

1709

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

785021

ACC

10000/141/735

ELECTIONS, A.C. POLICY
NOV. 1944 - JULY 1945

41/735

NOTE: 37

61

To Ex. Comm.

Att 51 (this) is submitted for approval and signature of CC.
an acknowledgment of P.O.s letter of 27 Feb (this 50).

The letter has been re-transmitted and a copy is here in file
for your file if required.

W.R. Huggins - 41

CHP
674225
x. 608

Issue 17/5/73

62

4143

CASREC (16) ✓

Ref 61 above, letters to the P.M signed by the
Ex. Comm on behalf of the chief banner, is
returned to you for ^{re-translation}

Thank you for copy of amended translation which
is retained in this office.

Office of Ex. Com.
6 Mar 45

E. H. Huggins
Capt.

Issue 10/5/73

62

51.3

CASec (16)✓

Ref 61 above, letter to the PM signed by the
Min. Sec. on behalf of the Chief Commr, was
returned to you for ^{unintended}
Thank you for copy of amended translation which
is retained in this office.

Office of Ex. Sec.
6 Nov 45

E. Gordon
Capt.

(63)

Woj. W. 1. at the A/President's conference to-day
it was agreed by all PCs, and ordered by
the A/President that the ministerial Decree
of 24 Oct. 1944 be amended to permit the
immediate compilation of electoral lists in
AMZ Territory. Accordingly, please take up
with the Ministry the Decree of AC that
art. 26 be cancelled by a Decree ^{ministerial} which ^{in (S. 44)}
turn will be implemented in any area ^{agreed (Am. 34)}
2. The broader questions of holding elections
in any territory was deferred to a later date.
when the situation would be determined.
R.R. Temple, Wagon for Scouts

1713

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

785021

Wm. W. W. W.

①

To: Robert R. R. R.

(60)

Feb Mar. 2

C.A. Section

1. Reference the President of the Council's reply to CC as at fo. 46, a fresh translation thereof has been prepared & is at fo. 50, as directed by VP: a loose copy is sent herewith for your use, if desired.
2. Officers of this S/C conferred at length with officials of the Ministry of the Interior this morning & clarified a number of the statements in the President of the Council's letter. A full report on this conference is being prepared & will be submitted in a day or two.
3. In the meantime it would appear desirable to acknowledge H. G. BONOMI's reply. Draft letter of acknowledgment herewith at fo. 51 for approval, please.

R. R. Temple
Major
for Director, I. G. S/C.

46

50

51

4142

MINUTE SHEET NO. 22

DATE	(Minute 54 - continued)	PAGE
	effective so that they may take into consideration local conditions. <i>R. R. Temple</i> RALPH R. TEMPLE, Major Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Sub Commission, for Director (55) To: Local Govt. The CSO instructs that action recommended in minute (54) will be taken. WAS J. Ward, Mayor (C. A. See 23 Feb 45 (56) To: C A S 1. Please bring to attention of V.P. pursuant to his instructions, minute No 54. 2. The V.P. also wished to be reminded of ascertaining whether an answer to the CC's letter to the PM has been rec'd. (p. 32). <i>R. R. Temple, Mayor</i> for Director	

P. 40 is
incomplete
RPT.

23 Feb.

minute (54) will be taken

WAS Holland, Roper
C.A. Sec.

23 Feb 45

(56)

To: C A S

1 Please bring to attention of V.P. pursuant to his instructions, minute No 54.

The V.P. also wished to be reminded of ascertaining whether an answer to the CC's letter to the PM has been rec'd. (p 32)

R. J. Temple, Negro
for Director

To: C.S.O. & CC.

57

41-1

Following the visit today CC & VP. has been re-empted and is now submitted for signature of CC.

R. J. Temple

C.A.S.
A. G. O. R.

CA Sec (LC)

58

27 Feb.

Ref 57 letter signed by CC. & returned to you for dispatch.
Office of E.C.

E. J. Henderson

P. 40 is meant R.P.C.

23 Feb.

21 Feb. 45 CA Section:

(34)

1. Reference minutes No. 49, 50, 51, 52 (para 2) and folio p. 35.
2. As you know, the actual compilation of electoral lists in AMG territory is not obligatory. Such action commences on the 10th day after such areas pass to the control of the Italian Government. However, instructions for the preparation of population registers, an essential preliminary, have already gone out (page 35).
3. As the matter stands, local elections could not take place in AMG territory since there would be no electoral lists prepared. I do not think this is a desirable situation. As was indicated in our analytical memorandum (see para. 23, page 10A), "...in this Territory where Allied officers are governing directly, is to be found the best chance of the elections being really free and independent." Besides, when the territory is returned to Italian control, there would be no break in the continuity of the pattern of local government.
4. However, I submit that it is not necessary to decide now the broader question of holding local elections in AMG territory. It is quite possible to consider the matter of the compilation of electoral lists quite apart from that point. Electoral lists may be prepared in AMG territory, even if it is decided not to permit elections until the area is turned over to Italian control. It is not necessary to await a reply from Prime Minister BONOMI to the Chief Commissioner's letter (at page 32). An immediate decision to get on with the job of compiling electoral lists in AMG territory would make it possible for the Italian Government to hold elections sooner and in more places after the turnover.
5. I recommend that AS decide to order the preparation of electoral lists in AMG Regional territory now. I advise the adoption of the first course of action proposed by Legal B/C in para 2b of its Minute No. 51, namely, "to request the Italian Government to cancel Article 26 (of Ministerial Decree of 24 October 1944)... and then to implement such amendment". If desired, the Implementation order in the Gazzetta Ufficiale can be worded to give PC's discretion in making the decree

MINUTE SHEET NO. 16

DATE	PAGE
Feb 3.	(32) <u>V.P.</u> Heard this draft is better although an excellent too complicated at this stage - will you, however, indicate your feelings? L
5 Feb	(39) <u>To C.O.S.</u> Draft at 32 has been prepared for consideration & approval of C.S. Para 12 of minutes of C.S. meeting on 1 Feb. refer. Min 10 30 refer S/S/2 <u>G.R. Wright</u>

Feb 3.

h.p. I feel this draft is better although
an excellent one too complicated at this
stage - will you, however, indicate
your feelings? L

(39)

To C.O.S.

Draft of 32 has been prepared for

consideration & approval of C.S.

Para 12 of minutes of C.S. meeting on 1 Feb.

refer. Minute 34 refer G. R. Wright

S. S. 2.

SIGNED. $\frac{1}{2}$

4139

(40) ✓

6 Feb. To C.A. sec (LG) ✓
Ref 39 above. Letter to P.M. has been
signed by chief commission and is
returned for signature.

Thorden Cpt
Office of C.S.

1 Feb 45 L. G.

(34)

The C.C. would like a letter drafted for him to sign to the P.M. asking what plans the G.M. have in mind for holding elections, what ~~press~~ bodies will be formed & what will be their functions &c.

grm

L

Feb 2. L. R.O.

(35)

Please to draft as at 34 - with particular thought out detail of "soon" -

L

Director

(36)

Feb 2.

Ref. folio 31 & the list at fo. 31C - on the morning there were received (31 Jan.) Vice-Prefect SPANO telephoned from the Ministry of the Interior. He said the decree passed by the Council of Ministers the previous day, granting the vote to women, altered all the figures in the table at fo. 31C. Would we please take no action on the present figures: they would send us a fresh list.

31

31C

glw RR

(37)

Feb 2

Director:

4138

Herewith draft of letter for C.C. to P.M.

R.P. Lample, Major
C.E.O. H.G. 3/C.

V.

76

(4)

(c) Minute No. 32

(f) Folio p 28

(g) " " 29

2. Please bring to the attention of V.P. (CAS) the translation of decree at p. 28 which he expressed interest in. Also p 29, 29A which indicates the decision of the Council of Ministers to extend the right to vote to women over 21 years of age.

3. An order to intelligently discuss election matters with RC Sardegna, we ought to know just what Rodice and fellow are to be elected. I & there any objection to our taking this matter up with the Ministry formally solely for informational purposes.

4. The procedural booklet compiled by the Italian Govt. is being translated now.

R. R. Temple Major
For Director

MINUTE SHEET No. 10

DATE

PAGE

28

~~28~~

②
Nts (a) (b) of 1st minute ①8 with
great care - "should occasion arise"

DATE

PAGE

8. Jan.

CA Section

②6

Reference the Chief Commissioner's instruction at folio 21,
draft of the statement required is at no. 23. A large
copy is sent herewith for your use, plus a duplicate.

21

23

Asst. Secy
let.

②7

Jan 10

~~Ex.~~

1. we have replied to D some 4 days ago -
2. I have issued orders for the pamphlets to be translated. They will in completion require your study & comment.

25

4136

3. 29. is an important letter wants careful
furnish.

sh

Minute Sheet No. 9.

DATE

PAGE

(17.)

C.A.S.

- (1) This was an interim minute to you submitted for information
- (2) Translation of LIA was submitted at 13
- (3) The recommendation lay in para 1 of the written minute that V.P. should ascertain if any discussions on this matter have taken place since we prepared the memorandum on the subject for the Political Section
- (4) At this stage and until we know the position in regard to (3) this L.G. 2/C is not in a position to comment further

(18)

R.B./m.u.

W. Bond.

To L.G. Sub.

1. ~~The~~ neither C.C. nor Pol Sec have had any further discussions with the Govt on the matter.

2. Should occasion arise for any further memo to be addressed to R.G. on this matter the CC would like the following points put to them specifically

(a) What is the reaction in their area to the idea that women should be included in ^{the} next list of entitled voters.

(b) Assuming that electoral lists can be prepared quickly, how soon would it be practical to hold elections in view of winter weather conditions, transport & expenses

28 Dec

Minute Sheet No. 8

DATE:

PAGE

23 Dec

C.A. Section

1. I refer to your file AGC/45/INF forwarded to me.
2. This subject of local elections is one on which I wish to keep the Chief Commissioner advised, but I do not care to present it to him in the fashion in which I received it. There is a long and rather untidy minute which does not indicate the purpose of the matter which was sent, i.e. there is no recommendation, neither is it said that it is sent for information. One newspaper cutting is in Italian, ~~was~~ was without a translation and was so filed that in any case it was not possible to read it without removing it from the file.
3. I think you will agree that on reflection this matter could have been better presented and should be glad if you will take steps to submit it in more attractive and readable form with recommendations, if any.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

16 Dec. 44

10 L.G. Am

This pl^h was handed to Col. Den I visited his
Office on the business & I regret that it was
not properly submitted.

It is known again that long minutes such as
no. 14 should be typed in better still typed
& submitted as a memorandum (photo)

Will you please re-submit

CHS
A.C.P.

R. D. Biggs

4134

MINUTE SHEET NO. 7

DATE		PAGE
21 Dec.	C.A.Sec. (14) 1. Please see pp. 13, 13a, 13b. P. 13 is an English translation of the report of the meeting of the Council of Ministers as published in Il Tempo (p. 13a). P. 13b is the Basic News version, paraphrasing the report and summarizing it. 2. Please observe that the Basic News states that "the first free administrative elections...will be held next spring." The Italian version which is more complete and quite different in many respects, states that "only at the beginning of next spring will it be possible to begin the first electoral consultations". It also speaks about the nomination of the <u>communal councils</u>. These bodies are not in existence at the present time according to R. D. 111. Only <u>Giunte Comunali</u> or Communal Boards are provided for now, as a temporary measure, but they possess the powers of the old <u>Councils</u> as well as those of the <u>Boards</u>. If the <u>Councils</u>, which before Fascism were large <u>elected</u> bodies, are being revived by a <u>new decree</u>, it would be of great interest to us to know about it since we are trying to bring about a <u>continuity</u> of the pattern of local government in AMG territory. 3. Note also, please, the suggestion that the elections be held "on successive Sundays and for specific provinces and regions". (P. 13) This sounds inspired by our memorandum. 4. In fact it would be desirable to ascertain from the CC whether there have been any discussions on this whole matter since we prepared the memorandum for Political Section. 5. The report in Il Tempo seems to be a well balanced cautious one which points out the difficulties and advances a <u>hope</u> to hold local elections. (Signed) R. G. B. SPICER Colonel Director Local Govt. S/C	13 re.

4133

MINUTE SHEET N. 6

PAGE

DATE

Nov 18

CAS - 1. After minute ① para. 2
 2. no provisions exist at the
 present time providing for the casting
 of votes by POWs in foreign countries.
 3. However in the compilation of
 the electoral lists in the commune
 provision is made for recording the
 names of POWs formerly residing there.

TR Temple
 local 95/c

22

701- D.C.S.

Memorandum of 701-1 is submitted for the information of
 the Chief Coordinator.

201. 608
 10 May 1944.

R. B. Cripps

A. B. Cripps, Col.
 700 CA Bnd.

15 9 45
 No. 22 3500

Noted

⑬
 LWS
 CC

22
 11

2

(9)

V.P.C.A. Sec.

13 November 1944.

Italian women who have attained the age of twenty five and fall into any one of the following seven categories, have the right to vote, but only in provincial and Communal elections.

1. Decorated with military medal or war service cross;
2. Decorated with medals for civil gallantry, or for service in connection with public health, elementary education, or public calamities.
3. Mother of a man fallen in war.
4. Widow of a man fallen in war.
5. Actually exercising paternal authority or guardianship and being able to read and write.
6. Having passed certain specified educational tests.
7. Paying taxes of not less than 100 lire yearly and being able to read and write.

Marguerite
 MARC. J. GROSSMAN,
 Lt. Colonel,
 Chief Counsel,
 for Chief Legal Advisor.

To L. G. Sub. ⁽¹⁰⁾

1. The Chief Commissioner will mention the desirability in a modern democratic country of including ^{women} voters in a national election, at ~~4131~~ ⁴¹³¹ next meeting with the P.M. It will not be carried further.

2. Please ascertain if provision is made for P.O.W.s in other countries to register their votes. ✓

16 Nov 44.

grossman

DATE

MINUTE SHEET No. 4

PAGE

Only yesterday, an officer in the Public Relations Branch came in to see me to inquire about participation of women in Government. His visit was prompted by a speech delivered by the representative of the Russian Trade Council, who alluded to the "enthusiastic interest" women were taking in Italian Government affairs. (This was news to me as I didn't ever know that men took an enthusiastic interest in this country in governmental affairs, other than the organized politicians.) The officer said he expected some kind-back, which I told him was ridiculous because the Allied Commission's skirts were clean. ~~Now I know of no case where a~~ woman was a Prefect or a Sindaco, or for that matter a ~~Giunto~~. Still we have always encouraged the selection of women. Back in July, as a result of an inquiry by Brigadier Denlog, we took up the question of the employment of women in the administration with the Ministry of Interior and were informed that the Government had issued no instructions forbidding the employment of women in public administration.

10. The Public Relations Branch officer then brought up the question of voting rights of women, the position of which I outlined as above.

11. I feel sure that the visit of the Public Relations officer is a harbinger of a lot of discussion that may take place in newspapers and elsewhere on this phase and other phases of the election processes. I therefore respectfully request by request that this matter be considered to the end that we be given definite directive as to the part this S/C should play in the re-creation of the Italian electoral process.

R. R. Temple

RAJAH R. TEMPLE, Captain
Act. Director, Local Govt. S/C

Legal S/C

The V.P. has directed me to ask you to investigate the question of voting rights for women under Italian law. Local Govt. are not sure of the position, as they make clear in minute (2). In order to decide about the whole question of electoral procedures, the V.P. wishes to be informed about whether 4330 do or do not have the right to vote.

A. G. S. Holland

Major

W. C. Fox

DATE

MINUTE SHEET No. 3

PAGE

9 Nov. 1944 CAS:

(7)

4-5

1. Reference folio page 4, Royal Decree 247 and extract Law of 1919, folio page 5.
2. On October 24, I instructed Legal S/C, pursuant to the usual request, to exclude Decree 247 dealing with compilation of lists of electors from implementation in Military Government Territory until I had an opportunity to read the Law of 1919, to which the said Decree referred.
3. I have read the pertinent extracts of the electoral law of 1919 and found articles to which some objection might be interposed, if it is the wish of the Allied Commission: for example, Article 3 prevents subalterns and soldiers of the Army and Navy from exercising their electoral right as long as they are under arms. Apparently officers are not excluded from exercising this democratic right. Article 13, para 2 and 3, refers to the Communal Electoral Commission, composed of a commission nominated by the communal Consiglio. The latter body, as you know, does not exist.
4. Article 14 further makes reference to the communal Consiglio.
5. Article 25 provides for the nomination of a provincial Electoral Commission by the provincial Consiglio, which does not exist.
6. There is some question in my mind as to the position of women. The law of 1913 provided that women could not be enrolled in administrative electoral lists and were not able to hold most offices. I believe that Mussolini in 1925 granted the right to vote to women, but it was nullified by the abolition of the entire electoral process the year following. However, further investigation would be necessary for me to definitely and accurately state what the present position is, both with regard to voting and holding office by women.
7. Some weeks ago, this S/C was asked to give its opinion with regard to the adequacy of a "family questionnaire" which was to be used also in a gathering of information for the compilation of electoral lists.
8. In order to obviate the necessity of any useless work on the part of the officers of this S/C, I should like to get a directive from you as to the extent of our interest in this subject. If we are to keep hands off and not advise the Italian Government, then obviously there is no point in finding out what the position of the different classes of people is with regard to voting and holding offices.
9. I personally believe that we cannot on the one hand be interested in the abolition of Fascist institutions and laws and the re-creation of democratic forms of government, and not be concerned with the only true basis of democracy; namely, universal suffrage and right to hold office.

4129

MINUTE SHEET NO. 24-1

DATE	(Minute No. 1 - continued)	PAGE
	11. As to Florence, Pistoia, Pisa and Livorno, we understand that these will probably be returned to the Italian Government in about a fortnight. It would be impossible, in our opinion, to fix an earlier date than this for commencing on the electoral lists. For these four provinces, therefore, the matter is best left to take its course--in which case time would begin to run from the 10th day after the return, as the AMG will not have fixed any other date before that time. 12. As to Lucca and Apuania, we understand that these will be transferred to the control of another Region. The question of the date for commencing on the electoral lists will, therefore, have to be considered by the new RC, in accordance with the instructions under preparation as mentioned in para 7 above. 13. A non-committal reply to the Prime Minister would, therefore, seem to be indicated, giving him assurance in general terms that this HQ appreciates the desirability of an early start on electoral lists. 14. The draft of such a letter herewith for approval please. As the whole of this question of electoral lists has been handled hitherto by this Sub Commission, it has not been thought necessary to prepare this reply for the Chief Commissioner's signature. FOR THE DIRECTOR: <i>R. R. Temple</i> RALPH R. TEMPLE Major Deputy Director Local Government S/C CGR/pec 6 June 1 G. Enclosed. Please prepare with copy for the Commissioner 108B 108C 108B 108B	77A

77A

14. The draft of such a letter herewith for approval please. As the whole of this question of electoral lists has been handled hitherto by this Sub Commission, it has not been thought necessary to prepare this reply for the Chief Commissioner's signature.

