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

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REPORT ON COND
JAN. 1944 - JAN. 19

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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN OCCUPIED ITALY
JAN. 1944 - JAN. 1945

SECRET
"D" Section

13th January, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 35.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Disposition of Partisan Bands.

Lunegiana and La Spezia Area. Some information is available up to 7th December of the composition of Partisan Brigades in the La Spezia area. The same source reported on the activities of his Division, the 2nd Lunense, from 3rd February 1944 to 3rd July 1944. On 30th November the area was mopped up, but he was confident that by now scattered detachments have reassembled.

Recent Partisan Activities. The winter, as was expected, has greatly curtailed Partisan activity, which in the main appears to be restricted to occasional raids and sabotage of communications, and engagements to avoid encirclement by punitive expeditions.

In the Veneto during December railway lines were successfully cut in the vicinity of Castelfranco. In the region of Casale, Asti and Alessandria, 3,500 Germans and Fascists attacked patriots engaged in collecting provisions. The latter succeeded in escaping with slight losses.

In Emilia the enemy offensive continues in spite of stout resistance particularly between Parma and Piacenza.

The "Lombardia" Patriot Division retook Varzi, but Bobbio, and Pecorara remained in enemy hands. Torriglia is reported retaken by patriots.

A brigade of the "Cighero" Division was encircled but got away after fierce fighting, inflicting on the enemy losses of 25 killed and 30 wounded. Patriot losses were five killed including the Political Commissar. In the province of Udine, the patriots are putting up a most tenacious struggle against enemy columns marching on Forgaria, Sclimbergo and Meduno.

Women Patriots. A tribute is paid to the many brave women and girls who either take an active part in partisan bands or provide an indispensable service of information, food, medicine, clothing, money etc.

FASCIST FORCES.

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FASCIST FORCES.

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Morale. A Fascist Alpine U.W. declared that morale in the Republican Army is at the lowest ebb. His platoon on being ordered to the front left with 60 men and arrived with 7. The mass of the men are forcibly enlisted and distrust their officers who are chosen exclusively for Fascist merit without regard to the fighting experience.

Behaviour In general the Germans are less ferocious than the Fascists. On 9th December in Canazzole near Carmignano di Brenta, Fascists of the Granterto Black Brigade courageously savaged the dead body of an Allied airman, who was killed through failure of his parachute.

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Report on Conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy No 35.

SUMMARY 2.

Black Brigades. The notorious Fascist Priest, Don Eusebio has been appointed chief Chaplain of the Black Brigades Corps.

GERMANS

Morale. To cope with the growing indiscipline of the German troops special units of "Feldjaeger" have been formed. Apparently the German High Command is seriously alarmed by the "sacking" propensities of the German soldier and other forms of indiscipline which undermine the authority of the Army.

Atrocities. Details are furnished of massacres at Vinca, Creda (Bologna region), Vado (Prato-Bologna road), Castagno (Florence Province) and in Torino.

Spoliation. Italian official sources report on the number of railway waggons leaving for Germany with looted material and raw materials, particularly copper and scrap iron.

German propaganda. German propaganda on the subject of "German Invincibility" has been discontinued in favour of "Hate" propaganda, Allied atrocities etc.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Safe Conduct Passes P.W. sources reveal that these have apparently become most popular with German troops.

Frontpost. This newspaper seems to be effectively undermining the morale of the German soldier. Some comments are "They contain the truth, put in an objective and factual manner". "Here are facts printed of which our leaders tell us nothing."

8th Army Radio. A number of German soldiers when they could get a chance use Italian sets, have listened in to 8th Army Radio.

Others are stated to have listened to BBC and Swiss Radio with home-made sets.

POLITICS

Mussolini A German P.W. states that Mussolini is guarded by a whole battalion of German soldiers and that when he drives out he is escorted by half-a-dozen armoured cars.

Kock Band. It now seems fairly certain that the news of Kock's death was put about by the Fascists themselves in order to put the patricts off his trail. In the "Home Politics" section of this report will be

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ECONOMICS.

Carrara. A refugee from Carrara gives a certain number of details concerning the situation in the city, which is pretty desperate. Food is lacking and the civilian hospital is in a terrible plight. There is no ether or Chloroform for operations, which have to be performed without anaesthetics.

LABOUR.

Strikes in Milan and Turin In Milan the workers of the Marelli and Caproni works and in Bergamo those of the Dalmine works struck to protest against bad food conditions. The Nazi-Fascists then closed these works, whereupon all the other workers in Milan and Turin went on strike. No further details are available, but the agitation continues

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

13th January, 1944

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 35.

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ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
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Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 35.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

North-West and North-East of LA SPEZIA.

A source who left the area on 7th December 44 gave the following information about Brigades and Divisions operating in this region:

1st "Mucini" Brigade.

Area of operation: CARRARA-MONTE PISANINO-CAMPORGIANO. P 80. P 91; L 01. Commander: "MEMO".

2nd "Mucini" Brigade.

Area of operation: SARZANA-AULLA-FOSDINOVO-VECCHIETTO. Commander: Filst "Federico" (Ten. Galantini) now "Walter" (Marinaio Bertoni).

Contri Brigade.

Area of operation: CASTIGLIONCELLO P 92-GRAGNOLA-VEZZANELLO. Commander: Major "Contri" (Italian Navy Petty Officer).

37th Brigade.

Area of operation PASSO DEL CERRETO P 93 - COLLAGNA L03
Commander: "Vienna".

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37th Brigade.

Area of operation PASSO DEL CERRETO P 93 - COLLAGNA. LO3 Commander: "Vienna".

G. & L. Brigade.

Area of operation: CALICE AL CORNOVIGLIO P 62. Commander: Bocchioni (Italian Officer).

G & L. Brigade.

Area of operation CENTO CROCI P 54. Commander: unknown.

1st Liguria Division

Area of operation: MONTE GOTTERO P 53 - COLORETTO and surrounding area. Commander: Col Turchi and a British Major.

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2nd Lunense Division

Area of operation: LUNIGIANA Commander: Capt Barrocci and a British Major.

From 3rd February 44 to 3rd July source and his 172 men covered the following area, shooting up German convoys, blowing up roads, executing Fascist officials, S.S. officers and members of the Fascist armed forces: SARZANA-BERCETO- P 85- VALMOZZOLA P 76-BETTOLA P 58 - LAGO BON- ROCCA DI TIZZOLI -BARDI P 66- VARSI P 76 - SAN PELLEGRINO P 87 - SALSOMAGGIORE P 88 - FIDENZA P 99 - then back to LAGO BON-MOLINATICO (MONTE DELLA CISA) -SARZANA. The group remained in the area SARZANA-FIVIZZANO P 92 from July to 7th December 1944. On 30th November the area was mopped up by the Germans Only a few partisans remained in the area PONZANO-VECCHIETTO -SARZANA -FOSDINOVO. when source left on 7th December, but he feels certain that the scattered detachments have by now reassembled and that a force approximately 200 strong may now be operating in this area.
(P.W.B. Florence G.V. 9.1.45).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

VENETO On the 5th December parties of patriots blew up some junction lines in the railway station of GODEGO, on the VENICE -TRENTO line and cut the lines in four points on the CASTELFRANCO -MONTEBELLUNA line. On 13th December elements of the same patriot brigade took away 24 switches of the railwey lines CASTELFRANCO -BASSANO, and derailed two locomotives at PERGINE VAL SUGANA on the VENICE-TRENTO line.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.12.44).

On the night of the 25/26 December groups of patriots blew up the new bridge over the BRENTA at CAPO S. MARTINO.
(P.W.B. Rome 11.1.45).

PIEDMONT On the 23rd December a squad of saboteurs destroyed a railway bridge near IVREA.
(P.W.B. Rome 11.1.45).

The "Resega" Black Brigade has carried out operations against the patriots in the CUNEO region, where, to the east of MONSOLA, an enemy attack is still in progress. The patriots are continuing all the time their sabotage against the enemy's transport; the railway line to SUSA was interrupted for several days and a road bridge was cut.

During Christmas week in Piedmont German and Fascist troops amounting to 3,500 men attacked patriots in the region of CASALE, ASTI, ALESSANDRIA, requisitioning foodstuffs from the civil population. However, the patriots succeeded in withdrawing and their losses were few.
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EMILIA An enemy infiltration in Emilia at VARANO DE MELEGARI, in the Province of PARMA., was held and repulsed by patriots, who, without any losses, killed 8 Germans and wounded several, also taking 23 prisoners. The Germans also attacked CALESTANO and FUGAZZOLO, in the province of Parma, against strong resistance by the patriots. A platoon of partisans also attacked the German HQ at LAMA MOCOGNO. The Germans fled, leaving three prisoners.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.1.45).

