

ACC

10000/141/802

COMMUNAL
JAN. 1946

10000/141/802

COMMUNAL ELECTIONS, UDINE PROVINCE, POLICY
JAN. 1946

PAGE

29/1/1946 To CAS. (contd)

There is of course no doubt as to the legal power of AMT to enforce its orders upon local authorities, even though elected, or of its power to remove Communal Councillors, Giunta and Sindaco who prove recalcitrant. Even the possibility of disorders taking place during the elections are considered by the PC to be of slight importance.

8. The Italian Government has decided to hold elections in all Communes which are ready for them on 3 Sundays in March - 10th, 17th and 24th - after which there is to be an interval for elections to the Constituent Assembly. For the Communes in Udine Province which are ready now the Prefect should fix the 24th March. Otherwise these Communes will not have their elections till May or possibly June. The Prefect cannot fix an earlier date than Sunday the 24th, as he has to give 45 days notice, i.e. for the election to be held on March 24th he must issue his notice by February 8th at the latest.

9. Therefore, if it is decided to permit the elections in the Communes now ready, instructions should be issued accordingly within the next day or two. I strongly advise adopting the policy to permit the holding of elections in the Communes of Udine. *Other options should be sought.*

CGRW/WW

R. R. Temple, Major
RALPH R. TEMPLE, Major
Director Loc. Govt. S/C.

30 Jan 46 TO: Local Government Sub-Commission.

Reference Minute 1.

I raised this matter at the Chief Commissioner's Conference today.

It was agreed that Communal Elections should be allowed in UDINE Province and that they should be permitted in all Communes including those in which the Sindaco and Giunta had been dismissed. If any conflict should arise between local authorities and AMG it must be dealt with at the time.

5014

MR
M. CARR, Brig.,
VP CA Section.

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9. Therefore, if it is decided to permit the elections in the Communes now ready, instructions should be issued accordingly within the next day or two. I strongly advise adopting the policy to permit the holding of elections in the Communes of Udine. *Put into effect - should be sought.*

CGRW/WW

R. R. Temple, Major
RALPH R. TEMPLE, Major
Director Loc. Govt. S/C.

30 Jan 46

TO: Local Government Sub-Commission.

- 2 -

Reference Minute 1.

I raised this matter at the Chief Commissioner's Conference today.

It was agreed that Communal Elections should be allowed in UDINE Province and that they should be permitted in all Communes including those in which the Sindaco and Giunta had been dismissed.

If any conflict should arise between local authorities and AG it must be dealt with at the time.

(Dr. Strano, Head of Electoral Service, Ministerial was told by telephone that AC's permission to hold communal elections in Udine was granted. He said he would inform Minister and Under-Secretary immediately. Letter to be sent confirming. Brig. Carr said letter of mine to be dispatched. R.T.)

MR
M. CARR, Brig.,
VP CA Section.

31 Jan 46

5014

29/1/1946 To: CAS.

- ~~Subject~~ Subject The holding of Communal elections in Udine Province while under AMG.
1. Please refer to the note of interview at fol.1 from which it will be seen :-
 - a) that 4 (possibly 6) Communes in Udine Province have their electoral lists ready to hold elections ;
 - b) that 29 Communes (including those already mentioned) are expected to be ready to hold elections by 24 March.
 2. This situation requires a decision as to whether elected local authorities are to be permitted in Military Government Territory.
 3. The Italian Law on Communal Elections (D.L.L. No.1 of 7/1/1946) provides (Art. 19) for the Prefect to fix the date of the election for each Commune. AC has allowed this law to become applicable automatically in Udine Province pursuant to the new procedure enacted by para 2 of the AC Order published in the Official Gazette, no.21 of 25 January 1946. The Prefect has discretion to select a suitable date, though he should normally fix the earliest possible one. AMG, however, has power, as the supreme authority, to give directions to the Prefect as to the date he is to fix, or to order him to refrain from fixing any date.
 4. Points against the holding of the Communal elections are :-
 - a) the possibility of conflict between the elected authorities and AMG ;
 - b) the possible election of persons previously dismissed from Local Government office. PG Udine points out that in 6 Communes he has had to dismiss the Sindaco and the Giunta and to appoint a Commissario Prefettizio. At least one of these Communes is amongst those who are now ready for the elections. He says - and it must be agreed - that the election to municipal office (particularly to the office of Sindaco) of a person so dismissed would create an embarrassing situation.
 5. Points in favour of the holding of Communal elections are :-
 - a) the Communal Elections Law was made by the Italian Government in agreement with AC and has been allowed to become law in Udine Province ;
 - b) for many months AC has been urging the Italian Government to hold early elections. To veto Communal elections in Udine Province now would be to stultify the attitude hitherto adopted ;
 - c) Udine Province has been retained under AMG for purely military reasons and that for all other purposes it should be treated as much like the rest of Italy as possible. Brig. Dunlop, in his Memorandum as to the position in respect of AMG in Udine after 31 December 1945 states (para 1(a)) that " it is most desirable that Udine Province should follow, in respect of elections, the exact patterns laid down by the Italian Government in the rest of Italy."