R. R. Templeton

RALEIGH R. TULPIN

Major

Deputy Director

Local Government S/C

ccfRW/pec

~~1083~~

LC

6 June

L. G. -
 please
 prepare
 with copy for
 the Committee

W. Bonden Cat- 261

108C

C.A.S. ^{105B} Enclément to min, ~~the~~ letter here - 77
with for V.P.'s signatures. One copy 4128

for Tree. Cement.

(letter signed by VP personally +
witnessed 7/6/45 - Clark)

RP of Temple Nagar.
D/Dir. 1951

MINUTE SHEET NO. 240

DATE	MINUTE SHEET NO. 240	PAGE
5 June 45	(Minute No. #108A) CAS: 1. Please see the letter addressed by the Prime Minister to the Chief Commissioner on 1 June on this file. 2. The file containing the previous papers on this subject is at present with Pol. Advisors and is required by Exec. Comm. immediately afterwards, for consideration of the draft letter from the Chief Commissioner to the Prime Minister as to the voting arrangements proposed by the Italian Government for local elections. We have inquired, but cannot get the file back. 3. The situation is shortly as follows: 4. Until recently, the Italian Government's Decree as to the preparation of electoral lists provided that this work should be started in a province only after it had been returned to Italian control, and that the time limits fixed for the various steps in the procedure should begin to run on the 10th day after such return. 5. Some months ago, this S/C obtained instructions to represent to the Italian Government (and did so represent) that the Decree should be amended so as to allow the preparation of electoral lists to be started in a province while it is still under AMG. The exact date when this was done cannot be ascertained without reference to our main file which we cannot obtain. 6. The Italian Government have taken an excessively long time getting this Decree out. The necessary provision is now made in Art. 5 of D.L. 12 April 1945, No. 201, to which the Prime Minister refers in his letter. This Decree, however, was not published until the Gazzetta Ufficiale of 17 May. It has not yet been implemented, though we expect the notice of implementation to come through at any moment now. 7. In the meantime, a preliminary instruction on the subject to RCs is being prepared on the basis that it will be for them to fix the dates on which the preparation of the electoral lists are to commence, having regard to the varying circumstances in their respective Regions: and that if possible a uniform date should be fixed for the whole of a region. 8. In the provinces of the former Umbria-Marche Region, and in the provinces of Siena, Arezzo and Grosseto which were returned to the	76

4. Until recently, the Italian Government's Decrees as to the preparation of electoral lists provided that this work should be started in a province only after it had been returned to Italian control, and that the time limits fixed for the various steps in the procedure should begin to run on the 10th day after such return.
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7. In the meantime, a preliminary instruction on the subject to RGA is being prepared on the basis that it will be for them to fix the dates on which the preparation of the electoral lists are to commence, having regard to the varying circumstances in their respective Regions: and that if possible a uniform date should be fixed for the whole of a region.
8. In the provinces of the former Umbria-Marche Region, and in the provinces of Siena, Arezzo and Grosseto which were returned to the Italian Government on 10 May, the date for the commencement of the preparation of the electoral lists is ten days later, i.e. 20 May, 4127 accordance with the legislative provisions referred to in para 4 above--and as stated by the Prime Minister in his letter.
9. The Comune of Ancona, however, not having been restored to the Italian Government, the time limits have not commenced to run there. As soon, however, as the new Decree No. 201 has been implemented, something can be done about this. It is proposed to advise PC Ancona to consult with his Prefect and to fix the earliest possible date for the Comune. It will be up to the Italian authorities thereafter to take all possible measures to ensure the completion of the electoral list for the Comune at a date as close as possible to those of the rest of the province of Ancona.
10. The main point in the Prime Minister's letter is his request that under the new Decree No. 201, AMG should fix the earliest possible date for commencing the preparation of electoral lists in the remaining provinces in Toscana Region, i.e. Florence, Pistoia, Pien, Livorno, Lucca and Apuania.

(92)

To LG S/c

1) File returned with handles

2) The Political Adviser (A) indicated by lot initials
at (91) that he has seen your minute (89)

4126

25 Apr 75

W. G. S. D. M. M. M.
C. H. Sec

Major Q

Letter for signature

T 17/4

C.A. See (LG)

p. 58.

Ref minute 86 letter signed by C.C. + returned
to you for despatch. Copies withdrawn for E.C. & E.C. files

Office of EC
19 Apr 45

E. Gordon

89

Ca. Section (for Walter C. Dowling, Political Advisor (a))

21 Apr.

1. Reference folio P. 63, wherein the Political Advisor (A) requests to be advised as to the provisions for qualifications of voters in administrative elections. In answer to the question, the understanding of the Department of State is correct. The qualifications of voters in administrative elections are predicated on the basic Electoral Law of 1919, No. 1495, as modified by the following Decrees:

- (a) DLI 247 of 28 February 1944 (Compilation of electoral lists)
- (b) Ministerial Decree of 24 October 1944 (Rules governing the operation of DLI 247 above)
- (c) DLI 23 of 1 February 1945 (Extension of the right to vote to women)

2. I wish to call your attention again to a point I raised on 9 November 1944 (See Minute No. 7, para 3, this file) as to a provision in the Electoral Law of 1919, Article 3. This article

Ref to you for despatch. Copy

Office of EC
19 Apr 45

89

Shorden way
POT

21 Apr.

C. Section (for Walter C. Dowling, Political Advisor (a))

1. Reference folio P. 62, wherein the Political Advisor (a) requests to be advised as to the provisions for qualifications of voters in administrative elections. In answer to the question, the understanding of the Department of State is correct. The qualifications of voters in administrative elections are predicated on the Basic Electoral Law of 1919, No. 1495, as modified by the following Decrees:

- (a) D.L. 247 of 28 February 1944 (Compilation of electoral lists)
- (b) Ministerial Decree of 24 October 1944 (Rules governing the operation of D.L. 247 above)
- (c) D.L. 25 of 1 February 1945 (Extension of the right to vote to women)

2. I wish to call your attention again to a point I raised on 9 November 1944 (See Minute No. 7, para 3, this file) as to a provision in the Electoral Law of 1919 which I still regard as objectionable; namely, Article 3. This article provides as follows:

"Non-commissioned officers and enlisted men of the Army and Navy can not exercise the right to vote as long as they remain in service. This provision shall also be applied to those indigenes who have an equal rank and belong to bodies militarily organized for the service of the State."

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

R. R. Temple
RALPH R. TEMPLE, Major
Deputy Director
Local Government S/C

90

To: Political Advisor (A) which refers to your letter of
Please see minute (8) it is in W.C. Dowling, Major
folio 63
21 Apr 45
C. A. Lee

45/A

L9

84

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

14 JUN 45

Ref: AC/45/A/LG

13 Jun 45.

SUBJECT: Electoral Lists.

TO: Executive Commissioner.

- 1 The Government Representative concerned with Electoral Lists was interviewed again this morning and the position is as follows:
 - (a) In Southern and Central Italy many communes have been completed and lists are already in print. It is expected that everything South of a line through the Northern edge of Lazio will be ready by the end of July, that is, 6 months after the date for commencement of the compilation.
 - (b) It is expected that with the experience gained, the time can be cut down by one month in future.
 - (c) The printing is well in hand and as the Prime Minister himself has taken a keen interest in it I am hopeful that we will get continued and complete co-operation on this side. The bottleneck is the packing and efforts are now being made to get improvement in that department.
 - (d) Forms for Emilia Region are expected to be ready this week and I will see that they are despatched as fast as they can be delivered.
 - (e) The real danger, as I explained to you this morning, is not so much on the question of getting material to the Communes but in ensuring that the necessary people are there to comply with the Italian law and set the machinery going. No doubt the appointment of a Deputazione will, with the help of the CLN, be much quicker and easier than has been the case in the South, but I am anxious about the appointment of Sindaci. For example, the Provincial Commissioner of Milan Province has to approve of the appointments of nearly 250 Sindaci and there are other Provinces where the figures are nearly as high. For that reason above all others, I must express grave doubts as to whether we shall really be in a position to start the compilation of Electoral Lists properly on the 15 July 45. I have, of course, given the 1 Jul 45 as the date and this may have the result of speeding things up so much that we can get it going by the middle of the month.

- 2 -

84A

- (f) Full directions have gone out from here today as to how the work must be done and also a signal in which I point out that the 1 Jul 45 is your aim and what officials are necessary.
- (g) The Deputy Director of the Local Government Sub-Commission is making a special visit to the North Western Regions next week and the full effort of the Sub-Commission is turned on to this very important matter.


A.D. BONHAM-CARTER, Lt. Col.,
CSO Civil Affairs Section.

4123

6114

84B

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 234

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/454/10

REF: 478190

13 June 1945

SUBJECT: Preparation of Electoral Lists.

TO : Distribution as below.

1. Attention is drawn to Article 5 of Law 12 April 1944, No. 201, published in the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" No. 59 of 17 May. The effect of this article is stated in the next paragraph. The Decree has not been implemented for Military Government Territory by the order (No. 629) of Allied Military Government published in the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" No. 68 of 7 June 1945.

2. Although all the Italian legislation upon the preparation of the electoral lists has been given a formal implementation in Military Government Territory, its practical effect has hitherto been confined to Italian Government Territory. With respect to preparation under Allied Military Government, the Italian legislation provides that the procedure for preparing the lists was to be completed in any case by 1 May after its return to the Italian Government; no provision was made for delay to so long during the period of Military Government. On the contrary of this, the Italian Government has allowed this by the enactment of Article 5 of the Decree quoted in para 1, which provides for Allied Military Government to fix the date or dates for commencing preparation of the lists.

3. Authority to fix a date or dates accordingly for the provinces under AC will be exercised by the Chief Civil Affairs Officer at HQ AC. The RGA through the GDA will advise the GMAO as to the earliest date that can be met. The purpose of this directive is to give an indication of the considerations to be borne in mind in this connection.

4. The existence of electoral lists in a condition precluded to any sort of election-national or local. The preparation of the lists in the first practical step in the return of Italy to the basis of democratic government, namely, the election of representative institutions, and it is thus an implementation of one of the fundamental policies of the Allied Command in Italy.

5. The liberation of the whole of the country has brought the matter into even higher relief. Before that event, the lists could only be considered, for practical purposes, in connection with the holding of local elections in those parts of Italy that lay to the rear of our lines. Now, however, the holding of local elections throughout the whole of Italy more or less simultaneously is a possibility. An essential preliminary to local elections, the formation of the electoral lists, is already well under way in Southern and Central Italy; and the importance of not allowing the North to lag behind is obvious.

to the point for action. This is all their savings for the transport of the five (all assigned and included) to the HQ of the Regional C. Commanders of the five northern regions. If in their turn all immediately distribute to Provincial Commanders. Even when the latter will be responsible for further distribution to every one. The command will be responsible for the execution of the first command by the latter. I want after distribution of the funds to the last command. I want the latter to have a limit and time to study the facts. The last command should not have their property immediately. In advising all to not the procedure and to take their property immediately. In advising all to the area which should be fixed, we must take full distance for this.

11. In the actual fixing of the date, each Region must be able to do it. It could be possible to fix separate dates, previous to previous, considering each one depends ready to begin. It is much to be preferred, however, that one single date be fixed for the whole of a Region. If possible, the date will be set for all the northern regions, but in any event if there are different dates they will be not a few days apart.

12. Please give this matter your immediate consideration and inform this HQ how soon after receipt of the editorial material the compilation of editorial facts can be completed in your Region.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

Distribution:

Adm.	1	1	(with copies to PM)
Adm. Sec.	"	"	"
Adm. Sec.	"	"	"
Adm. Sec.	"	"	"
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Adm. Sec.	"	"	"

Information:

SCAG	5	ARMY
"	8	"
"	14	IN CORPS
Executive Commission		
Chief Commission		
Pol. Advisor (A)		
"		
"		
"		

C. R. HUGHES, Jr.
VP of Section

83

NO/45/2/10

SUBJECT: Note of interview - Ministry of the Interior

DATE : 11 June 1945 - 1700 hours.

PRESENT: H. E. ALBERTO BERNINI
 Col. Andrea GAMBINO
 Major G. G. R. Williams
 Sig. Arrigo BERNI, interpreting

1. I referred to DL of 12 April 1945, No. 201, Article 5, and said that this had now been implemented. AD was therefore now legally in a position to start the preparation of electoral lists in the North.

2. I also referred to the letter written by the President of the Council to OGC on 1 June, referring to this Decree, to which we had not been able to give a definite reply. We had, however, assured the Prime Minister that the importance of an early start in the preparation of the lists in the North was appreciated.

3. I said the purpose of my visit was to consult with His Excellency on certain of the preliminary problems in connection with the preparation of the lists for the North. The conversation went as follows:

Major Williams: When does Your Excellency think it would be possible to make a start on the lists in the North?

H. E. BERNINI : In a very short time, I should think.

Major Williams : The preparation of the lists will, of course, have to be done by the Italian authorities in the North--the Prefects and Sindaci--and we in Local Government S/C feel some doubt whether the administration has been fully re-organised.

H. E. BERNINI : From the information the Ministry has received, it appears that the administration is almost normal.

Major Williams : The Prefects in the North mostly being non-career men, they will have to rely very largely on their career subordinates.

H. E. BERNINI : Most of the work has to be done by the Sindaci. The strictest impartiality is required, and with the situation in the North as it is political interference is possible. AD has no doubt got its own information as to the situation and functioning of the administration in the North which should tell them whether the electoral lists can safely be commenced, but the position is very unusual. For instance, Col. Poletti had made an ordinance in Lombardy reducing the CLAs to advisory functions and AG Bulla had made a similar one, such order had been made in Venetia.

Major Williams: We have not seen the orders in question and we do not know the CLAs' reasons for making them. It is clear,

4121

- 2 -

83A

however, that any such order merely re-stated the position that AUC had always taken up, i.e. that CENs were advisory only and the executive power was AUC.

H. K. BENGUETI : We all know that CENs have been giving orders right and left. We have Prefects in the North who never correspond with the Ministry but always look to the CEN. Similarly, Sindani in the Prefectures look to the local CEN. That being the situation, how can we rely on the accurate and impartial preparation of the lists. The other day I was talking to an influential representative of the Socialist Party in the North, who told me that if the Government crisis was not resolved very quickly, they would take their own steps to set up a separate Government in the North--as people have been trying to do in vain. For these reasons, I don't think it wise to start the preparation of the lists until the Government crisis has been cleared up. Either we should have a new Government which will be accepted as such in the North as in the Central and South; or they can take their own Government up there. The position at present is that they don't recognise Rome in the North and we must clear that up first.

Major Williams: I see the point of that and will certainly include a note of Your Excellency's opinion on this point in my report. It seems to me, however, that for practical reasons, it may not be possible to commence the preparation of the lists for some time. In the first place, we understand that the revision of the "anagrafo" or registers of population is essential before the lists can be commenced.

H. K. BENGUETI : Yes, that is so. The revision of the "anagrafo" is a matter which has to be done, in any event, annually; and in the North the registers for practically all communes should be up to date. Only in those areas badly damaged by war may there be difficulty in revising them. In those cases it will be necessary to give them an extension of time for preparation of the lists. Therefore, I think that the question of revising the population registers need not of itself delay the preparation of the lists very much.

4. I then said there was another preliminary and that is the distribution of electoral material. As to that, we understood that some of the forms, etc. are still being printed, and we wrote the Ministry on 6 June asking, among other things, for an estimate of the date when all material will be ready to hand to us to transport North. We wanted this information so as to make our plans for transportation well in advance; but it is urgent to have it now for another reason. Course No. 201 having been implemented, it is necessary to give some preliminary information and instructions and to give them some idea of when the material will arrive, so that operations can be commenced. Would H. K. arrange for a reply on this question of the estimated date to be given us in the next day or two.

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- 3 -

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5. I also said there were a number of circulars bearing, not on the actual preparation of the lists themselves, on the revision of the "anagrafo" and other preliminary matters. One at least of these had been sent to us and distributed to the North. There may be others which it is desired to distribute. Would the Ministry let us have a list of the circulars on this subject which they wanted distributed to the North. We would then check those that should go on and arrange for the remainder to be sent. H. E. agreed to see to this.

C. G. R. Williams
Major

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

CGR/pcc

Note of Telephone Conversation - 12 June 1945

The Ministry spoke to us (Dott. STANO - Major Williams) by phone about 1000 hours on 12 June, with reference to parts 4 and 5 of the above interview note. Dott. STANO stated as follows:

1. Ministry circulars:
 - (a) those relating to the actual preparation of the lists would all be included with the other forms and material which were now being printed and about ready;
 - (b) all those relating to operations preliminary to the lists, e.g. revision of the "anagrafo" had already been sent to AD for dispatch to all Northern Provinces.
2. The estimated date when the electoral material for the North would be printed and ready was 25 June.

CGR
C.G.R.W.

4113

82

FROM THE GAZETTE UFFICIALE of the 7th June 1945 n. 53

Ordinance of the Brigadier General G.R. UPJOHN.

I, Brigadier General G.R. UPJOHN, in the name and on behalf of the Chief Officer of the civil Affairs of the Allied Military Government hereby order: that the decrees contained in the Gazzetta Ufficiale n. 59 of the 17th May 1945 become effective and have full legal power in every province of the territory under the control of the Allied Military Government starting from the date on which the Prefect of each Province will receive a copy of the present edition of the Gazzetta Ufficiale. That exception be made for the Legislative Decree of the Lieutenant General of the 29th March 1945, n. 198 (Payment of the arrears of pensions or war allowances), the Legislative Decree of the Lieutenant General 22nd April 1945, n. 202 (Indemnities to cashiers of Central Administration of the State and to the officials of the Ministry of Treasury and of the Royal Mint with executive and control powers) and for the Legislative Decree of the Lieutenant General 22nd April 1945, n. 204 (Special provisions concerning privilege pensions for the duration of war), for which I order as follows:

a) In the provinces under the jurisdiction of the Allied Military Government lying south of the line marking the boundaries of the provinces of Ravenna, Firenze, Pistoia, Lucca and Arezzo, these shall become effective and have full legal power started on the date on which the Prefect of each province will receive a copy of the present edition of the Gazzetta Ufficiale.

b) In the Provinces under the Allied Military Government jurisdiction lying north of the above mentioned line, such decrees are excluded from enforcement and will be published for information only.

