

ACC

10000/141/103

9435

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

10000/141/103

LOCAL GOV'T, BOLZANO  
JUNE 1945 - JAN. 1946

*o a 3*  
AC / 1 / 12 / 3 / 26. 2.

Local Government Reorganization

BOLZANO Province

AND

PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS

Classification 9/6/1945  
L.G.  
10/6/45  
9/7/45  
L.G.

Local Government Reorganization

437

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

BOLZANO PROVINCE  
AND  
PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS

Collection 9/6/1945  
L.G. 10/6/45  
L.G. 9/7/45

1000 141 103

THIS FOLDER  
CONTAINS PAPERS  
FROM JUNE 1945  
TO JAN 1946  
CATALOGUE

0438

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

1/12/51 19

11 Jan 46 MM

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: 6/18.2/CA.

11 Jan 46.

SUBJECT: Correspondence with Prince Bishop of Brixen.

TO: CLO BOLZANO.

PCT

- 1 A certain amount of correspondence or discussion has taken place recently between the late Regional Commissioner of Venezia, the late Provincial Commissioner of Bolzano and the Prince Bishop of Brixen (Bressanone), on such matters as the termination of Allied Military Government in the province of Bolzano and Italian legislation concerning citizenship in the Alto Adige.
- 2 Please note that any future dealings you may have with the Prince Bishop will be restricted entirely to matters concerning the Church.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

*M. Carr Brigadier*  
M. CARR, Brig.,  
VP CA Section.

Copy to: Local Government Sub-Commission,  
CLO VENEZIA.

2709

51  
782019

0439

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

18

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/1/12/3/LG

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Local Government: Comune of LAM (Bolzano).

3 October 1945

TO : RO Veneto (with copy to RO Bolzano)

16

1. The Ministry of the Interior has advised this Sub Commission that they have received from the Sindaco of the Comune of LAM (Bolzano Province) a telegram dated 22 September which reads as follows:

"Financial aid in order to pay dependent personnel urgently required."

SINDACO LAGDADIC

2. May this matter please be investigated and the appropriate action taken.

3. The Sindaco of LAM should be informed that the correct channel for his request was through the Prefect of Bolzano, and not to the Ministry of the Interior directly.

RCW

RALPH R. THOMAS  
Major  
Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

PR/mm

2703

5936

17

HEAD, UNITED ALLIED COMMISSION  
AG 594  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMISSION

AG/45/12/16

Tel: 620

SUBJECT: Note of Interview - AG H.

DATE : 1 October 1943 - 1000 hours

PRESENT: Lt. Col. W. R. McBratney, ex-IC Bolzano  
Major Ralph R. Temple, Director, Local Government /O  
Major G. G. R. Williams, Executive Officer, Local Government /O1. Italian Troops

Lt. Col. McBratney said that there was still a good deal of trouble with the VOLCOK Division--numerous instances of bullying and terrorising the population. He cited one case of a religious festival in a town, which finished up with a party in a beer garden, at which several Italian soldiers had made a disturbance. They were asked to leave by an American officer and did so, but they came back with many more and made another disturbance. A whistle blew and about 10 Italian soldiers armed with automatic weapons entered. After firing a few shots, they beat up the population with gun butts. In the meantime, 2 heavy machine guns had been placed at the ends of the street outside. An Inquiry was held by the local Italian Command, the result of which was to whitewash everybody.

2. He mentioned that the last we had heard of this problem was that the Italian Government had been asked to remove the SAN MARCO Division. Lt. Col. McBratney said yes they had been replaced by the GARIBOLDI Unit, who were no better than SAN MARCO.

3. He had had many deputations on the subject recently, but factual complaints had ceased. The reason was, the deputations told him, that the population was terrified of reprisals. He had promised the last deputation that any complaints would be kept in his safe, and in forwarding them he would omit the names. The result of this assurance was that none of specific complaints reached him almost immediately.

4. De-Nazification

Lt. Col. McBratney said that practically no Nazis were now left in public office. There were, however, some 40/50 Reich Germans resident who were being registered under the Provincial Registration or Aliens Order. They were reluctant to register and give particulars of themselves for obvious reasons. Some of them are shortly to be tried for failing to register and his ILO was initiating a drive about it.

12B

- 2 -

5. Transfer of Aliens

Lt. Col. McBratney thought that registration would be complete shortly and then the problem arose of transferring those Reich Germans back to Germany. Col. Findley knew all about the problem. He understood permission is being awaited from AFHQ which has not yet been given. There were also a few Vichy French as to whom the position was the same.

6. As to the Reich Germans, he ~~would~~ <sup>had</sup> arrange for obtaining all the particulars which USAGT would require and had asked Col. Findley to keep the refugee camp in the province open to deal with them.

7. Local Government and Electoral Lists

All Sindaci and Giuristi have now been confirmed, except in the case of one Giurista. The provincial administration was functioning a little better than before.

8. The Sindaci were registering in the electoral lists all clear cases. None of those who had taken any action under the Hitler-Mussolini Agreements were being registered. We pointed out that this meant that no progress had been made beyond Stage "A". The Sindaci could send their extracts to the Judicial Record Offices, but those extracts would be incomplete. When the time came to deal with the Optante, they would have to send further extracts to the Judicial Record Offices. Until all extracts had been sent to and returned by the Judicial Record Offices, no lists could be sent for approval to the Electoral Committees. The position therefore was that in the near future the preparation of the lists in Bolzano would come to a full stop.

9. Nationality Problem

On this we told Lt. Col. McBratney that our position was as stated in the Chief Commissioner's letter to the Prime Minister of 20 August, agreeing to the Special Commission as a fact-finding body only. A reminder had been sent to the Prime Minister, but no answer had been received.

10. Lt. Col. McBratney said the Prefect had been in communication with the Prime Minister and the Prefect understood that the appointment of the Special Commission would be accompanied by a declaration of the Italian Government as to minority rights in Bolzano. He had seen a telegram from the Prime Minister to the Prefect stating that this declaration as to minority rights had been transmitted to AG on 13 September.

11. We said we doubted if it was necessary to hold up the appointment of the Special Commission for this declaration to be settled. Lt. Col. McBratney said that might be so, but the declaration was very important. He said it was most important that the Special Commission should get to work at once to relieve the increasing tension in the province.

2703

0 4 4 2

R.B.

- 3 -

12. Conclusion.

Lt. Col. McBratney said that tension and unrest among the population were increasing and that 2 main things were required to allay it:—

- (a) Removal of the FOUCORI Division;
- (b) A formal and binding declaration from the Italian Government about minority rights.

He added that when the Prefect had seen the Prime Minister over 2 months ago, the Prime Minister had promised to deal with all of these points at once. The Prefect had returned to Bolzano and had told a meeting of the Sindaci that he had the Prime Minister's verbal promise to that effect, and the population are now awaiting for it to be implemented.



G. G. WILLIAMS  
Major  
Executive Officer  
Local Government Sub Commission

OGM/rec

Distribution:

GA Section (3)  
AO/45/12/16  
AO/1/12/3/16  
Vfloat

2703

0443

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

785021

112/3

16

1 Oct 1945

Rome, 26 September 1945

From : Ministry of the Interior  
Cabinet  
Ref. 57209/12632  
To : Allied Commission  
Subject : Lama Communal Administration

The Sindaco of the Commune of Lama (Bolzano) has sent the following telegram to this Ministry under date 22 instant:

"Financial aid in order to pay dependent personnel urgently required. Sindaco Iaodadio."

Since said province is under the administration of AMG, the above communication is passed on to your Commission for whatever action it may be deemed necessary.

NOT THIS MESSAGE

Spataro

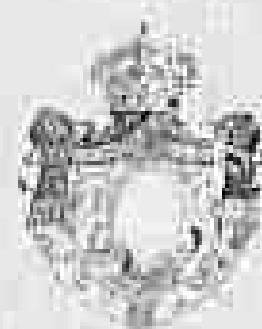
K.3/10.

Letter to R.C. Newgate  
is at folio 18.

7274

Trans. & typed  
A. Nice 1/10/45

2704



169

Roma 2 settembre 1945

Ministero dell'Interno  
GABINETTO

M l'On. COMMISSIONE  
ALIENATA

R O M A

Provvisorio *Da*  
Tel. N. 37209/12632 *Allegati*

Reposto alla *del*  
*Da* *To* *N°*

Oggetto Lama - Amministrazione comunale.

Il Sindaco del Comune di Lama (Bolzano),  
ha inviato a questo Ministero in data 22 cor-  
rente il seguente telegramma:

""Urge sovvenzione bilancio pagamento retri-  
buzione personale dipendente. Sindaco Laoda-  
dio.""

Poichè la predetta Provincia si trova  
sotto l'amministrazione dell'A.M.G., si co-  
munica quanto sopra a codesta On. Commissio-  
ne per ragioni di competenza.

PEL MINISTRO

*Altovio*

2703

7284

0 4 4 5

11/12/3

15

CONFIDENTIALHEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Office of the Executive Commissioner  
\*\*\*\*\*

Reference : 806/A/BC

23 August 1945

SUBJECT : Notes on Executive Commissioner's  
TOUR - BOLZANO

TO : Distribution below.

1. Elections. I spoke to Lt. Col. McBrattney on the question of electoral lists and he seemed quite satisfied with the decision made in ROME. He was, however, anxious that whatever order should be made regarding the setting up of an Italian Commission should be in the form of an Italian decree and not, as the Prefect had suggested, a Regional or AG order.

2. Alier Registration Order. Regional Order No.17 has just been posted and Col. McBrattney hopes to trace a number of Germans by this system. He assumes that non-resident Germans, i.e., those who have entered Italy since the war and particularly since the armistice, will be regarded as displaced persons and transferred to Germany. I told him that I agreed with his assumption and would confirm after consultation in ROME. We want to get quite clear in our minds as to what to do with Germans who are non-residents. In this connection the closing up of No.23 Displaced Persons Camp may have to be delayed. Col. McBrattney suggested that it may be necessary to arrange for AMG officers to carry on with the registration of these Germans if it was not finished by the turnover. He personally thought it would take two months.

4. Prefect. I spoke to the PC. about the Prefect DE ANGELIS. Col. McBrattney said that the man wanted to relinquish his ~~his~~ job as soon as possible but he thought it would be politic if the Italian Government retained him for at least 2 months after the turnover. DE ANGELIS he thought was aspiring to some ambassadorial appointment. Obviously the choice of the new Prefect will have to be made very carefully and if some form of regional autonomy is to be given, it might include the freedom to elect a Prefect.

ML/JC.

M.S. LUSH  
Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner,

0446

14

AC/1/12/3/LG

SUBJECT: Note of Interview - AC IN

DATE : 13 August 1945 - 1700 hours.

