 247 | — | 8 | 8 | 14 | 186 | 197 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 6 | 6 | 9 | 215 | 224 |
| | 4 | 4 | 6 | 83 | 89 | — | — | — | 2 | 29 | 31 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 27 | 1,551 | 1,578 | 869 | 27,653 | 28,522 |
| | 329 | 539 | 383 | 15,425 | 9,808 | 10 | 553 | 563 | 331 | 9,571 | 9,902 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | 250 | 252 | 90 | 4,868 | 4,958 |
| | 45 | 66 | 31 | 1,367 | 1,398 | 1 | 65 | 66 | 38 | 1,253 | 1,291 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 85 | 85 | 47 | 1,699 | 1,746 |
| | 30 | 30 | 17 | 557 | 574 | — | 13 | 13 | 22 | 320 | 342 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 83 | 83 | 50 | 1,520 | 1,570 |
| | 27 | 27 | 18 | 463 | 481 | — | 22 | 22 | 12 | 402 | 414 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 68 | 68 | 19 | 1,181 | 1,200 |
| | 17 | 17 | 5 | 333 | 338 | — | 16 | 16 | 8 | 296 | 304 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 20 | 20 | 29 | 380 | 409 |
| | 2 | 7 | 0 | 117 | 126 | — | 3 | 3 | 0 | 80 | 89 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 4 | 4 | 1 | 64 | 65 |
| | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 14 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 18 | 18 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 371 | 371 | 14 | 6,812 | 6,826 |
| | 97 | 97 | 5 | 1,923 | 1,928 | — | 123 | 123 | 5 | 2,194 | 2,199 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 129 | 129 | 35 | 2,124 | 2,159 |
| | 43 | 43 | 14 | 668 | 682 | — | 50 | 50 | 1 | 808 | 809 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | — | 47 | 47 | 18 | 874 | 889 |
| | 7 | 7 | 0 | 187 | 196 | — | 17 | 17 | 1 | 273 | 274 | | | | | | 843 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 | 26 | 31 | — | — | |
| | 5 | 7 | — | — | — | 3 | 12 | 15 | — | — | — | | | | | | |
| | 1,439 | 1,466 | 1,130 | 26,055 | 27,185 | 22 | 1,366 | 1,388 | 910 | 26,190 | 27,100 | 62 | 4,393 | 4,455 | 2,570 | 79,319 | 81,889 |

al Capitals (proportional representation).
stem).

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



Terlizzi and Ruvo di Puglie, where on March 14 had been an incident during which a bomb was thrown. Happily, nothing occurred during the major's visit and ordinary calm prevailed. Incidentally, with the promulgation of the political elections law, soldiers and welfare inmates now may vote and many did so, although a considerable number of electoral certificates for soldiers were undelivered because of the soldiers' absence away from the commune.

Maj. Williams similarly described Terni as quiet despite the fact that on March 23 an election crowd, said to be waiting for the appearance of the Republican leader, Pacciardi, at 1730, had shouted down Brosio, the Liberal leader, when he appeared to make a speech at 1700 at what apparently was the same meeting place. At Terni, 1,000 certificates were undelivered because of changes in voters' addresses in the town, which had been heavily bombed and 50 per cent. destroyed during the war. At nearby Narni, Maj. Williams tells us, some electors declined to accept delivery of their certificates despite arguments that there was no delivery charge attached thereto.

## CAPTURED GERMAN GOODS

There is little doubt that the Captured Enemy Materials Branch is the busiest of all Economic Section units currently, making inventories of vast stocks and turning them over as fast as possible to the Italian Government's ARAR (*Azienda Rilievo Alienazione Residuati*).

Lt. Col. J. A. Campbell (B) reports three major turnovers in recent days as well as progress in tidying up the invaluable and mountainous RUK files. The latest turnover was one of title, the others being actual physical transfers of control. The title transfer refers to the 12,500 vehicles of original German and Fascist Republican ownership which have been used since the liberation of the North in the *Autotrasporti* groups organized by AMG.

Probably the most impressive stocks turned over were those of the 360-acre medical depot at Merano, which Col. Campbell roughly valued at millions of dollars. The materials included fine instruments brought from Germany as well as nearly 3,500 tons of raw materials for drugs, enough to keep the plant at full production for three months. Among the manufactured drugs were large quantities of cocaine, morphine, opium and caffeine. The turnover of the vast store was completed in the record time of less than two days. Incidentally, another dump at Merano gave the Italians large quantities of other materials—500 pack saddles, 30,000 meters of sail linen, 2,500 pairs of women's shoes, 136 cases of phonograph records, 25,000 rubber heels and soles, 200,000 meters of men's clothing and 100,000 meters of women's clothing, 1,500 kilos of silverware, 125,000 other articles of clothing, 25,000 candles, 12,000 watch straps and stocks of wool, threads and yarns.

The other major transfer was that of the depot at Bolzano where the Germans had accumulated enormous quantities of loot. A partial inventory lists tons of wool, electrical equipment, telephone wire, radio material, machinery, 67 rolls of printing paper, cement, asbestos, 30,482 bicycle tires, zinc, aluminum, brass, plumbing equipment, motor parts. Other turnovers included one of 6,500 tons of truck vehicular spare parts at Laives, 172 ammunition dumps, 257 general clearances, 88 small consumer goods dumps and 23 car parks full of salvage. In all cases, the materials were turned over to the Italians after the Allied military forces had had first crack at taking what they could use.

More than 8,000 negatives have already been forwarded to London for printing of the microfilmed RUK files, Col. Campbell also reports. RUK or *Kustung und Kriegsproduktion* was a German parastatal organisation. The files represent the clues to information about a tremendous store of assets whose value unofficially has been estimated at billions. Ultimate disposal has not yet been determined.

The files give data on German equipment, operations with foreign firms, German war exports and war production and German handling of their supply operations with the Fascist Republicans. Further, and currently of interest, the files provide a basis for claims and refunds of loans and payment for advances made by German and Austrian companies in goods and machinery.

The Italian Government has begun making lists of such property removed for tracing its whereabouts in Germany and Austria and has asked permission to examine the RUK files to expedite its task. A directive of the U. S. Military Government in Austria has just been issued which lays down the procedure for obtaining return of looted art and industrial property, which may be the first step toward the return of some of the property.

Already, on the basis of information unearthed in the RUK correspondence, AMG claims have been made against Italian firms who anted up promptly to the tune of approximately 5,000,000 lire. Such claims may possibly run to an eventual two and a half billion lire.

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



## VENEZIA GIULIA

We get a sidelight on the ferment in Venezia Giulia these days during the visit of the Allied Investigating Commission from a telephonic report by Lieut. Col. G. Richardson (P), commanding officer of the Venezia Giulia AMG Civil Police, to the Public Safety Sub-Commission at headquarters which indicates the trying time the AMG authorities have had to maintain the peace and at the same time reflects credit on the operations of the native police commanded by Allied officers.

The report, telephoned April 4 (incidentally, just as another demonstration was about to start), reveals that from March 24 to April 1, there were twelve demostrations of a major kind, one a day in Gorizia and Trieste and one at Monfalcone on the 28th. AMG police arrested 548 persons, practically all of whom will be charged with assault on police or carrying weapons. In the course of the melees, Col. Richardson reports that 150 civilians were injured, nine native police officers and one Allied officer. No firearms were used by the AMG police at any time, only truncheons, whereas there were three cases of shots being fired by the demonstrators against the police. Only the Venezia Giulia police were used at all times to handle the disturbances, the Allied military police not being called at all.

A large store of weapons of all kinds was seized during the demonstrations, including firearms, knuckledusters, hatchets, knives, handbags filled with stones, swords, rubber tubing filled with lead, light bulbs filled with corrosive fluid, dockers' hooks, and an interesting arrangement of bags filled with graphite and powdered stone, which acts like pepper when thrown. There was an additional stock of armament seized separately on March 30 when a *Culture Club* was raided after shots were fired from its premises. Twenty-five persons were arrested as a result and confiscated were three sub-machine guns with 250 rounds of ammo, one loaded pistol, nine knives, four hatchets, 24 catapults or slingshots, many sacks of fine stones and one coffin (new).

## NOTICE

With this first and unclassified number of Volume III, the *Bulletin* is being made freely available to Allied, neutral and Italian correspondents, newspapers and agencies for the first time since it got started back in April, 1944. For the last year, under agreement with the Executive Commissioner, parts of the *Bulletin* have been passed on to correspondents for background reference and all have testified to its value. The *Bulletin*, however, remains primarily as an information coordinating agent for A.C. officers at headquarters and in the field who may read therein a quick, informal synopsis of the week's happenings of interest to the A. C. Thus, from now on, the entire *Bulletin's* contents will be at the disposal of journalists to use or not as they see fit, with one exception: we are asking them not to make direct attribution in their writings to the *Political* column, for the obvious reason that that weekly column is merely a summary taken from the Italian press itself of reports on the political scene and not an original A. C. survey. Incidentally, in an early issue, we propose to give you the inside history of the *Bulletin*, how it was born, its throes and triumphs. The line for copies forms on the right...

## ODDS AND ENDS

Some further awards: *Crown of Italy* – (*Commander*) Major R. C. Van Kirk, sr.; (*Knight officer*) Majors William Everett Scotten, Norman R. Smith and Robert C. Warren, Captain Alver A. Simpson and Lieut. Peter W. Rodino, jr.; (*Knight*) Lieut. Peter Sauro and Master Sergt. Michael A. Cardone; *Bronze Star* – Major Stanley Beatty... Land Forces Sub-Commission has several items to report: The first PRO in Italian Army history has just been appointed, Col. Fiori-Vernazza, to whom PRB has been asked to pass on some tips on the PRO business; a uniform system of issuing supplies and equipment to the CC. RR. in the same manner in which other Italian Army units draw their issue, is being worked out and, it is hoped, will end the past catch-as-catch can system of obtaining supplies for the CC. RR... Air Vice Marshal I. S. Brodie, director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, is giving a lecture on military government at the Haifa Staff College in Palestine this week... The problem of getting gas on long road trips, now that petrol points are few and far between, is being studied, with a voucher payment system being one recommendation... For heads-up work on a ticklish emergency situation and producing a superior report thereon while acting as duty officer the night of 30 March, CWO S. E. Humphreys has received a warm official commendation from the Chief Commissioner... Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, will be Acting Chief Commissioner during the two- or three-week absences in the States of the Chief Commissioner

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



who left Rome by TWA Thursday for conferences in Washington on Italian matters and the future of the A. C., Communications Sub-Commission tells us that radio hams will be allowed shortly to resume operations in Italy for the first time since 1931... Brig. Gen. Ernest Draper, of the U. S. Military Government in Germany, has been a visitor to headquarters... The Italian Prisoners-of-War Division of the Land Forces S/C reports that there are currently 318,000 Italian POWs still held abroad by Allied powers... Air Forces Sub-Commission throws some light on the reports of mysterious radio transmitters dropped from planes in the Rome area by explaining that they were probably meteorological instruments attached to weather station balloons...

The same sub-commission gives the information that approximately 14 Italian air routes may soon be in operation between Rome, Milan, Turin, Bologna, Treviso, Sardinia, Lecce and Bari... Lieut. Col. Fergus McCleary is replacing Col. A. N. Hancock as CLO in Lombardia while the latter takes a well-earned Liap... USIS is intensifying its service to provide Italian voters with democratic literature in connection with the elections; Mr. G. Stewart Brown, USIS director, reports: Talks have been given before women's clubs, special articles distributed on voting methods and woman suffrage, 250,000 U. S. election procedure booklets have been printed and more than half already distributed, and special radio programs are planned...

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

APR 1 RECD

March 30, 1946

*RESTRICTED*

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 52

## POLITICAL

The Leftist tide running in the administrative elections (see *Election Details* that follows) apparently is spurring the Right to speed up their plans for a united front in the proposed National Democratic Union, though a group declaration on the institutional question still seems to be the hitch in that program. Minister of Education Molè (Labour Democrat), in a speech at Catanzaro, came out for the republic and called upon all leaders and parties to declare themselves openly on this question. Nitti of the old guard has yet to proclaim himself and, according to the latest press reports, will head his own National Union for Reconstruction. Sforza, who announced his republican attitude last week in *Momento*, came in for the customary brickbats from *Italia Nuova* which announced that Sforza was already running for presidency of the republic. Prime Minister De Gasperi himself did not escape editorial jabs on the institutional question, *Voce Repubblicana* pointing out that De Gasperi was still sitting on the fence. The Rome Section of the Christian Democrat party, incidentally, during the week voted 9,000 for the republic and 2,100 for the monarchy while 2,300 abstained from voting.

Opening his party's campaign as secretary general, De Gasperi spoke at Turin on March 24. He said he had wanted to hold the referendum during the *Costituente* but had compromised for the sake of tranquillity. He praised the letter of the *Luogotenente* as a noteworthy contribution to the freedom of the elections and then went on to express his surprise at Togliatti's appeal for common lists, because, he said, all parties must have their own programs. The unity theory fashionable with Communists since the dissolution of the Comintern, the Prime Minister continued, is justified only in war. He called the proposed merger of Socialists and Communists a great tactical mistake and further criticized Togliatti by asserting that he was introducing into Italy the polemics of the outside world now developing between the Anglo-Saxons and the Russians. He defended his indecision on the institutional question by saying that "hesitations and qualms" can be perfectly sincere and noble.

Togliatti, making an election swing through Emilia and Lombardia (as Nenni was making one through Tuscany), had spoken at Bologna on the 23rd where he again asserted the "indisputable" Italianity of Trieste but said that one should recall the sufferings imposed on Yugoslavia by the Nazi-Fascists. He said the Communists would respect the Lateran Pacts and that Communists had always invited political as well as trade union collaboration. At Varese, on the 25th, Toglintti made a reply to De Gasperi's Turin speech, somewhat plaintively stating it was "incomprehensible" why De Gasperi felt it necessary "to set up a dam against the Socialist-Communist current because, if we note the Christian Democrat victories, we do not understand what they are worried about".

The Council of Ministers met on the 28th and 29th. De Gasperi made a report on Italo-Spanish relations and opposed Nenni's criticisms of relations with the Franco regime by stating that Italian policy toward Spain followed that of the United States and United Kingdom Governments. The Council also cleared up further technicalities on the referendum: The symbol of the crown superimposed on the Savoy coat of arms will be used to represent the monarchy on the ballot, which will be of different colored paper than the one for the elections, and a woman's head surrounded by laurel and oak will indicate the republic. Both symbols will be again superimposed on the profile of the Italian peninsula. The Court of Casstion will announce the result of the referendum within five days of the balloting. Reports were heard on the coal situation and prisoners of war. The date on which the epuration process in the North was to be completed was postponed to April 30, a decree approved seizing excessive war profits and another taxing de luxe expenditures. An allocation of 328 million lire for reconstruction of war-damaged state properties was pas-

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



sed and authority granted for the issuance of metal coins in one, two, five and ten lire denominations. Finally, after considerable discussion, the Ministry of War was entrusted with the task of clearing the 250,000 hectares of mined ground in Italy.

The progress of the Allied Investigating Commission in Venezia Giulia was reported in great detail by the press, which particularly hailed the demonstrations of the Italian populations, and gave wide prominence to the statement of the Supreme Allied Commander, Lieut. Gen. Sir William Morgan, to the effect that the Allied authorities would continue their administration in the interests of justice, peace and security, decrying attempts to create incidents in Zone A and denying the necessity for Yugoslav troop movements in Zone B.

## ELECTION DETAILS

The Leftist trend in the administrative elections began to be increasingly evident as the larger population centers voted in the latest election held on March 24. Bologna went Communist as did Siena, Savona, Vercelli and Asti while the Socialists took Novara and Cremona and a Leftist bloc won in Venice and Ancona, according to press reports via the Ministry of Interior. The Christian Democrats took Padua among the larger cities. A. C. LOs, performing valiantly, observed the elections in detail and reported the usual large turnouts and general order.

Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters (B) at Bologna reported on 17 communal visits by his staff, and noted how women especially were courted for their votes. Lieut. Col. W. Turner-Coles (B) in Liguria told of 23 communes voting. Lieut. Col. F. G. Green (B) in Piemonte had elaborate reports on more than 70 communes. Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse observed in five Rome Province communes while Major C. G. R. Williams, executive officer of the Local Government Sub-Commission, looked on at four communes in Littoria Province, where one of the issues impelling mountain voters to the Left was the desire to reclaim their old grazing lands in the lowlands, which right they had lost when the Pontine Marshes were reclaimed.

Major R. R. Temple, director of the Local Government S/C, spent the March 24th election in Venice, touring the city in a motorboat. He reported he saw no ballot boxes floating in the canals. Major Temple also visited nearby Chioggia, a fishing village with considerable unemployment, which went Communist. On page 3 is a table of the results in the three administrative elections to date, returns being derived from both official and unofficial sources. A complete official report will be published when all the returns for the five Sundays ending April 7 are in.

## THE NORTH

One comes back from an all too curtailed visit to the North rather baffled, recent visitors report. A fortnight ago we were writing in all good faith of a food situation in Italy worse than anything which the Allied Commission had yet experienced: a basic ration of 600 calories—supplemented by purchases (which ate up the whole of the daily wage) amounting to another 1,000 calories. One knew that coal and wood and electric power was desperately short in the North. But the actual conditions which are met throughout the valley of the Po do not tally with the grim facts shown up by statistics. The people, rich and poor, look well-fed and healthy. With an air of cheerfulness in the country villages and in the towns themselves, the food shops are full of produce; they are well stocked and prices are dropping. The *trattorie* or eating houses all provide a good meal—and at no exorbitant price. The Liaison groups in general affirmed that shortage of food was not now the current topic of conversation.

What does it all mean? The first conclusion is that everyone—including the big industries—is eating out of capital. There is an abundance of perishable food and much of it is within reach of many of the people. Secondly, industrial managements provide good mid-shift meals for their workers. An early spring has succeeded a winter which mercifully has not been too severe and the recent curious anomaly of a country living literally from hand to mouth on imported food for their basic rations and yet giving all the appearance of having, at any rate, enough perishable food to get along well into the coming harvest. Italy may well be thankful for the sun and the short dry winter, for her abundant local produce, her fruit and her nuts and for the ability of her people to live without meat. These factors have kept and will continue to keep the country from actual starvation but must never be counted as a reason for not maintaining her stock of cereals at an adequate standard.

Valuable work is being done by the Liaison groups. They have maintained their mobility and, therefore, their contact with local authorities, and their obvious interest in the communal elections has without doubt aided the natural desire of the Italian people to conduct these first

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

| PARTY | MARCH 10 | | | | | | MARCH 17 | | | | | | MARCH 24 | | | | | | TOTAL TO DATE | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Se | |
| | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B |
| **Left Concentration** | — | 129 | **129** | 2 | 2,419 | **2,421** | — | 362 | **362** | 21 | 6,368 | **6,389** | 1 | 506 | **507** | 56 | 8,881 | **8,937** | 1 | 997 | **998** | 79 | 17,6 |
| Communist | 2 | 4 | **6** | 81 | 73 | **154** | 1 | 19 | **20** | 31 | 419 | **450** | 5 | 30 | **35** | 128 | 501 | **629** | 8 | 53 | **61** | 240 | 1 |
| Socialist | 2 | 6 | **8** | 50 | 112 | **162** | — | 23 | **23** | 34 | 422 | **456** | — | 29 | **29** | 97 | 680 | **777** | 2 | 58 | **60** | 181 | 1,3 |
| Republican | 1 | 4 | **5** | 31 | 72 | **103** | — | 8 | **8** | 17 | 178 | **195** | 1 | 10 | **11** | 28 | 200 | **228** | 2 | 22 | **24** | 76 | |
| Action | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 32 | **33** | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 70 | **71** | — | 4 | **4** | 3 | 76 | **79** | — | 6 | **6** | 5 | |
| **Christian Democrat** | 3 | 132 | **135** | 77 | 2,491 | **2,568** | 4 | 338 | **342** | 78 | 6,181 | **6,259** | 5 | 482 | **487** | 181 | 8,725 | **8,906** | 12 | 952 | **964** | 336 | 17,9 |
| **Center Concentration** | — | 44 | **44** | 6 | 783 | **789** | — | 76 | **76** | 1 | 1,479 | **1,480** | 1 | 57 | **58** | 31 | 1,206 | **1,237** | 1 | 177 | **178** | 38 | 3,4 |
| **Right Concentration** | — | 6 | **6** | 15 | 141 | **156** | — | 36 | **36** | 2 | 672 | **674** | — | 27 | **27** | 3 | 496 | **499** | — | 69 | **69** | 20 | 1,2 |
| Liberal | — | 19 | **19** | 8 | 320 | **328** | — | 15 | **15** | 8 | 339 | **347** | — | 25 | **25** | 7 | 415 | **422** | — | 59 | **59** | 23 | 1,0 |
| Labour Democrat | — | 10 | **10** | 6 | 176 | **182** | — | 25 | **25** | — | 376 | **376** | — | 16 | **16** | 5 | 306 | **311** | — | 51 | **51** | 11 | |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 3 | **3** | 5 | 63 | **68** | — | 7 | **7** | 6 | 120 | **126** | — | 7 | **7** | 9 | 117 | **126** | — | 17 | **17** | 20 | |
| Italian Democrat | — | — | **—** | — | 8 | **8** | — | 2 | **2** | — | — | **—** | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 13 | **14** | — | 3 | **3** | 1 | |
| **Independents** | — | 42 | **42** | 4 | 715 | **719** | — | 109 | **109** | — | 1,980 | **1,980** | — | 92 | **92** | 2 | 1,781 | **1,783** | — | 243 | **243** | 6 | 4,3 |
| Local Parties | — | 8 | **8** | 9 | 173 | **182** | — | — | **—** | — | — | **—** | — | 39 | **39** | 10 | 630 | **640** | — | 47 | **47** | 19 | |
| Veterans | — | 8 | **8** | 8 | 168 | **176** | — | 15 | **15** | — | 253 | **253** | — | 6 | **6** | 9 | 168 | **177** | — | 29 | **29** | 17 | |
| | | | **424** | | | **8.049** | | | **1,041** | | | **19,056** | | | **1,344** | | | **24,765** | | | **2,809** | | | |

A = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — B = Communes under 30,000.
* + 6 communes where no majority was gained.

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



| PARTY | MARCH 10 | | | | | | MARCH 17 | | | | | | MARCH 24 | | | | | | TOTAL TO DATE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | |
| | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total |
| ation | — | 129 | 129 | 2 | 2,419 | 2,421 | — | 362 | 362 | 21 | 6,368 | 6,389 | 1 | 506 | 507 | 56 | 8,881 | 8,937 | 1 | 997 | 998 | 79 | 17,668 | 17,747 |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 | 84 | 73 | 154 | 1 | 19 | 20 | 31 | 419 | 450 | 5 | 30 | 35 | 128 | 501 | 629 | 8 | 53 | 61 | 240 | 993 | 1,233 |
| | 2 | 6 | 8 | 50 | 112 | 162 | — | 23 | 23 | 34 | 322 | 456 | — | 29 | 29 | 97 | 680 | 777 | 2 | 58 | 60 | 181 | 1,214 | 1,395 |
| | 1 | 4 | 5 | 31 | 72 | 103 | — | 8 | 8 | 17 | 178 | 195 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 28 | 200 | 228 | 2 | 22 | 24 | 76 | 450 | 526 |
| | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 32 | 33 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 70 | 71 | — | 4 | 4 | 3 | 76 | 79 | — | 6 | 6 | 5 | 178 | 183 |
| nocrat | 3 | 132 | 135 | 77 | 2,491 | 2,568 | 4 | 338 | 342 | 78 | 6,181 | 6,259 | 5 | 482 | 487 | 181 | 8,725 | 8,906 | 12 | 952 | 964 | 336 | 17,397 | 17,733 |
| ration | — | 44 | 44 | 6 | 783 | 789 | — | 76 | 76 | 1 | 1,479 | 1,480 | 1 | 57 | 58 | 31 | 1,206 | 1,237 | 1 | 177 | 178 | 58 | 3,468 | 3,506 |
| ation | — | 6 | 6 | 15 | 141 | 156 | — | 36 | 36 | 2 | 672 | 674 | — | 27 | 27 | 3 | 496 | 499 | — | 69 | 69 | 29 | 1,309 | 1,329 |
| | — | 19 | 19 | 8 | 320 | 328 | — | 15 | 15 | 8 | 339 | 347 | — | 25 | 25 | 7 | 415 | 422 | — | 59 | 59 | 23 | 1,074 | 1,097 |
| ocrat | — | 10 | 10 | 6 | 176 | 182 | — | 25 | 25 | — | 376 | 376 | — | 16 | 16 | 5 | 306 | 311 | — | 51 | 51 | 11 | 858 | 869 |
| nique | — | 3 | 3 | 5 | 63 | 68 | — | 7 | 7 | 6 | 120 | 126 | — | 7 | 7 | 9 | 117 | 126 | — | 17 | 17 | 20 | 300 | 320 |
| ocrat | — | — | — | — | 8 | 8 | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 14 | — | 3 | 3 | 1 | 21 | 22 |
| | — | 42 | 42 | 4 | 715 | 719 | — | 109 | 109 | — | 1,980 | 1,980 | — | 92 | 92 | 2 | 1,781 | 1,783 | — | 243 | 243 | 6 | 4,476 | 4,482 |
| | — | 8 | 8 | 9 | 173 | 182 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 29 | 39 | 10 | 630 | 640 | — | 47 | 47 | 19 | 803 | 822 |
| | — | 8 | 8 | 8 | 168 | 176 | — | 15 | 15 | — | 253 | 253 | — | 6 | 6 | 9 | 168 | 177 | — | 29 | 29 | 17 | 589 | 606 |
| | | | 424 | | 8,049 | | | 1,041 | | | 19,056 | | | 1,344 | | | 24,765 | | | 2,809 | | | 51,870 | |

Communities over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — *B* = Communes under 30,000.
Communes where no majority was gained.

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



elections with dignity and legality. Probably everyone has been a little surprised at the lack of incidents arising out of the elections. The optimistic foresee no trouble at the national polls. Much probably depends on the degree of passion and heat generated during the electoral campaign.

Another cheerful report from the North is that public confidence in the CC. RR. is increasing. At long last equipment and clothing has reached the men in the towns and villages and that has made all the difference. But there is still a police problem of some magnitude to be tackled. Police agencies other than the CC. RR. are not in really good fettle. Their ranks have been swelled with an irregular form of irresponsible auxiliary police—an early aftermath of the fruits of liberation.

But more serious than anything is the critical lack of gasoline for the police forces, ridiculous monthly allocations being given to *questori*. When one sees the quantities of private cars on the road, one wonders whether there is gross maldistribution of gas. On the whole, however, one obtains a picture of Italian administration functioning, of industry just turning over (coal distribution has been adequate), of, thank goodness, a little more water flowing through the hydro-electric turbines, and, above all, of a healthy crop coming up through the good earth.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Land Forces Sub-Commission gives the good news that 10,300 Italian POWs in three ships are en route from India to Naples and will land on dates between the 10th and 26th of April; this is the first large-scale repatriation of such personnel from India and includes 40 per cent. of the estimated 24,000 held there... The French representative to the Allied Commission, *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Moullec has been promoted to *Contre-Amiral* or Rear Admiral and will shortly leave us to go to the United Nations Organization as French Naval representative on the UNO Security Committee; he will be succeeded here by *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Heron de Villefosse, a distinguished writer who was assistant chief of staff to Admiral Muselier of the Free French Naval Forces; we are sorry to see Admiral Moullec leave us and wish him luck in his new post... The 1924 class of Italian youth (aged 22) seem to be in better physical condition than recent predecessors, Land Forces S/C reports... Starting next week, the PMB *Bulletin* will be unclassified, authority also having been obtained from the Chief Commissioner and Executive Commissioner to declassify all past issues in order to make the document available to historical organizations and libraries... The U. S. mail situation is finally much better, Capt. Thurman Oliver, head of APO 394 reports: In January, the APO was getting an average of six or seven bags a day, in February only three or four, but in March the average built up to, first, 28 or 29 bags and, then, to 14 and 15 a day, with the peak reached March 20 when 277 bags came in; there is one catch to the picture, 60 per cent. of the mail received is usually for the U. S. Embassy or UNRRA, which use our APO facilities... Major Sam V. Noe, former A. C. education officer, is back at his old trade of principal of the Highland (Ky.) Junior High School... The following decorations have been announced: *Officer of the Order of the British Empire* – Col. Clayton P. Kerr; *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus (Commander)* – Col. Ernest J. Ristedt; *Italian Cross of War Merit* – Pvt. Alberto V. Di Martino and Pvt. Fred Raffin; *Crown of Italy* – (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Cols. Lorenzo R. Holmes, Walter P. Scoggins and Howard K. Seith; Majors Harry M. Downer and Norbert W. Hyland; (*Knight*) Capt. Warner G. Peterson and Sergt. Thomas M. McCommas, Jr...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

APR 1 PECC

March 30, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 52

## POLITICAL

The Leftist tide running in the administrative elections (see *Election Details* that follows) apparently is spurring the Right to speed up their plans for a united front in the proposed National Democratic Union, though a group declaration on the institutional question still seems to be the hitch in that program. Minister of Education Molè (Labour Democrat), in a speech at Catanzaro, came out for the republic and called upon all leaders and parties to declare themselves openly on this question. Nitti of the old guard has yet to proclaim himself and, according to the latest press reports, will head his own National Union for Reconstruction. Sforza, who announced his republican attitude last week in *Momento*, came in for the customary brickbats from *Italia Nuova* which announced that Sforza was already running for presidency of the republic. Prime Minister De Gasperi himself did not escape editorial jabs on the institutional question, *Voce Repubblicana* pointing out that De Gasperi was still sitting on the fence. The Rome Section of the Christian Democrat party, incidentally, during the week voted 9,000 for the republic and 2,100 for the monarchy while 2,300 abstained from voting.

Opening his party's campaign as secretary general, De Gasperi spoke at Turin on March 24. He said he had wanted to hold the referendum during the *Costituente* but had compromised for the sake of tranquillity. He praised the letter of the *Luogotenente* as a noteworthy contribution to the freedom of the elections and then went on to express his surprise at Togliatti's appeal for common lists, because, he said, all parties must have their own programs. The unity theory fashionable with Communists since the dissolution of the Comintern, the Prime Minister continued, is justified only in war. He called the proposed merger of Socialists and Communists a great tactical mistake and further criticized Togliatti by asserting that he was introducing into Italy the polemics of the outside world now developing between the Anglo-Saxons and the Russians. He defended his indecision on the institutional question by saying that "hesitations and qualms" can be perfectly sincere and noble.

Togliatti, making an election swing through Emilia and Lombardia (as Nenni was making one through Tuscany), had spoken at Bologna on the 23rd where he again asserted the "indisputable" Italianity of Trieste but said that one should recall the sufferings imposed on Yugoslavia by the Nazi-Fascists. He said the Communists would respect the Lateran Pacts and that Communists had always invited political as well as trade union collaboration. At Varese, on the 25th, Togliatti made a reply to De Gasperi's Turin speech, somewhat plaintively stating it was "incomprehensible" why De Gasperi felt it necessary "to set up a dam against the Socialist-Communist current because, if we note the Christian Democrat victories, we do not understand what they are worried about".

The Council of Ministers met on the 28th and 29th. De Gasperi made a report on Italo-Spanish relations and opposed Nenni's criticisms of relations with the Franco regime by stating that Italian policy toward Spain followed that of the United States and United Kingdom Governments. The Council also cleared up further technicalities on the referendum: The symbol of the crown superimposed on the Savoy coat of arms will be used to represent the monarchy on the ballot, which will be of different colored paper than the one for the elections, and a woman's head surrounded by laurel and oak will indicate the republic. Both symbols will be again superimposed on the profile of the Italian peninsula. The Court of Casstion will announce the result of the referendum within five days of the balloting. Reports were heard on the coal situation and problems of war. The date on which the epuration process in the North was to be completed was postponed to April 30, a decree approved seizing excessive war profits and another taxing de luxe expenditures. An allocation of 328 million lire for reconstruction of war-damaged state properties was pas-

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



sed and authority granted for the issuance of metal coins in one, two, five and ten lire denominations. Finally, after considerable discussion, the Ministry of War was entrusted with the task of clearing the 250,000 hectares of mined ground in Italy.

The progress of the Allied Investigating Commission in Venezia Giulia was reported in great detail by the press, which particularly hailed the demonstrations of the Italian populations, and gave wide prominence to the statement of the Supreme Allied Commander, Lieut. Gen. Sir William Morgan, to the effect that the Allied authorities would continue their administration in the interests of justice, peace and security, decrying attempts to create incidents in Zone A and denying the necessity for Yugoslav troop movements in Zone B.

## ELECTION DETAILS

The Leftist trend in the administrative elections began to be increasingly evident as the larger population centers voted in the latest election held on March 24. Bologna went Communist as did Siena, Savona, Vercelli and Asti while the Socialists took Novara and Cremona and a Leftist bloc won in Venice and Ancona, according to press reports via the Ministry of Interior. The Christian Democrats took Padua among the larger cities. A. C. LOs, performing valiantly, observed the elections in detail and reported the usual large turnouts and general order.

Lieut. Col. T. W. J. Walters (B) at Bologna reported on 17 communal visits by his staff, and noted how women especially were courted for their votes. Lieut. Col. W. Turner-Coles (B) in Liguria told of 23 communes voting. Lieut. Col. F. G. Green (B) in Piemonte had elaborate reports on more than 70 communes. Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse observed in five Rome Province communes while Major C. G. R. Williams, executive officer of the Local Government Sub-Commission, looked on at four communes in Littoria Province, where one of the issues impelling mountain voters to the Left was the desire to reclaim their old grazing lands in the lowlands, which right they had lost when the Pontine Marshes were reclaimed.

Major R. R. Temple, director of the Local Government S/C, spent the March 24th election in Venice, touring the city in a motorboat. He reported he saw no ballot boxes floating in the canals. Major Temple also visited nearby Chioggia, a fishing village with considerable unemployment, which went Communist. On page 3 is a table of the results in the three administrative elections to date, returns being derived from both official and unofficial sources. A complete official report will be published when all the returns for the five Sundays ending April 7 are in.

## THE NORTH

One comes back from an all too curtailed visit to the North rather baffled, recent visitors report. A fortnight ago we were writing in all good faith of a food situation in Italy worse than anything which the Allied Commission had yet experienced: a basic ration of 600 calories—supplemented by purchases (which ate up the whole of the daily wage) amounting to another 1,000 calories. One knew that coal and wood and electric power was desperately short in the North. But the actual conditions which are met throughout the valley of the Po do not tally with the grim facts shown up by statistics. The people, rich and poor, look well-fed and healthy. With an air of cheerfulness in the country villages and in the towns themselves, the food shops are full of produce; they are well stocked and prices are dropping. The *trattorie* or eating houses all provide a good meal—and at no exorbitant price. The Liaison groups in general affirmed that shortage of food was not now the current topic of conversation.

What does it all mean? The first conclusion is that everyone—including the big industries—is eating out of capital. There is an abundance of perishable food and much of it is within reach of many of the people. Secondly, industrial managements provide good mid-shift meals for their workers. An early spring has succeeded a winter which mercifully has not been too severe and the recent curious anomaly of a country living literally from hand to mouth on imported food for their basic rations and yet giving all the appearance of having, at any rate, enough perishable food to get along well into the coming harvest. Italy may well be thankful for the sun and the short dry winter, for her abundant local produce, her fruit and her nuts and for the ability of her people to live without meat. These factors have kept and will continue to keep the country from actual starvation but must never be counted as a reason for not maintaining her stock of cereals at an adequate standard.

Valuable work is being done by the Liaison groups. They have maintained their mobility and, therefore, their contact with local authorities, and their obvious interest in the communal elections has without doubt aided the natural desire of the Italian people to conduct these first

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

| PARTY | MARCH 10 | | | | | | MARCH 17 | | | | | | MARCH 24 | | | | | | TOTAL TO DATE | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | S | |
| | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | |
| **Left Concentration** | — | 129 | **129** | 2 | 2,419 | **2,421** | — | 362 | **362** | 21 | 6,368 | **6,389** | 1 | 506 | **507** | 56 | 8,881 | **8,937** | 1 | 997 | **998** | 79 | 17 |
| Communist | 2 | 4 | **6** | 81 | 73 | **154** | 1 | 19 | **20** | 31 | 419 | **450** | 5 | 30 | **35** | 128 | 501 | **629** | 8 | 53 | **61** | 240 | |
| Socialist | 2 | 6 | **8** | 50 | 112 | **162** | — | 23 | **23** | 34 | 422 | **456** | — | 29 | **29** | 97 | 680 | **777** | 2 | 58 | **60** | 181 | 1 |
| Republican | 1 | 4 | **5** | 31 | 72 | **103** | — | 8 | **8** | 17 | 178 | **195** | 1 | 10 | **11** | 38 | 200 | **228** | 2 | 22 | **24** | 76 | |
| Action | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 32 | **33** | — | 1 | **1** | 4 | 70 | **71** | — | 4 | **4** | 3 | 76 | **79** | — | 6 | **6** | 5 | |
| **Christian Democrat** | 3 | 132 | **135** | 77 | 2,491 | **2,568** | 4 | 338 | **342** | 78 | 6,181 | **6,259** | 5 | 482 | **487** | 184 | 8,725 | **8,906** | 12 | 952 | **964** | 336 | 17 |
| **Center Concentration** | — | 44 | **44** | 6 | 783 | **789** | — | 76 | **76** | 1 | 1,479 | **1,480** | 1 | 57 | **58** | 31 | 1,206 | **1,237** | 1 | 177 | **178** | 38 | 3 |
| **Right Concentration** | — | 6 | **6** | 15 | 141 | **156** | — | 36 | **36** | 2 | 672 | **674** | — | 27 | **27** | 3 | 496 | **499** | — | 69 | **69** | 20 | 1 |
| Liberal | — | 19 | **19** | 8 | 320 | **328** | — | 15 | **15** | 8 | 339 | **347** | — | 25 | **25** | 7 | 415 | **422** | — | 59 | **59** | 24 | 1 |
| Labour Democrat | — | 10 | **10** | 6 | 176 | **182** | — | 25 | **25** | — | 376 | **376** | — | 16 | **16** | 5 | 306 | **311** | — | 51 | **51** | 11 | |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 3 | **3** | 5 | 63 | **68** | — | 7 | **7** | 6 | 120 | **126** | — | 7 | **7** | 9 | 117 | **126** | — | 17 | **17** | 20 | |
| Italian Democrat | — | — | — | — | 8 | **8** | — | 2 | **2** | — | — | — | — | 1 | **1** | 1 | 13 | **14** | — | 3 | **3** | 1 | |
| **Independents** | — | 42 | **42** | 4 | 715 | **719** | — | 109 | **109** | — | 1,980 | **1,980** | — | 92 | **92** | 2 | 1,781 | **1,783** | — | 243 | **243** | 6 | 4 |
| Local Parties | — | 8 | **8** | 9 | 173 | **182** | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 39 | **39** | 10 | 630 | **640** | — | 47 | **47** | 19 | |
| Veterans | — | 8 | **8** | 8 | 168 | **176** | — | 15 | **15** | — | 253 | **253** | — | 6 | **6** | 9 | 168 | **177** | — | 29 | **29** | 17 | |
| | | | **424** | | | **8,049** | | | **1,041** | | | **19,056** | | | **1,344** | | | **24,765** | | | **2,809** | | |

*A* = Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — *B* = Communes under 30,000.
* = 6 communes where no majority was gained.

1247

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



| RTY | MARCH 16 | | | | | | MARCH 17 | | | | | | MARCH 24 | | | | | | TOTAL TO DATE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | | Majorities | | | Seats | | |
| | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total |
| on | — | 129 | 129 | 2 | 2,419 | 2,421 | — | 362 | 362 | 21 | 6,368 | 6,389 | 1 | 506 | 507 | 56 | 8,881 | 8,937 | 1 | 997 | 998 | 79 | 17,668 | 17,747 |
| | 2 | 4 | 6 | 81 | 73 | 154 | 1 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 419 | 450 | 5 | 30 | 35 | 128 | 501 | 629 | 8 | 53 | 61 | 240 | 993 | 1,233 |
| | 2 | 6 | 8 | 50 | 112 | 162 | — | 23 | 23 | 34 | 422 | 456 | — | 29 | 29 | 97 | 680 | 777 | 2 | 58 | 60 | 181 | 1,214 | 1,395 |
| | 1 | 4 | 5 | 31 | 72 | 103 | — | 8 | 8 | 17 | 178 | 195 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 38 | 190 | 228 | 2 | 22 | 24 | 76 | 450 | 526 |
| | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 32 | 33 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 70 | 71 | — | 4 | 4 | 3 | 76 | 79 | — | 6 | 6 | 5 | 178 | 183 |
| at | 3 | 132 | 135 | 77 | 2,491 | 2,568 | 3 | 338 | 342 | 38 | 6,181 | 6,259 | 5 | 382 | 487 | 184 | 8,725 | 8,906 | 12 | 952 | 964 | 336 | 17,397 | 17,733 |
| ion | — | 44 | 44 | 6 | 783 | 789 | — | 76 | 76 | 1 | 1,479 | 1,480 | 1 | 57 | 58 | 31 | 1,206 | 1,237 | 1 | 177 | 178 | 38 | 3,368 | 3,506 |
| on | — | 6 | 6 | 15 | 141 | 156 | — | 36 | 36 | 2 | 672 | 674 | — | 27 | 27 | 3 | 496 | 499 | — | 69 | 69 | 20 | 1,309 | 1,329 |
| | — | 19 | 19 | 8 | 320 | 328 | — | 15 | 15 | 8 | 339 | 347 | — | 25 | 25 | 7 | 415 | 422 | — | 59 | 59 | 23 | 1,074 | 1,097 |
| ral | — | 10 | 10 | 6 | 176 | 182 | — | 25 | 25 | — | 376 | 376 | — | 16 | 16 | 5 | 306 | 311 | — | 51 | 51 | 11 | 858 | 869 |
| ue | — | 3 | 3 | 5 | 63 | 68 | — | 7 | 7 | 6 | 120 | 126 | — | 7 | 7 | 9 | 117 | 126 | — | 17 | 17 | 20 | 300 | 320 |
| al | — | — | — | — | 8 | 8 | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 14 | — | 3 | 3 | 1 | 21 | 22 |
| | — | 42 | 42 | 3 | 716 | 719 | — | 109 | 109 | — | 1,980 | 1,980 | — | 92 | 92 | 2 | 1,781 | 1,783 | — | 243 | 243 | 6 | 4,476 | 4,482 |
| | — | 8 | 8 | 9 | 173 | 182 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 39 | 39 | 10 | 630 | 640 | — | 47 | 47 | 19 | 803 | 822 |
| | — | 8 | 8 | 8 | 168 | 176 | — | 15 | 15 | — | 253 | 253 | — | 6 | 6 | 9 | 168 | 177 | — | 29 | 29 | 17 | 589 | 606 |
| | | | 423 | | | 8,049 | | | 1,041 | | | 19,056 | | | *1,344 | | | 24,765 | | | 2,809 | | | 51,870 |

Communes over 30,000 and Provincial Capitals. — *B* — Communes under 30,000.
*Communes where no majority was gained.

