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CONFERENCES, GENERAL
JAN. 1945 - JULY 1946

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AFO 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

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24. July, 1946.
25 JUL 1946

Ref: 210/EC.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING - 23 JULY 1946.

Brigadier Carr presided in the absence of the Executive Commissioner.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

(a) - 1(a). Food Situation. Col. Walton reported that stocks were high and the amassi was still going well. It had already reached a higher figure than last year. He said that the Government planned to finish the amassi at the end of September. This would release personnel for checking of other amassi such as maize and rice, and would also help to prevent the illegal transportation of wheat about the country, as after that date farmers would not be able to give the excuse that the grain was being taken to the amassi. The increased price for wheat and the additional bonus which had been in effect during July had considerably helped the amassi. It was probable that the bonus would be extended for a further period.

(b) - 1(e). CIP Strike. Col. Walton reported that the CIP strike had ended. He said that the Prime Minister had been prepared to take strong action by calling in the military to take over strike-bound plants, if the strike had continued.

(c) - 1(h). Civilian Employees. A/EC directed that EO(A) should circulate a consolidated table every fortnight giving particulars of civilians employed by the Commission. A/EC said that all concerned must continue to see that civilian personnel employed by them were in keeping with the regulations and that all were usefully employed.

(d) - 2. Liaison Groups. A/EC said that Liaison Groups at MILAN, BOLEANO and NAPLES would close by 31 July, the remainder on 22 July, with the exception of TENDA which would remain for the tin being. Major Savill, G-1(B) reported that arrangements for the closing down were proceeding smoothly and the matter of disposal of surplus personnel was in hand.

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(e) - 4. Coal. Col. Walton reported that there was very little change in the coal situation. There was a possibility of 30,000 tons being supplied from POLAND but transportation was the problem. Planned arrivals for August were 625,000 tons.

(f) - 7. Printers Strike. PRO reported that the strike in the printing trade called by the CGIL was still in progress.

A. R. Ward Smith
Lt. Col., RA.,
Chief Staff Officer,

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R. P. Hind. Smith.
Lt. Col., RA.,
Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

G-5 AFHQ	-	2	Displaced Persons	1	Econ Adviser to
Chief Commissioner	1	1	Communications S/O	1	British Embassy
Executive Commissioner	1	1	Ex. Off (A)	1	File
AC CIO's	1	1	each Ex. Off (B)	1	Spares
Polad (A)	1	1	Land Forces S/C	1	
Polad (B)	1	1	Archives Branch	1	
CA Section	4	4	Public Relations	1	
Econ Section	6	6	Liaison Division	3	

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

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Ref: 210/EC.

11 July 1946.

W 15 JUL 1946

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING - 9 JULY 1946.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

(a) - 1(a). Food Situation. Col. Walton reported that so far the amassi had been very successful and the total amassed as at 6 July was 625,000 tons. There had been some impatience on the part of the population for the return to a higher ration and it had been reported that the Prefect of MILAN had already raised the ration to 300 grams. It was expected that the final amassi would reach a fairly high figure and UNRRA were using a tentative figure of 2,100,000 tons on which to base their future import requirements. EC stated that the CC had recommended to SACMED that a full programme of imports be maintained in order to bring the ration to its proper level.

(b) - 1(d). CA Agreements. EC stated that he understood that the Italian Govt. had prepared its first comments on the two agreements and these would shortly be forwarded to British and US Authorities.

(c) - 1(e). Mid-Shift Meal. Col. Walton reported that the Allied Forces Labour & Wages Committee had recommended to AFHQ that the mid-shift meal be readjusted to effect a saving in flour by reducing the bread element and increasing other components of the meal. EC stated that AC were not represented at the meeting and directed Econ Sec to ask Mr. Brains, Chairman of the Committee to advise AC of the date and agenda of future meetings so that a representative might be sent.

(d) - 7. Administration of BLU's etc. Col. Pidsley stated that the meeting called by EC on this subject had not yet been held. Land Forces S/C were trying to obtain further information from HQ 3 District. EC directed that the meeting be held as soon as possible in order to clarify the position.

(e) - 8. Medical Officers. Ex.O(A) said that application had been made to MTOUSA for a medical officer and he was hopeful of success.

(f) - 9. Aliens in Camp near MODENA. Col. Findlay stated that a copy of the report on the visit to this camp had reached G-5 AFHQ who had expressed the opinion that DFR S/C should not screen the inmates as it was purely a matter for the Italian Govt. EC said that he did not agree with G-5 views and asked Col. Findlay to produce the correspondence for his perusal.

2. CIP Strike. Col. Walton gave the latest news on the projected CIP strike which he said had been called off pending stabilisation of the Government.

3. Amnesty. EC stated that in connection with the Amnesty Decree issued by the Italian Govt. the CC was making representations to AFHQ that we should make

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4. IPW Section. EC raised the question of the future of IPW Section. MTOUSA had ruled that no American officers would be provided for this Section. He had discussed the matter with Brig. Drew and Col. Parsons who had stated that it

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was not a residual function of the AC and was work which could quite easily be taken over by AFHQ or the Embassies. Col. Parsons had suggested that the British officers of IPW Section be transferred either to "A" Branch, CHQ OMF, or seconded to the British Embassy. With regard to PW in the hands of other nations such as France and Russia, AFHQ took the view that the Italian Govt. should take up the matter of their repatriation with the respective Embassies. A letter to AFHQ had been drafted previous to the discussion with Col. Parsons. This was now with the CC and if he decided to send it on, EC suggested that Col. Pidsley take up the matter on his forthcoming visit to AFHQ.

5. Preparation of Electoral Lists in Venezia Giulia. Brig. Carr said that the position at the moment was that a General Order which embodies the Italian electoral law was before SCAO VG for approval and signature. He asked whether in view of recent developments in PARIS and the fact that elections of a sort had already been held in Zone "B", it was appropriate to go ahead with the publication of this order and the preparation of electoral lists. The feeling of the meeting was that the lists should be compiled and CA Sec were instructed to put up a strong letter to 13 Corps to this effect.

6. Demilitarisation of Islands. Col. Pidsley drew attention to the recent letter from AFHQ regarding the demilitarisation of PATELLERIA, RAMPEDUSA, LINOSA. Col. Fiske had been appointed chairman of the Committee and the Italian Govt. had been asked to appoint an Engineer to be a member of the Committee.

7. Police Mission. EC said that there was a divergence of opinion within the Commission on this subject and suggested an early discussion with Polads, Land Forces and CA Sec.

Col. Walton asked whether it was the intention for the proposed Police Mission to reorganise the whole of the Italian civil police force. He mentioned particularly the Port Guards, who under Fascism had been an efficient organisation but were now composed of partigiani and odds and ends.

8. Control of Arms Production. Col. Pidsley asked whether under the proposed new organisation for Service S/Cs, the new Service Sub-Sections would be asked to take on duties such as control of arms production, or whether these would be carried out by a separate section. EC replied that this was to have been decided by the Chief of the new Section, but in view of recent developments in Paris it was to be presumed that until the Peace Treaty was signed, arms production would be controlled as at present by the Service S/Cs. After the signing of the Peace Treaty it would presumably be controlled by the Council of Four Ambassadors.

Col. Pidsley stated that if we were to continue to provide arms for the Italian Govt. it would be necessary to set up a small mission. EC replied that it would be for the Italian Govt. to make a request for such a mission.

9. Italian Govt. Decrees. Col. Walton stated that the Economic Adviser to the British Embassy had asked for translations of old decrees issued by the Italian Govt. These were not available in Econ Sec and he wondered if other Sections had copies of the decrees. VP CAS would look into the matter.
10. US Requisitioned Vehicles. Ex.O(A) reported that orders had been received from WFOUSA that all US requisitioned vehicles be...

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10. US Requisitioned Vehicles. Ex.O(A) reported that orders had been received from MTOUSA that all US requisitioned vehicles were to be released by 1 Aug.

11. Civilian Wage Scale. Ex.O(B) stated that a new wage scale had been issued for civilian employees by AFHQ. The old wage scale would remain in force for present civilian employees, but any new employees would be paid at a considerably lower rate.

12. Civilian Employees. EC stated that there were at present 898 civilian employees in AC and during the last 6 weeks a reduction of only 200 had been effected. He directed Heads of Sections and S/Cs to give this matter careful and urgent attention and to submit their proposals for further reductions by Monday 15 July.

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12. Correspondence. CSO to EC said that a great deal of time was being wasted owing to files and letters for signature being submitted in the wrong form. He read a list of the main irregularities and EC directed that a memorandum should be prepared and circulated to S/Cs.

A. H. Wood. Smith

Lt.Col., R.A.,
Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

G-5 AFHQ	3
Chief Commissioner	1
Executive Commissioner	1
AG CLO's	1 each
Polad (A)	1
Polad (B)	1
CA Section	4
Econ Section	6
Displaced Persons S/C	1
Communications S/C	1
Ex. Off (A)	1
Ex. Off (B)	1
Land Forces S/C	1
Archives Branch	1
Public Relations	1
Liaison Division	3
Econ. Adviser to	1
British Embassy	1
File	1
Spares	6

4156

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 210/EC.

12 June 1946

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING - 11 JUNE 1946.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

(a) - 1 (a). Food Situation. Col. Walton (Econ Sec) said there was little alteration. Although the situation was critical the indications were that there was no threat of famine. A very good crop, estimated to be in the region of six million tons, was expected. UNRRA were endeavouring to persuade the Italian Government not to make the amassi retention greater than it was last year.

(b) - 1 (c). Coal Situation. Col. Walton reported no change from last week. 300,000 tons of coal were still expected for arrival in June. Should arrivals exceed the anticipated figure there would be an increase in allocation.

(c) - 1 (e). C.I.P. Col. Walton said the position regarding POL was unchanged. There was an armistice in the CIP strike, it having been agreed that negotiations would not take place until after 15 June.

(d) - 1 (f). Archives. Col. Walton had spoken to Major Harrison about non-acceptance of files and was satisfied there had been a misunderstanding. The matter was now in order. Ex C said he had arranged a meeting on Archives to-day.

(e) - 3. Allied Seamen. Brig. Carr (CA Sec) stated that a telegram had been sent to AFHQ suggesting that the clause protecting Allied merchant seamen should be omitted from the new armistice terms.

(f) - 4. Derequisitioning of Hotels. Ex C said a letter had been prepared for AFHQ which was based on a letter received from the Italian Hotels Union. The formation of a Central Organization was suggested, consisting of Allied Officers and representatives of the Italian Government and Genio Militare. This organization would lay down the policy for requisitioning and deal with appeals against requisitioning of property. There was some discussion and Brig. Carr considered that this would be difficult for a Central Organization to control this matter and that hotels should be dealt with separately from other requisitioned property.

(g) - 5. Reinstatement of Insurance Company Officials. Ex C stressed the importance of getting this matter settled quickly and directed Col. Walton to take up at once with the Italian Government.

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2. Exposition by Brig. Gen. Hamblen. Ex C announced that Brig. Gen. Hamblen was preparing an exposition on the work of G-5 on the occasion of the visit by Field Marshal Montgomery to AFHQ. He had asked VPs and Heads of Sections for a short memorandum and would like to have this by 15 June so that he could brief Brig. Gen. Hamblen.



- 1.25 Hand fruit R.R.

DISTRIBUTION:

G-5, JHQ
Executive Commissioner
AC Chief Liaison Officers
Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (B)

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5. Responsibility for Displaced Persons. In answer to Col. Findlay (Disper S/C) Ex C said that the future of displaced persons was covered by the Civil Affairs agreements. There was some discussion on this and the drafts of the Civil Affairs agreements were examined. Ex C said that in fixing future responsibility, the financial commitments of the Italian Government must be taken into account. He would discuss further with Col. Findlay.
6. Medical Personnel. Col. Findlay reiterated the scarcity of Allied medical personnel in Disper camps. Ex C asked Brig. Carr if Col. Frizelle could help.
7. Italian Air Lines. Ex O (A) raised the question of maintenance of Italian air lines when Liaison Groups had ceased to function. Ex C said that an extension to POLZANO was necessary and Air Forces S/C must be warned that Liaison Group help would soon come to an end. It was necessary to keep the lines in operation for Disper S/C and the Italian Government. Ex C suggested that PC UDINE should take over the responsibility and directed Ex O (A) to take action.
8. Reduction of Civilian Employees. Ex O (A) stated that a letter had been sent to Heads of Sections stressing the need for reduction in numbers. Replies had been received that staff now retained was essential.
9. Public Relations Officer. Ex C thanked Major Leacacos, the retiring Public Relations Officer, for all the good work he had done, and welcomed his successor, Capt. de Massi. Ex C said the Weekly Bulletin was a most valuable publication and he wished it to continue so long as AC existed.
10. Muster - U.S. Personnel. Ex O (A) stated that a muster had been ordered of all U.S. Army personnel at 1600 hrs, Friday, 14 June.

*1. 15. Findlay
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Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

G-5, AHIQ	3
Executive Commissioner	1
AC Chief Liaison Officers	1 ea.
Political Adviser (A)	1
Political Adviser (B)	1
CA Section	4
Economic Section	6
Disper Sub-Commission	1
Communications Sub-Commission	1
Executive Officer (A)	1
Executive Officer (B)	1
Chief Financial Adviser	1
Chief Financial Adviser	1
Land Forces S/C (MIL)	3
Archives Branch	2
Spares - 6	
File	

Local Govt No. 19
Superior

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AO 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 210/EC.

5 June 1946.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING - 4 JUNE 1946.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

(a) - 1 (a). Food Situation. Col. Walton (Econ Sec) said the harvest prospect was the one bright spot in a gloomy picture. Supplementary amassing had produced less than 50% of the Italian target figure. The new amassi decree had been published offering prices for next year's crop which would have the effect of farmers hoarding their remaining stocks to obtain the new prices. There had been an increase in the cost of certain essential items of living. Shipments of wheat from outside sources were less than was anticipated.

(b) - 1 (b). National Elections. Major Temple (Local Government S/C) reviewed the results received to-day. Returns had been received from 9,867 precincts out of a total of 35,236 and just over 5 1/2 million votes were accounted for, roughly one-quarter of the total votes cast. Of these votes, the Communist Party had obtained 1,227,859, the Socialist Party 1,364,742 and the Christian Democrat Party 2,054,338. Results so far received from some of the Colleges were as follows:

College No. 1, TURIN, VERCELLI, NOVARA.	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist	162,000. 148,000. 112,000.
College No. 2, CUNEO, ALESSANDRIA, ASTI.	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist	128,000. 74,000. 46,000.
College No. 3, GENOA, IMPERIA, SAVONA, SPERZA.	Christian Democrat Socialist. Communist	160,000. 127,000. 138,000.
College No. 5, COMO, VARESE.	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist.	179,000. 139,000. 57,000. 41,344
College No. 6, PESCIA, BERGAMO.	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist	182,000. 90,000. 53,000.
ROME	Christian Democrat Socialist	49,000. 17,000.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING - 4 JUNE 1946.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

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College No. 5, COMO, VARESE.	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist.	179,000. 139,000. 57,000 41,34
College No. 6, PESCIA, BERGAMO.	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist	182,000. 90,000. 53,000.
ROME	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist	49,000. 17,000. 22,000.
College No. 26, S. LEO, S. LEO, AVELLINO.	Christian Democrat Socialist Communist Democrat del Lavoro.	30,000. 6,000. 4,000. 8,000.



- 2 -

CATANIA,)
MESSINA,)
RAGUSA.)Christian Democrat 76,000
Socialist 24,000
Uomo Qualunque 17,000
Communist 15,000

College No. 30, PALERMO

Christian Democrat 38,000
Unione Democratica
Nazionale 17,000
Communist 9,000
Uomo Qualunque 9,000

SARDINIA

Christian Democrat 56,000
Uomo Qualunque 27,000
Communist 22,000
Socialist 14,000

Reports had been received from AC LOS. Public order generally had been excellent, with practically no incidents. In the North the percentage of voting was much higher than in the South.

Ex C said the LOS' reports coincided with reports received from the Ministry of the Interior. He had sent a short telegram to AFHQ yesterday and would send another to-day emphasizing the good order that had prevailed and the speed with which results were being received.

Regarding the referendum, Major Temple said it was the intention of the authorities not to publish spasmodic returns but to wait until the complete result was available.

Ex C thanked Major Temple for the report and for the excellent work he had done and directed him to telephone the figures received to CC.

(c) - 1 (c). Coal Situation. Col. Walton reported no significant change. Deliveries of approximately 300,000 tons of coal were still expected. There was no news of coal having left the United States since the termination of the coal strike.

(d) - 3. Allied Seamen. In answer to Ex C, Brig. Carr said he had held a meeting recently. At this meeting it was decided that a letter should be sent to AFHQ after further information had been received. Ex C suggested that this matter might be settled by reason of the charges in the armistice terms and a signal might be sent to AFHQ. Brig. Carr would follow up.

(e) - 4. C.I.P. Col. Walton said stocks of POL were improving. There was a possibility of another C.I.P. strike but it had been agreed there would be no cessation of work until after 15 June. The Government had made a statement that in the event of a strike materialising essential services would be operated by CG.RR.

(f) - 7. Archives. Col. Walton reported that work was being held up because archives Branch were not ready to digest further files. Ex C directed his CSO to take this up with Major Harrison.

(g) - 9. Telephones. Col. Stoddard (Communications) said that

Comunist	17,000
Uomo Qualunque	9,000
Christian Democrat	56,000
Uomo Qualunque	27,000
Comunist	22,000
Socialist	14,000

SARDINIA

Reports had been received from AC LOS. Public order generally had been excellent, with practically no incidents. In the North the percentage of voting was much higher than in the South.

Ex C said the LOS' reports coincided with reports received from the Ministry of the Interior. He had sent a short telegram to AFHQ yesterday and would send another to-day emphasizing the good order that had prevailed and the speed with which results were being received.

Regarding the referendum, Major Temple said it was the intention of the authorities not to publish spasmodic returns but to wait until the complete result was available.

Ex C thanked Major Temple for the report and for the excellent work he had done and directed him to telephone the figures received to CC.

(c) - 1 (c). Coal Situation. Col. Walton reported no significant change. Deliveries of approximately 300,000 tons of coal were still expected. There was no news of coal having left the United States since the termination of the coal strike.

(d) - 3. Allied Seamen. In answer to Ex C, Brig. Carr said he had held a meeting recently. At this meeting it was decided that a letter should be sent to AFHQ after further information had been received. Ex C suggested that this matter might be settled by reason of the changes in the armistice terms and a signal might be sent to AFHQ. Brig. Carr would follow up.

(e) - 4. C.I.P. Col. Walton said stocks of POL were improving. There was a possibility of another C.I.P. strike but it had been agreed there would be no cessation of work until after 15 June. The Government had made a statement that in the event of a strike materializing essential services would be operated by CC.RR.

(f) - 7. Archives. Col. Walton reported that work was being held up because Archives Branch were not ready to digest further files. Ex C directed his CSO to take this up with Major Harrison.