PRESENT: S. E. CATENACCI Corrado, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of the Interior  
S. E. INNOCENTI Silvio, Chief of Special Division for Minorities,  
Ministry of the Interior.  
Col. R. R. Cripps, Director, Local Government S/C  
Major Ralph R. Temple, Deputy Director, Local Government S/C  
Major C. G. R. Williams, Executive Officer, Local Government S/C  
Sig. Arrigo NICE, interpreting.

1. Col. Cripps stated that representations had been received from the Prefect of Bolzano that the Giunte Comunali in that province should be enlarged above the number laid down by RD 4 April 1945, No. 111. His reason was that only in that way could proper representation be given to the German-speaking minority. The Prefect made the same representation with respect to the Deputazione Provinciale. Col. Cripps stated that as far as the S/C were concerned, they did not consider the Prefect's case very strong, but they wished to know what the views of the Italian Government were. Dott. INNOCENTI said the minority problem must be looked at as a whole. He had recently been appointed to head a Special Division in the Ministry which was studying and advising the Government on the technical side of the minority question, wherever it might arise in Italy--in the Upper Adige or in the Val d'Aosta or elsewhere. Questions arose as to equal treatment of the minority language in law courts, in the schools, in public registers and documents, commercial transactions and in numerous other ways. Proper representation of the minority on local government bodies was only one of the many aspects of the whole problem; and it should not be treated as a question of party.

2. Col. Cripps said the question might arise in other provinces where ALG not infrequently found the Deputazione and Giunte had been established with numbers larger than those established by law. He would like to know what the Government's reaction would be to the situation as and when they took over control.

3. Both Dott. CATENACCI and Dott. INNOCENTI said they could not say what the policy of the Government would be, but could only express a personal opinion. Their view was that the numbers fixed by law should be adhered to and they thought the Ministry would take steps to reduce Deputazioni and Giunte with excessive numbers as soon as they had the authority to do so.

4. Dott. INNOCENTI pointed out that there were several ways of treating the question of minority representation on local bodies. One method would be to reserve a fixed number of seats for the minority and to provide a separate election for those seats, at which only the members of the minority would vote. For the remaining seats, the Italian section of the population would vote. The Italian political parties could compete for these seats in the ordinary way.

0447

14B

- 2 -

5. Dott. INNOCENTI said that this or any other method could only be adopted when there were elections. At present there were none. Moreover, at present we were dealing with six main political parties, but tomorrow the number might be different. For these reasons, any quick solution for Bolzano province alone would be premature.

6. Col. Cripps said he appreciated that Dott. CATENACCI and Dott. INNOCENTI were only expressing their personal views. However, he agreed with them and the S/C would take their advice. He would mention the matter to the VP and, if the latter approved, write to RC Venezia to inform him that both the Deputazione and Giunte in Bolzano must be kept to the legal number.  
NOTE: Col. Cripps mentioned the matter to Brigadier Upjohn later in the day: and the latter agreed with the views expressed above.

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

CCRM/pec

2700

1/17/3

13

HEADQUARTERS ALIED COMMISSION  
APO 594  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

G/1/L2/LC

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Survey of Bolzano, Trento and Verona Provinces.

22 August 1945

TO : RC Veneto Region.

1. Herewith copies in duplicate of Major Williams' reports of his recent visit to these provinces; the additional copy is for forwarding to the RC if you think fit.
2. BOLZANO. The major point in this province seems to be the organisation of the Prefecture. The provincial report form which has now been received indicates the Prefecture is adequately staffed. I have written you separately about the Deputazioni Provinciali.
3. Paragraphs 18 to 21 of this report are Major Williams' personal observations as to the reaction of the minority problem on the preparation of the electoral lists which I think you should see, although discussions on the point are still going on between this HQ and the Italian Government, and the ultimate decision may differ from the views indicated in these paragraphs. They are not, therefore, to be taken as an indication of AG policy.
4. TRENTO. The province appears to be in good shape.
5. VERONA. No particular point arises in this province either to which attention should be called. The line taken by the RC with respect to his 2 political Vice Prefects has been noted with interest. The treatment of this CIN device is one on which no general rule is laid down, as local circumstances must govern the decision whether it is best to retain it or not.



R. R. CRIPPS  
Colonel  
Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

ccm/pec  
Encls. as in (1) above.

2699

4888

112/3

## REZIONE

PROVVISORIA DI SOLAMENTO

20 luglio 1945

## PUNZONATO SULLA SITUAZIONE AMMINISTRATIVA

	data della nomina	occupaz. titolo	Nome e qualifica e grado ricoperto attualmente
<b>I. PREFETTURA</b>			
1. <u>PREFETTO</u> (Funzionari di Gruppo A)	30.5.1945	Dr. ANTONIO Dott. Bruno	prefetto non di carriera
1o Viceprefetto Vicario Politico e con funzioni legittime	30.5.1945	VESCO GILARDI Fervinando	V.P.V. (non di carriera)
2o Viceprefetto Vicario 6.5.1943 Amministrativo		MANZUZZERI Dr. Cornelio	V.P.P.I.S.P. (Grado VI) don D.M. 6 giugno 43 gli furono conferite le funzioni di V.P.V. (Gr.W)
3o Viceprefetto Aggiunto 1.6.45		MONI	Wulther V.P.A.M. Agg. (n.r. 21 car. riore)
<b>II. VICEPREFETTO ISPEttORE</b>			
5o CONSIGLIERE	1.5.1926	NOKER	VACANTE
4o 7.1940	ROSSI	Dr. Francesco Consigl. di 2a classe (Grado VIII)	
30.6.1942	TRINCERI	Dr. Alfonso Cons. di 1a classe (Grado VIII)	
16.4.1943	BRUNATI	Dr. Vittorio Cons. di 2a classe (Grado VIII)	
16.4.1943	CERUTTI	Dr. Fausto Cons. di 2a classe (Grado VIII)	
<b>Capitini Segretari</b>			
Vice Segretario	16.3.1941 16.5.1941	SC. JO PISTORELLI	Dr. Giuseppe Seg. (Grado X) Dr. Giovanni V.S. (Grado XII)
	21.1.1942	LO MIAZO	Avv. Filippo Vice Seg. (Grado XI) Avv. Domenico
<b>III. PREFETTURA</b> (Funzionari di Gruppo B)			
1o PAGLIERINI ALPO		PRANGHINE	Rag. Capo di 2a classe (Grado VIII)
Reggente La Regioneria 4.7.1940			Rag. Capo di 1a classe (Grado VIII)
2o Altri Rag. Cap. LO Rag.			Rag. Capo di 1a classe (Grado VIII)
Rag. e Vice Regionieri 1.12.1928		INTERVILLI	Dirigente l'ufficio Gatti
1.3.1941	CASTELLANI	Rag. Giovanni	V.Rag. (Grado OG) S Avvant. Gr.B

3o Viceprefetto Aggiunto 1.6.45

ALTOIN

V.P.M. AGG. (non si car.  
riera)

## 4o Viceprefetto Ispettore —

## VACANT

0450

<b>5o CONSIGLIERE</b>	1.5.1926	NOKER	Dr. Francesco Consiglio di Classe (grado VIII)
	4.7.1940	ROSSI	Dr. Alfonso Cons. di Classe (grado VIII)
	30.6.1942	TRUCCO	Dr. Vittorio Cons. di 2a Classe (grado VIII)
	16.4.1943	BRUNATI	Dr. Fausto Cons. di 2a Classe (grado VIII)
	16.4.1945	CARLUZZI	Dr. Silvio Cons. di 2a Classe (grado VIII)

## 6o 251 SEGRETARI

<b>SEGRETAZI</b>	16.5.1941	LO JU	Dr. Giuseppe Segreto (Grado IX)
<b>Vice Segretari</b>	16.5.1941	PETRUCCI	Dr. Giovanni V.S. (Grado XII)
	21.1.1942	LO SLIGO	Avv. Vincenzo Gr.A. (Grado XII) Vice Segr. (Grado XII)

## III. PREFECTURA

(Funzionari di Gruppo 3)

<b>1o PAGIONIERI CAPO</b>	Reggente La Regione 4.7.1940	TRANGIPANE	Rag. Ugo Rag. (Grado VIII)
<b>2o</b>	Altri Rag. Capi, lo Rag. Rag. e Vice Ragionieri 1.12.1938	MINTONI	Rag. Lorenzo M. (Grado VIII) Dirigente l'ufficio Culti
		CASERNAI	Rag. Giovanni V. Mag. (Grado VIII) Avv. Gr.R. (Grado VIII)

**NOTA:** (1) Nei paragrafi I, II e III si richiedono i particolari del grado tenuto all'epoca della ultima nomina da parte del Governo italiano. Questo non è necessariamente il grado relativo all'ufficio tenuto attualmente, vale a dire un Consigliere di grado VIII potrebbe oggi avere il grado Prefetto Ispettore (grado VIII). Questare le promozioni conferite dagli Allettati o dal C.L.N.

(2) Nell'ultima colonna, si riunisce il numero e il titolo del grado, per es.  
Consigliere di 2a Classe (VIII).

Copy to Ministry  
18 Aug 1951

**IV. AMMINISTRAZIONE  
PROVINCIALE**

1o Presidente e Capo  
dell'Amministrazione Provinciale 31.5.1945 MENTUZZER Dr. Cornolli Commissario Prefet  
titolo per provvisoria gestione

2o Segretario Generale  
o Provinciale 26.1.1944 MESSLER Dr. Augusto Vice Segretario Generale. In data 26.1.  
nominato Vice Segretario Generale con funzioni di Segretario Generale

3o È stata costituita una Deputazione Provinciale?

SI o NO

data

NUERO TOTALE: 14000 SUBORDINATI

NO

**V. CITTÀ PROVINCIALI  
AMMINISTRATIVE**

1. Sono stati nominati i 4 membri eletti della  
Giunta Provinciale Amministrativa?

SI

data 16.7.1945

**VI. COMUNI**

1o Numero totale dei Comuni

91

2o Numero dei Comuni con una Giunta Comunale

—

3o Numero dei Comuni con un Sindaco

49

4o Numero dei Comuni con un Commissario Prefettizio

42

5o (1) " " " " Segretario Comunale di carriera

53

6o (1) " " " " non dipendente

38

HEAD, UNITED ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AD/1/12/5/46

Ref: 478190

SUBJECT: Size of Deputazione provinciale and Giunta  
Comunale.