North of the Appenines, in Emilia, the enemy offensive continues. It is intensified in the central sector, especially between PARMA and PIACENZA. The patriots of the "Lombardia" Division, alternating between well-manoeuvred defensive counter attacks and offensives, succeeded in reconquering VARZI, BOBBIO and PECORARA., however, it seems

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are still in enemy hands. TORRIGLI.. has been retaken by the patriots.

Following violent enemy attacks, formations of patriots have in some districts had heavy losses. Other formations have been forced by worsening winter conditions and scarcity of food, to divide up into small groups to await better conditions. Other groups of patriots continue their effective guerrila operations. (P.W.B. Rome 7.1.45).

In the ..ppenines a patriot brigade of the "Cighero" Division, after fierce fighting, succeeded in freeing themselves from encirclement by the Fascist battalion "..osta". The battle lasted all one afternoon; 5 patriots, among them the Commisser of the brigade, were killed; enemy losses amounted to 25 dead and 30 wounded. (P.W.B. Rome 8.1.45).

UDINE It is now known that the explosion which took place at OSOPPO (UDINE) on the 30th November, following sabotage action by patriots, lasted three hours and caused the destruction of a million shells and 20,000 kilograms of explosive. (P.W.B. Rome 9.1.45).

In the province of Udine, towards FORG..RI.., the enemy has been halted, after bitter fighting; other columns have also been halted at SOLILBERGC; others succeeded in penetrating at MEDUNO and in the mountains west of PECNIS. The fighting continues in the region, with singular tenacity on the part of the patriots. (P.W.B. Rome 11.12.44).

GENOA It is now known that the attack carried out by the enemy to the north-east of Genoa lasted 24 days. The "Lombardia" Division had considerable losses; the "Liguria" Division also suffered losses but succeeded in extracting itself from an encircling movement and in saving the larger part of its war material. In the region of V..LTELLIN.. the patriots blew up a tunnel on the SONDRIO-L..NZ..T.. line stopping the passage of heavy enemy traffic. (P.W.B. Rome 8.1.45)

C..RR..R.. From the 7th to 10th of November last, the town of Carrara was occupied by the partisans. During this occupation the Committee of National Liberation, wishing to avoid enemy reprisals against the town, came to an agreement with the Germans who then promised to supply the town with food and partially fulfilled their promise. Patricts and Germans met and drank together in the same public tavern (P.W.B. Rome M. S-Y)

III. Women Patriots.

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III. Women Patriots.

There is scarcely a patriot division which does not number some women among its members; they share the risks and the sacrifices of their companions, and live the same life, in continual danger. The "GR..MSCI" Division has women members, the various divisions in Lombardy and the Val Susa have too. Generally the women partisans, rather than take part in the actual fighting, devote themselves to the care of the wounded and the sick. But they also carry out tasks of the most delicate and dangerous nature, such as obtaining information about enemy movements, acting as liaison between the various divisions, between the areas controlled by the patriots and those in enemy hands. In one brigade in the V..LLE L..NZO there is a whole company of women, commanded by a woman. The company takes care of the needs of the Brigade in everything relating to food, clothing, communications and transport.

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It is not unusual to find women patriots accomplishing outstanding deeds which bring them to the notice of all or raise them to positions of responsibility. In one division in the V.L SESI. some girls who had taken part in the fighting were mentioned in Orders of the Day by the Commandant of the Division himself. One of these girls had rendered invaluable services as a telephonist and the others was succeeding in saving, in very dramatic circumstances - the arms of the group.

One Division in Lombardy has a woman as its political vice-Commissar. At BOLOGNA a student Mimma and a working girl Francesca Eodera were shot for having taken part in patriot activities. At S.VONA four other heroines met the same fate, one for having been caught in possession of arms, the others for having carried on propaganda among Fascist soldiers and for having persuaded them to desert in large numbers

By the side of the these women partisans, to encourage and help the, are many other women, who have stayed in their houses and towns; there are thousands and thousands of them, in every social milieu. In order to utilise their services and to coordinate them Defence Groups have been formed among women. The members of these groups overcome enormous difficulties and make sacrifices of every kind; to help the partisan formations they collect money in the towns, and clothing and food: they carry arms and munitions; they try to prevent razzies and deportations; they help Allied prisoners of war who have escaped from concentration camps. In districts which are theatres of war Women's Defence Groups are even more active and more useful. They organise squads to cut telegraph wires, to carry away sign posts, to sow nails on the main roads; they supply the brigades with everything they need in the way of food, medicines, clothing, animals, without thought of the risk to themselves; they give information and news; they maintain communications. The patriots know they can count on their women.
(F.W.B. Rome 9.1.45).

IV. Conditions in Enemy occupied territory.

Patriots who have passed through the lines from the front recently have given details of the situation in which the civilian population in the regions south of the river Po, now exposed to nazi-fascist terror, find themselves. In the cities the rounding up of men never ceases, the Fascist republicans actively helping the Germans in this work. Sometimes it happens that those who are found without proper military documents are immediately shot on the spot in the streets. The proclamation of Mussolini by which all shirkers of military service must be shot in front of their own homes is also being put into effect. The bodies, left in the streets, have fixed to them a placard with the warning "He did not answer the army call-up".

News from MODENA says that all heads of families there have been

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News from MODENA says that all heads of families there have received an order to attach to the door of their house the complete list of all those belonging to their family. Grave penalties are threatened for those who disobey or if the list does not correspond to the actual composition of the family.

In one city in EMILIA those people who were best known for their antifascist views were considered, from the very beginning of the nazi occupation, as hostages. Rotas were made out, according to which 20 people were kept in prison for a certain period, at the disposision of the Germans, against the eventuality of the need for reprisals.

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This decision was taken by the German Command, following an attack by patriots on a German armoured column. One morning a false air raid warning was given to eliminate every possibility of witnesses. The hostages were led into the square of the Duomo and there shot. For several days the bodies were left exposed. Various people who passed in the square and raised their hats in token of respect were ridiculed by the German and Fascist guards.

In the country districts every day the tragic list of oppression, devastation, and massacres lengthens. At MONDHIO (REGGIO EMILIA) the SS, accompanied by Fascists, surrounded the village and with the accusation of sympathising with the patriots, massacred 300 people. The victims, divided into groups of 20, were put up against the wall of the cemetery and there machine-gunned. The village was burnt down entirely. At CERVAROLO (REGGIO EMILIA) another 25 people were shot for no known reason. The Germans are using a new system of killing. The condemned people, with their hands tied behind them are hung up on two pieces of iron fixed at the right height in a wall or tree. The iron penetrated under the chin, but naturally death is not instantaneous. It seems that 25 people were killed at OSPEDALETTI by this method, another 20 at CIVAGO (in the village of VILLA MINOZZO in the province of REGGIO) In this little place 15 houses were then set on fire. A very young girl was violated in the presence of her parents. An old shepherd of 70 who was coming down from the mountains with his nephew of 14, was attacked with hand grenades by a party of SS. The old man threw himself on the ground pretending to be dead. The boy, gravely wounded, rushed screaming towards the Germans. He was seized by the legs and arms and thrown into a nearby deep ravine.

At PIAMENTAGOTTI, in the commune of FRASSINERO, in the Province of MODENA, some wounded patriots, who were being transported to a dressing house, were thrown out of the window. A boy of 17 was stabbed with a dagger. Many bodies of patriots were found by their companions with their throats cut.

At BENEDELLO (MODENA), the Germans made the entire population of the village - made up mostly of women and children (the men had fled to the mountains) march in front of them and were thus able to protect themselves against a possible attack on the part of the patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 7.1.45).

FASCIST FORCES.

V. Morale.

Some interesting details have been learnt from an interrogation of a Republican Fascist Mussolini soldier taken prisoner by the Allies on the subject of bad morale among the armed forces of the Fascist Social Republic. The prisoner declared that recently his platoon was garrisoned in a village on the Ligurian Riviera. One day they received orders to leave for the front. The platoon left on foot, as transport, when there is any, is reserved for the Nazi troops. When

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At PIANETTACCIO, in the commune of FRASSINERO, in the Province of MODENA, some wounded patriots, who were being transported to a [illegible]'s house, were thrown out of the window. A boy of 17 was clubbed with spades. Many bodies of patriots were found by their companions with their throats cut.

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(P.W.B. Rome 31.12.44).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788027

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VI. Behaviour.

In the REGGIO district there is a notable difference between the German and Fascist methods of repression. The Germans are generally far less ferocious than the Fascists. For instance, during mopping-up operations in DIN.ZZ.NC, VI..NC, S.NT'.NTONINO and B.ISO, carried out in the first fortnight of November, the German Commander of the detachment engaged solemnly declared that if no arms were found and his men were not fired on, he promised not to order or permit razzias of men or livestock. On the other hand, squads of unknown people in mufti, in lorries or vans, indiscriminately assassinated peaceful citizens throughout the province. San Martino in Rio and Gazzata have already received visits from these squads, formed of men from Vicenza and Modena, acting under the direct orders of the Head of the Province and the Federal Commissioner.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 30.12.44).