(g) - 9. Telephones. Col. Scudder (Communications S/C) said there had been a marked improvement in the service following recent drive on illicit use of telephones by Italian civilians. A watch was being maintained on calls.

2. Whitsun Holiday. Ex C said he would obtain a ruling from CC as to what holiday, if any, would be given at Whitsun.

3. Revised Amnesty Terms. Ex C said that as reported in the press he had delivered the draft of the revised amnesty terms to the Italian Prime Minister. A summary of the document had appeared in the London "Times." The draft was not being published and would not be circulated until the next step had been reached, i.e. negotiation of the Civil Affairs agreements.

4. Derequisitioning of Hotels. In answer to Polad (A), Ex C stated that a letter was being sent to AMHQ to-day. He said that Drig. Low, RAC was pressing for the derequisitioning of the Colonna Hotel and directed Ex O (A) to take action.

5. Reinstatement of Insurance Company Officials. Ex C said the two men concerned were directors of leading insurance companies. They were in ROME when the occupation of TRIESTE occurred and were suspended by order of COS for eputation and later set free. The U.S. Embassy maintained that it was still undesirable that they should be reinstated and Polad (A) said both men had bad records of cooperation with the enemy. He said the decision regarding them was the responsibility of the Italians but they had asked AMG permission to return and resume business. If that permission was granted it would possibly lead to strong criticism of U.S. Embassy and JCO.

Ex C directed Col. Walton to take the matter up with Dr. Bombassei on the lines that we wished to see the full eputation proceedings on these men.

6. Redeployment of U.S. Personnel. Ex O (A) said he had received an order that all U.S. officers and EM due to be redeployed in June would be at LEGHORN by Sunday night. Co. "J", 2675th Regiment had been disbanded and personnel transferred to 88 Division.

7. HQ Building. Ex C said that in order to retain the building it was the wish of CC that other organizations be invited to share accommodation. As far as possible they should be self-contained on a separate floor or annexe and be made responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of their portion of the building.

8. VENEZIA GIULLA Press Reports. PRO stated that he had written to Italian editors reminding them that there was an AMHQ PRO in the North.

A. K. Wood Smith
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

G-5, AMHQ
Executive Commissioner
AC Chief Liaison Officers
Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (B)
CA Section
Economic Section
Disper Sub-Commission
Communications Sub-Commission

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Handwritten: JHQ PRO in the North
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

G-5, JFHQ
Executive Commissioner
AC Chief Liaison Officers
Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (B)
CA Section
Economic Section
Disper Sub-Commission
Communications Sub-Commission
Executive Officer (A)
Executive Officer (B)
Chief Financial Adviser
Public Relations Officer
Land Forces Sub-Commission (MILA)
Liaison Division
Archives Branch
Spares
File

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

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15 Dec 1945.

Ref: 511/EC.

A meeting was held in the Office of the Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region, on Tuesday, 11 Dec 1945. The following were present:

Brigadier K.S. Lush (in the chair)	- Executive Commissioner
Mr. H. Hopkinson	- Polad (B)
Mr. R.H. MacBride	- Polad (A)
Mr. H. Cleveland	- A/VP, Economic Section
Brigadier J.K. Dunlop	- RC, Venezia Region
Colonel E.R. McPhee	- RC, Piemonte Region
Colonel A.N. Hancock	- RC, Lombardia Region
Colonel W.R. Jordan	- RC, Liguria Region
Colonel W.A. Falck	- Deputy RC, Lombardia Region
Lt.Col. W. Turner Coles	- Deputy RC, Piemonte Region
Lt.Col. T.W.J. Walters	- AC IC Bologna.

The Executive Commissioner opened the meeting by giving a general review of the position. The approximate date of the hand-over was announced and various details concerning this were discussed. The gradual closing down of some of the Sub-Commissions of Allied Commission was also brought to the notice of the Regional Commissioners, and then the following matters were raised:

1. Withdrawal of Troops from the Franco-Italian Frontier. The reasons for the withdrawal of British troops from a radius of 15 miles of the frontier were understood to be shortage of personnel and inadequate winter quarters. No political issues were involved. No trouble was foreseen when the troops were entirely withdrawn and no reinforcement of the existing Italian CC,RR, GG,FF and Public Safety agents was thought necessary, especially as this might be interpreted by the French as an aggressive act on the part of the Italians. However, a stricter frontier control was thought advisable as a great deal of smuggling took place in the border provinces. In Liguria it was thought that trouble might occur after the total withdrawal of all troops from Italy, but not before. The French Liaison Officer at Cuneo was considered to be a focal point of any disturbances which might arise and the Ex Com said he would raise this matter with GOC 2 District when he had a conference with him the next day.
2. Frontier Control. AFHQ has rescinded control of the frontiers by their letter AG322/19 GBI-O of 27 Nov 45. With effect from 1 Dec 45 entry into Italy became effective by means of visas from those countries with which Italy has established diplomatic relations. It was thought that agencies of the Italian Government should be set up to control traffic through the Brenner Pass (which had not been mentioned in the above-quoted letter) and the Executive Commissioner said he would take up this matter with AFHQ. It was agreed that the labels and permit system was not necessary in all cases and that international restrictions need not be applied where local crossings of the frontier were involved.
3. Directives to Liaison Officers. It was agreed that the directive issued to Liaison Officers on 24 Sep 45 should not be altered. A separate directive should be drawn up for Liaison Officers of the Economic Group who had functions as executive officers which AC LO's did not enjoy.

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Mr. H. Cleveland	- A/VP, Economic Section
Brigadier J.K. Dunlop	- RC, Venezia Region
Colonel E.R. McPhee	- RC, Piemonte Region
Colonel A.N. Hancock	- RC, Lombardia Region
Colonel W.R. Jordan	- RC, Liguria Region
Colonel W.A. Falck	- Deputy RC, Lombardia Region
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Lt.Col. T.W.J. Walters	- AC IO Bologna.

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3. Directives to Liaison Officers. It was agreed that the directive issued to Liaison Officers on 24 Sep 45 should not be altered. A separate directive should be drawn up for Liaison Officers of the Economic Group who had functions as executive officers which AC IO's did not enjoy.

4. AI Directive to Military Commanders. It was decided that the Directive issued by AI on 15 Mar 44 (AI/3604/A/O) on the relationship between military commanders and AC IO's needed revision. Draft revised version would be submitted to AFHQ.

It was also recommended that a directive should be issued by the Italian Government to all Prefects on their relations with AC IO's. This should include a copy of the directive issued to IO's and Military Commanders. The Prefects

-2-

should also be told of their reciprocal obligations to help IO's to accomplish their missions, in accordance with the general agreement between the Allied Commission and the Italian Government. They should also be reminded that IO's were not channels between Italian officials and the Italian Government.

5. Establishment of Liaison Groups. It was decided that Liaison Groups should consist of the following:

SICILY	-	2 officers	
BARI	-	1	
NAPLES	-	2	
EMILIA	-	2	
LIIGURIA	-	2	
PIEMONTE	-	3	
LOMBARDIA	-	2	
VENETIE	-	3	
BOLZANO	-	4	
LIVORNO	-	1	
FLORENCE	-	1	

plus 2 Public Safety Officers
" 2 " " " "
" 3 " " " "
" 4 " " " "
" 3 " " " "
" 2 " " " "
" 2 " " " "

It was suggested that a LO be established for FLORENCE area. It was stressed that the rank of these IO's should be kept as high as possible and not downgraded, as it was extremely difficult for them to deal with high-ranking Italian officials if they were of low rank. IO's should be in separate buildings from the military formation and should keep in close touch with the Allied Consuls, and a copy of the monthly report should be forwarded to the Consuls to keep them informed of what was being sent back to the Allied Commission. A list of the IO's would be drawn up as soon as possible. Emphasis was laid on the necessity for maintaining US-UK parity. But it was acknowledged that this would not be possible in so far as Public Safety Officers were concerned.

6. Transport. It was recommended that wherever possible British transport should be used owing to the difficulty of carrying out running repairs on American cars.

7. Closing of Regions and Archives. It was agreed that a nucleus of staff should be kept for about a fortnight after any Region had been closed down to wind up outstanding matters which had involved that Region.

8. Electoral Lists. Memo from CA Sec AC/45/15/ALC of 5 Dec 45 was read out and a copy given to each Regional Commissioner. All RC's said that the preliminary lists were ready and merely needed the approval of the "Casellario" before being drawn up in final form. The "Casellario", however, was the "bottleneck".

9. Economic Group. Satisfactory progress was reported and no outstanding points raised.

For the Chief Commissioner:

BS/JG.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
RC, Liguria Region
RC, Venezia Region
RC, Lombardia Region
RC, Piemonte Region
SCAO, ALG XIII Corps
AC LO BOLOGNA

SICILY	-	2 officers	
BARI	-	1 "	
NAPLES	-	2 "	plus 2 Public Safety Officers
BASILICA	-	2 "	" 2 "
LIGURIA	-	2 "	" 3 "
PIEMONTE	-	3 "	" 4 "
LOMBARDIA	-	2 "	" 5 "
VENETIE	-	3 "	" 2 "
BOLZANO	-	4 "	" 2 "
LIVORNO	-	1 "	
FLORENCE	-	1 "	

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RC, Lombardia Region
RC, Piemonte Region
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AC LO BOLOGNA
Econ Sec (3)
CA Sec (3)
Polad (4)
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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

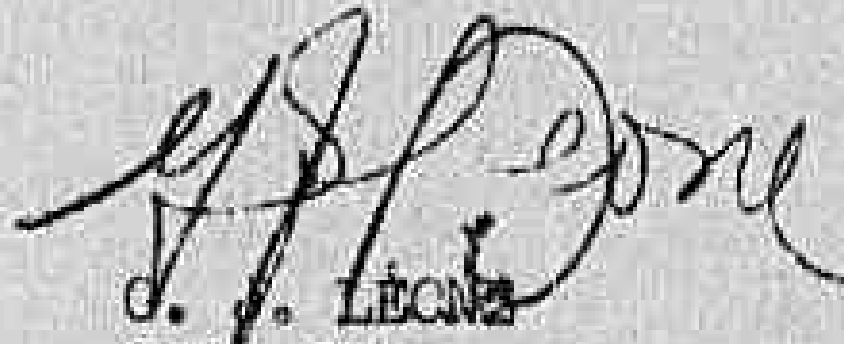
2 November 1945

MEMORANDUM:

TO : All Concerned.

1. Lieutenant General MATHEW B. RIDGEWAY, Deputy Theatre Commander, will visit this Headquarters, Saturday, 3 November 1945.
2. All Section Heads, Directors of Sub-Commissions, Deputy Directors of Sub-Commissions, Director Public Relations Office, Colonel JONES of Establishment Section, Lt Col SEITH, G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4 American and British, will assemble at 11:30 hours in the Main Conference Room, Saturday, 3 November 1945.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:


C. J. LEONA
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

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15 OCT 1946

SECRETARIAT
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

Rome, October 18, 1946

The Secretariat has the honor to transmit herewith a copy
of the minutes of the forty-second meeting of the Advisory
Council for Italy.

Enclosure:

Minutes of 42nd meeting.

MAJOR RALPH H. TEMPLE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT S/C
ALLIED COMMISSION
ROME

4150
4000 4399
RT

MINUTES OF THE 42ND MEETING
OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

The meeting was held at Via Montenapoleoni 24 on September 28, 1946 under the chairmanship of Dr. Sloven Smedlaka, the Yugoslav Acting Representative on the Council. Present at the meeting were:

Dr. Sloven Smedlaka	Yugoslavia
M. Stih Jakša	
M. François de Rose	France
M. Paul Fouchet	
M. Constantin Vatikiotis	Greece
M. Alexander Sgourdos	
Major-General Adrian Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Comodoro Sten Slavik	
M. Michael Gurnevsky	
Mr. H.L. d'A. Hopkinson	United Kingdom
Mr. Aubrey S. Melford	
Mr. John L. Goshie	United States

The agenda for the meeting included the following items:

- 1.) Political Review - by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission.
- 2.) Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy - by Colonel R.P. Cripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission.

3.) Miscellaneous.

4.) Press Communiqué.

Dr. Sloven Smedlaka, the Chairman, opened the meeting and called on Admiral Stone to present his report.

1. Political Review

(a) Report by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone:

Gentlemen:

1. The greater part of the months of August and September - the period during which this Council has not met - has been comparatively uneventful. However I think we may say that the period has been characterized by a feeling of expectancy.

4149

Mr. Sloven Smolnik

Mr. Nino Jaka

Yugoslavia

Mr. François de Mons

Mr. Paul Fouchet

France

Mr. Constantin Vathioty

Mr. Alexander Agouracos

Greece

Major-General Adrian Vasiliev

Comandore Biser Slavov

Mr. Michael Garnevisky

Soviet Union

Mr. H.L. d'A. Hopkinson

Mr. Aubrey H. Halford

United Kingdom

Mr. John L. Goshie

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3.) Miscellaneous.

4.) Press Communique.

Mr. Sloven Smolnik, the Chairman, opened the meeting and called on Admiral Stone to present his report.

1. Political Review

(a) Report by Rear Admiral Ellory W. Stone:

"Gentlemen:

1. The greater part of the months of August and September - the period during which this Council has not met - has been comparatively uneventful. However I think we may say that the period in question has been characterized by a feeling of expectancy. The Italians have been waiting to see what will come out of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London, what will happen about local and national elections in this country, what will be decided about the redeployment of Allied troops and the turn-over of more territory to Italian administration and so on. While

various

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- 2 -

various political leaders have stated their policies in concrete form, the public as a whole seems to prefer to "wait and see". This sense of expectancy reached fever-pitch over the week-end of September 15th/16th, when it became known that the Council of Foreign Ministers in London had invited the Italian Government to send a team of experts to London for consultation on frontier questions. You will all be familiar with press accounts of the progress of the London Conference and I need not repeat the details here. I will only remark that the Italians seem satisfied with the solution reported for the Venezia Giulia problem, though they naturally do not welcome the prospective loss of some and of control of the economic resources of the Italian hinterland.

2. The Council of Ministers has met at intervals during the period under review, and a certain amount of administrative routine work has been done. At the meeting of the Council on August 9th and 10th, the Ministers approved a proposal for the grant of a wider measure of administrative autonomy to the Val d'Aosta. In framing this scheme great care was taken not to undermine the political unity of the State or detract from the fundamentally Italian character of the region. A Council of the Val d'Aosta is to be formed to which will be granted not only the usual provincial powers but also certain powers normally exercised by the State. The Council will be elected and the administration will consist of the Council, a Junta and a President, the latter exercising the powers normally proper to a prefect. The scheme also regulates the relations between the State and the Council, fixes certain financial provisions, guarantees the free use of the French language and lays the bases for elementary and secondary education.

3. At the same Council meeting, the Ministers approved the grant of special indemnities to State employees and various measures connected with social welfare and reconstruction. For instance, the sum of one billion lire was granted for the construction of emergency "shelter houses". The Council further approved Italy's adherence to the Central European Railway Organization which has been set up. Meeting on the 17th August, the Council approved a number of supplementary measures regarding the Val d'Aosta, in particular the control of the public waters and the mines in the valley. The Minister of the National Consultative Assembly submitted a draft legislative decree laying down the regulations for the constitution and the operation of the Assembly. It was agreed that the Assembly should begin its labours on September 15th. The Council also listened to a report by the High Commissioner for Sicily, Signor Aldisio, who related the changes recently made by the Republican Leader, Signor Finocchiaro Aprile. On the 22nd August, the Council approved the first list of members of the Consultative Assembly. At the same time it passed a draft ministerial decree setting up a commission for the study of the electoral law which will govern the voting for the Constituent Assembly. This Commission consists of two representatives of each of the six parties in the Government and five technical experts. The Council next listened to further reports on Sicily and Sardinia. Promises were given of the grant of wider administrative autonomy to both islands. Sicily in particular was promised larger supplies of coal as soon as these became available. On the 5th September, the Council approved certain provisions affecting journalists who

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decided

- 3 -

decided that the Consultative Assembly should meet on the 25th and various routine measures were also dealt with. The Council met again on September 24th and approved the long-expected decree on the increase of rentals. This decree has been under examination since last November. The essence of it is that increases in rentals ranging from 15 to 60 o/o are now legal in respect of dwelling houses and from 40 to 120 o/o in respect of premises used for other purposes. No increase is permissible in respect of premises leased since Sept. 8th 1943. There are, of course, many supplementary regulations with which I need not burden you here.

4. There has been during recent weeks a good deal of press polemics on the question of whether the elections for the Constituent Assembly should or should not precede local elections. The Christian Democrats, the Liberals and the Labour Democrats have declared their intention of promoting the holding of local elections first, on the basis that the country is not yet ready for the important decisions which the Constituent Assembly will have to take. The Communist, Socialist and Action Parties have equally clearly asserted their determination to have the elections for the Constituent Assembly held first and Signor Morandi, one of the Socialist leaders, speaking at Genoa, declared specifically that the Socialists would come to the elections for the Constituent Assembly with a complete program for the solution of all major problems. In the meantime, Signor Parri in a press conference on August 27th, described the conditions in which national elections could take place. He maintained that no program could be made until the status of Italy had been finally clarified. Numerous technical difficulties also had to be overcome and this would inevitably require much time. Signor Parri's third condition related to the necessity of establishing public order. Finally he insisted that the political parties must all pledge themselves to a free, legal and honest electioneering campaign. On September 1st, the special examination for the study of the electoral law began its work and Signor Parri, in his capacity as Minister for the Constituent Assembly, emphasized the urgency "for internal and international reasons" of having the law ready by the end of the month. He suggested that the system of proportional representation might be suitable to the particular occasion. Speaking at Frascati on the following day, he told his Socialist audience that the Constituent Assembly must be "sovereign". Anyone who did not concede its sovereignty "should be sent out like a common criminal". Signor Parri also alluded to the Constituent Assembly in his speech before the Committee of Liberation for Northern Italy in Milan on 1st September. He declared that the elections must be orderly and free and added that he would be the first to declare them null and void if they were based on violence. This remark has caused a good deal of excited comment in the press and the critics of the President of the Council have not been slow to suggest that he is adopting a dictatorial attitude very inconsistent with the democratic principles which he professes. His more moderate critics have asked how he proposes to decide whether the elections are to be declared null and void and that machinery or body he proposes to set up for this purpose.

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rentals ranging from 15 to 60 o/o are now legal in respect of dwelling houses and from 40 to 100 o/o in respect of premises used for other purposes. No increase in rentable in respect of premises leased since Sept. 8th 1943. There are, of course, many supplementary regulations with which I need not burden you here.