18 August 1946

TO : IC: Vesuvio Region (with copy for IC: Bolzano)

1. Reference is made to (a) your EXX/025.11 of 5 July 1945, (b) this sub Commission's reply under reference as above of 14 July, and (c) the Prefect's letter No. 2025/Cab. to the IC, dated 21 July. The last mentioned letter is returned herewith, this sub Commission having kept a copy.

2. Full consideration has been given to the Prefect's new representations as to the desirability of increasing the size of Giunte Comunali. As the Prefect also mentioned both to Brigadier Upjohn and Major Williams, on their recent visits to his province, the desirability of increasing the size of the Deputazioni provinciali above the legal number on similar grounds, this suggestion has been reviewed at the same time. High officials of the Ministry of the Interior have been consulted, including the recently appointed Chief of the Special Division in the Ministry which handles the technical side of the minority problem in general.

3. It will be appreciated that the minority problem arises in other parts of Italy as well as in Bolzano, and that it has numerous other aspects besides that of representation on local government bodies, e.g. the use of the minority language in schools, law courts, and in government and business transactions, and the preservation of racial customs and ceremonies, to name a few. It is therefore felt that the question ought to be viewed as a whole, and great care should be taken as to the adoption of any ad hoc policy directed to merely one aspect of the whole problem.

4. It is also to be noted that the measures to be adopted for securing the rights of minorities are primarily matters of Italian policy to be determined by the Italian Government. Other solutions of the question of minority representation on local government bodies than merely increasing the numbers may commend themselves. As an instance of what might be done, a fixed number of seats could be reserved for which only members of the minority will vote. Such a solution, however, could not be adopted prior to the passing of a general election law, which has not yet been done. This example is quoted as an illustration of the proposition that the problem must be viewed as a whole. It is not, therefore, considered that ANC should attempt to deal with the representation of the minority on local government bodies by enlarging their legal number. The Italian Government should be left to elaborate their own proposals for this purpose and in their own way.

2697 .

4845

0 4 5 5

11A

- 2 -

5. It is also to be observed that the representation of the German-speaking inhabitants is only one of the factors which enter into the nomination of the Giunte and the Deputazioni: all interests—political and commercial as well as racial and linguistic—should be taken into account. It is not felt impossible to secure the representation of both languages on the Giunte and the Deputazioni as well (and possibly by the same ~~persons~~) as represent other kinds of interests.

6. The view of this HQ accordingly is that the number of members of the Deputazioni Provinciali of Bolzano province and of its Giunte Comunali should be kept to those prescribed by RDL 4 April 1945 No. 111.

R. R. CRIPPS  
Colonel  
Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

OKW/pec  
Enclo. as in (1) above.

2696

4845

10

AO/1/12/3/1G

SUBJECT: Note of Interview - AC B.

DATE : 13 August 1945 - 1700 hours.

PRESENT: S. E. GATTIACCI Corrado, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of the Interior  
S. E. INNOCENTI Silvio, Chief of Special Division for Minorities,  
Ministry of the Interior.Col. R. R. Cripps, Director, Local Government S/C  
Major Ralph R. Temple, Deputy Director, Local Government S/C  
Major C. G. R. Williams, Executive Officer, Local Government S/C  
Sig. Arrigo NICK, interpreting.

1. Col. Cripps stated that representations had been received from the Prefect of Bolzano that the Giunte Comunali in that province should be enlarged above the number laid down by RDL 4 April 1945, No. 111. His reason was that only in that way could proper representation be given to the German-speaking minority. The Prefect made the same representation with respect to the Deputazioni Provinciali. Col. Cripps stated that as far as the S/C were concerned, they did not consider the Prefect's case very strong, but they wished to know what the views of the Italian Government were. Dott. INNOCENTI said the minority problem must be looked at as a whole. He had recently been appointed to head a special Division in the Ministry which was studying and advising the Government on the technical side of the minority question, wherever it might arise in Italy—in the Upper Adige or in the Val d'Aosta or elsewhere. Questions arose as to equal treatment of the minority language in law courts, in the schools, in public registers and documents, commercial transactions and in numerous other ways. Proper representation of the minority on local government bodies was only one of the many aspects of the whole problem; and it should not be treated as a question of party.

2. Col. Cripps said the question might arise in other provinces where ACB not infrequently found the Deputazioni and Giunte had been established with numbers larger than those established by law. He would like to know what the Government's reaction would be to the situation as and when they took over control.

3. Both Dott. GATTIACCI and Dott. INNOCENTI said they could not say what the policy of the Government would be, but could only express a personal opinion. Their view was that the numbers fixed by law should be adhered to and they thought the Ministry would take steps to reduce Deputazioni and Giunte with excessive numbers as soon as they had the authority to do so.

4. Dott. INNOCENTI pointed out that there were several ways of treating the question of minority representation on local bodies. One method would be to reserve a fixed number of seats for the minority and to provide a separate election for those seats, at which only the members of the minority would vote. For the remaining seats, the Italian section of the population would vote. The Italian political parties could compete for those seats in the ordinary way.

10D

- 2 -

5. Dott. INNOCENZI said that this or any other method could only be adopted when there were elections. At present there were none. Moreover, at present we were dealing with six main political parties, but tomorrow the number might be different. For those reasons, any quick solution for Bolzano province alone would be premature.

6. Col. Cripps said he appreciated that Dott. CATINACCI and Dott. INNOCENZI were only expressing their personal views. However, he agreed with them and the S/C would take their advice. He would mention the matter to the VP and, if the latter approved, write to HQ Veneto to inform him that both the Deputazione and Giunte in Bolzano must be kept to the legal number.  
 NOTE: Col. Cripps mentioned the matter to Brigadier Upjohn later in the day; and the latter agreed with the views expressed above.

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

OCIO/pec

2694

CONFIDENTIAL  
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
MILAN OFFICE  
APO 394.

0 4 5

Dear Neel,

8 August 1945

I have just arrived in Milan after two useful days in Bolzano where I went direct on arrival here on finding that the A.P.B. meeting had been postponed. During my visit I saw the Provincial Commissioner, Bolzano and his Executive Officer the head of the S.C.I. unit (British) Merano, the head of Counter Intelligence Corps unit Merano (American), the Public Safety Officer, Merano (British) the second-in-command of the British Liaison Unit, Folgore Division, the chairman of the C.L.N. Merano, the chief of police Merano and finally the Secretary General of the Sudtiroler Volkspartei. I enclose a copy of a record of my conversation with the last-named individual. From the above conversation and from my own observations I have reached the following conclusions :-

The situation in the province has been deteriorated politically. Although there is at present no risk of armed clashes, the relations between the German and Italian speaking elements of the population have become more strained. This is due to a variety of reasons. One is certainly the presence of the Folgore Division. The Folgore, and especially the Nembò Regiment have lived their own pockets in the process of guarding dumps and have committed many aggressive acts to which Allied Officers, South Tyroleans and Italians bear witness.

Another is the complete lack of confidence on the part of the German-speaking population in any promises made by the Italian Government. This feeling is accentuated by the fact that while at the centre, Allied Military Government, the Prefect and Senior Italian Officials are trying to carry out a policy of tolerance and equality of treatment for both races, in the smaller towns and in the country districts Italian carpet-baggers are springing up who indulge in bullying, extortion and minor acts of irritation.

A third reason is the complete absence up to date of separation of Fascists and particularly of Nazis both South Tyroleans and Reich Germans. The important Nazis, have mostly been pulled in but there are a certain number of bad men still in hiding, while there are thousands of Reich Germans including wives and families of Nazi officials. Army officers and diplomats, living in comfort in villas and chalets who are a constant source of irritation to the Italians and of stimulation to the South Tyroleans separatists. Indeed it can be said that at the moment, Bolzano province is perhaps the only place in central Europe where Nazis remain undisturbed and where Nazi idea and ideals can continue to be propagated. The uncertainty to which this state of affairs has given rise has not been diminished by the fact that certain Allied officers, particularly in the Merano area have entered into and encouraged the most cordial relations with Reich-Germans, including former members of S.S. and Gestapo, some of whom, until recently were actually employed in A.M.G. offices. A further contributing factor, to the general malaise is the presence of numerous German prisoners sick and wounded and apparently quite at liberty and able to fraternize with the local German-speaking population.

The personality of the prefect of Bolzano, Colonel De Angelis, has been another disturbing factor. He is criticized by both Italians and South Tyroleans alike. In as much as he is seeking to carry out a middle policy, disliked by both Italians and South Tyroleans alike, this is perhaps to his credit. But criticism appears to centre more on his own past record. He is accused of being an opportunist who played with Fascists, Germans and CLNAI in turn. He is undoubtedly very unpopular, but Colonel MacBratney has confidence in him.

finally the Secretary General of the Sudtiroler Volkspartei. I enclose a copy of a record of my conversation with the last-named individual. From the above conversation and from my own observations I have reached the following conclusions :-

The situation in the province has been deteriorated politically. Although there is at present no risk of armed clashes, the relations between the German and Italian speaking elements of the population have become more strained. This is due to a variety of reasons. One is certainly the presence of the Folgore Division. The Folgore, and especially the Nembo Regiment have lived their own pockets in the process of guarding dumps and have committed many aggressive acts to which Allied Officers. South Tyroleans and Italians bear witness.

Another is the complete lack of confidence on the part of the German-speaking population in any promises made by the Italian Government. This feeling is accentuated by the fact that while at the centre, Allied Military Government, the Prefect and Senior Italian Officials are trying to carry out a policy of tolerance and equality of treatment for both races, in the smaller towns and in the country districts Italian carpet-baggers are springing up who indulge in bullying, extortion and minor acts of irritation.

A third reason is the complete absence up to date of separation of Fascists and particularly of Nazis both South Tyroleans and Reich Germans. The important Nazis, have mostly been pulled in but there are a certain number of bad men still in hiding, while there are thousands of Reich Germans including wives and families of Nazi officials. Army officers and diplomats, living in comfort in villas and chalets who are a constant source of irritation to the Italians and of stimulation to the South Tyroleans separatists. Indeed it can be said that at the moment, Bolzano Province is perhaps the only place in central Europe where Nazis remain undisturbed and where Nazi ideas and ideals can continue to be propagated. The uncertainty to which this state of affairs has given rise has not been diminished by the fact that certain Allied officers, particularly in the Merano area have entered into and encouraged the most cordial relations with Reich-Germans, including former members of S.S. and Gestapo, some of whom, until recently were actually employed in A.M.G. offices. A further contributing factor, to the general malaise is the presence of numerous german prisoners sick and wounded and apparently quite at liberty and able to familiarize with the local German-speaking population.