On 9th December an Allied fighter plane, hit by anti-aircraft during an attack against a German column in the region of FONT.NIVA., fell at C.N.Z.CLE, near C.RRIGN.NO DI BRENT.. The pilot of the machine jumped out at the last moment but his parachute did not open and he was killed. A Group of Fascist militia of the Granforto Black Brigade fell on the corpse like a band of hyenas. They stuck bayonets into the body and dragged it like this to the principal square. The Commander of the Black Brigade, wanting to demonstrate his courage put two revolver shots into the head of the body. It was exposed after this for a whole day and made the object of derision and amusement by the courageous fascist militia of the local Black Brigade. The name of the Commander of theBrigade is N.NO.
(P.W.B. Rome 30.12.44).

VII. Black Brigades.

The 36th Black Brigade "Lucca" previously stationed in C.STELFR.NCO DELL'EMILIA. (south-east of MODENA) and in F.VOLLO NEL FRIGN.NO (35 km south of MODENA.), has now been moved to the PI.CENZ. region.
(Italian Official Source 25.12.45).

Father EUSEBIO has been appointed chief chaplain for the Corps of the Black Brigades.
(Repubblica Fascista, Milan 26.12.44).

GERMANS

VIII. Morale.

A young soldier from Innsbruck said at CURR.RA "We have to face this situation on account of two silly men". However the soldiers also say "We are soldiers and we have to fight till the end". In the ranks there is still strong discipli

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The 36th Black Brigade "Lucca" previously stationed in CASTELFRANCO DELL'EMILIA (south-east of MODENA) and in PAVULLO NEL FRIGNANO (35 km south of MODENA), has now been moved to the PARMA region.
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A young soldier from Innsbruck said at SARRAL "We have to face this situation on account of two silly men". However the soldiers also say "We are soldiers and we have to fight till the end". In the ranks there is still strong discipline, and a good morale and correct behaviour. The Germans are not as well equipped as formerly but are still well armed. They are however badly off for transport and petrol.

Returning from GENOA at the beginning of November source noticed that there was almost no German traffic behind the front lines till she reached SARZANA.

Source stated that on the whole the Germans do not behave badly towards the civilian population of their own accord and singly, but when they receive orders their cruelty is unbelievable - even towards those from whom they have received hospitality.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.1.45 H S-Y.)

SECRET

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That there is a certain amount of preoccupation however on the part of the Germans about lack of discipline behind the front lines is shown by the formation of special units known as "Feldjaeger". Their uses are defined in a document which recently fell into Allied hands. The document states "The Feldjaeger" have recently received from the Fuhrer great power and authoritiy over the members of the armed forces, of the SS and all the organisations associated with the army, including the TODT and the Motorised National Social unit. The actual nature of the work of the "Feldjaeger" varies according to the position of the front, but they must collaborate strictly with all the security services and "conduct a strenuous battle behind the front against disobedience, selfishness and must prevent laxity of every kind".

The formation of this new corps took place after reports were recently sent by Field Marshal KEITEL on "sacking" and other forms of lack of discipline which seriously damage the army's authority. (P.W.B. Rome 3.1.45).

The political fatigue of the German forces has been admitted in the "Der Politische Soldat" review which published an article conteining instructions for the hospitals in northern Italy, in which it defends the political instructions in cases where soldiers are affected by neuropathia.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.1.45)

IX. Atrocities.

German-Fascist reprisals (for the killing of 34 German SS men at BARDINI P 8618) were carried out at VINCA (P 91) on the 26th August, by German and Italian SS men, officered by Germans and by elements of the 10th Flottiglia MAS

VINCA was surrounded by some hundreds of Fascist troops, who then marched into the town. Houses were burnt down and destroyed with mines. Furniture was stacked in the streets and burnt. Pigs and sheep were machine-gunned in their hundreds and left lying there. Poultry, cheese, etc were taken away by the SS in their trucks. The Germans seized 172 women and children in the village. They had their hands tied behind their backs and a rope was secured round their necks. The bodies were left hanging there for several days until the male population returned and buried them.
(P.W.B. Florence 8.1.45)

BOLOGNA region On 27th September a squad of Germans left PIOPPE on the excuse of going for pigs, but they actually went towards CREDA with the object of collecting news of partisans. At CREDA they were repulsed by partisans. The Germans killed three civilians who had not succeeded in escaping thus:

1. A poor madman was taken in front of his house. He was made to kneel down several times as a game, and then killed.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799027

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1. A poor madman was taken in front of his house. He was made to kneel down several times as a game, and then killed.

2. A man very ill with arthritis, who had retired to his bedroom when he saw the Germans, was thrown down the stairs. Then he was dragged out and shot.

3. An old man of 84 was found in a shlter and killed. 1312

On the 29th September a crowd of women entered the church of SALVARO. They found the parish priest there, Don Fidenzio Melini, aged 82 and two chaplains. The two chaplains set out for CREDA., where they thought the patriots needed them. Before they arrived there they were stopped by the Germans who took them to PIOPPE. There they

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 963021

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remained for three days together with about 40 hostages, some taken on the spot and others brought from PISTOIA. On October 1st about 6 o'clock in the evening they were all marched off in line to a canal near an electricity station. Three by three they were made to cross a plank and were machine gunned. The bodies fell into the canal. The Germans had an idea that some of the people might have survived so they threw hand grenades. Some did manage to escape however, among them a certain man now a refugee in Florence.

On the 29th September the Germans arrived at CREDA at 6 o'clock in the morning. The peasants thought that they were patriots and went to meet them; they saw machine guns pointed at them and recognised the leader of the soldiers as an ex-partisan of the Stella Rossa brigade. The Germans collected 74 people together, among them a baby 17 days old and one of 14 months. Then they put two maching guns on a cart and turned them on the people. They then burnt down the houses with incendiary bombs. A few wounded people managed to escape on to the roof tops.
(P.W.B. Florence 5.12.44).

According to information given to a correspondent of the UNN by a patriot of the "Modena" Division the Germans massacred 1400 people in the region of VADO on the PRATO-BOLOGNA road. The massacre took place at the beginning of October and there was hard fighting between the Germans and patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.12.44).

CASTAGNO A scene of total destruction met the eyes of an Allied war correspondent who went to visit the village of Castagno, in the province of Florence, one of the places which suffered most from German reprisals in the course of their retreat.

In the month of April last year the Nazis met, near Monte FALTERONA, a group of patriots. One of the patriot squads of 8 men which was acting as a rear-guard, was captured. The Germans did not content themselves with shooting the patriots, but went on to take reprisals against the village of Castagno. Several houses were burnt and a woman who showed herself at the windown was shot. Four months afterwards, on the 4th August, when their retreat was imminent, the Germans decided to destroy in cold blood the entire village. And now nothing remains of Castagno but ruins, even the two churches and the cemetery were mined and destroyed.
(P.W.B. 5.1.45).

TURIN About the 15th August the following atrocities were committed:

4 hung in Corso Vinzaglio at the corner of Via Cernaia
6 hung to the lamp posts on the motor road
2 hung in front of the E.I.A.R. building.

The system used by the Germans has reached a refinement of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758021

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The system used by the Germans has reached a refinement of cruelty almost inconceivable. The body of the victim is tied very firmly to the tree or makeshift gallows. The rope is put round the neck with a slip knot and the other end attached to a motor lorry. The movement of the car causes strangulation, but the rope is cut and the victim left still in his death agony. The bodies are left hanging for several days. Trams pass in front of the macabre sight and have orders to slow up so that the passengers can see better. If any passenger tries to hide their face they are generally kicked or struck. One woman on a tram who hid her face at the sight of the bodies was slapped by a Black Guard.
(P.W.B. Florence 1.11.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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X. German Spoliation.

GENOA-VENTIMIGLIA line. The Germans have begun to take away the unused lines in the station and the copper pipes. The line is working between GENOA and IMPERIA with steam engines, but the traffic is very reduced - 2 or 3 trains on an average per day, which carry munitions and other war material.
(Italian Official source 24.12.44)

It is reported that the Germans are preparing to take away large quantities of the valuable alloys from the steel foundries in COGNE by means of the AOSTA-CHIVASSO railway. Between the 9th and 11th December eight trains left TURIN with the following loads:

machine tools	35	waggons
copper	14	"
scrap iron and copper	35	"
iron	85	"
sheet metal	22	"

On the 11th December two convoys of waggons loaded with scrap iron stopped at the stations of Turin P.Susa and Turin Dora.

Between the 1st and 4th December 600 waggons loaded with grain and cattle crossed the emergency bridge built at the side of the railway bridge of the Piula (south of the river PIAVE - 15 km north of TREVISO)
(Italian Official Source 23.12.44).