4. There has been during recent weeks a good deal of press polemics on the question of whether the elections for the Constituent Assembly should or should not precede local elections. The Christian Democrats, the Liberals and the Labour Movement have declared their intention of protesting the holding of local elections first, on the basis that the country is not yet ready for the important decisions which the Constituent Assembly will have to take. The Communist, Socialist and Action Parties have equally clearly asserted their determination to have the elections for the Constituent Assembly held first and Signor Morandi, one of the Socialist leaders, speaking at Genoa, declared specifically that the Socialists would come to the elections for the Constituent Assembly with a complete program for the solution of all major problems. In the meantime, Signor Parri in a press conference on August 27th, described the conditions in which national elections could take place. He maintained that no program could be made until the status of Italy had been finally clarified. Numerous technical difficulties also had to be overcome and this would inevitably require much time. Signor Parri's third condition related to the necessity of establishing public order. Finally he insisted that the political parties must all pledge themselves to a free, legal and honest electioneering campaign. On September 2nd, the special commission for the study of the electoral law began its work and Signor Bonni, in his capacity as Minister for the Constituent Assembly, emphasized the urgency "for internal and international reasons" of having the law ready by the end of the month. He suggested that the system of proportional representation might be suitable to the particular occasion. Speaking at Frascati on the following day, he told his Socialist audience that the Constituent Assembly must be "sovereign". Anyone who did not concede its sovereignty "should be cast out like a common criminal". Signor Parri also alluded to the Constituent Assembly in his speech before the Committee of Liberation for Northern Italy in Milan on 1st September. He declared that the elections must be orderly and free and added that he would be the first to declare them null and void if they were based on violence. This remark has caused a good deal of excited comment in the press and the critics of the President of the Council have not been slow to suggest that he is adopting a dictatorial attitude very inconsistent with the democratic principles which he professes. His more moderate critics have asked how he proposes to decide whether the elections are to be declared null and void and what machinery or body he proposes to set up for this purpose.

5. Perhaps the most startling news in August was the decision taken on the 28th by Signor Bonni as Minister-in-charge of Migration, turning over to the High Court of Justice for examination proceedings all Italian senators electing those already approved as members of the Consultative Assembly and Senator Ricci, the new Minister of the Treasury. This decision, of course, affects such personalities as Marshal Badoglio and Admiral Thaon di Revel.

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6. The Communist Party held a conference during the last week of August which was devoted to economic matters. Signor Foglietti asserted that the Communists were in favour of a policy of production and not of subsidies. Wide scope must be left to private initiative both in the fields of production and of distribution. A rigid plan under present circumstances would be absurd. Governmental controls must be similar to those in force in the United States and Great Britain. He wound up by declaring that the battle must not be waged against capitalism in general but rather against speculation and "corruption in certain capitalist groups". On the whole this programme met with approval by all the parties including the Liberals. The Liberal newspaper stated that nothing would be more satisfying than to see Signor Foglietti's theory put into practice but it lamented that the policy of the left - and hence of the Government - did everything to discourage initiative.

7. I have already mentioned that the Committee of National Liberation of Northern Italy met in conference on September 1st. Apart from the question of the Constituent Assembly, Signor Parri dealt at length with the role of the Committee of National Liberation in present circumstances. He claimed that they must respect decisions made by the State and at the same time must be the interpreters of the needs of the parties not represented in the Committee. Until local elections could be held the Committee must continue to advise prefects and local government representatives and simultaneously explain to the people the significance of the measures taken by the Government. Apart from Signor Parri's address, the conference was not notable for any outstanding contribution to the solution of present problems. Signor Parri's statement drew heavy fire from the Democratic Party whose newspaper stated that the party did not require anyone to represent its needs. It asserted that the Committee of National Liberation had served their purpose and should now cease. It claimed that the powers of the Committee were still undefined and that the Government were allowing them to assume gradually all the powers proper to the State. Apart from criticising Signor Parri for his alliance with the Committee of National Liberation, the Democratic Party have attacked the President of the Council for refusing to permit publication of a Democratic Party paper in the North and for his request that the "Italia Nuova" should send to his periodical press conference someone capable of reporting his words "less tendentiously" than the present agent. Signor Parri's speech at Milan and his other remarks about the Democratic Party did in fact provide the main themes for discussion at the Democratic Party Convention which was held during the first week of September. Like all the "opposition" parties, the Democrats claim that they represent the great majority of Italians and they point out that the Committee of National Liberation is a non-elected group, implying - and frequently stating - that the six parties represent only a self-appointed, monopolistic minority. The democratic programme as enunciated at the convention is no different from that previously published. It urges support of the Monarchy, a laiciser-faire economy and the end of the six-party "tyranny". The party spokesman affirmed that the Constituent Assembly was indeed necessary but neither the Committee of National Liberation nor the Government were suitable to the task of organising the election. The party reiterated its demand for a plebiscite on the institutional question. (An speaker even suggested the name of King Victor

Britain. He wound up by declaring that the battle must not be waged against capitalism in general but rather against speculation and "corruption in certain capitalist groups". On the whole this programme met with approval by all the parties including the Liberals. The Liberal newspaper stated that nothing would be more satisfying than to see Signor Foglietti's theory put into practice but it lamented that the policy of the Left - and hence of the Government - did everything to discourage initiative.

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8. The National Committee of the Italian Liberal Party held a congress in Rome from September 30th to September 31st. The session opened with an address delivered by Senator Croce who, while welcoming the imminent convocation of the Constituent Assembly, urged the early holding of elections for the Constituent Assembly.

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Assembly. It should be the duty of the latter to revise the Italian constitution, while matters such as administrative, economic, and social reforms should be left to the legislative body appointed by the Constituent Assembly itself. The Chairman, Signor Cattani, next reported on the Party's political programme and declared that the liberals were willing to collaborate in the formation of a strong and lasting Italian republic, if certain guarantees were given. The second day of the congress was taken up by debates on reconstruction problems. Signor Parri addressed the congress on the third day. He emphasized the need for restoring the authority of the State. The Committees of National Liberation had discharged their functions and until administrative elections were held, they must collaborate with the State and not hamper its activity. Senator Croce also spoke on operation along lines already familiar to us all. A resolution was passed on the fourth day favouring general support of the Government and the Committees of National Liberation, though asking for the early dissolution of the Committees in factories and outlying districts. The labours of the Committee expressing the on September 24th with the passing of a resolution expressing the hope that the victorious Great Powers would not inflict a punitive peace on Italy and re-affirming Italy's right to continue her work of colonization in Libya, Eritrea and Somalia.

3. I should like to finish this report with a few items of economic interest. Subscription to the E o/o Treasury loan was closed in North Italy at the end of August and contributions, according to present figures, have amounted to over 70 billions of lire. This sum may be larger when subscriptions not yet registered have been received. The Government are very satisfied with the response to the loan which together with the previous subscriptions in the Central and Southern sections of the country aggregated over 100 billion lire. The raising of wheat, according to report dated September 24th now stands at 801,500 tons or 81 o/o of the estimated available quantity for non-product. Collections in Allied Military Government areas which were previously not so good as in Italian Government territory have improved during recent weeks. Trucks of all kinds having a total lift of 80,000 tons are shortly being turned over to the Italian Government from Allied military sources. The uniform bread ration scale for all Italy will go into effect on October 1st. The most important news of the last few days is that of the unrest in Naples. The cause of these popular demonstrations is purely economic, although the left-wing political parties have sought to exploit the trouble for their own ends. The Naples dockworkers have been protesting against their discharge by the American port authorities and claiming that they are being replaced by German prisoners of war. It is true that, with the decrease in work, many workers have been discharged. It is also true that German prisoners of war are being used - they work better and steal less. Negotiations are at present in progress between the workers' representatives, Allied Military Government and the Italian authorities and the Allied Military Command. Remedial steps have already been taken which should greatly alleviate the situation.

That, Gentlemen, concludes my report."

The Chairman thanked the Admiral for his report and invited discussion.

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That, Gentlemen, concludes my report."

The Chairman thanked the Admiral for his report and invited discussion.

(b) Discussion

General Vasilov inquired whether there was any late information regarding the reported unrest in Naples.

Admiral

Admiral Stone replied that the trouble arose apparently from the fact that the American military authorities who were employing the largest number of German prisoners in Naples had announced a scheduled program for the removal of 1000 prisoners per day. He noted that new measures had been taken to reintegrate the German prisoners of war and that several other remedial actions had been taken, such as the discontinuance of the practice of parading German prisoners of war to drive trucks through the city and also of the system of permitting German prisoners of war to check Italian workers. He stated that Signor Farri had expressed his appreciation of the work the Allied Commission had done in the premises.

Mr. Medlin, with reference to Admiral Stone's announcement that the Italian Council of Ministers had approved Italian adherence to the Central European Railway Organization, inquired whether this step was a new development.

Admiral Stone stated that the Italian Government had been invited some time ago to send representatives to London together with representatives of the Allied Commission and noted that the present step taken by the Italian Government in the premises was in implementation of a program started several months ago.

After ascertaining that the representatives had no further questions to raise, the Chairman invited Colonel Gripps to present his report.

2. Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy.

(a) Report by Colonel R.E. Gripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission.

Colonel Gripps presented the following report:

"1. PRESENT SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

The Fascist system of central and local government has been totally abolished. In the place of Fascist local authorities, the essential democratic bodies envisaged by the pre-Fascist law of 1914 have been restored throughout Italy on an appointive basis. This system of local government is a temporary one, pending the restoration of elections. No elective national legislature is yet in existence.

2. Before elected central or local governments can be established, the following preparations must be made: -

- (i) Those who have the right to vote must be defined;
- (ii) Registers of the electors must be prepared;
- (iii) The types of elective local authorities to be established must be determined;
- (iv) A procedure for voting for these local authorities

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Dr. Cordellain, with reference to Admiral Stone's announcement that the Italian Council of Ministers had approved Italian adherence to the Central European Highway Organization, inquired whether this step was a new development.

Admiral Stone stated that the Italian Government had been invited some time ago to send representatives to London together with representatives of the Allied Commission and noted that the present step taken by the Italian Government in the premises was in implementation of a program started several months ago.

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- (i) Those who have the right to vote must be defined: ⁴¹⁴⁴
- (ii) Registers of the electors must be prepared:
- (iii) The types of elective local authorities to be established must be determined:
- (iv) A procedure for voting for these local authorities must be laid down:
- (v) The procedure for voting for the national legislature must also be determined:
- (vi) The necessary mechanics for the actual holding of the elections, e.g. booths, urns, stamps, voting places, etc., must be provided.

3. FRANCHISE

By Italian law all Italian citizens, men and women, who have reached the age of 21 by 31 December 1945 are qualified to be registered. The law prescribes certain persons who may not be registered, some of whom are lunatics, bankrupts, persons habitually receiving public assistance, persons sentenced to a number of specified crimes and persons found guilty of Fascist activity. The last named group includes high-ranking officials of the former Fascist Party, those persons convicted by regular Courts for Fascist crimes and those declared to be subject to loss of civil rights by special Provincial Commissions set up under Article 3 of Decree No. 189 as to sanctions against Fascism.

4. PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS

The voters lists are prepared from the registers of permanent population kept in every Comune. From these the mayor extracts the names of all over 21. He then obtains from the appropriate authorities lists of those disqualified and strikes them off. He then sends the lists for approval to the Electoral Commission, after which they become final. This procedure is enacted by a Decree of the Italian Government published in January 1946. A citizen is usually registered in the comune in which he has permanent residence and in whose register of permanent population he is inscribed. However, refugees and evacuees may be registered in the Comune in which they are temporarily living. Provision is also made for citizens to be registered in the comune in which they have their principal seats of business or interests.

5. In February 1946, the Italian Government began the preparation of registers of voters in the territory then under its jurisdiction. The Italian Decree, however, was so drawn up that the preparation of the lists could not be undertaken in territory under Allied Military Government. At the request of the Allied Commission, the Italian Government amended their Decree so as to permit this. Shortly after this had been done, July 15th was set for beginning the compilation in Military Government Territory. Before that time, however, necessary preliminaries were put in hand. Instructions were issued for the bringing up-to-date of the registers of the population and for completing the establishment of the temporary local government system so that the requisite officials and bodies would be available to perform the tasks assigned them. Some 135 tons of printed forms of instructions were distributed to the 4,000 Communes then under Allied Military Government and necessary information explaining the whole complicated process of preparing the lists was made available for the use of Allied officers in the field. Simultaneously, by personal tours of the officers of the local Government Sub-Commission, Italian officials in the provinces were consulted and made aware of the responsibilities they were to assume in this connection.

6. The preparation of the lists themselves involves a complicated procedure and requires the intensive activity of many officials and bodies. The law sets forth a time-table for the completion of each step, such as the preparation of initial lists, notification of disqualifications, time for appeal review, etc. The publication of notice of deposit of the definitive electoral list in 110 days

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6. The preparation of the lists themselves involves a complicated procedure and requires the intensive activity of many officials and bodies. The law sets forth a time-table for the completion of each step, such as the preparation of initial lists, notification of disqualifications, time for appeal review, etc. The publication of notices of deposit of the definitive electoral list is 110 days after the initial compilation. The time periods, however, are mere guides and indeed practice shows that circumstances prevent their being followed to the letter.

7. PROGRESS IN COMPLETING ELECTORAL LISTS

The electoral lists are not yet complete in the majority of the Communes under Italian administration. The latest figures furnished by the Italian Government give a partial picture of the position as at 31 August 1945, as follows:

Total number of Communes under Italian jurisdiction	5,351
Total number of Communes reported on by the Government	3,638
Number of lists which have been approved by Electoral Commissions ...	319 (Male & Female)

This is 6 o/o of the lists from Communes reported on by the Italian Government. No corresponding figures are yet available for Military Government Territory inasmuch as the preparation of the lists did not begin until July 15.

The only guide that can be used to estimate the time that it will take to compile the electoral registers in the North is the experience in the South. As has been indicated above, lists were begun in the Southern part of Italy in November and now, 9 months later, they have been completed in only a small percentage of the territory. Lists in the North were begun in July and presumably will take at least 3 months therefore to complete, perhaps longer.

8. DELAYING FACTORS

Some of the factors which are delaying the completion of the compilation of the Electoral Registers are the following:

(a) Extension of the time limits. The law provides that communes may request and be granted extensions of time for the commencement of the compilation of the Electoral Registers for reasons due to the exigencies of war, principally the destruction of records. In Southern Italy there has been such damage, as a result of which many communes began the actual compilation of lists a long time after others. In territory under Allied control a stern attitude has been taken in the granting of extensions as a result of which only 69 Communes out of 3,638 have been granted extensions.

(b) Return of Penal Certificates. Copies of electoral lists must be sent to Provinces in which the persons named therein were born in order to be checked in the original registers of the Province. Extracts of such criminal records are then sent back with the lists to the originating commune. Inasmuch as the registers of 14 Provinces have been destroyed as a result of the war, extracts or criminal records must be sought from the Central Criminal Registry in Rome. The inefficient functioning of that office has provided a bottle-neck in the completion of the lists as a result of which, according to its Manager, they do not hope to complete their registers until the end of November. Representations have been made by the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission to the Prime Minister concerning the conditions found and suggestions have been offered for their improvement to the end that this bottle-neck be eliminated. Fortunately, the Italian Government has approved a decree which will make it unnecessary to be made of the lists

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Total number of Communes under Italian jurisdiction 3,361
 Total number of Communes reported on by the Government 2,833
 Number of lists which have been approved by Electoral Commissions ... 319 (Male & Female)

This is 6 o/o of the lists from Communes reported on by the Italian Government. No corresponding figures are yet available for Military Government territory inasmuch as the preparation of the lists did not begin until July 10.

The only guide that can be used to estimate the time that it will take to compile the electoral registers in the North is the experience in the South. As has been indicated above, lists were begun in the Southern part of Italy in February and now, 8 months later, they have been completed in only a small percentage of the territory. Lists in the North were begun in July and presumably will take at least 5 months therefore to complete, perhaps longer.

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(b) Return of Penal Certificates. Copies of electoral lists must be sent to Provinces in which the persons named therein were born in order to be checked in the criminal registers of the Province. Extracts of such criminal records are then sent back with the lists to the originating commune. Inasmuch as the registers of 14 Provinces have been destroyed as a result of the war, extracts of criminal records must be sought from the Central Criminal Registry in Rome. The inefficient functioning of that office has provided a bottle-neck in the completion of the lists as a result of which, according to its Manager, they do not hope to complete their registers until the end of November. Representations have been made by the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission to the Prime Minister concerning the conditions found and suggestions have been offered for their improvement to the end that this bottle-neck be eliminated. Fortunately, the Italian Government has approved a decree which will make it unnecessary for searches of criminal records of women to be made at the Provincial or the Central Registries. Since there is only 3 o/o female criminality in the country it is felt that a record search in the police offices will be sufficient in the case of women.

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(c) Work of the Electoral Commissions. Some delay has been incurred in the completion of the tasks of these Commissions due to the lack of judicial personnel, but principally due to the delay on the part of the Criminal Registrar to send the lists to the proper authorities with extracts of penal certificates.

9. REVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

The Italian Government has not yet decided what kinds of elective local bodies and officials are to be set up. Obviously elections cannot be held until people know who and what they are to vote for. In June 1948, the Ministry of the Interior published a project for this purpose. It envisages the re-establishment of the elective Communal and Provincial Councils provided for in the pre-Fascist local government law of 1915. The project is merely a technical study, submitted for consideration by the appropriate authorities in the Italian Government and is not necessarily the one that will ultimately be adopted, nor the only one to be considered. Any proposal for the establishment of local authority has to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

10. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS

The above-mentioned project also contains a procedure for voting at local elections likewise based on the local government law of 1915. The Allied Commission has made representations to the Italian Government, (both to the MONTEI and PARELLI Governments) criticizing the methods of voting as provided for in the Electoral Law of 1915 and suggesting that this law be amended. The points raised were:

- (i) No prior nomination of candidates is provided;
- (ii) No official printed ballots by the state;
- (iii) No guarantee against electioneering at the polls;
- (iv) No provision for voting by soldiers and non-commissioned officers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

No response has been received from the Italian Government with regard to these criticisms, although the Allied Commission has recently been informed by the Minister of the Consultative Assembly that the criticisms would be submitted for consideration by the Council of Ministers.

11. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

No indication has been received from the Italian Government as to the voting procedure they propose to adopt for any national legislative body. The Minister for the Constituent Assembly has, however, established a Commission in his Ministry to study this subject and in particular the last pre-Fascist law as to national elections, that of 1919. Any law as to elections for the national legislature will also have to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

12. TRINITY OF LOCAL OR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

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12. PRIORITIES OF LOCAL OR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

It should be noted that the Italian Government has not decided whether national elections will precede local or vice versa. However, it will be possible to hold local elections at various dates as parts of the country, particularly in Southern and Central Italy, have completed the necessary preparatory work. The holding of

national

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national elections, however, will necessarily be dependent upon the completion of all preparations in all parts of Italy. No elections can be held until decisions have been made on the foregoing important questions of local government system, voting procedure at local elections and voting procedure at national elections.

13. INFORMATION FOR WOMEN

No difficulty is expected in connection with provided urns, booths, stamps and premises, in spite of the lack of material. It has been stated that the actual making of urns and booths will be completed by the end of October in Central and Southern Italy. Allied Force Headquarters has ordered the making available for the holding of elections of premises requisitioned by the military. The work of dividing the communes into voting districts is proceeding on time and should not be a factor for delay of the elections.