The personality of the prefect of Bolzano, Colonel De Angelis, has been another disturbing factor. He is criticized by both Italians and South Tyroleans alike. In as much as he is seeking to carry out a middle policy, disliked by both Italians and South Tyroleans alike, this is perhaps to his credit. But criticism appears to centre more on his own past record. He is accused of being an opportunist who played with Fascists, Germans and C.I.N.A.I in turn. He is undoubtedly very unpopular, but Colonel McBratney has confidence in him and my own feeling is that if he can deliver the goods in the form of a satisfactory scheme for local autonomy he should be kept on.

I did not see the Prefect himself in Bolzano as he was on the point of leaving for Rome. I made careful inquiries however both in Bolzano and Merano into the allegations he had made in Rome on the subject of French activities in Bolzano province. Although it is widely believed both in official circles and among the public that the French are intriguing on behalf of the separatist. I could get no evidence of the existence of the clandestine wireless set, alleged to be broadcasting from the French Zone of Austria or of the posting of notices by the French. There is said to be a Soviet station broadcasting in German to Bolzano and I suggest we should ask whoever is doing the monitoring in place of P.W.B. to investigate both allegations. A small French military mission

of three officers has arrived in Merano with an unspecified object. I suggest to Colonel McBratney that this should be investigated. The French have also been sending small parties in over the Brenner to buy food. This has been stopped. In one truck as it drove through this small town there were shouts of "The French have arrived".

My recommendations are as follows :-

(1) - The Folgore Division should be withdrawn and replaced by Friuli or by Garibiniieri agez has been suggested by Colonel McBratney. I understand that a conference on this subject is being held at 5th Army today.

(2) The Italian Government should be advised to publish and put into effect as soon as possible a decree not only providing for linguistic equality but also establishing some form of local autonomy on the lines of that contemplated for the Val d'Aosta. Particular care to be taken to ensure that it can be made effective on the lower levels as well as at the top e.g. by increasing the number of german-speaking local officials and functionaries in para-statal services. If the Italian Government could be persuaded to agree to the appointment of Allied observers to supervise the carrying out of the decrees so much the better.

(3) The most active steps should be taken to carry out a drastic epuration of Nazis. As far as possible this should be carried out by courts composed by of anti-Nazis german-speaking persons. All Reich Germans not actually imprisoned should be removed to Germany or Austria as the case may be as soon as possible. Meanwhile their activities should be carefully watched with a view to stopping propaganda among the local German-speaking inhabitants. Every effort should be made to ensure that Germans working in the province or Germans sick and wounded should be treated as that they are - prisoners of war. They should not be allowed to circulate freely and they should not be allowed to mix with the local inhabitants.

(4) Allied Military personnel should be ordered to adopt the same rules of fraternization as exist in Germany in regard to fraternization with Reich Germans.

(5) Efforts should be made by the monitoring service to establish the identity of any wireless station broadcasting in German to Bolzano and to collect any material they may be putting out. The G.I.C. or wherever takes their place should be asked to keep a careful watch on all French activities in the province.

(6) It is the intention of the Allied Governments to leave Bolzano province as part of Italy a public announcement either official or unofficial should be made to that effect as soon as possible. If these things are done and if, as I understand is the desire of the G.O.C. 2 District, two battalions of British troops are kept in the province after the withdrawal of the U.S. 349th Regiment on or about August 20th. I believe that the problem of Bolzano is capable of a solution which should be relatively satisfactory to both parties.

TO : H.E. Sir Noel Charles Lt. K.C.M.G.  
S/ H. HOPKINSON  
British Embassy , Rome.

Copies to :  
Brig. LUSH, Hq. A.C. Rome  
Colonel FISKE, A.C. Milan

(2) The Italian Government should be advised to publish and put into effect as soon as possible a decree not only providing for linguistic equality but also establishing some form of local autonomy on the lines of that contemplated for the Val d'Aosta. Particular care to be taken to ensure that it can be made effective on the lower levels as well as at the top e.g. by increasing the number of german-speaking local officials and functionaries in para-statal services. If the Italian Government could be persuaded to agree to the appointment of Allied observers to supervise the carrying out of the decrees so much the better.

(3) The most active steps should be taken to carry out a drastic epuration of Nazis. As far as possible this should be carried out by courts composed by of anti-Nazis german-speaking persons. All Reich Germans not actually imprisoned should be removed to Germany or Austria as the case may be as soon as possible. Meanwhile their activities should be carefully watched with a view to stopping propaganda among the local German-speaking inhabitants. Every effort should be made to ensure that Germans working in the province or german sick and wounded should be treated as that they are - prisoners of war. They should not be allowed to circulate freely and they should not be allowed to mix with the local inhabitants.

(4) Allied Military personnel should be ordered to adopt the same rules of fraternization as exist in Germany in regard to fraternization with Reich Germans.

(5) Efforts should be made by the monitoring service to establish the identity of any wireless station broadcasting in German to Bolzano and to collect any material they may be putting out. The C.I.C. or ~~never~~ takes their place should be asked to keep a careful watch on all French activities in the province.

(6) It is the intention of the Allied Governments to leave Bolzano province as part of Italy a public announcement either official or unofficial should be made to that effect as soon as possible. If these things are done and if, as I understand is the desire of the G.O.C. 2 District, two battalions of British troops are kept in the province after the withdrawal of the U.S. 349th Regiment on or about August 20th. I believe that the problem of Bolzano is capable of a solution which should be relatively satisfactory to both parties.

S/ H. HOPKINSON  
TO : H.E. Sir Noel Charles Bt. K.C.M.G.  
British Embassy, Rome.

Copies to :  
Brig. LUSH, Hq. A.C. Rome  
Colonel FISKE, A.C. Milan

26/2

Subject: Report of Visit to Holland Province--I and 2 August 1945

TO : Director, Local Government Sub Commission

FROM : Major G. R. Willis, Executive Officer, Local Government

To the RC (Lt. Col. J. S. Hartley ()), the MO (Major Bouchard (B)) and the prefect de Moulins. Most of my time was taken up in discussion of the relationship of the Ministry to the preparation of electoral lists so that I could only make superficial inquiries as to the organization of local government and the actual progress thus far being made with the lists.

2. Out of 22 communes the Commissaire "marchepoint" still exists in P.L. I enquired about these and the prefect said he could be able to confirm them or otherwise in a week or about 10 days. Very thoughtful representative of the Commune, even as when very anti-fascist and capable of criticism over the title of "Inlace". I did not gather clearly what in the position as to Comte especially but it does that action into those has been suspended or at least closed down pending a decision therefrom as to interesting their case. I remind the prefect that no head advised the P.C. that the title of the Comte as laid down by P.M. III should be strictly observed.
3. General Sergeant Grenoble appears to be in office in all communes.
4. The Deputations Grenoble has not yet been appointed. The prefect raised the same question on this as he had done with respect to the Comte; i.e., he wants the vice of the Deputation increased on his account that only thus can he give representation to the local typholes. I told him that the view of M.G.H. on this would be the same as with respect to the Comte; i.e., that the reappointment of the German-speaking minority was only one of several factors to be borne in mind in constituting local authorities, and that the masters laid down by Law must be observed. I urged him to proceed immediately with the appointment of the Deputation; he said he would do so during the week. I pointed out that until the Deputation has been appointed a Comte responsible administration could not be legally constituted, which allows down the whole of the Comité administrative; and neither can Electoral Commissions or Subcommissions be appointed.
5. The tribunals of Sainte and its Cassellario are in order and so are the population registers of the communes—in the sense that they have not suffered war damage. There is a certain shortage of Brochures, who are having to do double duty in most of the 9 communes.
6. He told me he had returned the Provincial Report's return to Regional HQ on 23 July, for onward transmission to the P.C., rather than keeping it at his office until I arrived. It has, however, not reached this P.C. yet.
7. He told me, however, that he was not satisfied with the functioning of the prefecture. There are insufficient trained officials and it is not well organized. One section does not know what another is doing and there is no co-ordination. The prefect does too much himself and does not understand delegation of authority. The P.C. presents, the political one, Valence Asturias, is as

2. Out of 22 deputies, the Government-appointed "superintendent" still exists to 70. I understand about these are in progress and the perfect end he would be able to complete them or otherwise in a few, or about 10 days. Even though appointed by the Minister, some of whom may be anticipatory and capable of usurping all or after the title of Minister. I did not further clearly what is the position to Minister internally, but it occurs that action onto these has been suspended or at least Loyalists pending a decision from home as to instructions their side. I remind the perfect that we had advised the RU that the side of the Chinese as laid down by the RU should be strictly observed.

3. Deputy Seraphim Gonzalvi, a year to be in office in all countries.

4. The Delegatione Provinciale has not yet been appointed. The perfect raised the same question up here as he had done with respect to the Chinese; i.e., he wants the vice of his Delegations increased or to expand that only thus can he give representation to the tough Tyrolese. I told him that the vice of the Delegatione of the Central-governing Ministry was only one of several factors to be borne in mind in constituting local authorities, and that the numbers laid down by the Delegatione must be observed. I urged him to proceed immediately with the appointment of the Delegatione; he said he would do so during the week. I pointed out that until the Delegatione has been appointed, a Chinese ministrial and Loyalists could not be legally constituted, which slows down the whole of the Central administration; and neither can Military Commissions or Sub-Commissions be appointed.

5. The tribunals of Holmans and its Caselblancs are in order and so are the population registers of the countries—in the sense that they have not suffered any damage. There is a certain shortage of Pretors, who are having to do double duty in most of the 9 Merkantli.

6. The RC tells me he had noticed the Provincial Report you to Regional RU on 23 July, for onward transmission to the RU, rather than keeping it at his office until I arrived. It has, however, not reached this stage yet.

7. The RC told me, however, that he was not satisfied with the functioning of the Profecture. There are insufficient trained capuchins and it is not well organized; one minister does not know what another is doing and there is no coordination. The Profect does too much detail himself and does not understand delegation. Of the 2 Profectos, the political one, Salter Mass, is of no use to the ministerial and is merely in the office as a stop to the South Provinces; the civil Vice Profect Massolana, does all the major work and it is too much for him. There appears to be another Vice Profect called Quarant, but the RC does not tell me anything about him. At the same time, the RC thinks it unsafe at present to strengthen the Profecture by anyone sent down from Ross.

8. The Profect himself is a litho. His father was a doctor and the RU believes the son intended to follow his father's profession but gave in to the family fort the minister's profession but uses charge in car-driven heavy trucks, out of which he made a considerable fortune. During the clandestine period he was sent to Volano as representative of the CLNAI; and he managed to get such full control of the industry and represent that he actually negotiated the local details of the surrender with the German High Command. The RU found him in office as acting Prefect and Premier of the CLN; but he refused to give up the latter office.