From this ordinance the undermentioned decree, which is published in Allied Military Government territory for information only, is to be excluded.

G. R. UPJOHN

Brigadier General

in the name and on behalf of the Chief of Office of Civil Affairs of the
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

Done at the President of the Council of Ministers 10th May 1945.
Substitution of the Commissioner of the Mutual Insurance Royal Society, with
office in Paris.

1748

e) In the provinces under the jurisdiction of the Allied Military Government lying south of the line marking the boundaries of the provinces of Pavia, Parma, Piacenza, Lucca and Apuania, these shall become effective and have full legal power started on the date on which the Prefect of each province will receive a copy of the present edition of the Gazzetta Ufficiale.

b) In the Provinces under the Allied Military Government jurisdiction lying north of the above mentioned line, such decrees are excluded from enforcement and will be published for information only.

From this ordinance the undermentioned decree, which is published in Allied Military Government territory for information only, is to be excluded.

G. R. UPJOHN

Brigadier General

in the name and on behalf of the Chief of the Office of Civil Affairs of the

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers 10th May 1945.
Substitution of the Commissioner of the Mutual Insurance Royal Society, with office in Turin.

4118

Translation J. C

80

AND FOUR COPIES FOR HOPKINSON

9508

10th June, 1945

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL PD

FROM CBR PD REFERENCE SIGNAL ONE FOUR THREE OF NINE JUNE PD

FROM TO AND FOUR COPIES FOR HOPKINSON FROM HQ ALCON CTR ADLST PAREN

PARA TWO PD IMPLEMENTATION OF DECREE TWO ZERO ONE PROVIDING FOR COMPILATION OF
 ELECTORAL LISTS HAS ONLY JUST BEEN PUBLISHED IN GAZETTA UFFICIALE PD INSTRUCTIONS
 TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS ARE BEING PREPARED TO MARK THEM TO FIX A DATE FOR
 COMMENCEMENT OF SUCH COMPILATION PD ONE FACTOR OVER WHICH WE HAVE NO CONTROL
 IS AVAILABILITY OF ELECTORAL FORMS AND OTHER MATERIAL FOR DISTRIBUTION TO NORTHERN
 REGIONS PD CLOSE CONTACT IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN
 THIS AND ALL OTHER PHASES OF SUBJECT PD SUGGEST THAT SUBJECT BE MADE PART OF
 AGENDA FOR FORTHCOMING REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT ROME

Internal Distribution:

Chief Commissioner
 Executive Commissioner.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

478706

RET

NICHOLAS FLORES
 CWO USA 4113
 Asst. Adjutant.

DRAFT/ RAI

80A

TO: FOUR CORPS FOR HOPKINSON

10th June, 1945.

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL PD

PARA ONE PD REFERENCE SIGNAL ONE FOUR THREE OF
 PARA TWO PD IMPLEMENTATION OF DECREE 201 PROVIDING FOR COMPIATION OF ELECTORAL
 LISTS HAS ONLY JUST BEEN PUBLISHED IN GAZZETTA UFFICIALE PD INS INSTRUCTIONS TO
 REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS ARE BEING PREPARED TO ENABLE THEM TO FIX A DATE FOR
 COMMENCEMENT OF SUCH COMPIATION. ONE FACTOR OVER WHICH AC HAS NO CONTROL
 IS AVAILABILITY OF ELECTORAL FORMS AND OTHER MATERIAL FOR DISTRIBUTION TO NORTHERN
 REGIONS. CLOSE CONTACT IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN
 THIS AND ALL OTHER PHASES OF SUBJECT. SUGGEST THAT SUBJECT BE MADE PART OF
 AGENDA FOR FORTHCOMING REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT ROME.

Copies to Executive Commissioner.

Chief Commissioner.

(Deposited with Brig. Hook and told

1751

LISTS HAS ONLY JUST BEEN PUBLISHED IN GAZZETTA UFFICIALE PD INS TRUCTIONS TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS ARE BEING PREPARED TO ENABLE THEM TO FIX A DATE FOR COMMENCEMENT OF SUCH COMBINATION. ONE FACTOR OVER WHICH AC HAS NO CONTROL IS AVAILABILITY OF ELECTORAL FORMS AND OTHER MATERIAL FOR DISTRIBUTION TO NORTHERN REGIONS. CLOSE CONTACT IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS AND ALL OTHER PHASES OF SUBJECT. SUGGEST THAT SUBJECT BE MADE PART OF AGENDA FOR FORTHCOMING REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING AT ROME.

Copies to Executive Commissioner.

Chief Commissioner.

(I spoke with Brig. hub and told him I profoundly sending. The signed out if he agreed. He approved. RRT. 10 June 41 116)

Showed foregoing telegrams to Lt. Col. Benjamin Carter who also agreed. RRT. 10 June 41

SECRET

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143

JUNE 09 1945

10 JUN 1945

IV CORPS FROM HOPKINS.

R. ALTON

1/1129

JUNE 09 1945

URGENT

JUN 1945

SECRET.

I think it is very important that preparation of electoral lists in the 5 Northern Regions should be carried out as soon as possible. Orders have not yet been received by Regional Commissioners and I hope that they can be sent out at once.

RECEIVED

P-JUN 1945

C.

SECRET

ACTION - RE COMMISSIONER 2
INFO - WHIP COMMISSIONER
S.O. TO D.O. 2
CA SEC
SCOR SEC
POLAD (A)
POLAD (B)
FILE

4555

343

SECRET

4115

6085/LG

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

10/45/16

Tel : 478190

SUBJECT : Preparation of electoral lists in Military Government Territory 6 June 1945

TO : His Excellency the President of the Council of Ministers

Your Excellency :

1. I refer to Your Excellency's letter of 1 June addressed to the Chief Commissioner, which has been referred to this Section.

2. Your Excellency will be aware, in your capacity of Minister of the Interior, that some months ago the Ministry was requested by Local Government Sub Commission to alter the Italian legislation upon the subject so as to enable the preparation of the electoral lists to be put in hand in those provinces which are still under Allied Military Government, without waiting first for them to be returned to the control of the Italian Government. The Decree which enables this to be done has, however, only just been published, namely, in the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" No. 59 of 17 May last : and it will be implemented in the usual way, I anticipate, within a few days. Until this Decree was published, it was not, of course, possible for any steps to be taken for fixing a date or dates as from which in Military Government Territory the time limit for the preparation of the electoral lists would run.

3. I would, however, assure you that the desirability of avoiding too great a disparity of dates with respect to the provinces under Italian control and those under Military Government is fully appreciated in this Headquarters; and nothing will be overlooked which may contribute to the commencement of the preparation of the lists in Military Government Territory at a date or dates as early as the practical difficulties involved will permit.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER :

G. R. UNGER
Brigadier
VP CA Section

RSE/cg.

Copy to Executive Commissioner

4114

4320

D R A F T

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/A/LG

Tel: 478190

5 June 1945

SUBJECT: Preparation of electoral lists in Military Government Territory.

TO : His Excellency the President of the Council of Ministers.

Your Excellency:

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FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

G. R. V. P. J. C. M. N.

For the President, Civil Affairs Section

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Date 4 JUN 1945 File 45A

Please read attached and initial

TO

Col. CRIPPS

Maj. TAYLOR

Maj. WILLIAMS

Capt. SHANKS

Capt. LEWIS

Capt. GUTHRIE

D. MODIANO

REMARKS

File at present with Executive
Commissioners. Due back on
6th June. RW.

Waj: W — The Ital. Govt.
should know that the
delay in filing the date
is theirs. The decree was just
published last week and we
are waiting for its imple-
mentations. But in mean-
time arrange with RCs
then U.P. for a common
date so that no time
will be lost.

4 June 45 RRT

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

Rome, 1 June 1945

2 JUN 1945

-2 JUN 1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

knowing your interest for the democratic renewal of my country, I want to bring to your attention a requirement which, I hope, will not meet with special difficulties.

After the recent passage of the provinces of Marche, Umbria, and also of some of those of Tuscany under Italian civilian administration, the delay for the drafting of the electoral lists in the communes included in the said circumscriptions begins on the 20th of this month, for no regulation on this subject had been formerly issued by this Commission, except for the province of Pesaro.

As the electoral material has already been distributed to the remaining provinces of Tuscany, and to avoid, in the same region, and what is more, in neighbouring provinces, a disparity of situation for what concerns the renewal of the election systems, it would be greatly appreciated if the Allied Commission allowed to fix as soon as possible the date on which it will be possible to start forming the lists for the Florence, Pisa, Lucca, Pistoia, Apuania and Livorno provinces. This according to art. 5 of the legislative decree 12 April, 1945, n. 201.

I think that this deserves your kind comprehension, and thanking you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

S. I. Bonomi

Admiral Stone,
Allied Commission
Rome

e.c.

cc: Dir - 2 June 45

Action: CA Sec (2)

INFO: Chief Clerk

Exec Clerk

4112

18/10

6003/46

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
Minister of the Interior

Rome, 1 June 1945

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knowing your interest for the democratic renewal of my country, I want to bring to your attention a requirement which, I hope, will not meet with special difficulties.

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I think that this deserves your kind comprehension, and thanking you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

S. I. Bonomi

EC DIST - 2 JUNE 45

ACTION : C.A.S. (2)

INFO : CHIEF COMINT

EX COMINT

4111

Admiral Stone,
Allied Commission
Rome

c.c.

4/13

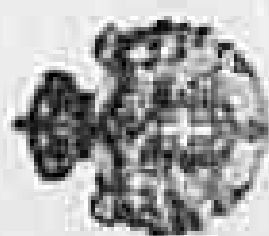
6003/45

JUN 8 1945

76A

Roma, 1° Giugno 1945

-2 GIU 1945



IL PRESIDENTE
DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI
MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO

Caro Ammiraglio Stone,

consapevole dell'interesse che Ella porta al rinnovamento democratico del mio paese, desidero prospettarle un'esigenza cui mi auguro che non contrastino particolari difficoltà.

In seguito al recente passaggio delle provincie delle Marche e dell'Umbria nonché di alcune della Toscana all'amministrazione civile italiana, i termini per la compilazione delle liste elettorali nei comuni compresi in dette circoscrizioni sono cominciati a decorrere dal 20 di questo mese, data che nessuna determinazione in proposito era stata precedentemente adottata da codesta Commissione, ove si eccettui la provincia di Pesaro.

Poiché il materiale elettorale risulta già distribuito anche ai comuni delle rimanenti provincie della Toscana, ed allo scopo di evitare che nell'ambito di una stessa regione, e per giunta in provincie limitrofe, si determini una disparità di situazione per ciò che concerne il ripristino dei sistemi elettorali, riuscirebbe sommamente gradito

In seguito al recente passaggio dalle provincie delle Marche e dell'Umbria nonché di alcune della Toscana all'amministrazione civile italiana, i termini per la compilazione delle liste elettorali nei comuni compresi in dette circoscrizioni sono cominciati a decorrere dal 20 di questo mese, dato che nessuna determinazione in proposito era stata precedentemente adottata da codesta Commissione, ove si eccettui la provincia di Pesaro.

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All'Ammiraglio
Emery William STONE
Capo della Commissione Alleata
R O M A

4110



6003/LG

45A

19 May 1945

73

Dear Major Temple,

Here is the translation you asked for. As for the following articles which are to appear on the same subject, I kindly asked in your behalf the Deputy Director of Public Relations Branch to keep you posted as the matter of the elections is of interest to this Local Govt. S/C, which he promised to do.

Mr. Nice

Nice

Yours. Thank you

APT 21 May

S. P. H.

Please studies and translations on election file. APT 21 May

4109

Translation an

from the newspaper "La Capitale" of Thursday 17 May 1945

HOW WILL PEOPLE VOTE?

Sooner or later -and let us hope as soon as possible- the Italians will vote again. This act will constitute the most sure and solemn evidence of their regained liberty; it will be the most important manifestation of their renewed dignity of citizens. By this act the Italians will be able to express their judgement on the present situation of the country and their opinion as to the future policies to be adopted; they will choose their representatives indicating which are the tendencies and the groups that are to govern the country. If there is a moment when the policy, trend and fate of ~~the~~ country are totally entrusted in the hands of its citizens, of each citizen, that is the moment when elections take place.

More than twenty years have elapsed since the people were called to this test of civic liberty. The last elections on lists of candidates of various contending parties were held by fascism in 1924. However such were the pressure and violence made to bear on the electors that these elections cannot possibly be considered as free elections expressing the true political trend of the country. As a matter of fact Matteotti was killed on account of a speech he held asking that the elections of the majority list should not be validated, while he was about to deliver to the Presidency of the Chamber the file containing the documents evidencing the acts of violence and intrigues through which the majority list had won.

The preceeding elections took place in 1921, while the country was already in atmosphere of civil warfare. The most free, orderly and sincere elections that ever took place in Italy were those held in November 1919 just after the first world war. May the next elections also be so!

But how will people vote? The electoral law has been defined as the machinery by which the people can talk. It is a complex and delicate machine on whose contrivances and operation depends the sincerity of popular consultation and its suitability to the purpose for which it has been made up.

There are various electoral systems. The most modern ones basically may be considered to be three, though there may be some internal variations of same: the one name system (sistema uninominale), the system of list balloting (scrutinio di lista), and the proportional system. In our history of Parliament we have experimented them all. The convenience of one system over the other has always been the subject of lively debates both as an academical question and in reference to politics. Differences of opinion on this matter are not only the result of special interests of a certain group or of parties in the adoption of a certain system which is considered as more favorable than another to their memberships strength as far as the distribution and ~~the~~ shape of organization is concerned. Such differences of opinion ~~on the~~ determined in the end by various schools of thought on political representation, ~~on the~~

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Not an easy choice, then, and one which certainly will be one of the first tasks which the Consultative Assembly will be called upon to solve. In the meantime for better information and guidance of our readers we shall briefly elucidate one at the time the various electoral systems pointing out for each one of them their intrinsic features, and reasons and criticisms to which they have given rise.

Livio

16/4/26/10

SUBJECT: Note of Interview - Ministry of the Interior

DATE : 15 May 1945 - 1100 hours

PRESENT: H. E. Adalberto BRUNETTI, Chief of Cabinet
Cav. Andrea CAMERA, Vice Chief of Cabinet
Col. R. R. Grippo, Director; Major Ralph W. Temple, Deputy Director;
Lt. D. MODIANO, interpreting

1. NOMINATION FOR VICE PREFECT VICARIO FOR PARMA

BRUNETTI said that the name of the nominee would be furnished today.

2. GIN NOMINEES FOR PREFECTS IN THE NORTH

BRUNETTI was given the list of nominations to date and informed that the appointment of DOMENICI for Prefect Regent of Bologna has actually been made. He said that he was personally acquainted with the GIN nominee for Mantova--AVANTI. Col. Grippo mentioned that we had been informed that MERELLI, the Government's nominee for Prefect of Parma, had refused to take the post. BRUNETTI exhibited much surprise and said he would try to find out what the story was on this matter. Col. Grippo informed him that we had received no written confirmation of this fact as yet.

3. PUBLICATION OF DECREE FOR CONSTITUTION OF ELECTORAL LISTS IN ALL TERRITORY

BRUNETTI said that he expected the Decree to be published in a week.

4. DELIVERY OF ELECTORAL MATERIAL

BRUNETTI stated that he would communicate with the Prefects of Pesaro, Ancona and Terzi to ascertain whether the delivery of electoral forms had been made to those provinces.

5. GENERAL STAFF'S LETTER OF 12 APRIL CRITICISING ELECTION METHOD

BRUNETTI stated that DOMENICI's letter of April 23 was in fact a reply to the letter of April 19, although he had informed Major Temple last week that it was not. He had checked on the situation. However, he agreed that the response was very general because the Government was not in a position to take up the details mentioned in the Chief Commissioner's letter. He realized that those details went to the heart of the problem and stated that a more detailed letter would be sent very shortly taking up directly the points mentioned.

6. MOVEMENT ORDERS FROM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO PERSONNEL TO TRAVEL TO NORTHERN PROVINCES

BRUNETTI said he knew nothing about the movement order being issued by the Ministry to DOMENICO Domenico, Capo di Gabinetto of Ancona, to proceed to Udine to take up his former duties there. He said he was fully aware of the fact that no such order was proper. However, at our request he would check with the Personnel Division to ascertain whether any functionary in the department issued such instructions.

705

- 2 -

7. REQUEST FROM MINISTRY TO AUTHORIZE PERSONNEL TO PROCEED NORTH FOR PERSONAL REASONS

The request of an official named LIVORI to proceed to Rome for personal reasons was mentioned. BERGAMI said that hundreds of such requests are coming in. Col. Cripps mentioned that permits would shortly be issued by the Italian Government itself and that they would have to dispose of the matter without any assistance on our part. BERGAMI took back the letter concerning LIVORI and said they would dispose of it themselves.

8. ARCHIVES

In response to the question as to what was being done in connection with the Government's archives in Verona, BERGAMI mentioned that the Government's archives were partly distributed in other provinces, too. Furthermore, he stated that the Chief Commissioner had agreed with the Prime Minister to permit a party representing several Ministries on May 17 to proceed North in order to locate and protect the Government's archives.

RR Temple
Major

RALEIGH R. TEMPLE
Major
Deputy Director
Local Government Sub Commission

RRT/pec

4106

AQ/4/26/LG

14 May 1945

SUBJECT: Aide Memoire

TO : Director, Local Government Sub Commission.

Matters to be taken up with H. E. BERRUTI, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of the Interior, at conference on 15 May - 1100 hours.

3. PUBLICATION OF DECREE FOR COMPILATION OF ELECTORAL LISTS IN ALC TERRITORY

Ask BERRUTI whether he has any idea as to when this Decree will be published, since we are holding up the distribution of several circulars which the Ministry has sent us and which refer to the Decree. Furthermore, we desire to prepare instructions for the Provincial Commissioners.

5. ADMIRAL STONE'S LETTER OF 19 APRIL CRITICISING ELECTION METHODS

Ask BERRUTI when we may expect to receive an answer to Admiral Stone's letter of 19 April, addressed to H. E. BONOMI, criticising the election methods. The Chief Commissioner is very much interested in the subject matter and is quite anxious to get the Government's views in respect to the items he wrote about.

Translation an

Rice, 11 April 1945

From: Ministry of Interior, Dir. Gen., Ann. Civile. Electoral Service
Prot. N. 4884-E

SUBJECT: Electoral Expenses

TO : The Prefect of the Kingdom, and for information to the
High Commissioners for Sicily and Sardinia.