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 - c) Udine Province has been retained under AMG for purely military reasons and that for all other purposes it should be treated as much like the rest of Italy as possible. Brig. Dunlop in his Memorandum as to the position in respect of AMG in Udine after 31 December 1945 states (para 1(a)) that " it is most desirable that Udine Province should follow, in respect of elections, the exact patterns laid down by the Italian Government in the rest of Italy."
 - d) Unless the Prefect is allowed to fix the earliest practicable date, AC will be laid open to the charge of obstructing elections when the Italian Government is ready to hold them, - a thing which great care has been hitherto taken to avoid.
6. It is submitted that the considerations in para 5 are the more forceful. In particular the bad effect of creating a situation whereby the Allies can be charged with preventing elections would seem to override all arguments to the contrary.
7. The possibility of conflict between elected local authorities and AMG must be dealt with when it arises. The existence of such authorities will no doubt require great tact and judgment, but not more so perhaps than did the CIN situation in May 1945.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/45/37/12

Tel: 476706

31 January 1946

SUBJECT: Communal Elections in Udine Province

TO : The Provincial Commissioner
AMG, Udine

1. Matter concerning the holding of communal elections in Udine province was discussed at the Chief Commissioner's conference on 30 January 1946.
2. It was decided that communal elections should be allowed in Udine province and that such elections should be permitted in all communes including those in which the Sindaco and Giunta had been disbanded.
3. Your point as to the possibility of there being some difficulty between the Italian local authorities and AMG, particularly in the cases where commissari prefettizi had been appointed, was brought to the attention of the Chief Commissioner. It was felt that if any conflict should arise between local authorities and AMG, it must be dealt with at the time.
4. The Ministry of the Interior has been authorized to instruct the Prefect directly to fix the dates in such communes as are ready to hold elections. Copy to be sent to this Headquarters.

RALPH E. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

RCT/rbe

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/45/57/LG

Tel: 478706

31 January 1946

SUBJECT: Communal Elections in Uvise Province

TO : The Ministry of the Interior

1. In response to the oral request of representatives of the Electoral Service of the Ministry of the Interior, I have been directed to inform you that the Allied Commission has granted its full permission to the holding of elections in all communes of Uvise ready for such on the dates to be fixed by the Prefect.

2. Instructions to this effect may be issued directly by the Ministry to the Prefect, copy to this Headquarters. The ALC authorities are being informed accordingly by this Headquarters.

[Signature]
HARSH R. TAPPE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

HRT/rbc

5011

AC/4/26/IG

SUBJECT: Note of Interview - HQ AC

DATE : 26 January 1946

PRESENT: Lt Col BRIGHT *PC Udine*
 Dr Paolo BOMPIANI, Inspector General
 Maj R. R. TEMPLE, Director, Local Government Sub Commission
 Mr. NICE, Interpreter

1. Dr. BOMPIANI had been sent over by the Ministry of Interior in order to receive any instructions and assistance that the Commission could give him. He had been assigned the task of inspecting and supervising the activities of Italian officials in connection with the preparation for elections in the communes of the provinces of Udine, Belluno, and Treviso.

2. I gave Dr. BOMPIANI a letter of introduction to Lt Col BRIGHT, Provincial Commissioner of Udine, and one to Brig. DUNLOP, Chief Liaison Officer of Venezia region. While we were conversing, Col BRIGHT came in and I introduced Dr. BOMPIANI to him. In the course of conversation Dr. BOMPIANI indicated that from the records at the Ministry there were four communes that had their election lists approved and were ready for elections. They are, with population indicated: AIELLO (2184); PALUZZA (3839); PRATO CARINCO (2200); VERZEGHESSE (1600). He stated that the Prefect of Udine hopes to have 29 communes ready for the last elections to be held in March. In order for the Prefect to fix the date for elections for 24 March, publication of such a manifest must be done by 8 February at the latest. In other words, the Prefect must know whether the date is to be fixed at least by 4 February in order to prepare for the printing of the necessary notices.

3. Dr. BOMPIANI then asked whether the Prefect would be permitted to fix the date for elections in the communes which are ready in the province of Udine. I informed him that we would let him know very shortly.

4. Since Col BRIGHT was not able to accommodate Dr. BOMPIANI in one of the cars going back to Udine, I informed the latter that we would arrange to fly him up to Treviso, where he said he would make his first stop of one week. He then left the office.

5. I then discussed with Col BRIGHT the problem of setting the date for holding of elections in the communes of Udine which were ready for them. Col BRIGHT said that he believed that 6 communes were ready up to date. He pointed out that at least one of those mentioned by the Prefect, named PALUZZA, has a commissario prefettizio who had been appointed by the Provincial Commissioner to run the town in the place of the Sindaco and the Giunta. Col BRIGHT pointed out that he saw no objections to holding the elections in the communes of Udine except in those wherein commissari prefettizi had been appointed. He believed there were 6 of these. He said that an embarrassing situation would arise if the Sindaco and the Giunta which had been removed were elected to office. He raised another point, such as what the effect would be if the Giunta and Communal Council turned out to be recalcitrant, and what the position of minorities would be.

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6. I told Col BRIGHT that the decision to give the Prefect the right to fix elections would be made by higher authority in the Allied Commission and that he would be informed thereof.

R. R. Temple
Major

RALPH R. TEMPLE
Major
Director
Local Government Sub Commission

RRT/rbe

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