9. The material for the electoral lists arrived and was distributed to all communes in good time. It is not clear what time is actually being given about the preparation of the lists. The Prefect's talk on the communes are entering on the lists:—

- (a) "Invent Italy", I.O. Those of Italian origin who have always been Italian citizens since the foundation of the province, and who are, therefore, not affected by the Italianisation forced;

- (b) Optants for Italy, I.O. Those of foreign origin who opted for Italy under the law.

The Prefect added that a separate list is being made of other cases, but exactly what classes of people are being put on this same list and what clauses are being left off I could not discover.

10. My general impression is that both the organisation of local government and the preparation of electors' lists in this province are in a state of some confusion, owing to the minority problem. This problem looks over every branch of the administration and alone has had its action.

11. I had a full and lengthy discussion with the prefect on the proposals contained in the Prince Minister's letter of 25 July. I proposed by taking the underground 4 classes according under the 1909 and examining the application to them of the procedure proposed by the Prince Minister, I.O.

- (a) those who opted and emigrated but have now back "abatives";
- (b) those who opted, but did not emigrate;
- (c) those who do not appear on Italian registers of population, but have no evidence of German citizenship;
- (d) those whose names appear on both the Italian and the German registers.

This classification is not complete, however; for instance, the prefect drew my attention to another class which consists of:—

- (e) those who opted and then moved at irregular intervals between Germany and Italy, so that it is a question of fact whether they really emigrated or not.

12. Class (a) presents no difficulty. They have lost Italian citizenship and cannot be registered as voters and nobody suggests their status should be changed. As to the other classes, the prefect is all in favour of a classification, but he showed signs of wanting to have the power to determine the question himself.

13. I asked him why this special procedure was necessary and why we could not proceed on the basis of the Italian law as it stood, under which it would be the duty of the authorities already constituted (e.g. the District and the Electoral Commission) to determine whether a person was or was not an Italian citizen, according to the facts in each case. After a short spell of talk, the upshot was that the present system was better than any other.

The Prefect added that a separate list is being made of other cases, but exactly what classes of people are being put on this new list and what classes are being left off I could not discover.

16. My general suggestion is that both the organization of local government and the preparation of electoral lists in this province and in a state of some confusion, owing to the minority problem. This problem looks over every branch of the administration and I have done this action.

17. I had a full and lengthy discussion with the prefect on the proposals contained in the Prince Minister's letter of 25 July. I proceeded by taking the unexecuted and unexecuted 4 clauses referring under the Accord and continuing the application to them of the procedure proposed by the Prince Minister, i.e.

- (a) those who voted and calculated but have done here "domicile";
- (b) those who voted, but did not calculate;
- (c) those who do not appear on Italian registers of population, but have no evidence of German citizenship;
- (d) those whose names appear on both the Italian and the German registers.

This classification is not complete, however; for instance, the Prefect drew my attention to another class which consists of:-

- (e) those who voted and then moved ab  
territory recently, so that it is a question of fact whether they really originated or not.
12. Prince (a) presents no article 157. They have lost Italian citizenship and cannot be registered as voters and nobody suggests their status should be changed. As to the other classes, the prefect is all in favour of a Commission, but he stressed again of wanting to have the power to determine the position himself.
13. I asked him why this special procedure was necessary and why we could not proceed on the basis of the Italian law as it stands, upon which it would be the duty of the authorities already constituted (e.g. the Municipality and the Municipal Commission) to determine whether a person was or was not an Italian citizen, according to the facts in each case. After a great deal of talk, the prefect was given that the Prefect could not answer this. He said that the facts would be difficult to ascertain; but admitted the doubtful cases did not amount to more than 2000.
14. He also said that to proceed in the way I suggested would add a number of weeks to the election preparations. On the 1<sup>st</sup> pointing out that this was a matter of opinion, he agreed at once.
15. I do not feel we can place much reliance on the prefect. My impression is that of a small town with no experience in administration or grasp of administrative principles. For instance, he actually suggested that he, as Prefect, should have power to strike anyone off the electoral rolls on the ground that he considered them Nazis, without waiting for any separation judgment. I had only to ask him whether he thought it just to deprive a person of his fundamental civic rights by administrative action and before just part of the competent Court for him to withdraw the proposal immediately.

16. I feel too that he is not too reliable on his facts. He gave me a set of figures which I give below for what they are worth. He says that at the time of the accord there were in the province:

- (a) 6,000 French Italians;
- (b) 20,000 residents for Italy;
- (c) 150,000 persons for Germany, of whom
  - (1) 30,000 emigrated, leaving
  - (2) 120,000 who stayed in Bolzano.

These are the ultimate figures we arrived at after a good deal of discussion of others and I don't feel that they should be regarded as definitive.

As another instance, the Prefect mentioned explicitly to his class the accord contained a provision according entirely with information as a condition precedent to the leaving of Italian citizenship. Later in the day I was able to consult a copy of the accord and found, of course, that this is not so.

17. The Prefect is, I feel, devoting too much of his attention to this minority problem and seems to be endeavoring to reach a quick settlement of it by his own efforts—not realizing that the final solution can only be reached at the highest level, and that it is not a matter of mere legal or even Italian administration, but international. The result of this is that he has, I feel, insufficient time and attention for those duties of his office which lie nearer at hand, such as creating an efficient revenue and reorganizing local administration throughout the province.

18. My visit to Bolzano has served to confirm the view that the preparation of electoral lists in this province should not be made dependent on a solution of the minority problem. The lists in this province should be prepared upon the basis of the law of Italy as it stands at this day. The fact of Italian citizenship or not should be ascertained in the light of that law and by the authorities charged with determining such facts under the electoral law, i.e. the District, the Municipal Commissions and the Courts to whom the individual is entitled to appeal against his exclusion from the lists.

19. I see no practical difficulty in this. I do not feel that the number of doubtful cases will be large and do not see why the ordinary Italian administrative authorities should be incapable of solving them.

20. On the other hand, any attempt to pre-judge the position of those German-speaking minorities of Bolzano, who according to law are still Italian citizens, in tables:—

- (a) to prejudice the ultimate solution of the minority problem
- (b) to work an injustice by depriving people of their fundamental civil rights on irrelevant grounds, and
- (c) introduce politics into what should be a matter of the administration of justice.

21. On this last point, it should be borne in mind that the present law of citizenship and its application as a representation of the class Italian citizens

As another instance, the Prefect insisted on his explicitness in his discussion that the Accord contained a provision concerning entirely with organization as a condition precedent to the leaving of Italian citizenship. Later in the day I was able to consult a copy of the Cooper and Pownall, of course, that this is not so.

17. The Prefect is, I feel, devoting too much of his attention to this minority problem and seems to be endeavoring to reach a quick settlement of it by his own efforts—not realizing that the final solution can only be reached at the highest level, and that it is not a matter of mere local or even Italian administration, but international. The result of this is that he has, I feel, insufficient care and attention for those cities or his offices which lie nearer at home, such as creating an efficient prefecture and reorganizing local administration throughout the province.
18. My visit to Bolzano has served to confirm the view that the preparation of electoral lists in this province should not be made dependent on a solution of the minority problem. The lists in this province should be prepared upon the basis of the law of Italy as it stands at this day. The fact of Italian citizenship or not should be ascertained in the light of that law and by the authorities charged with determining such facts under the electoral law, i.e., the Sindaci, the Alcaldes and the Cittadini who are entitled to appeal against his exclusion from the lists.
19. I see no practical difficulty in this. I do not feel that the number of doubtful cases will be large and do not see why the ordinary Italian administrative structures should be incapable of solving them.
20. In this other hand, any attempt to pre-judge the position of those German-speaking minorities of Bolzano, who according to law are still Italian citizens, is liable:
- (a) to prejudice the ultimate solution of the minority problem
  - (b) to work an injustice by depriving people of their fundamental civil rights on inadequate grounds, and
  - (c) introduce friction into what should be a matter of the administration of justice.
21. On this last point, it should be borne in mind that the present is a Milanesco and is in Bolzano as a representative of the C.I.A.I. I believe he does wish to be fair and just to the South Tyrolese, but his ideas of what fair and fair can hardly be described as objective. I feel that a precise instruction on the lines of the above is more and more needed in Bolzano, or the recipient conclusion is liable to become irreconcilable.

G. G. R. WILLIAMS, Major  
Responsible Officer  
Local Government and Colonies

CCM/pec  
10 August 1945  
Distribution:

V.P.C.A. Section 10/27/15/10  
ID Verstile (2) 10/12/23/10  
AG/AG/2/23/10

0456

1123

A

Official figures for communal Giuntas are:

..... Communes over 60.000 inhabitans = 8 members and 4 sub.

" " 30.000 " = 6 " " 2 "

" " 30000 " + 4 " " 2 "

Other Communes = 2 " " 2 "

and instructions passed to CAO's agree with above figures.

extras asked for by Prefect:

4 members and 2 sub. for communes over 60.000 )

2 " " 2 " " " 30.000 } inhabitants.

2 " " 2 " " " under 3.000 }

thus - official figures agree with Prefect's ones for communes over 3.000 inhabitants only since the Prefect has made a sole classification for communes from 30,000 downwards. 2683

25/7/45

Mac

6657

0 4 6 7

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 78502 /

11/2/3  
1945  
6

25 LUG 1945

(A)  
C.W.Colonel Ficke,  
Deputy Executive Commissioner

26 JUL 1945

At a meeting at Allied Commission Headquarters with the Prefect of Bolzano on 11th July, the latter put forward the request that the Folgore Gruppo should be withdrawn from Bolzano Province and replaced by the Trenti Gruppo whose Headquarters are now at Trento and from whom he had received good reports. He gave as his reasons the fact that the Folgore, and particularly the Nembo Regiment were unsuitable for employment in an area in which such a tense situation existed and where any serious incident might produce a flare-up with grave international repercussions. He added that he was also afraid that if in any elections held in the Province, German-speaking members of the population voted for a party which was opposed to annexation to Austria, the more extreme elements might claim that the voters had been intimidated by the presence of the Folgore.

2. I think that there is something in his arguments and that it would be very desirable if the Folgore could be withdrawn and another Gruppo sent in their place. I do not think it would be sufficient to replace the S. Marco Regiment by the Garibaldi Regiment as it is the Nembo Regiment who are the worst offenders. When you return North perhaps you would take an opportunity of discussing the matter with the 5th Army.

(cc) D. Robinson

21.vii.45

Political Advisor (B)

Copies to: Major-General Browning, G.M.A.  
Brigadier Upjohn, G.A.  
Political Advisor (A)

N.B. In connection with the above, please see attached memorandum from a P.W.I report.