Lieutenancy legislative decree dated 8 February 1945, n. 55, published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale n. 32 of 15 March last, establishes that all expenses in connection to the first completion of the electoral lists will be met by the State, while for the first popular administrative election the burden to be carried by the State will be confined to the expenses for the supply of the printing forms and for the balloting boxes.

With reference to such discrimination, which at the present stage of the preliminary proceedings for the calling up of meetings is noteworthy especially as *farly* as the fixtures of the electoral booths, the Ministry deems opportune to furnish some explanations and directions which may be of guidance to the Mayors for the adoption of the necessary provisions and to the Prefects for the exercising of their power of supervision and control.

It is above all worth while to advise that the provision being drafted in connection with the procedure of casting the ballots and the elective representations brought about by the popular will necessarily have to be based on the criterion of a proper ruling on this matter inasmuch as the issuance of a definitive and basic ruling obviously would be the competency of the Constituent Assembly and of the legislative bodies created by it. Under the circumstances, excepting any definitive determination by the Government, it appeared as a rule, advisable to take as a basis the system of the unique text of the communal and provincial law, 2 February 1915, n. 146, not without of course some changes and modifications in order to expedite the electoral procedure and the following formation of the primary organs of the Communes and of the Provinces.

Now, as regards in particular the furnishing of the electoral booths, this will have to take place in a way to reconcile in the most proficient manner the shortage of financial means of independent bodies and the difficulties to provide on the spot for an adequate fixtures with the imperative exigencies of the secrecy of voting and the holding of the meeting of voters. As long as these exigencies be met, any means of fixture will be sufficient, especially as regards tables to be placed in the booths, the table for the electoral office, the partition of the electoral hall in two compartments, of which one is to be assigned for the aforesaid office and the other for the electors of the Section, and so forth.

To the supply of the printing matter The Ministry will provide through the "Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato", in a similar way as it has been so far provided for the drawing up of the lists. It must be however understood that this supply concerns the most important printing matter, while for all other printing forms which may be eventually required the Communes will have to take care concurrently with

tion of the necessary provisions and to the provinces for power of supervision and control.

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Needless to say that in taking care of the next distributions of such material Your Excellencies should recommend to the Mayors a careful use of same, so as to avoid wastage and at the same time contribute to make the burden for the Communes less felt.

Concerning the polling boxes, the Ministry will issue later on particular provisions, as soon as the examination and study of special schemes aimed to overcome the present deficiency of material needed to produce an economical type, which however could be skilfully relied upon, will be completed.

On the above mentioned directives aiming substantially to bring forth with the most modest means the most direct appliances and devices of the electoral machine we wish to call the particular attention of Your Excellencies so that in bringing them to the Mayors' knowledge they should emphasize the basic principle underlying them.

Your acknowledgment will be appreciated.

FOR THE MINISTER
Mole'

(COPIA)

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO

Direzione Generale dell'Amministrazione Civile - Servizio Elettorale -

Prot. 4884 -E

Roma, 11 aprile 1945

OGGETTO : Spese elettorali.

e p.c.

AI PREFETTI DEL REGNO

AGLI ALTI COMMISSARI PER LA SICILIA E LA SARDEGNA

Con decreto legislativo Luogotenenziale 8 febbraio 1945, n. 55, pubblicato nella Gazz. Ufficiale N. 32 del 15 marzo scorso viene stabilito che tutte le spese inerenti alla prima formazione delle liste elettorali sono assunte dallo Stato mentre per la prima consultazione popolare amministrativa l'opera dello Stato e' limitata alle spese per la fornitura degli stampati e delle urne,

In rapporto a tale discriminazione che nell'attuale stadio delle operazioni preliminari alla convocazione dei comizi assume rilievo soprattutto per l'arredamento dei seggi elettorali, il Ministero ravvisa opportuno fornire alcune precisazioni ed istruzioni che potranno servire di guida al Sindaco per l'adozione dei necessari provvedimenti ed ai prefetti per l'esercizio dei poteri di vigilanza e di controllo.

Giova innanzi tutto avvertire che le norme in elaborazione sulla procedura della votazione e sulle rappresentanze elettive cui dara' vita la volonta' popolare dovranno necessariamente essere informate al criterio di una contingente disciplina della materia poiche' l'emanazione di un definitivo/organico ordinamento rientra, come e' ovvio, fra le attribuzioni dell'assemblea costituente e degli organi legislativi da questa creati. In tali condizioni, e' apparso in linea di massima - e salva ogni definitiva determinazione del Governo - prudente consiglio prendere per base il sistema del Testo Unico della legge comunale e provinciale 2 febbraio 1915, n. 148, non senza apportarvi - bene inteso - ritocchi e temperamenti al fine di rendere piu' spedita la procedura elettorale e la conseguente formazione degli organi primari dei comuni e delle provincie.

Ora, per quanto specificatamente attiene all'arredamento dei seggi, questo dovra' realizzarsi in modo da conciliare nella maniera piu' proficua le scarse disponibilita' finanziarie degli enti autarchici e le difficolta' di provvedere in loco ad un'adeguata attrezzatura con le esigenze inderogabili della segretezza del voto e della polizia dell'adunanza. Purche' dette esigenze siano soddisfatte, sara' sufficiente qualsiasi mezzo di fortuna, specie in ordine ai tavoli da adibirsi per la votazione (cabine), al tavolo dell'Ufficio elettorale, alla divisione della sala dell'elezione in due compartimenti, destinati l'uno all'ufficio predetto, l'altro agli elettori della sezione, e cosi' via.

Alla fornitura degli stampati continuera' a provvedere il ~~Ministero~~ ^{Ministero} per mezzo dell'Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato, analogamente a quanto e' stato disposto per la compilazione delle liste. Tale fornitura va, pero', intesa nel

2)

sense che essa concerne gli stampati piu' importanti, dovendo a tutti gli altri che potessero eventualmente occorrere provvedere direttamente i comuni - con il concorso delle Amministrazioni provinciali nella misura che sara' successivamente stabilita - avuto riguardo alla finalita' specifica delle prime elezioni. In ogni caso il fabbisogno degli stampati sara' calcolato nelle future spedizioni con una certa larghezza affinche' i comuni possano sopperire, almeno in parte, all'enorme consumo di carta che il servizio elettorale comporta.

Non sara' peraltro ozioso che, nel curare la successiva distribuzione di detto materiale, le Loro Eccellenze raccomandino ai Sindaci un uso assai oculato, si' da evitare sprechi e rendere, ad un tempo, meno sensibile l'onere per i comuni.

Circa le urne, il Ministero si riserva di dare articolareggiate disposizioni dopo che sara' esaurito lo studio di determinati accorgimenti diretti a superare l'attuale deficienza dei materiali occorrenti ed a realizzare un tipo economico che fornisca tuttavia ogni seria garanzia,

Sulle esposte direttive che tendono in sostanza ad apprestare col minimo mezzo i congegni piu' diretti del meccanismo elettorale si richiama la particolare attenzione delle Loro Eccellenze perche' nel portarlo a conoscenza dei Sindaci mettano nel debito risalto il principio fondamentale cui esse s'ispirano,

Torrera' gradito un cenno di ricevuta.

pel MINISTRO
(Mole')

France - 43 in L. 11 mm
4 April 45 64

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anyway represent the really democratic acts of the Government.

Of great importance is also the fact that the elections will take place in the areas still under the direct control of the Allied Authorities.

This certainly will improve the relations between the Allied and the Italian Authorities. The elections must take place immediately, so the Italian people will have the chance to express its political feelings.

Negarville remembers the last free administrative elections, which took place in 1920; in these elections 2000 Communes and 25 provincial administrations were conquered by the Socialist party. Afterwards the corrupted fascist activities have deprived the Italian people of free elections.

Negarville also point out the faults of the present administration system in which, for instance, reactionary prefects do not keep in any account the nominations of the local C.L.N., or straightway give the sack to democratic sindaci. Only free administrative elections can put an end to these inconvenients. The Communist party has the duty of emphasizing that voting is not only a right, but above all a duty (to be extended also to the women.) The Communist party must also compel the Government to allow the soldiers to vote, and to forbid all the fascist leaders, including the former podesta', to vote. The Communist and Socialist parties have agreed in their electoral policy to present commune lists to the administrative elections. This does not exclude anyway, that, if there is necessity for some local situation, the two parties present their lists together with other parties. Negarville ends his report stating that in the interest and for the sake of democracy the administrative elections should be held with the system of the "proportional representation".

Memorandum to Civil Affairs Section, A.C.

In considering the general question of elections in local government in Italy, the Department of State understands that the qualifications of voters in administrative elections will be those provided for political elections according to the electoral law of 1919 (no. 1495) as modified by decrees nos. 247 of September 28, 1944, and 23 of February 1, 1945, and the ministerial decree of October 24, 1944.

I shall appreciate your advice in this connection.

W. C. Dowling
Walter C. Dowling
Political Adviser (A)

Rome, April 18, 1945

To: Local Govt.

Please advise C.A. Sec about the questions raised in the above note from the Political Adviser (A)

W. G. I. Holland, Major
C. of Sec

18 Apr 45



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Translation in

Rome, 13 April 1945

7 APR 1945

From: MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
Dir. Gen. Amm. Civile e Servizio elettorale
Ref.: 4577-B

TO : ALLIED COMST SIGM, Local Govt. S/C

SUBJECT : Electoral proceedings in the Comune of Pantelleria.

With reference to the kind interest shown by your S/C Commission, we wish to inform you that, as far as this Ministry knows, no objections have been raised by the local Allied Command to the proceedings concerning the drawing up of electoral lists in the comune of Pantelleria.

We wish to add, however, that as the register of the population has been destroyed by war events, it has been necessary to suspend the time limits for the drawing up of the lists in said comune, pending completion of the reconstruction of the population records.

FOR THE MINISTRY

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B/T

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Ministero dell'Interno

Dir. Gen. Ammin/ne Civile
Servizio elettorale

Provvisore

Rel. A. 4377-B

Sec.

Allegato

Roma, 13 Aprile 1945

7 APR 1945

ALL'ON. COMMISSIONE AL-
LEATA - Sottocommissione
Governo locale

R O M A

Risposta al f. del

Dir.

1°

Oggetto: Operazioni elettorali nel comune di Pan-
telleria. -

In relazione al cortese interessamento manifestato da codesta On. Sottocommissione, si comunica che, e quanto risulta a questo Ministero nessuna difficoltà è stata opposta dal locale comando Alleato alle operazioni inerenti alla formazione delle liste elettorali nel comune di Pantelleria.

Si informa però che essendo rimasto distrutto per eventi bellici il registro di popolazione, è stato necessario sospendere i termini per la formazione delle liste nel predetto comune, in attesa che possa completarsi la ricostruzione dell'anagrafe.

PEL MINISTRO 4098

V. L. ...

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EXTRACT from the newspaper "LIBERA STAMPA" of 6 April 1945.

ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS IN THE CONTROLLED AREAS.

The Commission Allied to the Government has decided to proceed to the administrative elections in the territories still under military administration, and the civil administration will be restored to the Italian civil administration. The compilation of the electoral lists in the territories will be completed by the date which for each province will be established by the military command.

Translation:

ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS IN THE CONTROLLED AREAS.

The Allied Commission ^{has} declared itself in favor ^{of} proceedings for the administrative elections in territories still under the Allied military jurisdiction ~~should take place~~ before said territories are returned to the Italian civil administration. The drawing-up of the electoral lists in the aforesaid territories may be started on the date which the Allied Military Government will establish for each province.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/6/14/LG.

SUBJECT: FAM. 487 - "New Deal" for Italy.
TO : Civil Affairs Section.
Tel: 478190.
2nd April, 1945.

Reference your 4/32.A/GA of 2 April calling for a progress report in the matter of local elections for the period ended 31st March, 1945, this Sub-Commission reports as follows :-

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY.

1. A Decree-law of 28 September 1944 and a Ministerial Decree of 18 October 1944 have been made by the Italian Government and provide for the compilation of electoral lists for registers of voters. The preparation of the registers is proceeding. The Government state that the earliest date on which the registers can be completed, is about 15 May. It is thought that in most cases the registers will not be ready until later in the summer.
2. The Italian Government are preparing a decree as to the conduct of local elections. An outline of their proposals has been communicated to AC: they intend to revive the pre-Fascist law. It already appears that the electoral procedure proposed to be re-introduced is in several respects not adapted to ensure freedom and secrecy of voting. It has been decided to tender advice to the Italian Government as to the improvements that might be made.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT TERRITORY.

3. Consent has been given to the taking in Military Government Territory of two measures preliminary to the compilation of electoral lists. Firstly, instructions have been given for the revision of the "anagrafe" or population registers. Secondly, the forms regulations and other matter for use in compiling the lists have been distributed to Provincial Capitals, AG providing the transport.
4. At the suggestion of AC, the Italian Government have agreed to amend the decrees referred to in para. 1 so as to permit the preparation of electoral lists to be commenced on dates to be fixed by AMG.

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4. At the suggestion of AC, the Italian Government have agreed to amend the decrees referred to in para. 1 so as to permit the preparation of electoral lists to be commenced on dates to be fixed by AMG.

5. The desirability of permitting local elections to be held in any part of Military Government Territory has been deferred. This question is bound up with the problem referred to in para. 2.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

4056

R. Temple
RALPH R. TEMPLE, Major,

Deputy Director,
Local Government Sub-Commission.

o/sa/paw.

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers

28 MAR 1945

CA Sec 55

We Gout

Rome, March 1945

Dear Admiral,

I am not yet able to supply you with other particulars on the subject of administrative electorate, for the regulations which are to establish the suffrage system and the representations of the territorial autarchic organizations to be created by the vote of the people, are still being drafted.

The work of the competent office is being done with speed and with a truly democratic comprehension, so that the practical application of these regulations may take place without delay; I know that their drafting is rather difficult, for, besides requiring a deep study, it implies the solution of complex questions of a practical and principally of a political order.

I am grateful for your kind interest for the rehabilitation of free institutions in my country, and will let you know as soon as possible about the concrete plans of the Italian Government in this very delicate sector.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

S. I. Bonomi

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief of the Allied Commission
Rome

EC Dist - 28 MAR 45

Action: CA Sec (2)

INFO: CHIEF COMINT

Exec COMINT

BR

S.C.

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ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

OFFICE: REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
PHONE: 15555 EXT 1

FILE: PA/040

14 MAR 1945

SUBJECT: Preparations for Italian Local Elections 16 MAR 1945
 TO : Headquarters Allied Commission
 R O M E
 (Att: Local Government sub-commission)

- P.48
1. Your AG/45/12 of 7 MAR 45 has been received and instructions have been issued to the C.A.C. of IMPUGNA.
 2. The Island of PATTERIA is also under A.I.C. Shall the same be forwarded to C.A.C. PATTERIA?

for the Regional Commissioner

A. C. De Bello
 A.C. DE BELLO
 1st Lt P.A.
 P.A. to Regional Commissioner

10/16
Yes - but with that good friend
207 23 MAR 45

4054

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

Tel: 478290

AG/145/1/16

13 March 1945

SUBJECT: Preparation of Electoral Lists.

TO : His Excellency the Minister of the Interior.

Your Excellency:

1. I refer to the provision of Art. 26 of Ministerial Decree of 24 October 1944, which provides that in respect of territory not yet restored to the Italian Administration, the time limits for the formation of electoral lists begin to run from the 10th day after the date of re-assumption of powers by the Italian Government.
2. The effect of this provision is, of course, that in the provinces now under Allied Military Government no formal step can at present be taken towards the compilation of electoral lists. It has been realized by the Allied Commission—as no doubt it has also by the Italian Government—that one result of this provision may be to make it difficult to hold (when the time is ripe to do so) administrative elections in the provinces of Toscana, Umbria and Marche at the same time as in the provinces of Southern Italy. On the other hand, it is obviously desirable that administrative elections should take place throughout the provinces under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government at dates as near to one another as is practical.
3. It is, therefore, considered desirable that the preparation of electoral lists should be commenced in the provinces under Allied Military Government as early as possible and without waiting for those provinces to pass to Italian control.
4. In order to carry this decision into effect, some alteration will be necessary in Art. 26 of the Ministerial Decree above-mentioned. I should be glad to be informed as soon as possible what the Ministry propose for this purpose: and it would be convenient if you would let me see a draft of any further Decree that you may consider necessary. Any such new legislative provision will, when agreed between us and published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale, be put into operation in Military Government Territory immediately.

for *PKT* 4033
R. G. B. SPICER
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

SUBJECT : Note of interview - Ministry of the Interior

DATE : 2 March 1945 - 1130 hours

PRESENT : H.E. Adalberto BERRUTI, Chief of Cabinet
 Dott. SPARNO, Vice Prefect, Servizio Elettorale
 Cav. Andrea CAMERA, Consigliere di Gabinetto
 Major R.R. Temple
 Major C.G.R. Williams } Local Government Sub-Commission
 Lt. D. MODIANO, interpreting

1. We referred to the Prime Minister's reply to the Chief Commissioner (dated 27 February) on the subject of local elections (of which BERRUTI was fully informed), and said there were several points in this not altogether clear to us, both as to (a) the description of the local government structure intended to be established as a temporary measure, and (b) the manner of holding elections for such local government bodies.

Local Government Structure

2. It was explained to us that subject to certain "retouches and simplifications" (as to which see para 5 below), the Government intended to return strictly and fully to the local government Code of 1915.

3. Under this system, there would accordingly be :

(a) in every commune : --

(i) a Communal Council of from 15-80 members according to population

(ii) a Communal Executive Committee ("Giunta Comunale") of 2-10 members, according to population, and elected by the Communal Council from among its own members. This body carries out the decisions of the Council and oversees the administration to the Council meetings.

(NOTE- : This is the same body as that introduced for the local government of communes by AC/Ital.Govt.action in April 1944, except that as there were no communal councils, it had to be (a) appointed by the Prefect and (b) invested with the powers of the council.)

(iii) the mayor, i.e. Sindaco. Also elected by the Council from its members. He presides over the Council and Executive Committee and controls the officials in the day-to-day administration.

(b) in every province : --

(i) a Provincial Council of 30-60 members, according to po-

2 -

population :

- (ii) a Provincial Deputation of 6-10 members, according to population, and elected by the Council from among its own members. Its functions in relation to the province are similar to those of the Communal Executive Committee in relation to the Commune.