14. REGISTERED ELECTORATE

It is estimated that of the total population of 45,000,000 in the country, about 25,000,000 will be put on the Electoral Registers of 1948. Of these, 15,000,000 are women. By way of comparison it may be noted that at the last General Election held in 1931, based upon the 1930 electoral list, 11,500,000 or 51.0% of the total population were registered and approximately 6,500,000 took part in the election. The lists for 1948 are more than double the 1931 lists because for the first time women will have the right to vote."

The Chairman thanked the Colonel for his report and invited discussion.

(b) Discussion

General Vasiliev referred to an article published in the *Liberal Standard* of September 28 according to which Signor de Gasperi had stated that the local elections would be held first and had implied that this decision was taken because of representations made by the United States Government. He inquired whether the Allied Commission authorities had any information on this subject.

Admiral Stone said that he was of the opinion that any position taken by the American and British Governments might best be explained by the representatives of those Governments on the Council.

Mr. Hopkinson stated that he felt that the question raised by the Russian Representative is one that should perhaps be addressed by the Soviet Union Ambassador to the British Ambassador since he in his capacity of British Representative on the Advisory Council was not in a position to answer the question raised.

Mr. Goshie concurred with the views expressed by the British Representative.

General Vasiliev referred to frequent articles in the Italian press about the article in the *Standard* and *Stripes* of

13. Mechanism for Voting

No difficulty is expected in connection with provided urns, booths, stamps and premises, in spite of the lack of material. It has been stated that the actual making of urns and booths will be completed by the end of October in Central and Southern Italy. Allied Force Headquarters has ordered the making available for the holding of elections of premises requisitioned by the military. The work of dividing the communes into voting districts is proceeding on time and should not be a factor for delay of the elections.

14. Estimated Electorate

It is estimated that of the total population of 43,000,000 in the country, about 26,000,000 will be put on the Electoral Register of 1945. Of these, 15,000,000 are women. By way of comparison it may be noted that at the last General Election held in 1931, based upon the 1930 electoral list, 11,500,000 or 31 5/8 of the total population were registered and approximately 6,500,000 took part in the election. The lists for 1945 are more than double the 1931 lists because for the first time women will have the right to vote.

The Chairman thanked the Colonel for his report and invited discussion.

(b) Discussion

General Vasiliev referred to an article published in the *Libera Stampa* of September 13 according to which Signor de Gasperi had stated that the local elections would be held first and had implied that this decision was taken because of representations made by the United States Government. He inquired whether the Allied Commission authorities had any information on this subject.

Admiral Stone said that he was of the opinion that any position taken by the American and British Governments might best be explained by the representatives of those Governments on the Council.

Mr. Hopkinson stated that he felt that the question raised by the Russian Representative is one that should perhaps be addressed by the Soviet Union Ambassador to the British Ambassador, since he in his capacity of British Representative on the Advisory Council was not in a position to answer the question raised.

Mr. Goshie concurred with the views expressed by the British Representative.

General Vasiliev referred to frequent articles in the Italian press and especially to an article in the "Stars and Stripes" of September 25 according to which the Poles in Italy were subjecting Italians to hostile treatment and were interfering in the pre-election campaign. He said that he would like to know what steps are being taken by the Allied Commission to preclude this threat to the holding of free elections in Italy.

Admiral

Admiral Stone replied that the report presented by Colonel Cripps deals with just such preparations as the Italian Government is making on this subject. He added that as far as any interference by the Polish elements in this country was concerned that no complaints on this subject had been presented to the Allied Commission.

General Vasiliev stated that about two weeks ago articles had appeared in the local press reporting the possibility of some plots against the Italian Government. He said that he would like to know whether there was some basis for such articles.

Admiral Stone stated that he had heard the same rumors and read the same newspaper accounts and added that the article on this subject, which appeared in yesterday's edition of the local "Stars and Stripes" was quite objective and, in general, presented the Allied Commission's point of view although he did not know from what source the reporter obtained his information.

Mr. Hopkinson inquired whether Colonel Cripps felt that the 1919 law for the holding of national elections was subject to the same criticisms as the electoral law of 1913 (local elections). Note: see paragraph 10 of Colonel Cripps' report.

Colonel Cripps replied that he felt the same objections applied especially as there was no provision for voting by soldiers and non-commissioned officers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

M. de Rose noted that at yesterday's meeting of the Consulta a representative of the Christian Democratic Party referred to the fact that in certain Southern districts the machinery for elections was ready to start working and requested the Government to hold simultaneously local elections in such places. With reference to this subject, M. de Rose inquired whether the Allied Commission had any objections to the fact that local elections would be held at different periods.

Admiral Stone stated that the Allied Commission has no basis for objections to the decision of the Italian Government to hold local elections not simultaneously throughout the country. He asked M. de Rose whether he was familiar with the reply given at the Consulta to the question raised in the premises.

M. de Rose stated that as far as he knew the question has not been answered.

There was no further discussion.

3. Miscellaneous

The Council had no miscellaneous business to discuss.

4. Press Communique

The Council agreed to release the following press communique:

"The 4th meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on September 28 under the chairmanship of the Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Stojan Stokich. Other members of the

Admiral Stone stated that he had heard the same rumors and read the same newspaper accounts and added that the article on this subject, which appeared in yesterday's edition of the local "Stars and Stripes" was quite objective and, in general, presented the Allied Commission's point of view although he did not know from what source the reporter obtained his information.

Mr. Hopkinson inquired whether Colonel Gripps felt that the 1919 law for the holding of national elections was subject to the same criticism as the electoral law of 1918 (local elections). Note: see paragraph 10 of Colonel Gripps' report.

Colonel Gripps replied that he felt the same objections applied especially as there was no provision for voting by soldiers and non-commissioned officers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

M. de Rose noted that at yesterday's meeting of the Committee a representative of the Christian Democratic Party referred to the fact that in certain Southern districts the machinery for elections was ready to start working and requested the Government to hold simultaneously local elections in such places. With reference to this subject, M. de Rose inquired whether the Allied Commission had any objections to the fact that local elections would be held at different periods.

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M. de Rose stated that as far as he knew the question has not been answered.

There was no further discussion.

3. Miscellaneous

The Council had no miscellaneous business to discuss.

4. Press Communiqué

The Council agreed to release the following press communiqué:

"The 4th meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on September 28th under the chairmanship of the Yugoslav Acting Representative, Dr. Sloven Medlaka. Other members of the Council present were:

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M. Francois de Noe	France
M. Constantin Vasilakioty	Greece
Major General Adrian Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Mr. W.J. d'A. Hopkinson	United Kingdom
Mr. John L. Goshie	United States

Mr. Admiral Wilsey S. Stone, the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented to the Council a report on current political events in Italy and Colonel R.B. Gripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, reported on the background and present status of plans for the holding of local and national elections in Italy."

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Council agreed to hold the next meeting on October 12 under the chairmanship of the French representative on the Council.

4133

United Kingdom

Mr. W.L. d'A. Hopkinson

United States

Mr. John L. Goshie

Rear Admiral Wilfrid N. Stone, the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented to the Council a report on current political events in Italy and Colonel A.A. Gripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, reported on the background and present status of plans for the holding of local and national elections in Italy."

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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SECRETARIAT
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

Rome, October 8, 1945

9 OCT 1945

- 1/ The Secretariat has the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the preliminary draft of the minutes of the 42nd meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy held on September 28, 1945.

Enclosure:

as stated

MAJOR RALPH R. TEMPLE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT S/C

ALLIED COMMISSION

ROME

4137

7363

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MEMBERS OF THE 42nd MEETING
OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

The meeting was held at Via Monte dei Partolli 24 on September 25, 1945 under the chairmanship of Dr. Sloven Medolaka, the Yugoslav Representative on the Council. Present at the meeting were:

Dr. Sloven Medolaka	Yugoslavia
M. Miko Jakša	
M. François de Ross	France
M. Paul Fouchet	
M. Constantin Vatikioty	Greece
M. Alexander Sgourdos	
Major-General Adrian Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Comodore Simon Slavin	
M. Michael Gurnavsky	
Mr. M.L. d'A. Hopkinson	United Kingdom
Mr. Aubrey N. Malford	
Mr. John L. Goshie	United States

The agenda for the meeting included the following items:

- 1.) Political Review - by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission.
- 2.) Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy - by Colonel H.R. Cripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission.

3.) Miscellaneous.

4.) Press Communiqué.

Dr. Sloven Medolaka, the Chairman, opened the meeting and called on Admiral Stone to present his report.

1. POLITICAL REVIEW

(a) Report by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone:

(Text of report will be inserted in final draft of the minutes)

The Chairman thanked the Admiral for his report and invited

The meeting was held at Via Monte dei Partiti 24 on September 28, 1945 under the chairmanship of Dr. Sloven Medlaka, the Yugoslav Representative on the Council. Present at the meeting were:

Dr. Sloven Medlaka	Yugoslavia
M. Niko Jekša	
M. Francois de Bonis	France
M. Paul Fouchet	
M. Constantin Vatikioty	Greece
M. Alexander Sgourides	
Major-General Adrian Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Commandore Simon Slavov	
M. Michael Curcovaiky	
Mr. H.L. d'A. Hopkinson	United Kingdom
Mr. Aubrey S. Halford	
Mr. John L. Goshie	United States

The agenda for the meeting included the following items:

- 1.) Political Review - by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission.
- 2.) Background and Present Status of Plans for the Holding of Local and National Elections in Italy - by Colonel R.R. Cripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission.
- 3.) Miscellaneous.
- 4.) Press Communiqué.

Dr. Sloven Medlaka, the Chairman, opened the meeting and called on Admiral Stone to present his report.

1. POLITICAL REVIEW

- (a) Report by Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone:

(Text of report will be inserted in final draft of the minutes)

The Chairman thanked the Admiral for his report and invited discussion.

- (b) Discussion

General Vasiliev inquired whether there was any information regarding the reported unrest in Naples.

Admiral

Admiral Stone replied that the trouble arose apparently from the fact that the American military authorities who were employing the largest number of civilians in Naples had announced a scheduled program for the discharge of 1800 workers per day. He noted that new measures had been taken to repatriate the German prisoners of war and that several other remedial actions had been taken, such as the discontinuance of the practice of permitting German prisoners of war to drive trucks through the city and also of the system of permitting German prisoners of war to check Italian workers. He stated that Signor Parri had expressed his appreciation of the work the Allied Commission had done in the premises.

Mr. Scodlata, with reference to Admiral Stone's announcement that the Italian Council of Ministers had approved Italian adherence to the Central European Railway Organization, inquired whether this step was a new development.

Admiral Stone stated that the Italian Government had been invited some time ago to send representatives to London together with representatives of the Allied Commission and noted that the present step taken by the Italian Government in the premises was in implementation of a program started several months ago.

After ascertaining that the representatives had no further questions to raise, the Chairman invited Colonel Cripps to present his report.

2. BACKGROUND AND PRESENT STATUS OF PLANS FOR THE HOLDING OF LOCAL AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN ITALY.

(a) Report by Colonel R.E. Cripps.

Colonel R.E. Cripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, presented the following report:

(Copies of this report have been distributed and the text will be included in the final draft of the minutes).

The Chairman thanked the Colonel for his report and invited discussion.

(b) Discussion

General Wastley stated that according to items published in the local press the British and American Governments had made representations to the Italian Government regarding the holding of elections in Italy.

Admiral Stone said that he was of the opinion that any position taken by the American and British Governments might best be explained by the representatives of those Governments on the Council.

Mr. Hopkinson stated that he felt that the question raised by the Russian Representative is one that should perhaps be addressed by the Soviet Union Ambassador to the British Ambassador, since he is in his capacity of British Representative on the Advisory

as the discontinuance of the practice of permitting German prisoners of war to drive trucks through the city and also of the system of permitting German prisoners of war to check Italian workers. He stated that Signor Parri had expressed his appreciation of the work the Allied Commission had done in the premises.

Mr. Smollett, with reference to Admiral Stone's announcement that the Italian Council of Ministers had approved Italian adherence to the Central European Railway organization, inquired whether this step was a new development.

Admiral Stone stated that the Italian Government had been invited some time ago to send representatives to London together with representatives of the Allied Commission and noted that the present step taken by the Italian Government in the premises was in implementation of a program started several months ago.

After ascertaining that the representatives had no further questions to raise, the Chairman invited Colonel Gripps to present his report.

2. BACKGROUND AND PRESENT STATUS OF PLANS FOR THE HOLDING OF LOCAL AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN ITALY.

(a) Report by Colonel R.K. Gripps.

Colonel R.K. Gripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, presented the following report:

(Copies of this report have been distributed and the text will be included in the final draft of the minutes).

The Chairman thanked the Colonel for his report and invited discussion.

(b) Discussion

General Vasiliev stated that according to items published in the local press the British and American Governments had made representations to the Italian Government regarding the holding of elections in Italy.

Admiral Stone said that he was of the opinion that any position taken by the American and British Governments might best be explained by the representatives of those Governments on the Council.

Mr. Hopkinson stated that he felt that the question raised by the Russian Representative is one that should perhaps be addressed by the Soviet Union Ambassador to the British Ambassador, since he in his capacity of British Representative on the Advisory Council was not in a position to answer the question raised.

Mr. Coakie concurred with the views expressed by the British Representative.

General

General Vasiliev stated that on September 20 an article was published in the local edition of "The Stars and Stripes", in which it was stated that the Italians claim that the Poles stationed in Italy were interfering in Italian politics. He inquired whether steps had been taken to ensure the holding of free elections.

Admiral Stone replied that the report presented by Colonel Crippa deals with just such preparations as the Italian Government is making on this subject. He added that as far as any interference by the Polish elements in this country was concerned that no complaints on this subject had been presented to the Allied Commission.

General Vasiliev stated that about two weeks ago articles had appeared in the local press reporting the possibility of some plots against the Italian Government. He said that he would like to know whether there was some basis for such articles.

Admiral Stone stated that he had heard the same rumors and read the same newspaper accounts and added that the article on this subject, which appeared in yesterday's edition of the local "Stars and Stripes" was quite objective and, in general, presented the Allied Commission's point of view although he did not know from what source the reporter obtained his information.

Mr. Hopkinson inquired whether Colonel Crippa felt that the 1919 law for the holding of national elections was subject to the same criticisms as the electoral law of 1916 (local elections).
Note: see paragraph 10 of Colonel Crippa's report.

Colonel Crippa replied that he felt the same objections applied especially as there was no provision for voting by soldiers while on service, although this right is accorded officers.

M. de Bess stated that at yesterday's meeting of the Consulta a representative of the Christian Democratic Party objected to the fact that the local elections could be held at different periods. He inquired whether the Allied Commission had taken any position in this matter.

Admiral Stone stated that the Allied Commission has no basis for objections to the decision of the Italian Government to hold local elections not simultaneously throughout the country. He asked M. de Bess whether he was familiar with the reply given at the Consulta to the question raised in the premises.

M. de Bess stated that as far as he knew the question has not been answered.

There was no further discussion.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

The Council had no miscellaneous business to discuss.

4. PENDING CORRECTIONS

Admiral Stone replied that the report presented by Colonel Grippa deals with just such preparations as the Italian Government is making on this subject. He added that as far as any interference by the Polish elements in this country was concerned that no complaints on this subject had been presented to the Allied Commission.

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Admiral Stone stated that he had heard the same rumors and read the same newspaper accounts and added that the article on this subject, which appeared in yesterday's edition of the local "Gazeta" and "Grippe" was quite objective and, in general, presented the Allied Commission's point of view although he did not know from what source the reporter obtained his information.

Mr. Macpherson inquired whether Colonel Grippa felt that the 1919 law for the holding of national elections was subject to the same criticism as the electoral law of 1915 (local elections).
Note: see paragraph 10 of Colonel Grippa's report.

Colonel Grippa replied that he felt the same objections applied especially as there was no provision for voting by soldiers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

M. de Rose stated that at yesterday's meeting of the Consulta a representative of the Christian Democratic Party objected to the fact that the local elections could be held at different periods. He inquired whether the Allied Commission had taken any position in this matter.

Admiral Stone stated that the Allied Commission has no basis for objections to the decision of the Italian Government to hold local elections not simultaneously throughout the country. He asked M. de Rose whether he was familiar with the reply given at the Consulta to the question raised in the press.

M. de Rose stated that so far as he knew the question has not been answered.

There was no further discussion.

3. MISCELLANEOUS

The Council had no miscellaneous business to discuss.

4. UPON COMPLETION

The Council agreed to release the following press communiqué:

The 4th meeting of the Advisory Council for Italy was held in Rome on September 28 under the chairmanship of the Yugoslav Acting Representative, Dr. Sloven Medlaka. Other members of the

Council

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Council present were:

M. Francois de Rose	France
M. Constantin Vatikioty	Greece
Major General Adrian Vasiliev	Soviet Union
Mr. H.L. d'A. Hopkinson	United Kingdom
Mr. John L. Goshie	United States

Rear Admiral Willy C. Stone, the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented to the Council a report on current political events in Italy and Colonel H.B. Tripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, reported on the background and present status of plans for the holding of local and national elections in Italy."

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Council agreed to hold the next meeting on October 12 under the chairmanship of the French Representative on the Council.

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4133

Major General Adrian Vasiliev

Soviet Union

Mr. H.L. d'A. Hopkinson

United Kingdom

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United States

Rear Admiral Willy M. Stone, the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, presented to the Council a report on current political events in Italy and Colonel H.B. Gripps, Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, reported on the background and present status of plans for the holding of local and national elections in Italy."

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The Council agreed to hold the next meeting on October 12 under the chairmanship of the French Representative on the Council.

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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION 15 AUG 1945

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

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Ref: 511/EC.

14 August 1945.

MINUTES OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - 13 AUGUST 1945.

1. Hand Over of the Northern Provinces to the Italian Government.

Executive Commissioner reminded the meeting that at the Regional Commissioners' meeting held approximately two months ago Chief Commissioner proposed 1 September 1945 as a possible date for the hand over of Northern ITALY to the Italian Government. This date had since been given a considerable amount of publicity. It was not a firm date, but a target fixed by the Chief Commissioner.

All the Provinces of the four Regions would be handed back, with the exception of the Province of UDINE. In this case the recommendation of the Commander XIII Corps and the Regional Commissioner had been followed and the Chief Commissioner had recommended to AFHQ, for submission to CCS, that AMG should continue in this Province until 1 December 1945.

The future of NAPLES was still uncertain, but AMG would be kept there for the time being. BOLZANO would be handed back with the other Provinces of Northern ITALY subject to approval of CCS.

From the economic and local government point of view there was everything to be said for a speedy handback. There was one disturbing question - that of public safety. Although there was a period of tranquility at present, public safety was far from satisfactory, and Executive Commissioner said that we could not recommend to AFHQ that the North, from a public safety point of view, was administratively in a fit state to be handed back.

Executive Commissioner said he understood that the general consensus of opinion of Regional Commissioners was that either the handback should take place quickly in spite of the unsatisfactory state of public safety or that AMG should be retained for at least six months. Regional Commissioners were asked for their views and all stressed the amount of publicity that had been given to the date of 1 September. Regional Commissioners PILLONNI and LICURIA considered that we should either hand over on that date or remain until after the elections.