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



elections with dignity and legality. Probably everyone has been a little surprised at the lack of incidents arising out of the elections. The optimistic foresee no trouble at the national polls. Much probably depends on the degree of passion and heat generated during the electoral campaign.

Another cheerful report from the North is that public confidence in the CC. RR. is increasing. At long last equipment and clothing has reached the men in the towns and villages and that has made all the difference. But there is still a police problem of some magnitude to be tackled. Police agencies other than the CC. RR. are not in really good fettle. Their ranks have been swelled with an irregular form of irresponsible auxiliary police—an early aftermath of the fruits of liberation.

But more serious than anything is the critical lack of gasoline for the police forces, ridiculous monthly allocations being given to *questori*. When one sees the quantities of private cars on the road, one wonders whether there is gross maldistribution of gas. On the whole, however, one obtains a picture of Italian administration functioning, of industry just turning over (coal distribution has been adequate), of, thank goodness, a little more water flowing through the hydro-electric turbines, and, above all, of a healthy crop coming up through the good earth.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Land Forces Sub-Commission gives the good news that 10,300 Italian POWs in three ships are en route from India to Naples and will land on dates between the 10th and 26th of April; this is the first large-scale repatriation of such personnel from India and includes 10 per cent. of the estimated 24,000 held there... The French representative to the Allied Commission, *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Moullec has been promoted to *Contre-Amiral* or Rear Admiral and will shortly leave us to go to the United Nations Organization as French Naval representative on the UNO Security Committee; he will be succeeded here by *Capitaine de Vaisseau* Heron de Villefosse, a distinguished writer who was assistant chief of staff to Admiral Muselier of the Free French Naval Forces: we are sorry to see Admiral Moullec leave us and wish him luck in his new post... The 1924 class of Italian youth (aged 22) seem to be in better physical condition than recent predecessors, Land Forces S/C reports... Starting next week, the PRB *Bulletin* will be unclassified, authority also having been obtained from the Chief Commissioner and Executive Commissioner to declassify all past issues in order to make the document available to historical organizations and libraries... The U. S. mail situation is finally much better, Capt. Thurman Oliver, head of APO 394 reports: In January, the APO was getting an average of six or seven bags a day, in February only three or four, but in March the average built up to, first, 28 or 29 bags and, then, to 44 and 45 a day, with the peak reached March 20 when 277 bags came in; there is one catch to the picture, 60 per cent. of the mail received is usually for the U. S. Embassy or UNRRA, which use our APO facilities... Major Sam V. Noe, former A. C. education officer, is back at his old trade of principal of the Highland (Ky.) Junior High School... The following decorations have been announced: *Officer of the Order of the British Empire* – Col. Clayton P. Kerr; *Italian Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* (*Commander*) – Col. Ernest J. Ristedt; *Italian Cross of War Merit* – Pvt. Alberto V. Di Martino and Pvt. Fred Rallin; *Crown of Italy* – (*Knight Officer*) Lieut. Cols. Lorenzo R. Holmes, Walter P. Scoggins and Howard K. Seith; Majors Harry M. Downer and Norbert W. Hyland; (*Knight*) Capt. Warner G. Peterson and Sergt. Thomas M. McCommas, Jr...

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

MAR 25 RECD

March 23, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 51

## POLITICAL

The monarchy, most observers agreed, more or less opened its campaign for re-election, as it were, in the letter which the *Luogotenente* sent to Prime Minister De Gasperi along with the two signed decrees on the referendum and powers of the Costituente and the electoral code. Both decrees, it transpired, were signed March 16 while the letter itself was published March 18. The Prince proclaimed that he was following the "glorious traditions of the National *Risorgimento*" (*of the last century*) and that his approval of the decrees followed his father's decision in April, 1944 to retire irrevocably from public life in order to "facilitate national unity".

Indeed, the *Luogotenente* said, his signature on the decrees was an "approval that was the crowning of a tradition which is at the basis of the pact between the people and the Monarchy, a pact, which, if it is to be confirmed, must constitute the foundation of a reformed Monarchy which will make popular self-government and social justice fully operative". He then said that by signing the decrees he had given freedom to vote to all those who were bound by an oath (to the Crown) and that he considered the letter he had just written "a necessary contribution to the serenity of the popular will".

The Republican phalanx immediately took up the cudgels reserved generally for monarchist sympathizers to swing at the Prince's remarks. *Avanti* cried: "The bitter cup. The *Luogotenente* signs and hopes in Providence". *Voce Repubblicana* commented that the letter contained "grave errors of historical and juridical interpretation". The *Statuto Albertino*, it said, was a royal concession, not an agreement. In 1849, the paper continued, a Constitutent Assembly was promised but never held. The plebiscites, it asserted, were not pacts but merely votes which did not discuss or agree to any charter. *Momento* also took the royal letter writer to task for saying that it would be the monarchy's charge to make social justice operative. That mission, *Momento* declared, belonged to the political parties.

Meanwhile, the administrative elections continued, the 17 March results, as of a March 22 announcement to the press by the Ministry of Interior, giving majorities in 1,019 communes out of 1,090 as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Left Bloc | 428 |
| Christian Democrats | 363 |
| Independents | 73 |
| Right Bloc | 45 |
| Local Groups | 33 |
| Labour Democrats | 24 |
| Liberals | 22 |
| Republicans | 12 |
| Veterans | 11 |
| Uomo Qualunque | 7 |
| Democrats (Monarchist) | 1 |

Voting was heavy as in the March 10 election and general order prevailed except for one incident at Riesi in Caltanissetta Province in Sicily where a band broke into eight polling places and destroyed the ballot boxes. Police arrested 32 persons.

### Skirmishes.

The political skirmishes continued, perhaps a little sharper. Togliatti made a speech at Terni on the 17th where for the first time he was somewhat critical of the Christian Democrats, accusing them of doing nothing about the land reform plank in their platform. The Pope's message defending the right of the Church to speak its mind on secular matters drew pros and cons, *Italia Nuova* loudly attacking the Government for sponsoring an anti-clerical electoral law while *Popolo* sympathized with the Church's views and pointed out that De Gasperi succeeded in toning down the controversial Article 66 as voted by the *Consulta*. De Gasperi himself, secretary general of the Christian Democrats, will open his party's campaign with a speech at Turin tomorrow, 24 March. Political alliances were still in the making: Republicans, Action Party and Parri's Republican Democrats were reported joining in common lists while Bonomi spearheaded an attempt to weld into a united front the

337

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



Labour Democrats, Liberals and Democratic Liberals but leaving out declarations on the institutional question.

On foreign affairs, beyond the constant attention given to Big Three problems, the press reported that the Government had sent five memoranda through diplomatic channels in the last week, one to Washington on the proposed *modus vivendi*, and four to the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers in London on Italian colonies, Venezia Giulia, the Alto Adige and reparations. The Allied Investigating Commission's progress through Zone B in Venezia Giulia and its visit to Pola was watched while the Government's move in appointing a special commission to draw up administrative autonomy for Venezia Giulia was generally approved as a shrewd tactical step.

Despite the absence of several ministers away on political tours, a circumstance pointed up with snide remarks by the opposition press, the Council of Ministers met on the 22nd and concluded some business but put off the debate on what symbols (for monarchy and republic) to use on the ballots for the referendum. It was decided, however, that the Court of Cassation would officially announce results of the referendum and also receive appeals from election results up to 22 days after the elections, which, to be held on June 2, will be permitted to continue through June 3, if everyone has not voted in time.

The Council also abolished revenue taxes on gift parcels not exceeding 20 kilos from America and also for such parcels weighing more if they contain food. Also approved was a decree allowing Italian exporters to manipulate freely 50 per cent. of the foreign exchange earned through their transactions, which they can use to buy urgent materials listed by the Government. (See *Foreign Trade* in this *Bulletin*.) Decrees were also passed shortening the period of internment or political confinement of individuals and against tobacco smugglers.

## ELECTION DETAILS

In our effort to present some background and analysis of each Sunday's administrative elections, thanks to the data supplied by Major R. R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, we run below the complete official returns of the Ministry of Interior on the March 10 elections. Some preliminary explanations may make the matter clearer. The *first* set of figures gives the winning majority party in each of the 424 communes that voted, A being provincial capitals and communes with population over 30,000, where the proportional system was used, and B communes under 30,000 where the majority system of counting ballots was used. The latter method, incidentally, weights the majority in favor of the winner to a greater degree than the other system. The *second* set of figures gives the number of seats won by the victorious majority winners. The total number of seats contested for were 8,050 and since 6,253 seats went to the majority parties, this means the remaining 1,797 seats went to minority parties in each commune. No breakdown of the distribution of all the seats is yet available, though it is obvious that the leading parties must have picked up other seats in places where they were in the minority to increase their overall total.

It will also be noticed that there were few communes voting with populations larger than 30,000. In fact, Milan (on April 7) is one of the few large Italian cities which will vote in its administrative election in the series of five Sundays devoted to this sport. Practically every other large city will have to vote later, perhaps in the fall, or at some time agreed upon by the local authorities and the Ministry of Interior. For this reason, experts point out, these local elections are not yet a sufficient clew to the political trend of the country. One other remark about the table is necessary. Where concentrations of the Left, Right or Center are recorded, this means common lists. The largest single exception usually was the Christian Democrat party which generally ran alone but sometimes did join in groups of the Center with Labour Democrats or other local bodies and sometimes ran with the Right, with the Liberals, Qualunquisti, etc. Right concentrations usually included the two latter while the Left was composed of Socialists, Communists, Action Party and often Republicans.

| Party | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats won by majority winners | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A | B | Total | A | B | Total |
| Action | — | 1 | 1 | — | 16 | 16 |
| Communist | 2 | 4 | 6 | 42 | 52 | 94 |
| Christian Democrat | 3 | 132 | 135 | 51 | 1933 | 1984 |
| Labour Democrat | — | 10 | 10 | — | 134 | 134 |
| Liberal | — | 19 | 19 | — | 261 | 261 |
| Republican | 1 | 4 | 5 | 16 | 60 | 76 |
| Socialist | 2 | 6 | 8 | 30 | 72 | 102 |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 3 | 3 | — | 36 | 36 |
| Sardinian | — | 8 | 8 | — | 128 | 128 |
| Veterans | — | 8 | 8 | — | 112 | 112 |
| Independents | — | 42 | 42 | — | 622 | 622 |
| Center Concentration | — | 44 | 44 | — | 636 | 636 |
| Right Concentration | — | 6 | 6 | — | 106 | 106 |
| Left Concentration | — | 129 | 129 | — | 1946 | 1946 |
| | | | 424 | | | 6253 |

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



A. C. LOs observed the March 17 elections as ordered and reported general quiet. Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), CLO, Venezia, reported on Vicenza, Padova and Venezia. Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse (B) visited five communes in Rome province while Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B), CLO, Naples, and three officers toured 21 communes in Avellino, Caserta, Salerno and Reggio di Calabria provinces. Col. A. N. Hancock (B), CLO, Lombardia, reported quiet, too, from 220 communes in his bailiwick. At Salerno, Major H. S. Harris (B) reported that a slightly officious official insisted on lecturing to each citizen on voting procedures at such length that a queue of 100 formed outside his polling place. Turnouts as heavy as 90 per cent. were described in many cases. Polls were open from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m., so ballots were counted Monday.

Major Temple visited Tivoli and Subiaco, famed as for its sanctuary of St. Benedict and where trouble was expected, which did not occur, so 65 CC. RR on hand twiddled their thumbs happily enough. At industrial Tivoli, out of a population of 20,875, there were 14,315 registered voters, sixteen polling stations and two lists of candidates—Right and Left—running for 24 seats. By 5 p. m., 90 per cent. of the vote had been cast but 1,000 electoral certificates had not been claimed or delivered because of changes in voters' addresses. Trucks carried loads of voters to the polls. Among the 300 persons excluded from voting were four fascists, 292 with criminal records, one poor ward and three insane or feeble-minded persons.

## FOREIGN TRADE

Italian interest in reviving its foreign commerce boiled up to its highest since the Armistice at the recent Milan meeting (March 11-14) when private businessmen of every shade of interest held a lively meeting to clamor for removal of controls, trust in private enterprise and a chance to allow individual energy and initiative to obtain essential necessities in the world markets and at the same time turn a little profit. The meeting was attended by Col. Charles Walton (A), Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, and Lieut. Col. Fred Tooby (B) as observers for the Allied Commission. Undersecretary of Foreign Trade Storoni and others spoke for the Italian Government, Storoni making a good case for controls in light of Italy's present economic plight and, in effect, told the private traders that the Government was willing to put into effect any scheme that would, first, guarantee a steady flow of the needed commodities (like wheat and coal) and also allow private business an opportunity to resume normal trade.

The traders, who appointed a standing committee to work out the concrete problem with the Government, asked that the Government trust private business by putting it up to them to get the commodities required for the Italian economy and stated they would accept any prohibitions in trading in certain items, provided they were free to manipulate the foreign exchange resultant from Italian sales as they saw fit after they had arranged for the import of the generally needed goods, which list of goods would be prescribed by the Government.

Meanwhile, formal reopening of international trade with other countries has been going on apace, at least in the signing of agreements and in negotiations for further pacts. Agreements have been signed between the Italian Government and Spain, Sweden, France and Austria; a signed agreement was reached with Switzerland but held up by the Combined Chiefs of Staff; negotiations are in progress with Belgium, Luxemburg, Poland, Russia, Holland and Denmark while preliminary talks have been held with Eritrea, Argentina and Turkey. The status of each of these affairs, as reported by the Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, whose duty is to screen each agreement for items on the Reserved Commodity List to be referred to the higher authority of the Combined Boards in Washington, a duty soon to be taken over by the Italian Government itself, are as follows:

*Spain.* — The agreement was signed 10 January 1946 to cover this current year but a 1947 pact will be drawn up as soon as possible. Italy will import 1,826 million lire (200 million pesetas) worth of goods and export to Spain 456 million lire (50 million pesetas) worth. RCL items in the pact include 800 tons of raw goatskins, 3,000 tons of canned fish and 600 tons of cocoa beans. As in many of the negotiations this deal has two angles—actual trade items and financial arrangements for payment. In this particular case, the Spanish war debt of five billion lire to Italy provides the credit for the Italians. Only 80 million lire had been paid before the fall of Fascism. The difference between the Spanish imports and Italian exports represents an advance made by the Spaniards in part payment of their war debt. The Spanish goods include fish, hides, cast iron, rosin, wolframite, cork, goat and rabbit wool. Italy has promised considerable industrial production such as tramways, motor cars, typewriters, sewing machines, aircraft en-

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



gines, machine parts in addition to hemp, drugs silk and rare essences.

*Austria.* — This agreement, to be signed any day now, is strictly barter based on 1937 prices since there seems no determinable basis for the mutual valuation of the respective currencies. The Italians promised fresh fruit and vegetables, hemp, silk, hairbelt, straw hats, mercury, pyrites, pumice, electrical engines and parts, cars, bicycle frames and other machinery, oils and extracts, medicinal herbs and books, magazines and newspapers, which last item appeared in practically all agreements. Austria will provide timber cellulose, magnesite, fire clays, graphite, iron, scythes and sickles, saws and tiles, paper, musical instruments and engines.

*France.* — This agreement was signed 9 February and is for 1946, renewable annually and subject to three months' notice of termination by either side. RCL items, which, incidentally, must still be passed on by the Combined Boards, before trading can start with either France or Spain, include 1,500 tons of cowhides, 1,000 tons of cocoa, 15 tons of clover seed, 800 tons of croupons or choice center hides (to be exchanged in effect for croupons from Madagascar), 1,000 tons of dried figs and 50 tons of rice for sowing. Italian items include fruit, nuts, seeds, oils for the perfume trade, herbs, hemp, pyrites, pumice, zinc, mercury, cadmium, silk, wool cloth, watches, matches, typewriters and machine tools. From France would come coffee, cocoa, spices, linen yarns, iron scrap, agricultural machinery, spectacle lenses, printing machinery, clays, bauxite, mica, insulators, gums, fertilizers, and various colonial products. The French have also granted a $20,000,000 credit in francs to Italy, but apart from this agreement.

*Sweden.* — This signed agreement is also quite advanced as to its implementation, that is, for actual trade to get started. All RCL items have been cleared except tartaric acid, of which 50 tons have been provisionally allocated for 1946, with half of this definitely authorized for the January-June period. The agreement is for six months and renewable. The Swedes will give iron and steel, machinery, tools, precision instruments, wood, cellulose and paper. The Italians list fruit (as ever), nuts, flower seeds, wines, talc, pumice, salt, hemp, silk, rayon, oils and chemicals, men's and women's hats, marble, glassware, accounting machines and various spare parts.

*Belgium.* — This agreement, yet to be signed, was screened while in process of negotiations, with the happy result that allocations of RCL items have already been approved with the temporary exception of 50 tons of tartaric acid and 2½ tons of essential oils. The pact, by the way, is between Italy and the Belgium-Luxemburg Economic Union. Italy is to provide fruit, nuts, citric oils and juices, laurel leaves, juniper berries, seeds, wines, hemp, silk and wool, felt hats, straw hats, marble, mercury, earth colors, dyes, salts, machines of various kinds, celluloid, artisan works, lead ores, millinery, candlewicks, glass tubes, and chestnuts, in one of the most comprehensive lists so far produced. The Belgians et al. will send stud and dray horses, peas and beans, flax, steel scrap, tungsten, copper, antimony, tin, coal, tiles, glass, odd minerals, drugs, hides, pigments, tires, wall paper, film, and nursery plants.

*Russia.* — Trade possibilities between Italy and Soviet Russia were explored for the first time soon after the exchange of views between the Italian ambassador to Moscow and the Soviet Government last fall. The Italians suggested that they manufacture industrial products which the Russians want and the Russians would provide the raw materials both for the goods themselves and in payment for the Italian workmanship. This is now well known as the *lavorazioni per conto* principle, which the Russians have accepted as such and in addition have inquired for lists of Italian goods which could thus be made. The Italian Government is drawing up such a specific list. One of the Russian interests is in having ships built in Italian shipyards, it being understood that only merchant ships would be constructed.

*Poland.* — The chief goal of Italian trade to Poland lies in the coal that can be obtained. An Italian mission went to Warsaw and a Polish mission has now been invited to Rome. The negotiations, in fact, have been going on since last August. Poland, it was estimated, can provide Italy with 720,000 tons of coal a year, to be shipped by rail, a project, however, which recently was held because of difficulties of trans-shipment through Czechoslovakia. Among the Italian offers to Poland, RCL clearance has already been obtained for 12,000 tons of lemons. To obtain the critically needed coal, in fact, Italy is prepared to export even items short on the home market, such is the demand for coal to energize industry as a whole. The Italian list of exports is virtually the same as many printed above, in addition to which there are included accordions (Poles love them), tractors, nautical instruments, presses, telephone and telegraph apparatus and a wide range of machinery. Poland, incidentally, might also provide some of the raw materials, such as

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



magnetic plate for locomotive construction, since it is interested mainly in machinery.

*Holland.* — This proposed pact envisages an exchange of goods amounting to 1,100,000 Dutch florins. (It is not known how much this means in Italian lire.) RCL clearance is currently being obtained for import of 70 tons of linseed for sowing from the Netherlands. In brief, in exchange for fruit, mostly, the Dutch would ship seed potatoes, flower bulbs, seeds and electrical materials.

### Other Plans.

The above list thus comprises agreements signed, under negotiation or definitely planned, although there are other irons in the fire as Italy attempts to create enough foreign valuta to buy abroad urgent necessities for the Italian economy. Free trade between the United States and the United Kingdom was opened 15 February, though no transactions have yet transpired, as far as is known. RCL items and a few other critical commodities excepted, this "free" trade is free as far as the U. S. is concerned, but in England there is still exchange control and in Italy, of course, similar control. What may happen to Italo-Swiss trade is not known either, since a new pact must be drawn up, omitting payment of Fascist debts. There is some intra-UNRRA trade in prospect on the *lacorazioni per conto* basis between Italy, Greece and Yugoslavia, but as yet that is small potatoes.

Denmark has sent a trade mission to Rome and signed a pact 9 March but no definite word has come out as to details. Conversations have been held with Argentina on obtaining ships and wheat but Italy is not offering much in return as yet, especially since some of the ships used to be Italian which the Italians are now trying to get back. Trade talks have also been held with Turkey, Czechoslovakia and there is some prospect of a revival of commerce with Eritrea, the Italian colony now in limbo, and with Egypt, which has cotton but also a lot of Italian currency it can use to pay with. This last project has been promoted by a Signor Eugenio Spinelli, a private trader, who came to Italy last fall with the blessing of the BMA in Eritrea and the Civil Affairs Office in Cairo.

Eritrea, according to this gentleman, can give Italy fresh beef and pork, poultry and eggs, potatoes, tomatoes, coffee, farinaceous foods, hides and boots, buttons, matches, beer, timber and so forth. It would take from Italy, however, only wines and vermouth, motors and machinery and parts, and seeds. Egypt, he added, could use wines, liquors, glassware and artistic ceramics, quality silks and textiles, gloves, perfumes and hats. The deal would, further, need shipping, short in those waters, and a three-cornered financial parlay. Egypt could supply 15,000 bales of cotton for manufacture in Italy and re-export to Egypt similar to the arrangement now in effect for the import and manufacture for re-export of 645 quintals of cotton and 135 quintals of wool from Eritrea.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier General William M. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College when he gets home 9 April... Major Richard B. Bullock is back in Rome as Adjutant of 2675 Regiment after TD in the States... The following awards to U. S. officers have been announced: *Crown of Italy* – Col. Robert F. Worden and Major R. R. Temple (Commander) and Major John W. Gilday (Knight Officer)... The PRB *Bulletin* reaches exactly two years with this issue; *tempus fugit*... A survey by A. C. executive officers shows that eight Rome hotels have been relinquished but three of these were taken over by other Allied agencies; the A. C. now has a whole or part interest in nine hostels... Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin, former DPR and now on terminal leave, writes us from Ithaca, N. Y. to say he got home at 7.30 one morning and had to start teaching as a civilian in his Cornell University classes at 11 a.m.; he passes on this priceless anecdote, too, which will not fail to strike a sympathetic note from any veterans of trans-atlantic army crossings:

"Another curse of the trip was the public address system. It worked perfectly, with the result, of course, that at intervals of five minutes beginning at about 0430 and ending about 2230, wherever you might be on the boat, your ears would be assailed by messages of all kinds: *Dog Three, Chow; Compartment Commander, Baker One, report to Troop Commander; Pfc. McCloskey report to Mess Hall; Garbage detail report immediately* (this was one frequently repeated); *Chief engineer report; Boat crew No. 3 report; Attention! has any one found pigskin wallet on* S & S *deck; Attention! clocks go back thirty minutes tonight; Attention! Pfc. McCloskey, report to mess Hall; Attention! do not throw razor blades in the latrines; Ships carpenter, report to Transport Commander; Attention! Pfc. McCloskey, report to Mess Hall immediately. We are giving your name to MPs if you do not answer this call; Attention! dog five,*

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



*come and get it.* Finally, at last night out some devil maddened by it all gave us the only thrill of pleasure we ever got from that damned piece of modern efficient mechanism. By some coup he got hold of it just long enough to say: *Attention!* Lieut. Goldberg; climb crow's nest and bring down crow's eggs." ...The first number of the *A. C. Courier*, to be published fortnightly by and for the British Detachment under the editorship of Cpl. T. A. Bell, appears on Monday, March 25th; from the glimpse we have had of the stencils it promises to be an entertaining publication; contributions, on any subject, are invited from all British A. C. personnel... 2675 Regiment has a new Commanding Officer, Colonel Robert C. Ross, formerly with the 92nd Division and recently CLO at Leghorn and Turin; on 20 March he relieved Colonel Charles M. Parkin who, now transferred to G-5 AFHQ, has commanded the Regiment since its activation in North Africa in September, 1943... Colonel John S. Arnold, Major Donald M. Chapman, Capt. James F. Kein and Capt. Ned A. Holsten have also returned from leave in the States... Approximately 30 American officers are due to leave A. C. March 31st on one basis or another...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

March 23, 1946

RESTRICTED

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 51

## POLITICAL.

The monarchy, most observers agreed, more or less opened its campaign for re-election, as it were, in the letter which the *Luogotenente* sent to Prime Minister De Gasperi along with the two signed decrees on the referendum and powers of the Costituente and the electoral code. Both decrees, it transpired, were signed March 16 while the letter itself was published March 18. The Prince proclaimed that he was following the "glorious traditions of the National *Risorgimento*" *(of the last century)* and that his approval of the decrees followed his father's decision in April, 1944 to retire irrevocably from public life in order to "facilitate national unity".

Indeed, the *Luogotenente* said, his signature on the decrees was an "approval that was the crowning of a tradition which is at the basis of the pact between the people and the Monarchy, a pact, which, if it is to be confirmed, must constitute the foundation of a reformed Monarchy which will make popular self-government and social justice fully operative". He then said that by signing the decrees he had given freedom to vote to all those who were bound by an oath (to the Crown) and that he considered the letter he had just written "a necessary contribution to the serenity of the popular will".

The Republican phalanx immediately took up the cudgels reserved generally for monarchist sympathizers to swing at the Prince's remarks. *Avanti* cried: "The bitter cup. The *Luogotenente* signs and hopes in Providence". *Voce Repubblicana* commented that the letter contained "grave errors of historical and juridical interpretation". The *Statuto Albertino*, it said, was a royal concession, not an agreement. In 1849, the paper continued, a Constituent Assembly was promised but never held. The plebiscites, it asserted, were not pacts but merely votes which did not discuss or agree to any charter. *Momento* also took the royal letter writer to task for saying that it would be the monarchy's charge to make social justice operative. That mission, *Momento* declared, belonged to the political parties.

Meanwhile, the administrative elections continued, the 17 March results, as of a March 22 announcement to the press by the Ministry of Interior, giving majorities in 1,019 communes out of 1,090 as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Left Bloc | 428 |
| Christian Democrats | 363 |
| Independents | 73 |
| Right Bloc | 45 |
| Local Groups | 33 |
| Labour Democrats | 24 |
| Liberals | 22 |
| Republicans | 12 |
| Veterans | 11 |
| Uomo Qualunque | 7 |
| Democrats (Monarchist) | 1 |

Voting was heavy as in the March 10 election and general order prevailed except for one incident at Riesa in Caltanissetta Province in Sicily where a band broke into eight polling places and destroyed the ballot boxes. Police arrested 32 persons.

### Skirmishes.

The political skirmishes continued, perhaps a little sharper. Togliatti made a speech at Terni on the 17th where for the first time he was somewhat critical of the Christian Democrats, accusing them of doing nothing about the land reform plank in their platform. The Pope's message defending the right of the Church to speak its mind on secular matters drew pros and cons, *Italia Nuova* loudly attacking the Government for sponsoring an anti-clerical electoral law while *Popolo* sympathized with the Church's views and pointed out that De Gasperi succeeded in toning down the controversial Article 66 as voted by the *Consulta*. De Gasperi himself, as secretary general of the Christian Democrats, will open his party's campaign with a speech at Turin tomorrow, 24 March. Political alliances were still in the making: Republicans, Action Party and Parri's Republican Democrats were reported joining in common lists while Bonomi spearheaded an attempt to weld into a united front the

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



Labour Democrats, Liberals and Democratic Liberals but leaving out declarations on the institutional question.

On foreign affairs, beyond the constant attention given to Big Three problems, the press reported that the Government had sent five memoranda through diplomatic channels in the last week, one to Washington on the proposed *modus vivendi*, and four to the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers in London on Italian colonies, Venezia Giulia, the Alto Adige and reparations. The Allied Investigating Commission's progress through Zone B in Venezia Giulia and its visit to Pola was watched while the Government's move in appointing a special commission to draw up administrative autonomy for Venezia Giulia was generally approved as a shrewd tactical step.

Despite the absence of several ministers away on political tours, a circumstance pointed up with snide remarks by the opposition press, the Council of Ministers met on the 22nd and concluded some business but put off the debate on what symbols (for monarchy and republic) to use on the ballots for the referendum. It was decided, however, that the Court of Cassation would officially announce results of the referendum and also receive appeals from election results up to 22 days after the elections, which, to be held on June 2, will be permitted to continue through June 3, if everyone has not voted in time.

The Council also abolished revenue taxes on gift parcels not exceeding 20 kilos from America and also for such parcels weighing more if they contain food. Also approved was a decree allowing Italian exporters to manipulate freely 50 per cent. of the foreign exchange earned through their transactions, which they can use to buy urgent materials listed by the Government. (See *Foreign Trade* in this *Bulletin*.) Decrees were also passed shortening the period of internment or political confinement of individuals and against tobacco smugglers.

## ELECTION DETAILS

In our effort to present some background and analysis of each Sunday's administrative elections, thanks to the data supplied by Major R. R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, we run below the complete official returns of the Ministry of Interior on the March 10 elections. Some preliminary explanations may make the matter clearer. The *first* set of figures gives the winning majority party in each of the 424 communes that voted, *A* being provincial capitals and communes with population over 30,000, where the proportional system was used, and *B* communes under 30,000 where the majority system of counting ballots was used. The latter method, incidentally, weights the majority in favor of the winner to a greater degree than the other system. The *second* set of figures gives the number o seats won by the victorious majority winners. The total number of seats contested for were 8,050 and since 6,253 seats went to the majority parties, this means the remaining 1,797 seats went to minority parties in each commune. No breakdown of the distribution of all the seats is yet available, though it is obvious that the leading parties must have picked up other seats in places where they were in the minority to increase their overall total.

It will also be noticed that there were few communes voting with populations larger than 30,000. In fact, Milan (on April 7) is one of the few large Italian cities which will vote in its administrative election in the series of five Sundays devoted to this sport. Practically every other large city will have to vote later, perhaps in the fall, or at some time agreed upon by the local authorities and the Ministry of Interior. For this reason, experts point out, these local elections are not yet a sufficient clew to the political trend of the country. One other remark about the table is necessary. Where concentrations of the Left, Right or Center are recorded, this means common lists. The largest single exception usually was the Christian Democrat party which generally ran alone but sometimes did join in groups of the Center with Labour Democrats or other local bodies and sometimes ran with the Right, with the Liberals, Qualunquisti, etc. Right concentrations usually included the two latter while the Left was composed of Socialists, Communists, Action Party and often Republicans.

| Party | Majorities in Communes | | | Seats won by majority winners | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *A* | *B* | Total | *A* | *B* | Total |
| Action | — | 1 | 1 | — | 16 | 16 |
| Communist | 2 | 4 | 6 | 42 | 52 | 94 |
| Christian Democrat | 3 | 132 | 135 | 51 | 1933 | 1984 |
| Labour Democrat | — | 10 | 10 | — | 134 | 134 |
| Liberal | — | 19 | 19 | — | 261 | 261 |
| Republican | 1 | 4 | 5 | 16 | 60 | 76 |
| Socialist | 2 | 6 | 8 | 30 | 72 | 102 |
| Uomo Qualunque | — | 3 | 3 | — | 36 | 36 |
| Sardinian | — | 8 | 8 | — | 128 | 128 |
| Veterans | — | 8 | 8 | — | 112 | 112 |
| Independents | — | 42 | 42 | — | 622 | 622 |
| Center Concentration | — | 44 | 44 | — | 636 | 636 |
| Right Concentration | — | 6 | 6 | — | 106 | 106 |
| Left Concentration | — | 129 | 129 | — | 1946 | 1946 |
| | | | 424 | | | 6253 |

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



A. C. LOs observed the March 17 elections as ordered and reported general quiet. Lieut. Col. F. O. Mavis (A), CLO, Venezia, reported on Vicenza, Padova and Venezia. Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse (B) visited five communes in Rome province while Col. J. A. C. Pennycuick (B), CLO, Naples, and three officers toured 21 communes in Avellino, Caserta, Salerno and Reggio di Calabria provinces. Col. A. N. Hancock (B), CLO, Lombardia, reported quiet, too, from 220 communes in his bailiwick. At Salerno, Major H. S. Harris (B) reported that a slightly officious official insisted on lecturing to each citizen on voting procedures at such length that a queue of 100 formed outside his polling place. Turnouts as heavy as 90 per cent. were described in many cases. Polls were open from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m., so ballots were counted Monday.

Major Temple visited Tivoli and Subiaco, famed as for its sanctuary of St. Benedict and where trouble was expected, which did not occur, so 65 CC. RR on hand twiddled their thumbs happily enough. At industrial Tivoli, out of a population of 20,875, there were 14,315 registered voters, sixteen polling stations and two lists of candidates—Right and Left—running for 24 seats. By 5 p. m., 90 per cent. of the vote had been cast but 1,000 electoral certificates had not been claimed or delivered because of changes in voters' addresses. Trucks carried loads of voters to the polls. Among the 300 persons excluded from voting were four fascists, 292 with criminal records, one poor ward and three insane or feeble-minded persons.

## FOREIGN TRADE

Italian interest in reviving its foreign commerce boiled up to its highest since the Armistice at the recent Milan meeting (March 11-14) when private businessmen of every shade of interest held a lively meeting to clamor for removal of controls, trust in private enterprise and a chance to allow individual energy and initiative to obtain essential necessities in the world markets and at the same time turn a little profit. The meeting was attended by Col. Charles Walton (A), Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, and Lieut. Col. Fred Tooby (B) as observers for the Allied Commission. Undersecretary of Foreign Trade Storoni and others spoke for the Italian Government, Storoni making a good case for controls in light of Italy's present economic plight and, in effect, told the private traders that the Government was willing to put into effect any scheme that would, first, guarantee a steady flow of the needed commodities (like wheat and coal) and also allow private business an opportunity to resume normal trade.

The traders, who appointed a standing committee to work out the concrete problem with the Government, asked that the Government trust private business by putting it up to them to get the commodities required for the Italian economy and stated they would accept any prohibitions in trading in certain items, provided they were free to manipulate the foreign exchange resultant from Italian sales as they saw fit after they had arranged for the import of the generally needed goods, which list of goods would be prescribed by the Government.

Meanwhile, formal reopening of international trade with other countries has been going on apace, at least in the signing of agreements and in negotiations for further pacts. Agreements have been signed between the Italian Government and Spain, Sweden, France and Austria; a signed agreement was reached with Switzerland but held up by the Combined Chiefs of Staff; negotiations are in progress with Belgium, Luxemburg, Poland, Russia, Holland and Denmark while preliminary talks have been held with Eritrea, Argentina and Turkey. The status of each of these affairs, as reported by the Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, whose duty is to screen each agreement for items on the Reserved Commodity List to be referred to the higher authority of the Combined Boards in Washington, a duty soon to be taken over by the Italian Government itself, are as follows:

*Spain.* — The agreement was signed 10 January 1946 to cover this current year but a 1947 pact will be drawn up as soon as possible. Italy will import 1,826 million lire (200 million pesetas) worth of goods and export to Spain 456 million lire (50 million pesetas) worth. RCL items in the pact include 800 tons of raw goatskins, 3,000 tons of canned fish and 600 tons of cocoa beans. As in many of the negotiations this deal has two angles—actual trade items and financial arrangements for payment. In this particular case, the Spanish war debt of five billion lire to Italy provides the credit for the Italians. Only 80 million lire had been paid before the fall of Fascism. The difference between the Spanish imports and Italian exports represents an advance made by the Spaniards in part payment of their war debt. The Spanish goods include fish, hides, cast iron, rosin, wolframite, cork, goat and rabbit wool. Italy has promised considerable industrial production such as tramways, motor cars, typewriters, sewing machines, aircraft en-

(2 3 8)

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



gines, machine parts in addition to hemp, drugs, silk and rare essences.

*Austria.* — This agreement, to be signed any day now, is strictly barter based on 1937 prices since there seems no determinable basis for the mutual valuation of the respective currencies. The Italians promised fresh fruit and vegetables, hemp, silk, hairfelt, straw hats, mercury, pyrites, pumice, electrical engines and parts, cars, bicycle frames and other machinery, oils and extracts, medicinal herbs and books, magazines and newspapers, which last item appeared in practically all agreements. Austria will provide timber cellulose, magnesite, fire clays, graphite, iron, scythes and sickles, saws and tiles, paper, musical instruments and engines.

*France.* — This agreement was signed 9 February and is for 1946, renewable annually and subject to three months' notice of termination by either side. RCL items, which, incidentally, must still be passed on by the Combined Boards, before trading can start with either France or Spain, include 1,500 tons of cowhides, 1,000 tons of cocoa, 15 tons of clover seed, 800 tons of croupons or choice center hides (to be exchanged in effect for croupons from Madagascar), 1,000 tons of dried figs and 50 tons of rice for sowing. Italian items include fruit, nuts, seeds, oils for the perfume trade, herbs, hemp, pyrites, pumice, zinc, mercury, cadmium, silk, wool cloth, watches, matches, typewriters and machine tools. From France would come coffee, cocoa, spices, linen yarns, iron scrap, agricultural machinery, spectacle lenses, printing machinery, clays, bauxite, mica, insulators, gums, fertilizers, and various colonial products. The French have also granted a $20,000,000 credit in francs to Italy, but apart from this agreement.

*Sweden.* — This signed agreement is also quite advanced as to its implementation, that is, for actual trade to get started. All RCL items have been cleared except tartaric acid, of which 90 tons have been provisionally allocated for 1946, with half of this definitely authorized for the January-June period. The agreement is for six months and renewable. The Swedes will give iron and steel, machinery, tools, precision instruments, wood, cellulose and paper. The Italians list fruit (as ever), nuts, flower seeds, wines, talc, pumice, salt, hemp, silk, rayon, oils and chemicals, men's and women's hats, marble, glassware, accounting machines and various spare parts.

*Belgium.* — This agreement, yet to be signed, was screened while in process of negotiations, with the happy result that allocations of RCL items have already been approved with the temporary exception of 50 tons of tartaric acid and 2½ tons of essential oils. The pact, by the way, is between Italy and the Belgium-Luxemburg Economic Union. Italy is to provide fruit, nuts, citric oils and juices, laurel leaves, juniper berries, seeds, wines, hemp, silk and wood, felt hats, straw hats, marble, mercury, earth colors, dyes, salts, machines of various kinds, celluloid, artisan works, lead ores, millinery, candlewicks, glass tubes, and chestnuts, in one of the most comprehensive lists so far produced. The Belgians et al. will send stud and dray horses, peas and beans, flax, steel scrap, tungsten, copper, antimony, tin, coal, tiles, glass, odd minerals, drugs, hides, pigments, tires, wall paper, film, and nursery plants.

*Russia.* — Trade possibilities between Italy and Soviet Russia were explored for the first time soon after the exchange of views between the Italian ambassador to Moscow and the Soviet Government last fall. The Italians suggested that they manufacture industrial products which the Russians want and the Russians would provide the raw materials both for the goods themselves and in payment for the Italian workmanship. This is now well known as the *lavorazioni per conto* principle, which the Russians have accepted as such and in addition have inquired for lists of Italian goods which could thus be made. The Italian Government is drawing up such a specific list. One of the Russian interests is in having ships built in Italian shipyards, it being understood that only merchant ships would be constructed.

*Poland.* — The chief goal of Italian trade to Poland lies in the coal that can be obtained. An Italian mission went to Warsaw and a Polish mission has now been invited to Rome. The negotiations, in fact, have been going on since last August. Poland, it was estimated, can provide Italy with 720,000 tons of coal a year, to be shipped by rail, a project, however, which recently was held because of difficulties of trans-shipment through Czechoslovakia. Among the Italian offers to Poland, RCL clearance has already been obtained for 12,000 tons of lemons. To obtain the critically needed coal, in fact, Italy is prepared to export even items short on the home market, such is the demand for coal to energize industry as a whole. The Italian list of exports is virtually the same as many printed above, in addition to which there are included accordions (Poles love them), tractors, nautical instruments, presses, telephone and telegraph apparatus and a wide range of machinery. Poland, incidentally, might also provide some of the raw materials, such as

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



magnetic plate for locomotive construction, since it is interested mainly in machinery.

*Holland.* — This proposed pact envisages an exchange of goods amounting to 1,100,000 Dutch florins. (It is not known how much this means in Italian lire.) RCL clearance is currently being obtained for import of 70 tons of linseed for sowing from the Netherlands. In brief, in exchange for fruit, mostly, the Dutch would ship seed potatoes, flower bulbs, seeds and electrical materials.

### Other Plans.

The above list thus comprises agreements signed, under negotiation or definitely planned, although there are other irons in the fire as Italy attempts to create enough foreign valuta to buy abroad urgent necessities for the Italian economy. Free trade between the United States and the United Kingdom was opened 15 February, though no transactions have yet transpired, as far as is known. RCL items and a few other critical commodities excepted, this "free" trade is free as far as the U. S. is concerned, but in England there is still exchange control and in Italy, of course, similar control. What may happen to Italo-Swiss trade is not known either, since a new pact must be drawn up, omitting payment of Fascist debts. There is some intra-UNRRA trade in prospect on the *baratazioni per conto* basis between Italy, Greece and Yugoslavia, but as yet that is small potatoes.

Denmark has sent a trade mission to Rome and signed a pact 9 March but no definite word has come out as to details. Conversations have been held with Argentina on obtaining ships and wheat but Italy is not offering much in return as yet, especially since some of the ships used to be Italian which the Italians are now trying to get back. Trade talks have also been held with Turkey, Czechoslovakia and there is some prospect of a revival of commerce with Eritrea, the Italian colony now in limbo, and with Egypt, which has cotton but also a lot of Italian currency it can use to pay with. This last project has been promoted by a Signor Eugenio Spinelli, a private trader, who came to Italy last fall with the blessing of the BMA in Eritrea and the Civil Affairs Office in Cairo.