(NOTE : This body is likewise the same as that introduced by AG/Ital. Govt. action in April 1944, except that it would in the future, under the proposals outlined in the Prime Minister's letter, no longer (a) be appointed by the Prefect, and (b) have the powers of the Council as well as its own).

- (iii) the President, also elected by the Council from among its members, who presides over the Council and Provincial Deputation and acts as principal executive officer of the province, as the Mayor does in the commune.

4. It is not intended to alter the provisions of the local government Code of 1915 either (a) as to the respective powers of the communal and provincial local authorities; nor (b) their relations with one another, or (c) their relationship to the Prefect and the Central Government. It was explained to us that the Government's view is that their proposals are a temporary measure only. Changes in substance are matters for the Constituent Assembly. It would not be proper for the present Government to pre-judge such issues in merely interim measures.

5. Nevertheless, the Government do propose certain "retouches and simplifications", as mentioned in para 5 of the Prime Minister's letter. As an example of what this means, it was stated (a) the Code of 1915 provides for two provincial Presidents. One is President of the Council, who presides over its meetings and little more. The other is President of the Provincial Deputation who is, according to the 1915 Code, chosen by the Deputation from among its own members : it is ~~this~~ President who presides over the provincial Deputation and acts as principal executive officer of the province. It is proposed to abolish the second President and have the President of the Council elected by that body to be a member of and preside over the Provincial Deputation also, and to be the principal executive officer. This is the kind of "simplification" proposed.

(b) Secondly, it is proposed to reduce slightly the number of members of both the Provincial and Communal Councils. Reference was specifically made to the number of Communal Councillors in the largest province, i.e. 30 for communes of over 250,000 population : and we were told that the government felt this was rather too large and unwieldy a number for present exigencies.

6. An alteration in the number of members of the Communal Giunta and the Provincial Deputation has not been considered yet. Moreover, we were told that the possibility of other "retouches and simplifications" was being studied and there might be further minor amendments of this nature.

- 3 -

I Completion of Electoral Lists

7. It was stated that the compilation of the electoral lists was proceeding fairly well, considering the practical difficulties. The last consignment of material required, i.e. the forms, etc., for the preparation of the final edition, so to speak, of the lists, is being sent out by the Ministry (commencing today) to Italian Government provinces. It is going mainly by rail with AC assistance and the dispatch will be spread over 14 days and be done in six stages.

8. It was stated that the Ministry had not yet heard anything as to transportation for dispatch of material to AMG provinces. We stated that full information about this had been given to the Economic Section on 20 February and we would take the point up with them.

9. It will take a minimum of 110 days to complete the compilation of the lists. Owing, however, to such difficulties as roads being snowed up, lack of train stops, and the total or partial destruction of the population lists in some communes, the compilation will take longer in many places.

10. The Ministry has just signed a Decree which is about to be published, extending the time-table in the case of those communes whose "anagrafe" or population lists have been destroyed: and the Ministry are going to send copies of the last census returns to such communes in substitution.

11. The earliest date in Italian Government territory when this can be ready can be taken as 15 May.

III Date of Elections

12. Having regard to the earliest date for completing compilation of the electoral lists, given in the previous paragraph, it was stated that the actual elections could be anticipated to take place at the end of June or the beginning of July.

13. We discussed the 8th para of the Prime Minister's letter, and it was agreed that this meant (a) that in each commune the electors will vote for their Communal Councillors or Provincial Councillors on the same day; (b) that the Provincial Councillors (unlike the Communal Councillors) are divided up and a certain number of them assigned to each judicial district or "mandamento" in the province according to the population of the "mandamento"; (c) that, therefore, all communes in the same "mandamento" must have their elections on the same day to choose, firstly, the Provincial Councillors for the "mandamento", and secondly their own respective Communal Councillors; (d) subject to the above, however, the date for the elections can vary from "mandamento" to "mandamento" and from province to province.

4090

14. We asked if the Government had given thought to one disadvantage of not having all elections on the same day; namely, that the results of those held first would be bound to influence those held later, and thus give an opening for undesirable political maneuvering. The reply was that the Government were alive to that, but in spite of this disadvantage, they considered

- 4 -

the practical difficulties ruled out the possibility of holding all elections on the same date. As is explained above, in paras 9 and 10, it is impossible in the present state of the country to expect all the electoral lists to be ready on time. As a matter of practical necessity, therefore, the dates for the elections in various areas must be fixed "ad hoc", according to the progress made in each area and the varying dates when the lists are ready.

15. The government admitted that their underlying intention was to have all the elections on dates as close together as possible. They hope that there will be a lapse of not more than a few days between the elections of one "mandamento" and another comprised in the same province. As between province and province, however, the lapse of time would be necessarily greater. It was their hope, however, that they might be able to complete all their local elections in Italian Government territory in about a month.

IV Method of Voting

16. We had a long, somewhat technical discussion with a view to elucidating what actually happens in a polling station in an Italian town on the day of election for, say, the Communal Councillors. The results are summarized in the following paragraphs.

17. In the first place, there is no nomination of candidates. There used to be in parliamentary elections, but not in local ones. The voter is entitled to vote for anybody whose name is on the register of qualified voters.

18. Secondly, no official ballot papers are supplied, as is done in parliamentary elections. The voter brings his own voting paper or "scheda" as it is called. Provided it is on white paper (and this requirement will probably be relaxed), it can be printed or written or partly one and partly the other, and in any form.

19. What happens in practice, however, is that the political parties issue their own printed "schede" to their own members or supporters. Theoretically, the elector (voter) is entitled when he gets to the polling booth to cross out names from this list and write in the names of other electors. He can also use his own manuscript. In practice, however, the party lists are almost exclusively used and very few alterations are made.

20. For the purpose of voting, the commune is divided into polling districts (sezioni) containing 100-800 electors. The number of councillors is not, however, divided up among the polling districts: the electors in each polling district vote for the total number of councillors permitted by law.

21. The voting at each polling place is managed by (a) a President and Vice President, who are magistrates of judicial or state officials; (b) four election clerks, chosen by the Communal Council from among voters qualified to be jurymen; (c) a Secretary, who is a state judicial or communal official selected by the President of the section.

22. The practice of appointment of agents by candidates or political parties to watch the actions of these officials is unknown. Neither are the judicial

4069

- 5 -

authorities charged with any supervision over the method of voting, as is the state's Attorney General in many of the United States. However, the election clerks being chosen by the Communal Council, it seems they would amount in practice to an official recognition of party agents.

23. On an elector presenting himself to vote, his identity must first be established. This is done by:

- (a) an election clerk or the secretary personally vouching for him and signing the electors list opposite the electors name; or
- (b) another elector, whose identity has been previously established as in (a), vouching for the elector and signing the list as above; or
- (c) the elector presenting an identity card with a photograph on it, the number of the card being entered against the electors name in the list. If not in possession of a government identity card, the elector can get a special one from the local "Pretore".

24. The elector then goes into the polling booth merely for the purpose of folding, in secret, his "scheda" into four: he is supposed already to have inserted the requisite names. He then hands it to the President of the polling district who places it in the ballot box or urn. The law requires this to be made of transparent glass: the Government are considering relaxing this to the extent of permitting the urn to be made of any suitable material with a small glass panel in front.

25. The elector may only vote for four-fifths of the vacancies. For example, if there are 20 Communal Councillors to be elected, yet, the elector may not vote for more than 16 names. If he does, his ballot-paper or scheda is void. Consequently the political parties, in the printed lists they issue to their supporters, do not put forward names for more than four-fifths of the vacancies; in this example, they would have 16 names on their schede.

26. In counting the votes, however, all vacancies have to be filled. In the case of e.g. 20 vacancies, the 20 persons having the greatest number of votes are declared elected. A party putting forward 16 candidates on its list might, if it had a large following and were well organized, get them all elected. Theoretically, however, it cannot get more than 16 elected: and therefore, the remaining 4 places at least must go to some other party.

27. This is the theory: and the object is to preserve some representation for minorities, as the Prime Minister states in his letter. Theoretically, the strongest possible political party cannot secure more than four-fifths of the seats in the Council. In practice, however, (as we pointed out) subtle election-eering methods can defeat this, e.g. a party can print two or more lists and give careful instructions to their supporters as to which each one is to use.



C. G. R. WILLIAMS,
Major
Local Government Sub Commission

4068

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/LC

Tel: 478190

2 March 1945

SUBJECT: Preliminaries to preparation of electoral
lists--Lampedusa Comune.

TO : His Excellency the Minister of the Interior.

Your Excellency:

1. I refer to the Ministry's letter No. 4676-S (Dir. Gen. Admin/nc Civile) dated 26 February 1945.

2. The Allied Commission readily agree that in the Comune of Lampedusa, as in the provinces under Allied Military Government in Toscana, Umbria and Marche, (a) instructions should be given for the immediate revision of the population lists and (b) that the regulations, forms and other material which will be necessary for the preparation of electoral lists should, with the assistance of the Commission in the matter of transport, be sent to the communal authorities.

3. Accordingly, a copy of the Ministry's circular of 26 January, together with a copy of the instructions imparted thereon by the Allied Commission to the Regional Commissioners of Toscana, Umbria and Marche, has been transmitted to the Regional Commissioner for Sicilia; and he has been requested to take the necessary steps with respect to the Comune of Lampedusa.

for
R. G. B. SPICER
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

CJH/dec

revision of the population lists and (b) that the registration of the other material which will be necessary for the preparation of electoral lists should, with the assistance of the Commission in the matter of transport, be sent to the communal authorities.

3. Accordingly, a copy of the Ministry's circular of 26 January, together with a copy of the instructions imparted thereon by the Allied Commission to the Regional Commissioners of Toscana, Umbria and Marche, has been transmitted to the Regional Commissioner for Sicilia: and he has been requested to take the necessary steps with respect to the Comune of Lampedusa.

CPH/pec

for
R. G. S. SPUR
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

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368

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO

Direzione Generale dell'Amministrazione Civile
Div. 2 - Sezione 3

Prot. N. 15600-2

Roma 16 febr. 1945

OGGETTO : Pagamento delle spese inerenti alla formazione
delle liste elettorali.

BIGLIETTO URGENTE DI SERVIZIO

ALLE IL. EE. I PREFETTI DEL REGNO

A seguito del telegramma circolare n. 1559 del 26 gennaio
u.s. ed ai fini della uniformità e regolarità nella erogazione e conse-
guente documentazioni delle spese per la preparazione delle liste elettorali,
per le quali verrà quanto prima disposto il relativo accreditamento, nei limiti
del fabbisogno strettamente indispensabile, alla stregua delle indicazioni al-
l'uopo richieste alle varie Prefetture, si ritiene opportuno prescrivere
quanto appresso:

a) Per quanto concerne le spese da anticiparsi dai Comuni :

1 - per tali spese dovranno essere redisposti, dalle singole amministrazioni
particolarizzati preventivi da approvarsi dalle Prefetture, previo il loro
rigoroso esame, da informarsi ai criteri della più stretta parsimonia:

2 - L'erogazione delle spese - entro i limiti delle previsioni come sopra ri-
conosciute ammissibili - dovrà essere effettuata dagli enti con regolari
deliberazioni da comunicarsi alle Prefetture per il visto di esecutività,
corredate dai documenti giustificativi debitamente liquidati :

3 - gli eventuali compensi al personale dei Comuni per il lavoro straordinario
occorso per il titolo di cui trattasi, dovranno formare oggetto di speciali
atti deliberativi, da sottoporsi del pari all'approvazione della Prefettura,
corredati del certificato del Sindaco attestante il numero delle ore ⁴⁰ di servizio
effettivamente prestate ed eccedenza al normale orario di ufficio, e dalla liqui-
dazione del compenso in base alle norme dell'art. 244 del T.U. 3 marzo 1934 n. 383:

4 - appena espletato il lavoro di preparazione delle liste, le singole amministra-
zioni dovranno redigere il relativo rendiconto e provvedere subito all'invio di
esso alla Prefettura, corredato dalle copie sia delle deliberazioni, debitamente

445

vistate, relative a l'ordinazione e alla liquidazione delle singole spese, sia dei documenti giustificativi delle spese stesse, sia, infine, delle quietanze dei vari percipienti:

5 - i rendiconti, previo il loro accurato esame da parte degli Uffici di Ragioneria delle Prefetture (alla stregua dei preventivi in precedenza approvati) ai fini dello stralcio di eventuali partite non giustificate o comunque non integrabili a carico dello Stato. Dovranno essere approvati e riconosciuti regolari dal Ragioniere Capo della Prefettura e muniti del visto di conferma del Prefetto.

b) - Per quanto concerne le spese di pertinenza delle Prefetture:

1 - tali spese, salvo particolari autorizzazioni di questo Ministero si riferiscono, in linea di massima, a quelle per il servizio di vigilanza e per il funzionamento delle Commissioni elettorali.

2 - Le spese medesime - da limitarsi anch'esse allo stretto indispensabile - dovranno essere liquidate:

- per quelle inerenti al servizio di vigilanza, in base a regolari tabelle da prodursi dagli incaricati delle missioni, da documentarsi in base alle norme vigenti in materia e da munirsi del visto del Ragioniere Capo della Prefettura o di quello del Prefetto; per quelle per il funzionamento delle Commissioni Elettorali, in base ad un prospetto, firmato dal Presidente e dal Segretario di ciascuna Commissione e vistato, per la regolarità, dal Ragioniere Capo della Prefettura e dal Prefetto, dal quale, sulti, alla stregua dei verbali delle adunanze, il numero delle sedute alle quali sono intervenuti i singoli componenti o la retribuzione a ciascuno di essi dovuta, tenuto conto del gettone di presenza all'uopo autorizzato.

c) - Rendiconto delle Prefetture.

Per il discarico degli accreditamenti disposti in le prefetture, appena ultimato il pagamento delle spese in parola o comunque esaurito il fondo accreditato, dovranno produrre a questo Ministero il prescritto rendiconto mod. 27 C.G. - in triplice esemplare - corredato:

- 1 - dei predetti rendiconti dei singoli comuni;
- 2 - degli ordinativi di pagamento estinti afferenti ai rendiconti medesimi.
- 3 - delle tabelle e dei prospetti delle indennità per il servizio di vigilanza e per il funzionamento delle Commissioni elettorali, corredati dalli ordinativi estinti a favore degli interessati.
- 4 - degli ordinativi estinti per altre eventuali spese autorizzate da questo Ministero, corredati dai documenti di liquidazione e da le copie delle autorizzazioni ministeriali.

Le LL. EE. avranno cura di richiamare la particolare attenzione dei Dirigenti e dipendenti Uffici di Ragioneria sulla necessità di procedere, con la massima cautela, alla liquidazione delle spese sopraindicate, al fine di evitare osservazioni da parte dello scrivente o della Corte dei Conti e la conseguente restituzione dei rendiconti, con notevole intralcio alla speditezza del servizio.

Si resta in attesa di un sollecito cenno d'intesa e di assicurazione.

IL MINISTRO

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 594
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

MC/45/16

Tel: 620

20 February 1945

TO: Civil Affairs Section.

Pursuant to request of VP at the meeting yesterday, I suggest
that the following topic be placed in the agenda of the meeting of
Regional Commissioners:

Local elections

HCE/pec

R.H.J.
for
R. G. B. SPIER
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

Tel: 478706

17th February, 1945.

AC/9/20.2/CA

TO: Civil Affairs Section.

1. Reference folio p. 1A and Minute No. 1

2. In Ministerial Decree of 24 October 1944, which sets forth the rules governing the operation of DLL 247 of 28 September 1944, concerning the compilation of electoral lists, there does appear a provision which eliminates from the electoral lists persons convicted of Fascist antecedents. The following is the wording of the pertinent provision in the Ministerial Decree:

"Art. 2:--The following persons cannot be registered in the electoral list:

.....
(6) Those who have been committed to the sanctions contemplated by Art. 8 of DLL 152 of 27 July 1944, or sanctions against Fascism until the end of such measures".

3. Art. 8 of DLL 152 referred to was amended by DLL No. 2 of 4 January 1945, so that it now reads as follows:

"Any person who for Fascist reasons or, by taking advantage of the political situation created by Fascism has committed acts of particular gravity which, while not constituting offences, are contrary to the rules of moral rectitude or of political probity, shall be subject to the loss of suffrage rights, active or passive, for a period not exceeding 10 years, or temporarily disqualification from holding public office or to loss of political rights for a period of not more than 10 years.

"Any person who has held a leading position in the fascist party shall be subject to loss of suffrage rights. The leading positions to which this shall apply will be notified by decree of the President of the Council of Ministers.

Art. 2:--The following persons cannot be registered in the electoral list:

....

- (6) Those who have been committed to the sanctions contemplated by Art. 8 of DLL 152 of 27 July 1944, or sanctions against Fascism until the end of such measures".

3. Art. 8 of DLL 152 referred to was amended by DLL No. 2 of 4 January 1945, so that it now reads as follows:

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"Any person who has held a leading position in the fascist party shall be subject to loss of suffrage rights. The leading positions to which this shall apply will be notified by decree of the President of the Council of Ministers.

"Wherever such a person is deemed to be a danger to society, he may be sent to an agricultural colony or a labor institution for a period of not less than one or more than ten years.

"The provisions contained in this Article shall be administered by a Provincial Commission, presided over by a judicial official, composed of two other members chosen by lot from among the lay judges described in Art. 4. Magistrates directed to preside over the Provincial Commissions shall be appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers after a consultation with the Minister of Pardon and Justice and the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism.

"As regards members of the legislative assemblies or other institutions who by their votes or actions contributed to the maintenance of the Fascist regime and made war possible, they shall be dismissed from their office on decision of the High Court described in Art. 2, without prejudice to any of the other provisions set out in this Decree, insofar as they may be applicable."

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- 2 -

4. Art. 41 of D.L. 152 further provides that:

"Without prejudice to the powers of the Ministero Pubblico, Public Authorities, and other bodies or organizations, the High Commissioner may on his own initiative or on the initiation of a private individual commence proceedings.

....."(2) To apply the provisions set out in Art. 8."

5. Apparently, the foregoing two quotations from D.L. 152 set up a procedure for the denial of voting privileges to ex-Fascists. There is some ambiguity in the Decree as to the exact way in which the provisions quoted are to be invoked. Furthermore, the definiteness in the standards which we are accustomed to see in our Anglo-Saxon law is missing. The High Commissioner may apply the provisions of Art. 8. Art. 8 itself talks about acts which are "contrary to the rules of moral rectitude or of political probity". What this means is difficult to say at any one time. Moreover, the President of the Council of Ministers, according to Art. 8, has the right to determine by Decree what a leading position in the Fascist Party is. To date, this has not been done. The article in the "Giornale" referred to in folio p. 1A seems to be a follow-up of the provisions in Art. 41 of D.L. 152, which gives the High Commissioner the right to apply the provisions of Art. 8. It would seem to me that this is an attempt to nullify the authority of the Provincial Commissions mentioned in Art. 8, and to vest it in the High Commissioner himself. I recommend that this matter be taken up with the Italian Government to the end that a definite and judicial-like procedure be provided for, and that "witch-hunting" be prevented.