Regional Commissioner VENZEL said he was in favour of handing over in September and of keeping strong teams of Liaison Officers who, he believed, could do very useful work. Deputy Regional Commissioner LOMBARDIA was also in favour of handing back in September.

It was agreed by all that it was useless retaining AMG without having sufficient Allied troops to back it up. At present Military Government was being operated with the backing of the Italian Army, which, as Col. NE Pisko pointed out, was an undesirable situation.

AC Liaison Officer BARI said that in the MINERVINO and MAT-RA incidents the Italian Government had handled the situations very feebly. They had "suggested" that arms should be handed in but few results had been obtained and the mindless situation still persisted.

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All the Provinces of the four Regions would be handed back, with the exception of the Province of UMBRIA. In this case the recommendations of the Commander XIII Corps and the Regional Commissioner had been followed and the Chief Commissioner had recommended to AFHQ, for submission to CCS, that AMG should continue in this Province until 1 December 1945.

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AC Liaison Officer BARI said that in the MINERVINO and NATURA incidents the Italian Government had handled the situations very feebly. They had "suggested" that arms should be handed in but few results had been obtained and the ringloaders still had their arms. Troops had not been used.

Brigadier UPJOHN stated that all our experience was that the Italian Government had not tackled and were not tackling the public safety problem energetically. Reorganisation of the Carabinieri was desirable but this was not a short term policy, and would take months. As regards the date of the handover, he pointed out that unless approval could be obtained from AFHQ by 16 August 45 it would be administratively impossible to effect the handover on 1 September 45.

- 2 -

Polad (B) agreed that unless sufficient troops were made available, it was useless trying to run AIG, and stressed that we should state the position very bluntly to the American and British Governments.

Executive Commissioner concurred and said we must also have clearly laid down the exact responsibility of the Allied troops who would remain in regard to quelling of civil disturbances.

Col. Hamilton said GOC No. 2 District required a directive from AFHQ to define his responsibility, and Executive Commissioner promised to take this up at AFHQ.

Col. Fiske said if it was not practicable to remain until after the elections we should hand over in September. He made the point that the transfer of the Italian Army should be concurrent with the transfer of Italian territory, and if it was not possible to hand over control of the Italian Army until 30 September it was desirable to postpone the hand back of territory until that date. Executive Commissioner stated that the date of 30 September had already gone forward as the date for the Italian Army to be handed over to the Italian Government and in the event of approval for the transfer being obtained he felt sure that Sacmed could be persuaded to give the Italian Government control of their army before that date.

Brigadier ANDERSON suggested the use of economic sanctions, i.e. the cutting off of supplies, in the event of serious disorder, but Executive Commissioner did not consider this to be practicable. He agreed, however, that the matter could be publicised.

Executive Commissioner stated we must also obtain a ruling from AFHQ on the French and Swiss frontier problems, and the powers of CIC and FSS must be defined.

With the Chief Commissioner's approval Executive Commissioner suggested 10 September as the hand over date and Executive Commissioner asked Regional Commissioners for their views on this. They said they could be ready by this date.

2. Proposed Liaison Groups in the North.

Establishment Section had prepared a draft summary of personnel and vehicles, which was distributed to members of the meeting. Executive Commissioner read a note put up to the Chief Commissioner, which formed a basis for discussion.

The Establishment Section summary was discussed group by group. Several amendments were requested by Regional Commissioners, and these were noted by Establishment Section, who would make the necessary adjustments.

Public Safety Officers. There was discussion on whether the Public Safety Liaison Officers should be called Public Safety Officers or Security Intelligence Officers. Opinion was divided and Executive Commissioner ruled that they should be called Public Safety Liaison Officers.

Col. Fiske stated that GOC No. 2 District said that he was short of Security Officers and would welcome the presence of Public Safety Officers in his area. Executive Commissioner mentioned an important suggestion that the Chief Commissioner had made, namely, that Public Safety Officers should be moved from their present location to another area when the hand over took place, so as to avoid

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Location of Liaison Groups. It was agreed that Liaison Groups should be stationed in the following towns.

MILAN,
TURIN (to include representation at AOSTA)
GENOA,
VENEZIA,
BOLOGNA, and perhaps ANCONA.

/It was ...

- 3 -

It was also agreed that BOLZANO should have a Liaison Group and that the present Liaison Officer FIS should be made the AC Liaison Officer at LIVORNO.

Executive Commissioner ruled that for the purposes of discipline and administration the Central Economic Liaison Group should be under Lombardia Liaison Group in MILAN.

Local Government Officers. There was considerable discussion on the functions of local government officers and Local Government Sub-Commission did not want any in the field. The Regional Commissioners were in agreement with this, stating that it would be impossible for the local government officers to perform any useful function. Brigadier URJOHN said that the general consensus of opinion of the meeting was that special local government officers were not necessary.

DP & Medical Officers. It was agreed that medical officers were not necessary in the Liaison Groups and it was stressed that the Public Health Officers in the DP & R teams were only to be used for DP & R work. Civil Affairs Section were told to put up a recommendation to Establishment Section at an early date for an increase in Displaced Persons staff.

Vehicles. Establishment Section had put in for a number of WD vehicles, and had allowed for soldier drivers for these in their summary. There was discussion on the supply and maintenance of vehicles. Executive Commissioner said that the question of the maintenance of WD and US vehicles for the North should be taken up with AFHQ at a high level.

3. AMC Team for UDINE.

The list prepared by Establishment Section was studied and some alterations were made. Executive Commissioner stressed that the officers chosen must be good experienced men, and the team must be large enough to provide a pool for reimpotion of AMC in other areas.

Brigadier DUNLOP wanted 40 officers for this Province as against 34 suggested by Establishment Section, the extra nine officers to be all Provincial Officers. After discussion this was agreed. Executive Commissioner stressed the importance of not duplicating officers as between UDINE and VALLA CLULLA.

4. Ration Scales.

Col. Legg spoke of the endeavours of the Food Sub-Commission to inaugurate a uniform system of rationing throughout the whole of ITALY. A new scale had been planned and the views of the Regional Commissioners were invited.

From a political and administrative point of view it was desirable that uniformity be achieved at the earliest possible date. A meeting with the Italian Government at which all interests were represented took place recently. AC put forward recommendations, together with the lay out of the proposed new ration scale, and agreement was obtained.

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The ration scale provided that the workers of the North received the same treatment as the workers in the South for a comparable job.

Regional Commissioners were in complete agreement with the proposed new ration scale. Executive Commissioner said it should be got through as quickly as possible. Col. Legg stated that he had still to clear it with Labour.

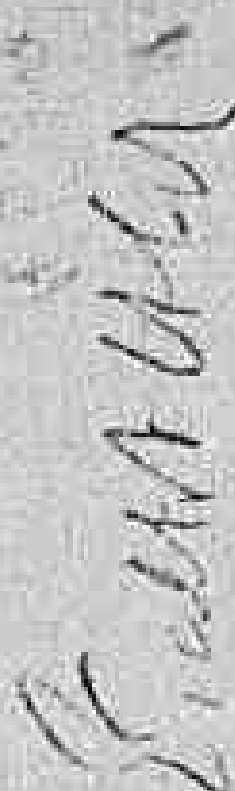
- 4 -

5. Archives.

Executive Commissioner emphasized the responsibility of Allied Commission to see that its Archives were handed over in good order, and this responsibility began with Regional Commissioners in the field. One officer was to be appointed at each Region to deal with Archives, and this officer would spend two or three days at Headquarters, Allied Commission with Capt. Collins. Uniformity was essential and the instructions issued by Archives must be followed.

A paper prepared by Capt. Collins was distributed to members of the meeting. Capt. Collins said the object in view was to prepare all files so that they would mean something to people looking at them for the first time, perhaps twenty years hence.

Executive Commissioner stressed the importance of this subject, which he said had not always had the attention it deserved.



Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref:

46.2/CA

13 Aug 45

SUBJECT: R.O.'s Meeting.

TO: See Distribution below.

- 1 There will be a meeting of Regional Commissioners in the Executive Commissioner's Office at 1100 hrs on 14 Aug 45 to allot personnel to Liaison Groups for the Northern Regions.
- 2 Each Sub-Commission will send one representative capable of giving decisions as to the officers of his Sub-Commission to be assigned to these Liaison Groups.

H. H. S. Hartley
H. H. S. HARTLEY, Col.,
GSO C A Section.

DISTRIBUTION: Displaced Persons S/C,
Education S/C,
Legal S/C
Local Government S/C
Patriots Branch

Public Health S/C
Public Safety S/C
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives S/C.

4130

6811

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: REIL/337(RAIL)
 Date/Time of Origin: JULY 19/120000

24 JUL 1945

Message Centre No: I/971
 Date Time Rec'd: JULY 21/0855B
 Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: HQ VENEZUELA REGION

TO : ALCOM

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

I wish to hold 2 conferences with prefects and others, 1 about 7 August, 1 about 14 August. Can you please say if there are likely to be any conferences in ROM which would interfere with these dates.

ACTION

HEADQUARTERS
 24 JUL 1945

DIST
 ACTION : Executive Commissioner

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
RE COMMISSIONER (C) CAS
ECOM SEC
EST SEC
FILE (2)
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RG for info only

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CONFIDENTIALHEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APC 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

30 June 1945.

Ref: 511/30.

MINUTES

Regional Commissioners' Meeting.

27 JUNE, 1945.

In the Chair:

Chief Commissioner

Present:

Executive Commissioner
Deputy Executive Commissioner
SCAO Fifth Army

SCAO IV Corps

Regional Commissioners:

LIGURIA Region

PIEMONTE Region

LOMBARDIA Region

VENEZIA Region

EMILIA Region

Commissioner NAPLES (unnamed).

Acting Vice President, Economic Section

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section

Acting Vice President, Establishment Section

Independent Sub-Commissions

Various Staff Officers.

ACTION

The meeting opened at 0915 hours.

1. Future of ITALY and Cessation of A.M.G.

The Chief Commissioner read to the meeting a paper on future policy towards ITALY. He invited comment from Regional Commissioners.

All Regional Commissioners agreed with general policy outlined in the Paper. 4128

SCAO IV Corps pressed for an increase in the provision of suitable literature and books. He said that the Italians were anxious to know how democracy worked and how it solved its problems.

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDI Region, said that in his opinion too little emphasis was given in the paper to the importance of relations with other countries.

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PIEMONTE Region

LOMBARDIA Region

VENEZIA Region

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All Regional Commissioners agreed with general policy outlined in the Paper. 428

SCAO IV Corps pressed for an increase in the provision of suitable literature and books. He said that the Italians were anxious to know how democracy worked and how it solved its problems.

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDI Region, said that in his opinion too little emphasis was given in the paper to the importance of the early return of ITALY to normal relations with other countries which was so desirable for the rehabilitation of ITALY. He was also opposed to leaving skeleton A.C. teams a territory that had been handed back to the Italian Government. He thought that the retention of Allied officers in the field, once their authority had been taken away from them, was a mistake. Considerable discussion took place on this point, Regional Commissioners LIGURIA and VENEZIA Regions being opposed to Colonel FOLETTI's views. Both the Chief Commissioner and the Executive Commissioner were of the opinion that the A.C. Liaison Officers had proved useful in the past and that their presence in ITALY during the election period would be beneficial.

Chief Commissioner/... 6257

ACTION

-2-

The Chief Commissioner stated that 1 September 1945 had been fixed as the probable date for the withdrawal of A.M.G. in ITALY except for VENEZIA GIULIA and possibly the BOLZANO area. Regional Commissioners agreed that it was a satisfactory date.

2. Italian Elections.

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section and Director, Local Government Sub-Commission outlined the preparations necessary for the holding of local government elections, following which Chief Commissioner took the views of the Regional Commissioners on the date on which the preparation of electoral lists could be started. Chief Commissioner announced later in the meeting that he had decided that the work should be started on 15 July.

It was calculated that preparations for elections could not be completed until December. Owing to the winter (snow), this meant that the actual election might not take place until the Spring of 1946. This applied to both local and national elections.

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section told the meeting the Allied Commission had been trying to persuade the

Italian Government to alter the present electoral law which had been passed in 1915 and which was considered by both the British and American Governments to be undemocratic. So far no success had been achieved. A further approach would be made.

There was discussion on the measures that might be taken by Allied forces to ensure a free election. Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region, thought that a statement should be issued by the U.S. and U.K. Governments which would state definitely that the Governments were prepared to do all in their power to see that the elections were free. This statement should be made public. He believed that with the backing of this statement, even a relatively small number of mobile troops would go a long way to help the morale of the Italian police agencies and would help the Italians to follow true democratic procedure at the polling booths. If the two Governments were not willing to make such a statement the Regional Commissioner was of the opinion that the Italian people should be told that it was entirely their responsibility and the Allies would make no attempt to supervise the election in any way.

Chief Commissioner said that the opinion of Regional Commissioner LOMBARDIA Region would be given careful consideration.

3. Removal of Government Offices and Records to ROME and amalgamation of Ministries.

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section said that an Aide Memoire had been sent to the Italian Government suggesting that a Commission should go North to consider the removal of Government offices and archives to ROME.

The Italian Government held a meeting on 26 June, at which it

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All
Regional
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Civil Affairs
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All
Regional
Commissioners

The Italian Government held a meeting on 26 June, at which it was agreed that it was impossible to move these offices down at once, through lack of transport and space.

Civil
Affairs Sec.

It was agreed that the archives would have to stay in the North until space became available in ROME.

The Chief Commissioner ruled that there should be no independent action by Ministries and that the move of offices and archives must be a planned operation.

4. Italian/.....

ACTION

-3-

4. Italian Decrees.

Regional Commissioner, EMILIA Region, drew the attention of the meeting to the publication of a decree authorizing the establishment of the National Association of Patriots, to be supported by voluntary contributions.

He maintained that contributions would probably be made at the point of a gun. The Chief Commissioner directed that a memorandum be submitted to him on the subject.

Civil
Affairs Sec.

A discussion took place on the implementation of decrees which had affected Northern Regions and it was agreed to give Regional Commissioners notice of intention to implement them so that they would have an opportunity of objecting.

5. Visits by Northern Prefects to Rome.

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section said it would be appreciated if Regional Commissioners would give notice of the arrival of Prefects from the North to the Local Government Sub-Commission.

All
Regional
Commissioners6. Re-opening of the Swiss Italian Border.

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region asked when the Swiss border would be opened. He said there were 40,000 Italians in SWITZERLAND. Director, Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission, replied that 29 June had been fixed for the commencement of the repatriation of these Italians on the BRENNER route and 14 July on the DOMODOSSOLA route.

C.A. Sec

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region, said that there were many Italians with business connections in SWITZERLAND who wanted to go there as soon as possible. Colonel SIEFF (Transportation Sub-Commission) said that a conference was being held at BERNE on 30 June when it was hoped that a decision would be reached. The Chief Commissioner directed that representations on behalf of Allied Commission should be made at the conference for the early re-opening of the frontier.

7. Public Safety in the North.

Executive Commissioner asked Regional Commissioners for their views on public safety in the Northern Regions. The replies of the Regional Commissioners indicated that in general the public safety situation was satisfactory, but doubts were expressed for the future.

8. Policy for Italian Industry in the North.

Economic Section briefly outlined the industrial situation in the North. It was dependent on the availability of raw materials, the most important being coal of which there was a world shortage. Allied Commission had submitted to the Combined Chiefs of Staff a proposal that the Italian Government should set up an Industrial Coordination Board which would have subsidiary boards to deal with each industry or group of industries. AC

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All Regional
Commissioners

Economic
Section

Discussion/.....

ACTION

Discussion followed on the Coal Allocation Board set up in MILAN as a temporary measure. Executive Commissioner said that there seemed to be some divergence of opinion as to recent decisions of the Board and he instructed Colonel EVANS to see that a thorough overhaul was made of its composition.

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region, outlined a scheme which he thought should be adopted as an interim measure until the Industrial Coordination Board was set up. He said that in the North there were twenty-three committees which represented each of the main industries in the five Northern Regions. Commissioner should be appointed as head of each of these committees, and one official nominated to coordinate the work of the committees. The Committees were composed of the best men available in the Northern industries and their functions were much the same as those of the proposed sub-boards of the Industrial Coordination Board. Regional Commissioner emphasized that they would work under the direction of AIG/AC.

It was decided that the latter be further discussed in committee on the following day in the presence of Minister CRONCHI.

It was reported that 15,000 tons of coal had been allotted for July to the military railway administration. Executive Commissioner directed that this should be watched in order to retrieve some for industry if possible.

Economic
Section

9. Socialization of Industry and Works Management Committees.

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section explained that the Italian Government had passed a decree which dealt with expropriation of employees in industry but that they had so far failed to pass a similar decree to deal with expropriation of managers. Chief Commissioner had decided that while IMG was in existence a permanent expropriation order was necessary and he had directed that the Italian draft decree on this subject (which they had so far failed to implement) should be issued as a Regional Order.

All Regional
Commissioners

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section, circulated the draft Regional Order and Executive Commissioner asked that Regional Commissioners should read it and that it should be discussed at a meeting on the following day. If there were no objections by Regional Commissioners the Regional Order would be issued without alteration.

10. Unemployment and Surplus Labour.

Director, Labour Sub-Commission, said that unless surplus labour in industry was very carefully handled there would be great distress and unrest. General Order No. 48 continued the ban on discharges and provided for a system of payment of workers who were on short time, under-employed or unemployed. This was a temporary measure.

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Economic
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Economic Section was ascertaining what other forms of employment were available in commerce, agriculture and relief schemes.

The present unemployment insurance scheme was insufficient and the Italian Government had been pressed to make some improvement. Director, Labour Sub-Commission, gave in detail the improved rates of unemployment pay and family allowances. Unemployment pay would be 50 lire per day instead of 9 lire. Once surplus labour had been drained off industry it must not be allowed to return.

Regional/.....

ACTION

All Regional Commissioners

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region, said that it had been strongly reported in the Milan press that wage increases had been excessive, 150 lire per day or more on a basis wage of 95 lire and some were retrospective to 1 January 1945.

Executive Commissioner said that there must be no unilateral action and no notice of wage adjustments should be allowed to appear in the press without AMG sanction. The question would be discussed in committee the following day.

Chief Financial Adviser asked how it was proposed to dispose of surplus workers with firms which had swollen pay rolls. Director, Labour Sub-Commission, said that the specialist officers concerned with alternative sources of employment should endeavour to get workers transferred.

All Regional Commissioners

Executive Commissioner directed Regional Commissioner, VENETIE Region, to submit a memorandum on his proposal that the limit of the amount to be approved by the Regional Commissioner for public works should be increased from 1,000,000 to 5,000,000 lire.

Regional Commissioner VENETIE Region

11. Police Officers for VENEZIA GIULIA.

Vice President, Civil Affairs Section and Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, stressed the need for increasing the present strength of Police Officers in VENEZIA GIULIA. This brought up the question of unequal distribution generally among Regions and AMGs Fifth Army and IV Corps.