2683

(78)  
6554/2G

6A

~~Secret~~The FOGLORE Division (Italian Army)

The above Italian Division came into the province of Bolzano soon after the Allies took over the area, and is now deployed in small detachments throughout the province except in the town of Merano and up to the frontier, with headquarters at Bressanone. It is understood that this division was sent to the area on Rommel's request to the Allied authorities.

The division consists principally of the "commando" type of man - men of the Nebbo and San Marco - while a large proportion of them are Sicilians, Sardinians or Southern Italians. Their commanding officer has recently been changed.

Their presence is not popular with either the German-speaking or Italian population on account of their attitude and a number of incidents (none of major significance) which have occurred.

The German-speaking population complain that:-

- a) They behave as though they were forces occupying enemy territory.
- b) They are ultra-nationalistic.
- c) Some of the German-speaking population are treated as though they were Nazis (a number were and probably still are).
- d) Searches of German-speaking population's homes and reported cases of looting and theft. (Note: As the Division is carrying out mopping-up operations against German troops who are still hiding in the area, it is likely that the searching of houses of the German-speaking population is carried out to this end).
- e) Suppression of cultural activities of the German-speaking population. Near Merano members of the division tried to break up a Tyrolean folk-dance and, according to an unconfirmed report, two shots were fired by the Italians.
- f) Fights have occurred between the troops and the German-speaking population.

The Italian-speaking population complain that:-

(a)

781

6554/LG

Q 4 6 9

- a) The division has the mentality of troops occupying enemy territory.
- b) Neutral (Allied) troops would be more suitable or Italian troops who were less nationalistic, and that the Folgore Division is an unsuitable choice.
- c) Rumour has it that many of the men belonging to the Neobo still have Fascist sympathies.
- d) The prefect stated that it was like "putting a raccoon into a cart" to use the division in this way and that parachutists were not adapted for police work. Should elections be held in the area while the Folgore Division was still stationed there, the German-speaking population, he felt, would complain not without some justification.
- e) The Sicilians, Sardinians and other Southern Italians in the Division were not popular with Northern Italians.

0470

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

~~19/2~~  
1/12/3

~~5~~  
file Copy. 5

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AO/45/12/1G

16 July 1945

Subject: Conditions in Bolzano Province  
To: Chief Commissioner

1. Reference the attached notes of meeting held on 14 July 45.
2. The attached draft communique, to be issued by the Public Relations Officer, is submitted for your approval.

G. R. UPJOHN, Brigadier  
Vice President  
Civil Affairs Section

Copies to: Executive Commissioner  
Civil Affairs Section  
Political Adviser (A)  
Political Adviser (B)  
RC VENETIE REGION  
Local Government S/C.

Copy for file 19/2.

All action in file 45/12.

2685  
4531

0471

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~HQD~~

5A

The Italian Press has recently given wide publicity to reports that the Allied authorities have authorised the former Prefect and Mayor of Bolzano to proceed to Paris, London and Washington, in their capacity as leaders of the movement for the freedom of the South Tyrol, to defend the cause of the restoration of the Alto Adige to Italy.

The Allied Commission announces that such reports are without foundation. No authority has been given. The Allied Commission regret that such reports, which can only lead to the detriment of law and order in Bolzano province, could ever have been circulated.

Local Government S/C  
16 July 1945

2684

O 472  
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 94  
LONIA, MORNING STAR AND COMMISSION

10/4/45 12/10

NOTES OF A MEETING HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION  
ON 24 JULY 1945

Present : Vice President, Civil Affairs Section  
Regional Commissioner, Yunnan  
Political Adviser (British)  
" (American)  
Director, Local Government Sub-Commission  
Prefect of YOLANO  
Mr. Wang Hsue, Interpreter

1. VP Civil Affairs Section - gave a short recapitulation of the position and outlined his discussions which had taken place on the morning of 13 July 1945.

DRAFT

2. The Prefect of YOLANO - stated that he knew that the outbreak of Bolungo (Highway TIEHUA) and the appearance of Buluo City were still in the province. It therefore appeared that, a statement on the lines of the attached appendix "A" could be issued forthwith.
3. Political Adviser - were in agreement, subject to approval of VP.
4. EC YUNNAN Region - stressed the importance of immediate action and also suggested an amendment to the last sentence of the communication as follows :

After the word "provinces" substitute the words  
"provincially" or "the province".

MICHAEL LIU

5. The Prefect of YOLANO - stated that he had discussed the matter of Major General Liang with Professor Tchang. He produced an advance copy of the answer ("Appendix B" attached) to this Comissioner's aide memoir handed to the President of the Council of Ministers recently.
6. First reading of this paper to give a sensible solution of the problem.

2683

0435

Present : Vice President, Civil Affairs Section  
Regional Commissar, V.I.M.C.T.  
Political Adviser (2nd class)  
(American)  
Minister, Local Government - un-nominated  
Prefect of BOLANO  
In: Villa Vieja, Interim  
  
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

2. VP Civil Affairs Section - gave a short recapitulation of the position and outcome of his discussions which had taken place on the morning of 13 July 1945.

MEMORANDUM

2. The Prefect of BOLANO - stated that he knew that the ex-Yugoslav of Bolzano (Slovene) TURZI, and the engineer of Bolzano City was small in the province. It therefore appeared that, a statement on the lines of the attached Appendix "A" could be issued forthcoming.

3. Political Adviser - were in agreement, subject to approval of V.A.F.

4. EC VENEZUELA Region - stressed the importance of immediate action and also suggested an amendment in the last sentence of the committee's resolution as follows :

"For the word "protection" substitute the words  
"responsibility of the Province".

PROVISIONAL LINES

5. The Prefect of BOLANO - stated that he had discussed the matter of Merchant Laws with Professor TURZI. He produced an advance copy of the answer (Appendix B attached) to this Commission's advice made handed to the President of the Council of Ministers recently.

6. After reading of this proposed to give a sensible solution of the problem.

7. The Prefect of BOLANO - drew attention to the fact that the position of <sup>26 Aug</sup> residents of Bolzano Province should apply for German nationality could be resolved under the law of 1912 contained in the civil code and no further legislation was necessary.

8. VP Civil Affairs Section - undertook to send copies of addressed to Prof. Turz and also to have a study made of the legal position.

25 July 1945  
Distribution

VP Civil Affairs Section  
Political Adviser (3)  
Political Adviser (4)

Executive Commissar  
to VENEZUELA Region  
Local Government and Commission

R.D. ORTIZ, Colonel

0474

APPENDIX "A"

5C

COMMUNIQUE

With reference to a recent Reuter Communique saying that AMG had authorised German speaking citizens of Bolzano Province to go abroad for political propaganda purposes, the Chief of the Allied Commission in Italy has informed the Italian Government that this news is without foundation.

AMG is opposed to any political propaganda that would compromise Italian interests in Alto Adige.

2682

APPENDIX "B"CONFIDENTIAL

TO : The Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission

FROM : The President of the Council of Ministers

SUBJECT : Status of the German speaking population in the Province of  
BOLZANO, NOV.I wish to make clear the point of view of the Italian Government on  
the questions outlined by you in the aide-memoire of .....1) VOTING LISTS

The exercise of the electoral right presupposes for anyone the possession of the juridical status of an Italian citizen. A large part of the german-speaking population of the Province of Bolzano have lost their Italian citizenship as a result of the options of 1959 and of the provisions of the basic law of 1912 on citizenship in the Italian State.

The Italian Government is of the opinion that :

- 1) - all those who spontaneously acquired german citizenship and subsequently established their residence in Germany, have definitely lost Italian citizenship
- 2) - persons falling within this category cannot be allowed to return to Italy, and all those who come back abusively during or after the period of german occupation will have to be sent back to Germany. It will be worthwhile to recall that persons of this category obtained in the past the privilege of selling their property in the province at quite favorable conditions, on the basis of a special rate of exchange fixed at Lire 4,50 to the M. and that the sales in question are settled.
- 3) - The persons pertaining to the other categories indicated under the letters b.c.d. of your aide-memoire, should be offered the possibility freely to re-examine their own decision. In order that a decision should be really free, it is not sufficient to have a law annulling the options and restoring the preceding situation, but it is necessary that the M. will to resign Italian citizenship or renounce it in order to leave the Italian State, be interested through an individual written declaration.
- 4) - It would seem therefore opportune to provide for the appointment in Bolzano of a Special Commission to be charged with the task of examining the petitions of those persons included in the categories indicated under Point 2). The works of this Commission may be carried out in a parallel way to the preparation of the electoral lists; it follows that as the

I wish to make clear the point of view of the Italian Government on the questions outlined by you in the aide-memoire of .....

1) ELECTORAL LISTS.

The exercise of the electoral right presupposes for anyone the possession of the juridical status of an Italian citizen. A large part of the german-speaking population of the Province of Bolzano have lost their Italian citizenship as a result of the options of 1939 and of the provisions of the basic law of 1912 on citizenship in the Italian State.

The Italian Government is of the opinion that :

- 1) - all those who spontaneously acquired German citizenship and subsequently established their residence in Germany, have definitely lost Italian citizenship.
- 2) - persons falling within this category cannot be allowed to return to Italy, and all those who came back abusively during or after this period of german occupation will have to be sent back to Germany. It will be worthwhile to recall that persons of this category obtained in the past the privilege of selling their property in the province at quite favorable conditions, on the basis of a special rate of exchange fixed at Lire 400 to the M. and that the sales in question are settled.
- 3) - The persons pertaining to the other categories indicated under the letter a.b.c.d. of your aide-memoire, should be offered the possibility freely to re-examine their own decision. In order that a decision should be really free, it is not sufficient to have a law annulling the options and restoring the preceding situation, but it is necessary that the will to regain Italian citizenship or renounce it in order to leave the Italian State, be manifested through an individual written declaration.
- 4) - It would seem therefore opportune to provide for the appointment in Bolzano of a special Commission to be charged with the task of examining the petitions of those persons included in the categories indicated under point 2). The works of this Commission may be carried out in a parallel way to the preparation of the electoral lists; it follows that as the petitions are approved the registration of the new citizens in the electoral lists will be effected.

268

- 4) - The preparation of the electoral lists may begin forthwith. These electoral lists will first of all comprise all the Italian citizens of the Province, including the german-speaking population who some time ago opted for Italy, and will subsequently be extended to include the new citizens. The electoral list may be compiled per Commune. Owing to the big and detailed work to be done, the lists will not be completed for the whole province at the time of the political elections if they take place within the year. The results of the elections may be integrated and

✓

corrected through supplementary voting.

Administrative elections will be held as soon as re-examination of citizenship in each commune is completed.