6. In the booklet of instructions on the subject of drawing up of electoral lists, which has been distributed to Prefectures under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government and which we have been asked to distribute to the three AMG Regions (Toscana - Umbria - Marche), the following comment is made concerning the Ministerial Decree:

Article 2

".....Another change, imposed by the necessity to coordinate the old law with the new penal legislation, was made in No. 11, which excludes from the right to vote persons convicted for the crimes contemplated in Part I of the law on sanctions against Fascism."

Article 5

".....In correlation with the text of Art. 2 of the Ministerial Decree, the obligation to inform the Sindaco was extended.... as regards the special sanctions applied in accordance with Art. 8 of the law on sanctions against Fascism."

[illegible]

... of instructions on the subject of drawing up of

Article 2

".....Another change, imposed by the necessity to coordinate the old law with the new penal legislation, was made in No. 11, which excludes from the right to vote persons convicted for the crimes contemplated in Part I of the law on sanctions against Fascism."

Article 5

".....In correlation with the text of Art. 2 of the Ministerial Decree, the obligation to inform the Ginecoco was extended.... as regards the special sanctions applied in accordance with Art. 8 of the Law on sanctions against Fascism."

7. It would seem extremely desirable that an immediate conference of this matter be had.

R. B. Spicer
 R. B. Spicer

R. G. B. SPICER
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

1. **SET/TEST**

4082

30 GEN 1945

Tel Ext 311

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

LWS/el

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref. 802/74/COS

29 January 45

MEMORANDUM:

TO : DCOS, Civil Affairs Section

Colonel Pennycuik, Regional Commissioner, Sardegna Region, expects to visit this Headquarters for a period of approximately three days starting the 5th of February. He wishes to go into the question of elections. Will you kindly see that pertinent information on this subject is available?

1081

P. W. Stearns
Chief Staff Officer
To the Chief of Staff

*Maj. Sample to be
prepared to speak*

*PRC**4853/10
0000*

from the "UNITA" of the 31st of January, 1945

Decision of the Council of Ministers :

WOMEN SHALL VOTE IN THE NEXT ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS

The Council of Ministers which had expressed in general lines their consent to the extension of vote to women, has now decided for the extension itself. They have approved a short legislative decree with which the vote is extended to women who have reached the age of 21 on the 31st of December 1944.

As it is already known, the Government has ordered in all the Communes of liberated Italy, with two decrees, one legislative (28th of September, 1944,) and one ministerial (24th of October, 1944), to draw up the electoral lists with the inscription of all males of age. This provision is in force from the 30th of January, as on this date shall begin the complex and important work for the formation "ex-novo" of the lists which fascism had abolished.

TC/Tr.

29A

Gron. Unità

31 Jan. 1945

Le deliberazioni del Consiglio dei Ministri

Le donne voteranno

sin dalle prossime elezioni amministrative

allontanati
voto di milita

resa delle

eretti, uno legislativo (25 settembre 1944) e uno ministeriale (24 ottobre 1944). Il Governo ha ordinato in tutti i Comuni dell'Italia liberata la formazione delle liste elettorali con l'iscrizione di tutti i maschi maggiorenni. Tale disposizione entra in vigore il 30 gennaio, iniziando da questa data il lavoro complesso e ponderoso per la formazione ex novo delle liste che il fascismo aveva abolito.

Il Consiglio dei Ministri, il quale aveva in precedenza espresso il suo consenso all'estensione alle donne del diritto elettorale, ha deciso l'estensione stessa. Esso ha approvato un breve decreto legislativo con il quale il diritto di voto viene esteso alle donne che abbiano compiuto il 21. anno di età al 31 dicembre 1944.

Come è noto, mediante due de-

2079

Receipt for Documents.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

TO : EDUCATION SUB COMMISSION.

Date 18th Dec. 1944.

Please receive the undermentioned documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, H.Q. AS : -

Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding Local Government Elections in Italy at present. COPY No. 8.

DATE

TIME

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

Page 28 transferred to file 45/B page 43078

25

(COPY)

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

General Div. of Civilian Administration

5th January 1945

FILE : 15600-1/1 Div. II Sec. 1

TO : ARMED COMMISSION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSIONSUBJECT : Procedure for the first formation of the electoral lists-
Distribution of forms in the liberated provinces.

- A) We are following the letter filed the same number as this one of the 11th of December, concerning the subject.
- B) We are sending to the Commission some models of the pamphlet, drawn up by the Ministry containing the legislative rules, the instructions and the forms concerning the drawing up of the electoral lists.
- C) As it is seen in the law provision of the art. 26 of the ministerial decree of the 24th October 1944, (page 40 of the pamphlet), the terms for the lists in question, in the Communes included in the territories not yet handed over to the Italian Administration, begin from the 10th day after the resumption of powers by the Italian Government.
- D) Referring to above, we ask the Commission to kindly let us know their decisions regarding the request made in the letter D) of the letter of 11th December 1944 concerning the distribution of the electoral forms to the Prefectures in Marche, Umbria and Tuscany.-

Expecting your communications, we thank you

4077

FOR THE MINISTER

(COPIA)

25A

MINISTERO DELL'INTERIO

Direzione Generale dell'Amministrazione Civile - Div. II - Sez. I

No. 15600-1/1

ROMA, 5 gennaio 1945

All' On. Commissione Alleata
Sottocommissione Governo LocaleROMAOGGETTO : Operazioni per la prima formazione delle liste elettorali.
Distribuzione stampati alle provincie liberate .-

-
- A) Si fa seguito alla lettera pari numero dell'11 dicembre u.s. concernente l'oggetto.
- B) Si ha il pregio di rimettere a codesta On. Commissione alcuni esemplari dell'opuscolo, compilato a cura di questo Ministero, contenente le norme legislative, le istruzioni ed i modelli di stampati concernenti la compilazione delle liste elettorali.
- C) Come rilevasi dal disposto dell'art. 26 del decreto ministeriale 24 ottobre 1944 (pag. 40 dell'opuscolo), i termini per la formazione delle liste in parola, nei Comuni compresi nei territori non ancora restituiti all'Amministrazione italiana, decorrono dal decimo giorno successivo alla data di riassunzione dei poteri da parte del Governo Italiano,
- D) In relazione a quanto precede, si prega codesta On.le Commissione di voler far conoscere le proprie determinazioni in merito alla richiesta formulata alla lettera D) della nota dell'11 dicembre u.s., circa la distribuzione degli stampati elettorali alla Prefettura dell'Umbria, delle Marche e della Toscana.-

In attesa di cortesi comunicazioni, si ringrazia,

4076

PEL MINISTRO

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT & UN COMMISSION
STATEMENT AS TO LOCAL ELECTIONS.

1. A pattern of local government was established in Sicily from the very beginning and later extended by various Regional and AGC orders. It was made uniform by the enactment of R.D.-L. 4 April 1944 No. 111 by the Italian Government. The Decree is automatically extended by AGC order to newly liberated provinces as they come under AGC Regional control. As of 10 December 1944, there were 51 provinces and 3,224 communes in liberated Italy. This local government structure was declaredly temporary: it was intended to reestablish local elections when conditions permitted. Accordingly pre-Fascist elective local authorities were not reestablished. Instead, the executive boards formerly chosen by the elective councils were instituted but the members were appointed by the Prefect. He was instructed to make them as widely representative of economic and political interests as possible.
2. In September, however, the Italian Government itself took the initiative and published a Decree for compiling electoral lists. This was brought to the notice of higher authority in AGC. The S/C was informed that the Chief Commissioner would bring up the question of women's votes with the Prime Minister, and was requested to report on voting by prisoners of war. In all other respects, the S/C was instructed not to carry the matter further.
3. This S/C was not instructed to advise on the subject of local elections until later. In November, it was asked to prepare a memorandum for higher authority as to the desirability and possibility of elections at present. This analysis indicated all the main

/administrative,

2.

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administrative, political and military factors involved. The Italian Government have never approached this S/C on the subject.

4. On 20 December, a communiqué published in the Italian newspapers stated that the Council of Ministers was considering the holding of local elections in the Spring. Commentary in many newspapers assumed such elections would definitely be held then. The S/C has been informed that no further discussions have taken place between the Chief Commissioner or Political Section and the Government on the matter. However, on 27 December, the Allied Commission was asked by the Ministry of Interior to assist in furnishing transportation for about 10 tons of electoral forms to the Prefectures of Umbria, Marche and Toscana, which request has been granted. Details are being worked out.

5. This S/C does not know what bodies and persons the Italian Government intends to have elected; i.e. whether a new pattern of local government is to be established to replace the temporary one established by the Allied authorities.

B.G.B. SPICER,
Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

8th January, 1945

4074

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief Commissioner

8 JAN 1945

Ref. 219/5 /COS.

8 January 1945

SUBJECT: Information for the Acting President.

TO : DGCS, CA Section *W*
 DGCS, Econ Section
 DGCS, Est Section
 VP, Political Section
 GOC, Land Forces Sub Com.
 Director, Communications Sub Com.
 P. R. O.
 Rep., UNRRA.
 Rep., IGCR.
 Director, WMD & IFW Sub Com.

1. Reference 219/4/COS dated 6 Jan. 45.
2. Sections and Sub Commissions concerned will submit their statements IN DUPLICATE.

For the

Chief Commissioner

Copy to: Acting President.
 Chief Commissioner.

4073

4638/26
 4/53

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief Commissioner

Ref: 219/1/203.

6 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Information for the Acting President.

TO : DCS, CA Section
DCS, Secn Section
DCS, Est Section
VP, Political Section
COI, Land Forces Sub-Com.
Director, Communications Sub-Com.
S.R.O.
Rep., UNRRA.
Rep., IGOs.
Director, VMD & IOW Sub-Com.

1. The Acting President is anxious to acquaint himself on some of the more important items of the Commission's work. Some of these are defined on the accompanying list together with the section or Independent Sub-Commission responsible and the office or officers who should, subject to agreement of Heads of Sections, present the information.

2. Heads of Sections and Independent Sub Commissions will furnish to Chief of Staff by 9th January a short statement (not exceeding 500 words) on each subject, giving the salient facts and figures and will be ready to discuss at a personal interview with Mr. Macmillan on or after 10th January. The object of these interviews is two-fold: (a) to bring the Acting President up to date on the various subjects; (b) to afford the Acting President an opportunity of renewing his acquaintance with the officers and officials of the Sections and Sub-Commissions concerned.

3. The Acting President will wish to be informed of future progress in these matters and Heads of Sections and Independent Sub-Commissions will furnish further information thereon to Chief of Staff from time to time.

W. W. Stone

ELBERT W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

4072

Copy to: Acting President.
Chief Commissioner.

TO : Col HGB Spicer. Please submit draft to CA Sec by 1000 hrs 9 Jan 45.

6 Jan 45

S.H. WHITE Lt Col for CSO CAS

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<u>Subject.</u>	<u>Section or Sub-Commission.</u>	<u>Officer Concerned.</u>
1. Food: (a) Generally, but especially the question of the 500 grams ration. (b) Distribution.	Economic Sec. Food Sub-Com.	Col. Denmark (A) Col. Legg (B)
2. Status of Italian Prisoners of War in ITALY.	Political Sec. WHD & IWM Sub-Com.	Mr. Hopkinson (B) Mr. Schott (A) Lt. Col. Campbell (B)
3. Spuration.	Civil Affairs Sec.	Brig. Upjohn (B)
4. Housing. Repair of damaged houses and living conditions of the people.	Public Works & Utilities Sub-Com.	Lt. Col. Jenny (A) Lt. Col. Craig (B)
5. Roads & Bridges. What progress the Italians are making.	Public Works & Utilities Sub-Com.	Lt. Col. Jenny (A) Lt. Col. Rhodes (B)
6. Transport. (Curriculum is said to have been promised 500 trucks in England). Motor tyres and bicycle tyres.	Transportation Sub-Commission.	Mr. Taylor (A) Col. Thomas (B)
7. Industrial reconstruction. For instance, what is happening to the Galile hydro-electric plant?	Industry Sub-Com. Public Works & Utilities Sub-Com.	Mr. Vaughan (A) Lt. Col. Jenny (A)
8. Local Elections.	Local Government Sub-Commission.	Col. Spicer (B)
9. Carabinieri. Their clothing, equipment and status.	Public Safety Sub-Commission.	Col. Chapman (A)
10. C.I.P. and control of oil in Italy.	Economic Sec. Commerce Sub-Com.	Mr. Cleveland (A) Maj. Brewster (B)
11. The Lira Account.	Finance Sub-Com.	Col. Griffiths-Smith (B) Col. Lawler (A)
12. Land Reform - especially in Southern Italy and Sicily.	Agriculture Sub-Commission.	Mr. Allbaugh (A)
13. Statement of facts about, and of the limiting factors in Italian rearmament.	Land Forces Sub-Commission.	Major-General Browning (B)

6.	Transport. (Germanium is said to have been provided 500 trucks in England). Motor tyres and bicycle tyres.	Transportation Sub-Commission.	Mr. Taylor (A) Col. Thomas (B)
7.	Industrial reconstruction. For instance, what is happening to the Galile hydro-electric plant?	Industry Sub-Com Public Works & Utilities Sub-Com	Mr. Vaughan (A) Lt. Col. Remy (A)
8.	Local Elections.	Local Government Sub-Commission.	Col. Spiller (B)
9.	Combiner. Their clothing, equipment and status.	Public Safety Sub-Commission.	Col. Chapman (A)
10.	C.I.P. and control of oil in Italy.	Economic Sec. Commerce Sub-Com.	Mr. Cleveland (A) Maj. Irwin (B)
11.	The Lira Account.	Finance Sub-Com	Col. Stratton-Smith (B) Comd. Lawler (A)
12.	Land Reform - especially in Southern Italy and Sicily.	Agriculture Sub-Commission	Mr. Alibagh (A)
13.	Statement of facts about, and of the limiting factors in Italian rearmament	Land Forces Sub-Commission.	Major-General Browning (B)
14.	Civilization: (a) Progress in obtaining American civilians (b) Progress in obtaining British civilians	Establishment Section.	Col. Pike 4071 Lt. Col. Jones (B)
15.	Italian Minister for Occupied Territory.	Civil Affairs Sec	Brig. Upjohn (B)
16.	Question of enlistment into Italian Army of patriots who cross the line. Patriot policy generally.	Land Forces Sub-Commission. Civil Affairs Sec	Col. Kerr (A) Lt. Col. Craig (B)
17.	Displaced Persons UNRRA ICR	Displaced Persons UNRRA ICR	Col. Bradley (B) Mr. Keary (A) Sir Clifford Heathcote Smith (B)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

SECRET

NO/45/LG

Tel: 478107

SUBJECT: Local Government Elections.

18 December 1944

TO : Addressees as below.

1. Pursuant to the direction of the acting VP, herewith copy No. 8 of "Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present", for your information.

2. Please acknowledge receipt on the attached form.

*R. R. Temple Capt.**for*

R. G. B. SPICER
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

RRE/psc
Copy to: Civil Affairs (att: of Col.
White) (3)

Legal
Public Safety
Public Health
Mons. & P.A.
Education
Patriots
Displaced Persons

*Received
Temple
Capt
Ex-O. W.S/c*

4070

RECEIVED THE DOCUMENTS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

41

1417

TO : Public Health Sub Commission.

Date 18th Dec. 1944.

Please receive the undermentioned documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, H.C. AC : -

Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present. COPY No.6.

DATE Dec 23rd 44

TIME

SIGNATURE

G.D. Perkins

ADDRESS

Public Health Sub Commission

Appt. delay in acknowledgment.

G.D.P.

4069

IN LIES CP . 4/16

RECEIPT FOR DOCUMENTS.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

TO : PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

Date 18 Dec. 1944

Please receive the undermentioned documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, H.O. AG : -

Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present. COPY No. 5.

DATE 19 Dec 44...

TIME 1400

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

4068

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IN LITH OF . 1/10

RECEIPT FOR DOCUMENT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

TO : Displaced Persons Sub-Commission.

Date 18th December, 1944.

Please receive the unacknowledged documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, U.S. AG : -

Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present. COPY No.10.

DATE 18 Dec 44
FILE 11-11-44SIGNATURE *W. H. H. H.*
ADDRESS *...*

5067

IN LIEU OF . 1/16

RECEIPT FOR DOCUMENTS.LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

TO : ...Monuments & Fine Arts Sub Commission.

Date 18th Dec. 1944

Please receive the undermentioned documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, H.Q. AC : -

Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present.
COPY No. 7.

DATE 18 Dec 44.....

TIME 1500 hrs.....

SIGNATURE *Francis T. Delvald* *one*ADDRESS *Monuments...*
2 Fine Arts Bldg.

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IN LIEU OF . A/16

RECEIPT FOR DOCUMENTS.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

Date 18 Dec. 44

TO : LOCAL SUB COMMISSION.

Please receive the undermentioned documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, H.Q. AC : -

Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present. COPY. No. 4.

DATE ... 18/12/44 ...

TDE

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

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RECEIPT FOR DOCUMENTS.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION

01/11/1944

TO : Civil Affairs (att: of Col. White)

Date . 18 Dec. 44

Please receive the undermentioned documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, H.Q. AC : -

"Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of
holding local government elections in Italy at present"
COPY NO. 1, 2 and 3

DATE . 18 Dec. 44

TIME

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS . C. A.

4064

1816

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

785021

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
 DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 HEADQUARTERS, 1000 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

14F

TO : PATRIOTS BRANCH.

Date 18th Dec. 1944.

Please receive the unclassified documents from Local Government Sub-Commission, H.C. AD : -

Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present. COPY No. 9.

DATE 19. Dec 44.....

TIME 0900 hrs.....

SIGNATURE

P. D. Dagnan
Dag

ADDRESS

PATRIOTS BRANCH
 Allied : Commission

4063

(13)

(from the "TEMPO" of the 21st of December)

The Communal Elections

The Hon. Bonomi then informed the Council that he is giving instructions to all the Communes for the formation of the electoral lists which had been destroyed by fascism. From the lists (which leave untouched the problem of extending suffrage to women, and to which the Government in principle is favourable) in which all citizens having reached the age of 21 will be inscribed, there will be excluded, apart from those condemned for common crimes, also those fascists who have been deprived of their public rights according to art. 80 of the law on the sanctions against fascism. Considering the time it will take to draw up "ex-novo" these lists, it is foreseen that only at the beginning of next spring will it be possible to begin the first electoral consultations. Naturally as the formation of the lists will begin immediately in only a little more than a third of Italy, the only electoral consultation possible will be that of the administrative election for the nomination of the Communal Councils who in turn will nominate the Sindaci. These administrative elections, having a local character could be announced on successive Sundays and for specific provinces and regions.