Estab Sec
C.A. Sec

Executive Commissioner ruled that adjustments must be made to produce an equitable result and he hoped that SCAGs would cooperate. Some trained officers would be assigned to VENEZIA GIULIA from other Regions, but an endeavour would be made to replace them with others who would however of necessity be untrained or semi-trained.

12. Release of British Officers.

The Executive Commissioner said that Regional Commissioners should not commit themselves to releasing British officers under the Release Scheme without consulting the appropriate Sub-Commissions.

All Regional Commissioners

13. Requisitioned Cars.

Executive Officer (A) warned Regional Commissioners that ceilings for requisitioned cars had evidently been exceeded and, following a tour of the North, G-4 AFHQ was demanding an explanation. He directed Regional Commissioners to investigate this.

All Regional Commissioners

14. Compassionate Leave.

In reply to a question by Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA 426 Region, Executive Officer (A) said there was very little chance of compassionate leave being granted to American officers. The grounds for granting compassion to leave for British officers were also very stringent.

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15. Local Leave.

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region, asked if leave could be granted to officers and MG/OR's in the Regions.

The Executive Commissioner said he was prepared to leave it to the discretion of Regional Commissioners. The entitlement was 30 days per annum for American personnel and seven days every six months for British personnel.

All Regional Commissioners
Estab Sec

16. Promotions/...

Promotions

Regional Commissioner, LOMBARDIA Region, raised the question of promotion. Executive Officer (A) replied that all promotions on the American side were frozen by ITOUSL.

17. Entertainment of Members of GEN in Allied Messes.

Regional Commissioner, LOU RABDL Region, raised the problem of the entertainment of members of the CLN in Allied Provincial Messes and urged that an allowance be made. The Executive Commissioner said he would discuss this with the CPM.

Office of the
Executive
Commissioner.
CFA.

W. H. C. C. Major,
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner
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REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING
27-28 June 1945.

1. The meeting will take place in the room that used to be the Reference Library on the third floor. It will be sign-posted.
2. Tea will be served in the Main Conference Room, third floor, during the afternoon on both days.
3. The Establishment Section is providing a car for each Regional Commissioner.
4. No Italian will attend the meeting until the second day and their attendance at the committees is entirely at the discretion of the Vice-Presidents, Regional Commissioners and Heads of Sub-Commissions.
5. The Chief Commissioner or Executive Commissioner will take the chair at all Committee Meetings.
6. The Agenda is attached.

4125

8732

REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING
27-28 June 1945.

AGENDA

Wednesday, 27 June.

On this day the meeting will be devoted to discussion of matters of general interest applicable to all Regions with the Chief Commissioner in the chair.

The meeting opens at 0845 hours.

0845 hrs.

- | | | |
|-------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Future of the Commission. | --- Chief Commissioner. |
| 2. a) | Free Elections. | --- V.P. Civil Affairs Section |
| b) | Removal of Government offices and records to ROME and amalgamation of Ministries | --- V.P. Civil Affairs Section |
| 3. | Problems of general policy raised by Regional Commissioners. | |

Break for lunch.

1445 hrs.

- | | |
|----|--|
| 4. | <u>Economic Section.</u> |
| a) | Policy for Italian industry in the North. |
| b) | Socialisation of industry and Works Management Committees. |
| c) | Unemployment and surplus labour. |
| d) | Unemployment finance. |

1545 hrs.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 5. | Establishment Section - Regional Personnel. |
|----|---|

4124

Thursday, 28 June.

On this day the meeting will consist of a series of sub-committees in order to clarify matters of a technical nature.

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- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 4. | <u>Economic Section.</u> | |
| | a) Policy for Italian industry in the North. | |
| | b) Socialisation of industry and Works Management Committees. | |
| | c) Unemployment and surplus labour. | |
| | d) Unemployment finance. | |

1545 hrs.

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| 5. | <u>Establishment Section - Regional Personnel.</u> | |
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4124

Thursday, 28 June.

On this day the meeting will consist of a series of sub-committees in order to clarify matters of a technical nature.

0845 hrs.

Local Government Committee.

Electoral lists.

0945 hrs/.....

8432

Thursday, 28 June Cont'd.

0945 hrs.

Food Committee.

Allocation of rationed foodstuffs.
Blocking of rationed foodstuffs by Provincial Commissioners.
Rationing policy.
Policy in respect of existing food distributing organisations, i.e. Cereals (U.C.E.F.A.P.) Rice Industry Service, Cheese Control, Meat Census Office, etc.

1045 hrs.

Labour Committee.

Establishment of Regional, Provincial & other Labour offices.
Establishment of Regional Italian Joint Advisory Committees.
Wages adjustment - private industry and government employees.

1145 hrs.

Transportation Committee.

The Italians to be encouraged to set motor pools in operation in the North.

Break for lunch.

1430 hrs.

Finance Committee.

Amalgamation of North and South - banks, insurance companies etc.
Repudiation of municipal loans.
Foreign exchange position (French francs and Marks.)

1530 hrs.

Industry Committee.

Procedure for requisitioning and derequisitioning of industrial plants.

1630 hrs.

Commerce Committee.

FOI for Northern Regions. Difficulties in providing

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Procedure for requisitioning and derequisitioning of
 industrial plants.

1630 hrs.

Commerce Committee.

POL for Northern Regions. Difficulties in providing
 full quota.
 Foreign trade policy.
 Control of materials and necessity of setting up
 U.P.I.C. (Ufficio Provinciale Industria Commercio)
 as soon as possible.
 Interchange of goods between North and South.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/13/B/LG

Tel: 478706

SUBJECT: Regional Commissioners' Conference.

11th June, 1945

TO : Civil Affairs Section (Lt. Col. Bonham-Carter. CEO)

With reference to your request of 11th June (file 4/6.2/OA) would you please arrange to place the following items on the agenda of the Regional Commissioners' Meeting:

1. Compilation of Electoral Lists. The AMG implementation of Decree No. 201 of 12 April 1945 has just been published and under it a date for the commencement of the preparation of the election registers must be fixed in each province by AMG. The organization of the provincial and communal administration, the revision of population registers, as well as the distribution of electoral forms and other material (when made available by the Italian Government) are factors involved.

2. The execution of Royal Decree No. 111 of April, 1944 dealing with local government organization. AMG is obligated to install this scheme of local government organization to insure adequate administration of the pertinent functions in order to provide a continuity of the prescribed pattern when the handover of territory takes place.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

RRH/pew.

RH
RALPH R. TEMPLE,
Major,
Deputy Director,
Local Government Sub-Commission.

4123

4352

18B
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

IMMEDIATE
8

11 June 45
11 JUN 1945

4/6.2/CA

SUBJECT : Regional Commissioner Conference
TO : All CA Sub-Commissions

Will you kindly let me have by 1600 hrs today any points which you wish to be placed on the Agenda of the Regional Commissioners Meeting.

As I may have to speak briefly on each item at tomorrow's Executive Commissioners meeting, I would be grateful for a very short note (three or four lines) on each heading.

A. D. Bonham-Carter
A.D. BONHAM-CARTER Lt Col
CSO CA Section.

4121

6089

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

5 MAR 1945

Tel: 478261

15 March 1945.

Ref: 216/85/EC

SUBJECT: Minutes of Acting President's Conference, 8-9 Mar 45.

TO : Distribution below.

Reference Minutes of Acting President's Conference held on 8-9 Mar 45,
the following amendments will be made:

Para 4: delete in first paragraph last four words, i.e.
"absorbed into Allied Commission" and substitute therefor:

"returned to their organisations and subsequently employed
in military government duties when their services were
required and when they could be released".

Para 8: delete whole para and substitute therefor:

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Group 2
Group 3 serial 77 only

Amended by
Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

5257

MINUTES OF

ACTING PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE

held on 8-9 March 1945.

The Executive Commissioner presided.

PART I

1. Acting President's Opening Address.

The Right Hon. Mr. Harold Macmillan opened the meeting by welcoming all those present and expressed his regret at the absence of the Chief Commissioner owing to illness.

He said that the New Deal for Italy was not a new policy but merely a development of the policy which had been followed since the moment the Armistice was signed. Briefly this policy was to foster the development of Italian responsibility until the Italian Government was able fully to take over the government of the country itself. Recent developments were merely a logical conclusion to the policy adopted and followed since those early days.

Mr. Macmillan said that it was clear to him that there could be no possible distinction between the work of AMG and AG. There were differences in their functions but their work must be treated as a whole in order to make for effective planning and in order to obtain continuity from the first impact of AMG until the final taking over of the territory by the Italian Government. The functions of AMG were three-fold. Firstly, to take from the military the burden of civil administration; secondly, to assist so far as possible in the rehabilitation of the country and the suffering of the civilian population; and thirdly, to prepare the ground for the transfer of that territory to the Italian Government and the teaching of the Italians to take over this work themselves. These were very heavy tasks and he had every sympathy with those in the Regions who had to undertake them.

The Acting President then expressed his appreciation to those who had been working for the past months in Italian Government Territory. Theirs had been a difficult and delicate task, handing over the government to the Italians and at the same time well knowing that they could do the job much better themselves.

He then referred to those officers who had had the rather tiresome task of waiting to go into the Northern Regions. They had been engaged either in planning or on attachment to Regions already in operation. This delay in going forward was regrettable but was entirely due to operations.

Mr. Macmillan went on to say that it was fashionable to believe that there was going to be a great deal of political trouble and even that there was going to be a revolution. However, he was of the opinion that we

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Mr. Macmillan went on to say that it was fashionable to believe that there was going to be a great deal of political trouble and even revolution in the North. However, he was of the opinion that we should find a great deal of invigorating and beneficial aspects of Italian life in that territory and that the people would be more active and powerful than any we had yet come across in Italy.

He stressed the importance of the great need for coordination between Regions, between Regions and HQ, and between Sections and Sub-Commissions. He was confident that the questions we had been studying would be successfully overcome and we could have confidence in the knowledge that we have so many officers going into the Northern Regions with experience in dealing with similar problems. Moreover, it was more than likely that the conditions of a slow retreat would not necessarily come about and that the destruction of the Italian

production potential would not be so serious as hitherto. He said that he thought that we should find better conditions than was at one time thought possible.

2. Withdrawal of officers from Italian Government Territory.

Brigadier M.S. Lush, Executive Commissioner, said that the Chief Commissioner had asked him to express his sincere regrets at being unable to attend the meeting and to extend to those present his gratitude for the abundant help and assistance given to him during the nine months he had been the Chief Commissioner. He also wished to extend a welcome to those who were present at a Regional Commissioners' Conference for the first time.

The Executive Commissioner then turned to the problem of the withdrawal of AC officers from Italian Government territory which was in implementation of the directive recently received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff. He said that there were two points which the Chief Commissioner wished to emphasize. One was that if we were to carry out the policy of the directive, it should be implemented to the maximum, and particularly the withdrawal of officers. Orders had therefore been issued that, subject to the approval of AFHQ, the withdrawal of officers would be carried out by 1 April to the maximum possible number. Unfortunately a cable had just been received from AFHQ saying that no withdrawal was to take place until the Staff Sections at AFHQ had considered the effect of the withdrawal on the military services.

The Executive Commissioner then went on to refer to a directive on the subject issued that day by HQ A.C. The Chief Commissioner wished it to be stressed that the total withdrawal of officers from Italian Government territory was a policy which he intended to fulfill so far as AFHQ would allow.

Executive Commissioner next referred to that part of the directive which related to the consultation by AC officers with Italian authorities. He said that such consultation would be restricted to discussions at a high level and Heads of Sections and Sub-Commissions should strictly adhere to this policy. Contact with the Italian Government should be preserved but only at the highest level.

Referring to the question of the distribution of AC officers, the Executive Commissioner said that he would only deal with this matter briefly as VP Establishment Section would go into it in detail later. He said that the distribution of officers had been studied at great length, that emphasis had been given to the number required for Northern Regions not yet occupied, second priority being given to the Regions now under AF. It was necessary also to find over 200 officers for AUSTRIA.

He stated that the policy for the North would be for a close follow-up of the Army spearheads by Provincial teams. It had been accepted by everyone concerned that the principle of a close and rapid follow-up of the Army AFs by provincial teams was the most efficient form of effecting the initial act of military government. A great deal of planning had been done for NW and NE Italy and, as had already been pointed out by the Acting President, it was probable that we should find circumstances very different from those we had envisaged, which brought out the necessity for elasticity in our planning.

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He said that a forward static HQ of Allied Commission was not contemplated. He stressed the importance of coordination between Northern Regions themselves and between the Regions and HQ A.C. who must be kept fully informed. All Sub-Commission officers going to Regions would come under Regional control and Heads of Sub-Commissions should remember this when sending officers forward.

Finally, the Executive Commissioner said that the policy of AFHQ in NW Italy where the military problem might not be so important, was to give priority to the civil needs. In NE Italy, if military operations had to be undertaken, the civil requirements would of necessity have to take second priority.

3. Statement on Political Situation.

Mr. H. Hopkinson said that the British Prime Minister in his speech of 18 January 1945 foreshadowed an unhappy state of affairs when - probably at a time when the Northern Regions would be stripped bare of food by the retreating Germans - these elements would be thrown upon the "fragile structure of the Italian Government in ROME with consequences which could not be accurately foreseen and certainly not measured".

The experience of GREECE showed that the existence of organized groups of politically conscious patriots was a factor with which to reckon seriously. He suggested that during the last year forces had been coordinated in the North of Italy which after liberation would present a problem different from any which the Allied Commission had handled in the past in connection with patriots.

Intelligence reports from the North show that the various Committees of National Liberation and the military commands operating under the orders of the Committees had learnt a good deal about the art of government in the year-long struggle against the Fascist and the Germans. In many districts "shadow" Governments had been set up and the various portfolios had been distributed amongst the leaders of the different parties. In most cases the Committees represent the six parties which, up till last December, were represented in the Government in ROME. In some of the Committees however the Action party was not represented and in others the Republican party formed part of the Committee. On the whole it seemed that for the time being there was a remarkable degree of unity of purpose in the Committees and party differences had been sunk in the common desire to chase the Germans from Italy and punish their Fascist collaborators. These Committees were assisted in their operations by the Allied authorities and the giving of such assistance had necessarily implied recognition of the value of those operations. Arrangements had been made between the Supreme Allied Commander and the CINAIR defining the extent to which the Allied military authorities were prepared to recognise the Committees.

Under these arrangements when the enemy withdraw from territory occupied by them the CINAIR would endeavour to maintain law and order and to continue the safeguarding of the economic resources of the country until such time as Allied Military Government was established. Immediately upon the establishment of Allied Military Government, the CINAIR would recognise Allied Military Government and would hand over to that Government all authority and powers of local government and administration previously assumed. As the enemy withdrew all ^{authorities} of the General Command of the Volunteers of Liberty in liberated territory would come under the direct command of the Commander-in-Chief, 15th Army Group, acting under the authority of the Supreme Allied Commander and would obey any order issued by him or by Allied Military Government issued on his behalf, including orders to disarm and surrender their arms when required to do so.

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The attitude of the Allied military authorities was therefore made quite clear. But there were other considerations which should be borne in mind when we came to implement the policy indicated in the above arrangements. It was in the interest of the Allies that there should be stable Government in Italy and it was our policy to strengthen the legitimate Italian Government in every way possible and to prevent developments which would result in political disturbances throughout the country. The Italian Government in Rome, which it was our policy to support, might not have the entire confidence of the Committees of

Liberation in the North, or at any rate their influence there was subject to fluctuation. To begin with, the traditional scorn of the North Italian for the Southerner. There was the feeling that the population in the North had contributed more generously to the defeat of the Germans than the South had been able to do and had suffered far more heavily at their hands. There was criticism of the slow progress made by the Bonomi Government in the reconstruction of the country, in the solution of the pressing economic problems of food supply and inflation and above all in the punishment of former Fascists. The Italian Government was well aware of this antipathy and in an agreement signed at the time the arrangements previously mentioned were made, they go much further than the Supreme Allied Commander in recognizing the CLNAI as their representatives in the struggle in the North. They have succeeded by this agreement in exacting a certain measure of recognition of their own legality by the Committees in the North but the possibility cannot be overlooked that the Committees of Liberation or the component political parties would not abide by this agreement if circumstances seemed favourable for a political upheaval, which would either bring the Committees out as the Government of Italy or would wrest from the Government in ROME a measure of autonomy which might be in effect complete independence from ROME. The Italian Government was therefore anxious to establish as much contact as possible with the Committees in the North in order to be able to explain to them what was being accomplished in liberated Italy and what the Government proposed to do in the North when the Germans have been driven out. The Allied Governments were generally in favour of the establishment of such contacts and hoped that after liberation the ROME Government would be able to absorb representatives from the North and thereby become representative and therefore stronger.

The problem facing the Allied Commission therefore was as follows: we must endeavour on the liberation of the North to reconcile the needs of Military Government with the aspirations of the political leaders of the Committees of Liberation to self-government. At the same time, we must bolster the authority of the Italian Government in ROME in order that it may be able to administer the Northern territories once Allied Military Government was withdrawn. The solution of this problem might well be found to lie in the absorption at a very early date of members of the local Committees of National Liberation into the civil administration operating under Allied Military Government. If Regional Commissioners arrived in the North and bluntly informed the Committees of National Liberation that their task was accomplished and that they might now disperse and if, after that, Prefects, Sindaci and other administrative officers were imported from the South or even from other localities in the North, the disappointment, the antagonism even, of the Committees of Liberation would be great. The danger of setting up local administrations composed of Italians who would not be acceptable to the patriot organisations who had been struggling against the Germans for so long could not be over emphasized. It was not implied that every local Committee of National Liberation should automatically be confirmed as the local administration, but it was urged that Regional Commissioners should, wherever possible, decide to make appointments in favour of the members of the Committees rather than in favour of strangers from other parts of Italy. If the local Committees of Liberation were installed at once as the local administration, many of the problems of maintaining law and order would never arise. It would be easier to collect arms from the patriots and to disband them. It would be easier to exploit the local resources of the country in the work of reconstruction.

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ACTION

Mr. Hopkinson realised that the lack of precise information about personalities in the North due to the clandestine nature of their activities in recent months would make it difficult for Regional Commissioners to assess the relative claims of members of the Committees of Liberation to participate in local government. But in order in some measure to offset this disability, he hoped to be able to compile in the next few weeks a sort of "who's who" which might prove useful to Regional Commissioners in the task of selection.

In a discussion which followed Brigadier Upjohn, VP Civil Affairs Section, said a letter had been received from the Prime Minister which suggested an opposite view to the account given by Mr. Hopkinson. The letter suggested that certain named Prefects be put forward for appointment in the North. He thought this was a dangerous policy.

Col. Poletti, R.C. LIGURIA-UMBRIA Region, considered that men coming up to fill appointments in the North would cause resentment and trouble in the local administrations. They must be absolutely free to decide appointments on the spot. Brig. Dwyer, R.C. SOUTHERN Region, said Bonomi wanted to appoint ~~warrior~~ men as Prefects. The CLN should be asked for names.