Eritrea, according to this gentleman, can give Italy fresh beef and pork, poultry and eggs, potatoes, tomatoes, coffee, farinaceous foods, hides and boots, buttons, matches, beer, timber and so forth. It would take from Italy, however, only wines and vermouth, motors and machinery and parts, and seeds. Egypt, he added, could use wines, liquors, glassware and artistic ceramics, quality silks and textiles, gloves, perfumes and hats. The deal would, further, need shipping, short in those waters, and a three-cornered financial parlay. Egypt could supply 15,000 bales of cotton for manufacture in Italy, and re-export to Egypt similar to the arrangement now in effect for the import and manufacture for re-export of 645 quintals of cotton and 135 quintals of wool from Eritrea.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier General William M. Lee, deputy director of the Air Forces Sub-Commission, will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College when he gets home 9 April... Major Richard B. Bullock is back in Rome as Adjutant of 2675 Regiment after TD in the States... The following awards to U. S. officers have been announced: *Crown of Italy* – Col. Robert F. Worden and Major R. B. Temple (Commander) and Major John W. Gilday (Knight Officer)... The PRB *Bulletin* reaches exactly two years with this issue; *tempus fugit*... A survey by A. C. executive officers shows that eight Rome hotels have been relinquished but three of these were taken over by other Allied agencies; the A. C. now has a whole or part interest in nine hostels... Lieut. Col. Thomas G. Bergin, former DPR and now on terminal leave, writes us from Ithaca, N. Y. to say he got home at 7:30 one morning and had to start teaching as a civilian in his Cornell University classes at 11 a.m.; he passes on this priceless anecdote, too, which will not fail to strike a sympathetic note from any veterans of trans-Atlantic army crossings:

"Another curse of the trip was the public address system. It worked perfectly, with the result, of course, that at intervals of five minutes beginning at about 0430 and ending about 2230, wherever you might be on the boat, your ears would be assailed by messages of all kinds: *Dog Three, Chow; Compartment Commander, Baker One, report to Troop Commander; Pfc. McCloskey report to Mess Hall; Garbage detail report immediately* (this was one frequently repeated); *Chief engineer report; Boat crew No. 3 report; Attention! has any one found pigskin wallet on boat deck; Attention! clocks go back thirty minutes tonight; Attention! Pfc. McCloskey, report to mess Hall; Attention! do not throw razor blades in the latrines; Ships carpenter, report to Transport Commander; Attention! Pfc. McCloskey, report to Mess Hall immediately. We are giving your name to MPs if you do not answer this call; Attention! dog fice,*

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



*come and get it.* Finally, at last night out some devil maddened by it all gave us the only thrill of pleasure we ever got from that damned piece of modern efficient mechanism. By some coup he got hold of it just long enough to say: *Attention!* Lieut. Goldberg: climb crow's nest and bring down crow's eggs." ...The first number of the *A. C. Courier*, to be published fortnightly by and for the British Detachment under the editorship of Cpl. T. A. Bell, appears on Monday, March 25th; from the glimpse we have had of the stencils it promises to be an entertaining publication; contributions, on any subject, are invited from all British A. C. personnel... 2675 Regiment has a new Commanding Officer, Colonel Robert C. Ross, formerly with the 92nd Division and recently CLO at Leghorn and Turin; on 20 March he relieved Colonel Charles M. Parkin who, now transferred to G-5 AFHQ, has commanded the Regiment since its activation in North Africa in September, 1943... Colonel John S. Arnold, Major Donald M. Chapman, Capt. James F. Kein and Capt. Ned A. Holsten have also returned from leave in the States... Approximately 30 American officers are due to leave A. C. March 31st on one basis or another...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

Chief Commission Publication

March 16, 1946

RESTRICTED

MAR 18 RECD

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 50

## POLITICAL

The Italian press chorus, in complete unanimity for once, hailed the March 10 administrative elections, the first free elections in more than two decades in Italy, as a great success. From all accounts, there was general order; a large turnout—estimated by *Popolo* as high as 80 per cent—with women showing up at the polls *en masse* to exercise their newly granted suffrage; and lastly, a singular and heartening absence of charges of fraud. The victories went mostly to the Christian Democrats and the Leftist bloc of Socialists, Communists and Action Party, who ran common lists. As of 15 March, the returns of 114 out of 434 communes announced to the press by the Ministry of Interior gave majorities as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Christian Democrats | 168 |
| Leftist bloc | 130 |
| Independents | 77 |
| Liberals | 17 |
| Labour Democrats | 11 |
| Republicans | 8 |
| Uomo Qualunque | 3 |

The elections were spread geographically throughout the country, though the vast majority were in the South and in Central Italy and mostly in small towns in the countryside. Results in provincial capitals under the proportional system, where 40 councillors were to be elected, for example, gave Socialists-Communists 27 seats in Arezzo, Christian Democrats 22 seats in Frosinone, while Enna reported a Republican majority and Grosseto a Communist one.

Most of the party papers read pleasing interpretations into the results: *Italia Nuova* said, "The Left has crowed too much. Christian Democrats and democratic parties lead in two thirds of the communes". *Unità* claimed victory in the important population centers where Communist strength is supposed to be concentrated. *Quotidiano* was of the opinion that the Left did not do so well as expected and that the extreme Right demonstrated its own weakness. *Momento* averred that these first electoral skirmishes were virtually meaningless because of personal factors but stressed the growing national responsibility of the Christian Democrats who, it cautioned, must avoid sliding into a position of "intolerant conservatism".

The fun and ferment will now continue through the next four Sundays up to 7 April when the administrative elections close and the country takes a breather before starting the campaign for elections to the *Costituente*. Next Sunday, 17 March, 1,090 communes will vote. The *Costituente* elections will be held 2 June, it was finally decided by the Council of Ministers on 12 March as they gave a final glance at the law on the powers of the *Costituente* and to the bill on the electoral code, which latter was signed by the *Luogotenente* the next day. In its review of the *Costituente* law, Article 7 was revised to omit the provision dismissing officials of the State and armed forces who did not respect the results of the referendum. Heavy penalties were to be provided instead.

### Costituente.

The *Costituente* bill had finally been passed 9 March by the *Consulta* at probably its last plenary session, 172 to 50, after a speech by Orlando, which, received by tumultuous applause, summed up recent Italian political history and called for constitutional decisions to be based on Latin law deriving from the social contract. Despite this latter remark, which some observers took as a crack at Marxism, both *Avanti* and *Italia Nuova* praised Orlando as the champion of their points of view. The *Consulta*, incidentally, will still function through its various commissions, that on foreign affairs, for example, hearing Prime Minister De Gasperi early in the week review the international situation.

The foreign scene was, as usual, a matter of absorbing interest to the Italian press, especially as concerned the movements of the Allied Investigating Commission in Venezia Giulia, which, about to depart for Fiume according to reports of 16 March, went about its business despite

333

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



demonstrations and counter-demonstrations, including a general strike (on 11 March) called after two civilians were killed in the course of an attempt by Venezia Giulia police to remove a Yugoslav flag from a church.

The Council of Ministers held a second meeting on the 15th, when it disposed of considerable accumulated business. Nenni asked De Gasperi to send a note to the Allied powers associating Italy with the *démarche* of Allied disapproval concerning the Franco regime in Spain, which De Gasperi said he felt could not be done juridically because of Italy's ambiguous Armistice status. Veterans, prisoners of war again, export trade, food as ever, were discussed, an amnesty decree for military crimes approved as also was a plan for public works in Rome, an allocation of 16 billion lire for the reconstruction of ports and six billion more for housing and, finally, a 100 per cent. increase in charges for telegraph and telephone services.

## ELECTION FOOTNOTE

As all A. C. officers know, the LOs in the field are required to observe the Italian elections with strict adherence to protocol. Further, they are not permitted to enter polling places. Reports from the field have not come in yet but indications by word of mouth are such as to agree with the press reports (as given in *Political* of this *Bulletin*). Major Ralph R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, made a tour of the North, where only two provinces were voting, while another of his officers, Capt. C. V. Vella (B) took a swing through Calabria.

Major Temple, an old hand at observing elections as an Assistant Attorney General in New York, has some interesting facts to report. Accompanied by Dr. Gaetano Mastrobuono, Inspector General of the Ministry of Interior for the elections, he visited the Como region and also took a trip *outside* Italy to watch the voting. This latter puzzling remark can be explained thus: The trip was to Campione d'Italia which is located 17 kilometers beyond the Italian frontier in the midst of Switzerland on Lake Lugano. Although Swiss currency is used and one has to go through the usual frontier formalities to get there, the place is indubitably Italian and as such voted. Of the 900 inhabitants, 582 cast a ballot. Three independent lists were offered, the winning one being that which favored autonomy for the commune. The town has a famed casino, part of whose gambling proceeds goes to Como Province.

The calm and the cheerful activity seemed homelike to the major, even some of the voting appeals to the electorate sounding familiar, for instance, that of the party which affirmed that a vote for it would bring more parcels from America. Voting was fast, the officials efficient and, best news, all the complicated electoral procedures, particularly early delivery of electoral certificates to the voters, had apparently been complied with. The ballots themselves were decorated with party symbols that ranged from a quarter moon to an alpine flower.

In the Commune of Palasco, 130 persons were eligible to vote and 120 turned out. Of the two lists presented, with a total of 21 candidates, all but three had the names of Busi or Manzoni, while two of the three exceptions were named Denti. It was clear that the families of Busi or Manzoni won the election in walk. The law forbids only relatives in the first degree to be members of the same communal council. One upset was witnessed by Major Temple. In Lierna (750 registered, 601 voting), officials almost announced prematurely that the Christian Democrats had won most of the seats. The final results: Socialists-Communists—12, Christian Democrats—3.

## POLES IN ITALY

A report concerning the Poles in Italy, about whom there has been a considerable ruckus in the press of late, came across our desk recently, which may interest our readers. A large portion of the Allied personnel, including both troops and civilians, at present on Italian soil now consists of Poles. Of these, the greatest part is, of course, made up of the 2nd Polish Corps under the command of Lieut. Gen. W. Anders, which still numbers well over 100,000 men, and who fought so magnificently in the war. The total number of Poles in Italy has, if anything, increased since the end of the campaign, since, although a small proportion has been repatriated, at the same time there has occurred an influx of persons liberated from POW camps in Germany and even persons who have left Poland itself.

From Polcorps about 14,000 soldiers had been repatriated up to the end of last year. The remainder have been unwilling, in the main, to return home, and the future of these troops, who are at present stationed along the Adriatic coast from Taranto up, is thus somewhat of a problem. The policy of the British Government

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



towards Poles who have left their country as a result of the war is, first, not to force anyone to return to Poland against his will and, second, to offer every encouragement and facility possible for those who wish to return.

Constituted on a British W/E, Polcorps' original cadre was formed as a result of the Sikorski-Stalin agreement in Russia in 1942, and drawn mainly from Polish prisoners of war taken by the Russians in the 1939 campaign. Under Gen. Anders, it was subsequently transferred to Iraq and there, and later in Palestine and Egypt, it was trained under British command and organized on the British scale. During this period, there was incorporated into Polcorps the Carpathian Brigade, which had fought in France in 1940 and later taken part in the Libyan campaign, where it distinguished itself in the defence of Tobruk.

**Move to Italy.**

In January, 1944, the Corps moved to Italy, and thereafter fought throughout the Italian campaign. Its first mission was the holding of a sector on the Sangro. In April, it was transferred to the Cassino front where it earned undying laurels by the capture of Monastery Hill and other important positions during the third and last attack on the Gustav and Hitler lines. After these actions the Corps was much weakened by casualties and withdrawn, but in June it was back in the line. In the following months it carried out a successful offensive up the Adriatic coast, which started in the region of Ortona, carried the important port of Ancona and eventually reached and penetrated the Gothic Line.

During this time it was found possible to reinforce the Corps from the number of Poles who had been forced to serve in the German Army and who had promptly deserted when they found themselves faced by their own countrymen on the Italian front. After some heavy fighting in the Appenines during the winter campaign of 1944-45, the Corps found itself in the following Spring holding a section of the 8th Army front on the Senio river. It was from here in April, 1945, on the left flank of the 8th Army, that its last attack was launched, Polish troops participating in the capture of Bologna.

Since the end of the war, apart from its garrison duties, the Corps has done considerable to organize its own welfare services. Both in sport and entertainment there has been no lack of Polish talent and an extensive scheme of education has also been developed. In addition to technical training carried out by units, the Corps staff, from its own resources, has created a number of primary and secondary schools manned by teachers with civilian qualifications, who teach to about 10 per cent. of the whole Corps. Recently, the Italian Ministry of Education opened Italian Universities to Polish military students, and about 1,200 of these have begun their studies in Rome, Bologna, Turin and other centers of learning.

**Civilians.**

Polish civilians in Italy are a much more difficult quantity to assess. The great majority are displaced persons, dependent more or less on relief, but one can only speak with accuracy about those actually accomodated in displaced persons camps. By the end of 1945, only some 1,300 had passed through the A. C. repatriation camp for Poles at Reggio Emilia and returned to Poland. On the other hand, there has been a steady trickle into Italy of Poles from Germany and from Poland itself, persons for most part who have arrived with little or no means. Jews from Poland present another problem, which it is not our business to discuss. As to non-Jewish Poles, some indication of numbers is provided by the fact that the population of the Polish Refugee Centers at Barletta and Trani has risen in the last few months from 4,000 to 6,400. One reason for this influx, apart from the Italian climate and the search for better conditions of life, is to be near relatives in the Polish Corps.

At the end of 1945 there were, conservatively speaking, approximately 11,000 non-Jewish civilian Poles in Italy. These can be divided into two groups: those accommodated in DP camps, and those living privately, mostly in towns. The first group is almost entirely concentrated at the Barletta and Trani camps. These are controlled and administered by the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, with the assistance of a Polish staff. In practice, the administration is largely delegated to representatives of the DPs themselves, who have been encouraged to develop their own system of self-government. Educational and other services have also been built up with the assistance of various charitable organisations. There is a high proportion in these camps of women and children. The second group of civilians mentioned above, living privately in the larger towns, is mainly dependent for relief on UNRRA.

Polish DPs also receive some assistance from the British Embassy. When the British Government ceased to recognise the London Polish Government-in-Exile in July, 1945, it decided to maintain under British control and on a reduced

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



scale the welfare services of that government for Polish civilians, until the transfer of those services and their assets to the new Government of Poland. These services still continue to function in Italy, and are controlled by the British Embassy, which last August set up a Polish Welfare Office staffed by former officials of the London Polish Government. Under this scheme, which principally benefits Poles living outside camps, it is possible to provide additional material relief and certain educational facilities.

## MR. HOPKINSON LEAVES US

At the latest meeting of the Vice Presidents and executives of the Allied Commission the other day, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, expressed his and the Commission's appreciation and regret when Mr. Henry L. d'A. Hopkinson, Minister at the British Embassy and Political Advisor (B) to the Chief Commissioner, announced his imminent departure from the theater, after a year and three quarters, to return to private life and enter the political stage in Britain.

Mr. Hopkinson (Eton and Cambridge) came to Italy in July, 1944 at the point when the Allied Commission was about to encounter its greatest problems. At that time he was Deputy British High Commissioner to Sir Noel Charles and served in forming the first link in the resumption of British diplomatic relations with Italy. On the departure of Mr. Harold Caccia for Greece, Mr. Hopkinson became a Vice President of, and British Political Advisor to, the Commission. We remember Mr. Hopkinson's advent rather well, as it happens, running into him at several meetings, particularly at the Allied Publications Board where, as a newcomer, he sat back quietly and (truth be told) sort of elegant, and took in the somewhat interminable deliberations on how much newsprint to give whom. That first picture of the career diplomat—suave, polite, with a flair for picking out the nub of a situation—remained with us.

### Highlights.

In Italy, Mr. Hopkinson, besides being consulted daily on the regular operations of the Commission in its dealings with the Italian Government, has several highlights to paste in his memory book. There was the long political crisis in December, 1944, at the formation of the second Bonomi Government. Then came preparation for the campaign for the North of Italy in which Mr. Hopkinson, it can now be told, played a great part in framing policy in connection with the organization and direction of the activities of the Partisans of Northern Italy and in keeping in tow the enthusiastic CLNAI, who were encouraged to maintain control as a stop-gap measure until the arrival of AMG. In the Northern campaign, Mr. Hopkinson was ubiquitous, serving as political advisor to Gen. Crittenberger of IV Corps. He was early in Milan and then sped to Turin (ahead of the troops, by the way) to consult with the Italian resistance leaders of the CLN and to prepare them to hand over their functions smoothly. Most recently, he has been keenly interested in bringing democratic ideas and information before the fact-starved Italian people, particularly concerning election and constitutional procedures of the Allied countries, through the medium of the British Council.

This diplomatic career, which is ending in Italy at 44 (a prime age to get into politics, incidentally), began in the British Foreign Office soon after Cambridge about twenty years ago. His first assignment was to Washington for five years. He thence progressed to Stockholm, back to the F.O. as assistant private secretary to Sir John Simon, the Foreign Secretary of the time, then to Cairo, where he spent four years and helped in the drafting of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty, and from there to Greece.

He was at home on leave from Greece when the war broke out. Mr. Hopkinson became the first secretary of the Anglo-French Military Committee, which was dissolved after the French collapse in 1940, but was a model of the later and enormously effective British-American Combined Chiefs of Staff. After a year as private secretary to Sir Alexander Cadogan, Permanent Undersecretary of the F.O., the travels commenced anew: Cairo again, as advisor, first to the Rt. Hon. Oliver Lyttleton, Minister of State for the Middle East, and next to his successor, Mr. Richard Casey, in which post, covering all Empire problems from Afghanistan to Tunis and from Turkey to Kenya, Mr. Hopkinson negotiated the Jibouti surrender of French Somaliland from Vichy to Free France and also helped in the surrender of part of the French fleet at Alexandria. He then moved to Lisbon, where, after keeping his ear tuned to the winds of international intrigue in that hotspot, he aided in the preliminary negotiations for the Italian armistice and helped acquire the Azores as Allied bases from Portugal. This brings us to where we came in.

Mr. Hopkinson is married to Mrs. Alice Eno Hopkinson of Princeton, N.J., U.S.A., whom he met when at Washington. They have one

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



child, Nicholas. Mr. Hopkinson thus started off his diplomatic career with Americans and ended it, again, as a partner with the Americans, a fact he is proud and happy to talk about. While he is taking his political soundings and beginning his party (Conservative) work, he will be found at Netherton Hall, near Colyton, Devon, England.

The *Bulletin*, too, must note Mr. Hopkinson's departure with regret, he long being one of PRB's closest contacts with the top policy-making echelon of the Commission, not to mention the grateful recollection we carry of his help and ever courteous cooperation in reviewing our weekly political column in this publication. For his aid and consideration, we personally and officially herewith express our Branch's thanks and wish him the best of luck in his projected sally into the hustings of politics.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly is back from the States and on duty as CLO in Livorno... New U. S. promotions: to Captain – Roy E. Barone, Harry Landsman, Charles J. Molfetto and Paul G. Weden; to First Lieutenant – Sheridan Crumlish... The I. G. at MTOUSA will make his annual inspection of 2675 Regiment on 5 April... Everybody will lose one hour of sleep tomorrow, 17 March, when daylight saving time, at the request of the Italian Government to save electricity, is re-instituted, at 2 a.m.... PRB this week, again at the Italian Government's request, arranged for a score of Allied and neutral journalists to travel to Trieste via Udine in an Italian plane to cover the activities of the Allied Investigating Commission... Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, also was in Trieste to give advice on financial problems on call... Ten officers and three EM have applied for permission to bring their dependents to Italy from the States; applicants have to sign up to stay in the army one to two years... The Regiment's T/O, as of 12 March, has been approved by MTOUSA at 16 colonels, 28 lieutenant colonels, 52 majors, 75 captains, 16 lieutenants and three warrant officers or 190 officers, and 260 EM broken down into eight master sergeants, 11 staff sergeants, 33 technical sergeants, 78 sergeants, 90 corporals and 40 privates first class and privates, a regimental strength of 450...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

93

1266

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

MAR 18 RECD

March 16, 1946

RESTRICTED

MAR 18 RECD

# ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 50

## POLITICAL

The Italian press chorus, in complete unanimity for once, hailed the March 10 administrative elections, the first free elections in more than two decades in Italy, as a great success. From all accounts, there was general order; a large turnout—estimated by *Popolo* as high as 80 per cent—with women showing up at the polls *en masse* to exercise their newly granted suffrage; and lastly, a singular and heartening absence of charges of fraud. The victories went mostly to the Christian Democrats and the Leftist bloc of Socialists, Communists and Action Party, who ran common lists. As of 15 March, the returns of 414 out of 431 communes announced to the press by the Ministry of Interior gave majorities as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Christian Democrats | 168 |
| Leftist bloc | 130 |
| Independents | 77 |
| Liberals | 17 |
| Labour Democrats | 11 |
| Republicans | 8 |
| Uomo Qualunque | 3 |

The elections were spread geographically throughout the country, though the vast majority were in the South and in Central Italy and mostly in small towns in the countryside. Results in provincial capitals under the proportional system, where 40 councillors were to be elected, for example, gave Socialists-Communists 27 seats in Arezzo, Christian Democrats 22 seats in Frosinone, while Enna reported a Republican majority and Grosseto a Communist one.

Most of the party papers read pleasing interpretations into the results: *Italia Nuova* said, "The Left has crowed too much. Christian Democrats and democratic parties lead in two thirds of the communes". *Unità* claimed victory in the important population centers where Communist strength is supposed to be concentrated. *Quotidiano* was of the opinion that the Left did not do so well as expected and that the extreme Right demonstrated its own weakness. *Momento* averred that these first electoral skirmishes were virtually meaningless because of personal factors but stressed the growing national responsibility of the Christian Democrats who, it cautioned, must avoid sliding into a position of "intolerant conservatism".

The fun and ferment will now continue through the next four Sundays up to 7 April when the administrative elections close and the country takes a breather before starting the campaign for elections to the *Costituente*. Next Sunday, 17 March, 1,090 communes will vote. The *Costituente* elections will be held 2 June, it was finally decided by the Council of Ministers on 12 March as they gave a final glance at the law on the powers of the *Costituente* and to the bill on the electoral code, which latter was signed by the *Luogotenente* the next day. In its review of the *Costituente* law, Article 7 was revised to omit the provision dismissing officials of the State and armed forces who did not respect the results of the referendum. Heavy penalties were to be provided instead.

### Costituente.

The *Costituente* bill had finally been passed 9 March by the *Consulta* at probably its last plenary session, 172 to 50, after a speech by Orlando, which, received by tumultuous applause, summed up recent Italian political history and called for constitutional decisions to be based on Latin law deriving from the social contract. Despite this latter remark, which some observers took as a crack at Marxism, both *Avanti* and *Italia Nuova* praised Orlando as the champion of their points of view. The *Consulta*, incidentally, will still function through its various commissions, that on foreign affairs, for example, hearing Prime Minister De Gasperi early in the week review the international situation.

The foreign scene was, as usual, a matter of absorbing interest to the Italian press, especially as concerned the movements of the Allied Investigating Commission in Venezia Giulia, which, about to depart for Fiume according to reports of 16 March, went about its business despite

33

Surplus
9275/CC

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



demonstrations and counter-demonstrations, including a general strike (on 11 March) called after two civilians were killed in the course of an attempt by Venezia Giulia police to remove a Yugoslav flag from a church.

The Council of Ministers held a second meeting on the 15th, when it disposed of considerable accumulated business. Nenni asked De Gasperi to send a note to the Allied powers associating Italy with the *démarche* of Allied disapproval concerning the Franco regime in Spain, which De Gasperi said he felt could not be done juridically because of Italy's ambiguous Armistice status. Veterans, prisoners of war again, export trade, food as ever, were discussed, an amnesty decree for military crimes approved as also was a plan for public works in Rome, an allocation of 16 billion lire for the reconstruction of ports and six billion more for housing and, finally, a 100 per cent. increase in charges for telegraph and telephone services.

## ELECTION FOOTNOTE

As all A. C. officers know, the LOs in the field are required to observe the Italian elections with strict adherence to protocol. Further, they are not permitted to enter polling places. Reports from the field have not come in yet but indications by word of mouth are such as to agree with the press reports (as given in *Political* of this *Bulletin*). Major Ralph R. Temple (A), director of the Local Government Sub-Commission, made a tour of the North, where only two provinces were voting, while another of his officers, Capt. C. V. Vella (B) took a swing through Calabria.

Major Temple, an old hand at observing elections as an Assistant Attorney General in New York, has some interesting facts to report. Accompanied by Dr. Gaetano Mastrolnono, Inspector General of the Ministry of Interior for the elections, he visited the Como region and also took a trip *outside* Italy to watch the voting. This latter puzzling remark can be explained thus: The trip was to Campione d'Italia which is located 17 kilometers beyond the Italian frontiers in the midst of Switzerland on Lake Lugano. Although Swiss currency is used and one has to go through the usual frontier formalities to get there, the place is indubitably Italian and as such voted. Of the 900 inhabitants, 582 cast a ballot. Three independent lists were offered, the winning one being that which favored autonomy for the commune. The town has a famed casino, part of whose gambling proceeds goes to Como Province.

The calm and the cheerful activity seemed homelike to the major, even some of the voting appeals to the electorate sounding familiar, for instance, that of the party which affirmed that a vote for it would bring more parcels from America. Voting was fast, the officials efficient and, best news, all the complicated electoral procedures, particularly early delivery of electoral certificates to the voters, had apparently been complied with. The ballots themselves were decorated with party symbols that ranged from a quarter moon to an alpine flower.

In the Commune of Palasco, 130 persons were eligible to vote and 120 turned out. Of the two lists presented, with a total of 21 candidates, all but three had the names of Busi or Manzoni, while two of the three exceptions were named Denti. It was clear that the families of Busi or Manzoni won the election in walk. The law forbids only relatives in the first degree to be members of the same communal council. One upset was witnessed by Major Temple. In Lierna (750 registered, 601 voting), officials almost announced prematurely that the Christian Democrats had won most of the seats. The final results: Socialists-Communists—12, Christian Democrats—5.

## POLES IN ITALY

A report concerning the Poles in Italy, about whom there has been a considerable ruckus in the press of late, came across our desk recently, which may interest our readers. A large portion of the Allied personnel, including both troops and civilians, at present on Italian soil now consists of Poles. Of these, the greatest part is, of course, made up of the 2nd Polish Corps under the command of Lieut. Gen. W. Anders, which still numbers well over 100,000 men, and who fought so magnificently in the war. The total number of Poles in Italy has, if anything, increased since the end of the campaign, since, although a small proportion has been repatriated, at the same time there has occurred an influx of persons liberated from POW camps in Germany and even persons who have left Poland itself.

From Polcorps about 14,000 soldiers had been repatriated up to the end of last year. The remainder have been unwilling, in the main, to return home, and the future of these troops, who are at present stationed along the Adriatic coast from Taranto up, is thus somewhat of a problem. The policy of the British Government

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



towards Poles who have left their country as a result of the war is, first, not to force anyone to return to Poland against his will and, second, to offer every encouragement and facility possible for those who wish to return.

Constituted on a British W/E, Polcorps' original cadre was formed as a result of the Sikorski-Stalin agreement in Russia in 1942, and drawn mainly from Polish prisoners of war taken by the Russians in the 1939 campaign. Under Gen. Anders, it was subsequently transferred to Iraq and there, and later in Palestine and Egypt, it was trained under British command and organized on the British scale. During this period, there was incorporated into Polcorps the Carpathian Brigade, which had fought in France in 1940 and later taken part in the Libyan campaign, where it distinguished itself in the defence of Tobruk.

**Move to Italy.**

In January, 1944, the Corps moved to Italy, and thereafter fought throughout the Italian campaign. Its first mission was the holding of a sector on the Sangro. In April, it was transferred to the Cassino front where it earned undying laurels by the capture of Monastery Hill and other important positions during the third and last attack on the Gustav and Hitler lines. After these actions the Corps was much weakened by casualties and withdrawn, but in June it was back in the line. In the following months it carried out a successful offensive up the Adriatic coast, which started in the region of Ortona, carried the important port of Ancona and eventually reached and penetrated the Gothic Line.

During this time it was found possible to reinforce the Corps from the number of Poles who had been forced to serve in the German Army and who had promptly deserted when they found themselves faced by their own countrymen on the Italian front. After some heavy fighting in the Appenines during the winter campaign of 1944-45, the Corps found itself in the following Spring holding a section of the 8th Army front on the Senio river. It was from here in April, 1945, on the left flank of the 8th Army, that its last attack was launched, Polish troops participating in the capture of Bologna.

Since the end of the war, apart from its garrison duties, the Corps has done considerable to organize its own welfare services. Both in sport and entertainment there has been no lack of Polish talent and an extensive scheme of education has also been developed. In addition to technical training carried out by units, the Corps staff, from its own resources, has created a number of primary and secondary schools manned by teachers with civilian qualifications, who teach to about 10 per cent. of the whole Corps. Recently, the Italian Ministry of Education opened Italian Universities to Polish military students, and about 1,200 of these have begun their studies in Rome, Bologna, Turin and other centers of learning.

**Civilians.**

Polish civilians in Italy are a much more difficult quantity to assess. The great majority are displaced persons, dependent more or less on relief, but one can only speak with accuracy about those actually accomodated in displaced persons camps. By the end of 1945, only some 1,300 had passed through the A. C. repatriation camp for Poles at Reggio Emilia and returned to Poland. On the other hand, there has been a steady trickle into Italy of Poles from Germany and from Poland itself, persons for most part who have arrived with little or no means. Jews from Poland present another problem, which it is not our business to discuss. As to non-Jewish Poles, some indication of numbers is provided by the fact that the population of the Polish Refugee Centers at Barletta and Trani has risen in the last few months from 4,000 to 6,400. One reason for this influx, apart from the Italian climate and the search for better conditions of life, is to be near relatives in the Polish Corps.

At the end of 1945 there were, conservatively speaking, approximately 11,000 non-Jewish civilian Poles in Italy. These can be divided into two groups: those accommodated in DP camps, and those living privately, mostly in towns. The first group is almost entirely concentrated at the Barletta and Trani camps. These are controlled and administered by the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, with the assistance of a Polish staff. In practice, the administration is largely delegated to representatives of the DPs themselves, who have been encouraged to develop their own system of self-government. Educational and other services have also been built up with the assistance of various charitable organisations. There is a high proportion in these camps of women and children. The second group of civilians mentioned above, living privately in the larger towns, is mainly dependent for relief on UNRRA.

Polish DPs also receive some assistance from the British Embassy. When the British Government ceased to recognise the London Polish Government-in-Exile in July, 1945, it decided to maintain under British control and on a reduced

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



scale the welfare services of that government for Polish civilians, until the transfer of those services and their assets to the new Government of Poland. These services still continue to function in Italy, and are controlled by the British Embassy, which last August set up a Polish Welfare Office staffed by former officials of the London Polish Government. Under this scheme, which principally benefits Poles living outside camps, it is possible to provide additional material relief and certain educational facilities.

## MR. HOPKINSON LEAVES US

At the latest meeting of the Vice Presidents and executives of the Allied Commission the other day, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, expressed his and the Commission's appreciation and regret when Mr. Henry L. d'A. Hopkinson, Minister at the British Embassy and Political Advisor (B) to the Chief Commissioner, announced his imminent departure from the theater, after a year and three quarters, to return to private life and enter the political stage in Britain.

Mr. Hopkinson (Eton and Cambridge) came to Italy in July, 1944 at the point when the Allied Commission was about to encounter its greatest problems. At that time he was Deputy British High Commissioner to Sir Noel Charles and served in forming the first link in the resumption of British diplomatic relations with Italy. On the departure of Mr. Harold Caccia for Greece, Mr. Hopkinson became a Vice President of, and British Political Advisor to, the Commission. We remember Mr. Hopkinson's advent rather well, as it happens, running into him at several meetings, particularly at the Allied Publications Board where, as a newcomer, he sat back quietly and (truth be told) sort of elegant, and took in the somewhat interminable deliberations on how much newsprint to give whom. That first picture of the career diplomat—suave, polite, with a flair for picking out the nub of a situation—remained with us.

### Highlights.

In Italy, Mr. Hopkinson, besides being consulted daily on the regular operations of the Commission in its dealings with the Italian Government, has several highlights to paste in his memory book. There was the long political crisis in December, 1944, at the formation of the second Bonomi Government. Then came preparation for the campaign for the North of Italy in which Mr. Hopkinson, it can now be told, played a great part in framing policy in connection with the organization and direction of the activities of the Partisans of Northern Italy and in keeping in tow the enthusiastic CLNAI, who were encouraged to maintain control as a stop-gap measure until the arrival of AMG. In the Northern campaign, Mr. Hopkinson was ubiquitous, serving as political advisor to Gen. Crittenberger of IV Corps. He was early in Milan and then sped to Turin (ahead of the troops, by the way) to consult with the Italian resistance leaders of the CLN and to prepare them to hand over their functions smoothly. Most recently, he has been keenly interested in bringing democratic ideas and information before the fact-starved Italian people, particularly concerning election and constitutional procedures of the Allied countries, through the medium of the British Council.

This diplomatic career, which is ending in Italy at 44 (a prime age to get into politics, incidentally), began in the British Foreign Office soon after Cambridge about twenty years ago. His first assignment was to Washington for five years. He thence progressed to Stockholm, back to the F. O. as assistant private secretary to Sir John Simon, the Foreign Secretary of the time, then to Cairo, where he spent four years and helped in the drafting of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty, and from there to Greece.

He was at home on leave from Greece when the war broke out. Mr. Hopkinson became the first secretary of the Anglo-French Military Committee, which was dissolved after the French collapse in 1940, but was a model of the later and enormously effective British-American Combined Chiefs of Staff. After a year as private secretary to Sir Alexander Cadogan, Permanent Undersecretary of the F. O., the travels commenced anew: Cairo again, as advisor, first to the Rt. Hon. Oliver Lyttleton, Minister of State for the Middle East, and next to his successor, Mr. Richard Casey, in which post, covering all Empire problems from Afghanistan to Tunis and from Turkey to Kenya, Mr. Hopkinson negotiated the Jibouti surrender of French Somaliland from Vichy to Free France and also helped in the surrender of part of the French fleet at Alexandria. He then moved to Lisbon, where, after keeping his ear tuned to the winds of international intrigue in that hotspot, he aided in the preliminary negotiations for the Italian armistice and helped acquire the Azores as Allied bases from Portugal. This brings us to where we came in.

Mr. Hopkinson is married to Mrs. Alice Emo Hopkinson of Princeton, N. J., U. S. A., whom he met when at Washington. They have one

1270

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



child, Nicholas. Mr. Hopkinson thus started off his diplomatic career with Americans and ended it, again, as a partner with the Americans, a fact he is proud and happy to talk about. While he is taking his political soundings and beginning his party (Conservative) work, he will be found at Netherton Hall, near Colyton, Devon, England.

The *Bulletin*, too, must note Mr. Hopkinson's departure with regret, he long being one of PRB's closest contacts with the top policy-making echelon of the Commission, not to mention the grateful recollection we carry of his help and ever courteous cooperation in reviewing our weekly political column in this publication. For his aid and consideration, we personally and officially herewith express our Branch's thanks and wish him the best of luck in his projected sally into the hustings of politics.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Lieut. Col. Harold V. Reilly is back from the States and on duty as CLO in Livorno... New U. S. promotions: to Captain – Roy E. Barone, Harry Landsman, Charles J. Molfetto and Paul G. Weden; to First Lieutenant – Sheridan Crumlish... The I. G. at MTOUSA will make his annual inspection of 2675 Regiment on 5 April... Everybody will lose one hour of sleep tomorrow, 17 March, when daylight saving time, at the request of the Italian Government to save electricity, is re-instituted, at 2 a.m.... PRB this week, again at the Italian Government's request, arranged for a score of Allied and neutral journalists to travel to Trieste via Udine in an Italian plane to cover the activities of the Allied Investigating Commission... Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section, also was in Trieste to give advice on financial problems on call... Ten officers and three EM have applied for permission to bring their dependents to Italy from the States; applicants have to sign up to stay in the army one to two years... The Regiment's T/O, as of 12 March, has been approved by MTOUSA at 16 colonels, 28 lieutenant colonels, 52 majors, 75 captains, 16 lieutenants and three warrant officers or 190 officers, and 260 EM broken down into eight master sergeants, 11 staff sergeants, 33 technical sergeants, 78 sergeants, 90 corporals and 40 privates first class and privates, a regimental strength of 450...



832

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

March 9, 1946

RESTRICTED

# ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 49

## POLITICAL

Italian political lines in the past week began openly to melt, shift and newly coalesce as party leaders experimented with tentative battle formations for the coming elections. With the gist of the decisions on the bills on the electoral code and powers of the *Costituente* virtually decided, the hearings in the *Consulta* on the latter (which started 7 March) were a sounding board, as it were, where the various leaders reiterated their beliefs to the nation at large. In the intervals of political argument popped up again more news of the other major question facing Italy: that of her international status, which was heightened by the arrival, at long last, of the Allied Investigating Commission at Trieste and by reports from London that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi might soon be invited to present Italy's case in person before the Deputies of the Big Four's Foreign Ministers drafting the Italian peace treaty or an interim *modus vivendi*.

The *Consulta* sessions on the *Costituente* law were opened by Nenni, as Minister for the *Costituente*, who pointed out the historic character of the imminent national assembly, the first truly such in Italian history. Nitti followed Nenni, taking occasion to get a comprehensive list of complaints off his chest, including apprehension about public order at the elections, Italy's foreign status, the sweep of epuration. He predicted that the *Costituente* would "inevitably" consist of only three major parties—the Christian Democrats, the Communists and the *Uomo Qualunque*, which latter, he said, united all the malcontents. He proposed setting up a panel of high-ranking magistrates to control the results of the referendum. La Malfa, one of the dissident Action Party leaders who joined Parri in a new movement, also spoke, asserting that the six-party rule of the CLN had now concluded its political phase, and praising De Gasperi as the man who could guarantee the democratic development of the present critical situation and Togliatti for the breadth of view and "political genius" of his speeches. Hearings continued through the 8th and 9th, with the draft bill to be returned to the Council of Ministers on Monday, the 11th.

### Line-ups.

De Gasperi himself during the week had addressed the Consulta sub-commission which first went over the draft. At that time he called for a declaration by all parties on the institutional question. The Rome press speculated freely on possible attitudes, *Giornale del Mattino* summing up the status quo of the moment as follows: Socialists, Communists and Action Party for the republic; Liberals, Labour Democrats and Christian Democrats not yet on record, though the first two were believed to be leaning toward monarchy while the latter seemed more republican. Indeed, reports in *Italia Nuova* of a Christian Democrat meeting in Milan had the party there in a peculiar situation, perhaps typical of its party-wide dilemma. The newspaper said that of 10,000 Christian Democrats at the meeting, 7,000 abstained from voting and that of the 3,000 who voted, 79 per cent. were for a republic; *Unità* similarly analysed a Genoa provincial congress of the De Gasperi party and asserted 91 per cent. were for a republic.

The general political reshuffling occasioned a comprehensive review of the party line-ups also in *Momento* which stated that the Christian Democrats would enter the elections without allies. The Communists, it went on, would do so also if their proposed merger with the Socialists—for a union of the two parties in the elections, with an equal number of seats—fell through. The Monarchist forces, it was said, were grouping around the *Uomo Qualunque* Front, with prospect of another adhesion, that of the Demo-Liberal Concentration of Bergamini. A Liberal bloc also seemed in the offing—a juncture of Liberals, Labour Democrats and others—which would unite all the older statesmen such as Orlando, Nitti, Bonomi, Croce and De Nicola. Where Count Sforza came in was uncertain. In effect, then, the paper concluded, there would be five blocs—

331

Surplus
9275/cc

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



*qualunquista*-monarchist on the extreme right, Christian Democrats, the Liberal aggregation, the Republican alliance of Pacciardi, Lussu and Parri and the Socialist-Communist group.

**Ferment.**

Local political unions made news through the week as the big guns of the parties planned trips to the sticks to speak up for their adherents. (For example, Nenni spoke at Rieti and Pescara last week.) The U. Q. Front began an apparent campaign to woo all dissidents into its ranks, publishing an appeal to members of other parties to join their ranks. At Syracuse in Sicily, the *qualunquisti* and Liberals decided on a common list for the administrative elections while at Cerignola, a bloc of Christian Democrats, Liberals, Labour-Democrats and *qualunquisti* withdrew its common list because of alleged acts of violence laid to Communists. Rumors and alarums of disorder, present and anticipated, filled the party papers of the right, an incident at Badolato, where hand grenades were supposedly used, causing editorial unease. National convocations of the political organizations were scheduled: Liberals on 1 April, Christian Democrats on 12 April, Action Party later yet in April.

De Gasperi held one of his few press conferences with foreign journalists in recent weeks and told them, notably, that he would not sign a peace treaty which ceded Trieste to Yugoslavia. He said he hoped the Allied Investigating Commission would range over the entire disputed territory and also investigate the deportations of Italians to Yugoslavia. On the Alto Adige, he said Italian policy was based on defense of the Brenner frontier and cession of the widest autonomy to the German-speaking population.

In other governmental business of the week, the *Consulta* heard several ministers report on technical matters—industry, shipping, insurance and repatriation of prisoners (in which keen interest has been re-awakened in regard to having them vote in the elections). The Government has again asked the Allies to repatriate the POWs as soon as possible. The Council of Ministers also approved a law on the compulsory employment of an increased number of veterans in public administration.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section, in whose once capacious folds more than 300 officers once worked, has been reorganized completely with 50 British and American officers, 24 EM/OR and 12 officers in the field. By this week-end, most of the Allied civilian personnel going to UNRRA will have physically moved into their new offices, changing billets and messes at the same time. The new line-up then is as follows.

Acting Vice President—Col. Charles W. Walton (A); Deputy Vice President—Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A); Chief Staff Officer—Major Norman R. Smith (A); and the following branches and directors (all other units having been abolished, including the Labor Sub-Commission)—Industry and Utilities Branch, Col. H. M. Waller (A); Transportation and Shipping Branch, Lieut. Col. W. P. Scoggins (A); Food and Agriculture Branch, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B); Captured Enemy Materials Branch, Lieut. Col. J. A. Campbell (B); Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, Capt. A. G. Lapthorne (B); Venezia Giulia and Udine Supply Operations Branch, Lieut. J. M. Arensberg (A), and Finance Branch, Col. Timmons, who is also Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner.

Thus, the two-hat period of integrated A. C.-UNRRA supply operations which began some two months ago comes to an end. The reorganized Section will observe economic conditions in Italy, maintain economic liaison with the Italian Government and UNRRA; handle AMG supply matters; clean up miscellaneous correspondence, particularly that dealing with derequisitioning, clear trade items on the reserved commodity list; continue cooperation on power rehabilitation and distribution; rearrange the Section's voluminous files for most efficient use by the successor supply agencies and A. C. until they are turned over to archives, and discharge sundry financial functions. One aim also will be to turn over as much business as possible to suitable successor agencies.

Dribbles of economic news also have come in from various sources. At Merano in Bolzano 475 tons of sugar were found in jam factories. The business is being looked into. Italian charges that lumber in large quantities was being exported abroad turned out, as usual, baseless. The facts are that 2,000 tons a month have been sent to Greece purely for British military use, a program which ends this month. The rest of the cuttings were shipped regularly to other parts of Italy. The Air Forces Sub-Commission has practically completed arrangements to have food supplies from Sardinia flown thrice weekly to the mainland by Italian military aircraft. The food will amount to about 3,000 kilos of fish, meat, butter and cheese each trip. Two or three planes will be used at a time with the hope of eventually making daily flights and bringing Rome cooperatives, canteens

1273

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



and soup kitchens about 20,000 kilos of food a week. A similar run to fly fish is planned from Treviso to Milan.

## VENEZIA GIULIA

Now that international interest, with the arrival of the Allied Investigating Commission, has again swung towards the problems of Venezia Giulia, or as the Yugoslavs prefer to call it, the Julian March, it will be of interest to look over some of the accomplishments of AMG in that hot spot. We will skip over the tangled diplomatic history of the days before AMG took over, on the 12-13 June 1945, the civil administration of Venezia Giulia. On 9 June agreement had been reached between the Allied and Yugoslav authorities and as a result Venezia Giulia was divided into two zones, one to be occupied by British and American forces and the other by Yugoslav troops. The Allied Military Government in the zone occupied by the Anglo-Americans was to consist of only Anglo-American personnel but 2,000 Yugoslav troops were to remain in this area under command of the Supreme Allied Commander.