From the 5th to the 13th December 100 trains of machinery, raw material and unfinished goods left various localities of PIEDMONT for north-east Italy and the Brenner.
(Italian Official Source 22.12.44).

During the month of October in LIGURIA alone the German army removed the following:

Cattle	500 tons	Hay	1800 tons
Oats	93 tons	coffee substitute	65 tons
Wine	3000 tons	liquers	22 tons
straw	1200 tons	pasta	300 tons
vermouth	700 tons		

(P.W.B. Rome 8.12.44).

XI. German Propaganda.

"German Strength " propaganda, which was still being played up before the invasion of France (leaflet "Come finerebbe") has been

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788321

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machine tools	35	waggons
copper	14	"
scrap iron and copper	36	"
iron	55	"
sheet metal	22	"

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(P.W.B. Rome 8.12.44).

XI. German Propaganda.

"German Strength " propaganda, which was still being played up before the invasion of France (leaflet "Come finerebbe") has been discontinued.

There are two types of anti-sabotage propaganda. 1311

(a) trying to incite the civil population against the saboteur - leaflet "Il sabotaggio e la sua morte"

(b) trying to convince would-be saboteurs that "sabotage does not pay" and is a criminal and stupid thing. (Pamphlet "L'Uomo dall'accento straniere8).

The propaganda value of V weapons has been exploited in various leaflets, among them "e in fondo giungera il giorno della vittoria Italo-Germanica" and "La bufera si avvicina" (The storm is coming") in which the Allies are shown trying to rush the German positions before the other "V" weapons come into operation.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778221

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Hate propaganda figures largely among leaflets recently found in the FORLI area. One poster and one pamphlet deal with the "profanation of Cassino" "Non Colpevole" (Not Guilty) is intended to prove that the Allies encourage, or are indifferent to the crimes of Allied soldiers. Another hate poster was "Nell'Italia del disonore" issued 23.9.44 alleging that the Allies shot 45 partisans who had refused to surrender their arms.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.12.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XII. Reactions to Leaflets and Radio.

Statistics from Eighth Army indicate a steady maintenance of the percentage of enemy PWs who are captured carrying leaflets and safe-conduct passes.

"THE PO- A WET GRAVE." Major Schroeder the G-1 Ops of 715 Div. wrote an article in the news sheet of the Division "Der Grenadiere" in which he countered point by point the facts quoted in the Allied leaflet. He made these points: he said that the crossing of the PO was still a long way off, but that even if the Germans had to fall back from the foot-hills, they would be at an advantage of being able to deploy the vast mass of-anti-tank weapons which hitherto had not been necessary, through the restricted tank warfare of the foothills. He went on to ascert that the plain of the Po was very like the Steppes of Russia, where the Germans mastered the art of fighting in flat country. Although admitting that all permanent bridges over the Po had been destroyed, Schroeder pointed out that numerous pontoon bridges and ferries "across which whole brigades can be moved at top speed" had been built.

Milan Fascist Radio produced a long tirade against General Alexander in answer to the leaflet dropped during December, signed by him warning Germans and Fascists against committing atrocities.

Safe Conduct Passes. A PW from 305 Div which recently bore the brunt of the fighting in the upper Senio valley, said that in addition to Frontpost, a lot of Safe Conducts had been dropped on his Unit. Some weeks ago, there was a general inspection to see how many men were carrying Safe Conducts in their pockets. A high percentage were found to be in possession of passes and they were ordered to throw them away. PW later observed that many of his comrades picked up the wet Safe Conducts and dried them in the sun.

An NCO from Berlin of the newly arrived 90 PG Div said that he saw leaflets shelled into RAVENNA on Dec. 3rd. He heard from a partisan that on the following night a number of Germans deserted over a small bridge built by the British across the [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760121

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An NCO from Berlin of the newly arrived 8 PG Div said that he saw leaflets shelled into RAVENNA on Dec. 3rd. He heard from a partisan that on the following night a number of Germans deserted over a small bridge built by the British across the Fiume Uniti.

Frontpost. An Austrian RC priest, called up in the German Army as a medical orderly had seen three different editions of Frontpost in the last two weeks. His comment was "They contain the truth, put in an objective and factual manner. Both Frontpost and Safe Conducts have an excellent influence on the German soldier's mind" he said.

An officer from 114 Div read Adriafront which was shelled across the river Montone on his position. He said "Here are facts printed, of which our leaders tell us nothing.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775021

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items sidelined

A PW from 356 Div said that Frontpost was dropped by plane over the replacement centre at NICOLO, near FAENZA, but the men had little chance of reading them because NCOs were sent out to pick them up. His CO, 1st Lt. Wagner showed them safe conducts and he warned his men not to believe that they would receive the good treatment promised them if they were captured. Two men burst out laughing at this, and were arrested on the spot.

An Italian deserter from the San Marco Division on the 5th Army front stated that Allied leaflets dropped over his position were the determining factors leading to his desertion. Further deserters from the same division stated that fifteen days before they came over to our lines they had received leaflets which had been fired over by our artillery. Others dropped by aircraft had been dispersed by the wind. They said that leaflets were very effective.

Reactions to Eighth Army Radio. A number of PWs recently captured by Eighth Army have confirmed that Allied Broadcasts are clandestinely listened to by German soldiers.

A PW from 334 Div said that he had listened to the "Voice of the Eighth Army" on an Italian set near FORLI. At first only one other soldier listened with him, but when they told others that names of PWs were given, they became interested and in the end there were about fifteen listening in. They liked German dance music and apparently it helped them a few times when officers came in and asked them what station they were listening to. PW then named two of the most popular German songs which the radio had just been broadcasting and the officers were satisfied.

A PW from Vienna belonging to 26 Pz Div used to listen in at RUSSI. The Italian family with whom he was hiding listened to the Italian part of the broadcast until Allied artillery deprived them of electric current.

Another listening incident was reported by a PW from 114 Div who used to listen in regularly to the BBC and to the Swiss wireless with self-made sets, which he said were easily built. They heard the news of Finland's surrender and it spread like wildfire among the troops before the German radio announced it. An investigation was started and each man had to sign a document swearing that he had never listened to an enemy station.

(P.W.B. HQ 15 Army Group. 31.12.44).

CARRARA At Carrara the Rome, Bari and London staions could be heard very well. "Italian Combatte" was also well received and much appreciated

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(P.W.B. Rome 4.1.45 M S-Y.)

In September an order from the Kommandantur demanded the handing over of wirelesses. Some people nevertheless succeeded in 1310 hiding them. Florence is heard well from there.
(P.W.B. Florence 29.12.44).

POLITICS

XIII. Anti-Fascists in Massima Carrara.

In the C.L.N. of CARRARA all the parties are represented in theory. In reality the two dominating ones are the Communists and Socialists, with the former the stronger. The Communists are the only party which is well organised, is armed and can consequently impose its will on the others.
(P.W.B. Florence 29.12.44).

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XIV. How Mussolini Travels.

A PW from the Penal Platoon of 305th Inf Div who had formerly been on the Staff of Soldatensender Italien (Army Broadcasting Station in Italy) in ROME and subsequently in FLORENCE and MILAN reports that at GARDONE (F-37) he had opportunity to observe that apparently a whole battalion of German SS was employed to guard MUSSOLINI's headquarters, each man armed with a machine pistol. On several occasions the PW had seen Mussolini drive forth on business. The order of march was as follows: one half-track mounting a 20 mm Flakvierling; one eight-wheeled armoured car; one half-track troop carrier with eight SS men aboard; then MUSSOLINI in a Mercedes staff car, followed by another half-track with eight SS men, and another half-track with a 20 mm Flakvierling bringing up the rear. On one occasion PW swears he saw a Mark [illegible] tank behind the second half-track.
(5th Army G-2 report No 471 20.12.44).

XV. The Koch Band - further details.

For some time the chief exponents of Fascist criminality have been exerting themselves to think of various means of avoiding the inescapable justice which awaits them. One of these methods is that which may have been adopted by KOCK, that of reappearing in other places under a new name. No doubt Koch had plenty of opportunity, with the complicity of the principal Fascist ringleaders, and the means at his disposal, to give out the news of his assassination by patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 11.1.45).

The responsibility for the numerous crimes which the Koch band has committed and will commit are just as much the responsibility of the so-called Fascist Minister of the Interior BUFFARINI-GUIDI. The Koch band and the similar groups of criminals which vie with it in infamy are directly responsible in fact to him. In MILAN alone the following organisations are working against the patriots and the population: The Political Office of Investigation of the Militia, the Political Office of the "Muti" Legion, the German police, the Political Office of the German police with HQ in Piazza Verdi, besides various commands of the Gestapo and naturally the various commissariats of the Questura which are for all practical purposes in the hands of the Fascists and Germans who actually control them.
(P.W.B. Rome 8.1.45).