The Executive Commissioner said that in making the initial appointments in AMG territory AMG officers should be bound by the policy enunciated by Mr. Hopkinson: the decision of the Italian Government to send to the North men of administrative experience and known to the Government, was natural and we could and probably would fall back on some of the men so selected. But we could not accept the principle of naming the Prefects before liberation. He also emphasized the necessity of Army AM's consulting Provincial and Regional Commissioners when making appointments in local government.

4. Personnel and Transport.

Personnel.

The Deputy Executive Commissioner, Col. Riske, referred to memorandum, 7002/98/EC of 7 March, which was issued to the meeting. We now had approximately 900 British and 700 American officers which included 200 British officers for AUSTRIA. It was recently decided that Allied Commission would furnish 168 American officers for the same purpose. As a result American officers had been reduced to 532. Taking the foregoing figures as a basis, an allocation of officers in Regions had been drawn up. We should have the services of the officers earmarked for AUSTRIA until such time as they were needed. We would get approximately 60 additional American officers from combat and military formations and these officers were being trained and made available for military government. A training school would commence next week, taking 25 officers at a time and on completion of their training all these officers would be ~~referred to the Allied Commission~~ *referred to their formations and subsequently employed in military government when their services were required and when they will be released.*

Transport.

The Deputy Executive Commissioner stated that our W.D. transport was below establishment. Our T/O had been increased by 750 but this meant increasing the number of requisitioned vehicles and we were endeavouring to obtain restoration of authority for hiring which would solve the problem. Vehicles from the South

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The Deputy Executive Commissioner stated that our W.D. ~~transport~~ ^{was} below establishment. Our T/C had been increased by 750 but this meant increasing the number of requisitioned vehicles and we were endeavouring to obtain restoration of authority for hiring which would be a satisfactory solution to the problem. Vehicles from the South were being serviced and re-allocated to Northern Regions according to their needs.

Brig. Grafton-Smith, Chief Financial Adviser, said there was no financial obstacle to the Commission hiring vehicles.

ACTION

Estab
Sec

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The Executive Commissioner summing up stated that if officers for AUSTRIA had to be released before we went into the North officers for the central Regions would be found from Sections and Sub-Commissions at HQ. A further pruning of HQ was necessary. As to the transport problem, we were endeavouring to obtain renewal of powers of requisitioning if only for an initial period of 60 to 90 days.

PART IIRegions5. (a) Assignment of Officers.

Col. Bowmar, R.C. EMILIA Region, and Regional Commissioners of Northern Regions raised points concerning assignment of officers. After some discussion Executive Commissioner said that a period would be set aside later for a discussion between Regional Commissioners, SCMO's and Establishment Section to discuss in detail.

(b) Policy on Implementation of Italian Government's Decrees in N. Italy.

R.C. EMILIA Region, raised the question of the implementation of Italian Government decrees in AMG territory. Executive Commissioner stated that Heads of Sections advised the Chief Commissioner as to whether decrees should apply to AMG territory or not; this was a policy decision made by HQ.

C.A. Sec
AMG Eighth
Army

VP Civil Affairs Section pointed out there was nothing automatic about implementation of this policy with respect to any particular decree. It was not feasible to have a decree implemented in one Region and not in another. If there was doubt about any decree, it need not be implemented until after consultation. The procedure for implementing decrees in FIFTH and EIGHTH Army was compared and it was agreed that the method adopted by FIFTH Army was preferable and would be adopted by EIGHTH Army.

(c) Disposition of Truck Pools.

Brig. Dunlop, R.C. SOUTHERN Region, stated there were 366 trucks in the South organised into four transport pools under Allied officers and asked that these trucks be transferred to the Italians as soon as possible. Executive Commissioner said that everything possible would be done to obtain a decision on this from AFHQ before 1 April 1945.

Econ Sec
Tn S/C

(d) Turnover of Food Distribution to Italian Agencies.

Col. Kirkwood, R.C. TOSCANA Region, referred to the indication to hand over food warehouses to Italian control. He did not like accepting responsibility for food distribution in his Region under these conditions. He considered this should not be put into effect until the Italians had had proper instruction in our methods. Food Sub-Commission, Transport-ation Sub-Commission and the Regions were all concerned in such a hand-over.

PART IIRegions5. (a) Assignment of Officers.

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Executive Commissioner said that before action was taken a survey should be made by the Regions. He warned Regions that in any question of handing over it was the responsibility of the R.C. to ensure that proper distribution of food etc would be carried out. On the other hand R.C. must be fully consulted by HQ A.C. before any handover arrangements were made by it.

Econ Sec
Tn S/C
Food S/C
All RC's

ACTION(c) Pay of Statel and Parastatal Employees

Col. French, R.C. AERUZZI-MARCHE Region, stated that the salaries of State employees were not sufficient for existence. He cited several examples of the difference between salaries and cost of living which left the worker heavily in debt. In AMG territory State employees did not get the bonuses which were allowed in 40 territory. Many deputations had asked for help. He asked if it was not possible to raise salaries in AMG territory.

Econ Sec
Labour S/C
All RC's

Mr. Enrie, Labour Sub-Commission, said that the Government had recently concluded an agreement providing for substantial increases for State employees, which would apply throughout the country, including the North after liberation. The new agreement would *compensate* the bonuses and indemnities hitherto granted for special reasons and in certain localities.

(f) Allowances and rations for civil employees

The question of inadequate allowances and rations for civilians, both drivers away from HQ overnight and clerks who lived away from their homes, was raised.

All Regs.
Etab Sec
Hq Comdt
AC.

VP Establishment Section referred to AMI Routine Order 252 of 1944, and read this to the meeting. A recommendation had been made that all civilians be placed on the same basis. Allowances of L35 - 250 lire per day, based on wage rates, had been proposed.

(g) Transport for Civil Supply

R.C. TOSCANA Region, said that when Amies went forward they took General Transport Coys with them and regions were left with insufficient transport. Transportation Sub-Commission said it was now arranged that ENAC would take over. Executive Commissioner directed R.C. Toscana Region to put up a case, setting out deficiencies in vehicle and rate on which they were required to be made up. It was appreciated that some Regions had a greater deficiency of transport than others.

Toscana
Reg.
Tn S/C

(h) Translators

It was agreed that the present system regarding translation of documents should continue.

(i) Provision of Supplies for Regions

R.C. TOSCANA Region alleged there was lack of coordination between Sub-Commissions and cited the instances of sulphur and copper sulphate. The transaction involved Industry, Transportation and Agriculture Sub-Commissions. Executive Commissioner stated that overall responsibility in a case of this sort was HQ Economic Section and R.C. should apply to the Section whose duty it was to coordinate.

Toscana Reg.
Econ Sec
Industry S/C
Tn S/C
Agric S/C

(j) Titles of Regional and Provincial Commissioners

R.C. TOSCANA Region put forward the suggestion that Regional Commissioners and Provincial Commissioners be designated Regional and Provincial Governors. R.C. LAZIO-UMERIA Region considered it was too late to make an alteration but suggested that the Executive Officer

Many deputations had asked for help. He asked if it was not possible to raise salaries in AMG territory.

Mr. Braine, Labour Sub-Commission, said that the Government had recently concluded an agreement providing for substantial increases for State employees, which would apply throughout the country, including the North after liberation. The new agreement would consider bonuses and indemnities hitherto granted for special reasons and in certain localities.

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It was agreed that the use of "Governor" was not desirable but Executive Commissioner would submit suggestion of LAZIO-UMBRIA Region to the Chief Commissioner.

Econ Sec
Labour S/C
All RC's

All Regs.
Estab Sec
HQ Comdt
AC.

Toscana
Reg.
Tn S/C

Toscana Reg.
Econ Sec
Industry S/C
Tn S/C
Agric S/C

Office of
E.C.

- 8 -

PART IIIHQ AC SectionsACTION.6. (a) Economic Section.(1) 300 gram ration and price of bread and pasta.

Col. Legg, Food Sub-Commission, reported that an Administrative Memorandum had been prepared setting out the basic formula on which the economic price of bread had been established. The 300 gram ration became effective throughout all Italian Government territory on 1 March and in AMG territory on 12 March. It comprised 200 grams bread and 80 grams pasta per diem issued weekly or bi-monthly. All cereals to be milled for human consumption would be controlled by the Consorzio Agrario through the medium of the local Consorzio. All expenses relative to the milling, transportation etc. of the grain would be borne by the Consorzio. The price for milling had been established at between 60-70 lire per quintal. The price of flour ex-mill was 1396.50 lire per quintal. In AMG territory the Provincial Commissioner would approve the price of bread as submitted to him by the Consorzio. The Administrative Memorandum referred to would be sent out that day.

Econ Sec
Food S/C

It was stated that the price would vary with local economic conditions, in LECCE the economic price found its level at 15.5 lire per kilo, BARI 16.5, NAPLES 17.00. There would be price fixing committees in Provinces which would arrive at the cost of transport etc.

Chief Financial Adviser asked Regional Commissioners if the Government bonus of about 95 lire was sufficient to fix the cost at 16 lire per kilo. He thought the price would go up to 18.00. Brig. Dunlop said it would take some little time before they could work out the costs.

Col. Legg said that the 'impact' ration in Northern Provinces would depend on the transportation available to move forward the stockpiles. It was hoped to establish an 'impact' ration of 100 grams from imported supplies plus whatever supplies were found on the ground, and to establish a 200 gram ration in LIGURIA. Also to strike a medium between the lowest and highest price of bread not higher than 18. Regional Commissioners should establish a price for bread immediately on entering the North and for their guidance further study would be given to the subject.

It was thought that the reaction of the population to an immediate rise in price, even to 16 lire per kilo would be severe. A/VP Economic Section asked if we could subsidise the price from AMG funds. Chief Financial Adviser said he was very much against this. Col. Legg said that the 'impact' ration would be made from imported white flour whereas the local flour was of very poor quality and this might help matters. It was decided that Economic Section would hold a

Econ Sec
Food S/C

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(ii) Granai del Popolo for 1945.

Director, Agriculture Sub-Commission, said the Italian Government was still considering two plans for 1945 collection.

ACTION.

- 9 -

The first was for full amassing as for last year. The alternative was partial amassing which would consist of setting an amassing figure of so many quintals per hectare according to the Province.

After views had been expressed by Regional Commissioners the Executive Commissioner announced that this could be discussed at the Economic Section meeting. See 6(a)(1) above.

Econ Sec
Agrie S/C
Food S/C

(iii) Inter-provincial movement of foodstuffs.

Col. Legg, Food Sub-Commission, said this question was raised because in recent months there has been a growing tendency for some Provinces to export foodstuffs to other areas on a barter basis. The practice was contrary to established policy for inter-provincial movement of goods and adversely affected urban and populous centres. It was harmful to the national economy and should be abolished. A new directive on inter-regional trade had been prepared and would be issued forthwith.

All
Regions

Executive Commissioner said the intention was to raise provincial availabilities to a regional level and from a regional to a national level and Regional Commissioners must work to this end.

(iv) Derequisitioning procedure of industrial plants and prevention of their requisitioning.

Lt. Col. Maskrey, Industry Sub-Commission, spoke of the heavy requisitioning of industrial plants by the military authorities. It was not coordinated and whilst it was appreciated that billets etc. were necessary much wastage occurred. AFHQ had just issued an Admin Memo on the subject. Requisitioning of this kind would be investigated on the spot by AC/AMG and the military authorities and if no agreement could be reached the matter would be referred to the Industrial Coordination Committee.

AMG 5 and
8 Armies
All
Regions
Econ Sec
Industry
S/C

Executive Commissioner said AFHQ recognised priority of civil needs in certain circumstances but cases submitted by Regional Commissioners for consideration must be properly and fully presented. AMG Armies should keep Regional Commissioners and HQ AC informed of any negotiation in this respect.

Lt. Col. Maskrey undertook to send to AMG Armies a list of important industrial premises in the North classified in order of priority.

(v) Payment for goods and services requisitioned 4118
by Allied Forces including AC/AMG.

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(v) Payment for goods and services requisitioned 4116
by Allied Forces including AG/AMG.

Brig. Graffey-Smith, referred to two orders issued by AFHQ, neither of which had proved clear or effective. A large number of unpaid requisitions had accumulated, particularly on the American side, although a recent order issued by AFHQ allowed for a much more liberal policy of payment. AFHQ proposed that the Army should continue to pay for what it wished to be maintained in continuous production and that AMG should pay, out of its own funds, for requisitions required to maintain local economy.

ACTION.

Col. Poletti asked what was the position regarding the requisitioning of living premises as hardship was being caused by non-payment. Word would be passed around in the North that the Allies were not paying for requisitions and we should probably find it difficult to satisfy our requirements.

Econ Sec
Finance S/C

Executive Commissioner ruled that Economic Section would consider the matter and submit a letter to AFHQ for the Chief Commissioner's signature.

(vi) Taxation and financial stabilization plans of the Italian Government.

Commander Lawler said there were 12 points on which the Italian Government was working in an effort to stabilize the financial position of the country. He explained each point at length and stated that in addition the Italian Government was taking certain other steps to stabilize its financial position, including two bond issues. The Government had appointed a Commission to consider the subject and it was hoped that within a few weeks sufficient progress would be made for the Government to formulate its ideas.

All
Regions

Executive Commissioner said Regional Commissioners must watch carefully the local interpretations of the measures when enacted.

(vii) Method of bidding for Schooner Traffic.

Col. Thomas, Transportation Sub-Commission, said that a draft memorandum on this subject was now in preparation in conjunction with AFHQ and MEDBO, and it was hoped that it would be ready for issue this week.

All
Regions
Econ Sec
Tn S/C

Replying to a question, Col. Thomas said that he did not think there would be any increase in tonnage but it would ensure that the right tonnage was carried in the schooners.

After he had explained briefly the procedure Executive Commissioner commented that the chief fault in the past had been that there was insufficient elasticity.

Brig. Dunlop made the point that a number of schooners had probably been driven northwards and he might want to use them quickly when we arrived there. He instanced the delays and disappointments occasioned by schooner control in the past. It was thought that some interim expedient could be adopted in the early stages.

Executive Commissioner stated that the whole question of schooner traffic would be taken up with G-in-C Med.

(viii) Definition of the tasks of the Regional Food

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(viii) Definition of the tasks of the Regional Food Officer.

Col. Legg, Food Sub-Commission, said the Regional Food Officer had often been made responsible to the Regional Commissioner for the whole of Economics and Supply of a Region and it was considered that the responsibilities of Economics and Supply should be divided between the various specialist officers of the Region. The food problem in the North would be of such proportions that the undivided attention of the Regional Food Officer would be required.

ACTION.

All Regions
Econ Sec
Food S/C

- 11 -

Regional Commissioners were of opinion that the Regional Food Officer was over-burdened but it was agreed that economic activities must be coordinated in Regions by one officer.

Executive Commissioner ruled that Regional economic activities would be coordinated by an officer, preferably other than the Regional Food Officer, appointed by the Regional Commissioner. The Regional Executive Officer was considered to be most suitable for the purpose.

(12) Labour Policy in AMG Territory.

Mr. Braine, Director, Labour Sub-Commission stated that the labour policy in AMG territory was to ensure that re-adjustment of wages and working conditions was carried out in an orderly manner to avoid industrial unrest, to ensure proper employment on work of reconstruction in industry, essential services and relief schemes, and to coordinate in the administration of public assistance and welfare. In the solution of labour problems in ITALY Labour Offices were used to a considerable extent and the Employers Associations had agreed with the Italian Government and Allied Commission to cooperate in their operation. Positive action would have to be taken to avoid industrial unrest in the North and to see that negotiations were commenced in an orderly fashion. AMG should encourage representatives from CGIL, Workers Associations and Employers Associations.

Piemonte,
Liguria,
Lombardia,
Venezia,
Regions.
Econ Sec
Legal S/C
Labour S/C

It was thought that for some time after liberation there would be a sufficient margin to provide for an upward trend of wages to meet rising prices and yet keep within the limits existing here. The policy of workers organisations and CGIL was to provide a new basic wage structure with local and independent variations according to length of service, proficiency, etc., coupled with sliding scale cost of living bonuses. When that was worked out the problem of individual bonuses and indemnities would disappear.

Employees of the Armed Forces would come under the Army rules and conditions, whose policy was to set up a wage scale a little in advance of wages paid in private industry.

Executive Commissioner said it was essential to have coordination between Regional Commissioners in the North on labour matters. On the question of implementation of decrees he directed that Labour and Legal Sub-Commissions should consult together.

The Meeting adjourned at 1800 hrs until the following day.

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Legal S/C
Labour S/C

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4115

The Meeting adjourned at 1800 hrs until the following day.

The Meeting resumed at 0900 hrs, 9 March 1945.

Withdrawal from the South.

Before proceeding with the Agenda the Executive Commissioner said he wished to emphasize that it was hoped to withdraw all but a few technical officers from the South by 1 April. Regional Commissioners were to plan but must not take other action until permission of AMEQ had been received.

- 12 -

ACTION.

Regional Commissioners expressed their anxiety should there be any postponement of the date, fearing the reaction on public opinion.

Olive Oil - Amassing.

It was stated that 32,000 tons had been collected to date with an average rate of collection of 5,000 tons weekly. Compared with the 50,000 tons aimed at, returns were therefore slow.

Est Sec
Soon Sec
Agric S/C

Executive Commissioner said it was not proposed to jeopardise the feeding of the country by prematurely ending the amassing campaign and 40 officers engaged in this work would not be withdrawn from the South before 1 April, unless operations demanded earlier withdrawal.

6. (b) Civil Affairs Section.(i) Holding of local elections in AMG territory.

Brig. Upjohn, VP Civil Affairs Section, stated that Combined Chiefs of Staff had directed that holding of local elections be encouraged in territory returned to the Italian Government. Was it desirable to implement the decree in AMG territory and hold local elections there? Some considerations to be borne in mind were the possibilities of strife and disorder, difficulties of transportation to the polling stations, etc. He considered that it would be desirable to hold elections in AMG (not Army) territory as it would increase the prestige of Allied Commission and might be invaluable in the industrial North to announce that elections would be held.

CA Sec
Local
Govt S/C

Deputy Director, Local Government Sub-Commission, then explained the system of Italian local government, the procedures for compiling electoral lists, and the holding of elections, from which it appeared that by law it would be at least four months after implementation before elections could be held.

It was agreed therefore that the work of compiling electoral lists could be put in hand as soon after occupation as convenient and that the holding of elections would be considered at a later date.

(ii) Relationship of Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission to Regions.

The consensus of opinion was that the Sub-Commission staff in the field should be responsible to the Regional Commissioner in whose area they were working, thus bringing the Sub-Commission on to the same basis as other Sub-Commissions.

CA Sec
D P &
R S/C

Executive Commissioner ruled that this change would be gradual but would be completed by the time the North

Est Sec
Econ Sec
Agric S/C

It was stated that 32,000 tons of wheat were collected with an average rate of collection of 5,000 tons weekly. Compared with the 50,000 tons aimed at, returns were therefore slow.

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- 13 -

ACTION.(c) Public Relations BranchDevelopment of AC Public Relations in the Field.