As AMG took over, series of proclamations and orders were immediately issued, dealing with property control, establishment of courts, dissolution of Fascist organisations and the repeal of Fascist laws, taxes and anti-Jewish legislation. Ordinances on labor, food distribution, epuration, housing, curfew and so on were also promulgated.

In early August difficulties made themselves felt. It was decided by AMG that the administrative bodies left behind by the Yugoslavs were not representative or satisfactory. Under General Order 11, local government was established under the control of AMG. The order provided for the division of the Anglo-American zone into Areas and each Area was asked to nominate an Area President who would be responsible to AMG. The Slovenes reacted immediately and would not play. A long and intensive game of political tennis ensued during which the Slovenes used their press, strikes, meetings and demonstrations to gain their points over AMG.

### Italians.

In any event, during this period the Italian movement began to recover courage and even strength, as the AMG administration demonstrated its impartiality. The Italians held their first large demonstration on November 3rd, the holiday of San Giusto, which was very successful. On the following day the Yugoslavs held their own demonstration, which was also of considerable size, but lacking in the qualities of gaiety which the Italians displayed. It is of note that these demonstrations saw the first real public appearance of the Venezia Giulia Police Force and the success with which they handled numerous difficult situations gained them much prestige in the city.

Amidst alternating brickbats and bouquets, AMG settled down to its difficult task of ruling the zone and carrying out its functions as a caretaker government. That it has not been without success is adequately demonstrated by the facts and the present conditions. Although there is tenseness in the zone, there has been little trouble and practically no violence. Both sides have settled in and today the main political forces in the zone are represented, on the one side by the Slovene dominated *Unione Antifascista Italo-Slovena*, and the *Sindicati Unici*, which is the Communist pro-Slovene trades union organisation, and on the other side by the Italian CLN and the *Sindicati Giuliani*, the Italian trades union organisation. In other words, politically the situation, although not happy, is fairly healthy with both sides in the open and reasonably vital.

Now the record, which has been made under direction for the most part of Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), SCAO to the CG, 13 Corps, Lieut. General Sir John Harding:

### Legal.

The Legal Division has had almost overwhelming difficulties. The first problem that faced it was that caused by the fact that all legislation enacted after September 3, 1943 was invalid. Further, proclamations, general orders, or orders of any kind which had been used in Italy, could not be used in Venezia Giulia without radical alteration. The Legal Division, therefore, had to set itself the task of providing new legislation for the territory, practically from scratch, and of creating the legal basis of a new military government.

By January 1946 seven proclamations had been drawn up, 11 general orders, 65 orders, 23 administrative orders, and many minor notices and appointments of officials had been published. Up to date, approximately 60 important financial economic regulations have been asked for by the Finance Division alone. The Legal Division also advises the Port Control Committee and all Divisions of Allied Military Government on legal matters.

Military and civil courts and tribunals were set up in Trieste, Gorizia and Pola under the di-

830

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



vision's supervision. During the months of October, November and December last year, 861 cases were dealt with by AMG summary courts, including charges of being in possession of arms (not many) and of offenses against property and persons. Superior and general courts, dealing with more serious offenses, were also established. Epuration Commissions dealing with the suspension of leading Fascists and a Special Court of Assizes trying Fascist criminals were established.

### Food.

Since the zone was taken over by AMG, foodstuffs according to the ration scale of the Allied Commission have arrived in the area continuously. Strict rationing and distribution at controlled prices have insured a fair distribution. From June to December 1945, AMG imported from Allied sources approximately 40,000 tons of food. During the same period AMG's Food Division obtained from local sources a further 6,000 tons.

The possibility of increasing the productivity of the area was not examined. One hundred and sixty horses were distributed to farmers in the Trieste area and 154 horses and mules to farmers in the Gorizia area. Another hundred horses will arrive shortly, thus making a total of over 400 working animals supplied.

Land reclamation has been carried out in the Grado-Monfalcone area by the Public Works Division and, as a result, 1,000 hectares of new land will be available for spring planting. Young pedigree bulls from Italy and Austria will be imported and, in order that local milk production should be increased, arrangements have been made to obtain high milk producing cows from Emilia.

### Housing.

The question of providing housing and shelter in what is, in many parts, a war devastated area, has been attacked. A survey covering the whole area was made in order to obtain the maximum use of all accommodation available. A scheme was produced to rebuild the "Distressed Villages", many of which had been burned down by Germans as reprisals for partisan activity. Work has been approved and is going ahead on 4,367 units. (A unit represents the rooms occupied by one family.) This figure does not include rebuilding of "distressed villages" and at present reconstruction is in progress in the four distressed villages of Menna, Rubbia, Sago and Stanovische.

### Labor and Industry.

The most important task of AMG was finding employment for the population. To do so meant, first, a close examination of the economic possibilities of the region and, second, an attempt at rehabilitation of entire industries in many cases.

Many industries have now been reactivated, with resultant jobs for many workers. A survey of factories showed that the majority were on the verge of bankruptcy and as a result of war damage, bombardment, the world shortage of raw materials and the necessity for paying unemployment compensation to thousands of unproductive workers, the problems faced were sizeable indeed.

AMG tackled the problem by first removing the drain on industry and permitting the dismissal of non-productive workers. A new unemployment benefit scheme called the *disoccupazione del dopoguerra* was introduced for the period from September to December, 1945, to compensate those dismissed. A large salvage program was instituted and in this way raw materials were obtained and real employment increased.

The next step taken by AMG was to change the type of work done by certain factories and at the same time to change the type of work done by many employes. Many jobs were made as a result of an order making industries employ their labor on public works, such as land reclamation, filling in of tank ditches, stump pulling and the like.

Soon, as coal and raw materials started to arrive and as public confidence increased, shipbuilding recommenced and contracts were placed by Allied and Italian authorities and by private companies. Coke from the gas works enabled the foundries to start work and further factories were able to commence a limited production. For example, as a result of raw cotton being obtained from the States and Sicily, the Gorizia cotton mills during December turned out 330,000 yards of finished cotton, increasing the output in January to 459,377 yards.

The port of Trieste itself was soon working to the maximum outgoing capacity of the railways, unloading military and UNRRA supplies. In fact, the port now handles its pre-war tonnage of 6,000 tons a day and will shortly be able to handle 8,000 tons daily. During this time, the Labor Division has initiated insurance schemes and played a large part in reconciling workers and employers, while studies of the cost of living and working conditions has assisted the SCAO in keeping a close watch on the problems of labor.

1275

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



### Displaced Persons.

As elsewhere, the same problems, in terms of refugees and displaced persons, were in existence in Venezia Giulia at the end of the war. Prisoners of war, civilian internees and thousands of slave laborers who had been taken to Germany streamed back to their homes. In addition to the Giuliani who returned, there were also many thousands of Yugoslavs. Trieste became a clearing house for all these homeless victims of the Germans. Two refugee centers were set up in the city in June and until recently these two places handled all movement to and from the Balkans and Italy. In all, a total of 46,000 civilians and POWs have passed through the centers and have been returned to their homes.

There being no civil postal facilities from this territory to Germany and Austria, a Prisoner of War Message Service has been created and operated from AMG Headquarters. Liaison is also maintained with the various Red Cross Organisations in Europe and also with the Central Tracing Bureau for Germany. This last deals mainly with concentration camp deaths.

Considerable sums of money have been paid out to various Allied Nationals in distress as a result of the war. This is being now done on behalf of UNRRA which does not operate in the territory. Attempts have also been made by the Division to trace the relatives of local Italians deported into Yugoslavia.

### Welfare.

The main job of AMG's Welfare Division has been to see that the main State and parastatal social and welfare organisations have sufficient funds to carry out their functions. Many organisations have been reorganised and put on a sound basis, while help and advice is given to private associations engaging in charitable work.

The Public Assistance Department of Trieste Commune, together with various charitable institutions throughout the city, takes care of hundreds of aged and sick persons. War orphans are looked after by the *Opera Orfani di Guerra* and wounded and crippled war veterans can receive advice and help when they are in need.

The Welfare Division further acts as an agent of sorts for people who wish to move household goods from Yugoslavia to Italy or vice versa. Old age pensions and similar subsidies have been increased throughout Venezia Giulia. Thousands of free meals are given away every day in the communal soup kitchens. Recently it distributed 20,000 blankets. Attached to the Welfare Division until recently was a team of American Red Cross workers. Their record included the distribution of 100,000 articles of clothing, footwear and medical supplies such as vitamins. The Italian and Slovene Red Cross organisations also work in the territory, each dealing with their own compatriots.

### Public Health.

The Public Health Division was likewise faced with a major problem at the start. Orders were given and enforced that no poor person was to be refused admittance into hospitals in Zone "A" and this ruling included those people living in Zone "B" who would normally have received treatment in AMG territory. Financial assistance was given to hospitals and a special board was set up to deal with medical supplies, which were received monthly and distributed to hospitals free. There were happily few problems in terms of infectious disease. The water supply was carefully examined and sewage systems repaired, where necessary, by the military. Port sanitary services were established. Problems dealt with by the Division included the licensing of motor vehicles for medical services and an anti-rat campaign. Medical services for refugees were provided, prison conditions improved and maternity and child welfare services strengthened.

### Education.

There was little or no education system in being when AMG took over. The pro-Yugoslav Liberation Councils were attempting to set up schools in the Slovene and Croat languages and were aiming at complete school autonomy. In existence were only Italian schools, although under Austrian rule there had been Slovene elementary schools in many rural districts and one Slovene high school at Gorizia. The Liberation Councils now wanted their schools again and wanted them under their own control.

The Education Division recognised the justice of the demand for Slovene and Croat schools and immediately started to establish them. As many as 105 Slovene elementary schools and eight Croat schools have to date been opened in AMG territory. It was not possible, however, to allow the Liberation Councils to control the curriculum and choice of text books, although their views were always taken into consideration. AMG policy had decided that in administering a disputed territory it could not do so impartially if propaganda, of one side or the other, was permitted in the schools. All text books were carefully examined by the Division and anything calculated

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



to inculcate nationalist feeling, Italian or Yugoslav, was withdrawn or eliminated. The appointment of teachers also caused differences of opinion between the Division and the Liberation Councils. AMG, being more concerned with the scholastic qualifications of teacher candidates, found it necessary to reject many of the nominations put forward by the Councils. The Education Division thus came under attack by the pro-Yugoslav press, a storm which AMG, of course, weathered.

Among the other tasks tackled by the Division was the confiscation of Fascist text books in all schools and libraries. Qualified teachers and professors were appointed to special commissions to draw up new educational programs for Italian and Slavic schools and completed in two months, a job which normally would have taken a complete academic year. Competent professors in the area were employed as school superintendents and inspectors and professional assistants were employed in the Education Division to handle all routine administrative work. Three new Slovene secondary schools were established in Trieste and three in Gorizia. Altogether there are now 120 Slovene schools.

School finances had to be reconstituted as well as repair and re-equipping of schools taken in hand. The Division obtained fuel to heat all the schools and a school lunch project received funds to provide lunches for 60,000 children each month. A congress of teachers from the entire region will be held shortly at which all the educational problems of Venezia Giulia will be discussed.

### Police.

One of AMG's biggest problems on taking over was the fact that in an area in which it could be expected that anything might happen (although in the main it did not happen) there was no police force that compelled general recognition. The only police organisation was the Yugoslav para-military force known as the *Difesa Popolare*. It was decided by AMG that a completely new force responsible directly to AMG was necessary, so it was agreed to disband the *Difesa Popolare*. A new police force was recruited and the methods and training were based on the British and American police systems.

Today, the force consists of 2,482 officers and men and has been recruited from local sources and drawn from all sections of the community—Slovene, Croat and Italian. Every candidate is vetted closely in order to determine whether he has a Fascist background. He is then checked on Tribunal records to find out if he has a criminal past and finally, if he passes through this screen, he is called before a selection Board composed of Allied officers and Venezia Giulia Police officers. The successful candidate then enters a training school for a two week's course. The subjects studied include police law and procedure, foot drill and physical training.

Having passed the course, he is enrolled in the uniform division as a guard and is sent to one or other of the zones. After a period of practical experience and duty he then returns to the schools for a longer and more intensive course. Specialist courses at the school include criminal investigation and radio operating. The British Police Disciplinary Code, modified in certain cases to meet local conditions, has been adopted. The conduct of the force has been good and there have been very few serious breaches of the Code.

Since the Police Force began functioning there has been a decided lessening of crime and a definite return to law and order. In the early days, the "popular" police patrols were composed of at least six men, all fully armed with tommy guns and hand grenades. Now the strength of a Venezia Giulia Police patrol never exceeds two men and in certain districts, such as Trieste city, Gorizia and Monfalcone, uniform patrols during daylight hours have been disarmed.

### Last Add.

As we go to press, our PRO colleagues at Trieste inform us that the energetic propaganda preparations by both Italians and Slovenes greeted the Allied Investigating Commission on its arrival 7 March, with the efforts of the latter being the more elaborate. Tito supporters have been busy with brush and flags while every village in the predominantly pro-Tito hinterland has its triumphal arch of welcome to the Commission. The arches are adorned with portraits of the Yugoslav Marshal. The AMG policy on arches, posters and wall signs, as announced by Col. H. P. P. Robertson (B), acting SCAO, is that writing on walls is not permitted on public buildings, on premises occupied by Allied troops or on private houses where the permission of the owner has not been obtained. Arches have been removed only if they constitute a traffic hazard. The Russian and British delegates are staying at the British transit hotel while the French and Americans are billeted in the U. S. leave hotel. The main body of Russian representatives is now en route via Ljubljana. The chief delegates

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



are Jean Phillippe Wolfram, French; M. Gerschenko, Russian; C. H. M. Waldock, British, and Philip Mosely, American.

## A TALE OF BUMPF

To most of us who have struggled through the recent years with inexperienced civilian clerks, usually willing and hard working but as usually agile only in their peculiar Italian English, filing and the like have been ever-present nuisances. But today the nuisances are coming home to roost with a vengeance on the heads of Major N. M. Harrisson (B) and his gallant Anglo-American-Italian staff, for the Major is at present involved in the gigantic task of filing (in a very big way) the entire archives and records of the Allied Commission and AMG.

In the bowels of the *Corporazioni* on Via Veneto, surrounded by the symbols of his terrifying task, sits Major Harrisson, with his staff, Captains Rowlands and Cummings, British, and Lieutenants Taylor and Weeden, American. The main working room itself is frighteningly efficient and walled completely by hundreds of little green steel boxes. In this and two other rooms are files or original papers of the approximately 8,000,000 documents and their approximately 200,000 files, said to be half of all the Allied files in the MTO.

Included in these documents is, for those who will want it, the detailed story of the Allied Commission and AMG in Italy. It is the task of the Archives Branch to arrange these files and documents in such a manner as to ease the work of future historians who will write the story of Military Government in Italy. That the records are of keen interest to professional archivists is attested by the Keeper of the Public Records of England who has visited Italy three times to see about them while a representative of the U. S. Library of Congress also has paid a visit.

The general plan of the scheme is to insure that a complete record, easily handled, of the campaign and work of the Allied Commission is made available. Every one of the 8,000,000 documents is being examined and refiled. Most of the relevant documents will be photographed and copies sent to those Governments and organisations directly interested while all documents are being recorded, checked and prepared for storing. This work, it is estimated, should take 30 employes several years to complete. Documents are stored, catalogued and cleaned for micro-filming.

After the filming of necessary documents they are replaced in their respective files, card indexed for cross reference and the record arranged by functions. There are over thirty A. C. functions listed. Since half of the records received are from regions which it is not proposed to disturb, the story of any activity in a sub-commission can be found and the relevant files extracted by consulting the card index.

The importance of the work for history is equalled only by its magnitude, and the hive of energy that is the Archives Branch today makes us hang our head in shame as we recall the filing system we ourselves kept in the field—a filing system conditioned by circumstances in which we were our own director, mentor, driver, mechanic, batman and last and worst, in view of the chaos which will undoubtedly result when one certain set of archives are discovered, our own clerk and typist. To Major Harrisson and his colleagues, our admiration and deepest apologies.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. R. C. Ross (A) succeeds Col. W. R. Jordan (redeployed to the States) as CLO in Piemonte... U. S. officers will be redeployed on schedule according to the time limits stated in their Category IV certificates, which may now no longer be extended, except to Categories I (indefinite) and II (June, 1947)... A score of EM promotions have been announced plus one of an officer—Harry Galkin to Captain... The T/O of 2675 Regiment, which was 500 officers and men, has been cut to 450, as of 1 March, with further cuts of 50 bodies a month every month, until 1 July; the MTOUSA ruling is being protested on the grounds that A. C. functions would have to be dropped in order to comply... Duty officers at A. C. Hq. during off hours will henceforth consist of one each in the offices of the Adjutant, Economic Section and Chief Commissioner... American officers will be happy to know that U. S. Army peace-time rules of property accountability have now come into force... A special Italian military courier plane between Rome and London and Paris for official business has been approved, to be used as need arises... At a ceremony in Rome attended by Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general, MTOUSA, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, presented the Legion of Merit to the two leading British officers of the Commission—Major General L. Browning (degree of Commander) and Brigadier M. Carr (degree of Officer); Col. C. B. Findlay (B) also has

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



been awarded the latter decoration but is away in Germany; Gen. Lee himself presented the same medal to Brigadier Alban Low of R.A.A.C... Other awards include: *Order of the Knights of Malta* — Flag Lieut. Edward Behn; *Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* — Lieut. Joseph A. Cicala (Knight); *Order of the Crown of Italy* — Col. Hannibal M. Fiore (Grand Officer), Col. J. W. Chapman and Capt. H. St. J. Butler (Commander); Lieut. Col. James R. Regis and Capt. Anthony Ciliberti (Knight Officer), and Captains Carl Banno and L. Ciros (Knight)... With 5,311 Italian communes slated to hold administrative elections, as of the latest reports, beginning 10 March (when 432 communes will vote), the Local Government Sub-Commission is busy preparing to observe the proceedings, Maj. R. R. Temple (A), the director, inspecting the North, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) is looking at Calabria this week; all A. C. LOs have also received a directive instructing them to keep a discreet eye on what goes...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

RESTRICTED

March 9, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 49

## POLITICAL

Italian political lines in the past week began openly to melt, shift and newly coalesce as party leaders experimented with tentative battle formations for the coming elections. With the gist of the decisions on the bills on the electoral code and powers of the *Costituente* virtually decided, the hearings in the *Consulta* on the latter (which started 7 March) were a sounding board, as it were, where the various leaders reiterated their beliefs to the nation at large. In the intervals of political argument popped up again more news of the other major question facing Italy: that of her international status, which was heightened by the arrival, at long last, of the Allied Investigating Commission at Trieste and by reports from London that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi might soon be invited to present Italy's case in person before the Deputies of the Big Four's Foreign Ministers drafting the Italian peace treaty or an interim *modus vivendi*.

The *Consulta* sessions on the *Costituente* law were opened by Nenni, as Minister for the *Costituente*, who pointed out the historic character of the imminent national assembly, the first truly such in Italian history. Nitti followed Nenni, taking occasion to get a comprehensive list of complaints off his chest, including apprehension about public order at the elections, Italy's foreign status, the sweep of epuration. He predicted that the *Costituente* would "inevitably" consist of only three major parties—the Christian Democrats, the Communists and the *Uomo Qualunque*, which latter, he said, united all the malcontents. He proposed setting up a panel of high-ranking magistrates to control the results of the referendum. La Malfa, one of the dissident Action Party leaders who joined Parri in a new movement, also spoke, asserting that the six-party rule of the CLN had now concluded its political phase, and praising De Gasperi as the man who could guarantee the democratic development of the present critical situation and Togliatti for the breadth of view and "political genius" of his speeches. Hearings continued through the 8th and 9th, with the draft bill to be returned to the Council of Ministers on Monday, the 11th.

### Line-ups.

De Gasperi himself during the week had addressed the Consulta sub-commission which first went over the draft. At that time he called for a declaration by all parties on the institutional question. The Rome press speculated freely on possible attitudes, *Giornale del Mattino* summing up the status quo of the moment as follows: Socialists, Communists and Action Party for the republic; Liberals, Labour Democrats and Christian Democrats not yet on record, though the first two were believed to be leaning toward monarchy while the latter seemed more republican. Indeed, reports in *Italia Nuova* of a Christian Democrat meeting in Milan had the party there in a peculiar situation, perhaps typical of its party-wide dilemma. The newspaper said that of 10,000 Christian Democrats at the meeting, 7,000 abstained from voting and that of the 3,000 who voted, 79 per cent. were for a republic; *Unità* similarly analysed a Genoa provincial congress of the De Gasperi party and asserted 91 per cent. were for a republic.

The general political reshuffling occasioned a comprehensive review of the party line-ups also in *Momento* which stated that the Christian Democrats would enter the elections without allies. The Communists, it went on, would do so also if their proposed merger with the Socialists—for a union of the two parties in the elections, with an equal number of seats—fell through. The Monarchist forces, it was said, were grouping around the *Uomo Qualunque* Front, with prospect of another adhesion, that of the Demo-Liberal Concentration of Bergamini. A Liberal bloc also seemed in the offing—a juncture of Liberals, Labour Democrats and others—which would unite all the elder statesmen such as Orlando, Nitti, Bonomi, Croce and De Nicola. Where Count Sforza came in was uncertain. In effect, then, the paper concluded, there would be five blocs—

Surplus
9275/66

1280

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



*qualunquista*-monarchist on the extreme right, Christian Democrats, the Liberal aggregation, the Republican alliance of Pacciardi, Lussu and Parri and the Socialist-Communist group.

**Ferment.**

Local political unions made news through the week as the big guns of the parties planned trips to the sticks to speak up for their adherents. (For example, Nenni spoke at Rieti and Pescara last week.) The U.Q. Front began an apparent campaign to woo all dissidents into its ranks, publishing an appeal to members of other parties to join their ranks. At Syracuse in Sicily, the *qualunquisti* and Liberals decided on a common list for the administrative elections while at Cerignola, a bloc of Christian Democrats, Liberals, Labour-Democrats and *qualunquisti* withdrew its common list because of alleged acts of violence laid to Communists. Rumors and alarums of disorder, present and anticipated, filled the party papers of the right, an incident at Badolato, where hand grenades were supposedly used, causing editorial unease. National conventions of the political organizations were scheduled: Liberals on 1 April, Christian Democrats on 12 April, Action Party later yet in April.

De Gasperi held one of his few press conferences with foreign journalists in recent weeks and told them, notably, that he would not sign a peace treaty which ceded Trieste to Yugoslavia. He said he hoped the Allied Investigating Commission would range over the entire disputed territory and also investigate the deportations of Italians to Yugoslavia. On the Alto Adige, he said Italian policy was based on defense of the Brenner frontier and cession of the widest autonomy to the German-speaking population.

In other governmental business of the week, the *Consulta* heard several ministers report on technical matters—industry, shipping, insurance and repatriation of prisoners (in which keen interest has been re-awakened in regard to having them vote in the elections). The Government has again asked the Allies to repatriate the POWs as soon as possible. The Council of Ministers also approved a law on the compulsory employment of an increased number of veterans in public administration.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section, in whose once capacious folds more than 300 officers once worked, has been reorganized completely with 50 British and American officers, 24 EM/OR and 12 officers in the field. By this week-end, most of the Allied civilian personnel going to UNRRA will have physically moved into their new offices, changing billets and messes at the same time. The new line-up then is as follows.

Acting Vice President—Col. Charles W. Walton (A); Deputy Vice President—Lieut. Col. E. E. L. Timmons (A); Chief Staff Officer—Major Norman R. Smith (A); and the following branches and directors (all other units having been abolished, including the Labor Sub-Commission)—Industry and Utilities Branch, Col. H. M. Weber (A); Transportation and Shipping Branch, Lieut. Col. W. F. Scoggins (A); Food and Agriculture Branch, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B); Captured Enemy Materials Branch, Lieut. Col. J. A. Campbell (B); Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, Capt. A. G. Lapthorne (B); Venezia Giulia and Udine Supply Operations Branch, Lieut. J. M. Arensberg (A), and Finance Branch, Col. Timmons, who is also Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner.

Thus, the two-hat period of integrated A. C.-UNRRA supply operations which began some two months ago comes to an end. The reorganized Section will observe economic conditions in Italy, maintain economic liaison with the Italian Government and UNRRA; handle AMG supply matters; clean up miscellaneous correspondence, particularly that dealing with dereqnisitioning, clear trade items on the reserved commodity list; continue cooperation on power rehabilitation and distribution; rearrange the Section's voluminous files for most efficient use by the successor supply agencies and A. C. until they are turned over to archives, and discharge sundry financial functions. One aim also will be to turn over as much business as possible to suitable successor agencies.

Dribbles of economic news also have come in from various sources. At Merano in Bolzano 475 tons of sugar were found in jam factories. The business is being looked into. Italian charges that lumber in large quantities was being exported abroad turned out, as usual, baseless. The facts are that 2,000 tons a month have been sent to Greece purely for British military use, a program which ends this month. The rest of the cuttings were shipped regularly to other parts of Italy. The Air Forces Sub-Commission has practically completed arrangements to have food supplies from Sardinia flown thrice weekly to the mainland by Italian military aircraft. The food will amount to about 3,000 kilos of fish, meat, butter and cheese each trip. Two or three planes will be used at a time with the hope of eventually making daily flights and bringing Rome cooperatives, canteens

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



and soup kitchens about 20,000 kilos of food a week. A similar run to fly fish is planned from Treviso to Milan.

## VENEZIA GIULIA

Now that international interest, with the arrival of the Allied Investigating Commission, has again swung towards the problems of Venezia Giulia, or as the Yugoslavs prefer to call it, the Julian March, it will be of interest to look over some of the accomplishments of AMG in that hot spot. We will skip over the tangled diplomatic history of the days before AMG took over, on the 12-13 June 1945, the civil administration of Venezia Giulia. On 9 June agreement had been reached between the Allied and Yugoslav authorities and as a result Venezia Giulia was divided into two zones, one to be occupied by British and American forces and the other by Yugoslav troops. The Allied Military Government in the zone occupied by the Anglo-Americans was to consist of only Anglo-American personnel but 2,000 Yugoslav troops were to remain in this area under command of the Supreme Allied Commander.

As AMG took over, series of proclamations and orders were immediately issued, dealing with property control, establishment of courts, dissolution of Fascist organisations and the repeal of Fascist laws, taxes and anti-Jewish legislation. Ordinances on labor, food distribution, epuration, housing, curfew and so on were also promulgated.

In early August difficulties made themselves felt. It was decided by AMG that the administrative bodies left behind by the Yugoslavs were not representative or satisfactory. Under General Order 11, local government was established under the control of AMG. The order provided for the division of the Anglo-American zone into Areas and each Area was asked to nominate an Area President who would be responsible to AMG. The Slovenes reacted immediately and would not play. A long and intensive game of political tennis ensued during which the Slovenes used their press, strikes, meetings and demonstrations to gain their points over AMG.

### Italians.

In any event, during this period the Italian movement began to recover courage and even strength, as the AMG administration demonstrated its impartiality. The Italians held their first large demonstration on November 3rd, the holiday of San Giusto, which was very successful. On the following day the Yugoslavs held their own demonstration, which was also of considerable size, but lacking in the qualities of gaiety which the Italians displayed. It is of note that these demonstrations saw the first real public appearance of the Venezia Giulia Police Force and the success with which they handled numerous difficult situations gained them much prestige in the city.

Admidst alternating brickbats and bouquets, AMG settled down to its difficult task of ruling the zone and carrying out its functions as a caretaker government. That it has not been without success is adequately demonstrated by the facts and the present conditions. Although there is tenseness in the zone, there has been little trouble and practically no violence. Both sides have settled in and today the main political forces in the zone are represented, on the one side by the Slovene dominated *Unione Antifascista Italo-Slovena*, and the *Sindicati Unici*, which is the Communist pro-Slovene trades union organisation, and on the other side by the Italian CLN and the *Sindicati Giuliani*, the Italian trades union organisation. In other words, politically the situation, although not happy, is fairly healthy with both sides in the open and reasonably vital.

Now the record, which has been made under direction for the most part of Col. Alfred C. Bowman (A), SCAO to the CG, 13 Corps, Lieut. General Sir John Harding:

### Legal.

The Legal Division has had almost overwhelming difficulties. The first problem that faced it was that caused by the fact that all legislation enacted after September 3, 1943 was invalid. Further, proclamations, general orders, or orders of any kind which had been used in Italy, could not be used in Venezia Giulia without radical alteration. The Legal Division, therefore, had to set itself the task of providing new legislation for the territory, practically from scratch, and of creating the legal basis of a new military government.

By January 1946 seven proclamations had been drawn up, 41 general orders, 65 orders, 23 administrative orders, and many minor notices and appointments of officials had been published. Up to date, approximately 60 important financial economic regulations have been asked for by the Finance Division alone. The Legal Division also advises the Port Control Committee and all Divisions of Allied Military Government on legal matters.

Military and civil courts and tribunals were set up in Trieste, Gorizia and Pola under the di-

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



vision's supervision. During the months of October, November and December last year, 861 cases were dealt with by AMG summary courts, including charges of being in possession of arms (not many) and of offenses against property and persons. Superior and general courts, dealing with more serious offenses, were also established. Epuration Commissions dealing with the suspension of leading Fascists and a Special Court of Assizes trying Fascist criminals were established.

### Food.

Since the zone was taken over by AMG, foodstuffs according to the ration scale of the Allied Commission have arrived in the area continuously. Strict rationing and distribution at controlled prices have insured a fair distribution. From June to December 1945, AMG imported from Allied sources approximately 40,000 tons of food. During the same period AMG's Food Division obtained from local sources a further 6,000 tons.

The possibility of increasing the productivity of the area was not examined. One hundred and sixty horses were distributed to farmers in the Trieste area and 151 horses and mules to farmers in the Gorizia area. Another hundred horses will arrive shortly, thus making a total of over 400 working animals supplied.

Land reclamation has been carried out in the Grado-Monfalcone area by the Public Works Division and, as a result, 1,000 hectares of new land will be available for spring planting. Young pedigree bulls from Italy and Austria will be imported and, in order that local milk production should be increased, arrangements have been made to obtain high milk producing cows from Emilia.

### Housing.

The question of providing housing and shelter in what is, in many parts, a war devastated area, has been attacked. A survey covering the whole area was made in order to obtain the maximum use of all accommodation available. A scheme was produced to rebuild the "Distressed Villages", many of which had been burned down by Germans as reprisals for partisan activity. Work has been approved and is going ahead on 4,367 units. (A unit represents the rooms occupied by one family.) This figure does not include rebuilding of "distressed villages" and at present reconstruction is in progress in the four distressed villages of Mema, Rubbia, Sago and Stanovische.

### Labor and Industry.

The most important task of AMG was finding employment for the population. To do so meant, first, a close examination of the economic possibilities of the region and, second, an attempt at rehabilitation of entire industries in many cases.

Many industries have now been reactivated, with resultant jobs for many workers. A survey of factories showed that the majority were on the verge of bankruptcy and as a result of war damage, bombardment, the world shortage of raw materials and the necessity for paying unemployment compensation to thousands of unproductive workers, the problems faced were sizeable indeed.

AMG tackled the problem by first removing the drain on industry and permitting the dismissal of non-productive workers. A new unemployment benefit scheme called the *disoccupazione del dopoguerra* was introduced for the period from September to December, 1945, to compensate those dismissed. A large salvage program was instituted and in this way raw materials were obtained and real employment increased.

The next step taken by AMG was to change the type of work done by certain factories and at the same time to change the type of work done by many employes. Many jobs were made as a result of an order making industries employ their labor on public works, such as land reclamation, filling in of tank ditches, stump pulling and the like.

Soon, as coal and raw materials started to arrive and as public confidence increased, shipbuilding recommenced and contracts were placed by Allied and Italian authorities and by private companies. Coke from the gas works enabled the foundries to start work and further factories were able to commence a limited production. For example, as a result of raw cotton being obtained from the States and Sicily, the Gorizia cotton mills during December turned out 330,000 yards of finished cotton, increasing the output in January to 459,377 yards.

The port of Trieste itself was soon working to the maximum outgoing capacity of the railways, unloading military and UNRRA supplies. In fact, the port now handles its pre-war tonnage of 6,000 tons a day and will shortly be able to handle 8,000 tons daily. During this time, the Labor Division has initiated insurance schemes and played a large part in reconciling workers and employers, while studies of the cost of living and working conditions has assisted the SCAO in keeping a close watch on the problems of labor.

1283

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



### Displaced Persons.

As elsewhere, the same problems, in terms of refugees and displaced persons, were in existence in Venezia Giulia at the end of the war. Prisoners of war, civilian internees and thousands of slave laborers who had been taken to Germany streamed back to their homes. In addition to the Giuliani who returned, there were also many thousands of Yugoslavs. Trieste became a clearing house for all these homeless victims of the Germans. Two refugee centers were set up in the city in June and until recently these two places handled all movement to and from the Balkans and Italy. In all, a total of 46,000 civilians and POWs have passed through the centers and have been returned to their homes.

There being no civil postal facilities from this territory to Germany and Austria, a Prisoner of War Message Service has been created and operated from AMG Headquarters. Liaison is also maintained with the various Red Cross Organisations in Europe and also with the Central Tracing Bureau for Germany. This last deals mainly with concentration camp deaths.

Considerable sums of money have been paid out to various Allied Nationals in distress as a result of the war. This is being now done on behalf of UNRRA which does not operate in the territory. Attempts have also been made by the Division to trace the relatives of local Italians deported into Yugoslavia.

### Welfare.

The main job of AMG's Welfare Division has been to see that the main State and parastatal social and welfare organisations have sufficient funds to carry out their functions. Many organisations have been reorganised and put on a sound basis, while help and advice is given to private associations engaging in charitable work.

The Public Assistance Department of Trieste Commune, together with various charitable institutions throughout the city, takes care of hundreds of aged and sick persons. War orphans are looked after by the *Opera Orfani di Guerra* and wounded and crippled war veterans can receive advice and help when they are in need.

The Welfare Division further acts as an agent of sorts for people who wish to move household goods from Yugoslavia to Italy or vice versa. Old age pensions and similar subsidies have been increased throughout Venezia Giulia. Thousands of free meals are given away every day in the communal soup kitchens. Recently it distributed 20,000 blankets. Attached to the Welfare Division until recently was a team of American Red Cross workers. Their record included the distribution of 100,000 articles of clothing, footwear and medical supplies such as vitamins. The Italian and Slovene Red Cross organisations also work in the territory, each dealing with their own compatriots.

### Public Health.

The Public Health Division was likewise faced with a major problem at the start. Orders were given and enforced that no poor person was to be refused admittance into hospitals in Zone "A" and this ruling included those people living in Zone "B" who would normally have received treatment in AMG territory. Financial assistance was given to hospitals and a special board was set up to deal with medical supplies, which were received monthly and distributed to hospitals free. There were happily few problems in terms of infectious disease. The water supply was carefully examined and sewage systems repaired, where necessary, by the military. Port sanitary services were established. Problems dealt with by the Division included the licensing of motor vehicles for medical services and an anti-rat campaign. Medical services for refugees were provided, prison conditions improved and maternity and child welfare services strengthened.

### Education.

There was little or no education system in being when AMG took over. The pro-Yugoslav Liberation Councils were attempting to set up schools in the Slovene and Croat languages and were aiming at complete school autonomy. In existence were only Italian schools, although under Austrian rule there had been Slovene elementary schools in many rural districts and one Slovene high school at Gorizia. The Liberation Councils now wanted their schools again and wanted them under their own control.

The Education Division recognised the justice of the demand for Slovene and Croat schools and immediately started to establish them. As many as 105 Slovene elementary schools and eight Croat schools have to date been opened in AMG territory. It was not possible, however, to allow the Liberation Councils to control the curriculum and choice of text books, although their views were always taken into consideration. AMG policy had decided that in administering a disputed territory it could not do so impartially if propaganda, of one side or the other, was permitted in the schools. All text books were carefully examined by the Division and anything calculated

923

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



to inculcate nationalist feeling, Italian or Yugoslav, was withdrawn or eliminated. The appointment of teachers also caused differences of opinion between the Division and the Liberation Councils. AMG, being more concerned with the scholastic qualifications of teacher candidates, found it necessary to reject many of the nominations put forward by the Councils. The Education Division thus came under attack by the pro-Yugoslav press, a storm which AMG, of course, weathered.

Among the other tasks tackled by the Division was the confiscation of Fascist text books in all schools and libraries. Qualified teachers and professors were appointed to special commissions to draw up new educational programs for Italian and Slavic schools and completed in two months, a job which normally would have taken a complete academic year. Competent professors in the area were employed as school superintendents and inspectors and professional assistants were employed in the Education Division to handle all routine administrative work. Three new Slovene secondary schools were established in Trieste and three in Gorizia. Altogether there are now 120 Slovene schools.

School finances had to be reconstituted as well as repair and re-equipping of schools taken in hand. The Division obtained fuel to heat all the schools and a school lunch project received funds to provide lunches for 60,000 children each month. A congress of teachers from the entire region will be held shortly at which all the educational problems of Venezia Giulia will be discussed.

**Police.**

One of AMG's biggest problems on taking over was the fact that in an area in which it could be expected that anything might happen (although in the main it did not happen) there was no police force that compelled general recognition. The only police organisation was the Yugoslav para-military force known as the *Difesa Popolare*. It was decided by AMG that a completely new force responsible directly to AMG was necessary, so it was agreed to disband the *Difesa Popolare*. A new police force was recruited and the methods and training were based on the British and American police systems.

Today, the force consists of 2,482 officers and men and has been recruited from local sources and drawn from all sections of the community—Slovene, Croat and Italian. Every candidate is vetted closely in order to determine whether he has a Fascist background. He is then checked on Tribunal records to find out if he has a criminal past and finally, if he passes through this screen, he is called before a selection Board composed of Allied officers and Venezia Giulia Police officers. The successful candidate then enters a training school for a two week's course. The subjects studied include police law and procedure, foot drill and physical training.

Having passed the course, he is enrolled in the uniform division as a guard and is sent to one or other of the zones. After a period of practical experience and duty he then returns to the schools for a longer and more intensive course. Specialist courses at the school include criminal investigation and radio operating. The British Police Disciplinary Code, modified in certain cases to meet local conditions, has been adopted. The conduct of the force has been good and there have been very few serious breaches of the Code.

Since the Police Force began functioning there has been a decided lessening of crime and a definite return to law and order. In the early days, the "popular" police patrols were composed of at least six men, all fully armed with tommy guns and hand grenades. Now the strength of a Venezia Giulia Police patrol never exceeds two men and in certain districts, such as Trieste city, Gorizia and Monfalcone, uniform patrols during daylight hours have been disarmed.

**Last Add.**

As we go to press, our PRO colleagues at Trieste inform us that the energetic propaganda preparations by both Italians and Slovenes greeted the Allied Investigating Commission on its arrival 7 March, with the efforts of the latter being the more elaborate. Tito supporters have been busy with brush and flags while every village in the predominantly pro-Tito hinterland has its triumphal arch of welcome to the Commission. The arches are adorned with portraits of the Yugoslav Marshal. The AMG policy on arches, posters and wall signs, as announced by Col. H. P. P. Robertson (B), acting SCAO, is that writing on walls is not permitted on public buildings, on premises occupied by Allied troops or on private houses where the permission of the owner has not been obtained. Arches have been removed only if they constitute a traffic hazard. The Russian and British delegates are staying at the British transit hotel while the French and Americans are billeted in the U. S. leave hotel. The main body of Russian representatives is now en route via Ljubljana. The chief delegates

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



are Jean Philippe Wolfram, French; M. Gerashchenko, Russian; C. H. M. Waldock, British, and Philip Mosely, American.

## A TALE OF BUMPF

To most of us who have struggled through the recent years with inexperienced civilian clerks, usually willing and hard working but as usually agile only in their peculiar Italian English, filing and the like have been ever-present nuisances. But today the nuisances are coming home to roost with a vengeance on the heads of Major N. M. Harrisson (B) and his gallant Anglo-American-Italian staff, for the Major is at present involved in the gigantic task of filing (in a very big way) the entire archives and records of the Allied Commission and AMG.

In the bowels of the *Corporazioni* on Via Veneto, surrounded by the symbols of his terrifying task, sits Major Harrisson, with his staff, Captains Rowlands and Cannings, British, and Lieutenants Taylor and Weeden, American. The main working room itself is frighteningly efficient and walled completely by hundreds of little green steel boxes. In this and two other rooms are files or original papers of the approximately 8,000,000 documents and their approximately 200,000 files, said to be half of all the Allied files in the MTO.

Included in these documents is, for those who will want it, the detailed story of the Allied Commission and AMG in Italy. It is the task of the Archives Branch to arrange these files and documents in such a manner as to ease the work of future historians who will write the story of Military Government in Italy. That the records are of keen interest to professional archivists is attested by the Keeper of the Public Records of England who has visited Italy three times to see about them while a representative of the U. S. Library of Congress also has paid a visit.

The general plan of the scheme is to insure that a complete record, easily handled, of the campaign and work of the Allied Commission is made available. Every one of the 8,000,000 documents is being examined and refiled. Most of the relevant documents will be photographed and copies sent to those Governments and organisations directly interested while all documents are being recorded, checked and prepared for storing. This work, it is estimated, should take 30 employes several years to complete. Documents are stored, catalogued and cleaned for micro-filming.

After the filming of necessary documents they are replaced in their respective files, card indexed for cross reference and the record arranged by functions. There are over thirty A. C. functions listed. Since half of the records received are from regions which it is not proposed to disturb, the story of any activity in a sub-commission can be found and the relevant files extracted by consulting the card index.