ECONOMIC.

XVI. Food Situation.

CARRAR up to 14th December 44.

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(P.W.B. Rome 8.1.45).

ECONOMICS

XVI. Food Situation.

CARRARA up to 14th December 44.

Flour	80-90	per kilo
Butter	700	" "
Fresh Sheep Cheese	20	" "
Chestnut Flour	70-80	per kilo
Meat (till last November - it has now disappeared	50-60	per kilo
Maize Flour	50-60	" "
Oil	600-700	per litre

Bread is the only thing distributed on the food cards - 100 grms per day- but with some gaps.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.1.45 M S-Y).

SECRET

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SECRET
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XVII. Fuel and Power.

CARRARA, up to 14th December 1944.

Electric light and gas are still functioning. So far as fuel is concerned, as the area is an industrial one, it is largely supplied with Kok coal, sold at 135 lire per quintal.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.1.45 M S.Y.)

XVIII. Public Health.

MASSIMA CARRARA.

The civilian hospital is in the most perlous state. There is a total lack of Chloroform, of Ether and of antitetanus serum. The surgeons have to do operations without chloroform for fear of tetanus complications. There is a little cotton wool. It should be recalled that in the summer this city suffered an epidemic of typhus.
(P.W.B. Florence 29.12.44)

XIX. Finance.

The financial authorities, in their efforts to remedy the increased circulation of money, have decided to consider the 5% Treasury Bonds as normal currency, instead of issuing fresh notes. The sums already borrowed will thus remain at the Treasury's disposal and without the further payment of interest.
(Italian European Service 27.12.44).

XX. Air Raid Damage.

CARRARA, up to 14th December 1944.

There has been no damage in the town except a small bomb on the school. Near the town, towards the sea and at AVENZA (Carrara station) there has been much damage and many victims. At MARINA DI CARRARA there has been a good deal of bombing - directed no doubt against the minefields.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.1.45 M S.Y.)

XXI. General Conditions in Carrara.

The city is in a bad state, packed with refugees who come from the country. The shops are closed and occupied by refugee families. One ettо of bread is distributed per day, but not regularly. Black Market Prices are high. A litre of milk costs 70 lire. Morally the people seem to be in a very apathetic state. Carrara has not suffered much from air raids, but the amount of destruction there is large because the Germans have blown up all the industrial part of the city.
(P.W.B. Florence 29.12.44).

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(P.W.B. Florence 29.12.44).

LABOUR

XXII. Strikes in the North

1309

From a reliable source information has been received - dated 3rd December - regarding the open manifestations and strikes against the Nazis by the workers in the North.

The movement began with the Comitato di Agitazione of the FIAT-MIRAFIORI, an attempt to prevent the Germans and the Fascist collaborators from obtaining any increase in war production, which had already been reduced almost to nothing by sabotage and obstructionism.

SECRET

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In MIL.N the workers of M.RELLI and C.PRONI, and at BERG.MO those of D.LMINE, came out on strike as a protest against the increasingly bad food conditions, and the lack of distribution of fuel. The Nazi-Fascists replied by proclaiming the closure of all these firms. The workers of MIL.N and TURIN in all other workshops stopped work on their own initiative as a protest. Meanwhile the people continue to agitate fiercely against the cold, hunger and terror which they are made to suffer.
(P.W.B. Rome 6.1.45).

XXIII. Compulsory Labour Regulations.

The following is a copy of a manifesto on compulsory labour issued by the German General Command on 7th July 1944.

TODT ORG.NIS.TION

Theatre Italy.
Supreme Construction Command
Adriatic-South (VI)

M.SONS' .ND CEMENT WORKERS' COOPER.TIVES

REGUL.TIONS ON COMPULSORY L.BOUR IN THE PROVINCES OF PES.RO FORLI .ND R.VENN.

1) To secure for all those belonging to Classes 1914 to 1926, in the provinces of Pesaro, Forli and Ravenna exemption from military duties and labour services in Germany, the institution of compulsory labour service with the Todt Organisation has been ordered.

2). The employment of the worker takes place in the province of residence or neighbouring province.

3) Those subject to labour service must report up to July 15, 1944 to the nearest service post of the Todt Organisation. The address of the office of the latter is to be requested from community offices and prefectures.

4) Whoever attempts to evade compulsory labour service will be interned in a camp for forced labour. In case of flight, a member of the family of the fugitive or another relative will be arrested and brought to the forced labour camp.

5) Whoever gives shelter or assists in any other manner an individual who has evaded the above duty, will be brought to the forced labour camp.

6) The mayors of the communities must submit up to July 15, 1944 lists containing all the names of those subject to compulsory labour service, residing in their communities, compiling them according to Article 1. They are personally responsible for the accuracy in

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6) The mayors of the communities must submit up to July 15, 1944 lists containing all the names of those subject to compulsory labour service, residing in their communities, compiling them according to Article 1. They are personally responsible for the accuracy in the compilation of these lists.

7) Those who are under obligation to report must inform the mayor of their community of the service post of the Todt Organisation where they are employed. That must be confirmed by the Todt Organisation. If that communication has not been received by July 25, 1944, steps will be taken against the relatives of those concerned (Art. 4).

8) Those subject to labour service, who, after July 20, 1944, may be stopped by road control posts and other vigilant inspections, and who are not in possession of the identification card from theTodt Organisation, will be immediately brought to the forced labour camp.

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PERSONALITIES.

XXIV. Members of the Kock Band.

The following are the names of the Kock band during its activities in Via Paolo Uccello N 15, MILAN:

PIETRO KOCK
AUGUSTO TRINCA ARMATI Avvocato
GINO FRANZOSI
ARMANDO TELA
OSVALDO VALENTI
FRANCESCO SBARAGLINI
BELGO DEREGRA SCORZA
LIVIO FRAGNINI
FRANCESCO ARGENTINI
EMILIO FERRUCCI
ENZO SILVESTRI
GIUSEPPE MAGNANI
POMPEO GARDONA
PAOLO CAVALIERI
RAFFAELE PALLONI
GARIBALDO ZANGHIERI
GIOVANNI FEDELI
GUGLIELMO BALSI
MILETO MACCAGNI
RENZO DE SANTIS
ADOLFO RASCHI
CARLO DE SANTIS
ALBERTO GIORGETTI
ANTONIO CASALI
GIOVANNI CORSO
GIOVANNI RIBALTA
VINCENZO TONTE
ALBERTO RAGNI
CARLO GUGLIELMI
RENATO MILANESI
GIUSEPPE BERTINI
LUIGI TRAFONI
GIUSEPPE BORI
BRUNO JACOPINI
DANILO TERRINI
GIUSEPPE MARTINI
BRUNO BALDECCHI
RODOLFO MAZZI
RENZO BAGLIONI
GIOGIO PEGNI
FERDINANDO FILIPPINI
FRANCESCO BELLUOMINI
CARUCCIO BARUCCI
FILIBERTO FILLIPPINI
MARIO FERRINI
ALBERTO TARDUCCI
MARIO TERRASCONI
GIULIO TINARELLI
MARCELLO TERTONI
CORRADO CAVALIERI
DINO LUGLI
LEONARDO CRESCENZI

GERARDO PRIORI

LUISA FERIDA
ALBA GIUSTI
ANNA MAURICHETTI
MARIA RIVERA
CAMILLA GIORGETTI
TERESA LENORNE
ANNA CHIAVINI
MARGHERITA CAVALIERI
ANNA RASCHI.

(P.W.B. Rome 12.1.45).

XXV. Personalities in Carrara.

GARRETTO of the Brigate Nere of LA SPEZIA
EVANGELISTI of Carrara, officer of the Brigate Nere

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.RM.NDO TEL.
OSV.LDO V.LENTI
FR.NCESCO SB.R.GLINI
BELGO DEREGR. SCORZ.
LIVIO FR.GNINI
FR.NCESCO .RGENTINI
EMILIO FERRUCCI
ENZO SILVESTRI
GIUSEPPE M.GN.NI
POMPEO G..RDON.
P.OLO C..V..LIERI
R.FF.ELE P..LLONI
G..RIB.LDO Z..NGHIERI
GIOV.NNI FEDELI
GUGLIELMO B.LSI
.MLETO ..CC.GNI
RENZO DE .ANTIS
.DOLFO R.SCHI
C..RLO DE S.NTIS
.M.TO GIORGETTI
.NTONIO C.S.LI
GIOV.NNI CORSO
GIOV.NNI RIB.LT.

GER.RDO PRICHI

LUIS. FERID.
.LB. GIUSTI
.NN. M.URICHETTI
M.RI. RIVER.
C.MILL. GIORGETTI
TERES. LENORME
.NN. CHI.VINI
M.RGHERIT. C..V.LIERI
.NN. R.SCHI.