The Council then charged the Ministers Togliatti, De Gasperi, Brosio and Ruini, to present at one of the next Councils, concrete proposals for the formation of consultative bodies for the purpose of affording direct expression of the living forces of the Country and to have as collaborators of the Government the experience and the competence of all concerned.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

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Mr. BONOMI therefore informed the Council about the instructions he is about to impart to all the Mayors, concerning the compilation of electoral lists which formerly were destroyed by Fascism.

In those lists, in which the problem of the extension to women of the electoral right will not be prejudiced, all citizen having reached the 21 year will be admitted but will be excluded from it those persons charged with common crimes and those fascists who have been deprived of public rights (art.30 of the Law on sanctions against Fascism).

Having considered the time required for the compilation of the lists, the first electoral consultations are expected about the beginning of next spring. Of course, as the compilation of the lists will immediately begin in about a third of Italy, the only possible consultation will consist for the moment of the administrative election for the appointment of the Municipal Councils which afterwards will appoint the Mayors.

As such administrative elections have local characteristics it would be possible to announce them on following Sundays but only for some specified provinces and regions.

The Council of Ministries, afterwards invited Ministers Togliatti, De Gasperi, Brosio and Einaudi to put forth, in one of the next councils, some concrete proposals for the establishment of consultative organisms in order to allow the country's lively forces to be expressed and in order that all experiences and powers could cooperate with the Government.

Translation of 13A
4061

IL TEMPO

Le quali saranno iscritti i cittadini che abbiano compiuto il 21.º anno di età, saranno esclusi, oltre i comuni, tutti per i comuni, anche quei fascisti che siano privati dei diritti politici, norma dell'art. 80 della legge sulle sanzioni contro il fascismo.

Considerato il tempo necessario per la compilazione ex novo delle liste, si prevede che adempimento all'inizio della prossima primavera si potrà procedere alle prime consultazioni elettorali. Naturalmente, giacché la formazione delle liste avrà avuto inizio soltanto in poco più di un terzo dell'Italia, l'intera consultazione elettorale che possibile sarà l'elezione amministrativa per la nomina del Consiglio comunale, i quali a loro volta nomineranno i sindaci. Queste elezioni amministrative, avendo carattere locale, potranno essere indette in data successive e per determinate provincie e regioni.

Le elezioni comunali

Il Consiglio che egli sta impartendo istruzioni a tutti i Comuni per la formazione delle liste elettorali, già distrutte dal fascismo. Dalle liste — che lasciano impregiudicato il problema dell'estradizione del diritto elettorale alle donne a cui il governo è in via di massima favorevole.

Il Consiglio ha quindi incaricato i ministri Togliatti, De Gasperi, Broglio e Ruffini di presentare in uno dei prossimi Consigli proposte concrete per la creazione di organi consultivi allo scopo di permettere l'espressione diretta delle forze vive del Paese e per far collaborare all'azione del governo tutte le esperienze e tutte le competenze. Successivamente, il Consiglio ha approvato un decreto...

35

LIBERATED ITALY

ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN SPRING

ROME, December 20 — Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi told members of his cabinet in session here today that instructions for the compilation of election lists are being sent out to municipalities in liberated Italy, and that the first free administrative elections since Fascism's seizure of power will be held next spring.

Bonomi pointed out that the question of women's suffrage, towards which the government, he said, was favorably disposed, must wait to be dealt with through national elections which will take place after the country is cleared of the Germans.

The Prime Minister attributed "great importance" to yesterday's statement of the National Committee of Liberation reaffirming the six parties' desire to collaborate in the Allied war effort and their intention to contribute to the democratic reconstruction of the country and to collaborate with the Government.

On the subject of occupied Italy, Bonomi said:

"The Government is happy to note that the Allied Command recognizes the Committee of National Liberation in northern Italy as the representative of the anti-Fascist parties in the territory occupied by the enemy."

This recognition, added to the recognition accorded by the Italian Government, he said, will sustain the heroic struggle of the anti-Fascists in the north.

The Council of Ministers entrusted Vice Premiers Palmiro Togliatti and Alcide De Gasperi and Ministers Mario Broca and Meuccio Ruini with the task of bringing down concrete proposals for the creation of consultative bodies to allow for the expression of the five forces of the country.

The Council then approved a decree authorizing formation of an interministerial committee to promote and coordinate the work of ministries directly concerned with economic reconstruction problems.

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This extract from Spence's Book will show how entangled to democratic electing methods is the South of Italy.

G. S. H.

(12)

But to take the problems of the day Giolitti must have and hold power, and to hold power, unchallengeable ^{immovable} against the fiery and enthusiastic of all persuasions, the disappointed of all parties, Giolitti had his technique of 'making' elections.

An abundant literature of the time preserves the records of Giolittian electioneering. Two British observers, King and Okey, writing in 1909 described the elections of that year as 'a mere parody on representative government as far as a large proportion of the 169 southern constituencies are concerned'.

They have put on record some of the methods employed. First bribery: this might sometimes be rendered a safe investment by giving half a bank note together with a piece of blotting paper to the voter entering the booth. On the evidence of the blotting paper, on which the Government candidate's name had to be visible he received the second part. Then more elaborate tricks: 'The absent, the illiterate, the dead vote by hundreds.' Sometimes the election officer would stuff into the ballot boxes enough forged votes to turn the scales. Inside Italy, a brilliant assault on the Giolittian system came from Gaetano Salvemini, later the most voluminous writer among the exiled enemies of Mussolini. He directed against Giolitti a spirited and formidable act of accusation in a pamphlet, *Il Governo della mala vita* (Government by Criminals), based on his own observation of an election at Gioia del Colle (in the heel of Italy): a story of arrests, of suburbs placed in a state of siege, train services interrupted, to ensure the election of one of Giolitti's 'askaris'.

Needing only a sufficient group of personal followers in the Chamber to hold the balance between other groups, and content if these were elected by small majorities, Giolitti left the more progressive regions of Italy to vote in freedom: even in the constituencies which he needed to secure, his prefects and agents interfered only at the particular points where, for a bare majority in the constituency as a whole, the opposing candidate's voters must be barred, or fictitious votes introduced. Even the violence and fraud which Giolitti's opponents denounced in his system were applied in minimum doses at the least sensitive or at all events the least conspicuous points.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

SECRET

AG/AS/10

Ref: 478357

SUBJECT: Local Government Elections.

18 December 1944

TO: Addressees as below.

1. Pursuant to the direction of the acting VP, herewith copy No. _____ of "Memorandum as to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at present", for your information.

2. Please acknowledge receipt on the attached form.

R. R. Tamm
Capt.

for

R. G. B. SMITH

Colonel

Director

Local Government Sub Commission

WSE/peu

Copy to: Civil Affairs (att: of Col. White) (3) -

Legal
Public Safety
Public Health
Hous. & P.A.
Education
Patriots
Displaced Persons
File
Spare (in Safe)

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4057

SECRET

1148

Tel: 478723

Ref: P/323

14 December 1944

SUBJECT: Local Government Elections in Italy.

TO : Regional Commissioner, Sicilia Region.
 " " " Southern " "
 " " " Lazio-Marche Region "
 " " " Abruzzo-Molise " "
 " " " Sardinia Region "
 " " " Toscana " "
 " " " Emilia " "

I enclose a copy of a memorandum which has been prepared by the Local Government sub-Commission in consultation with the Political Section in regard to the desirability and possibility of holding local government elections in Italy at the present time. As you are no doubt aware, proposals for the holding of such elections have from time to time been put forward in the Communist and Republican papers. It has been decided that regional commissioners should be asked to furnish their observations on this proposal and I should be grateful for your urgent comments as far as your region is concerned. In seeking my advice on the subject you should, of course, avoid any consultation with any Italian authorities.

AS Lush
 Brigadier,
 Chief of Staff.

Copies to:

Regional Commissioner, Piemonte Region
 " " " Liguria "
 " " " Lombardia "
 " " " Venezia "
 Senior Civil Affairs Officer, 5th Army
 " " " 8th " "

4056

4500

HEADQUARTERS UNITED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM

AS TO THE DESIRABILITY AND POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ELECTIONS IN ITALY AT PRESENT

REF NO. 11

(I) PRELIMINARY

1. It has always been understood to be a part of the functions of the Allied Commission not only to secure the abolition of the Fascist local government structure, but to substitute for it a system distinctively democratic. Considerable experience along these lines was gained from the operations of AMGO in Sicily. On the basis of what was done there, modern were issued last January for the establishment by Allied Military Government of local authorities in occupied provinces and communes. With the transfer of Southern Italy to the control of the Italian Government, that Government continued the task by a Decree of April 1944.
2. The Orders and Decree provided for the re-establishment in part of the local government system contemplated by the pre-Fascist law of 1913. In the absence of any possibility of elections at that time, the elective communal and provincial councils were not re-established. The standing executive committees and the executive and presiding heads of the local authorities were re-introduced on the basis of appointment by the Prefect.
3. It was made clear in both Orders and Decree that this legislation was purely temporary.
4. The temporary local government structure thus contemplated has been established almost in its entirety throughout Italy behind the battle lines.
5. The next development was the promulgation by the Italian Government of a Decree of 28 September 1944 for the compilation of electoral lists, which Decree revived the law of 1919 on the subject.

(II) POLICY IMPLICATIONS IN THE AREA

6. It is obvious that the Decree of April has contemplated a further step in the democratization of Italian local government; i.e., the establishment of the holding of elections for them.

of Southern Italy to the control of the
entire system by a decree of April 1944.

2. The Orders and Decree provided for the re-establishment in part of the local government system contemplated by the pre-fascist law of 1913. In the absence of any possibility of elections at that time, the election of communal and provincial councils were not re-established. The standing executive committees and the executive and presiding bodies of the local authorities were re-introduced on the basis of appointment by the prefect.

3. It was made clear in both Orders and Decree that this legislation was purely temporary.

4. The temporary local government structure thus contemplated has been established almost in its entirety throughout Italy behind the battle line.

5. The next development was the promulgation by the Italian Government of a Decree of 20 September 1944 for the compilation of electoral lists, which Decree revived the law of 1913 on the subject.

(VI) POLICY IMPLICATIONS IN THE ABOVE

6. It is obvious that the measures of April had contemplated a further step in the decentralization of Italian local government; i.e. the establishment of elective local authorities and the holding of elections for them. The 1913 system was partially adopted as being the nearest democratic system to hand; but its mention did not imply that the elective local authorities provided by it were the particular ones ultimately contemplated.

7. In fact, the Italian Government gave this autumn established a commission of experts to study and make recommendations on the whole administrative system of the Italian State, including local government.

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8. It, therefore, local government elections are to be contemplated in the near future, it is necessary first to decide what local government bodies are to be elected. The final and permanent form of Italian local government must obviously rest on the will of the Italian people freely expressed. Presumably, this can only be expressed through some form of national legislative or representative assembly.

9. On the other hand, (subject to advice on their status) it can be argued that the present Government could pursue a pattern of elective local authorities which would be acceptable as a temporary measure, by continuing the process implicit in the Decree of April, i.e. by re-constituting and re-establishing the Communal and Provincial Councils for which provision is

SECRET

- 2 -

made in the law of 1915. Such a course may give an air of permanence to a system which in fact is intended to be temporary, and inevitably to some extent may justify or affect the subsequent action of the Italian people through their legislative (whether or not the latter may eventually vote). Further, it is to be assumed that a system enacted 20 years ago is necessarily going to meet with the temporary means of the country in the vastly changed circumstances of today. For instance, a considerable body of informed Italian opinion is interested in the development of a system of provincial autonomy, the representatives of which upon the existing system of provinces and the 1915 system of Provincial Councils cannot be far from.

10. It is also not to be overlooked that the Italians may wish to apply the elective system to the selection of public individual functionaries, ~~and~~ to the corporate bodies as familiar in the United States and the British Empire. May any present the serious question of electing the Mayor directly in a few small cities, or perhaps to the substitution of the Mayor on some such lines, if not abolished it.

11. In the meantime, in view of the fact that the Government cannot be entirely divorced from the electoral system, it is suggested that the extent of the high political principles involved. The need for serious and careful study of the problem by the Italians on the vital necessity of studying closely the provincial system in division. It is to be borne in mind, however, that the provincial system of the year of 1914, it was understood that the Italian people could be entirely free at some future date to carry out such radical reforms in their local government system as they thought fit.

(III) PROVINCIAL REFORMS INVOLVING THE PEOPLE

12. If the foregoing considerations are held not to influence the present problem or that such a problem is capable of solution, it could be necessary to give consideration to the following points:

(1) Electoral lists or registers must first be compiled. As stated above, a decree for this purpose has been issued. It appears however, that the compilation of the lists will take very much longer, in some provinces considerably longer than in others.

(2) The structure of the population, for example, or the number of members, those bonded or elected out of their houses, members of the Italian armed forces. (The decree of September makes provision for the registration of such people but there is no provision for election voting).

(3) Campaign and demonstrations. If electoral elections are to be held, the difficulties will be more, especially if elections are held

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APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (SEE

PROPOSED PERSONNEL OFFICIALS the members to influence the members. If would be necessary to consider observations on hold out to influence.

(5) The right of withdrawal

(iv) POSTING INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PROGRAM

14. Is the first time at the popular will. The more horizontal
product is a expression of the popular will. The more horizontal
above mentioned at these last could indicate equivalent this.

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16. The discovery of a document in an office which he looked upon as his London office having it to be a constructive object. There would it least be nothing in order to obtain the local government they came and not in order to force the authorities to provide food or boots from for up- supplied but presumably without success. There appears to be a military in a political context on this. From the military of Mexico all day in a country which is a location of interest on the border.

- (16) that it is in the best interest of the people of the country.
- (17) that the people of the country are in the best interest of the people of the country.
- (18) that the people of the country are in the best interest of the people of the country.
- (19) that the people of the country are in the best interest of the people of the country.
- (20) that the people of the country are in the best interest of the people of the country.

15. It is the policy of the United States to support the people of the country in the best interest of the people of the country.

16. The United States is committed to the people of the country in the best interest of the people of the country.

(V) PHILIPPINE ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM

17. The situation of local government elections in the Philippines is a matter of great concern to the United States.

18. The situation of local government elections in the Philippines is a matter of great concern to the United States.

SECRET

19. They could give some sort of hints to Italian political parties, or that it could not then be said that Italy had been helped by having been alerted to "anyone". It is not suggested that the elections could prove anything as to the extent to which a political party represents Italian opinion, or the contrary that it is not possible to believe that the elections would not exert the opposite will--one party, it seems, but the results would at least provide a measure of action which could be treated as a guide of the relative strength of parties. A program that is none.

20. The argument that the elections were to a certain extent should make the presence of the allies in a country a proof of the character of their intervention towards Italy. The argument should stand out in relation to the present situation in Greece and illustrate what could be done there -- and in other countries -- were it not for the threat of disorder.

(4) Political Elections

21. The foregoing observations are based on the assumption that the elections contemplated would be held (a) throughout liberated Italy and (b) simultaneously in all areas now occupied or under other local government areas as they be determined. It might be thought desirable, however, to limit elections either to part only of a country or to a certain class of local authority.

22. As to territorial limitation, it is fairly obvious that elections would not be held in the areas under the control of the 5th and 6th armies. Not only would the practical difficulties involved in such a situation be their highest but the G-4's could be expected to take strong objection to the diversion of the energies of all officers, Italian formations in the peninsula primarily away from tasks of military importance.

23. These objections have not quite the same force in military administration. Military administration is still undoubtedly present. On the other hand, in the countries where a lot of years ago governing directly, it is to be found the best chance of the elections being really free and independent. In all military or militia formations, however, whether under local or any other control, it is to be considered whether elected local authorities would prove satisfactory instruments. If the effectiveness were to be maintained by some effective institution, there might be something in this; but it is only a partial and provisional answer to similar bodies are everywhere, there is a lack of reason to believe that their effective basis could survive by serious forces by to a significant extent.

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to unclutter all round.

26. as to limiting the elections to a certain class of local authority, it has been suggested that they might be held in (a) cities of 50,000 population or more, or (b) towns of 20,000 population or over and those of less population that are provided with a certain level of services as given in the appendix.

27. It is true that this suggestion would also enable a concentration of the forces of public order and that it is in the long term that the practical difficulties encountered in a system of local authority elections are likely to be met. On the other hand, the probable objectionable consequences described in section 17 are not likely to result in just and control of population. Moreover, the political dangers alluded to above in para. 25 are as real in the case of a limitation to a class of authority as they are in the case of limitation to a given area.

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population, including the
as well as the case of a limitation to a given area.
are in the case of limitation to a given area.

APPENDIX

Local Government areas in liberated Italy as at 10/10/41.

Type of local authority	Military Government "under" Italian Government		Italian Government Territory	Total
	Army Control (2)	Regional Control (3)	(4)	(5)
(1)				
Total Provinces	4	11	36	51
Total Communes	155	474	2,595	3,224
Communes of 50,000 pop. and over	7	6	16	29
Communes of 20,000 pop. and over				
and	13	29	111	153
Provincial capitals of less population				

NOTE (1) For the purposes of this table it has been assumed that (a) the whole of the following provinces is in our hands:-

LEGGIO
FELSINA

(b) no part of the following provinces was in our hands:-

BOLOGNA
RAVENNA

(c) no part of the following provinces was in our hands:-

Communes of 20,000 pop. and over	7	6	26	29
Communes of 20,000 pop. and over				
Provincial capitals if of less population	13	29	111	153

NOTE (1) For the purposes of this table, it has been assumed that

(a) the whole of the following provinces is in our hands:-

LUCCA
PISTOIA

(b) no part of the following provinces are in our hands:-

BOLOGNA
RAVENNA

NOTE (2) The city of ROME is included under the appropriate figure in col. (4)

4052

9

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/LG

Tel: 620

SUBJECT: Local Government Elections.

13 December 1964

TO : Henry Hopkins, Esq.,
VP Political Section.