The importance of the work for history is equalled only by its magnitude, and the hive of energy that is the Archives Branch today makes us hang our head in shame as we recall the filing system we ourselves kept in the field—a filing system conditioned by circumstances in which we were our own director, mentor, driver, mechanic, batman and last and worst, in view of the chaos which will undoubtedly result when one certain set of archives are discovered, our own clerk and typist. To Major Harrisson and his colleagues, our admiration and deepest apologies.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Col. R. C. Ross (A) succeeds Col. W. R. Jordan (redeployed to the States) as CLO in Piemonte... U. S. officers will be redeployed on schedule according to the time limits stated in their Category IV certificates, which may now no longer be extended, except to Categories I (indefinite) and II (June, 1947)... A score of EM promotions have been announced plus one of an officer—Harry Galkin to Captain... The T/O of 2675 Regiment, which was 500 officers and men, has been cut to 450, as of 1 March, with further cuts of 50 bodies a month every month, until 1 July; the MTOUSA ruling is being protested on the grounds that A. C. functions would have to be dropped in order to comply... Duty officers at A. C. Hq. during off hours will henceforth consist of one each in the offices of the Adjutant, Economic Section and Chief Commissioner... American officers will be happy to know that U. S. Army peace-time rules of property accountability have now come into force... A special Italian military courier plane between Rome and London and Paris for official business has been approved, to be used as need arises... At a ceremony in Rome attended by Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general, MTOUSA, the Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, presented the Legion of Merit to the two leading British officers of the Commission—Major General L. Browning (degree of Commander) and Brigadier M. Carr (degree of Officer); Col. C. B. Findlay (B) also has

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



been awarded the latter decoration but is away in Germany; Gen. Lee himself presented the same medal to Brigadier Alban Low of R.A.A.C... Other awards include: *Order of the Knights of Malta* — Flag Lieut. Edward Behn; *Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* — Lieut. Joseph A. Cicala (Knight); *Order of the Crown of Italy* — Col. Hannibal M. Fiore (Grand Officer), Col. J. W. Chapman and Capt. H. St. J. Butler (Commander); Lieut. Col. James R. Regis and Capt. Anthony Ciliberti (Knight Officer), and Captains Carl Banno and L. Ciros (Knight)... With 5,311 Italian communes slated to hold administrative elections, as of the latest reports, beginning 10 March (when 432 communes will vote), the Local Government Sub-Commission is busy preparing to observe the proceedings, Maj. R. R. Temple (A), the director, inspecting the North, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) is looking at Calabria this week; all A. C. LOs have also received a directive instructing them to keep a discreet eye on what goes...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

MAR 4 REC'D

Chief Correspondence Section

RESTRICTED

March 2, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 48

23/52/43

## POLITICAL

The Italian Government wrote history this week. Amid the somewhat tortuous but patently democratic procedures of consulting all shades of opinion and of exhaustive and exhausting talks, all so familiar to us in the western democracies, the Council of Ministers virtually decided to submit the fateful question of the choice of a monarchy or of a republic to a referendum of the people, drafted a proposed bill defining the powers of the *Costituente* for submission to the *Consulta*'s review, determined apparently not to submit this bill to a referendum, and put final touches on the electoral code for the elections to the *Costituente*, thereby readying the new Italy for its first free election campaign in more than twenty years.

The general mood of satisfaction with an arduous task so nearly completed and, to almost an unanimity of observers, well done, was reflected in bursts of hosannahs from most of the Rome press, even though there were some carpers (who this time did not include that consistent critic, *Italia Nuova*, which relaxed far enough to claim credit on behalf of the Democratic (Monarchist) party for the victory of the referendum proposal on the institutional question, and piously to add its hopes that the referendum's results should seal the reconciliation of all Italian parties to each other). *Risorgimento Liberale* averred that the momentous discussions truly demonstrated the "complete political maturity of our party leaders" while *Minuto* praised the political *savoir faire* of Prime Minister De Gasperi who served as the middleman of the compromises effected.

These climacteric debates and agreements in the Inner Cabinet started last week (see *Bulletin* No. 47), were interrupted during the week-end to give time for individual party consultations and were resumed on 26 February. The full cabinet participated, meeting twice a day, on the 27th and 28th (the last day on which we report in these columns). The gist of the decisions taken (as of the 28th) on the three major matters—referendum status of the *Costituente* and the electoral code—are as follows:

ELECTIONS for the *Costituente* will probably be held 26 May. (A special commission to insure public order at that time has already been set up. Reports have it that 70,000 Carabinieri will be on duty, besides other army and police forces.)

THE *COSTITUENTE* will convenne 22 days after the elections or on 18th or 20th June and will disband within ten months or the same day the new Constitution becomes effective.

THE REFERENDUM on the institutional question will be voted on at the same time as the elections are held. It will be decided by a majority of 51 per cent. What the precise form of the question to be put is also undetermined, Togliatti having suggested "Do you wish a democratic republic to be instituted?" Cianca of the Action Party afterwards said his party agreed to the referendum only as an alternative to forcing a crisis by withdrawal from the Government. In the course of the Government's decision, the opinion of the British Government, advocating a referendum but not stipulating a time for it, was also studied.

COMPULSORY VOTING, as approved in the electoral code by the *Consulta*, was withdrawn from the Government draft. In its place, De Gasperi succeeded in having accepted the formula of calling upon all citizens to vote as a patriotic duty and of formally classifying all abstainers from the polls as "civil deserters", after the Communists pointed out the impossibility of enforcing sanctions on non-voters and after Togliatti's remark that he distrusted compulsory voting as a monarchist maneuver to force the supposedly conservative "silent vote" to the polls.

ARTICLE 66 of the code, which had caused upheavals in the *Consulta* and which provided for penalties against clerical influence in elections, was modified to castigate officials of any type who abused such influence.

823

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



PROPOSED POWERS and procedures of the *Costituente* included provision that the President of the Council of Ministers resign his Government to the *Costituente* upon its convening, whereupon a new President will be appointed by the *Costituente* to serve for its duration. If a republic is carried, the new President of the Council will also serve as Head of the State during this period. If a monarchy wins, the *Costituente* will have to decide on the future of the *Luogotenenza*. The Government will be responsible to the *Costituente* which, in turn, will delegate to the Government legislative powers except as concern international treaties and electoral matters. The Government will not need to resign when the *Costituente* rejects one of its proposed laws.

**Pledge.**

Before adjourning the session of the 28th, every minister pledged himself to insure that his party would fully respect the electoral laws and the integrity of the powers of the *Costituente* in carrying on their political activities, would so conduct their campaigns as to guarantee absolutely free elections, and would insist that everyone vote so that the referendum and the elections can truly represent the real will of the Italian people. A pledge will be taken later by all civil and military officials to respect the results of the referendum and the *Costituente*'s decisions.

After last week's preliminary conversations and intra-party caucuses, De Gasperi personally interviewed one by one practically every single leader of prominence in and out of the Government, including Sforza, Orlando, Bonomi, Brosio, Nenni, Togliatti, Nitti, Pacciardi, Lucifero, Molè, Parri and La Malfa. Summing up the points scored or lost by the various parties, the Liberals won their institutional referendum but apparently have lost the one on the powers of the *Costituente* while the Left—Communists, Socialists and Action Party—retreated on the former but gained their point on the latter. The Christian Democrats provided the meeting ground, effecting the compromise on compulsory voting in addition, which the Right wanted and the Left did not. *Epoca* had bitter comment to make on all this: it wanted to see the whole business resolved by a blood-letting, adding it could foresee a republic all right but "a weak, bourgeois one created by Christian Democrats and *qualunquisti*".

The election campaign which will formally open with the promulgation of the electoral code by the De Gasperi Government has, in most respects, being going on all along, with party directorates busily meeting and issuing *ordini del giorno*. Parri and La Malfa finally announced formation of their new party—the Republican Democracy Movement. Nenni, speaking in Modena, prophesied the victory of the republic and told monarchists and *qualunquisti* to hush. Selvaggi, monarchist leader, at Spoleto, again accused the six C.L.N. parties of dictatorial ambitions and defended his alliance with the *Uomo Qualunque* Front, saying both movements had the same ideals—"freedom, unity, labor, peace". Anent the U.Q. Front, a report that fizzled out had the Liberals joining the alliance, while *Buonsenso*, U.Q. Rome mouthpiece, lightly commented on the significant decisions being taken by the Government by saying that the Front was strong enough to compete with its enemies on any grounds and so did not care what decisions were taken on the electoral laws, referenda and the like.

On the international front, the Italian press was particularly vocal upon the reappearance of the possibility of a *modus vivendi* for Italy that would abrogate the Armistic terms and recognize the *status quo* of virtual sovereignty, now that hopes of an early Italian peace treaty, by all observers, seemed distant. The AP report that the United States had sent such a proposal to Great Britain and the Soviet Government was widely played up, *Popolo* stressing the "urgent" need of some such international recognition. The communiqué of the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers on the imminent arrival of the Allied Investigating Commission into the Venezia Giulia frontier also received wide publicity but no mention was made of how far afield its powers could take it.

As we go to press, the March 2 morning papers report that the *Consulta* will begin debates on the draft bill on the powers of the *Costituente* Monday, with speeches limited to one representative of each party. Orlando will be relator of the proposed law. The formula for the institutional referendum will read simply: Republic or Monarchy? The Council of Ministers has also turned to discussion of the size of the electoral colleges—31 of them—which will elect 573 deputies to the assembly.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

As the letter below from the Chief Commissioner to Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, discloses, the Economic Section as we all knew it has disappeared. Details of the new setup, to be still

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



called the Economic Section and dealing with residual functions, will be printed next week. The letter:

Dear Mr. Cleveland:

As from 1 March the Economic Section of the Allied Commission and its dependant sub-commissions as we have known it for over two years will be substantially reduced.

This Section and its sub-commissions has been responsible for the maintenance and the reconstruction of the economic life of Italy since liberation of the country. In spite of tremendous difficulties it has maintained a level of food which has prevented starvation. You have guided and assisted the Italian Government in the reconstruction of their ports, their railways and roads and their transport system, so that the great volume of important food and coal and the smaller volume of other raw materials have been adequately distributed among the towns and villages and industries. You have helped to resuscitate many of these industries and so prevented unemployment, and in the field of labor you have guided the Italians into a democratic conception of wage structures and industrial organization. The Italian financial and banking system has depended almost entirely on the guidance of the Finance Sub-Commission in emerging with no small measure of success from the confusion into which the conditions of the country had brought them. You have initiated commerce and foreign trade and with your help the Italian Government has been able to prepare a program of economic rehabilitation which will stand them in good stead in the difficult months to come. No part of the Commission has worked in more intimate and cordial association with the members and departments of the Italian Government.

I want you as the departing Acting Vice President and your staff, past and present, to know how much your work has assisted the Allied Commission and how much it has been appreciated. Italy owes a great deal to the Section and your sub-commissions and you may be proud to hand over the major part of your responsibilities to the Italian Government itself, to UNRRA, and to the Embassies, with the knowledge that all of you have played a great part in the economic survival of the country.

Sincerely,

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

## ETHIOPIAN SAGA

The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, now in the throes of transition (most of its chores going to UNRRA), still is producing its curious stories. For instance, it is not generally known that among the political prisoners the Fascists kept under lock and key in Italy were 16 Ethiopians. There was another batch of 60 Ethiopes held but more or less under easier rein, they being used simply as exhibits in a Naples show of 1940 and were confined merely to a villa provided for them. But the prisoners were real prisoners and the imminent return of one of them—Ato (Mr.) Addisa Haghau—to his native heath, through the kind services of the A. C. sub-commission, provides us with a tale.

Ato Haghau, our history opens, commenced his differences with the former Italian Fascist Government in 1936 when, while a student at the Abyssinian Military College of Moletta in Ethiopia, which was run by a Swedish Military Mission, he took part in one of the last defensive actions before Addis Abeba. This foray took place on the Dessie road, and after being wounded three times Ato Haghau was captured and taken to a concentration camp at Mogadishu. He remained there until 1939 when he was removed to Jimma prison (also in Ethiopia).

In 1940 he was brought to Italy and kept in Naples prison until 1942, when he was moved to the Treia prison camp near Macerata. On 1 July 1943, he relates, a British plane flew over and dropped leaflets on the compound. In the course of a search by the guards, who included several Eritreans, to confiscate all the propaganda sheets, Ato Haghau and one of the Eritreans indulged in an argument which resulted in a sentence of eight months' imprisonment (!) for the former, the charge being rudeness of a threatening character.

### Further Events.

On 8 September 1943—the date of the Armistice—Mrs. Haghau—do not ask how she gets into the story—made contact with a RAF officer who was organizing a partisan band near Macerata. This British officer boldly approached the prison and made off with Ato Haghau. A short time later, Ato Haghau, foraging for his band, returned to the scene of his captivity and while engaged in appropriating a modicum of guns and bullets, became involved in the violent demise of a couple of Eritrean guards.

Following this adventure, Ato Haghau et al. paid a visit to a certain Italian Colonel Trombetta,

1290

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



who was playing the sybarite in a nearby villa and who was known as a crony of Marshal Graziani. Ato Haghan and company temporarily shanghaied the colonel, confiscated a quantity of armament and somehow, during the incident, the colonel's house caught fire and burned down. Not much later, another encounter with the colonel occurred during which the colonel was shot. Dead, of course.

According to our narrator, Marshal Graziani offered a reward of 50,000 lire for Ato Haghan's skin, with or without red corpuscles. His fellow partisans—they included French, British, Jugoslavs and Italians plus nine Ethiopians (of whom three were killed in action)—got Ato Haghan safely away. But the story has an epilogue:

After the war was over, further differences of opinion arose between Ato Haghan and certain officials in connection with aftermaths of the unfortunate accidents to Colonel Trombetta and the Eritrean guards. The misunderstanding was finally happily resolved and Ato Haghan is now on his way back to Abyssinia, carrying with him as his most cherished possession one of those fine certificates signed by Field Marshal Alexander to the effect that he was a real partisan.

## SWEEPING THE SEA

Mines, one of the most troublesome and dangerous aftermaths of the war, both on land and sea, have worried AMG officers in the past who have been impatient of the delay they have caused to the resumption of agriculture on land, of fishing and communications at sea. The story of the *bonifica* of Italy's mine-sown fields is well known, but the immensity of the task of clearing the seas round the coasts of Italy has, perhaps, been less appreciated. Allied mines apart, vast areas were thickly sown by the Germans and Italians themselves, some of the worst infested being the Bay of Naples, the entrance to the Gulf of Taranto and the northern Adriatic and Ligurian seas.

Minesweeping is no part of the Navy Sub-Commission's direct responsibility, except in so far as supplies made available to the Italian Navy by the sub-commission might help towards the work. In Italian waters minesweeping is subject to the general direction of the Mediterranean Zone Mine Clearance Board, an inter-Allied organization which meets every few months to determine priorities in the Mediterranean area as a whole. Great Britain, the United States, France, Russia, Greece and Jugoslavia, as Allied nations, are represented on this Board, but not Italy, although the Italian Navy is doing a large proportion of the actual work.

The Mediterranean Board is in turn represented on the International Mine Clearance Board which meets in London and determines mine clearance policy throughout the five oceans. Actual operations in the Mediterranean are under the direction of the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean at Malta, who controls the work of the sweepers of all nationalities within the area.

### Approaches.

After clearing the harbors themselves, the policy has been to clear the approaches to the most important ports and landfalls and to sweep channels along the shore for the benefit of coastal traffic and fishermen, leaving large areas which are known to contain mines to be cleared later. For example, in recent weeks the channels to Genoa, Savona, Imperia and San Remo have been re-swept.

The positions of swept channels and dangerous areas are relayed to all ships and port authorities in such a way that no mariner should have any doubt as to what course to pursue.

Harbor clearance, which has first priority, is also the hardest part of the job. The clearance of magnetic mines from the inner waters of ports such as Leghorn and Genoa has proved a most difficult task technically, and has previously been undertaken exclusively by British minesweeping forces, assisted by Italian divers. The work of these divers is dangerous as well as difficult, since they have to grope in thick mud for mines which cannot be located by other means.

Owing to the demands for assistance in other parts of the Mediterranean, the British minesweeping forces are now being withdrawn from Italian waters and the Italians are being trained to tackle the magnetic mines themselves.

### Minesweepers.

By an agreement between the British Admiralty and the Italian Ministry of Marine signed at the end of January by Admiral G. L. Warren, Flag Officer Italy and chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, and Admiral R. de Courten, Italian Minister of Marine, thirty-two British minesweeping vessels are being loaned to the Italian Navy and are now in process of being taken over by Italian crews at Malta, Messina and Naples. They include sixteen M/S Trawlers, used for sweeping contact mines, and sixteen Motor Minesweepers with apparatus for dealing

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



with mines which detonate acoustically or magnetically. In addition, a special vessel used for demagnetising ships has been transferred to the Italian Navy at Taranto, with all the necessary equipment.

Thus before long the work of mine clearance in Italian waters will be carried out entirely by the Italians themselves, as well as the task of destroying or rendering harmless sea mines which break adrift from their moorings and become a danger either at sea or on the coasts.

The work of the minesweepers, which is hampered in the winter months by bad weather, will begin intensively this spring. Channels will be widened and dangerous areas will be whittled down, but so many and varied are the types of minefields laid by the Germans and Italians that it may be years before the entire waters of the central Mediterranean can be declared free for all purposes.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Here are a few more awards: *Crown of Italy (Knight Officer)* – Lieut. Col. P. D. Shriver, Major P. Cobel, Captain H. W. Dudley and Mr. O. Bazzanella... Honorary citizenship of the City of Cagliari in Sardinia has been conferred upon Brigadiers J. K. Dunlop and M. Carr, Colonels J. R. C. Pennycuick and E. R. McPhee and Lieut. Col. Edward P. Price... The first U. S. officers held six months beyond their normal release date as 8101's (civil affairs officers) are going home this week; three of them... Latest electoral list returns: – compiled 13,782 (96 per cent.); approved – 8,034 (56 per cent.); ready to hold elections – 4,835 communes...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

RESTRICTED

March 2, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 48

## POLITICAL

The Italian Government wrote history this week. Amid the somewhat tortuous but patently democratic procedures of consulting all shades of opinion and of exhaustive and exhausting talks, all so familiar to us in the western democracies, the Council of Ministers virtually decided to submit the fateful question of the choice of a monarchy or of a republic to a referendum of the people, drafted a proposed bill defining the powers of the *Costituente* for submission to the *Consulta*'s review, determined apparently not to submit this bill to a referendum, and put final touches on the electoral code for the elections to the *Costituente*, thereby readying the new Italy for its first free election campaign in more than twenty years.

The general mood of satisfaction with an arduous task so nearly completed and, to almost an unanimity of observers, well done, was reflected in bursts of hosannahs from most of the Rome press, even though there were some carpers (who this time did not include that consistent critic, *Italia Nuova*, which relaxed far enough to claim credit on behalf of the Democratic (Monarchist) party for the victory of the referendum proposal on the institutional question, and piously to add its hopes that the referendum's results should seal the reconciliation of all Italian parties to each other). *Risorgimento Liberale* averred that the momentous discussions truly demonstrated the "complete political maturity of our party leaders" while *Minuto* praised the political *savoir faire* of Prime Minister De Gasperi who served as the middleman of the compromises effected.

These climacteric debates and agreements in the Inner Cabinet started last week (see *Bulletin* No. 47), were interrupted during the week-end to give time for individual party consultations and were resumed on 26 February. The full cabinet participated, meeting twice a day, on the 27th and 28th (the last day on which we report in these columns). The gist of the decisions taken (as of the 28th) on the three major matters—referendum, status of the *Costituente* and the electoral code—are as follows:

ELECTIONS for the *Costituente* will probably be held 26 May. (A special commission to insure public order at that time has already been set up. Reports have it that 70,000 Carabinieri will be on duty, besides other army and police forces.)

THE *COSTITUENTE* will convenne 22 days after the elections or on 18th or 20th June and will disband within ten months or the same day the new Constitution becomes effective.

THE REFERENDUM on the institutional question will be voted on at the same time as the elections are held. It will be decided by a majority of 51 per cent. What the precise form of the question to be put is also undetermined, Togliatti having suggested "Do you wish a democratic republic to be instituted?" Ciancа of the Action Party afterwards said his party agreed to the referendum only as an alternative to forcing a crisis by withdrawal from the Government. In the course of the Government's decision, the opinion of the British Government, advocating a referendum but not stipulating a time for it, was also studied.

COMPULSORY VOTING, as approved in the electoral code by the *Consulta*, was withdrawn from the Government draft. In its place, De Gasperi succeeded in having accepted the formula of calling upon all citizens to vote as a patriotic duty and of formally classifying all abstainers from the polls as "civil deserters", after the Communists pointed out the impossibility of enforcing sanctions on non-voters and after Togliatti's remark that he distrusted compulsory voting as a monarchist maneuver to force the supposedly conservative "silent vote" to the polls.

ARTICLE 66 of the code, which had caused upheavals in the *Consulta* and which provided for penalties against clerical influence in elections, was modified to castigate officials of any type who abused such influence.

321

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



PROPOSED POWERS and procedures of the *Costituente* included provision that the President of the Council of Ministers resign his Government to the *Costituente* upon its convening, whereupon a new President will be appointed by the *Costituente* to serve for its duration. If a republic is carried, the new President of the Council will also serve as Head of the State during this period. If a monarchy wins, the *Costituente* will have to decide on the future of the *Luogotenenza*. The Government will be responsible to the *Costituente* which, in turn, will delegate to the Government legislative powers except as concern international treaties and electoral matters. The Government will not need to resign when the *Costituente* rejects one of its proposed laws.

**Pledge.**

Before adjourning the session of the 28th, every minister pledged himself to insure that his party would fully respect the electoral laws and the integrity of the powers of the *Costituente* in carrying on their political activities, would so conduct their campaigns as to guarantee absolutely free elections, and would insist that everyone vote so that the referendum and the elections can truly represent the real will of the Italian people. A pledge will be taken later by all civil and military officials to respect the results of the referendum and the *Costituente*'s decisions.

After last week's preliminary conversations and intra-party caucuses, De Gasperi personally interviewed one by one practically every single leader of prominence in and out of the Government, including Sforza, Orlando, Bonomi, Brosio, Nenni, Togliatti, Nitti, Pacciardi, Lucifero, Molè, Parri and La Malfa. Summing up the points scored or lost by the various parties, the Liberals won their institutional referendum but apparently have lost the one on the powers of the *Costituente* while the Left—Communists, Socialists and Action Party—retreated on the former but gained their point on the latter. The Christian Democrats provided the meeting ground, effecting the compromise on compulsory voting in addition, which the Right wanted and the Left did not. *Epoca* had bitter comment to make on all this: it wanted to see the whole business resolved by a blood-letting, adding it could foresee a republic all right but "a weak, bourgeois one created by Christian Democrats and *qualunquisti*".

The election campaign which will formally open with the promulgation of the electoral code by the De Gasperi Government has, in most respects, being going on all along, with party directorates busily meeting and issuing *ordini del giorno*. Parri and La Malfa finally announced formation of their new party—the Republican Democracy Movement. Nenni, speaking in Modena, prophesied the victory of the republic and told monarchists and *qualunquisti* to hush. Selvaggi, monarchist leader, at Spoleto, again accused the six C.L.N. parties of dictatorial ambitions and defended his alliance with the *Uomo Qualunque* Front, saying both movements had the same ideals—"freedom, unity, labor, peace". Anent the U.Q. Front, a report that fizzled out had the Liberals joining the alliance, while *Buonsenso*, U.Q. Rome mouthpiece, lightly commented on the significant decisions being taken by the Government by saying that the Front was strong enough to compete with its enemies on any grounds and so did not care what decisions were taken on the electoral laws, referenda and the like.

On the international front, the Italian press was particularly vocal upon the reappearance of the possibility of a *modus vivendi* for Italy that would abrogate the Armistic terms and recognize the *status quo* of virtual sovereignty, now that hopes of an early Italian peace treaty, by all observers, seemed distant. The AP report that the United States had sent such a proposal to Great Britain and the Soviet Government was widely played up, *Popolo* stressing the "urgent" need of some such international recognition. The communiqué of the Deputies of the Foreign Ministers on the imminent arrival of the Allied Investigating Commission into the Venezia Giulia frontier also received wide publicity but no mention was made of how far afield its powers could take it.

As we go to press, the March 2 morning papers report that the *Consulta* will begin debates on the draft bill on the powers of the *Costituente* Monday, with speeches limited to one representative of each party. Orlando will be relator of the proposed law. The formula for the institutional referendum will read simply: Republic or Monarchy? The Council of Ministers has also turned to discussion of the size of the electoral colleges—31 of them—which will elect 573 deputies to the assembly.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

As the letter below from the Chief Commissioner to Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, discloses, the Economic Section as we all knew it has disappeared. Details of the new setup, to be still

1294

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



called the Economic Section and dealing with residual functions, will be printed next week. The letter:

Dear Mr. Cleveland:

As from 1 March the Economic Section of the Allied Commission and its dependant sub-commissions as we have known it for over two years will be substantially reduced.

This Section and its sub-commissions has been responsible for the maintenance and the reconstruction of the economic life of Italy since liberation of the country. In spite of tremendous difficulties it has maintained a level of food which has prevented starvation. You have guided and assisted the Italian Government in the reconstruction of their ports, their railways and roads and their transport system, so that the great volume of important food and coal and the smaller volume of other raw materials have been adequately distributed among the towns and villages and industries. You have helped to resuscitate many of these industries and so prevented unemployment, and in the field of labor you have guided the Italians into a democratic conception of wage structures and industrial organization. The Italian financial and banking system has depended almost entirely on the guidance of the Finance Sub-Commission in emerging with no small measure of success from the confusion into which the conditions of the country had brought them. You have initiated commerce and foreign trade and with your help the Italian Government has been able to prepare a program of economic rehabilitation which will stand them in good stead in the difficult months to come. No part of the Commission has worked in more intimate and cordial association with the members and departments of the Italian Government.

I want you as the departing Acting Vice President and your staff, past and present, to know how much your work has assisted the Allied Commission and how much it has been appreciated. Italy owes a great deal to the Section and your sub-commissions and you may be proud to hand over the major part of your responsibilities to the Italian Government itself, to UNRRA, and to the Embassies, with the knowledge that all of you have played a great part in the economic survival of the country.

Sincerely,

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

## ETHIOPIAN SAGA

The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission, now in the throes of transition (most of its chores going to UNRRA), still is producing its curious stories. For instance, it is not generally known that among the political prisoners the Fascists kept under lock and key in Italy were 16 Ethiopians. There was another batch of 60 Ethiopes held but more or less under easier rein, they being used simply as exhibits in a Naples show of 1940 and were confined merely to a villa provided for them. But the prisoners were real prisoners and the imminent return of one of them—Ato (Mr.) Addisa Haghau—to his native heath, through the kind services of the A. C. sub-commission, provides us with a tale.

Ato Hagham, our history opens, commenced his differences with the former Italian Fascist Government in 1936 when, while a student at the Abyssinian Military College of Moletta in Ethiopia, which was run by a Swedish Military Mission, he took part in one of the last defensive actions before Addis Abeba. This foray took place on the Dessie road, and after being wounded three times Ato Haghau was captured and taken to a concentration camp at Mogadishu. He remained there until 1939 when he was removed to Jimma prison (also in Ethiopia).

In 1940 he was brought to Italy and kept in Naples prison until 1942, when he was moved to the Treia prison camp near Macerata. On 1 July 1943, he relates, a British plane flew over and dropped leaflets on the compound. In the course of a search by the guards, who included several Eritreans, to confiscate all the propaganda sheets, Ato Haghau and one of the Eritreans indulged in an argument which resulted in a sentence of eight months' imprisonment (!) for the former, the charge being rudeness of a threatening character.

### Further Events.

On 8 September 1943—the date of the Armistice—Mrs. Haghau—do not ask how she gets into the story—made contact with a RAF officer who was organizing a partisan band near Macerata. This British officer boldly approached the prison and made off with Ato Haghau. A short time later, Ato Haghau, foraging for his band, returned to the scene of his captivity and while engaged in appropriating a modicum of guns and bullets, became involved in the violent demise of a couple of Eritrean guards.

Following this adventure, Ato Haghau et al. paid a visit to a certain Italian Colonel Trombetta,

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



who was playing the sybarite in a nearby villa and who was known as a crony of Marshal Graziani. Ato Haghau and company temporarily shanghaied the colonel, confiscated a quantity of armament and somehow, during the incident, the colonel's house caught fire and burned down. Not much later, another encounter with the colonel occurred during which the colonel was shot. Dead, of course.

According to our narrator, Marshal Graziani offered a reward of 50,000 lire for Ato Haghau's skin, with or without red corpuscles. His fellow partisans—they included French, British, Jugoslavs and Italians plus nine Ethiopians (of whom three were killed in action)—got Ato Haghau safely away. But the story has an epilogue:

After the war was over, further differences of opinion arose between Ato Haghau and certain officials in connection with aftermaths of the unfortunate accidents to Colonel Trombetta and the Eritrean guards. The misunderstanding was finally happily resolved and Ato Haghau is now on his way back to Abyssinia, carrying with him as his most cherished possession one of those fine certificates signed by Field Marshal Alexander to the effect that he was a real partisan.

## SWEEPING THE SEA

Mines, one of the most troublesome and dangerous aftermaths of the war, both on land and sea, have worried AMG officers in the past who have been impatient of the delay they have caused to the resumption of agriculture on land, of fishing and communications at sea. The story of the *bonifica* of Italy's mine-sown fields is well known, but the immensity of the task of clearing the seas round the coasts of Italy has, perhaps, been less appreciated. Allied mines apart, vast areas were thickly sown by the Germans and Italians themselves, some of the worst infested being the Bay of Naples, the entrance to the Gulf of Taranto and the northern Adriatic and Ligurian seas.

Minesweeping is no part of the Navy Sub-Commission's direct responsibility, except in so far as supplies made available to the Italian Navy by the sub-commission might help towards the work. In Italian waters minesweeping is subject to the general direction of the Mediterranean Zone Mine Clearance Board, an inter-Allied organization which meets every few months to determine priorities in the Mediterranean area as a whole. Great Britain, the United States, France, Russia, Greece and Jugoslavia, as Allied nations, are represented on this Board, but not Italy, although the Italian Navy is doing a large proportion of the actual work.

The Mediterranean Board is in turn represented on the International Mine Clearance Board which meets in London and determines mine clearance policy throughout the five oceans. Actual operations in the Mediterranean are under the direction of the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean at Malta, who controls the work of the sweepers of all nationalities within the area.

### Approaches.

After clearing the harbors themselves, the policy has been to clear the approaches to the most important ports and landfalls and to sweep channels along the shore for the benefit of coastal traffic and fishermen, leaving large areas which are known to contain mines to be cleared later. For example, in recent weeks the channels to Genoa, Savona, Imperia and San Remo have been re-swept.

The positions of swept channels and dangerous areas are relayed to all ships and port authorities in such a way that no mariner should have any doubt as to what course to pursue.

Harbor clearance, which has first priority, is also the hardest part of the job. The clearance of magnetic mines from the inner waters of ports such as Leghorn and Genoa has proved a most difficult task technically, and has previously been undertaken exclusively by British minesweeping forces, assisted by Italian divers. The work of these divers is dangerous as well as difficult, since they have to grope in thick mud for mines which cannot be located by other means.

Owing to the demands for assistance in other parts of the Mediterranean, the British minesweeping forces are now being withdrawn from Italian waters and the Italians are being trained to tackle the magnetic mines themselves.

### Minesweepers.

By an agreement between the British Admiralty and the Italian Ministry of Marine signed at the end of January by Admiral G. L. Warren, Flag Officer Italy and chief of the Navy Sub-Commission, and Admiral R. de Courten, Italian Minister of Marine, thirty-two British minesweeping vessels are being loaned to the Italian Navy and are now in process of being taken over by Italian crews at Malta, Messina and Naples. They include sixteen M/S Trawlers, used for sweeping contact mines, and sixteen Motor Minesweepers with apparatus for dealing

1246

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



with mines which detonate acoustically or magnetically. In addition, a special vessel used for demagnetising ships has been transferred to the Italian Navy at Taranto, with all the necessary equipment.

Thus before long the work of mine clearance in Italian waters will be carried out entirely by the Italians themselves, as well as the task of destroying or rendering harmless sea mines which break adrift from their moorings and become a danger either at sea or on the coasts.

The work of the minesweepers, which is hampered in the winter months by bad weather, will begin intensively this spring. Channels will be widened and dangerous areas will be whittled down, but so many and varied are the types of minefields laid by the Germans and Italians that it may be years before the entire waters of the central Mediterranean can be declared free for all purposes.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Here are a few more awards: *Crown of Italy (Knight Officer)* – Lieut. Col. P. D. Shriver, Major P. Cobel, Captain H. W. Dudley and Mr. O. Bazzanella... Honorary citizenship of the City of Cagliari in Sardinia has been conferred upon Brigadiers J. K. Dunlop and M. Carr, Colonels J. R. C. Pennycuick and E. R. McPhee and Lieut. Col. Edward P. Price... The first U. S. officers held six months beyond their normal release date as 8104's (civil affairs officers) are going home this week; three of them... Latest electoral list returns: – compiled 13,782 (96 per cent.); approved – 8,034 (56 per cent.); ready to hold elections – 4,835 communes...

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

February 16, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 46

## POLITICAL

*Party divisions, whether good or bad, are inseparable from a free government.*

BURKE.

The pre-election atmosphere in Italy is beginning to get sharper day by day. Party convocations in Rome, attended by reams of avid comment from friends and foes, appear almost daily affairs. More important, to the bystander, signs of reshufflings and regroupings of the established political aggregations, new marshallings of party forces, for the vital test of strength in the imminent elections, marked this unusually heavy political week. Indeed, as one Roman newspaper put it, rather wistfully, it would be so desirable if all the parties finally separated and coalesced into clear-cut organizations of the Left and Right.

To begin chronologically, with the event that started off the chattering of the editorial sages. On 7 February (see last week's *Bulletin*), at the meeting of the national congress of the Action Party, debate between the right and left wings of the party resulted in a clear split, the consequences of which were that Emilio Lussu, Minister for the *Consulta* in the Italian Government, and leader of the left wing in the party, resigned his office of party secretary and also his post in the Government. Whereupon, to observe the niceties of the situation, Riccardo Lombardi, Minister of Transport, and Ugo La Malfa, Minister of Foreign Trade, center- and right-wing party leaders respectively, and holders of the other two Action Party seats in the Council of Ministers, also resigned. The break within the party was almost immediately widened when former Prime Minister Ferrucio Parri, asserting that the present Action Party no longer followed its original ideals, also walked out and showed up two days later at the congress of the Republican party (of which more later), where he was welcomed and thrice welcomed. This action, despite his denials that he was contemplating joining forces to the Republicans, gave rise at once to the report that he would join the party.

The resignations of the Action Party ministers procedurally were complicated by the fact that an executive committee to accept the withdrawals had not yet been elected. While this matter of form was being adjusted the opposition press, led as usual by *Italia Nuova*, proclaimed these events a Government crisis, which statements were quickly disclaimed by Lussu's assertion that the resignations only meant a reshuffle of Action Party representatives in the six-party Government and not a withdrawal of the party from participation in the Government. Although no word has yet issued on the confirmation of the new Action Party appointees, the latest report has it that Lombardi will be reconfirmed in Transport, Alberto Cianca will replace Lussu and Aurelio Peccei (at present commissioner of the Fiat works in Turin) or Rodolfo Siglienti will take the place of La Malfa. To fill Lussu's spot as party secretary, the party elected Fernando Schiavetti, editor of the Milan *Italia Libera*, who will now also assume the editorship of the Rome organ of the same name.

### Parri.

Parri, who had walked out after the left-wing motion by Codignola had won by a plurality, and taken along with him, besides La Malfa, a group of other Action Party names, notably De Ruggiero, explained his stand further in a letter to the party directorate in which he said that, in view of his fixed aim of fighting for a democratic republic, he could not stay in a party led by men of the present composition of the new executive committee of the party. He said that most Italians wanted a republic and not a socialist state or a dominant political group with a clerical background. He concluded by asking all sympathizers to follow him into a new party, which a few days later he termed a "Democratic Republican Concentration".

Post-mortems on the Action Party crisis filled almost as much space as reports of the events

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



themselves. Togliatti in *Unità* diagnosed the malady by saying that the party perhaps was more eager to espouse the programs of others than to create and follow an integrated one of its own. At least, he remarked, "...a Socialist knows where he stands". Many of the other papers, particularly the *Giornale della Sera*, gave the impression, more or less, of hoping that the patient died quickly.

The day after the Action Congress disbanded —on the 8th—the national council of the Labor Democratic party met. Former Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi, closing the two-day session, made a weighty appeal for a concentrtion of elements of the political center, stating that there should be a middle-class representation of liberal and democratic tendencies, perhaps a social democratic party, between the groups of Socialists and Communists on one hand and Christian Democrats on the other, a proposal on which *Unità*, in a leading article, took occasion to comment that Bonomi's fighting for democracy tended to "disappear under the veneer of all-concealing formulas". *Risorgimento Liberale*, however, agreed that such a coalition of the center would fill "a logical and practical need", while the Labor Democrat party organ, *Rinnovazione*, hailed the speech as worthy of the traditions of the party which one enthusiast proclaimed went back to the initial alliance of Bissolati and Bonomi (the youthful Socialist) in 1912.

### Republicans.

The congress of the Republican party met concurrently and was certainly marked by a spirit of harmonious and hearty loyalty to the goal of a republic, which the party's *Voce Repubblicana*, also calling upon tradition, said went back to Mazzini and Garibaldi. Randolfo Pacciardi, the party's secretary, reiterated the party line that it should abstain from all blocs and concentrations (one of the latest Italian political coinages) and keep a vigilant eye on their enemies, the monarchists. Almost as an aside, the congress voted for decentralization of state administration. The party incidentally also announced that it had 191,065 registered members. The Action Party a few days earlier had asserted it had 257,000 members.

The week did not end that easily for the tired political reporters. Today the *Uomo Qualunque* Front opens another congress in Rome, an event preceded on February 11 by a bold but not unexpected announcement (according to hindsight commentators) of an alliance between the Front and the Democratic (monarchist) Party. The announcement of the alliance, signed by respective leaders of the two groups, Guglielmo Giannini and Enzo Selvaggi, proclaimed the temporary union (but not fusion) as actuated "for the reconstruction of the country". *Momento* immediately placed the interpretation on the event as an "alliance in favor of the monarchy" while *Avanti*, as might be expected, headlined the news under "The Savoy and Giannini fronts fight together against democratic revival in Italy".

The technical battles of the parties in the *Consulta* were resumed on the 11th with the reconvening of that body, which was urged by Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi to make fast progress on the electoral law. Preliminary skirmishing on one of the first days brought about a temporary bedlam of some minutes when a Communist *consultore*, Marchesi, speaking against compulsory voting, made some sarcastic remarks about *consultori* of the center parties, addressing them as "my neo-liberal and neo-anti-Fascist friends". The strictures that followed, the usual suspicions and counter-suspicions that the other party was preparing to rig the electoral machinery, finally gave way to discussions on how far the *Consulta* could go toward defining the powers of the *Costituente*, with the Liberals plumping for a referendum to vote on a list of suggested powers. The *Consulta* sessions came to a climax on the 15th when, by a majority vote and after a succession of declamations and demonstrations in the chamber, the compulsory vote was approved. This, as everyone knows by now, was a defeat for the left-wingers. What the Communists and Socialists will do about it remains to be seen.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Shifting winds of world economic demands force us to tack quite a bit on our last week's grain futures. Tabulations on expected arrivals make it more and more evident that Italy's reserve stocks are dropping lower and lower, with a dangerously low figure of 56,984 tons (or less than a week in hand) as of 1 June, while the July 1 figure cannot even be estimated. The latest cables to UNRRA, which now has the supply responsibility for importing wheat, are pessimistic and speak of unexpectedly low March shipments. The 300-gram ration which the Allied Commission fought for and finally achieved from the Combined Chiefs of Staff has already gone by the board. Already there is talk of having to cancel entirely the new reduced pasta ration (500 grams a month) next month and even the possibility of again

1249

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



tico in my case, for that is full already with the chaps who preceded me two weeks ago and are still waiting, but the Terminus, right near the station, i.e. miles from anything else (and I'm not going anywhere by train), and in some ways a pretty grisly auberge. A distinguishing feature is the lack of keys for the doors. Otherwise, it is only moderately dusty and, to be fair, not quite suicidally depressing.

The dining room is a pleasant room, but the coffee reminds me of the mixture I had on a freighter years ago (after we had been ten days out and hadn't made it fresh since leaving Le Havre). Of course often there isn't any coffee—those are the good days I suppose...

Well, then the next step is filling up forms for luggage. And here are some things one ought to know. Theoretically you are allowed to carry only what you can carry personally up the gang plank in one trip. I thought of my barracks bag, Valpack, wooden box, musette bag, typewriter and two coats—and wondered. Somehow I must do it. But if there is a resounding splash in Naples harbor, you will know it's the ex-DPR faithful to his possessions to the bitter end. Or no, maybe not: I saw pre-occupied expressions on a number of faces when that bit of news was given out. Next—you must list all stuff that might have been GI. And then you are told you must hand in bedding rolls and blankets. For those who had everything packed in bedding rolls it meant a lot of scurrying around the alleys to find supplementary luggage. But it is the law. We were cheered by the announcement that we could carry a gallon of liquor on board (that would make six packages, though, and I'm not up to it). Then having listened to all this we were given hundreds of forms to fill out—it took me literally about two hours to get through mine...

And now we wait. And since Military Government School at Charlottesville I have never heard so many rumors. We hear that Liberty ships are sailing every day but *They* don't want us to take them. We hear that *They* will let us go by plane if we can show cause. We hear there is a boat sailing to-morrow but only for colonels, that there will not be a ship for three weeks, that the first list is already picked, that we have to have all our shots again, etc., etc. So far no evidence to support any of these tales but it's all good clean fun... Emotionally one can sense the aura that hangs about us. We are all orphans. It is a curiously lost feeling you get when you don't really belong to anything any more.

We are all going home to be sure, but everybody wants to get there and not hang around marking time. And we know, too, that we are going back to Uncertainty, however pleasant, and we have left behind a kind of security and in many cases a good bit of our lives as well... So we sit and glare mournfully at each other, seeking separate tables, not speaking too much, wrapped in our own special memories or anticipations...

Major Scotten, by the way, is in the Terminus with me while Colonels Densmore and McPhee are in the Turistico. Densmore is at the moment engaged in a life and death struggle to keep his bedding roll in the teeth of regulations. With four rows of ribbons we don't see how he can lose, but it's touch and go. I'll let you know how the doughty colonel makes out.

## ODDS AND ENDS

A meeting with MTOUSA at Caserta 18 February will decide the permanent T/O of the 2675 Regiment, it is hoped: the present setup contemplates 250 officers and men, with a reduction of 50 men a month from present strength till 1 July, a cut which will not permit the A. C. to carry out its commitments, according to G-1's view... Liaison offices at Florence and Ancona may close for the time being... A survey is being instituted of billet and messing facilities in the North, especially for A. C. Allied civilians who have business in the field... The Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the British side, is looking for surplus officers from A. C.... Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is off on leave to the States... The following awards have come through:

*Italian Cross of War Merit* – Cpl. G. A. Cocco and T/4 M. J. Kafarnia; *Crown of Italy* – (*Grand Officer*) Colonel C. P. Kerr; (*Knight Officer*) Major J. W. Cunliffe; (*Knight*) Captains S. Casale, James F. Elliman, Armando Ferrari and Sidney C. Hall, First Lieut. P. A. Daugert and Sergt. Clemente Barone... 318

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



reconsidering the bread ration itself in order to get the country by until the next harvest.

There is also some financial news. Allied troops in Italy, according to the Finance Sub-Commission, may begin to get paid in Italian metropolitan lire (instead of AM lire) by 15 March as a result of the new currency agreement with the Italian Government. AM lire are, of course, still legal tender. The new exchange rate of 225 lire to the dollar has now been applied to private remittances. Maj. John W. Young (B), formerly chief financial advisor to G-5, is the new head of the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, which is under AFHQ but attached to the Finance Sub-Commission. In Venezia Giulia 5,000 men are being employed on reforestation projects; the immediate need is for two million seedlings.

## SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

The latest cutback in the U.S. Army cigaret ration here in Italy—seven packs a week when some of us before the war used to buy five packs a day—makes us feel very sorry for ourselves but perhaps even more so for our Italian brethren, who, if they want to taste the luxury of a good American smoke, have to pay 17 lire for one fag or 350 lire for a whole pack. This business also brings up the story of the enterprising villagers of the river town of Isola del Liri, recently in the Italian news, who, we are told, have been discovered to be one of the most productive sources of black market cigarets in the country, their industry putting out at its peak as many as 10,000 cigarets in one day.

The cigaret industry of Isola del Liri, however, is now (we hope) a thing of the past as a result of inquiries pursued there by the Italian police. But probably the saddest part of the story has to do with the indignation of the villagers themselves who aver that they were only trying to help out the situation patriotically and that besides, as a result of the income created by their initiative, all the windows of the *Municipio* have been restored and all the main streets of the town re-illuminated, not to mention that their allegedly self-imposed tax of 10 lire a pack has gone into a fund to rebuild their war-damaged homes.

The police story is simpler: The village, employing as many as 1,000 persons in home manufacture, bought tobacco illegally from growers (who should have sold it all to the state monopoly) and when this source of supply dried up, report has it, the cigaret makers were not above using various other ingredients. The chief product was called *Vero Nazionale*. Whether *Vero Camel* or *Vero Players* were made is not known as yet as the matter is being pursued.

The black market in tobacco, of course, is flourishing in practically every Italian town, particularly in Rome, Naples, Turin and Milan, according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 45,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,545 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 40,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

Despite the Isola del Liri competition and that of other friends of heavy smokers, the Italian Government pockets a pretty revenue from its monopolies (which include salt and matches). Currently, this income is about 1,000,000,000 lire a month, of which 3,200,000,000 comes from tobacco. To raise the ante, the monopoly is trying to import raw tobacco from the States and from Turkey, or a total monthly import of 3,000,000 kilos. All that is needed are foreign credits of 870,000,000 (*sic*) over a period of two years...

## WHY POWER IS SHORT

The Electrical Division of Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission has come forth with some interesting facts on the causes for the shortage of electric power in Italy based on statistics taken from records of the Italian Ministry of Public Works. Italy of course depends almost entirely on hydro-electric plants for its power. Rains and melting snows are the sources of the water on which these plants in turn depend to run the water wheels and generators which produce the electric power.

In Italy there are two types of plants; the first uses large reservoirs for water supply while the second, located on streams, utilises the stream flow. Consequently, when there is a shortage of rain or precipitation, the stream flow plants produce greatly reduced amounts of electricity

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



and more dependency must be placed on the storage reservoir plants. If the snow and rainfall over a period of time is below normal, the storage reservoirs do not become refilled. Drought and lack of snow-fall, therefore, not only have an immediate adverse effect upon the stream flow plants, but in addition do not replenish the storage reservoirs.

In Southern Italy approximately 55 per cent. of the generating capacity was damaged by the enemy and through combat operations. At the present time approximately 60 per cent. of this original capacity is now back in operation. In Central Italy something over 90 per cent. of the generating capacity was blown up by the Germans before they left. At the present time about 45 per cent. has been restored to service. In Northern Italy the enemy had planned extensive demolition, but due to the speed with which the Allies advanced and Partisan activity he was unable to do much damage, with the result that slightly over 90 per cent. of the original generating capacity was found intact when the North was liberated.

### Pre-war Power.

Before the war it was customary to send power from Southern and Central Italy to Northern Italy during the winter months when the streams and lakes in the Alps were frozen and when most of the precipitation in the North was in the form of snow. In the spring and summer the reverse operation took place when the snow in the Alps began to melt and some of the power produced therefrom was transported to Central and Southern Italy. However, the transmission lines connecting North Italy with Central and Southern Italy were all damaged or destroyed and only part of these lines has been restored to operation up to the present time, which permits a very limited interchange of power.

The destruction of generating equipment in Central and Southern Italy, the unusual drought conditions which have existed during the past two years, and the unusual loads placed upon the power systems by domestic consumers due to a lack of artificial gas and other cooking fuels have all brought about a combination of conditions which have produced the temporary present power shortage situation which exists this winter throughout the country.

Statistics show how much the precipitation for the years 1944 and 1945 was less than the average normally expected. The normal or average is computed from readings taken over a period of many years and is used as basis for comparison.

Taking the normal or average as 100 per cent., the 1945 precipitation in Northern Italy was 62 per cent. of the average, for Central Italy it was 51 per cent., for Southern Italy it was 82 per cent., for Sicily it was 83.5 per cent. and for Sardinia 62.5 per cent. Precipitation in 1944 was noticeably heavier.

The power shortage has made it necessary to reduce the energy consumption and also to reduce the load on the electric power systems. The first is done by rationing decrees limiting the amount of electric energy used by all classes of consumers. The second is accomplished by shutting off the power supply in rotation to large areas for varying periods of time. For example, in the North a coast-to-coast uniform rationing system has been set up as a result of Allied Commission efforts.

Drought conditions not only exist in Italy, but also in other countries of the Mediterranean basin. Spain and France report acute power shortages due to drought conditions, which, of course, have also affected the harvest everywhere.

## ANTICLIMAX AT NAPLES

Considering the number of our comrades who have been through this experience already and the natural curiosity among those who haven't, but will, it seems odd that no one has told us about the functioning of a repple-depple. Or perhaps it was kindness, says our late esteemed boss, writing from the Naples repple-depple.

The first thing is to get out to Bagnoli and report at one of the little white huts among many. This is easy if your driver knows where he is going, but it took me about 10 minutes from the Parco (where I learned immediately that I couldn't stay). Then you are seated at a desk—just like school—and made to fill out three forms. Mostly the filling out is a matter of checking off documents that are supposed to be in your possession. Have you an AGO? Have you an immunization record? Have you a form 307? Another 37-54? And two copies?... The trouble was I didn't know what any of them meant and kept saying "no" and looking frustrated. Then the sergeant would lean over and pick something out of the little traveller's library the Regiment gave me as a going away present and say: "There it is"— almost adding, I felt, "Don't cry Colonel". Well, actually that was no so bad.

Then one is whisked back to a hotel. Not the Excelsior, not the Parco, not even the Tar-

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



tico in my case, for that is full already with the chaps who preceded me two weeks ago and are still waiting, but the Terminus, right near the station, i.e. miles from anything else (and I'm not going anywhere by train), and in some ways a pretty grisly auberge. A distinguishing feature is the lack of keys for the doors. Otherwise, it is only moderately dusty and, to be fair, not quite suicidally depressing.

The dining room is a pleasant room, but the coffee reminds me of the mixture I had on a freighter years ago (after we had been ten days out and hadn't made it fresh since leaving Le Havre). Of course often there isn't any coffee—those are the good days I suppose...

Well, then the next step is filling up forms for luggage. And here are some things one ought to know. Theoretically you are allowed to carry only what you can carry personally up the gang plank in one trip. I thought of my barracks bag, Valpack, wooden box, musette bag, typewriter and two coats—and wondered. Somehow I must do it. But if there is a resounding splash in Naples harbor, you will know it's the ex-DPR faithful to his possessions to the bitter end. Or no, maybe not: I saw pre-occupied expressions on a number of faces when that bit of news was given out. Next—you must list all stuff that might have been GI. And then you are told you must hand in bedding rolls and blankets. For those who had everything packed in bedding rolls it meant a lot of scurrying around the alleys to find supplementary luggage. But it is the law. We were cheered by the announcement that we could carry a gallon of liquor on board (that would make six packages, though, and I'm not up to it). Then having listened to all this we were given hundreds of forms to fill out—it took me literally about two hours to get through nine...

And now we wait. And since Military Government School at Charlottesville I have never heard so many rumors. We hear that Liberty ships are sailing every day but *They* don't want us to take them. We hear that *They* will let us go by plane if we can show cause. We hear there is a boat sailing to-morrow but only for colonels, that there will not be a ship for three weeks, that the first list is already picked, that we have to have all our shots again, etc., etc. So far no evidence to support any of these tales but it's all good clean fun... Emotionally one can sense the aura that hangs about us. We are all orphans. It is a curiously lost feeling you get when you don't really belong to anything any more.

We are all going home to be sure, but everybody wants to get there and not hang around marking time. And we know, too, that we are going back to Uncertainty, however pleasant, and we have left behind a kind of security and in many cases a good bit of our lives as well... So we sit and glare mournfully at each other, seeking separate tables, not speaking too much, wrapped in our own special memories or anticipations...

Major Scotten, by the way, is in the Terminus with me while Colonels Densmore and McPhee are in the Turistico. Densmore is at the moment engaged in a life and death struggle to keep his bedding roll in the teeth of regulations. With four rows of ribbons we don't see how he can lose, but it's touch and go. I'll let you know how the doughty colonel makes out.

## ODDS AND ENDS

A meeting with MTOUSA at Caserta 18 February will decide the permanent T/O of the 2675 Regiment, it is hoped: the present setup contemplates 250 officers and men, with a reduction of 50 men a month from present strength till 1 July, a cut which will not permit the A. C. to carry out its commitments, according to G-1's view... Liaison offices at Florence and Ancona may close for the time being... A survey is being instituted of billet and messing facilities in the North, especially for A. C. Allied civilians who have business in the field... The Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the British side, is looking for surplus officers from A. C.... Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is off on leave to the States... The following awards have come through:

*Italian Cross of War Merit* – Cpl. G. A. Cocco and T/4 M. J. Kutarnia; *Crown of Italy* – (*Grand Officer*) Colonel C. P. Kerr; (*Knight Officer*) Major J. W. Cunliffe; (*Knight*) Captains S. Casale, James F. Elliman, Armando Ferrari and Sidney C. Hall, First Lieut. P. A. Dangert and Sergt. Clemente Barone...

318

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

FEB 18 RECD

RESTRICTED

February 16, 1946

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 46

## POLITICAL

*Party divisions, whether great or bad, are inseparable from a free government.*

BURKE.

The pre-election atmosphere in Italy is beginning to get sharper day by day. Party conventions in Rome, attended by reams of avid comment from friends and foes, appear almost daily affairs. More important, to the bystander, signs of reshufflings and regroupings of the established political aggregations, new marshallings of party forces, for the vital test of strength in the imminent elections, marked this unusually heavy political week. Indeed, as one Roman newspaper put it, rather wistfully, it would be so desirable if all the parties finally separated and coalesced into clear-cut organizations of the Left and Right.

To begin chronologically, with the event that started off the chattering of the editorial sages, On 7 February (see last week's *Bulletin*), at the meeting of the national congress of the Action Party, debate between the right and left wings of the party resulted in a clear split, the consequences of which were that Emilio Lussu, Minister for the *Consulta* in the Italian Government, and leader of the left wing in the party, resigned his office of party secretary and also his post in the Government. Whereupon, to observe the niceties of the situation, Riccardo Lombardi, Minister of Transport, and Ugo La Malfa, Minister of Foreign Trade, center- and right-wing party leaders respectively, and holders of the other two Action Party seats in the Council of Ministers, also resigned. The break within the party was almost immediately widened when former Prime Minister Ferruccio Parri, asserting that the present Action Party no longer followed its original ideals, also walked out and showed up two days later at the congress of the Republican party (of which more later), where he was welcomed and thrice welcomed. This action, despite his denials that he was contemplating joining forces to the Republicans, gave rise at once to the report that he would join the party.

The resignations of the Action Party ministers procedurally were complicated by the fact that an executive committee to accept the withdrawals had not yet been elected. While this matter of form was being adjusted the opposition press, led as usual by *Italia Nuova*, proclaimed these events a Government crisis, which statements were quickly disclaimed by Lussu's assertion that the resignations only meant a reshuffle of Action Party representatives in the six-party Government and not a withdrawal of the party from participation in the Government. Although no word has yet issued on the confirmation of the new Action Party appointees, the latest report has it that Lombardi will be reconfirmed in Transport, Alberto Cianca will replace Lussu and Aurelio Peccei (at present commissioner of the Fiat works in Turin) or Rodolfo Siglienti will take the place of La Malfa. To fill Lussu's spot as party secretary, the party elected Fernando Schiavetti, editor of the Milan *Italia Libera*, who will now also assume the editorship of the Rome organ of the same name.

### Parri.

Parri, who had walked out after the left-wing motion by Codignola had won by a plurality, and taken along with him, besides La Malfa, a group of other Action Party names, notably De Ruggiero, explained his stand further in a letter to the party directorate in which he said that, in view of his fixed aim of fighting for a democratic republic, he could not stay in a party led by men of the present composition of the new executive committee of the party. He said that most Italians wanted a republic and not a socialist state, or a dominant political group with a clerical background. He concluded by asking all sympathizers to follow him into a new party, which a few days later he termed a "Democratic Republican Concentration".

Post-mortems on the Action Party crisis filled almost as much space as reports of the events

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



themselves. Togliatti in *Unità* diagnosed the malady by saying that the party perhaps was more eager to espouse the programs of others than to create and follow an integrated one of its own. At least, he remarked, "... a Socialist knows where he stands". Many of the other papers, particularly the *Giornale della Sera*, gave the impression, more or less, of hoping that the patient died quickly.

The day after the Action Congress disbanded —on the 8th—the national council of the Labor Democratic party met. Former Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi, closing the two-day session, made a weighty appeal for a concentration of elements of the political center, stating that there should be a middle-class representation of liberal and democratic tendencies, perhaps a social democratic party, between the groups of Socialists and Communists on one hand and Christian Democrats on the other, a proposal on which *Unità*, in a leading article, took occasion to comment that Bonomi's fighting for democracy tended to "disappear under the veneer of all-concealing formulas". *Risorgimento Liberale*, however, agreed that such a coalition of the center would fill "a logical and practical need", while the Labor Democrat party organ, *Ricostruzione*, hailed the speech as worthy of the traditions of the party which one enthusiast proclaimed went back to the initial alliance of Bissolati and Bonomi (the youthful Socialist) in 1912.

### Republicans.

The congress of the Republican party met concurrently and was certainly marked by a spirit of harmonious and hearty loyalty to the goal of a republic, which the party's *Voce Repubblicana*, also calling upon tradition, said went back to Mazzini and Garibaldi. Randolfo Pacciardi, the party's secretary, reiterated the party line that it should abstain from all blocs and concentrations (one of the latest Italian political coinages) and keep a vigilant eye on their enemies, the monarchists. Almost as an aside, the congress voted for decentralization of state administration. The party incidentally also announced that it had 194,065 registered members. The Action Party a few days earlier had asserted it had 267,000 members.

The week did not end that easily for the tired political reporters. Today the *Uomo Qualunque* Front opens another congress in Rome, an event preceded on February 14 by a bold but not unexpected announcement (according to hindsight commentators) of an alliance between the Front and the Democratic (monarchist) Party. The announcement of the alliance, signed by respective leaders of the two groups, Guglielmo Giannini and Enzo Selvaggi, proclaimed the temporary union (but not fusion) as actuated "for the reconstruction of the country". *Momento* immediately placed the interpretation on the event as an "alliance in favor of the monarchy" while *Avanti*, as might be expected, headlined the news under "The Savoy and Giannini fronts fight together against democratic revival in Italy".

The technical battles of the parties in the *Consulta* were resumed on the 11th with the reconvening of that body, which was urged by Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi to make fast progress on the electoral law. Preliminary skirmishing on one of the first days brought about a temporary bedlam of some minutes when a Communist *consultore*, Marchesi, speaking against compulsory voting, made some sarcastic remarks about *consultori* of the center parties, addressing them as "my neo-liberal and neo-anti-Fascist friends". The strictures that followed, the usual suspicious and counter-suspicions that the other party was preparing to rig the electoral machinery, finally gave way to discussions on how far the *Consulta* could go toward defining the powers of the *Costituente*, with the Liberals plumping for a referendum to vote on a list of suggested powers. The *Consulta* sessions came to a climax on the 15th when, by a majority vote and after a succession of declamations and demonstrations in the chamber, the compulsory vote was approved. This, as everyone knows by now, was a defeat for the left-wingers. What the Communists and Socialists will do about it remains to be seen.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Shifting winds of world economic demands force us to tack quite a bit on our last week's grain futures. Tabulations on expected arrivals make it more and more evident that Italy's reserve stocks are dropping lower and lower, with a dangerously low figure of 56,984 tons (or less than a week in hand) as of 1 June, while the July 1 figure cannot even be estimated. The latest cables to UNRRA, which now has the supply responsibility for importing wheat, are pessimistic and speak of unexpectedly low March shipments. The 300-gram ration which the Allied Commission fought for and finally achieved from the Combined Chiefs of Staff has already gone by the board. Already there is talk of having to cancel entirely the new reduced pasta ration (500 grams a month) next month and even the possibility of again

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



reconsidering the bread ration itself in order to get the country by until the next harvest.

There is also some financial news. Allied troops in Italy, according to the Finance Sub-Commission, may begin to get paid in Italian metropolitan lire (instead of AM lire) by 15 March as a result of the new currency agreement with the Italian Government. AM lire are, of course, still legal tender. The new exchange rate of 225 lire to the dollar has now been applied to private remittances. Maj. John W. Young (B), formerly chief financial advisor to G-5, is the new head of the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, which is under AFHQ but attached to the Finance Sub-Commission. In Venezia Giulia 5,000 men are being employed on reforestation projects; the immediate need is for two million seedlings.

## SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

The latest cutback in the U. S. Army cigaret ration here in Italy—seven packs a week when some of us before the war used to buy five packs a day—makes us feel very sorry for ourselves but perhaps even more so for our Italian brethren, who, if they want to taste the luxury of a good American smoke, have to pay 17 lire for one fag or 350 lire for a whole pack. This business also brings up the story of the enterprising villagers of the river town of Isola del Liri, recently in the Italian news, who, we are told, have been discovered to be one of the most productive sources of black market cigarets in the country, their industry putting out at its peak as many as 10,000 cigarets in one day.

The cigaret industry of Isola del Liri, however, is now (we hope) a thing of the past as a result of inquiries pursued there by the Italian police. But probably the saddest part of the story has to do with the indignation of the villagers themselves who aver that they were only trying to help out the situation patriotically and that besides, as a result of the income created by their initiative, all the windows of the *Municipio* have been restored and all the main streets of the town re-illuminated, not to mention that their allegedly self-imposed tax of 10 lire a pack has gone into a fund to rebuild their war-damaged homes.

The police story is simpler: The village, employing as many as 1,000 persons in home manufacture, bought tobacco illegally from growers (who should have sold it all to the state monopoly) and when this source of supply dried up, report has it, the cigaret makers were not above using various other ingredients. The chief product was called *Vero Nazionale*. Whether *Vero Camel* or *Vero Players* were made is not known as yet as the matter is being pursued.

The black market in tobacco, of course, is flourishing in practically every Italian town, particularly in Rome, Naples, Turin and Milan, according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 15,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,547 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 40,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

Despite the Isola del Liri competition and that of other friends of heavy smokers, the Italian Government pockets a pretty revenue from its monopolies (which include salt and matches). Currently, this income is about 1,000,000,000 lire a month, of which 3,200,000,000 comes from tobacco. To raise the ante, the monopoly is trying to import raw tobacco from the States and from Turkey, or a total monthly import of 3,000,000 kilos. All that is needed are foreign credits of 870,000,000 (*sic*) over a period of two years...

## WHY POWER IS SHORT

The Electrical Division of Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission has come forth with some interesting facts on the causes for the shortage of electric power in Italy based on statistics taken from records of the Italian Ministry of Public Works. Italy of course depends almost entirely on hydro-electric plants for its power. Rains and melting snows are the sources of the water on which these plants in turn depend to run the water wheels and generators which produce the electric power.

In Italy there are two types of plants; the first uses large reservoirs for water supply while the second, located on streams, utilises the stream flow. Consequently, when there is a shortage of rain or precipitation, the stream flow plants produce greatly reduced amounts of electricity

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



and more dependency must be placed on the storage reservoir plants. If the snow and rainfall over a period of time is below normal, the storage reservoirs do not become refilled. Drought and lack of snow-fall, therefore, not only have an immediate adverse effect upon the stream flow plants, but in addition do not replenish the storage reservoirs.

In Southern Italy approximately 55 per cent. of the generating capacity was damaged by the enemy and through combat operations. At the present time approximately 60 per cent. of this original capacity is now back in operation. In Central Italy something over 90 per cent. of the generating capacity was blown up by the Germans before they left. At the present time about 45 per cent. has been restored to service. In Northern Italy the enemy had planned extensive demolition, but due to the speed with which the Allies advanced and Partisan activity he was unable to do much damage, with the result that slightly over 90 per cent. of the original generating capacity was found intact when the North was liberated.

### Pre-war Power.

Before the war it was customary to send power from Southern and Central Italy to Northern Italy during the winter months when the streams and lakes in the Alps were frozen and when most of the precipitation in the North was in the form of snow. In the spring and summer the reverse operation took place when the snow in the Alps began to melt and some of the power produced therefrom was transported to Central and Southern Italy. However, the transmission lines connecting North Italy with Central and Southern Italy were all damaged or destroyed and only part of these lines has been restored to operation up to the present time, which permits a very limited interchange of power.

The destruction of generating equipment in Central and Southern Italy, the unusual drought conditions which have existed during the past two years, and the unusual loads placed upon the power systems by domestic consumers due to a lack of artificial gas and other cooking fuels have all brought about a combination of conditions which have produced the temporary present power shortage situation which exists this winter throughout the country.

Statistics show how much the precipitation for the years 1944 and 1945 was less than the average normally expected. The normal or average is computed from readings taken over a period of many years and is used as basis for comparison.

Taking the normal or average as 100 per cent., the 1945 precipitation in Northern Italy was 62 per cent. of the average, for Central Italy it was 51 per cent., for Southern Italy it was 82 per cent., for Sicily it was 83.5 per cent. and for Sardinia 62.5 per cent. Precipitation in 1944 was noticeably heavier.

The power shortage has made it necessary to reduce the energy consumption and also to reduce the load on the electric power systems. The first is done by rationing decrees limiting the amount of electric energy used by all classes of consumers. The second is accomplished by shutting off the power supply in rotation to large areas for varying periods of time. For example, in the North a coast-to-coast uniform rationing system has been set up as a result of Allied Commission efforts.

Drought conditions not only exist in Italy, but also in other countries of the Mediterranean basin. Spain and France report acute power shortages due to drought conditions, which, of course, have also affected the harvest everywhere.

## ANTICLIMAX AT NAPLES

Considering the number of our comrades who have been through this experience already and the natural curiosity among those who haven't, but will, it seems odd that no one has told us about the functioning of a repple-depple. Or perhaps it was kindness, says our late esteemed boss, writing from the Naples repple-depple.

The first thing is to get out to Bagnoli and report at one of the little white huts among many. This is easy if your driver knows where he is going, but it took me about 40 minutes from the Pareo (where I learned immediately that I couldn't stay). Then you are seated at a desk—just like school—and made to fill out three forms. Mostly the filling out is a matter of checking off documents that are supposed to be in your possession. Have you an AGO? Have you an immunization record? Have you a form 367? Another 37-54? And two copies?... The trouble was I didn't know what any of them meant and kept saying "no" and looking frustrated. Then the sergeant would lean over and pick something out of the little traveller's library the Regiment gave me as a going away present and say: "There it is"— almost adding, I felt, "Don't cry Colonel". Well, actually that was no so bad.

Then one is whisked back to a hotel. Not the Excelsior, not the Pareo, not even the Euris-

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



tico in my case, for that is full already with the chaps who preceded me two weeks ago and are still waiting, but the Terminus, right near the station, i.e. miles from anything else (and I'm not going anywhere by train), and in some ways a pretty grisly auberge. A distinguishing feature is the lack of keys for the doors. Otherwise, it is only moderately dusty and, to be fair, not quite suicidally depressing.

The dining room is a pleasant room, but the coffee reminds me of the mixture I had on a freighter years ago (after we had been ten days out and hadn't made it fresh since leaving Le Havre). Of course often there isn't any coffee—those are the good days I suppose...

Well, then the next step is filling up forms for luggage. And here are some things one ought to know. Theoretically you are allowed to carry only what you can carry personally up the gang plank in one trip. I thought of my barracks bag, Valpack, wooden box, musette bag, typewriter and two coats—and wondered. Somehow I must do it. But if there is a resounding splash in Naples harbor, you will know it's the ex-DPR faithful to his possessions to the bitter end. Or no, maybe not: I saw pre-occupied expressions on a number of faces when that bit of news was given out. Next—you must list all stuff that might have been GI. And then you are told you must hand in bedding rolls and blankets. For those who had everything packed in bedding rolls it meant a lot of scurrying around the alleys to find supplementary luggage. But it is the law. We were cheered by the announcement that we could carry a gallon of liquor on board (that would make six packages, though, and I'm not up to it). Then having listened to all this we were given hundreds of forms to fill out—it took me literally about two hours to get through mine...

And now we wait. And since Military Government School at Charlottesville I have never heard so many rumors. We hear that Liberty ships are sailing every day but *They* don't want us to take them. We hear that *They* will let us go by plane if we can show cause. We hear there is a boat sailing to-morrow but only for colonels, that there will not be a ship for three weeks, that the first list is already picked, that we have to have all our shots again, etc., etc. So far no evidence to support any of these tales but it's all good clean fun... Emotionally one can sense the aura that hangs about us. We are all orphans. It is a curiously lost feeling you get when you don't really belong to anything any more.

We are all going home to be sure, but everybody wants to get there and not hang around marking time. And we know, too, that we are going back to Uncertainty, however pleasant, and we have left behind a kind of security and in many cases a good bit of our lives as well... So we sit and glare mournfully at each other, seeking separate tables, not speaking too much, wrapped in our own special memories or anticipations...

Major Scotten, by the way, is in the Terminus with me while Colonels Densmore and McPhee are in the Turistico. Densmore is at the moment engaged in a life and death struggle to keep his bedding roll in the teeth of regulations. With four rows of ribbons we don't see how he can lose, but it's touch and go. I'll let you know how the doughty colonel makes out.

## ODDS AND ENDS

A meeting with MTOUSA at Caserta 18 February will decide the permanent T/O of the 2675 Regiment, it is hoped: the present setup contemplates 250 officers and men, with a reduction of 50 men a month from present strength till 1 July, a cut which will not permit the A. C. to carry out its commitments, according to G-1's view... Liaison offices at Florence and Ancona may close for the time being... A survey is being instituted of billet and messing facilities in the North, especially for A. C. Allied civilians who have business in the field... The Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the British side, is looking for surplus officers from A. C.... Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is off on leave to the States... The following awards have come through:

*Italian Cross of War Merit* – Cpl. G. A. Cocco and T/4 M. J. Kutarnia; *Crown of Italy* – (*Grand Officer*) Colonel C. P. Kerr; (*Knight Officer*) Major J. W. Cunliffe; (*Knight*) Captains S. Casale, James F. Ellinan, Armando Ferrari and Sidney C. Hall, First Lieut. P. A. Dangert and Sergt. Clemente Barone...

S16

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

FEB 18 1946

February 16, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 46

## POLITICAL

*Party divisions, whether good or bad, are inseparable from a free government.*

BURKE.

The pre-election atmosphere in Italy is beginning to get sharper day by day. Party convocations in Rome, attended by reams of avid comment from friends and foes, appear almost daily affairs. More important, to the bystander, signs of reshufflings and regroupings of the established political aggregations, new marshallings of party forces, for the vital test of strength in the imminent elections, marked this unusually heavy political week. Indeed, as one Roman newspaper put it, rather wistfully, it would be so desirable if all the parties finally separated and coalesced into clear-cut organizations of the Left and Right.

To begin chronologically, with the event that started off the chattering of the editorial sages. On 7 February (see last week's *Bulletin*), at the meeting of the national congress of the Action Party, debate between the right and left wings of the party resulted in a clear split, the consequences of which were that Emilio Lussu, Minister for the *Consulta* in the Italian Government, and leader of the left wing in the party, resigned his office of party secretary and also his post in the Government. Whereupon, to observe the niceties of the situation, Riccardo Lombardi, Minister of Transport, and Ugo La Malfa, Minister of Foreign Trade, center- and right-wing party leaders respectively, and holders of the other two Action Party seats in the Council of Ministers, also resigned. The break within the party was almost immediately widened when former Prime Minister Ferruccio Parri, asserting that the present Action Party no longer followed its original ideals, also walked out and showed up two days later at the congress of the Republican party (of which more later), where he was welcomed and thrice welcomed. This action, despite his denials that he was contemplating joining forces to the Republicans, gave rise at once to the report that he would join the party.

The resignations of the Action Party ministers procedurally were complicated by the fact that an executive committee to accept the withdrawals had not yet been elected. While this matter of form was being adjusted the opposition press, led as usual by *Italia Nuova*, proclaimed these events a Government crisis, which statements were quickly disclaimed by Lussu's assertion that the resignations only meant a reshuffle of Action Party representatives in the six-party Government and not a withdrawal of the party from participation in the Government. Although no word has yet issued on the confirmation of the new Action Party appointees, the latest report has it that Lombardi will be reconfirmed in Transport, Alberto Cianca will replace Lussu and Aurelio Peccei (at present commissioner of the Fiat works in Turin) or Rodolfo Siglienti will take the place of La Malfa. To fill Lussu's spot as party secretary, the party elected Fernando Schiavetti, editor of the Milan *Italia Libera*, who will now also assume the editorship of the Rome organ of the same name.

### Parri.

Parri, who had walked out after the left-wing motion by Codignola had won by a plurality, and taken along with him, besides La Malfa, a group of other Action Party names, notably De Ruggiero, explained his stand further in a letter to the party directorate in which he said that, in view of his fixed aim of fighting for a democratic republic, he could not stay in a party led by men of the present composition of the new executive committee of the party. He said that most Italians wanted a republic and not a socialist state or a dominant political group with a clerical background. He concluded by asking all sympathizers to follow him into a new party, which a few days later he termed a "Democratic Republican Concentration".

Post-mortems on the Action Party crisis filled almost as much space as reports of the events

13091

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



themselves. Togliatti in *Unità* diagnosed the malady by saying that the party perhaps was more eager to espouse the programs of others than to create and follow an integrated one of its own. At least, he remarked, "... a Socialist knows where he stands". Many of the other papers, particularly the *Giornale della Sera*, gave the impression, more or less, of hoping that the patient died quickly.

The day after the Action Congress disbanded —on the 8th—the national council of the Labor Democratic party met. Former Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi, closing the two-day session, made a weighty appeal for a concentrtion of elements of the political center, stating that there should be a middle-class representation of liberal and democratic tendencies, perhaps a social democratic party, between the groups of Socialists and Communists on one hand and Christian Democrats on the other, a proposal on which *Unità*, in a leading article, took occasion to comment that Bonomi's fighting for democracy tended to "disappear under the veneer of all-concealing formulas". *Risorgimento Liberale*, however, agreed that such a coalition of the center would fill "a logical and practical need", while the Labor Democrat party organ, *Ricostruzione*, hailed the speech as worthy of the traditions of the party which one enthusiast proclaimed went back to the initial alliance of Bissolati and Bonomi (the youthful Socialist) in 1912.

### Republicans.

The congress of the Republican party met concurrently and was certainly marked by a spirit of harmonious and hearty loyalty to the goal of a republic, which the party's *Voce Repubblicana*, also calling upon tradition, said went back to Mazzini and Garibaldi. Randolfo Pacciardi, the party's secretary, reiterated the party line that it should abstain from all blocs and concentrations (one of the latest Italian political coinages) and keep a vigilant eye on their enemies, the monarchists. Almost as an aside, the congress voted for decentralization of state administration. The party incidentally also announced that it had 194,065 registered members. The Action Party a few days earlier had asserted it had 267,000 members.

The week did not end that easily for the tired political reporters. Today the *Uomo Qualunque* Front opens another congress in Rome, an event preceded on February 14 by a bold but not unexpected announcement (according to hindsight commentators) of an alliance between the Front and the Democratic (monarchist) Party. The announcement of the alliance, signed by respective leaders of the two groups, Guglielmo Giannini and Enzo Selvaggi, proclaimed the temporary union (but not fusion) as actuated "for the reconstruction of the country". *Momento* immediately placed the interpretation on the event as an "alliance in favor of the monarchy" while *Avanti*, as might be expected, headlined the news under "The Savoy and Giannini fronts fight together against democratic revival in Italy".

The technical battles of the parties in the *Consulta* were resumed on the 11th with the reconvening of that body, which was urged by Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi to make fast progress on the electoral law. Preliminary skirmishing on one of the first days brought about a temporary bedlam of some minutes when a Communist *consultore*, Marchesi, speaking against compulsory voting, made some sarcastic remarks about *consultori* of the center parties, addressing them as "my neo-liberal and neo-anti-Fascist friends". The strictures that followed, the usual suspicions and counter-suspicions that the other party was preparing to rig the electoral machinery, finally gave way to discussions on how far the *Consulta* could go toward defining the powers of the *Costituente*, with the Liberals plumping for a referendum to vote on a list of suggested powers. The *Consulta* sessions came to a climax on the 15th when, by a majority vote and after a succession of declamations and demonstrations in the chamber, the compulsory vote was approved. This, as everyone knows by now, was a defeat for the left-wingers. What the Communists and Socialists will do about it remains to be seen.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Shifting winds of world economic demands force us to tack quite a bit on our last week's grain futures. Tabulations on expected arrivals make it more and more evident that Italy's reserve stocks are dropping lower and lower, with a dangerously low figure of 56,384 tons (or less than a week in hand) as of 1 June, while the July 1 figure cannot even be estimated. The latest cables to UNRRA, which now has the supply responsibility for importing wheat, are pessimistic and speak of unexpectedly low March shipments. The 300-gram ration which the Allied Commission fought for and finally achieved from the Combined Chiefs of Staff has already gone by the board. Already there is talk of having to cancel entirely the new reduced pasta ration (500 grams a month) next month and even the possibility of again

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



reconsidering the bread ration itself in order to get the country by until the next harvest.

There is also some financial news. Allied troops in Italy, according to the Finance Sub-Commission, may begin to get paid in Italian metropolitan lire (instead of AM lire) by 15 March as a result of the new currency agreement with the Italian Government. AM lire are, of course, still legal tender. The new exchange rate of 225 lire to the dollar has now been applied to private remittances. Maj. John W. Young (B), formerly chief financial advisor to G-5, is the new head of the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, which is under AFHQ but attached to the Finance Sub-Commission. In Venezia Giulia 5,000 men are being employed on reforestation projects; the immediate need is for two million seedlings.

## SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

The latest cutback in the U. S. Army cigaret ration here in Italy—seven packs a week when some of us before the war used to buy five packs a day—makes us feel very sorry for ourselves but perhaps even more so for our Italian brethren, who, if they want to taste the luxury of a good American smoke, have to pay 17 lire for one fag or 350 lire for a whole pack. This business also brings up the story of the enterprising villagers of the river town of Isola del Liri, recently in the Italian news, who, we are told, have been discovered to be one of the most productive sources of black market cigarets in the country, their industry putting out at its peak as many as 10,000 cigarets in one day.

The cigaret industry of Isola del Liri, however, is now (we hope) a thing of the past as a result of inquiries pursued there by the Italian police. But probably the saddest part of the story has to do with the indignation of the villagers themselves who aver that they were only trying to help out the situation patriotically and that besides, as a result of the income created by their initiative, all the windows of the *Municipio* have been restored and all the main streets of the town re-illuminated, not to mention that their allegedly self-imposed tax of 10 lire a pack has gone into a fund to rebuild their war-damaged homes.

The police story is simpler: The village, employing as many as 1,000 persons in home manufacture, bought tobacco illegally from growers (who should have sold it all to the state monopoly) and when this source of supply dried up, report has it, the cigaret makers were not above using various other ingredients. The chief product was called *Vero Nazionale*. Whether *Vero Camel* or *Vero Players* were made is not known as yet as the matter is being pursued.

The black market in tobacco, of course, is flourishing in practically every Italian town, particularly in Rome, Naples, Turin and Milan, according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 15,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,547 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 40,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

Despite the Isola del Liri competition and that of other friends of heavy smokers, the Italian Government pockets a pretty revenue from its monopolies (which include salt and matches). Currently, this income is about 4,000,000,000 lire a month, of which 3,200,000,000 comes from tobacco. To raise the ante, the monopoly is trying to import raw tobacco from the States and from Turkey, or a total monthly import of 3,000,000 kilos. All that is needed are foreign credits of 870,000,000 *(sic)* over a period of two years...

## WHY POWER IS SHORT

The Electrical Division of Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission has come forth with some interesting facts on the causes for the shortage of electric power in Italy based on statistics taken from records of the Italian Ministry of Public Works. Italy of course depends almost entirely on hydro-electric plants for its power. Rains and melting snows are the sources of the water on which these plants in turn depend to run the water wheels and generators which produce the electric power.

In Italy there are two types of plants; the first uses large reservoirs for water supply while the second, located on streams, utilises the stream flow. Consequently, when there is a shortage of rain or precipitation, the stream flow plants produce greatly reduced amounts of electricity

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



and more dependency must be placed on the storage reservoir plants. If the snow and rainfall over a period of time is below normal, the storage reservoirs do not become refilled. Drought and lack of snow-fall, therefore, not only have an immediate adverse effect upon the stream flow plants, but in addition do not replenish the storage reservoirs.

In Southern Italy approximately 55 per cent. of the generating capacity was damaged by the enemy and through combat operations. At the present time approximately 60 per cent. of this original capacity is now back in operation. In Central Italy something over 90 per cent. of the generating capacity was blown up by the Germans before they left. At the present time about 45 per cent. has been restored to service. In Northern Italy the enemy had planned extensive demolition, but due to the speed with which the Allies advanced and Partisan activity he was unable to do much damage, with the result that slightly over 90 per cent. of the original generating capacity was found intact when the North was liberated.

### Pre-war Power.

Before the war it was customary to send power from Southern and Central Italy to Northern Italy during the winter months when the streams and lakes in the Alps were frozen and when most of the precipitation in the North was in the form of snow. In the spring and summer the reverse operation took place when the snow in the Alps began to melt and some of the power produced therefrom was transported to Central and Southern Italy. However, the transmission lines connecting North Italy with Central and Southern Italy were all damaged or destroyed and only part of these lines has been restored to operation up to the present time, which permits a very limited interchange of power.

The destruction of generating equipment in Central and Southern Italy, the unusual drought conditions which have existed during the past two years, and the unusual loads placed upon the power systems by domestic consumers due to a lack of artificial gas and other cooking fuels have all brought about a combination of conditions which have produced the temporary present power shortage situation which exists this winter throughout the country.

Statistics show how much the precipitation for the years 1944 and 1945 was less than the average normally expected. The normal or average is computed from readings taken over a period of many years and is used as basis for comparison.

Taking the normal or average as 100 per cent., the 1945 precipitation in Northern Italy was 62 per cent. of the average, for Central Italy it was 51 per cent., for Southern Italy it was 82 per cent., for Sicily it was 83.5 per cent. and for Sardinia 62.5 per cent. Precipitation in 1944 was noticeably heavier.

The power shortage has made it necessary to reduce the energy consumption and also to reduce the load on the electric power systems. The first is done by rationing decrees limiting the amount of electric energy used by all classes of consumers. The second is accomplished by shutting off the power supply in rotation to large areas for varying periods of time. For example, in the North a coast-to-coast uniform rationing system has been set up as a result of Allied Commission efforts.

Drought conditions not only exist in Italy, but also in other countries of the Mediterranean basin. Spain and France report acute power shortages due to drought conditions which, of course, have also affected the harvest everywhere.

## ANTICLIMAX AT NAPLES

Considering the number of our comrades who have been through this experience already and the natural curiosity among those who haven't, but will, it seems odd that no one has told us about the functioning of a repple-depple. Or perhaps it was kindness, says our late esteemed boss, writing from the Naples repple-depple.

The first thing is to get out to Bagnoli and report at one of the little white huts among many. This is easy if your driver knows where he is going, but it took me about 40 minutes from the Parco [where I learned immediately that I couldn't stay. Then you are seated at a desk—just like school—and made to fill out three forms. Mostly the filling out is a matter of checking off documents that are supposed to be in your possession. Have you an AGO? Have you an immunization record? Have you a form 367? Another 37-54? And two copies?... The trouble was I didn't know what any of them meant and kept saying "no" and looking frustrated. Then the sergeant would lean over and pick something out of the little traveller's library the Regiment gave me as a going away present and say: "There it is"— almost adding, I felt, "Don't cry Colonel". Well, actually that was no so bad.

Then one is whisked back to a hotel. Not the Excelsior, not the Parco, not even the Turis-

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



tico in my case, for that is full already with the chaps who preceded me two weeks ago and are still waiting, but the Terminus, right near the station, i.e. miles from anything else (and I'm not going anywhere by train), and in some ways a pretty grisly auberge. A distinguishing feature is the lack of keys for the doors. Otherwise, it is only moderately dusty and, to be fair, not quite suicidally depressing.

The dining room is a pleasant room, but the coffee reminds me of the mixture I had on a freighter years ago (after we had been ten days out and hadn't made it fresh since leaving Le Havre). Of course often there isn't any coffee—those are the good days I suppose...

Well, then the next step is filling up forms for luggage. And here are some things one ought to know. Theoretically you are allowed to carry only what you can carry personally up the gang plank in one trip. I thought of my barracks bag, Valpack, wooden box, musette bag, typewriter and two coats—and wondered. Somehow I must do it. But if there is a resounding splash in Naples harbor, you will know it's the ex-DPR faithful to his possessions to the bitter end. Or no, maybe not: I saw pre-occupied expressions on a number of faces when that bit of news was given out. Next—you must list all stuff that might have been GI. And then you are told you must hand in bedding rolls and blankets. For those who had everything packed in bedding rolls it meant a lot of scurrying around the alleys to find supplementary luggage. But it is the law. We were cheered by the announcement that we could carry a gallon of liquor on board (that would make six packages, though, and I'm not up to it). Then having listened to all this we were given hundreds of forms to fill out—it took me literally about two hours to get through mine...

And now we wait. And since Military Government School at Charlottesville I have never heard so many rumors. We hear that Liberty ships are sailing every day but *They* don't want us to take them. We hear that *They* will let us go by plane if we can show cause. We hear there is a boat sailing to-morrow but only for colonels, that there will not be a ship for three weeks, that the first list is already picked, that we have to have all our shots again, etc., etc. So far no evidence to support any of these tales but it's all good clean fun... Emotionally one can sense the aura that hangs about us. We are all orphans. It is a curiously lost feeling you get when you don't really belong to anything any more.

We are all going home to be sure, but everybody wants to get there and not hang around marking time. And we know, too, that we are going back to Uncertainty, however pleasant, and we have left behind a kind of security and in many cases a good bit of our lives as well... So we sit and glare mournfully at each other, seeking separate tables, not speaking too much, wrapped in our own special memories or anticipations...

