

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

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ELECTORAL URNES FOR COMMUNE
DEC. 1945 - FEB. 1946

Notes of Interview - A.C. Ho. Local Govt. S/C

Present : Prof. GIANNINI of the Minister for the Constitution
 Dott. SPATTORE of the Local Office of the Ministry of the Interior
 Mayor of the City, Director Local Govt. S/C
 Mr. Arrigo Neri, interpreting

DATE : 20 Feb 46.

1. Prof. GIANNINI said he had come to talk on the question of the voting of prisoners of war, which had been raised at the Consulta by Salvatore Cingolani. He said he knew we had discussed this matter with Dott. Tosi of the Minister Service, Ministry of the Interior, some time way back in September and that he had read a report by Dott. SPATTORE on the subject and wanted to have confirmation from us of the technical difficulties connected with the execution of any such plan to have the prisoners of war vote above.
2. Thereupon I read to Prof. GIANNINI the paragraph of our note of interview with Dott. VINCENZI (Streno's substitute) concerning the subject and replied that as much as I had been in favor last September that some provision should be made to allow prisoners to vote, I could only repeat what I said then that it was a matter for the Italian Government to decide upon and that the Allied Commission would have been willing to help them in arranging facilities for this purpose. However in my view time was very limited and running short at present.
3. Dott. SPATTORE said that in his opinion it would have been first of all necessary to find out whether under the existing international law prisoners could vote, whether their status of captivity could be reconciled with the franchise of voting. I replied that, save any contrary opinion that our ambassadors could have on the subject, I believed that owing to the special status of co-belligerency enjoyed by Italy an agreement could eventually be reached between the powers concerned whereby Italian prisoners of war would be allowed to vote. But there still remained the technical difficulties to be overcome. These difficulties from the point of view of the Italian Government could be summarized as follows: a) lack of diplomatic representation abroad; b) time necessary to carry out the required procedures; c) lack of the necessary material. I told Prof. GIANNINI to have Dott. Vincenzi show him all the reports we furnished him in connection with the elections of American and British soldiers abroad, and get from them a clear idea of the difficulties that would have to be overcome in such brief a time. I reiterated that as far as Allied Commission was concerned we were willing to help but it was a matter on which only the Italian Government would have to decide.
4. I asked then what was the attitude of the Italian Government on the other part of the recommendation put forward by Consulatore Cingolani, i.e. the voting of the Italian nationals abroad. Dott. GIANNINI said it was a very difficult question. He emphasized that they had not data available to ascertain how many Italian nationals were involved, who were still citizens, who had lost the Italian citizenship and who enjoyed double nationality. He pointed out that for instance there were only three Italian Consulates open at present in the United States, that most archives of former Consulates had been destroyed or were under sequestration. Dott. SPATTORE pointed out that probably there would have to be a change in the attitude of the Government of the country where these Italians had made their homes.

1. Prof. GIANNINI said he had come to talk on the question of the voting of prisoners of war, which had been raised at the Consulta by Consulatore Cingolani. He said he knew we had discussed this matter with Cott. GIANNINI of the Interior Service, Ministry of the Interior, came time very back in September and that he had read a report by Cott. GIANNINI on the subject and wanted to have confirmation from us of the technical difficulties connected with the execution of any such plan to have the prisoners of war vote abroad.
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5. Coming back to the question of the voting of prisoners of war I told Prof. GIANNINI that, having attended the meeting of the Consulta when this matter had been discussed, I understood from what speaker Cingolani had replied to the proposal of Cingolani that since the great majority of prisoners of war abroad would be back home by the middle of May, the only thing that could be done was to make

provision for a speedy procedure for their registration in additional electoral lists and so enable them to vote. Colt. GIANNINI confirmed this. I suggested to my interviewers to find out the approximate number of prisoners of war who it is anticipated won't be back in time to vote.

R. L. Temple

RALPH L. TEMPLE
Major,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission

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HEADQUARTERS
LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
APO 394

Tel: 12641 Ext. 2458
250/M/TN

31 January 1946

SUBJECT : Transportation of Electoral Urns to Forlì.

TO : HQ Allied Commission
Local Government Sub-Commission
(attn. Major Ralph R. Temple)

1. With ref. to your letter number AC/45/33/IG. dated 3 Jan. 46
received 28/1/1946.

2. All assistance will certainly be afforded with regard to
the transportation of Electoral Urns to Forlì - as soon as we are
approached on the matter by local authorities.

For the Chief Liaison Officer

H.A. Symons

H.A. SYMONS
Major.

HAS/vb.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/15/33/LG.

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT : Electoral work : Naples Prefecture 15 January 1946

TO : The Ministry of the Interior, SERVIZIO ELETTORALE,
Att. Dott. STRANO.