C.RLO GUGLIELMI
RENATO MILANESI
GIUSEPPE BERTINI
LUIGI TR.MPONI
GIUSEPPE BORI
BRUNO J..COPINI
D.NILO TERRINI
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FR.NCESCO BELLUOMINI
C..BRUCCIO B..BRUCCI
FILIBERTO FILLIPPINI
M.RIO FERRINI
.LBERTO T.RDUCCI
M.RIO TERM.SCONI
GIULIO TIN.RELLI
M.RCELLO TERTONI
CORR.DO C..V.LIERI
DINO LUGLI
LEDI.OLDO CRESCENZI

(P.W.B. Rome 12.1.45).

XXV. Personalities in Carrara.

G.RRETTO of the Brigate Nera of L. SPEZI.
EV.NGELISTI of Carrara, officer of the Brigate Nera
BUTTINI, Ernesto, prefect of Carrara, well known Fascist.

(P.W.B. Florence 28.12.44).

1308

Lawyer GIULIO LODOVICE: republican Fascist federal Commissioner
Lawyer PINETTO MICHELI
Lawyer C.MILLO MICHELI
C.RLO G.TTINI: very active Fascist
.IETRO G.TTINI: High officer of the Fascist Militia. Fervent Fascist

(P.W.B. Rome 4.1.45 M S-Y).

SECRET

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XXVI. Fascists of Vergato.

MINGARDI LORENZO of MARZABOTTO
Fascist Republican Secretary up to the beginning of October
Ardent Squadrist and organiser of the Brigata Nera
Has forced many young men to join the SS
Has betrayed partisans to the Germans. Pointed out Ca' Fagiolo, Ca' di Nerozzo, Ca' di Bologna as partisan strongholds and these three places were burnt down on the 23rd August and 10 people killed.

FANCALDI of VERGATO

Captain in the Militia. Commanded a Company of Fascists at Montese. The fear of an imminent Allied advance drove him to escape with his family to the north and he is now at LONATO in the province of BRESCIA, with a family by the name of MENEGHETTI.

GENTILINI RAFFAELE of VERGATO

Active collaborator with Fancaldi, and appears to have followed him to the north.

CALZOLARI of VERGATO

Consol General of the Militia at Modena

CRISTALLI.

Regent of the Republican Fascio of Vergato, brother in law of Calzolari

(P.W.B. Florence 8.1.45 F.P. M.L., I... M.S.)

XXVII. Ventimiglia Fascists.

CAVALIERE PICCIONI, ex photographer, now Fascist Political Secretary and propagandist. Incites the people of Ventimiglia to abandon the city and prevents the entry of food.

AMBROSIO ANTONIO, aged 40, lives at Bordighera, ex. railwayman and right hand man of Piccioni, terrorist.

LUCHI. Brigadiere of the G.N.R. lives in Via Ruffini hunts patriots.

ROY of Bordighera, deputy for Piccioni, Squadrist and Gerarch- one of the best known men in the town

GIBERTINI. Fascist, collaborationist with the Germans, works in the Ufficio Censure of Imperia

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P.NCALDI of VERG.TO

Captain in the Militia. Commanded a Company of Fascists at Montese. The fear of an imminent Allied advance drove him to escape with his family to the north and he is now at LON.TO in the province of BRESCI., with a family by the name of MENEGHETTI.

GENTILINI R.FF.ELE of VERG.TO

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CA.ZOL.RI of VERG.TO

Consol General of the Militia at Modena

CRIST.LLI.

Regent of the Republican Fascio of Vergato, brother in law of Calzolari

(F.W.B. Florence 8.1.45 F.P. M.L., F... M.S.)

XXVII. Ventimiglia Fasciste.

C..V.LIERE PICCIONI, ex photographer, now Political Fascist Secretary and propagandist. Incites the people of Ventimiglia to abandon the city and prevents the entry of food.

.RCSIO .NTONIO, aged 40, lives at Bordighera, ex. railwayman and right hand man of Piccioni, terrorist.

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GINO VOT., Lawyer, lives in Via Principe Amedeo, collaborationist with the Germans andmember of the Special Tribunal of Alessandria.

H.NS EISENREIGH and his daughter Kete, dangerous elements, spies.

The brothers M.RIO and NINO COFFO, live in Via Cavour Point out anti-fascists to the Germans and the G.N.R.

SECRET

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BONO SETTI lives in Via Fondega, founded the Republican Fascio of Airole, spy.

FERRARI BERNARDO, Via Lunga Roya.

MORETTI LUISA, Fascist and spy - betrays young men to the Germans.

RONCATI of the G.N.R. Via Garibaldi, spy and collaborationist.

FERRARI PIERINO, aged 35, via Asse, interpreter and spy

RUI EMILIA of Camporosso, nurse, aged 38. Is now at Taggia with a group of German artillery commanded by Magg. MINUT.

XXVIII. Udine Personalities.

VENTURINI, Brigadiere. Lives in Via del Bon and works with another spy NERI.

DEANA. The entire family is in German pay, The family consists of DOMENICO DEANA, FAUSTA DEANA, FIORENDO DEANA Fausto's son, GIOVANNI DEANA. GIOVANNI MION, another spy, works with this despicable family.

BOSER called BUSINELLI. Is an agend of the spy COLLEDANI of the Fascist Federation. Working in Spilimberg

ALDO MENEGUTTI, also working in Spilimberg. Is 40 years old and lives at the powder magazine in UISAGO.

SIGNORA AGOSTI and her son RINO - owner of the CAFFE ALLE ALPI of TARVISIO.

PIETRO MAURO of PORDENONE. Sicilian by origin. Was working at REANA DEL ROIALE. At Pordenone he has formed a small squad of about 15 men, with whom he works for the Germans A Signorina DELMA GORASSO , aged 23 works with him. She comes from CAMPOFORMIDO.

B. ZAZZA, living in Via Grazzano no. 55 - one of the most dangerous and active Fascists agents in the Questure of Udine.

MARIO DE CECCO, also Via Grazzano No 124.

PASCUTTO, Signorina of COLLEZZO, friendly with the SS.

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and spy FERRARI PIERINO, aged 35, via Asse, interpreter

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MARIO DE CECCO, also Via Grazzano No 124.

PASCUTTO, Signorina of TOLMEZZO, friendly with the SS.

(F.W.B. Rome 11.12.44).

XXIX. Collaborationists in La Spezia.

RICCI ALFREDO of Ponzano Magra. Fascist, Political Secretary. Has committed atrocities against the patriots and their families

SECRET

1307

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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RUFFINI RINALDO of S. Stefano Magra... may be playing a double game

CHIAPPUCCI MARIA and her son and daughter of S. Stefano Magra, hardened Fascist. Gave information on the Tullio Brigade, which gave rise to a mopping-up operation

RUFFINI ARTEBANO of S. Stefano, uncle of Rinaldo, Squadrist, Marcia su Roma, ex Political Secretary of the Militia., founder of the Fascio of S. Stefano; to be found at Domodossola in his daughter's house.

PIETRAPIANA TARQUINIO of S. Stefano. To be found at Serzana with the Black Brigade. Acts as spy.

PASQUINELLI ESPEDITO of S. Stefano; professor of drawing at La Spezia.

PARMA CARLO and RAIMONDO (brothers) of S. Stefano, squadriste.

NERI GIGIO of S. Stefano, squadrist. Now in the Black Brigade.

RUFFINI UMBERTO of S. Stefano; came from Germany; acts as interpreter with the Germans

RUFFINI called PICCION, brother of Umberto; sergeant in the Black Brigade. Has killed patriots with his own hand.

RUFFINI ANTONIO of S. Stefano, squadrist, Sciarpa Littorio, organiser of the Republican Fascio, in the Black Brigade.

PARMA MARIO of S. Stefano, relation of the Parme above. Spy. In the Black Brigade.

PACINI CESARE. Responsible for the death of patriots at Ponzano Inferiore. Spy for the Black Brigade.

MAGGIORE GALEAZZI. Now in the Black Brigade. Took part in the mopping-up operation of 29th November.

CARPANESE GABRIELLO of Albiano Magra; Sergeant Major in the Black Brigade. Responsible for numerous arrests and mopping up operations.

BOCCHIA GALLIANO of Albiano Magra (Apuania), squadrist, political secretary of the Republican Fascio.

CAMAIORA possesses a chalet in the square of S. Stefano, where he receives Fascists of the neighbourhood.

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MALONI of Caprigliola (Apuania) Responsible for mopping up operations. An electrician in the Societa Ceramica Ligure of Ponzano.

SILVANO called CELE cousin of Giorgio, collaborationist and spy for the Germans. Member of the Black Brigade. A mechanic of the Ceramiche.