Major Scotten, by the way, is in the Terminus with me while Colonels Densmore and McPhee are in the Turistico. Densmore is at the moment engaged in a life and death struggle to keep his bedding roll in the teeth of regulations. With four rows of ribbons we don't see how he can lose, but it's touch and go. I'll let you know how the doughty colonel makes out.

## ODDS AND ENDS

A meeting with MTOUSA at Caserta 18 February will decide the permanent T/O of the 2675 Regiment, it is hoped: the present setup contemplates 250 officers and men, with a reduction of 50 men a month from present strength till 1 July, a cut which will not permit the A. C. to carry out its commitments, according to G-1's view... Liaison offices at Florence and Ancona may close for the time being... A survey is being instituted of billet and messing facilities in the North, especially for A. C. Allied civilians who have business in the field... The Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the British side, is looking for surplus officers from A. C.... Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is off on leave to the States... The following awards have come through:

*Italian Cross of War Merit* – Cpl. G. A. Cocco and T/4 M. J. Kutarnia; *Crown of Italy* – (*Grand Officer*) Colonel C. P. Kerr; (*Knight Officer*) Major J. W. Cunliffe; (*Knight*) Captains S. Casale, James F. Elliman, Armando Ferrari and Sidney C. Hall, First Lieut. P. A. Daugert and Sergt. Clemente Barone...

314

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

February 16, 1946

RESTRICTED

# ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 46

## POLITICAL

*Party divisions, whether good or bad, are inseparable from a free government.*

BURKE.

The pre-election atmosphere in Italy is beginning to get sharper day by day. Party conventions in Rome, attended by reams of avid comment from friends and foes, appear almost daily affairs. More important, to the bystander, signs of reshufflings and regroupings of the established political aggregations, new marshallings of party forces, for the vital test of strength in the imminent elections, marked this unusually heavy political week. Indeed, as one Roman newspaper put it, rather wistfully, it would be so desirable if all the parties finally separated and coalesced into clear-cut organizations of the Left and Right.

To begin chronologically, with the event that started off the chattering of the editorial sages. On 7 February (see last week's *Bulletin*), at the meeting of the national congress of the Action Party, debate between the right and left wings of the party resulted in a clear split, the consequences of which were that Emilio Lussu, Minister for the *Consulta* in the Italian Government, and leader of the left wing in the party, resigned his office of party secretary and also his post in the Government. Whereupon, to observe the niceties of the situation, Riccardo Lombardi, Minister of Transport, and Ugo La Malfa, Minister of Foreign Trade, center- and right-wing party leaders respectively, and holders of the other two Action Party seats in the Council of Ministers, also resigned. The break within the party was almost immediately widened when former Prime Minister Ferruccio Parri, asserting that the present Action Party no longer followed its original ideals, also walked out and showed up two days later at the congress of the Republican party (of which more later), where he was welcomed and thrice welcomed. This action, despite his denials that he was contemplating joining forces to the Republicans, gave rise at once to the report that he would join the party.

The resignations of the Action Party ministers procedurally were complicated by the fact that an executive committee to accept the withdrawals had not yet been elected. While this matter of form was being adjusted the opposition press, led as usual by *Italia Nuova*, proclaimed these events a Government crisis, which statements were quickly disclaimed by Lussu's assertion that the resignations only meant a reshuffle of Action Party representatives in the six-party Government and not a withdrawal of the party from participation in the Government. Although no word has yet issued on the confirmation of the new Action Party appointees, the latest report has it that Lombardi will be reconfirmed in Transport, Alberto Cianca will replace Lussu and Aurelio Peccei (at present commissioner of the Fiat works in Turin) or Rodolfo Siglienti will take the place of La Malfa. To fill Lussu's spot as party secretary, the party elected Fernando Schiavetti, editor of the Milan *Italia Libera*, who will now also assume the editorship of the Rome organ of the same name.

### Parri.

Parri, who had walked out after the left-wing motion by Codignola had won by a plurality, and taken along with him, besides La Malfa, a group of other Action Party names, notably De Ruggiero, explained his stand further in a letter to the party directorate in which he said that, in view of his fixed aim of fighting for a democratic republic, he could not stay in a party led by men of the present composition of the new executive committee of the party. He said that most Italians wanted a republic and not a socialist state or a dominant political group with a clerical background. He concluded by asking all sympathizers to follow him into a new party, which a few days later he termed a "Democratic Republican Concentration".

Post-mortems on the Action Party crisis filled almost as much space as reports of the events

31

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



themselves. Togliatti in *Unità* diagnosed the malady by saying that the party perhaps was more eager to espouse the programs of others than to create and follow an integrated one of its own. At least, he remarked, "... a Socialist knows where he stands". Many of the other papers, particularly the *Giornale della Sera*, gave the impression, more or less, of hoping that the patient died quickly.

The day after the Action Congress disbanded —on the 8th—the national council of the Labor Democratic party met. Former Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi, closing the two-day session, made a weighty appeal for a concentration of elements of the political center, stating that there should be a middle-class representation of liberal and democratic tendencies, perhaps a social democratic party, between the groups of Socialists and Communists on one hand and Christian Democrats on the other, a proposal on which *Unità*, in a leading article, took occasion to comment that Bonomi's fighting for democracy tended to "disappear under the veneer of all-concealing formulas". *Risorgimento Liberale*, however, agreed that such a coalition of the center would fill "a logical and practical need", while the Labor Democrat party organ, *Rinnovazione*, hailed the speech as worthy of the traditions of the party which one enthusiast proclaimed went back to the initial alliance of Bissolati and Bonomi (the youthful Socialist) in 1912.

### Republicans.

The congress of the Republican party met concurrently and was certainly marked by a spirit of harmonious and hearty loyalty to the goal of a republic, which the party's *Voce Repubblicana*, also calling upon tradition, said went back to Mazzini and Garibaldi. Randolfo Pacciardi, the party's secretary, reiterated the party line that it should abstain from all blocs and concentrations (one of the latest Italian political coinages) and keep a vigilant eye on their enemies, the monarchists. Almost as an aside, the congress voted for decentralization of state administration. The party incidentally also announced that it had 194,065 registered members. The Action Party a few days earlier had asserted it had 267,000 members.

The week did not end that easily for the tired political reporters. Today the *Uomo Qualunque* Front opens another congress in Rome, an event preceded on February 14 by a bold but not unexpected announcement (according to hindsight commentators) of an alliance between the Front and the Democratic (monarchist) Party. The announcement of the alliance, signed by respective leaders of the two groups, Guglielmo Giannini and Enzo Selvaggi, proclaimed the temporary union (but not fusion) as actuated "for the reconstruction of the country". *Momento* immediately placed the interpretation on the event as an "alliance in favor of the monarchy" while *Avanti*, as might be expected, headlined the news under "The Savoy and Giannini fronts fight together against democratic revival in Italy".

The technical battles of the parties in the *Consulta* were resumed on the 11th with the reconvening of that body, which was urged by Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi to make fast progress on the electoral law. Preliminary skirmishing on one of the first days brought about a temporary bedlam of some minutes when a Communist *consultore*, Marchesi, speaking against compulsory voting, made some sarcastic remarks about *consultori* of the center parties, addressing them as "my neo-liberal and neo-anti-Fascist friends". The strictures that followed, the usual suspicions and counter-suspicions that the other party was preparing to rig the electoral machinery, finally gave way to discussions on how far the *Consulta* could go toward defining the powers of the *Costituente*, with the Liberals plumping for a referendum to vote on a list of suggested powers. The *Consulta* sessions came to a climax on the 15th when, by a majority vote and after a succession of declamations and demonstrations in the chamber, the compulsory vote was approved. This, as everyone knows by now, was a defeat for the left-wingers. What the Communists and Socialists will do about it remains to be seen.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Shifting winds of world economic demands force us to tack quite a bit on our last week's grain futures. Tabulations on expected arrivals make it more and more evident that Italy's reserve stocks are dropping lower and lower, with a dangerously low figure of 56,984 tons (or less than a week in hand) as of 1 June, while the July 1 figure cannot even be estimated. The latest cables to UNRRA, which now has the supply responsibility for importing wheat, are pessimistic and speak of unexpectedly low March shipments. The 300-gram ration which the Allied Commission fought for and finally achieved from the Combined Chiefs of Staff has already gone by the board. Already there is talk of having to cancel entirely the new reduced pasta ration (500 grams a month) next month and even the possibility of again

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



reconsidering the bread ration itself in order to get the country by until the next harvest.

There is also some financial news. Allied troops in Italy, according to the Finance Sub-Commission, may begin to get paid in Italian metropolitan lire (instead of AM lire) by 15 March as a result of the new currency agreement with the Italian Government. AM lire are, of course, still legal tender. The new exchange rate of 225 lire to the dollar has now been applied to private remittances. Maj. John W. Young (B), formerly chief financial advisor to G-5, is the new head of the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, which is under AFHQ but attached to the Finance Sub-Commission. In Venezia Giulia 5,000 men are being employed on reforestation projects; the immediate need is for two million seedlings.

## SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

The latest cutback in the U. S. Army cigaret ration here in Italy—seven packs a week when some of us before the war used to buy five packs a day—makes us feel very sorry for ourselves but perhaps even more so for our Italian brethren, who, if they want to taste the luxury of a good American smoke, have to pay 17 lire for one fag or 350 lire for a whole pack. This business also brings up the story of the enterprising villagers of the river town of Isola del Liri, recently in the Italian news, who, we are told, have been discovered to be one of the most productive sources of black market cigarets in the country, their industry putting out at its peak as many as 10,000 cigarets in one day.

The cigaret industry of Isola del Liri, however, is now (we hope) a thing of the past as a result of inquiries pursued there by the Italian police. But probably the saddest part of the story has to do with the indignation of the villagers themselves who aver that they were only trying to help out the situation patriotically and that besides, as a result of the income created by their initiative, all the windows of the *Municipio* have been restored and all the main streets of the town re-illuminated, not to mention that their allegedly self-imposed tax of 10 lire a pack has gone into a fund to rebuild their war-damaged homes.

The police story is simpler: The village, employing as many as 1,000 persons in home manufacture, bought tobacco illegally from growers (who should have sold it all to the state monopoly) and when this source of supply dried up, report has it, the cigaret makers were not above using various other ingredients. The chief product was called *Vero Nazionale*. Whether *Vero Camel* or *Vero Players* were made is not known as yet as the matter is being pursued.

The black market in tobacco, of course, is flourishing in practically every Italian town, particularly in Rome, Naples, Turin and Milan, according to our informants in the Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission. Nonetheless, the state monopoly is not doing so badly. Pre-war peak raw tobacco production was 59,000 tons a year while last year it was 16,547 tons. It is hoped in 1946 to produce 40,000 tons. Pre-war finished tobacco production amounted to 36,500,000 kilos. (One kilo makes 1,000 cigarets.) In 1945 were made 10,500,000 kilos of cigarets, 2,500,000 kilos of cigars and 7,000,000 kilos of cut tobacco. The 1946 outlook is for 13,000,000 kilos of cigarets, 3,000,000 kilos of cigars and 7,500,000 kilos of cut tobacco, much from imported stocks. The ration during 1944 and early 1945 was 20 cigarets, 20 grams of tobacco or four cigars a week for all males over 18. The scale has been upped since to 30 cigarets, 30 grams of tobacco and five cigars a week.

Despite the Isola del Liri competition and that of other friends of heavy smokers, the Italian Government pockets a pretty revenue from its monopolies (which include salt and matches). Currently, this income is about 4,000,000,000 lire a month, of which 3,200,000,000 comes from tobacco. To raise the ante, the monopoly is trying to import raw tobacco from the States and from Turkey, or a total monthly import of 3,000,000 kilos. All that is needed are foreign credits of $70,000,000 (*sic*) over a period of two years...

## WHY POWER IS SHORT

The Electrical Division of Industry and Utilities Sub-Commission has come forth with some interesting facts on the causes for the shortage of electric power in Italy based on statistics taken from records of the Italian Ministry of Public Works. Italy of course depends almost entirely on hydro-electric plants for its power. Rains and melting snows are the sources of the water on which these plants in turn depend to run the water wheels and generators which produce the electric power.

In Italy there are two types of plants; the first uses large reservoirs for water supply while the second, located on streams, utilises the stream flow. Consequently, when there is a shortage of rain or precipitation, the stream flow plants produce greatly reduced amounts of electricity

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



and more dependency must be placed on the storage reservoir plants. If the snow and rainfall over a period of time is below normal, the storage reservoirs do not become refilled. Drought and lack of snowfall, therefore, not only have an immediate adverse effect upon the stream flow plants, but in addition do not replenish the storage reservoirs.

In Southern Italy approximately 55 per cent. of the generating capacity was damaged by the enemy and through combat operations. At the present time approximately 60 per cent. of this original capacity is now back in operation. In Central Italy something over 90 per cent. of the generating capacity was blown up by the Germans before they left. At the present time about 45 per cent. has been restored to service. In Northern Italy the enemy had planned extensive demolition, but due to the speed with which the Allies advanced and Partisan activity he was unable to do much damage, with the result that slightly over 90 per cent. of the original generating capacity was found intact when the North was liberated.

### Pre-war Power.

Before the war it was customary to send power from Southern and Central Italy to Northern Italy during the winter months when the streams and lakes in the Alps were frozen and when most of the precipitation in the North was in the form of snow. In the spring and summer the reverse operation took place when the snow in the Alps began to melt and some of the power produced therefrom was transported to Central and Southern Italy. However, the transmission lines connecting North Italy with Central and Southern Italy were all damaged or destroyed and only part of these lines has been restored to operation up to the present time, which permits a very limited interchange of power.

The destruction of generating equipment in Central and Southern Italy, the unusual drought conditions which have existed during the past two years, and the unusual loads placed upon the power systems by domestic consumers due to a lack of artificial gas and other cooking fuels have all brought about a combination of conditions which have produced the temporary present power shortage situation which exists this winter throughout the country.

Statistics show how much the precipitation for the years 1944 and 1945 was less than the average normally expected. The normal or average is computed from readings taken over a period of many years and is used as basis for comparison.

Taking the normal or average as 100 per cent., the 1945 precipitation in Northern Italy was 62 per cent. of the average, for Central Italy it was 54 per cent., for Southern Italy it was 82 per cent., for Sicily it was 85.5 per cent. and for Sardinia 62.5 per cent. Precipitation in 1944 was noticeably heavier.

The power shortage has made it necessary to reduce the energy consumption and also to reduce the load on the electric power systems. The first is done by rationing decrees limiting the amount of electric energy used by all classes of consumers. The second is accomplished by shutting off the power supply in rotation to large areas for varying periods of time. For example, in the North a coast-to-coast uniform rationing system has been set up a result of Allied Commission efforts.

Drought conditions not only exist in Italy but also in other countries of the Mediterranean basin. Spain and France report acute power shortages due to drought conditions, which, of course, have also affected the harvest everywhere.

## ANTICLIMAX AT NAPLES

Considering the number of our comrades who have been through this experience already and the natural curiosity among those who haven't, but will, it seems odd that no one has told us about the functioning of a repple-depple. Or perhaps it was kindness, says our late-esteemed boss, writing from the Naples repple-depple.

The first thing is to get out to Bagnoli and report at one of the little white huts among many. This is easy if your driver knows where he is going, but it took me about 40 minutes from the Pareo (where I learned immediately that I couldn't stay). Then you are seated at a desk—just like school—and made to fill out three forms. Mostly the filling out is a matter of checking off documents that are supposed to be in your possession. Have you an AGO? Have you an immunization record? Have you a form 307? Another 57-54? And two copies?... The trouble was I didn't know what any of them meant and kept saying "no" and looking frustrated. Then the sergeant would lean over and pick something out of the little traveller's library the Regiment gave me as a going away present and say: "There it is"—almost adding, I felt, "Don't cry Colonel". Well, actually that was no so bad.

Then one is whisked back to a hotel. Not the Excelsior, not the Parco, not even the Turis-

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



tico in my case, for that is full already with the chaps who preceded me two weeks ago and are still waiting, but the Terminus, right near the station, i.e. miles from anything else (and I'm not going anywhere by train), and in some ways a pretty grisly auberge. A distinguishing feature is the lack of keys for the doors. Otherwise, it is only moderately dusty and, to be fair, not quite suicidally depressing.

The dining room is a pleasant room, but the coffee reminds me of the mixture I had on a freighter years ago (after we had been ten days out and hadn't made it fresh since leaving Le Havre). Of course often there isn't any coffee—those are the good days I suppose...

Well, then the next step is filling up forms for luggage. And here are some things one ought to know. Theoretically you are allowed to carry only what you can carry personally up the gang plank in one trip. I thought of my barracks bag, Valpack, wooden box, musette bag, typewriter and two coats—and wondered. Somehow I must do it. But if there is a resounding splash in Naples harbor, you will know it's the ex-DPR faithful to his possessions to the bitter end. Or no, maybe not: I saw pre-occupied expressions on a number of faces when that bit of news was given out. Next—you must list all stuff that might have been GI. And then you are told you must hand in bedding rolls and blankets. For those who had everything packed in bedding rolls it meant a lot of scurrying around the alleys to find supplementary luggage. But it is the law. We were cheered by the announcement that we could carry a gallon of liquor on board (that would make six packages, though, and I'm not up to it). Then having listened to all this we were given hundreds of forms to fill out—it took me literally about two hours to get through mine...

And now we wait. And since Military Government School at Charlottesville I have never heard so many rumors. We hear that Liberty ships are sailing every day but *They* don't want us to take them. We hear that *They* will let us go by plane if we can show cause. We hear there is a boat sailing to-morrow but only for colonels, that there will not be a ship for three weeks, that the first list is already picked, that we have to have all our shots again, etc., etc. So far no evidence to support any of these tales but it's all good clean fun... Emotionally one can sense the aura that hangs about us. We are all orphans. It is a curiously lost feeling you get when you don't really belong to anything any more.

We are all going home to be sure, but everybody wants to get there and not hang around marking time. And we know, too, that we are going back to Uncertainty, however pleasant, and we have left behind a kind of security and in many cases a good bit of our lives as well... So we sit and glare mournfully at each other, seeking separate tables, not speaking too much, wrapped in our own special memories or anticipations...

Major Scotten, by the way, is in the Terminus with me while Colonels Densmore and McPhee are in the Turistico. Densmore is at the moment engaged in a life and death struggle to keep his bedding roll in the teeth of regulations. With four rows of ribbons we don't see how he can lose, but it's touch and go. I'll let you know how the doughty colonel makes out.

## ODDS AND ENDS

A meeting with MTOUSA at Caserta 18 February will decide the permanent T/O of the 2675 Regiment, it is hoped: the present setup contemplates 250 officers and men, with a reduction of 50 men a month from present strength till 1 July, a cut which will not permit the A. C. to carry out its commitments, according to G-1's view... Liaison offices at Florence and Ancona may close for the time being... A survey is being instituted of billet and messing facilities in the North, especially for A. C. Allied civilians who have business in the field... The Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the British side, is looking for surplus officers from A. C.... Col. Alfred C. Bowman, SCAO, Venezia Giulia, is off on leave to the States... The following awards have come through:

*Italian Cross of War Merit* – Cpl. G. A. Cocco and T/4 M. J. Kutarnia; *Crown of Italy* – (*Grand Officer*) Colonel C. P. Kerr; (*Knight Officer*) Major J. W. Cunliffe; (*Knight*) Captains S. Casale, James F. Elliman, Armando Ferrari and Sidney C. Hall, First Lieut. P. A. Daugert and Sergt. Clemente Barone...

---

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

FEB 4 RECD

February 2, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 44

## POLITICAL

*Io vo gridando: Pace, pace, pace!*
PETRARCH.

The political pattern of the past week is woven of the same threads that have dominated the tapestry for the last month or so: speeches, rumors of the peace treaty, allusions to Sicily and the prosaic but substantial work of the Council of Ministers. Only the colorful skein of the *Consulta* is temporarily missing. To begin with the Council: the meeting of this week was given over largely to a discussion of the problems of the *reduci*, the *partigiani* and the civilian victims of the war. A special committee was set up to look after the matter of employment and housing for these classes of citizens, and the Minister of Post-War Relief was authorised to carry out special measures for their shelter and welfare. Other business included: a report from Cattani on the condition of Torre Annunziata, a draft decree on the supplementary agreement between the Government and UNRRA, a measure to facilitate preparation of the electoral lists and a decree authorising such public work projects as could be called urgent. Two billion lire were allotted for the construction of *case popolari*. Later in the week the inner cabinet met and, according to the communiqué, "studied the food situation" and heard the President of the Council state that there will be no necessity of reducing the bread ration.

On Sunday Prime Minister De Gasperi spoke at Naples. Possibly stung a little by the criticism—from some quarters of the press—that his earlier speeches had had too penitent a tone, he affirmed that Italy had expiated for a great many of her mistakes.

He made a special appeal to England, recalling that British Prime Minister Attlee had once said to him that the program of Christian Democracy is very similar to that of the Labour Party, and, remembering England's friendship in "the first *Risorgimento*", hoped that her aid might also be forthcoming in this second one. Unlike his previous speeches, however, much of the talk at Naples turned on internal affairs, stressing the enormous difficulties of reconstruction. Labor must be pre-eminent over capital, he said, and a more equitable distribution of wealth must be brought about. He cautioned his hearers to remember that the State cannot do everything: "It is as absurd to form a magical idea of the power of the State as it is to expect that the *Costituente* will be able to solve, unaided, the immense and serious problems that hang over Italy." The *Costituente*, he went on, may be able to make certain reforms in the structure of the State but the rest will depend on the ability and determination of the individual citizens.

### Allusions.

Since the speech was made in Naples there were certain local allusions not without interest; the Neapolitans were congratulated on their resistance to Fascism and the heroism of the *quattro giornate* before the Allied armies moved in. The President of the Council remarked also on the international link between Southern Italy and the rest of the world, recalling that the great majority of the ten million Italians living abroad came from the South. He referred to the Separatist movement in Sicily and, after extolling the Carabinieri, described *separatismo* as a "malady of defeat". He made it clear that he was not opposed to "autonomy within the state", as a central bureaucracy would suffocate Italy's revival, but separatism was a different matter, nor was it, indeed, confined to Sicily. "The Italian state", he declared, "is mending its tissues, and when recovery is complete it will use all its energies to save its unity." In saying this he added that he was not opposing the legitimate demands of other peoples but he was speaking of Italians and towns that that are indisputably Italian.

Freshly returned from his London mission, Nenni reported to the President of the Council and later gave an interview to *Tempo* in which

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785013



he described his impressions at some length. His first task, as Secretary General of the Italian Socialist party, had been to re-establish relations with the British Labour Party, he said, and in this respect the mission was an unqualified success. He had also taken advantage of his opportunity to discuss Italy's situation with various personages in London; he had had talks with Bevin, Spaak and Noel-Baker, among others. Not all he learned was encouraging, he reported, "certain national positions have been irreparably compromised by the mad Fascist policy ... for it is unfortunately true in foreign as well as domestic policy that nothing is forgotten and everything is paid for... This means in practice that the frontier and colonial questions and, in general, that of our rôle in Europe are being raised under very difficult conditions for us."

However, he added that he was convinced that no one wished to crush or humiliate Italy and the United Nations were aware that Italy "should emerge from her present crisis and regain her democratic destiny in the joy of living, without fear or want". He said that when he left England it was accepted by all that Italy would be given a chance to present her case, though the time and manner of the presentation would have to be worked out. He added that he had stopped in Paris on his return where he had had talks with M. Auriol and Leon Blum who were planning to come to Italy in April for the Socialist Party Congress which Mr. Laski of the British Labour Party also expected to attend... Silone, editor of *Avanti*, who accompanied Nenni, said that their visit "fell in the sphere of normal relations between the British and Italian peoples" and hoped that the example would be followed by doctors, artists and professional men of every branch. He wrote (in *Avanti*) further that "in London we met men ... who are generally conscious of their responsibilities towards European countries".

### Other News.

Further news, though much of it unofficial, continues to come in about the peace treaty. A UP dispatch from Washington states that it will probably be ready by April 1st. Secretary Byrnes, on January 29th, told the press that it had been decided to give priority to the drafting of Italy's treaty and finally UP (from London this time) reported that considerable progress in the drafting had already been made.

On the elections, Romita, sticking to his statement of last week, told ANSA that it would be possible to hold the political elections in May. *Unità* printed the comments of the Communist member of the *Consulta* committee on elections; according to him, the Communists are in favor of the adoption of the "*collegio regionale*" and all major parties favor the proportional system. As for the compulsory vote, he was sure that Communist opposition would cause it to be rejected. On the question of limiting the powers of the *Costituente*, he remarked that it would seem strange if a body like the *Consulta*, which he described as "not precisely democratic", could restrict the power of another body which would be the expression of the will of the whole country... As for the date of the elections, he added, that would depend on the good will of the *consultori*.

Sicilian bandits have been busy this week, too. Latest reports are of an attack on the *polveriera* (powder-plant) of Villa Grazia near Palermo. ANSA reports that regular army units are being dispatched to deal with the banditry and the remnants of separatism on the island.

*Ammenda:* Partial quotation, though frequently necessary for such capsule publications as ours, is dangerous. In last week's *Bulletin* we left De Gasperi's words open to possibly wrong interpretations by omitting certain phrases in a quoted paragraph. To set the record straight we herewith give the paragraph in full with apologies to De Gasperi and to those who may have been misled by our editing:

"In reality if I were to describe my state of mind on the eve of the new negotiations, I would have to state that my trepidation is great. The British Empire cannot forget that the Italians one day threatened to cut her route to India and her danger was great. We are up against propaganda which is very ably carried on: photographs of exceptional gravity, dealing in particular with our activities in Jugoslavia, have been distributed. What can we do? However, I refuse to despair. We must have faith in a better world. I believe in international life so far as Italy is concerned; I believe in the way of thought and in our civilization."

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The most important news of the week appears to be that private trade between the United States and all parts of the British Empire and Italy will be resumed 15 February, which will be announced by the Italian Government 5 February. AFHQ has also issued a memorandum to all Allied commanders directing full cooperation with the Italian authorities in the latter's efforts to re-

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



establish a customs service whose aims, of course, will be to prevent leakage of foreign exchange (that must be used only for the purchase of essential imports), to prevent the export of products needed in Italy and to operate the scheme of export subsidy and import surcharge set up by the Italian Government. Allied port commanders will release accommodations and extend such help to the Italians as will not conflict with military requirements.

The re-opening of private trade with the Allies in effect re-establishes private trade with all countries except Germany, Japan, Manchuria, Korea and Formosa, although all trade, of course, on the Italian side will be subject to the Government's regulations and to Italian cooperation with the rules, voluntarily accepted, laid down by the various international committees operating the procedures of the Reserved Commodity List. The affected commodities are food, coal, tin, rubber, hides and certain cotton textiles, which are controlled so as to insure equitable distribution throughout the world as long as they remain in short supply. There used to be 41 groups of commodities controlled before 1 January 1946 by the Combined Raw Materials Board, the Combined Production and Resources Board and the Combined Food Board, of which the first two have been split into five committees while the last is continuing unchanged.

The Economic Section and the UNRRA Bureau of Requirements and Distribution are operating more smoothly in their Janus rôle. Prospects at the moment are that the A. C. Section will not be able to go over entirely to UNRRA until 1 March. With the UNRRA Supplementary Agreement out of the way, a document necessarily marked with the reservations imposed by policies embodied in UNRRA Council resolutions, the A. C. Section and UNRRA Bureau are currently busy with studies of the problem of allocation, always, of course, in concert with the Italian Government. The former Allied Commission-UNRRA *Economic Notes* have also changed their title to UNRRA *Economic Notes*, although the PRB will continue to put them out through Issue No. 4, which is the next issue.

There are some incidental pieces of economic information. When all imports arranged for by the Allied Commission are accounted for, they are expected to amount to about six million tons worth about $700,000,000. As of 28 January, 983,600 tons of wheat have gone into the *Ammasst*. The final report of the AMG Economic Commissioner for the North has some statistics of note: The entire rice crop is being used as a substitute for pasta. Production of copper sulphate has started from 3,000 tons of imported blister copper. Synthetic methanol (as a substitute for gasoline) production is going on in one plant at the rate of 600 tons a month. An estimated 40,000 tons of "domestic coal" a month are being mined but about 5,000 tons leak unregistered to the black market. The Pirelli Co. got substantial quantities of raw materials captured from the Germans. As of the year's end, some 25,000 kilos of cotton had arrived and been distributed to 3,000 firms, together with 65,000 tons of coal. In brief, production is low, inspections have been made and everybody is waiting for raw materials and coal to get going.

## ODDS AND ENDS

Eleven promotions to captain are announced, the lucky fellows being Oswald R. Anselmo, George W. Barrus, Delos De John, Joseph M. De Luca, William H. Hunter, William W. Sampson, John J. Scanlan, Odell M. Smith, Bertel W. Straight, Lewis L. Stuart and Wilson A. Treadway... Col. Leonard Densmore, Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section and one of the original U. S. officers from the Sicilian landing, has left the A. C. for the States... Separate British and American messes went into effect 1 February; the British have the Flora while the Americans have the Grand, the Bella Vista, the Inghilterra and the California... U. S. strength in the Commission is now 221 officers and 291 EM and British strength 389 officers and 618 ORs, which figures include many on LIAP or in the way to surplus; the American T/O has just been cut from its previous total of 750—250 officers and 500 EM —to 500, which, roughly, will be divided into about 200 officers and 300 EM while the British W/E is also now in process of being reduced.

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

January 26, 1946

RESTRICTED

# ALLIED COMMISSION
# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 43

## POLITICAL

Λέγεται δ' ὡς δεῖ τὸν νομοθέτην πρὸς δύο βλέποντα τιθέναι τοὺς νόμους, πρός τε τὴν χώραν καὶ τοὺς ἀνθρώπους. Ἔτι δὲ καλῶς ἔχει προσθεῖναι καὶ πρὸς τοὺς γειτνιῶντας τόπους, εἰ δεῖ τὴν πόλιν ζῆν βίον πολιτικόν.

ARISTOTLE, *Politica*.

This week, like the week just past, was largely a matter of speeches. The Council of Ministers did very little business; though it met twice, it concerned itself only with such relatively minor matters as the retirement of certain categories of state employes and the increase of telephone and telegraph charges. A good deal of the energy of the ministers was expended in the *Consulta* where the series of speeches, begun last week, was continued.

Again, as might be expected, the speech that was most widely commented on was Prime Minister De Gasperi's, at once an answer to some of the remarks made on his first outline of policy and a more detailed elaboration of some of its aspects. He tackled *seriatim* the delicate aspects of Italy's frontier problems. He repeated the position of the Government; regretted, as he and other ministers have in the past, that direct negotiations with the Yugoslavs were impossible; suggested the Wilson line as a reasonable frontier and asked that special consideration be given to the citizens of Fiume. On the Bolzano question he was not inclined to yield anything, asserting that cultural rights of the German-speaking minority had been safeguarded by recent legislation which the Government is willing to redraft or modify to suit the local population. He pointed out that the electric power from that region is the only reserve on which the industrial development of the Po Valley can depend. As for Austria, speaking of the necessity of keeping the Brenner "for security", he asked "when did invasion ever come from the South?"

As for the western frontier, said the *Presidente del Consiglio*, when Italy renounced all aspirations to Tunisia, the French Government gave assurances that there were no further claims to be made on Italy, yet now they are asking for a rectification of the frontier. "Even so, we will not take up an uncompromising attitude," De Gasperi said. He reiterated the Italian renunciation to all claims on the Dodecanese, but asked that guarantees be given for Italians living in Rhodes. As for the colonies, he hoped they would remain open to Italian labor and he felt confident their administration would be entrusted to Italy,—"above all because they are not rich". He argued vigorously against the collection of reparations by expropriation of property of Italians abroad. On the question of the Spanish trade agreement, which had been criticized on political grounds by Di Vittorio among others, De Gasperi defended the Government's action, pointing out that it was a purely commercial arrangement and as for the political aspect, the Italian Government was merely following the same line as England, France and the United States.

Apart from these specific matters, there were a few general remarks that caught the attention of the press. Speaking of Russia, De Gasperi said he thought her attitude towards Italy could be understood if one realized that Russia thought she had an international mission: "namely that of protecting the states which have special ties of blood and geographical relations with her". He further added that it was a matter of regret that Italians had known Russians so far "only as enemies", but hoped much could be gained from the support of considerable forces of the workers. He concluded with the frank statement: "On the eve of new negotiations ... my trepidation is great. The British Empire cannot forget that one day the Italians threatened to cut her route to India... We are opposed by a propaganda which is very ably carried on."

### Press Comment.

The words of the President were very well received by the press which seemed to feel that he had spoken for Italy on the whole with consi-

208

1322

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



derable accuracy and which has, since his speech, been again reminding the Allies of Italy's sacrifices and the various promises made at Quebec, Yalta and elsewhere. Only *Buonsenso* took exception to a minor point in the prime minister's discourse, rejecting indignantly his avowal that Italy had tolerated Fascism. "No more than anyone else" was the essence of *Buonsenso's* rejoinder.

In the course of the debate between De Gasperi's two speeches, Parri had an opportunity to express himself. He stressed his solidarity with De Gasperi on foreign policy and aligned himself with those who believe that Italy must not join one bloc or another and should not be made use of as a weapon against Russia; her function was rather "to put herself at the head of the smaller nations" and work for general world harmony. He ended his speech with an appeal for an early convocation of the *Costituente*. Sforza's contribution, made after De Gasperi had concluded, was to voice the opinion, shared, he was sure, by 44 million Italians, that a "punishing peace" would be unjust in view of Italy's services to the Allies and fatal as well to the hope of establishing democracy in Europe.

Aside from foreign affairs the most carefully studied speech of the *Consulta* was Corbino's account of Italy's financial situation. The lira, he confessed, had been saved not so much by action of the Government as "through one of those miracles which only the Italian people are capable of performing". On economic matters something of a flurry was occasioned in the Socialist ranks when Cavinato, one of their own *Consultori*, said that industrialists would have to close down their plants unless relieved of the strain of paying workers for whom there is no work. This remark brought immediate protest from Left Wing Socialists and the clarification from the party secretariat that the *Consultore's* ideas were his own and not those of the party. The *Consulta* adjourned Thursday. The next session will begin February 11, and will get to work on the electoral law. A fixed date for the *Costituente* elections is still to come; Romita, speaking in Pescara, said they would be held May 12, a week later than the last date we heard mentioned.

### Liberals.

The National committee of the Liberal party approved a resolution calling for the compulsory vote and a referendum on the powers and duration of the *Costituente* and the institutional question. Togliatti, interviewed by *Risorgimento Liberale* on these matters, said the Communists would leave the Government if the compulsory vote were approved but in his opinion approval was very unlikely. (An ANSA report gives some support to this view, reporting that many Labor Democrats and Christian Democrats are opposed to the compulsory vote.) The Communist leader went on to say that "on general principles" his party is not opposed to the idea of a referendum.

Early in the week it was rumored that Aldisio, High Commissioner for Sicily, would be replaced in the face of strong opposition to him by the parties of the Left; however, this does not seem to be an immediate possibility for De Gasperi has intervened and written him a letter, urging him to "remain at his post". Meanwhile, at least according to press reports, the battle of Montelepre continues and tales of banditry still come up from the restless isle... The UNRRA accord was signed by De Gasperi and Mr. S. M. Keeny, Chief of the UNRRA Mission to Italy, on January 19. The press carried headlines and pictures but—rather surprisingly—almost no comment, save for *Giornale del Mattino's* statement that the agreement is of decisive importance for Italy.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

The Allied Commission is rapidly shedding its economic activities. In effect, the Section's staff is mostly working on the UNRRA program, occupying as many do posts in the UNRRA Bureau of Requirements and Distribution. Then, this week came a cable from SACMED that the A.C. has almost no further mission in regard to Italian foreign commerce, explaining that previous left over restrictions are now lifted. This particularly refers to classification of Italian exports in the A and B class with different marketing and pricing policies (aimed at giving the Allies first crack at world-shortage items) and to responsibility for screening exportable surpluses. The A.C. will continue to make some reports but only until the Italian Government itself takes over the job of cooperating with the various international trade committees. Financially, too, restrictions were lifted further so that external financial transactions by Italian insurance companies are now not subject to A.C. control.

Good news comes also from England where Lieut. Col. Tooby of the Economic Section has been expediting the British part of the supply program to Italy. Col. Tooby reports that 1,000 tons of wool has been shipped (with 4,000 more to come); 570 tons of rubber is being shipped;

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



and a quantity of jute will be shipped from Calcutta in February. In Paris, where the colonel also stopped, he reports that the French Government has opened up an initial credit of 20,000,000 francs for Italy. A French delegation is even now in Rome on a trade pact between the two countries. It also looks as if the phosphate rock business will be settled satisfactorily soon and that shipping of some additional rock will start in February.

In other fields, the feeding of the Italian Army is a problem involving much study. The long and short of it is that the Allies have been feeding the Italian Army from Allied military rations. Now the Italian Government must provide the rations, which can come only from the generally available civilian stocks. As is obvious, adding so many more mouths to feed means there will be possibly less for the civilians. In the North, electricity rationing is providing headaches, with Turin muttering the most. Wheat amassing, as of 21 January, amounts 978,700 tons.

## ESCAPE IN THE AFTERNOON

Partly because the weather has been good, partly because the sight of other men running around briskly while we sit by in comfort and watch has always had a fascination for us, we have been spending the last few Sunday afternoons at the *Stadio* in Rome, observing the national pastime, *calcio* (soccer to you). It is a game lacking in the drama of American football and without the beautiful complications of rugger, but nonetheless one can form the habit. There are exciting moments, an occasional *combinazione* that works, frequent *tiri velocissimi alla rete* and a number of *belle parate*. We are on the way to becoming real *tifosi*. However, the crowd is as much fun as the game. As voluble and as expert as any bleacher crowd, nothing escapes their merciless eye and they express themselves with a Latin freedom and poetry which has added considerably to our enjoyment and now and then to our vocabulary.

Rome has two teams in the Central-South League, *la Roma*, now at the top of the list, and the unhappy Lazio, grimly battling for last place with the Ancona boys. We are strongly pro-Lazio, a team which recalls the carefree, unstudied style of the Brooklyn Dodgers in its unpredictability. Soundly trounced by everyone, the *Laziali* arose in their might last week and beat off the invaders from Bari (until then league leaders) characteristically (just like dem Bums) edging their bitter rival, *la Roma*, into first place. There were an estimated 20,000 spectators on that occasion, all pleased and all expressing themselves freely.

Perhaps that's the charm of the game for us, too; we can't have any opinions about politics while we wear the brown suit, but we can yell "*Forza, Lazio*" with the best of 'em. And we do. We recommend the game to our colleagues. Do not fear you won't understand it; there is always an enthusiast at your elbow who will be happy to expound the fine points, either a frenzied partisan Latin or an RASC corporal probably inclined to draw unfavorable comparisons between the local boys and Manchester United, but don't let him fool you. He'll be yelling "*forza*", too, before the afternoon is over. And you can get numbers of the players and the equivalent of ice cold soda and *castagne* vice peanuts... Next to a July afternoon in Brooklyn, one couldn't ask for more.

## SICILY AND THE ISLANDS

The most noteworthy event during December in the territory of Lt. Col. W. J. MacCallum (A), A.C. Liaison Officer in Sicily, whose monthly report is just to hand, was the handing over of the islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa to the Italian administration. The handover took place December 31. We are assured that the accounts were all square, that the budgets for the first quarter of 1946 had already been sent in (on time for the first time) and that all debts to AMG would be collected before the two AMG officers left the islands. Their departure has, in any case, been held up by bad weather.

It is perhaps not surprising that the news of the handover was more welcomed by the Sicilians than by the residents of the two tiny islands who are well aware of their own problems and wonder how they will fare under the new administration. There are, in fact, several difficult problems to deal with, such as low stocks of food and difficulties of transport from Sicily. On Lampedusa food reserves became dangerously low and the island was practically without food for Christmas. A regular service by the *S.S. Lampedusa* from Palermo to both islands, due to start this month after delay through lack of coal, will, it is hoped, enable food reserves to be built up. Another hitch concerns payment for fish delivered by Lampedusa fishermen (the whole population of the island except for about a score) to Malta. With the departure of AMG a new channel for payments is still to be found,

132A

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



or the population will lose their livelihood. On Pantelleria large stocks of captured enemy and Allied war material had to be taken care of. An UNRRA representative has visited the island to survey relief requirements.

Turning to Sicily, one thinks of the banditry which has been in the news in recent weeks. The report states that although individual crime is decreasing, organized bands are certainly becoming bolder. Carabinieri barracks are their principal objectives, and some are attacked almost every night. The Carabinieri have conducted themselves well, often against odds of sixty well armed men to three.

There is plenty of food on the black market, lots of sea food, and the food situation is on the whole unchanged. Grain in official stocks was enough to last until January 26. With the wet weather, much grain was being spoiled by being left uncovered on the quayside, and during transport in open trucks—there being a lack of covered vehicles. Citrus fruit for export to England has suffered similar damage. There is some trouble, too, over allegedly unfair allocation (which is made by the Italian ICE through local chambers of commerce) of business among different firms handling citrus exports. There has been something of a slump in the prices of clothing and shoes, which are now more plentiful in the shops, clothing prices being as much as fifty per cent. less than those of a few months ago.

If the rain is damaging food and washing out bridges, it is nevertheless helping the water and electric power situation. Unemployment, especially in Palermo, is being somewhat reduced by the expansion of public works programs. Overdue road repairs are now being tackled. Approximately 11,000 were estimated to be unemployed as of a month ago. Allied naval authorities have handed back shipbuilding yards at Palermo; most of the 1,000 workmen will be taken over by the company operating the yards.

## MORE ON OLD BOYS

Again we have to thank the Legal Sub-Commission (which is winning its way to honorary membership in our Branch) for sprightly material for our *Alumni Notes*. Col. Weber, Director, has received a letter from Col. Dickens Adams, former Economic Section panjandrum. Col. Kirwood, quondam Satrap of Tuscany, he reports, is now commanding officer of one of the artillery regiments at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Col. (John) Albright is now commanding officer at Fort Meyer, outside Washington, having "seen a lot of action" in ETOUSA as chief of staff of an infantry division and later C. O. of a regiment. He "was wearing an extra ribbon or so" when Col. Adams met him. Col. Adams himself has received the Legion of Merit from the hands of Lieut. Gen. Gerow, he writes... From Major Titus Oates—another legalite—comes word (more impressionistic than factual) of some other Old Boys; he writes (in part): "The basic man, (Col.) Behrens, stript of his military authority lives in the house immediately opposite mine (in London)... My late chief, Col. Wilmer, wears a bowler-hat (over his ears!)... The voice of (Brigadier) Upjohn booms loud in the legal world." A note also comes in from our old messmate, Capt. Vernon Lewis (Local Government Sub-Commission) who writes (from Nottingham): "It was a peculiar sensation taking up or trying to take up where one left off five years ago." Bet it was—we're looking forward to it...