## II - PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Julian Government have under study a new schooling set-up for the Province. Provisions will be made for the ~~parallel~~ teaching of the Italian and German languages. As a general rule, it was agreed that in Kindergartens and in a first elementary class only the teaching of the mother tongue should be imparted, while starting with the higher classes the other language should be taught. Under this new school system there will be an Italian "Giovinezzone degli studi" and two Vice Provveditori, one Italian and the other a German speaking one, placed at the head of their respective groups of schools and Italian and German classes. The choice in question is being prepared with the collaboration of experienced Italian and German teachers of the Province.

## III - EDUCATION

It is to the Julian Government's knowledge that the new proclamation prepared by the Civil Commissioner of the province and published on the 11th instant, fully meets with the particular necessities of the education of Alto Adige. Some slight modifications and clarifications which may be provided by the Local government are perhaps opportune.

The Italian Government have under study a new schooling set-up for the Province. Provisions will be made for the participating teaching of the Italian and German languages. As a general rule, it was agreed that in kindergartens and in a first elementary class only the teaching of the mother tongue should be imparted, while starting with the higher classes the other language should be taught. Under this new school system there will be an Italian "Droveditore degli studi" and two Vice Droveditori, one Italian and the other a German speaking one, placed at the head of their respective groups of schools and Italian and German classes. The change in question is being prepared with the collaboration of experienced Italian and German teachers of the Province.

### III - EDUCATION

It is to the Italian Government's knowledge that the new proclamation prepared by the Civil Commissioner of the Province and published on the 11th instant, fully meets with the particular necessities of the separation of Alto Adige. Some slight modifications and clarifications which may be provided by the local government are perhaps opportune.

2680

COIT (16/7/45)

SERIAL

A.I.D.S. - H.M.G.O. I. 35

On conditions in Molzana Province from the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission to the President of the Council of Ministers.

1. A number of problems have arisen in connection with the German speaking proportion of the population of BOLZANO and of certain other small areas - BOL, in Trento Province - COMUNE BIANEZZO in Belluno Province and TREVISO in Udine Province - and I should be glad to receive the views of the Italian Government thereon at the earliest possible moment.

Election Registers

2. As you are no doubt aware, the Hitler-Gussolini agreement of 1939 made provision for Italian subjects of German descent, resident or originating in those parts, to opt for German nationality and to emigrate to the Reich.

Broadly speaking there are four classes to be considered:

- a) Those who exercised their option and emigrated, but have now returned to Italy;
- b) Those who exercised their option but have been exempted from the Italian re-entries, but can produce no evidence of acquisition of German nationality;
- c) Those whose names appear in both the Italian and German registers. The views of the Italian Government are requested as to which of these classes should be included in the electoral rolls about to be compiled in BOLNU.

Education Policy

3. Inasmuch as well over 50% of the population in BOLNU are German speaking, it is a matter for determination as to what educational policy should be followed with regard to them. The schools are at present closed for the summer vacation but the views of the Italian Government are urgently requested.

Domestic

- It has been pointed out that Allied Military Government General Order No. 35 (which adopts the principles of MIL 159) is not entirely appropriate to meet the situation in BOLNU as many persons are Nazis rather than fascists and accordingly an amendment is being made to this Order to cover this point. The Government may also consider it desirable to amend MIL 159 so as to ensure that in this area no loophole exists which may prevent Nazis from being exumbed.

The Commission's assistance to CO. 35 will be needed to the Italian Government for its guidance as soon as completed.

portion of the population of BOLZANO and of certain other small areas -  
part, in Trento Province - COMITA D'AGLIO in Belluno Province and TAVIANA  
in Udine Province - and I should be glad to receive the views of the Italian  
Government thereon at the earliest possible moment.

Election Registers.

2. As you are no doubt aware, the Hitler-Hussolini agreement of 1939 made  
provision for Italian subjects of German descent, resident or originating  
in those parts, to opt for German nationality and to migrate to the  
Reich.
- Broadly speaking there are four classes to be considered:
- a) Those who exercised their option and emigrated, but have now  
returned to Italy;
  - b) Those who exercised their option but did not migrate;  
the Italian registers, but can produce no evidence of acquisition  
of German nationality;
  - c) Those whose names appear in both the Italian and German registers;  
The views of the Italian Government are requested as to which of these  
classes should be included in the electoral rolls about to be compiled in  
BOLZANO.

Education Policy

3. Inasmuch as well over 50% of the population in BOLZANO are genuine  
speaking, it is a matter for determination as to what educational policy  
should be followed with regard to them. The schools are at present closed  
for the summer vacation but the views of the Italian Government are urgently  
requested.

Education

4. It has been pointed out that Allied Military Government General Order  
No. 35 (which adopts the principles of DIL 159) is not entirely appropriate  
to meet the situation in BOLZANO as many persons are Nazis rather than  
Fascists and accordingly an amendment is being made to this Order to cover  
this point. The Government may also consider it desirable to amend DIL 159  
so as to ensure that in this area no Isogeo exists which may prevent Nazis  
from being appointed.

The Commission's amendment to GO.5 will be handed to the Italian  
Government for its guidance as soon as completed.

C. Section  
5 July 1945

(A). Art. 6 - Loss of citizenship.

Citizenship shall be lost by those persons :-

- 1) who spontaneously acquire a foreign citizenship and establish or have established their own residence abroad;
- 2) who, having acquired foreign citizenship independently from their own will, make a declaration foregoing their Italian citizenship, and establish or have established their own residence abroad.  
The Government may, in the cases contemplated in Nos 1 and 2, dispense with the condition of the transfer of residence abroad;
- 3) who, having accepted employment by a foreign Government or having entered the military service of a foreign power, continue to serve the foreign Government notwithstanding the warning from the Italian Government to leave the employment or service within a fixed time limit.  
The loss of citizenship in the cases contemplated by the present article shall not exempt a person from military service, save the facilities granted by special laws.

Art. 9 - Reacquisition of citizenship.

Persons who lose their citizenship under articles 7 and 8 shall reacquire it :

- 1) if they serve in the armed forces in the Kingdom or accept state employment;
- 2) if they make a declaration foregoing the citizenship of the state to which they belong or prove that they have forgone the employment or military service abroad which they continued notwithstanding prohibition by the Italian Government, and if in both cases they have established or established within the year their residence in the Kingdom;
- 3) after two years residence in the Kingdom, if the loss of citizenship was the result of acquiring foreign citizenship.

However, in the cases contemplated in Nos 2 and 3, a person shall lose the right to reacquire citizenship if the Government should so order. The Government may exercise this power when serious conditions call for it and upon the recommendation of the State Council, within the time limit of three months from the fulfillment of the conditions set out in Nos 2 and 3 if the last foreign citizenship is of a European state, otherwise within the time limit of six months.

The right of reacquiring citizenship without obligation to take up residence in the Kingdom shall be granted to persons who have for more than two years forsaken their residence in the state to which they belonged and have removed it to another foreign state of which they have not taken the citizenship. In such case, however, a permit to

dispense with the condition of the transfer of residence abroad;

- 3) who, having accepted employment by a foreign Government or having entered the military service of a foreign power, continue to serve the foreign Government notwithstanding the warning from the Italian Government to leave the employment or service within a fixed time limit.

The loss of citizenship in the cases contemplated by the present article shall not exempt a person from military service, save the facilities granted by special laws.

#### Art.9 - Reacquisition of citizenship.

Persons who lose their citizenship under articles 7 and 8 shall reacquire it :

- 1) if they serve in the armed forces in the Kingdom or accept state employment;
- 2) if they make a declaration foregoing the citizenship of the state to which they belong or prove that they have foregone the employment or military service abroad which they continued notwithstanding prohibition by the Italian Government, and if in both cases they have established or establish within the year their residence in the Kingdom;
- 3) after two years residence in the Kingdom, if the loss of citizenship was the result of acquiring foreign citizenship.

However, in the cases contemplated in Nos 2 and 3, a person shall lose the right to reacquire citizenship if the Government should so order. The Government may exercise this power when serious conditions call for it and upon the recommendation of the State Council, within the time limit of three months from the fulfillment of the conditions set out in Nos 2 and 3 if the last foreign citizenship is of a European state, otherwise within the time limit of six months.

The right of reacquiring citizenship without obligation to take up residence in the Kingdom shall be granted to persons who have for more than two years forsaken their residence in the state to which they belonged and have removed it to another foreign state of which they have not taken the citizenship. In such case, however, a permit to reacquire citizenship must be granted by the Government before (hand);

#### Art.16 - Procedure for declaration.

The declarations contemplated by the present decree may be made to the civil status official of the Commune in which the person concerned has established or intends to establish his residence, or to a Royal diplomatic or consular agent abroad.

The power to receive such declarations may be extended by the King's Government to other public officials.

(25)

- 54
- (B) Articles 7, 8 and 9 of RD No 949 of 2 August 1912 sets out the procedure to be followed whenever it is desired to reacquire Italian nationality under Law No 555 of 13 June 1912.
- (C) Para 2 of Art 9 of Law 555 has been partly abrogated by the Fascist legislation of 16 June 1927, No 1170, which makes it a criminal offence for any Italian citizen to accept public functions in a foreign state without the authorization of the Foreign Office or refuses to resign his post when ordered to do so by the Italian Government.

Whoever is sentenced for such offence loses automatically his (her) Italian citizenship and cannot reacquire it under Art 9 of the law in point.

- (D) Decisions of the Supreme Court of Cassation have established a constant jurisprudence on the interpretation of Para 3 of Art 9 of law 555. It is held that two years residence in the Kingdom of Italy is sufficient in itself to establish the right of a person to reacquire Italian nationality. Evidence as to the intention of reacquiring Italian citizenship is not necessary. It has even been held that citizenship may be thus reacquired against the express will of the person concerned.

(C.C. 29.5.1931 from C.A. Napoli - C.C. 13.12.1935 from C.A. Trento).

This is, however, contested by independent jurists. (See Digests).

0484

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

4  
ccw  
AK

AC/1/12/5/10

14th July 1945

Subject: Giunte Comunale

To: RO VENEZIE

1. Reference your RDL/025.11 dated 5 July 1945.
2. As pointed out by the Director of Local Government Sub-Commission at this morning's Executive Commissioner's conference at which you were present, it is most important that Giunte Comunale should be limited in size to that laid down in RDL.111 of 4 April 1944.
3. While the special circumstances in BOIZANO are appreciated, it is still considered that even in this province Giunte Comunale should only be of the legal size.

*R. H. Clegg Jr.*  
R. H. CLEGG, Colonel  
Director  
Local Government Sub-Commission.