PRO said that most criticism arose from lack of proper understanding and appreciation of the Commission's functions. This could be countered by furnishing positive information, but Public Relations staff was limited and he had to rely on reports from Regional Commissioners for facts.

Executive Commissioner stressed the news value, from the Commission's point of view, of those areas which had been liberated for some time where the results of rehabilitation work could be observed.

PR Branch

Arising out of this there was discussion on the activities of PWB. It was felt that Regional Commissioners should know what policy and propaganda was being put out in their Regions.

The Acting President, summarising, said that when the Armies were moving forward PWB was paramount in its own sphere but in the event of a surrender or collapse in the North it should cease its activities or they should be transferred to AC guidance. He directed that the PRO should work out a standing arrangement with PWB which could be referred to AFHQ.

7. Monthly Reports.

Executive Commissioner said that abridged monthly reports of Regions and Sub-Commissions were not of a very high standard. It was required to give a concise general picture of the work and achievements of AC over a period of one month for LONDON and WASHINGTON.

AMG 5 &
8 Army
All
Regions
All Secs
All S/Os

Full length reports should not be more than

"Attachment of AMG Officers.

Colonel Fiske, VP Establishment Section, stated that the Commanding General PBS had suggested that AMG officers stationed at the Headquarters of Base Sections, Districts and Areas might profitably be attached to the staffs of these formations as G-5 Sections. AFHQ forwarded the suggestion with the comments of G-4 Section. After consideration the Commission replied to the effect that attachment did not appear practicable but that the closest possible cooperation with respective military formations was enjoined upon all AMG personnel."

through the Executive Commissioner, conveyed his special appreciation of the good work carried out by the Regional Commissioners and their Staffs with special reference to Southern Region, Staff and Southern who were about to close.

4114

PRO said that most criticism arose from lack of proper understanding and appreciation of the Commission's functions. This could be countered by furnishing positive information, but Public Relations staff was limited and he had to rely on reports from Regional Commissioners for facts.

Executive Commissioner stressed the news value, from the Commission's point of view, of those areas which had been liberated for some time where the results of rehabilitation work could be observed.

PR Branch

Arising out of this there was discussion on the activities of PWB. It was felt that Regional Commissioners should know what policy and propaganda was being put out in their Regions.

The Acting President, summarising, said that when the Armies were moving forward PWB was paramount in its own sphere but in the event of a surrender or collapse in the North it should cease its activities or they should be transferred to AC guidance. He directed that the PRO should work out a standing arrangement with PWB which could be referred to AFHQ.

7. Monthly Reports.

Executive Commissioner said that abridged monthly reports of Regions and Sub-Commissions were not of a very high standard. It was required to give a concise general picture of the work and achievements of AC over a period of one month for LONDON and WASHINGTON.

AMC 5 &
8 Army
All
Regions
All Secs
All S/Cs

Full length reports should not be more than

"Attachment of AMG Officers."

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4114

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Group 2
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Office of the Executive Commissioner.

5234

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AMG 5 &
8 Army
All
Regions
All Secs
All S/Os

Full length reports should not be more than ten pages in length.

8. Attachment of AMG Officers.

~~COL Fiske, VP Establishment Section, stated that an application had been received from AMEQ that AMG officers stationed in Base Sections should be attached to G-5 Section. A reply had been sent that AMG officers would remain under the control of Allied Commission and would not come under AMEQ.~~

9. Appreciations.

At the close of the meeting the Chief Commissioner, through the Executive Commissioner, conveyed his special appreciation of the good work carried out by the Regional Commissioners and their Staffs with special reference to Southern Region Staff and Savanna who were about to close.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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ACTING PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE - 8 MARCH 1945

PART I

1. Opening Address by the Acting President.
2. "New Deal for Italy". Address by Chief Commissioner.
3. Withdrawal from the South. Executive Commissioner.
4. Statement on Personnel and Transport. Deputy Executive Commissioner.

PART II

Regions

5. (a) Assignment of Officers. (EMILIA and other Northern Regions).
- (b) Policy on Implementation of Italian Government's Decrees in N. ITALY. (EMILIA Region).
- (c) Disposition of Truck Pools. (SOUTHERN Region).
- (d) Turnover of Food Distribution to Italian Agencies. (TOSCANA Region).
- (e) Pay of Statal and Perastatal Employees. (ABRUZZI MARCHE Region).

PART III

HQ AC Sections

6. (a) Economic Section.
 - i. Granai del Popolo for 1945.
 - ii. 300 gram ration and price of bread and pasta.
 - iii. Inter-provincial movement of foodstuffs.
 - iv. Derequisitioning procedure of industrial plants and prevention of their requisitioning.
 - v. Payment for goods and services requisitioned by Allied Forces including AC/AMG.
 - vi. Taxation and financial stabilisation plans of the Italian Government.
 - vii. Method of bidding for schooner movement.

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7 - MAR 1945

Loeul Govt

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- iii. Inter-provincial movement of foodstuffs.
- iv. Derquisitioning procedure of industrial plants and prevention of their requisitioning.
- v. Payment for goods and services requisitioned by Allied Forces including AC/ALG.
- vi. Taxation and financial stabilisation plans of the Italian Government.
- vii. Method of bidding for schooner movement.
- viii. Definition of the tasks of the Regional Food Officer.
- ix. Labour policy in AMG territory.

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- 2 -

6. (b) Civil Affairs Section.

- i. Holding of local elections in AMG territory.
- ii. Transfer of further territory to the Italian Government.
- iii. Relationship of Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission to Regions.

(c) Public Relations Branch.

- i. Development of AG Public Relations in the field.

7. Any other business.

7 March 1945.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
ARO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

6 MAR 1945

Tel: 735

6 March 1945.

Ref: 216/63/EC.

SUBJECT: Acting President's Conference.

TO : Distribution below.

1. The following is the seating plan for ^{the} Conference to be held in the Conference Room at 1000 hrs on 8 Mar 45.
2. The Regional Commissioner, Vice President or Director of Sub-Commission will sit at the table at the place allotted to him. Behind will be another row of chairs for the Executive Officer, Chief Staff Officer or Deputy Director.

Air Forces Navy	
Land Forces	Patriots Branch
M.F.A.	Public Safety
Education	Displaced Persons & Repatriation
Local Government	Public Health
Legal	PRO
Abruzzi Marche Region	French Representative
Emilia Region	USSR Representative
SCAO Eighth Army	Political Advisor
Toscana Region	Chief Commissioner
SCAO Fifth Army	Acting President
DCCLAO	Executive Commissioner
Southern Region	VP Establishment Section
Lazio-Umbria Region	VP Economic Section
Sicilia Region	VP Civil Affairs Section
Sardegna Region	Finance
Piemonte Region	Transportation
Liguria Region	Labour
Lombardia Region	Food
Venezia Region	Industry

DOOR
(From Main Staircase)

4112

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Land Forces	Air Forces	Navy
M.F.A.		
Education		
Local Government		
Legal		
Abruzzi Marche Region		
Emilia Region		
SCAO Eighth Army		
Toscana Region		
SCAO Fifth Army		
POCAO		
Southern Region		
Lazio-Umbria Region		
Sicilia Region		
Sardegna Region		
Piemonte Region		
Liguria Region		
Lombardia Region		
Venezia Region		
War Materials Disposal & IFW Communications		
		Agriculture P.W. & U.

DOOR
(from Main Staircase)

Patriots Branch
Public Safety
Displaced Persons & Repatriation
Public Health
ERO
French Representative
USSR Representative
Political Advisor
Chief Commissioner
Acting President
Executive Commissioner
VP Establishment Section
VP Economic Section
VP Civil Affairs Section
Finance
Transportation
Labour
Food
Industry
Commerce

4112

DISTRIBUTION
See over

Chick
Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

5190

DISTRIBUTION:

Acting President
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
USSR Representative
French Representative
Political Advisor
VP Establishment Section
VP Economic Section
VP Civil Affairs Section
PRO
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives S/C
Education Sub-Comm
Local Government Sub-Comm
Legal Sub-Comm
Patriotic Branch
Public Safety Sub-Comm
Displaced Persons & Repatriation S/C
Public Health Sub-Comm
Finance Sub-Comm
Transportation Sub-Comm
Labour Sub-Comm
Food Sub-Comm
Industry Sub-Comm
Commerce Sub-Comm
Agriculture Sub-Comm
P.W. & M. Sub-Comm
Land Forces Sub-Comm (IMIA)
Air Forces Sub-Comm
Naval Sub-Comm
War Materials Disposal & IFW S/C
Communications Sub-Comm

183.
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 39L

Office of the Chief Commissioner

28 FEB 1945

Ref: 216/45/EC.

SUBJECT: Acting President's Conference.

TO : Distribution Below.

26 February 1945.

1. The Acting President will hold a conference to discuss matters pertaining to the Allied Commission on 8 March 1945 at 1000 hours in the Main Conference Hall, Headquarters Building, ROME.

2. The following will be present:

Chief Commissioner.
Executive Commissioner and his Chief Staff Officer
Vice Presidents and their Chief Staff Officers
Directors of Sub-Commissions and their Deputies
DOCAO
Regional Commissioners and their Executive Officers
SCAO's Armies
Russian and French Representatives of the Allied
Commission.

3. It is essential that numbers of officers attending should be restricted and only those enumerated above will attend. The Press will not be present.

4. The object of the conference will be to discuss the present and the future, and not to record the activities of the Commission in the past.

5. The meeting will be divided into three parts:

Part I. Opening address by the Acting President, followed by the Chief Commissioner, on the subject of the New Deal for Italy.

Part II. Discussion of problems that Regional Commissioners would like to raise.

Part III. Discussion of problems that Vice Presidents of Sections would like to raise.

6. There will be no set Agenda, and, except in regard to Part I, it is desired that the meeting should be of a purely business nature. Regional Commissioners in Part II of the meeting will be asked to raise their points in the following order:

4111

SICILIA

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SICILIA
SOUTHERN
SARDINIA
LAZIO-UMBRIA
ABRUZZI-MARCHE
VENETIA
PIEMONTE
LOMBARDIA
LIGURIA
EMILIA
TOSCANA

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In regard to Part III of the meeting, Vice Presidents will be asked to raise their points in the following order:

VP, Political Section
VP, Economic Section
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Establishments Section

Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:

Acting President	(1)
Chief Commissioner	(1)
Executive Commissioner	(1)
Political Section	(2)
Civil Affairs Section	(20)
Economic Section	(26)
Establishment Section	(4)
Land Forces Sub-Com	(2)
Navy Sub-Com	(2)
Air Force Sub-Com	(2)
WMD & IPW Sub-Com	(2)
Communications Sub-Com	(2)
Public Relations Branch	(2)
DCCA0	(2)
SCAO, 5 Army	(2)
SCAO, 8 Army	(2)
RC, Sicilia Region	(2)
RC, Sardinia Region	(2)
RC, Southern Region	(2)
RC, Lazio-Umbria Region	(2)
RC, Abruzzi-Marche Region	(2)
RC, Toscana Region	(2)
RC, Emilia Region	(2)
RC, Piemonte Region	(2)
RC, Lombardia Region	(2)
RC, Liguria Region	(2)
RC, Venezia Region	(2)
Russian Representative to AC	(1)
French Representative to AC	(1)
File	(1)
Float	(1)
Spare	(12)

18B

(2)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/33/LG.

27 January, 1945.

SUBJECT : Security.

TO : Director, LG. Sub Commission.

1. As detailed I attend the meeting convened by RAAC to discuss Security.
2. The meeting had been convened to remind everyone of their personal responsibility as regards military security, and to furnish up-to-date information which may be useful for Unit educational purposes.
3. There were two speakers - (a) Major Broad who spoke on Security problems, and Captain Gold who dealt with methods employed by enemy agents.
4. Major Broad at the outset referred to the 'mystery' or 'confusion' which appeared to exist in the minds of everyone when the words "Military Intelligence" were mentioned. He thought that if the word 'information' were substituted it would help to make EMs and Oms more security minded. The Major emphasised that the men should be informed that the enemy is interested in everything we do; the men should be taught to keep their mouths shut and their eyes and ears open, and to report anything, even the smallest, of a suspicious nature to an officer. It was all the little things pieced together that formed the picture. The enemy were doing exactly what we were doing - collecting all bits of information and weaving them into a picture. The Lecturer stressed the point that although we, here, are a considerable distance from the front line, the enemy is as much interested in obtaining information as to our social, economical and political situation. Distance is one main reason why the enemy deems there is a lack of security in this Area. It is a question of indifference; we will win this war; what is the use of worrying? We are lulled into a sense of security because we are so far away. We have got as big a fight here in relation to enemy activity as the boys up at the front. The Lecturer continuing referred to the activities taken by us to counteract the enemy's activities, and make it difficult to transmit back any information that had been obtained. It was necessary that each officer and man should become an individual informer and pass on any information which may lead to uncovering any enemy activity in this Area. It was always to be remembered that the people with whom one comes in contact with, particularly civilians, may be interested in enemy activity of some sort. It was not expected that each one should go behind every bush and on judgment was necessary, but it was better to over-estimate the possibilities of every enemy activity than less. Caution is the key-note in all matters of security. Major Broad detailed the important work being done by the C.I.C. and the F.S.S. Thereafter he referred to the many violations that take

AC/23/LG.

(2)

27 January, 45.

place daily when documents marked "Restricted" are left unattended; it might just as well be a secret or top secret one. At the time we are about to become victorious is the time we become weak; we get an easy going feeling as to this question of security. It must be impressed upon every one to keep his papers locked up. It is a good principle of security never to pass on to any subordinate information which it is not necessary for him to have to accomplish his mission. Do not tell a person any more than you have to. It is not a question of not trusting your associate or fellow officer; it is a question of good judgment in not letting him have a dangerous weapon that is not necessary. The closer information is kept in the "family" the better it is.

Major Broad referred to the good work being done by the Civil Censorship. In censoring the civil mail they had been able to uncover what is going on among the civilians. Telephone calls and telegrams were also intercepted. He also dealt with the Port Security Sections which are responsible for the elimination of evidence of sabotage and espionage, particularly required of all ships and passengers and crews who are all screened. He touched on the Airport Section and the Office of Naval Intelligence which has a branch here.

In concluding his talk, Major Broad said :-

- (1) Make yourself and your men security-minded.
- (2) The enemy does not get information from us by getting one vital fact. They get information from many sources and piece it together and make a complete picture.
- (3) Pass on that the enemy's intelligence service is just as sufficient as ours is, if not better.
- (4) Pass on that the enemy is interested not only in military information, not what we are doing from a military point of view, but in the political and social developments.
- (5) Another important thing is not to pass on any information that is not necessary to the individual accomplishment of such mission as you may assign to one.

Captain Gold, the second speaker dealt with the methods employed by the enemy and the steps taken by us to counteract these. e.g.

- (1) He produced a pamphlet showing photographs of four men (Italians) who had been shot here for espionage. These pamphlets had been dropped by aircraft over the town where they lived.
- (2) Training of youths of Fascist sympathy or members of the Republican Army. Youths belonging to places near the Italian Border.

OBSERVATIONS.-

- (1) Security procedure as laid down is being carried out. 4509
- (2) All military personnel should ensure that no document of a nature that would be helpful to the enemy ~~whereas~~ is left without being under control.
- (3) Any "draft" of a secret document not to be filed, i.e. to be destroyed, should be handed to the Chief Clerk for that purpose.

J. Cunningham *Thanks*
Capt

18 B

Local Board

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HEADQUARTERS ARMED COMMISSION
AC PRIORITIES BOARD

15 JAN 1945

Minutes 1

✓ 14 January 1945

MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING OF AC PRIORITIES BOARD
held 13 January 1945ART
BPRESENT:Chairman

Col. L. D. Denmore, Acting Vice President, Economic Section

MembersCol. R. R. Grims, Chief Staff Officer, Civil Affairs Section
Lt. Col. C. W. L. Shinn, Chief Staff Officer to Chief of Staff
Mr. Marion Cleveland, Executive Director, Economic SectionRepresentatives of Sub-CommissionsLt. Col. J. A. Campbell, Director, War Material Disposal
Sub-Commission
Col. J. P. Evans, Director, Commerce Sub-Commission
Mr. L. White, Commerce Sub-Commission
Col. W. B. Thomas, Deputy Director, Transportation Sub-Commission
Lt. Col. Siegel, Transportation Sub-Commission

1. The meeting opened with the review of Executive Order No. 4 of 8 January 1945, and a reading of a suggested draft procedure (copy of which is part of these minutes).

2. It was pointed out by Transportation Sub-Commission that Paragraph 4 of Executive Order No. 4 might be interpreted to mean that claims should be sent directly to the Priorities Board, whereas the procedure proposed stipulated that all claims should be filed with designated Allocating Sub-Commissions. It was agreed that claims should be filed with Allocating Sub-Commissions and that care would be exercised to circulate the procedure embodying this decision to the same list who received the Executive Order so there would be no confusion as to the place to file claims for movement of materials.

3. The draft procedure was reviewed and discussed. The Board agreed that it should be rewritten to incorporate the suggestions brought forth in the meeting and re-circulated to all Allocating Sub-Commissions for further comments before final acceptance as governing procedure.

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- 2 -

4. It was agreed that special meetings of the Board would be called by the Secretariat, and that any Allocating Sub-Commission could request the Secretariat to call a meeting.

5. It was agreed to hold a regular monthly meeting of the Board on the third Monday of each month.

6. Record keeping for the purpose of judging the effectiveness of each priorities and allocation program was regarded as too voluminous for centralization in the Secretariat. It was agreed that the Allocating Sub-Commissions themselves would maintain the records necessary to ascertain that movements actually followed allocations or that priority ratings actually had the desired effect on movement trends; and that periodic progress reports should be rendered to the Board based on such records.

7. It was agreed that the Secretariat would develop necessary forms in consultation with Allocating Sub-Commissions. Forms immediately required were agreed to be the applications on which claimants file requests for materials with Allocating Sub-Commissions and the forms on which Allocating Sub-Commissions will present cases to the Board through its Secretariat.

8. Paragraph 5 of the draft procedure will be re-written to permit continued functioning of the present procedure whereby civilian claims for movements are routed and screened. It is desired to preserve the basic procedure but to have Government do some screening and present all civilian claims to appropriate sub-commissions.

9. Paragraphs 6 and 7 of the draft procedure will be re-written in consultation with the Transportation Sub-Commission and Mr. Cleveland.

10. Some doubt was expressed as to whether AFHQ can give a three-month-forecast of rail facilities available for AC; however, Transportation Sub-Commission will see if this can be arranged.

11. The Board called a special meeting at 10:00 hours Monday, 15 January 1945 to consider allocation of availabilities of salvage clothing which will be presented by the Commerce Sub-Commission. Col. Evans stated that all relevant data would be prepared for presentation to the Board at that time.

DISTRIBUTION:

TAI
Including Co III
Less Serial 64

5.11/ES

K. E. Stauffer
K. E. STAUFFER
(Supply & Resources Division,
Economic Section)

Secretary
AC Priorities Board

0 8 6 3