MALONI GINO. lives in Sarzana, railwayman, squadrist, sciarpa Littorio. In the Action Squad of the Black Brigade. Responsible together with the Ruffini brothers for the burning of 20 houses and the destruction of livestock in Vezzano and S. Stefano.

SECRET

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MARTINI NARCISO, member of the Black Brigade of S. Stefano. Took part in mopping-up operations and was responsible for for burning the valli of Vazzano and S. Stefano together with

FOSCHI ANGELO.

BELANI ANGIOLO of Albiano Magra, watchman at the Canale Lunense. Squadrist, founder of the Republican Fascio in Albiano.

CASTELLINI LUIGI of Bolano. Secretary of the Fascio of Bolano. Collaborationist and spy. To be found at La Spezia.

The brothers PICCILLO, MARIO and ENRICO of La Spezia, one a Major in the Black Brigade and the other also belonging to the Brigade. Squadrists, refugees in Bolano.

GALLI of Sarzana. Works in the hospital of Sarzana and despatch rider for the Black Brigade.

GALLI of Sarzana, dentist, founder, together with the above, his brother, of the Republican Fascio of Sarzana. Responsible for the first mopping-up operation in the region on the 15th January 1944. Responsible, with his brother, for the capture of 320 hostages.

ROCCA of Sarzana, commandant of the Black Brigade. Responsible for all the massacres in the region. Goes round escorted by four members of the Brigade armed with machine guns.

SCATTINA of Ceparano, chauffuer of the Colonel of the Black Brigade of La Spezia. To be found at La Spezia with his family. Has taken part in several mopping-up operations.

PILOTO, Major of the Black Brigade, wounded by the partisans. Convinced Fascist and responsible for the killing of partisans. Beruzzo and Spadoni at Ponzano Superiore.

IZZO. 1st Secretary of the Fascio Repubblicano of S. Stefano ex employee of the Arsenal. To be found at La Spezia at the Red Cross. Has had various hostages arrested. His son is in the X. Flottiglia MAS and takes part in mopping-up operations.

ORLANDINI REMO. Officer of the Black Brigade of La Spezia. Has taken part in all the mopping up operations and is responsible for various killings.

AURELIO. Chauffeur of the Federale of La Spezia Bertozzi and a torturer of the partisans. Known for his extreme cruelty. Lives in La Spezia.

(P.W.B. Florence 28.12.44 Comm. T.).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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1306

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 021

SECRET
"D" Section, Italy (Ccc).

8 JAN 1945

3rd January, 1945.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 34.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Organisation of Partisan Bands in Piacenza Province.

By the end of November 44 all partisans, about 10,000, in the province were organised in two Divisions (1) Justice and Liberty and (2) Garibaldini, under a unified Central Command (Comando Unico) One of the main reasons for the success of the movement was the fact that the Comando Unico instilled mutual confidence and co-operation between the different Brigades.

(1) The Justice and Liberty Division numbered 4000 men in 6 Brigades The tendencies of this Division are democratic and monarchic, and anti-communist. It has done good work. "Paolo"'s Brigade in particular has made several raids into Piacenza and on one occasion captured the Prefetto. He is interned in the mountains and is employed in sawing wood and has to chant "Duce, Duce" while doing sol

(2) Garibaldini Division
(a) 62nd Brigade, about 1000 (800 armed) has much disturbed German communications on the Via Emilia.
(b) 38th Brigade, 1200 (800 armed) has also done good work on the Via Emilia and captured considerable amount of German transport and supplies
(c) 60th Brigade. -800 well armed men- has done much fighting in the Nure Valley and has the best fighting spirit of all the Brigades.
(d) 61st Brigade 550 men. The morale of this brigade is not very good, as its leaders, though good guerillas, are illiterate peasants without ability to organise resistance in a larger zone.

Desertions from Fascist Forces.

Desertions from voluntary Fascist Units (Brigate Nere, X Flotilla M.S, Italian SS, G N R and Muti Legion) are almost nil, as these elements receive short shrift from the partisans. Non-voluntary units, (Alpini, Monte Rosa and Litteric Divs) provide numerous deserters. In Piacenza Province alone, during 1944, more than 1000 desertions took place. Most of these latter had been interned in Germany and are much embittered by their treatment.

Recent Partisan Activities.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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Recent Partisan Activities.

While on the whole the Germans appear to be gaining control of Piemonte, the patriots in the Veneto and particularly in Udine province have carried out many raids on trains and locomotives. Other notable feats were the blowing up of a German submarine at Pieve ne di Male (Vicenza Province) when a general and a colonel were killed.

From 3rd to 6th December patriot bands, co-Operating with Allied advanced elements killed 37 Germans and wounded 27.

SECRET

1305

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

3.1.45.

SUMMARY 2.

It is reported by a reliable source that from 1st September to 30th November the Lunense Garibaldini Division, operating in Tuscany, killed 1000 Germans and wounded many others.

Fascist operations.

Fascist sources claim successful mopping-up operations in Alessandria and Acqui areas by German forces and Black Brigades of Cuneo, Alessandria, Vercelli and Como. In the Val Seriana, 200 patriots were said to have been killed and 700 captured.

Swiss Government and Refugee Patriots.

The Swiss Government has agreed to treat refugee Partisans from the Val d'Ossola and Val d'Aoste as military personnel and they will be therefore interned as military internees. They are said to number 2,500.

The Committee of Liberation of N. Italy.

On December 3rd the C.N.L. of N. Italy unanimously deplored the fact that while N. Italy was being oppressed, a Government crisis arose in Rome. The C.N.L. of N. Italy affirmed that until the Constituent Assembly meets, the C.N.L. is the sole legitimate representative of the people.

FASCIST FORCES.

Littorio Division. It is reported that German troops continue to be replaced by units of the Littorio Division.

10th MAS Flotilla. There are persistent rumours that this unit will shortly become an integral part of the German SS.

Morale. The morale of the Republican Army Units is so low that the Germans cannot use them in the line as complete units, but break them up into single battalions for mopping up or for guarding unimportant sectors.

GERMANS

Spoliation of Italy.

The spoliation of Italy on a vast scale continues. 300,000 bicycles must be delivered by the end of December. Huge razzias of cattle are taking place, particularly in Emilia and the Veneto. They are driven on foot to the Brenner, and already over 35,000 head have reached the assembly point in Bolzano Province. Many die en route and others at the assembly centre owing to lack of forage

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 765027

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North Italian industrial equipment is being methodically dismantled.

Proof of the value to Germany of the produce and industry of N. Italy is afforded by a circular letter of Von Rahn to propaganda officers of all German units in Italy. The letter calls upon the German soldiers to behave more humanely towards the Italian people so as to facilitate the [illegible] of valuable imports to Germany.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

SECRET 3.1.45.
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SUMMARY 3.

Atrocities.

Gaggio Mocetano zone. 60-80 civilians were killed and many houses burnt.
Bettola. 54 persons were locked up in a house and burnt alive. One mother tried to save her child by throwing it out of a window but a German soldier threw it back again.
Villa Nova di Bagnacavallo Three men picked out of a crowd which had been forcibly assembled and hanged - 17th November.
Casalecchio di Reno. 20 men escaped from a big concentration camp. 13 were recaptured, tied to trees on the Porrettana road, tortured and killed.
Monte S. Piero district. The raising of an alarm enabled able bodied men to escape. In revenge women and children were killed. Some babies were killed by battering their heads against the walls.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Recent PW and deserters' statements acknowledge the effect of our leaflets. Germans find the Frontpost of the greatest interest, and an Austrian PW from the 114 Div. stated that officers were the first to read the leaflets.

POLITICS.

Morale of Fascists.

Many Fascists have disobeyed orders to remove their families North of the Po as they have lost all hope of a Nazi victory. Some of the most violent are now trying to curry favour by warning patriots of German troop movements and mopping up operations.

Milan demonstrations.

While reports speak of popular demonstrations in favour of Mussolini and Fascism, these would appear to have been got up by the thousands of Fascist refugees who have swarmed into the city.

Fascist Foreign Office.

There are indications that the Fascist Government is preparing to move its Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Bellagio.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation

Brescia. Meat has been unprocurable even on the Black Market since April. Polenta is scarce as the Germans are exporting maize to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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Vicenza. About 3rd week in November. Prices are still fairly moderate.

Fuel

The fuel crisis in No Italy is becoming acute. Peasants are cutting down mulberry trees for firewood. Although some firms have large deposits of coal and coke, these are reckoned insufficient for one month's consumption. Stocks of raw material are also very low, and it is thought that if fresh stocks and coal do not arrive from Germany all the industries of Lombardy must stop production within two months.
Silk Industry The production of silk and artificial silk in N. Italy during the first half of 1944 shows about 25% increase over the same period of the previous year.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 3rd January 45.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 34.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

3rd January, 1945.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 34.