2676

455A

0483

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

1/12/3

JKD/Jay

3

HEADQUARTERS  
VENEZIE REGION  
Allied Military Government  
APO 394

6 JUL 1943

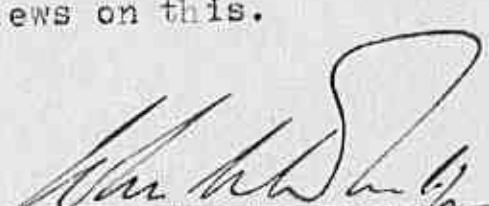
TO : HQ. ALCOM (Attn. Civil Affairs Section) 5 July 1943  
SUBJECT: Giunte Comunali. - 6 JUL 1943  
FILE NO: RXII/C25.11

1. You will remember that, at a Regional Commissioner's conference held at Padova, the question of the size of the Giunte Comunali was raised. At that time several Provincial Commissioners expressed the view that Giunte, larger than officially allowed, had already been formed and should be allowed to continue.

2. Colonel Cripps subsequently wrote to express the opinion of your headquarters that it was desirable that Giunte should be restricted to the numbers required by law.

3. The Provincial Commissioner Bolzano has now asked that, in the special circumstances of his Province, larger Giunte should be allowed to provide for representation of both ethnic groups.

4. May I please have your views on this.

  
John H. Doherty

Regional Commissioner

Copy to:-

P.C. Bolzano (Ref. his RXII/B2/241 of 2 July.)

 L.G.

To advise please

S.R.M.

94812675

6308/4

112/3

2

SUBJECT: Note of interview - Local Government S/C offices.

DATE : 6 June 1945

PRESNT: R. A. TISCHLER, Confidential Secretary to DE ANGELIS,  
Prefect of Bolzano.  
Major Ralph R. Temple, Local Government S/C

1. TISCHLER, who speaks English, showed me a letter from Lt. Col. McBratney, Provincial Commissioner of Bolzano, consenting to TISCHLER's trip to Rome and asking that assistance be rendered him. He informed me that he was the Confidential Secretary to the Prefect, who was at the Ministry discussing various problems. He said that Mr. Halford of the Political Advisor's office had suggested that he speak to this Sub Commission. I told him I was interested in local government matters and under my questioning the following information was adduced.

2. The Prefect--DE ANGELIS--was the former President of the CIN and is a Socialist. There are three Vice Prefects, only one of whom is a career man. They are:—

VPV - Celardi - non-career	- Communist
VPI - Amann Walter " "	- South Tyrol Party---represents German-speaking element
VPI - Meneguzzi - career	- Also Vice Prefect during the German occupation. Was in charge of the provincial administration under the title of Commissario Provinciale.

3. The Capo di Gabinetto is a non-career man, as are most of the Consiglieri. The Rag. Capo, however, is the old career official who has been in the province for some ten years.

4. The only person who knows anything about the administrative procedure is the career Vice Prefect Inspector MENEGUZZI. However, TISCHLER did not think there would be a need for other career officials for a while. He said they were afraid the Government would send up Southern Italians whom they dislike very much. None of the local government bodies provided for under RDL No. 111 have been established as yet. That is, there are no Giunte Provinciale Amministrative, Deputazione Provinciale on the provincial level, nor are there any Giunte Comunali on the communal level. In some communes, new Sindaci have been appointed, but for the most part mayors appointed by the Germans are still in office. In the place of a GPA, a body called the Comitato Technico has been established, consisting of 5 non-career men representing industry, agriculture and other aspects of social life. Their function is to advise the Prefect on various matters. However, the body does not do any of the work of a GPA, such as reviewing acts of Communes.

2674

2D

- 2 -

5. 5th Army is still occupying a great deal of the Province. TISCHLER said that he believed Lt. Col. McBratney had about 30 or 40 officers assigned to work under him and that explains why, even though the Italian administrative side has not been organized, AMG is handling the load. TISCHLER said that the Provincial Commissioner has little to do with the CLN. The Prefect, who was formerly its President, consults them regarding appointments and other matters.

6. Separation has not begun as yet.

7. Politically, the situation is rather unusual, since there is a fairly even division of Germans and Italians in the Province. On the Italian aspect, there is a balance between the Socialists and Communists on the one side, and the Christian-Democrats on the other. The German element is strongly represented by the South Tyrol Party. TISCHLER mentioned that they did not have a Questore and that the Prefect was speaking to the Government about a nominee. There are two Vice Questore in the province, however. I intimated to him that it would have been better for the Prefect to have consulted the head of the Public Safety Sub Commission, Col. Chapman, on that matter. TISCHLER did not know there was such a Sub Commission, and as a matter of fact, he said that Lt. Col. McBratney had suggested that he see this Sub Commission or Public Safety, but he appreciated the information and would bring it to the attention of the Prefect.

*RPT*

RALPH R. TEMPLE  
Major  
Deputy Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

RPT/pec

2673

112/3

SUBJECT: Note of interview - Local Government S/C offices.

DATE : 7 June 1945 - 1130 hours.

PRESENT: Prefect DE ANGELIS (Bolzano)  
Sig. GELARDI, Vice Prefect  
R. A. TISCHLER, Confidential Secretary to the Prefect  
Major C. G. R. Williams) Local Government Sub Commission  
Capt. W. I. Cunningham )  
Sig. Arrigo NICE, interpreting

1. The Prefect explained that he had had a discussion with Mr. Hopkinson in Milan, and as a result had come to us to discuss two problems:

(a) that of the Italian inhabitants of Alto Adige who had been forced to serve in the German Army and were now Prisoners of War:

(b) that of the expatriation of German and French citizens who had recently come into the Province.

2. As to problem (a), he said he had seen Mr. Halford, who told him that the question of releasing these Italians forced to serve in the German Army was under consideration by the High Command. The Prefect hoped that they would have an early answer.

3. As to the second problem, the Prefect said there were about 170,000 Germans refugees who had come over the Austrian border since and just before liberation. There are also about 50,000 French scattered about the small mountain villages. They were people who had moved into Germany and Austria (under compulsion or otherwise) during the German occupation of France; and about a week before the arrival of the Allies in the Province they began to come over the border. The Prefect said that as Italian refugees were now being moved back through the province from Germany on Allied transport could not this transport on its return journey be used to take back the German refugees. The Prefect also said that he had left with Mr. Halford a draft of a Decree for dealing with the situation.

4. I inquired if he had discussed it with the Provincial Commissioner, Lt. Col. McBratney. The Prefect said yes, and the PC had told him that these were problems to be examined in Rome. Mr. Halford had said he would submit them to this HQ.

5. I told the Prefect that both these questions were outside the competence of this Sub Commission. He said he appreciated that and had only called here to present his compliments, to make our acquaintance and to inform us as to the situation on local government.

6. As to local government, I said Mr. TISCHLER had seen Major Temple yesterday and had given him a certain amount of information, and I asked if H. E. desired to add anything. He said he did not think so.

0489

- 2 -

IA

7. I inquired if the Prefect had seen the Ministry of the Interior. He said yes, and he had seen H. E. BERRUTI, Chief of Cabinet. He had not seen the Minister: but BERRUTI had told him he had instructions from H. E. BONOMI to inform the Prefect that the Minister was satisfied with the work he was doing in Bolzano.

8. I thanked the Prefect for his call and the interview closed.

RRT

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

CGRW/pec

2671

MINUTE SHEET NO. 12

DATE	MIN.	NUMBER	PAGE
1/15/61	⑤	MUR Please handle to. 16. It will have to go to NC thru 1/20. <del>for the next few weeks</del> I am advised to the Project in the last place. G.L. ⑥ Dwight 16 years. 7 1/2 years to 14. Let write other agree N.A is required on 19 - 1961. Sent to us for filing & record only. E.G.S. P.M.T. File transferred to FOB of 4/1/62. Book 22/10	119-196

MINUTE SHEET NO. 1

DATE	Minute No. 1	PAGE
July 15	<u>Ch. SECTION:</u>	
<u>(1)</u>		
	<p>1. Reference folio D. 3. I do not think that the point made by the Provincial Commissioner of Tolmano in para 3 of fo. p. 3 is well taken. There are many factors which must be taken into consideration in the forming of Giunta--among them economic and political. In the case of Tolmano an additional factor is involved, namely the presence of two different ethnic groups. This is simply an additional factor which should be taken into consideration in the formation of the Giunta.</p> <p>2. The danger of enlarging the legal size of the Giunta, besides having all of the objections of being contrary to the provisions of law and leaving the Italian Government with the "problem of re-adjustments" when turnover takes place, is that in this particular case a precedent might be established which would give a particular status and recognition to a national group.</p> <p>3. This might give rise to a source of difficulty and embarrassment to both the Allies and the Italian Government later when the whole question of nationality is settled.</p> <p>4. I strongly advise that the P.M. be instructed by his RG to balance all factors as reasonably as possible in the selection of the Giunta, which should be kept at the size provided by law.</p>	
	<p><i>R. A. Phillips</i> P. R. C.I.P.S., Colonial Director, Local Govt. S/C</p> <p>✓/pec</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>
	<p><u>6. Q. Sec.</u></p>	<p><u>Brief this up for discussion</u></p>
		<p><u>with R.C. Venetia &amp; the prefect amic Talmy</u></p>
		<p><u>1 July</u></p>
		<p><u>Alvaro.</u></p>
		<p><u>July 16, 1945</u></p>

- in the forming of a committee among them economic and political  
case of Bolzano an additional factor is involved, namely the presence  
of two different ethnic groups. This is simply an additional factor  
which should be taken into consideration in the formation of the committee.
2. The danger of enlarging the legal size of the G.M.C. besides having  
all or the objectives of being contrary to the provisions of law and  
leaving the Italian Government with the problem of re-adjustments  
when turnover takes place, is that in this particular case a precedent  
might be established which would give a particular status and recognition  
to a national group.
  3. This might give rise to a source of difficulty and embarrassment  
to both the Allies and the Italian Government later when the whole  
question of nationality is settled.
  4. I strongly advise that the DC be instructed by his DC to balance  
all factors as reasonably as possible in the selection of the G.M.C.  
which should be kept at the size provided by law.

*R. R. Lipsky* *RR*  
R. R. Lipsky, Colonial  
Director, Local Govt. S/C

WT/pec

(2)

6. Q. Sec.

Bring this up for discussion  
with R.C. Venezia & the prefect amia.

*Turk*

10/11-45.

3

A/Air. See minit 2 abov. R.R. Lipsky, D.C. 13 Nov. 45.  
N.Y.C.

*WT* *REC'D.*

(4)

Director (time D/D)

to see note of interview at p. 10 & either  
supplement at p. 11. And D.C. P.P.T

18 Aug.

or 10

*n*

0493