1. The attached letter, ref. 2000 dated 18 December 1945 ,
from Naples Prefecture to AFM, is forwarded for your information
and any action you may consider necessary.



RALPH E. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

JLS/ww

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HS/33 Local
11 JAN 1946
RW

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

11 January 1946

Ref: E-4

SUBJECT: Letter from R. PREFETTURA di NAPOLI

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. Attached are original and translation of letter from R. PREFETTURA di NAPOLI dated 18 December 1945, subject "Operation of Electoral Ballots".

2. Above forwarded for your information and what action you deem suitable.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A. L. Hamblen
A. L. HAMBLER
Brigadier General, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Incl: As above

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TRANSLATION

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R. PREFETTURA 61 NAPOLI

Naples, 18 December 1945

Subject : Operation of Electoral Ballots.

To : Allied General Headquarters.

Guglielmo Desiderio, son of the late Giovanni from Castellammare of Stabia, Via Licerta 13-14, under contract to furnish the poll-boxes for the next electoral campaign, informed us that it needs 5 or 6 quintals of baked linseed oil, a product non-existent on our market.

It would be appreciated should the above-mentioned amount of oil be allotted to us for a price to be set by your Office and which will be paid by our Firm when accepting delivery of the oil.

It is requested that our application be favorably considered as it tends to insure possibility of manufacturing facilities indispensable for the next electoral operation whose importance is all together obvious.

A kind answer on the matter will be appreciated.

Best regards
s/ Il Prefetto.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/45/52/LG.

Tel: 478706

SUBJECT: Transportation of Electoral Urns to Forli', 3 January 1946

TO : Major H.H. Symons, Transportation Officer, Allied Commission
APO 394, Milan.

1. Please refer to the attached translation of a letter from the Ministry of the Interior and to this S/C's reply thereto.
2. Transportation S/O have suggested that you be contacted in case any difficulty should arise.
3. The importance of facilitating the holding of elections in Italy is fully recognized by the Allied Commission and much help in the transport of electoral material throughout the North has already been extended to the Government by Transportation S/O and this S/C.
4. Will you please look into this matter and facilitate the transportation of these urns if possible and in case of difficulty notify this S/C.


RALPH R. TEMPE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

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WIC/ww

Encl: as above.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
ATO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

13/45/52/12.

Tel: 473706

5 January 1946

SUBJECT: Delivery of Urns to Forlì.
TO: The Ministry of the Interior.

1. Reference is made to your letter 15600/L. 3/30 dated 24 December 1945 stating that the Office Movements of the Milan Railways will not authorize the transport south of Bologna of the electoral urns required for Forlì.
2. The Transportation Sub-Commission have been consulted on this matter and state that there should be no difficulty in obtaining rail transport for these urns.
3. Please instruct the Prefect of Forlì to approach the Milan Railways again on this subject.
4. A copy of this letter is being sent to Major H.H. Symons, the representative of the Transportation Sub-Commission at Milan who is being asked to give such assistance as may be necessary.

CRJ
RALPH E. TOLIN
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

WIG/vw

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THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
Direction General of the Civil
Administration.

Ref. 15600/T
8430

Subject : Forli' delivery of urns.

To the Hon. Allied Commission.

1. The Prefect of Forli' has signalled that the Ufficio Movimento of the Milan Railways and the Direction of Iseo will not authorise the transport south of Bologna, of electoral urns which that Prefecture has ordered from the Societa' industriale per la Lavorazione del Legname di Malonno.-
2. As it is urgent to carry out the delivery in question in order to complete the preliminary operations for the near electoral meetings in the Province of Forli', we kindly ask your Hon. Commission to take necessary action.
3. While awaiting for some news we, thank you.

For the Minister.

JC.
3 January 1946

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URGENTE

Roma, 24 dicembre 11A/9 45

Ministero dell'Interno
 DIREZIONE GENER. AMMIN. CIVILE
 Servizio Elettorale

L'ON. COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

R O M A

Divisione _____ Sez. _____
 Prot. N.° 15600/T Allegati _____
 8430

Risposta al Foglio del
 Dir. _____ Sez. _____ N.° _____

OGGETTO Forlì - Spedizione urne elettorali.-

- 1) Il Prefetto di Forlì segnala che l'Ufficio Movimento delle Ferrovie di Milano e la Direzione di Iseo non autorizzano il trasporto a sud di Bologna delle urne elettorali ordinate da quella Prefettura alla Società Industriale per la lavorazione del Legname di Malonno.-
- 2) Attesa l'urgente necessità di effettuare la spedizione di cui trattasi, al fine di completare, nella suddetta Provincia, le operazioni preliminari per la prossima convocazione dei comizi elettorali, si prega codesta On/le Commissione di voler cortesemente spiegare un opportuno interessamento al riguardo.-
- 3) In attesa di cortesi notizie, si ringrazia.-

PEL MINISTRO

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