1. I re-submit the paper prepared by this Local Government Sub Commission, which we now feel represents our combined views.
2. I suggest that, subject to any amendments you may have, that it should be circulated at your discretion to Regional and Provincial Commissioners for their views. I take it that you will arrange such circulation should you decide to that effect. I am strongly of the opinion, however, that the views of (a) Local Sub Commission and (b) Public Safety Sub Commission should be sought before a decision is taken at a higher level.


R. G. B. SPICER
Colonel
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

REBS/pec

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S E C R E THEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/45/LG

Tel: 620

SUBJECT: Local Government Elections.

10th December, 1944.

TO : Henry Hopkins Esq.
VP Political Section.

Attached is the completed paper subsequent to our interview on the question of elections. I feel that I must concur with the general findings of this report.

I think the decision however must be taken at very high level and riding over all the objections, I strongly feel that elections should and can be held.

R. G. B. SPICER,
Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub-Commission.

RRBS/paw.

Enc. 1.

S E C R E T

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SECRETDRAFT

MEMORANDUM

AS TO THE DESIRABILITY AND POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS IN ITALY AT PRESENT

(I) PARLIAMENTARY*has*

1. It has always ^{been} understood ~~as~~ to be a part of the functions of the Allied Commission not only to secure the abolition of the Fascist local government structure, but to substitute for it a system distinctively democratic. Considerable experience along these lines was gained from the operations of AMGOZ in Sicily. On the basis of what was done there, Orders were issued last January for the establishment by Allied Military Government of local authorities in occupied provinces and countries. With the transfer of Southern Italy to the control of the Italian Government, that Government continued ^{the AMGO system} by a Decree of April 1944.

2. The Orders and Decree provided for the re-establishment in part of the local government system contemplated by the pre-Fascist law of 1915. In the absence of any possibility of elections at that time, the elective communal and provincial councils were not re-established. The standing executive committees and the executive and presiding heads of the local authorities were re-introduced on the basis of appointment by the Prefect.

3. It was made clear in both Orders and Decree that this legislation

operation of AMOT in Sicily. On the basis of what was done there, Orders were issued last January for the establishment by Allied Military Government of local authorities in occupied provinces and communes. With the transfer of Southern Italy to the control of the Italian Government, that Government continued, by a Decree of April 1944,

(the AMG system)

2. The Orders and Decrees provided for the re-establishment in part of the local government system contemplated by the pre-Fascist law of 1915. In the absence of any possibility of elections at that time, the elective communal and provincial councils were not re-established. The standing executive committees and the executive and presiding heads of the local authorities were re-introduced on the basis of appointments by the Prefect.

3. It was made clear in both Orders and Decrees that this regulation was purely temporary.

4. The temporary local government structure thus contemplated ~~in 1944~~ was established almost in its entirety throughout Italy behind the battle line.

5. The next development was the promulgation by the Italian Government of a Decree of 26 September 1944 for the application of electoral laws, which Decree revived the law of 1919 on the subject. The application of the decree in Military Government Territory was suspended to enable it to be studied -- the Government having given no indication to the Allied Commission of their intentions -- and a Directive was sought as to what extent the Local Government Sub-Commission should interest themselves in it. Pending the receipt of such a directive, the Sub-Commission is not in a position to advise upon the nature of this Decree.

(II) /...

(II) POLICY IMPLICATIONS IN THE ABOVE

6. It is obvious that the Decree of April last contemplated a further step in the democratization of Italian local government; i.e. the establishment of elective local authorities and the holding of elections for them. The 1915 system was partially adopted as being the readiest democratic system to hand; but its adoption did not imply that the elective local authorities provided by it were the particular ones ultimately contemplated. In other words, it was understood that the Italian people would be entirely free at some future date to carry out such radical reforms in their local government system as they thought fit.
7. In fact, the Italian Government have this autumn established a committee of experts to study and make recommendations on the whole of the administrative system of the Italian State, including local government.
8. If, therefore, local government elections are to be contemplated in the near future, it is necessary to first decide what local government bodies are to be elected. The final and permanent form of Italian local government must obviously rest on the will of the Italian people freely expressed. Presumably, this can only be expressed through some form of national legislature or constituent assembly. It is doubted whether the present Italian Government, having regard to its form and the basis on which it rests, is capable of producing a definitive, reformed local government system which would meet with popular acceptance.
9. On the other hand, it can be argued that the present Government

consultation of experts to study and make recommendations on the whole of the

administrative system of the Italian State, including local government.

8. If, therefore, local government elections are to be contemplated in the near future, it is necessary to first decide what local government bodies are to be elected. The final and permanent form of Italian local government must obviously rest on the will of the Italian people freely expressed. Presumably, this can only be expressed through some form of national legislature or constituent assembly. It is doubted whether the present Italian Government, having regard to its form and the basis on which it rests, is capable of producing a definitive, reformed local government system which would meet with popular acceptance.

9. On the other hand, it can be argued that the present Government could produce a pattern of elective local authorities which would be acceptable as a temporary measure, by continuing the process implicit in the Decree of April, i.e. by re-constituting and re-establishing the Central and Provincial Councils for which provision is made in the Law of 1913. The danger of such a course is that it gives an air of permanence to a system which is not intended to be so, and inevitably to some extent pre-judges the subsequent action of the Italian people through their elected national representatives. Neither is it to be assumed that a system enacted 29 years ago is going to meet even the temporary needs of the country in the vastly changed circumstances of today. For instance, a considerable body of informed Italian opinion is interested in the development of a system of regional autonomy

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autonomy, the responsibilities of which upon the existing systems of provinces and the 1915 system of Provincial Councils cannot be foreseen.

10. It is also not to be overlooked that the Italians may wish to apply ~~this~~ elective system to the selection of public individual functionaries, as well as to the corporate confederate bodies so familiar ⁱⁿ throughout the United States and the British Empire. They may regard the American practice of electing the Mayor directly as a good model and even desire to reform the institution of the Prefect on some such lines.

11. The foregoing indicates the extent of the high political principles involved, the need for serious and careful study of the problem by the Italians and the vital necessity of avoiding hastily improvised schemes.

(III) PRAGMATICAL FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROPOSAL

12. If the foregoing problems mentioned are held not to arise or to be capable of solution, ~~and if it were decided to hold local government elections~~ it would be necessary to give consideration to the following

points :

(1) Electoral lists or registers must first be compiled. As stated above, a Decree for this purpose has been issued which ~~into this~~ ^{has} ~~been~~ ^{been} studied in detail. A cursory glance, however, makes it appear that the compilation of the list will take until May 1920 and in some provinces a year later than that.

(2) The scattered state of the population, for example, prisoners

by the Italians and the vital

(III) Electoral problems mentioned are held not to arise or to be capable of solution, and if it is decided to hold local elections

12. elections not it would be necessary to give consideration to the following

points:

(1) Electoral lists or registration first be compiled. As stated above, a Decree for this purpose has been issued which ~~the~~ ^{has} ~~the~~ ^{been} ~~the~~ ^{not} ~~the~~ ^{studied} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~detail~~. A cursory glance, however, makes it appear that the compilation of the list will take until 31st May 1945 and in some provinces a year later than that.

(2) The scattered state of the population, for example, prisoners of war, refugees, those headed or sheltered out of their homes, members of the Italian armed forces. It is believed that the Decree of September 1943 ⁴⁰⁴³ provides for the registration of such people in their commune of ordinary residence, but that there is no provision for postal or proxy voting.

(3) Transport and communications. If communal elections are to be held, these difficulties will be great, especially if elections are held in the winter.

(4) Lack of material, e.g. paper, printing services, ballot boxes or urns, etc.

(5) The lack of qualified staff. There have been no true elections in Italy since 1926 at the latest. Trained State and local civil servants are in extremely short supply and their quality is poor.

(IV) /...

SECRET(IV) PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROPOSAL

13. Assuming that the practical difficulties enumerated above could likewise be overcome or at least overlooked, consideration should be given to what the probable results of the holding of local government elections in Italy now would be.

14. In the first place, it is improbable that those elections would produce a real expression of the popular will. The practical difficulties above-mentioned in themselves would militate against this. A more serious factor however, is the state of politics in the country generally:

(1) The victory at the election would go to the best organized party or body and not necessarily to the most representative one.

(2) The result might well be to give a legal form and basis to the authority of the Committee of National Liberation. Whether such a result should receive approval or not is, of course, a matter of high policy. The experience of the Local Government Sub-Commission shows that, while the Committees have no doubt done much good in other spheres, in the field of local Government, their activity has rarely been in the best interests of either Italy or the Allies.

(3) Local government elections are bound to be accompanied by a measure of disorder which may possibly even continue aftwards. Many factors contribute to this including the following:

(a) Political passions are running high.

(2) The result might be...

authority of the Committee of National Liberation. Whether such a result should receive approval or not is, of course, a matter of high policy. The experience of the Local Government Sub-Commission shows that, while the Committees have no doubt done much good in other spheres, in the field of local government their activity has rarely been in the best interests of either Italy or the Allies.

(3) Local government elections are bound to be accompanied by a measure of disorder which may possibly even continue afterwards. Many factors involved in this including the following:

- (a) Political passions are running high.
- (b) Hunger and lack of necessities of life strengthen the tendency.

(c) Little confidence is felt in the ability of those who will be in charge of the elections either to conduct them independently or to preserve order.

(d) Subject to the opinion of the Public Safety Sub-Commission who are of course better able to judge, the morale and numbers of the forces of public order may not prove adequate to control the situation.

15. It is, of course, one of the primary functions of the Allied Commission to maintain order in the rear of the armies; and -- again subject to /...

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to the views of the Public Safety Sub-Commission -- it does not appear that either the Italian Government or the Allied Commission could guarantee that order if local government elections were held.

16. The disorders consequent on an election might be looked upon with a lenient eye as having at least a constructive object. Rioters would at least be rioting in order to obtain the local government they desire and not in order to force the authorities to provide food or boots from some unspecified but presumably existent source. There appears to be a military and a political content on this. From the military standpoint all disorder in a country which is a theatre of operations and a source and base of supply is objectionable, no matter what its purpose. Politically, all attempts to apply force are the negation of democracy, no matter how laudable the objects.

The example of Greece adds point to this observation.

(V) POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSAL

17. The holding of local government elections should raise the prestige of Italy by making it the first European country to get back to the basis of modern democracy. Even if the elections cannot be held till next Summer (see para. 12 (1) above) an announcement now that they were to be held would have an immediate effect. As to being the first in the field, however, no indication has been observed in the press since the Germans are considering local elections in February.

18. The elections would provide an outlet for the political feeling

in a country which is a theatre of operations and is objectionable, no matter what its purpose. Politically, all attempts to settle questions of government to the settlement of questions of government imply force.

The example of Greece also points to this observation.

(V) POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSAL

17. The holding of local government elections should raise the prestige of Italy by making it the first European country to get back to the basis of modern democracy. Even if the elections cannot be held till next Summer (see para. 12 (i) above) an announcement now that they were to be held would have an immediate effect. As to being the first in the field, however, no indication has been observed in the press that the French are considering local elections in February.

18. The elections would provide an outlet for the political feeling of the average Italian -- such as it is. 40-45

19. They would give some sort of basis to Italian political parties, in that it could not then be said with absolute truth that they were "not" supported by having been elected by anyone. It is not suggested that the elections would prove anything as to the extent to which a political party represents Italian opinion. On the contrary there is good reason to believe that the elections would not express the popular will. -- see para. 14 above. But the results would at least provide a measure of action by which to gauge the relative strength of parties. At present there is none.

20. The announcement that local elections were to be conceded should raise the prestige of the Allies as a concrete proof of the character of their intentions /...

S E C R E T

intentions towards Italy. The announcement would stand out in relief against the present situation in Greece and illustrate what could be done there - and in other countries - were it not for the forces of disorder.

(VI) PARTIAL MEASURES

21. The foregoing observations are based on the assumption that the elections contemplated would be held (a) throughout liberated Italy and (b) simultaneously in all communes, provinces or such other local government areas as may be determined. It might be thought desirable however to limit elections either to a part only of the country or to a certain class of local authority.

22. As to territorial limitation, it is fairly obvious that elections could not be held in the areas under the control of Axis 5th and 8th Armies. Not only would the practical difficulties enumerated in section IV be at their highest but the C-in-C could be expected to take ~~the~~ strongest objection to the diversion of the energies of Axis officers, Italian Constitution and the population generally away from tasks of military importance.

23. These objections have not quite the same force in Military Government Territory under Regional Control though they are still undoubtedly present. On the other hand, in this Territory, where Allied Officers are governing directly, it is to be found the best chance of the elections being really free and independent. In all Military Government Territory however -- whether under Regional or Army control -- it has to be considered

could not be held in the area under the control of the 5th and 6th Armies. Not only would the practical difficulties enumerated in Section 14 be at their highest but the C-in-C could be expected to take ~~the~~ strongest objection to the diversion of the energies of All officers, Italian jurisdiction and the population generally away from tasks of military importance.

23. These objections have not quite the same force in Military Government Territory under Regional Control though they are still undoubtedly present. On the other hand, in this Territory, where Allied Officers are governing directly, is to be found the best chance of the elections being really free and independent. In all Military Government Territory however -- whether under Regional or Army control -- it has to be considered whether elected local authorities would prove satisfactory in ^{the present} ~~the present~~ ⁴⁰⁻⁴ the Prefectures were to be substituted by non elective institutions, there might be something in this; but if only occasional and provincial councils or similar bodies are envisaged, there is little reason to believe that their elective basis would create any serious tendency to go contrary to Allied wishes. Moreover, if the 1945 law is adhered to, the executive heads (Sindaci in comune and Presidenti in provinces) and the standing executive committees (Giunte Comunali and Ispettorati Provinciali) would continue; and the law gives to these institutions such a wide measure of authority independently of their councils as would be sufficient for Allied purposes.

24. As to Italian Government Territory, a suggestion has been made that in the first place elections should be limited to certain selected areas,

the /...

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the advantage being that such an experiment would show how elections would work in the rest of Italy and that police reinforcements could be brought into the experimental area sufficient to cope with any disorder. One difficulty is to find a suitable area. Sicily or Sardinia are open to the objection that the elections would turn upon the issue of Separation or autonomy. Calabria and Lombardy are too small; Apulia never had military government and its democratic complexion is not free from suspicion. Lazio and the Abruzzi are too much influenced from the north to be fair specimens. The four Campanian provinces would seem to offer the best field.

25. The overriding objection however is that none of the political advantages enumerated in section V could result from such a minor and apparently ^{unbridling} concession. On the contrary, to open a declaration of mistrust in the capacity of the Italians to work democratic machinery would do untold harm all round.

26. As to limiting the elections to a certain class of local authority it has been suggested that they might be held in (a) cities of 50,000 population or more or (b) towns of 20,000 population or over and those of less population that are provincial capitals. Statistics are given in the

Appendix.

27. It is true that this suggestion would also enable a concentration ^{that} _{if it} of the population in the practical

25. The overriding objection however is that none of the political advantages enumerated in section V could result from such a minor and apparently ^{affirmatively} grudging concession. On the contrary, so open a declaration of mistrust in the capacity of the Italians to work democratic machinery could do untold harm all round.

26. As to limiting the elections to a certain class of local authority it has been suggested that they might be held in (a) cities of 50,000 population or more or (b) towns of 20,000 population or over and those of less population that are provincial capitals. Statistics are given in the Appendix.

27. It is true that this suggestion would also enable a concentration of the forces of public order and that ^{it is} in the larger towns, the practical difficulties enumerated in section III are likely to be most easily overcome. On the other hand, ⁱⁿ probable objectionable consequences described in section IV are most likely to result in just such centres of population. Moreover, the political dangers of such a partial and apparently grudging concession allied to above in para. 25 are as real in the case of a "vertical" limitation such as this, as they are in the case of the "horizontal" limitation described in ~~section III~~ ^{para. 24}.

28. (VII) CONCLUSIONS

28. (1) The holding of local government elections at some date has always been understood to be an objective of policy.

(2) /...

S E C R E T

- (2) The proposal to hold them now raises deep-seated questions as to the future form of the Italian State.
- (3) It is doubted if the practical difficulties could be overcome.
- (4) The results would not be a true expression of the will of the

Italian people.

- (5) The desirability of holding such elections depends largely on the importance which is attached to the maintenance of public order.

- (6) The political advantages of the step appear to be enough to outweigh the objections.

- (7) These advantages would be lost by anything less than elections on a nationwide basis throughout at least all Italian Government

Territory.

- (6) The political advantages of the map appear to be outweighed by the objections.
- (7) These advantages would be lost by anything less than elections on a nationwide basis throughout at least all Italian Government Territory.

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APPENDIX

Local Government areas in liberated Italy as at 10/10/44.

Type of local authority.	Military Government Territory under		Italian Government Territory	Total
	Army Central (2)	Regional Control (3)		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Total Provinces.	4	11	36	51
Total Communes.	155	476	2,595	3,224
Communes of 50,000 pop. and over	7	6	16	29
Communes of 20,000 pop. and over	13	29	111	153
Provincial capitals if of less population				

NOTE (1) For the purpose of this table it has been assumed that (a) the whole of the following provinces ^{is} ~~are~~ in our hands :-

LIVORNO
PISTOIA

^{No part} (b) none of the following provinces are in our hands :-

BOLOGNA
RAVENNA

Communes of 50,000 pop. and over	7	6	16	29
Communes of 30,000 pop. and over	13	29	111	153
Provincial capitals if of less population				

NOTE (1) For the purposes of this table it has been assumed that (a) the whole of the following provinces ^{is} in our hands :-

LIVORNO
PISTOIA

(b) None of the following provinces are in our hands :-

BOLOGNA
RAVENNA

NOTE (2) The city of NORE is included among the appropriate figures in col. (4).

3041

45
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

7
Tel: 478706.

AG/23/LG.

SUBJECT: Gasetta Ufficiale No. 70 of 18th October, 1944.

TO : Local Sub-Commission.

23rd November, 1944.

1. Reference AG/4010/L dated 20th October, this Sub-Commission letter No. AG/23/LG dated 25th October 1944.

2. This Sub-Commission now withdraws its request that decree No. 247 of 28th September, 1944 be excluded from implementation in Military Government territory.

for *R.H. Temple*
capt.
R.G.B. SPIER,
Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub-Commission.

HRT/pw.

Copy to file 45.

4040

MEMORANDUM

(6)

To: Chief Clerk.

18 Nov '44.

No provision or organization has been made to provide for voting by Italian Prisoners of War in foreign countries. In the compilation of the electoral lists in the German provision is made for the recording of names of Prisoners of War who formerly resided there.

G. R. Wright

G. R. WRIGHT, Brigadier.
VP G. Sec.
D.C.C.S.

4039

1858