## ODDS AND ENDS

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, the Executive Commissioner, has returned from London... The Land Forces Sub-Commission is setting up a Carabinieri Section staffed by former Public Safety Sub-Commission officers whose mission will be help the CC. RR... 2675 Regiment has just received the official word about how U. S. officers may be promoted one grade on the first day of terminal leave: If you have an efficiency index in excellent of 40 and above, you qualify, providing lieutenants have been in grade at least 18 months, captains and majors 24 months, and lieutenant colonels 30 months, all overseas service counting as time and a half... The Navy Sub-Commission reports that 1,400 Italians have been moved by Italian cruiser from Port Said to Italy... We apologize most humbly to Mr. G. Stewart Brown, director of USIS and our former boss, about printing that he was getting the Medal of Freedom; the papers concerning the decoration are still in process... Col. Eugene McPhee is back from the States and instead of going to Venezia Giulia, he is probably going back home... Our readers might spare us a bit of sympathy: the *Bulletin* is getting harder to get out every time, the news being as scarce as it is; there is also a power shortage and last week we had to get changed the power schedules for a whole section of Rome so that the printer could run off our issue; lastly, the printer is now having a

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



strike but we hope the boys will cooperate to get this out for the Allied Armies... Brigadier General A. L. Hamblen, Assistant Chief of Chief Staff, G-5, at AFHQ, is being succeeded temporarily in that post by Brigadier F.G.A. Parsons... Bronze Stars have gone to Lieut. Col. Leif Neprud and Major Anthony P. Nugent... The following U.S. promotions have been announced: To major—Stanley Beatty; to captain—Thurman W. Oliver, Alvin M. Pankraty, John A. Kitner, Thomas D. Morgan and Louis B. Bernard... Late flash: The Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, and the Executive Commissioner, Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, have been awarded the Order of Malta; the Chief Commissioner received the Cross of Merit, first class, with crown, and the Executive Commissioner the Cross of Merit, first class... Col. John K. Weber (A) has been awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy, degree of Commander.

***NOT FOR PUBLICATION***

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

January 12, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 41

## POLITICAL

*Fest en och kvar*
*Trill sedc på Tinget sin mening.*
ESAIAS TEGNER

With the *presepi* packed away for another year, the *Befana* come and gone and the distractions of the holidays out of the way, the political program of this "year of decision"— as one of the journalists has called it— is now under way. The *Consulta* has assembled again in plenary session in an atmosphere quite different from that of the first meeting. For in October the press was full of satisfied and almost festive commentary, playing up the significance of this democratic, though to be sure, not elected, convocation. This time, on the other hand, commentary tends to stress the importance and seriousness of the tasks the *Consultori* must face.

The body made up, as the *Giornale della Sera* pointed out, of men having an average of ten years' imprisonment apiece behind them, opened its session on 9 January and elected Pietro Mancini (Socialist) Vice President. Sforza, who presided, announced that a special committee had been named to study the plans for the political electoral law. One of the *Consultori* predicted that this law would be the apple of discord and added, somewhat grimly, "if we are still alive and safe when this law is approved, then it will be possible to say that Italy is again a democratic country". Nor is this the only difficult knot likely to come before the *Consulta*. The administrative election law, so it was stated before the holidays, must be reviewed too, and that will bring up the question of the compulsory vote, while beyond all this looms the delicate question of defining the powers of the *Costituente*. One debatable though relatively minor matter was touched upon at the first meeting: the right of "*autoconvocazione*" of the *Consulta* itself, but this was temporarily shelved since Prime Minister De Gasperi was not present to express the Government's views on the problem.

### Communist.

The Communist congress concluded its activities on the 5th. Next only in importance to Togliatti's speech (see last week's *Bulletin*) was the motion of Longo recommending fusion with the Socialists. In the course of his exposition, he made appeals to other parties too—or at least to the "democratic forces existing within them". He was particularly anxious to assure the Christian Democrats that the Communist party was not an atheist party and indeed "has always condemned anti-clericalism". The motion was passed after some discussion. This does not by any means imply that such a fusion is an immediate possibility; even Longo himself described the fusion as a *point d'arrivée* rather than a *point de partie*.

The Socialist answer came in Nenni's speech before the Central Committee of the Socialist party. He agreed with Longo that fusion was "a hope and a prospect" but felt that it would not come about by "premature decisions of Congresses or unification committees" but rather "from below when all mistrust between members of the two parties has disappeared". To Nenni the problem of united action was of more immediate importance than fusion. Nenni also took occasion to reaffirm other aspects of the Socialist platform: opposition to compulsory voting, a "sovereign" *Costituente*, the two fundamental needs of bread and employment, for which, said Nenni, "we are literally dependent on the Allies". On Allied policy, Nenni said, somewhat later in his discourse, "we owe them gratitude for the little daily bread and the little coal we have, for petrol and for raw materials. But to them, too, we owe our uncertainty as to our fate and the lack of autonomous nation status."

The Council of Ministers has been mostly concerned with the Christmas bonus for state employees. As recorded in last week's *Bulletin*, the "*impiegati*" have threatened to strike if they are not given a more generous bonus than the one originally voted. The strike has not

206

13271

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



yet taken place and the intervention of the CGIL has been a healthy mediating influence, but it seems clear that some further action is being planned. A special committee of Ministers was appointed to meet with the representatives of the state employees and the CGIL to work out some kind of compromise; meanwhile it is rumored that the Government is planning a distribution of food and clothing in place of another cash payment.

As we are on the point of consigning our stint to the printer, we learn the results of the first skirmish in the *Consulta*. The right of *autoconvocazione*—brought up by the Action Party—has been voted down by 214 to 89. The Action leaders had counted on the support of Communists and Socialists, but their hopes were dashed when Pertini, former secretary of the Socialist Party, said that in view of the imminence of the *Costituente*, it seemed unwise to give too much power to the *Consulta*. After the vote, De Gasperi consoled the losers somewhat by declaring that the *Consulta* should meet once a month as a normal thing and the Government should be called upon to explain the reason for any postponement of such regular meetings.

## ECONOMIC FRONT

Wheat seems to hold the center of the economic stage this week as the pasta ration, already in arrears in Puglie and Naples, was postponed officially in all Southern Italy, Liguria, Veneto, Sicily and Sardinia. The shortage in grain reserves in the last week brought about a situation that left Lazio, including the City of Rome, and Campania, including Naples, with only seven days' supply on hand up to 10 January. Bari had only four days' supply up to 6 January. The state of grain reserves on 1 December and 31 December tells the story: On the former date, the reserves for the bread ration were 354,000 tons. On the latter, 208,000.

The causes of all this are several: a disastrously poor harvest, caused by bad weather at planting time, late frosts and by a severe drought which resulted in the lowest yield in 25 years. Further, impassing of what grain was produced has been notably inadequate. Lastly, shipping complications and the extraordinary demands for wheat by all the liberated countries of Europe, have resulted in a deficiency in the total amount of wheat requested for import to Italy.

Of the 208,000 tons of total reserve stocks available on December 31, 145,000 tons was indigenous Italian grain concentrated in four regions—the Marche, Umbria, Emilia and Toscana. The other 63,000 tons of reserve stocks is in process of discharge from ships in port, in base and provincial warehouses or in transit and is wholly inadequate to insure regular supplies for the big urban centers. Nevertheless, our experts hope that the reserves can again be built to a minimum 320,000 tons (or about one month's supply for all non-producers), partly by importing in January and February the deficiency in the 1945 program and also by more stable shipping schedules.

On the basis of present consumption, local Toscana stocks will be exhausted by the end of January, those of Emilia by the middle of March, Umbria's by the end of July and the Marche's by the end of August. It is therefore only practicable to move limited quantities from the Marche and Umbria surpluses to deficient areas at this time and such movements can only be made within the limits prescribed by the shortage of Italian transport facilities. Thus, the whole of Southern Italy, the Islands of Sicily and Sardinia and the greater part of Northern Italy are now dependent on imported wheat and are existing on a day-to-day basis as far as the bread ration is concerned.

Most of the other economic news is in sort of abeyance. Studies are being made on the problem of preventing pilfering from imported supplies. The Requisition Branch reports that $63,500,000 worth of supplies from the $100,000,000 FEA appropriation have arrived in Italy, as of this week, and that another $18,200,000 is on the high seas. The Finance Sub-Commission, which has a new director in Lieut. Col. B. E. L. Timmons (A), has about completed an agreement with the Italian Government, to unify currency issue, in which the Government recognizes its responsibility for the issue of some 80 billion AM lire in Italy to date and to act henceforth as the issuing authority for AM lire. Finally, the *Economic Notes* announced in these columns a few weeks ago becomes a reality with as of this date, with both the Allied Commission and UNRRA represented on the masthead. All *Bulletin* subscribers will get a free copy. Please don't mind the occasional duplication of some items.

## LIAP

The small party of British personnel proceeding on LIAP today (12 January) is expected to be one of the last to set out from this HQ on the arduous journey across Europe to spend four

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



weeks at home after serving overseas for periods of two years and upwards. The LIAP scheme was started just over a year ago to enable personnel serving in the Mediterranean to get a leave at home during their tour of overseas service. LIAP means Leave In Addition to Python (so *now* we know – *Ed.*) and Python is the code word used to signify the scheme by which British personnel serving abroad are posted back to the United Kingdom after completing their overseas tour. The duration of this tour was first fixed at 4 ½ years and later reduced to 4 years. Now it is practically inoperative as the majority of personnel still serving abroad are due for release long before qualifying for Python.

The first parties, which went, more comfortably, by sea, arrived in time to spend Christmas, 1944 at home. Throughout 1945, parties left A. C. regularly, and by now practically all entitled personnel have had their LIAP. For the whole period, up to and including the party leaving today, the total numbers sent from HQ, A. C. are 79 officers and 332 other ranks. One of the PRB staff has just returned with the following impressions of the journey and of England.

First, the journey, at any rate in winter, was so terrible as to make one wonder whether the whole enterprise was worth while, at least to this OR traveller. There was a time when one could board the Rome Express in the forenoon and arrive in London (and comfort) in the evening of the following day. To go on LIAP today one must get up at 3 a. m., walk to the station with all one's kit in the pouring rain (it usually does), and then stand about waiting for the train to come in at about 6. One is then packed into 3rd class compartments, hard seats, four a side and no leg-room, with kit. Many of the coaches are in the last stages of decrepitude, unlighted and, if nominally heated, one nearly always seems to find oneself in the one coach which the heat does not reach. (Officers, however, to do the organization justice, were better provided for; if they, too, were sometimes without heat or light, they were provided with the warm red plush of the Italian first class—and only two to a compartment.)

### On to Milan.

About 26 hours after leaving Rome one reaches Milan, having lunched at Foligno and dined at Rimini. And from Milan in trucks to the transit camp at Monza. Here the whole scheme seems to fall into abeyance for some days—three or four perhaps—during which there is nothing to do but wander about searching in vain for a warm corner in the camp which seemed perpetually wrapt in a Lombardy fog. The one—and only—warm corner was eventually discovered in the barber shop, which became the morning social rendezvous. In the afternoons one could keep warm by fighting one's way on and off the trams which went into Milan.

However, comes the day at last when one's name appears on the lists and one re-entrains at Milan in the gathering dusk. One is now on MEDLOC proper (Mediterranean Leave Over Continent) (just ask us anything! – *Ed.*) and there are rather better chances of a less dilapidated coach, of some heat and light. That same evening one dines at Domodossola and dives into the Simplon tunnel. Next morning finds Switzerland left behind and one is being turned out, shivering and aching, into the cold dawn for breakfast somewhere in France. The rest of the day and most of the following night seem to be spent waiting in sidings while French civilian expresses rush past, but somehow the train manages to stagger into Calais in the early hours of the morning. At the particular camp in Calais the organization was good. The party was documented, money-changed, NAAFI-issued etc., shipped across to Folkestone and delivered at Victoria Station, London, by 2 o'clock the same afternoon. It was a Sunday—one week and seven hours after leaving Rome, 36 hours being consumed in the ride from Milan to Calais.

### Return Trip.

The return trip was worse still, subject to the worst torments of hell: darkness and cold. (My! My! Corporal! – *Ed.*) The transit camps at Calais and Novara were less well organized than those of the outward trip. Suffice it to say that the writer is now suffering from a terrible cold and feeling more dead than alive (he doesn't look that bad – *Ed.*). If top priority were given to heat and light, especially at this time of the year, it would make a world of difference. A word about the feeding arrangements: At the various stopping places everyone gets off the train for a meal which has been prepared for them. Of these establishments those in Italy are quite excellent, especially that at Foligno, while those in France are not nearly so good, neither in organization nor in the quality of the meals served. The former are largely staffed by German prisoners and the latter by French civilians.

And what of one's impressions of England after two years absence, mostly in Italy? They are mainly of contrast, perhaps the most astonishing, bearing Roman food prices in mind, was the cost of a *week's* rationed food for one person:

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



under 5— including meat and eggs. One notices, too, the extreme docility of one's countrymen, their aptitude for forming queues which they carry to such a length that one ever queues up to buy an evening paper. It is heartening to find the Englishman's sense of fair play, at least in the small matters of daily life, still so rampant. Yet one sometimes thinks, standing at the wrong end of the queue, that one would like to institute the good old Italian free-for-all system of boarding a bus.

The effects of controls, rationing, bureaucratic systemization, utility and austerity, are evident everywhere. With virtually no black market, England is still fully in the grip of a State-controlled economic system while Italy, at present, enjoys, through the black market, what appears to this observer to be a system of unbridled economic *laissez faire*.

## CLAIMS

One of the most surprised Anglo-American teams in this Headquarters is that which is concerned with what, to them, must have appeared, in prospect, a terrifying task. This is the claims board created last October, which had the duty of compiling a list of civilian claims (made for a variety of reasons) against AMG and A. C. The surprise is occasioned by the happy paucity of the numbers of the claims and of their petty sizes.

By the American side only 40 have been received, concerning 12 motor cars, seven wheels and tires, one piano, miscellaneous furniture, china and linen and, most interesting of all, a claim for an ice cream machine. Another claim is flagrantly sentimental and is the cost of printing invitations (pink and with forget-me-nots, we trust) to a children's party. This was apparently organized by two nostalgic, if absent-minded, officers who, in a lapse of memory, forgot to foot the bill but who will, in due course, receive in their home towns, to which these kindly gentlemen have now returned, bills for their forgetful act of generosity.

The British side leads the field in numbers with a score of 120 claims. These include motor cars, typewriters, five radio sets, four pairs of boots attached to four beds, a horse, two welding sets, a suite of furniture, four accident claims and the small matter of somebody's wages. As at this report, no money whatsoever has been paid but it is hoped, say those responsible, that this will be done in the near future.

But speaking of such G-1 matters leads us to another tale the sad condition of some of our esteemed British colleagues. Figures show that the total number of requisitioned cars held by the British numbers eleven—and these in far-off Venezie. The more fortunately endowed Americans possess rather more. This has placed something of a strain on British arches.

This state of affairs has been brought about by the fact that from the beginning a limit was placed on the number of vehicles the British could requisition, while to the Americans the sky seemed the only possible limit. The result was that almost all requisitioning in A. C. was done through American channels. All ran smoothly until recently Nemesis, in the form of the cancellation of Lend-Lease, brought an order that each army was to use its own physical equipment, among other things.

## RIGHT OFF THE PRESS

The sympathy of PRB is extended to one of its best customers, Mr. Milton Bracker of the *New York Times*. Mr. Bracker for many months has questioned us shrewdly (often too shrewdly) on the activities of A. C. and AMG and the telephone wires between the *Stampa Estera*, where he has his office, and this Branch have hummed hot and heavy as we offered what information we had. But the other day a cruel fate overtook Mr. Bracker, and the news-hound became a news source himself.

Let it be said at once that Mr. Bracker was not backward in giving us what information he could and neither was there any question of the interview being "off the record". The point was that the Rome offices of Mr. Bracker and the *New York Times* had been broken into, despoiled, ransacked, not to say, feloniously invaded. Burglars, showing no respect for the immunity of the press, removed three typewriters (one a well-loved portable, carried by the victim for seventeen years), some 7,000 lire in cash, a bed roll, from which the blankets were removed, examined, and, apparently, rejected. Into the bed roll was placed the loot, and before taking their departure the visitors consumed a number of tins of C and K rations.

Mr. Bracker came on the scene the next day, at an hour lordly journalists are wont to arrive, to see a wreckage of empty tins, a half eaten and rejected fruit cake and a dearth of typewriters. Left behind by the thieves was an envelope containing nearly 100,000 lire which may indicate that C and K rations are good for body building but not for the intellectual alertness proper to a well-trained burglar.

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



## ODDS AND ENDS

The post of Vice President of the Establishment Section has been abolished; Col. Charles M. Parkin will continue to act as Executive Officer (A) while Lieut. Col. K. Wilbe-Jones will be Executive Officer (B)... The Education Sub-Commission reports some revealing statistics: 83 per cent. of Italian children get five years or less of schooling while only about 5 per cent. complete secondary school... The following U. S. personnel has been awarded the Bronze Star: Pfc. Joseph Prola, Staff Sergt. Pasquale J. Marinelli and Majors George R. Koopman and Arthur E. Pucinelli... The Executive Commissioner is at present in England; Brigadier M. Carr, Vice President of the Civil Affairs Section, is acting in his stead... Perhaps the A. C. will get some U. S. EM replacements from the 500 expected to arrive for the Rome area in the next few days; the Regiment's current strength is now 226 EM (the T/O calls for 500)... Of the 225 American officers (T/O strength – 250) with the Commission, to date 33 have signed the certificates for one of the five categories on released from or staying on active duty; the certificates must be signed by 15 January since reports to higher headquarters are due by 31 January; the count of the 33: Category I (indefinite stay) – 4; Category II (until June, 1947) – 1; Category III (until December, 1946) – 1; Category IV (short term) – 8; Category V (immediate release) – 19... Here are alumni notes on certain of our old boys (A) which might interest their friends: Col. T. V. Smith, quondam Director of the Education Sub-Commission writes us that the U. S. Army has given him a shining pair of eagles as "a going away present"; that a star was bestowed on Henry Parkman whom many of us will remember from Charlottesville and G-5 at Algiers, and that Lieut. Col. John Clarke, late Senior Finance Officer, AMG Fifth Army, has been appointed by the Foreign Liquidation Commission as Field Commissioner for the North Atlantic Area, covering everything from the Bahamas to Greenland (imagine liquidating, not to say "unfreezing", Greenland)...

*NOT FOR PUBLICATION*

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

RESTRICTED

January 7, 1946

ALLIED COMMISSION

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 40

## POLITICAL

*The democratic aspiration is no more recent phase in human history. It is human history.*

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

New Year's Day was ushered into Rome with most of the gayety and hi-jinks that used to be traditional in the good old days. Many a glass of *spumante* was drunk and the Romans saw the old year out with the traditional noise-making devices: *mortaretti*, *petardi* and a few *bombe a mano* left over from the clandestine period. In the midst of all this distraction, however, the Italian Government managed to get in quite a lot of work. The Council of Ministers met three times during the week, on the 28th and 29th of December and on the second day of the new year. The first meeting was given over to rather general discussions. The Council heard Prime Minister De Gasperi's report on his talks with the ambassadors of the Allied nations, and the Government, "recalling the solemn statements made at Potsdam" expressed its "firm expectation" of a fair peace treaty. Corbino and Scoccimarro reported on the financial situation and outlined their immediate plans. Barbaresehi recommended continuation of the agreement now in force between industrialists and workers. On more concrete matters De Gasperi, deploring the outrage committed against the Communist Headquarters (see last week's *Bulletin*), announced that the police had been given "very severe orders" to round up the perpetrators, and the Council tackled the pressing problem of the Christmas bonus for state employees.

This ticklish matter was the principal subject of the second meeting at which the special *indennità* was in fact voted, to consist of 3,000 lire in large cities and 2,500 in smaller centers, payable the 12th of January. As the traditional bonus is an extra full month's pay the employees themselves found these sums inadequate and there has been talk of a strike during the week—talk which has not yet simmered down as we go to press. On the Government's side of the question there is one argument— the state of the budget— an argument not without weight. At this meeting too, Nenni presented his order of the day on the election question. The motion suggested that communes where the electoral lists should have been approved by 25 January, the administrative elections should be held on 17 February and where approval is granted by the later date of 9 February, elections should be held on the 10th of March. After this the *ordine del giorno* recommended that the administrative elections should be postponed until after the political (*Costituente*) elections which—again as recommended in the motion—should take place on May 5th.

These suggestions gave the Council food for serious deliberation at the meeting on 2 January. A draft law was agreed upon which made the following specific points in regard to the administrative elections: co-existence of the proportional and one-member systems; the population limit between the two systems fixed at 30,000; use of the State ballot and compulsory presentation of candidacy for the one-member system as it is already for the proportionals ystem. Some other points were left still undecided. The question of the compulsory vote was left for further discussion by the committee of the *Consulta*. Nenni's motion was considerably mangled before being passed, the scheme of interrupting the administrative elections did not meet with general approval and it was decided instead to hold the administrative elections running through March. Nenni then suggested the interruption might come on the 24th of March, at the same time modifying his original schedule of dates. The official communiqué gave no indication of which of these ideas of Nenni were accepted, but it was reported that "De Gasperi seemed to concur".

### Foreign Affairs.

Naturally all the business of the Council was of lively interest to the press. The papers of the 30th carried De Gasperi's statement to I. N. S. (also published in America) which conveyed in

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



forthright terms his feeling of surprise and disillusionment that Italy, which had fought for 18 months with the Allies and had been given definite assurances at Potsdam, should be thus neglected and put on the same level as other nations of very different record. Some rather strong expressions of bitterness have appeared in the Roman papers on this matter. *Secolo XX* (Independent Rightist) said that "it is now obvious that the Allies landed in Italy in order to occupy her and not liberate her as we were told". Orbis news agency reported that Sforza, discussing the Moscow communique with French journalists, used the word *diktat* to describe the decisions handed down on Italy and the word was seized upon by leader writers looking for the proper *Schimpfwoerter* to express their attitude. *Italia Nuova* for one indignantly rejecting any "*diktat*", however generous. As we reported last week, discontent with the Moscow news is not restricted to the Right; Urbanus in *Voce Repubblicana* contended that the new Italy, even if not yet all that the Allies would like it to be, is still "worthy of a gesture of confidence". The handover of the Northern provinces brought forth little comment, largely because the papers had already expressed themselves at the time of the announcement a few weeks ago. *Risorgimento Liberale* repeated De Gasperi's phrase to the effect that the return of the North was a "good omen" but *Avanti*, sobered by the Moscow communiqué, merely noted that the hand over did not signify the end of Allied control in Italy, "nor, as we had hoped, of the Armistice régime".

The noteworthy speech of the week was made by Togliatti who addressed the Communist Congress made up of 1,800 delegates from all over the country. He made several points; on foreign policy he declared Italy must be on good terms with all the United Nations, including Russia; the Communists he affirmed were opposed to the concept of "blocs" in international politics. Togliatti also came out for the *italianità* of Trieste, and Bolzano as well. As for internal affairs, the party is in favor of a democracy based on free parliamentary principles and prefers a Republic to a Monarchy, believing that a Monarchy would always lean towards Fascism. The *Costituente*, in the party's opinion should be sovereign. The Communist leader said that the party was not against the Church but he warned the Church not to become "an electoral agency". He alleged that the party had a membership of over 1,700,000. Gonella, of the Christian Democrat *Popolo*, took notes on the speech (which lasted some four hours), and analyzed it for his readers the following day. The principles set forth, he wrote, could be subscribed to by any anti-Fascist party but the undertones were disquieting. He was disturbed by what seemed to him the latent anti-clericalism of the speech and naturally enough by the rather derogatory phrase which Togliatti used to describe the Christian Democrat party: "two souls in one body". He criticized, too, the scarcely veiled threat of the Communist leader to withdraw from the Government if the vote were made compulsory. And, somewhat paradoxically, he found fault with Togliatti for not drawing a sharper ideological line between Socialists and Communists, accusing the old doctrinaire party of having adopted an attitude of "pragmatism".

In spite of the reported shortage of newsprint, the large family of Roman dailies was increased by one when Giannini (*L'Uomo Qualunque*) launched his *Buonsenso* on the 30th of December just in time to greet the new year. As might have been expected, he blamed the Leftist parties for the treatment accorded Italy at Moscow and—also predictable—came out in favor of the compulsory vote. The latter subject has, of course, been discussed very exhaustively by practically every paper in Rome. *La Capitale* thinks it not at all unlikely that this question may well split the C. L. N. and retard the elections until next summer or fall. But of that more when the *Consulta* meets.

## GOOD-BYE TO AMG

The turnover of the North passed uneventfully and, in retrospect, there is at hand a letter from the Chief Commissioner which sums up the feeling of the Allied Commission about its AMG stalwarts. The letter follows:

"*To the Regional Commissioners of Northern Italy.*

"On 31 December the work of Allied Military Government in your Regions will come to an end. You and your predecessors and your staffs have achieved much. You have faced great difficulties. The long months of training were beset with shortage of personnel and transport, and were chequered with disappointments and delays. When the break came large areas fell to your administration in a matter of days and you were stretched to the limit to cover them. No sooner had you established Regional administration than the demands of redeployment and release schemes reduced your staffs to a mere shadow. You

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



found a territory split by civil war, recently occupied by a defeated enemy, and abounding with arms. You were faced with political controversies which threatened to undermine the whole system of local government. You found great industries completely lacking raw material and coal with the consequent threat of widespread unemployment. You have overcome these difficulties magnificently. Your numbers have invariably been insufficient. Your quality has never deteriorated. You have maintained law and order, established good government and started economic rehabilitation. You and all hands serving under you—officers and men—have done much for Allied interests, for the restoration of Italy, and for the cause of freedom and democracy. You may be proud of your work as I am proud to have commanded you. To all of you, whether you remain with the Commission or serve elsewhere, I send you my warm gratitude and wish you good fortune.

(*sigd*) *Ellery W. Stone*

ELLERY W. STONE
REAR ADMIRAL, USNR.
CHIEF COMMISSIONER

A couple of points in the Admiral's letter might bear amplification. On 5 May, for example, the peak of the strength in the North, there were 604 American and British officers on the spot. On 27 December, there were only 258. On the respective dates, Lombardia had 187 and 68; Liguria 91 and 41; Piemonte 143 and 52, and Venezie 183 and 97. The figures speak for themselves of the job done under handicaps.

Once relations between the CLN and AMG were smoothed out, with the CLN eventually recognizing its purely advisory capacity, the main problem, of course, was economic—how to put to work the great undamaged industrial capacity of the North. In the *Bulletin* we have often told how the Economic Section arranged for over-all plans and imported supplies. Perhaps it might interest our readers to hear about a few interim production figures as obtained from the Industrial Council of North Italy, an organization sponsored by AMG. For instance, cement production is at the moment high enough to satisfy present demands. More than 1,200,000 pairs of shoes have been manufactured and distributed and another 7,500,000 pairs are in production. The aluminium industry is healthy and quantities of much needed machine tools are being produced. Vehicle plants are producing more cars than can be used because of scarcity of tires and lack of rubber for tire production. During the early part of the AMG period, production of plastics was resumed and Montecatini is now producing quantities of resinous chemicals. Other figures include the production of 1,400 tons of newsprint per month and 2,000,000 note books for schools (distributed free of charge), while 8,000,000 more are in process of being manufactured.

## ADMIRAL STONE K. B. E.

All hands in the Allied Commission will join us, we know, in offering congratulations to our Chief Commissioner, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, on his award of the Knight Commander of the British Empire to which "His Majesty King George VI has been graciously pleased to appoint him".

We cannot do better perhaps than to quote the citation which was read out when the Admiral received the C. B. E. a short time ago from Admiral Sir John Cunningham. Those who have had the privilege of serving under the Admiral, one of the original members of the Allied Commission (as a member of the Allied Military Mission in September, 1943), know how applicable this citation is.

The citation ran:

"Rear Admiral Ellery Wheeler Stone has achieved outstanding work for the Allied cause in Italy. As Director of the Telecommunications Section in the Allied Control Commission he laid the foundations of effective co-operation between the Italian Government and technical authorities and the Allied Forces in the field of communications. Appointed Deputy Chief Commissioner to Lieut. General Sir Noel Mason MacFarlane in January 1944 he played a principal part in the re-organisation of the Allied Control Commission, in the planning and execution of Allied Military Government in Italy, in establishing the closest relation between the Allied authorities and the Italian Government in the most difficult circumstances after the Armistice and in the critical days of the formation of the first representative Italian Government after the occupation of Rome by Allied troops. On the departure of General Mason MacFarlane, Admiral Stone was appointed Acting Chief Commissioner and later confirmed as Chief Commissioner. In this capacity he helped to establish confidence in the new Italian Government and effectively carried out military government as the Allied Armies advanced Northwards through Italy thereby ensuring the maintenance of law and order and the establishment of military government in the newly liberated territories and the maintenance therein of adequate supplies

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



of food and medicines. As head of the first Commission to undertake the administration and guidance in the first liberated country in Europe, Admiral Stone has shown himself a great Allied leader."

As our enterprise draws to an end, we of the *Bulletin*, like to feel a little freer in letting ourselves go and expressing our opinions with some liberty—never license, of course. And so, while convention would permit us only the most formal congratulations on the occasion of this tribute to our commanding officer, perhaps we may be allowed, too, to voice our personal and quite informal delight on the occasion.

We remember Captain Stone (as he was then), an authoritative, truth to tell, somewhat formidable figure looming out of the gloom in the *Internationale* in Brindisi, bearing down on us with purpose in his eye. We were alarmed and sprang to immediate attention, fearing the worst. However, it was merely to tell us that he had trouble getting his Navy collars properly starched and would we assist in getting the precisely correct formula across to the Italian laundry.

It was our first contact with that meticulous attention to detail which the Captain and subsequently the Commodore and the Admiral (we had the pleasure of chronicling these successive steps upward) applied and still applies to the affairs of the Commission no less than his own. We remember the feverish days when, with the departure of Mason Mac, all the complications of the delicate ACC (as it still was) and the new Italian government were set before the Admiral for solution.

We had then, and we have had since, frequent opportunities to watch him at his work. (And, *en passant*, how *he* has watched *us*; the *Bulletin* has had no more faithful reader and, as in the affair of the starched collars, he never skips a comma). And we have, it all must be told, been licked off and had our share of rockets. But we have come to have an enormous respect for the Chief's integrity, his desire to get at the facts, his basic fairness and, above all, his courageous and unflexible devotion to duty. These are not mere words; we have come to know what they mean. And we are glad to see these rare qualities recognised and rewarded. *Honos honestum decorat.*

## LIVORNO

A good report (for December, 1945) comes to hand from Capt. Stanley Beatty, former Kansas City (Mo.) police inspector, who has ben serving as AMG Public Safety Officer in Livorno, and most recently has been Acting AMG Commissioner for the Zone until the turnover the other day. The report is the last—and the 19th—submitted from Livorno and contains a highly interesting summary of life in the thriving military port which has been chief center of operations for the Peninsular Base Section in Italy and, as such, the port into which the tremendous military supplies of the war factories of America have poured for the last phases of the Italian campaign.

Thousands upon thousands of Allied troops—British (from all parts of the Empire), Poles, French, Brazilians and Americans, the British and American Navies in no inconsiderable strength, both the R. A. F. and American fighter and bomber groups were stationed in the province which once contained more than 250,000 native souls. But perhaps it would be even more appropriate to let Capt. Beatty tell the story in the words of his own report:

"Livorno was a city deserted and smoldering in ruins when this officer (Capt. Beatty) entered here in mid July 1944. Streets were filled with countless tons of debris and rubble. Walls of buildings swayed crazily under the impact of German shells being lopped into the city. The harbor was a graveyard of sunken ships, the port area in shambles, and on both sea and land was a treacherous net work of mines. The battle raged only a few kilometers north of the city.

### P. B. S.

"The Peninsular Base Section came here overnight. Offices and installations were established as if by magic. Troops, supplies and equipment poured in every minute of every hour of every day. The transition in the Livorno area was like a story from the Arabian Nights. Miles of streets and highways were cleared of debris, roads were built, airports sprung up overnight, dumps and warehouses appeared in the fields and forests, miles of telephone and electric light wire were placed and strung everywhere. Water mains were rebuilt, sewers repaired, bridges were laid, 55,000 mines were lifted, the harbor was cleared of partly submerged ships. These and many more equally astonishing feats occurred in a matter of days.

"P. B. S. overlooked nothing. Hospitals were established for the wounded and ill, recreation places for the war weary; all kinds of entertainment; all kinds of services; PX, Dry cleaning, Ice, Libraries, Newspaper, Bathing beaches, tours and many other things far removed from the horrors

1335

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



of war to lessen the war weariness and homesickness of our troops. In the midst of this kind of a setting, Livorno A. M. G. set about to take a part in this great drama.

"We set up the machinery to investigate 38,000 civilian employees who were working at the many military and naval installations. The control of civilian movement was a prodigious task here, this being a military zone, and the front only a few kilometers away for several months. Security of our troops and the many installations had to be insured, and AMG reorganized all the civil police agencies. The first aim in the reorganization plan was to make them entirely duty-conscious and loyal to the Allied forces. The second step was to co-ordinate their activities to such an extent that all military police and all security branches would get the benefit of a maximum amount of civil police cooperation. The fire department equipment had to be completely overhauled and put in working order. Prisons had to be repaired and made secure. There were many enemy espionage agents and Fascists to be hunted down, bands of criminals and fugitives roamed about and had to be rounded up. Civil police forces were enlarged, their activities expanded and many were trained in certain types of specialist work.

**Crime.**

"Prostitutes are rigidly controlled. Civilian liquor supply sources are carefully checked and watched in order to protect the life and health of our troops. Political and labor groups are cooperative and friendly. There are no strikes or lock-outs. There are no demonstrations or displays of mass hysteria.

"Following the collapse of the German army in May, 1945, a vast horde of slave labor, refugees and all types of displaced persons fairly inundated this area. In the early stages, 6,000 to 7,000 of these half-starved, sick and semi-hysterical people swarmed into Livorno every day. Since then, a total of approximately 750,000 of them have been checked, fed, given necessary medical care and trips scheduled for them to their final destination. Owing to the crowded conditions in Livorno, it was utterly impossible to house any numbers of refugees. A staging area was established at the rail head, kitchens were set up, tents erected to protect them from the elements, and transportation was arranged for them almost as soon as they arrived here. Since there were no regular representatives of the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission stationed here, Livorno AMG organized a volunteer corps of men and women from among the political and labor Groups of Livorno to donate their time at the staging area at the rail head helping their unfortunate countrymen. This volunteer corps has rendered a truly distinguished service.

"Livorno is a different city today from the city lying prostrate back in July, 1944. The rehabilitation has been astonishing. Utilities are restored, houses rebuilt, stores and business establishments opened again, transportation and communications are well on their way to normaley, and the city will be strong and important again".

**Latest facts.**

The December public safety detailed report gives a picture of Livorno as AMG leaves it (but to continue in another form and function as an Allied Commission liaison station). As a whole, the city itself could not help but be fairly prosperous because of the thousands of Italians employed by the armies there and the steady flow of paychecks. As to public safety, the Carabinieri, Capt. Beatty says, have shown lately a marked improvement, although "previously they were terrible". In near-by Pisa, on the other hand, the CC.RR. have been most satisfactory all along. The Agents of Public Security of the Questore, too, have been doing an excellent job, working closely with the military police. The Guardia di Finanza similarly have a good record and are preparing to take over customs duties when the time comes. Petty crime flourishes but so do police measures to keep it within bounds. Most notable action during the month was the combined Allied-Italian raid on the Viareggio area which netted 285 arrests.

Relations between soldiers and civilians have been cordial for months, despite the continued presence of many soldiers. Speaking of soldiers, many who are transferred to the Livorno area bring their girl friends with them, but these latter are usually sent back home because housing is at a premium. Regular round-ups of prostitutes occur, the latest in the zone having produced 278. The functioning of the Italian courts has been so far behind schedule (and is one of the reasons why petty offenders have not much apparent fear of punishment) that it was necessary to resume AMG courts (staffed with PBS officers), which had been closed since September. Indeed, the Italian courts in Livorno are under investigation by the Italian Government.

-24-

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



This Livorno story should properly close with Capt. Beatty's own last remarks. They follow:

"AMG steps aside with a certain feeling of inward pride and satisfaction. Close association with the people here for these many months has been one of mutual friendship, sympathy and understanding between us. True friendships have developed that will never be forgotten. There have been no promotions or medals. We merely did a duty that was required of us by all military standards. We have been rewarded in a certain way, yes, richly rewarded for our efforts. Those 106 letters and cards of holiday greetings, and the great mass of cut flowers that came to our office in an endless stream from the people of every walk of life in Livorno are much more precious than all the other rewards that could be given. It conveyed a message to us, more eloquently than words, that we, as representativers of the Allied Forces, and particularly members of the Army of the United States had won the confidence and good will of these people by our sincere efforts in their behalf."

## CRISTMAS IN THE DOLOMITES

(Editor's Note. — *The article that follows comes from the distinguished pen of a nameless Northern RC who, as the reader will notice, packs a mean literary, as well as administrative, wallop).*

The Carabinieri car that had brought me out from Bolzano had climbed some 3,000 feet up a narrow, steep winding road, to deliver me, the solitary guest at a small gabled inn, in a tiny mountain village. The inn formed most of one side of the village square; opposite was the church, large for so small a community. To the right a tall bell tower, to the left the *Gemeinde Amt*, what we call the *municipio* farther south. Though it was not cold, everything was snow covered. The bright inn signs, the steeply gabled house, the bright paintings on the walls, the silence and air of quiet comfort combined to bring in an indefinable way, a real old-fashioned Christmas impression.

Though, that night, I dined alone in the front parlor of the inn, it was far from being a lonely meal, for the family Christmas tree, with attendant angel, stood in one corner of the room, and some member or other of the innkeepers's family or household staff was for ever coming in, to see how I was getting on or to put some fresh ornaments on the tree. Indeed, the meal was barely over before candles were lit on the tree and the innkeeper, his wife, daughter, the son, and three or four others were grouped round the tree. We sang, *Stilles Nacht, Heiliges Nacht*, and the little gifts were distributed. I have a feeling that the bottle of Canadian whiskey which I was able to contribute to the celebration was appreciated more from courtesy than from conviction.

I had been told that the midnight mass was the great celebration. Yet, when I looked out onto the village square at 11:30, there was scarcely a soul to be seen. Fine snow was falling slowly, glistening in the bright electric light. Even as I looked, the folk commenced to arrive. Some in horse-drawn sleighs, the majority afoot. Many had walked three or four miles through the darkness and snow from their mountain farms and would be back home again before daybreak. By midnight there were over 2,000 people in the church. Tyroler fashion, the men sat on the right, women on the left, on the long, low wooden pews. In the organ loft, high over the western door, was the village band, and choir. Again we had *Stilles Nacht*, twice in fact. The trumpets rang through the high vault of the church, taking my mind suddenly back to the hallelujah chorus of Handel's *Messiah* and days long ago in Albert Hall in London.

### The Congregation.

As the service went on, a little group gathered at the altar rails, a group so attractive in its quaintness that one still felt that it was all something out of a story book. Three little maidens of about twelve, with tall, pointed pixie caps, knitted woolen jerseys and bunchy skirts. Five or six peasant girls with braided hair, shawls, embroidered bodices and blue aprons over home-spun skirts. Heavy mountaineer shoes and thick stockings showed that they had come a distance on foot. They were not fair-haired, just as many of our Scots mountain folk are not fair. These had bright complexions but brown hair. When the time came for the Gospel, the priest walked down through the crowd to the pulpit high above the people in the center of the church, to read in German the nativity story from St. Luke. So, at last to the end, and we came out to heavy falling snow, and the great congregation dispersed, silently as spirits, and it was Christmas morning.

Eighteen hours later there was much more bustle in the square, for the *Dorfmusik*, the village band and the village choir, had come to play and sing at the hotel. By the time the 24 members of the band, with all their instruments,

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



had been accomodated, and eight in the choir and also a children's choir of seven, most of the hotel's largest room had been filled. But those of the public who could not crowd in listened from neighboring rooms or from the corridors. Most of the space left in the room was taken up with one table round which sat twelve worthies, each in the traditional village costume of brown jacket with velvet collar, flowered waistcoats, brilliant-colored ties pulled through gold rings. Some smoked the old-time long pipes, others accepted cigarets. My next-door neighbor had a beard that went well down over his waistcoat. Others wore the *Kaiserbart*, the sidewhiskers and forked beards that they and their forefathers before them had seen on old Emperor Franz Joseph. They looked what they were, solid mountain farmers.

The band instruments were of another generation, trumpets and horns of a queer, elliptical shape that had been out of fashion for decades. That, however, made no difference to the spirit of the music. The band played, the children sang, the choir sang—always unaccompanied, always local Tyroler folk songs. The wine passed around. There was always the feeling it was unreal, that it was of a past generation. Yet the solid faces round the table were real enough. And so two hours passed all too quickly and we wished each other *Frochliche Weihnacht* and went out into the snow.

## ODDS AND ENDS

A new WD circular has come for U. S. officers which throws a different light on the release plans, in fact, as far as personnel is concerned, is giving serious worry to G-1 in re-casting the American side of the Liaison Groups; the new release rules, effectively immediately, revoke *all* past statements of willingness to continue on active duty and create five new categories as follows: Category I – Election to continue on extended active duty for an unlimited length of time; Category II – Election to continue until 30 June 1947 (the former Class A); Category III – Election to continue until 31 December 1946); Category IV (a sort of former Class B) – Election to continue until some fixed date, the date to be jointly agreed between the commanding officer and the officer concerned but which date must be not earlier than at least 60 days subsequent to the signing of the new certificate and not later than 30 November 1946); Category V – Election to be relieved from active duty at the earliest opportunity... Every officer must sign one of the five certificates by 31 January... The Civil Affairs Section is giving thought to what will happen to it now that there are less AMG problems in the field to worry about; it is contemplated that the Public Health and Education Sub-Commissions might soon disappear, that Fine Arts and Monuments may do likewise by 1 March but that Public Safety, Legal, Displaced Persons and Local Government, with headquarters staffs ranging from 8 to 3, will stick around for a while... Udine and Bolzano will correspond directly with A. C. Hq., while other communications to the field should be addressed to the CLO concerned... Only officers who have six months or more to serve (on the basis of their present point scores) will be sent to Venezia-Giulia... Col. Norman E. Fiske, Deputy Executive Commissioner, who has been with us since December, 1943, has left the A. C. for MTOUSA, where he is helping on American supervision of the forthcoming Greek elections... Personnel of the Land Forces Sub-Commission, on the U. S. side at least, have returned to the administrative jurisdiction of 2675 Regiment after having been under Rome Area Command... Separate messes for British and American officers in Rome are being arranged... The Regiment has just received word that EM down to 45 points be readied for redeployment; eligibles number about 12... About 30 EM with from 53 to 50 points and about six officers from 72 to 70 points have been eligible to leave also but no orders to depart have yet come through...28.