RESISTANCE.

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

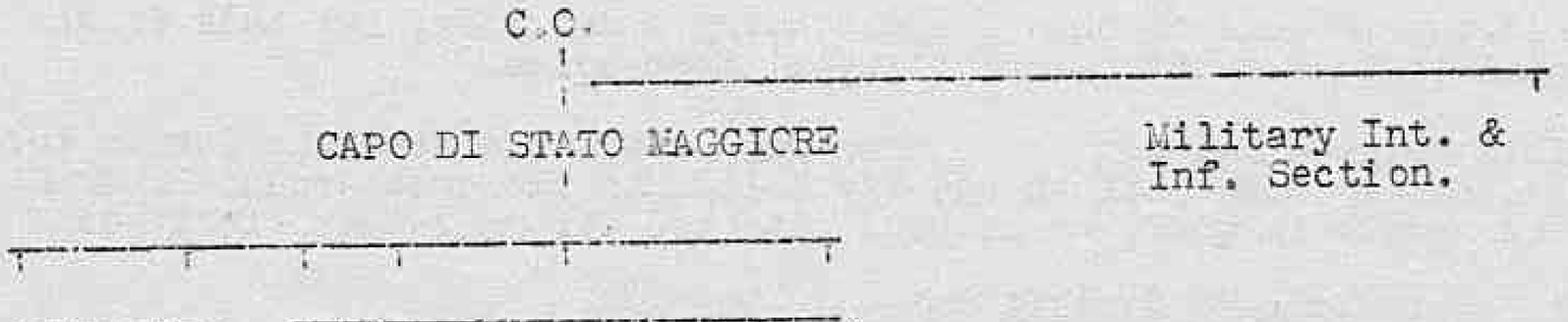
Province of PIACENZA.

By the 28th November 1944 all the partisans in the Province, who numbered 10,000, had been organised into two divisions:-

1. The GIUSTIZIA E LIBERTA
2. The GARIBALDINI.

These two divisions had a unified central command, (the Comando Unico) situated at BETTOLA.

Organisation of COMANDO UNICO



One of the main reasons for the rapid development and good organisation of the partisan movement in the province of PIACENZA was the good work that the Comando Unico did in instilling mutual confidence and a sense of co-operation between the different Brigades. This was very important, as generally there is considerable intrigue and jealousy between the heads of the various Brigades.

I. Divisione GIUSTIZIA E LIBERTA.

Commanded by Capitano FAUSTO, an ex. regular Lt. of the Carabinieri A man of considerable nervous energy, honest and an intense patriot, an anti-Communist.

1302

The Division is divided into six brigades, each with its various

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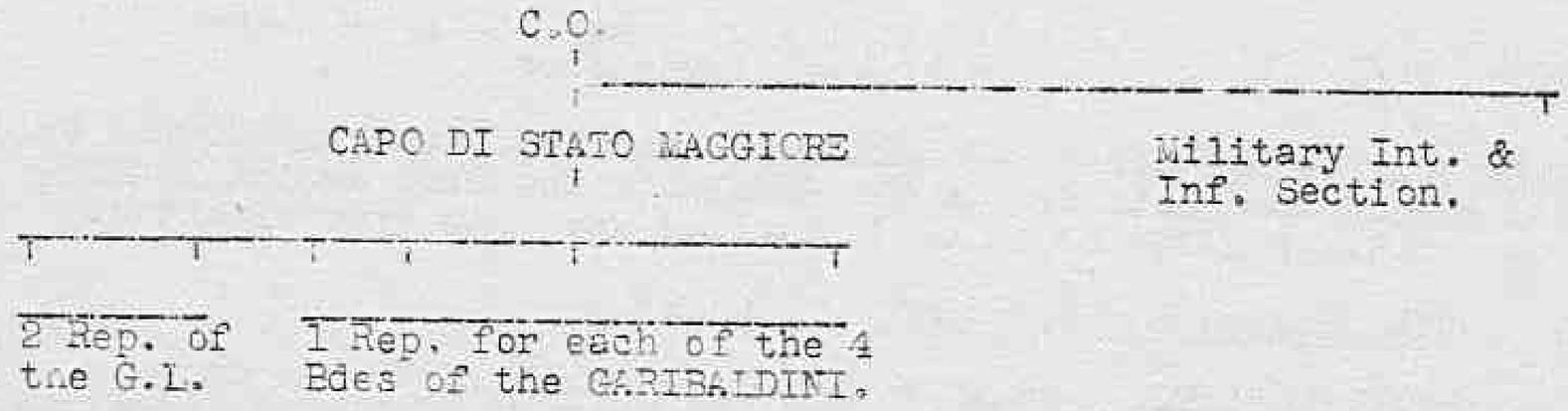

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1302

The Division is divided into six brigades, each with its various companies. However, in this Division there is a stronger central command than in many other partisan divisions. Fausto is directly responsible to the Comando Unico at BETTOLA.

The HQ of the Division are at PECORARA, PIANELLO, ROCCA DI GIORGIO and BOBBIO. Fausto's area of operations is all the province of the TREBBIA Valley.

The total strength of the Division is 4,000 men. Armament is 3, 81 mm mortars, 1 20mm M/G, LM/Gs, German, Italian and British rifles, hand-grenades etc.

Political tendencies of the Division are democratic, monarchic, anti-Fascist and anti-Communist.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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activities of the Division. This Division has done much good work on the main road between PIACENZA, CASTEL S. GIOVANNI , and one Brigade in particular, led by an Italian named Paolo, have carried out several actions inside Piacenza itself, including on one occasion kidnapping the Prefetto himself and taking him up to the mountains where he is still a prisoner. He is employed sawing wood and has to chant "Duce, Duce" while doing so.

The GARIBALDINI DIVISION.

A. 82nd Brigade Garibaldini - LUIGI EVANGELISTE.

Commanded by GIOVANNI the SLAV, an officer of the Jugoslav Navy.

The Area covered by this brigade is on either side of the main road from PALLIZONE, BORE VERNASCA, MUCAGNANO. Has always been a dangerous area to hold as it has roads leading in many different directions.

The Strength of the Brigade is 1,000, 800 of whom are armed.

Its armament is M/Gs, LM/Gs, rifles, grenades etc, and it has 78 vehicles, ranging from heavy lorries to small cars.

All the members of this brigade carry a Red Star, but this is no real indication of their political tendencies.

This brigade has done more than any other in disturbing German troop and supply movements on the Via EMILIA in the area around FIDENZA. Its morale is good, as it well situated for this type of attack.

B. 88th Brigade Garibaldini - V. BERSANI.

Commanded by PRATI, a regular Italian officer of the Alpini. Commissario is RENATO, one of the most dynamic men in the province of PIACENZA, a Communist and interested in Communist propaganda.

The 88th Brigade works in the are between M. MENGOSA, MORFASSO, GROPPO DUCALLO, GROPPARELLO, CASTELL ARQUATA, roughly the area between the ARDA Valley and VEZZENO River. Its strength is 1,200 men of whom 600 are armed. Its armament is one 20mm M/G, LM/Gs, rifles etc. Transport consists of about 50 vehicles ranging from heavy lorries to small cars. This brigade has also done very useful work on the Via Emilia and has captured a considerable amount of German transport and supplies.

C. 60th Brigade Garibaldini.

Commanded by [illegible]

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doing so.

The GARIBALDINI DIVISION.

A. 62nd Brigade Garibaldini - LUIGI EVANGELISTE.

Commanded by GIOVANNI the SLAV, an officer of the Jugoslav Navy.

The Area covered by this brigade is on either side of the main road from PALLIZONE, BORE VERVASCA, MUCAGNANO. Has always been a dangerous area to hold as it has roads leading in many different directions.

The Strength of the Brigade is 1,000, 800 of whom are armed.

Its armament is M/Gs, LM/Gs, rifles, grenades etc, and it has 78 vehicles, ranging from heavy lorries to small cars.

All the members of this brigade carry a Red Star, but this is no real indication of their political tendencies.

This brigade has done more than any other in disturbing German troop and supply movements on the Via EMILIA in the area around PIDENZA. Its morale is good, as it well situated for this type of attack.

B. 38th Brigade Garibaldini - V. BERSANI.

Commanded by PRATI, a regular Italian Officer of the Alpini. Commissario is REMATC, one of the most dynamic men in the province of PIACENZA, a Communist and interested in Communist propagenda.

The 38th Brigade works in the area between M. MENGOSA, MORFASSO, GROPPO DUCALLO, GROPPARELLO, CASTELL ARQUATA, roughly the area between the ARDA Valley and VEZZENO River. Its strength is 1,200 men of whom 600 are armed. Its armament is one 20mm M/G, LM/Gs, rifles etc. Transport consists of about 50 vehicles ranging from heavy lorries to small cars. This brigade has also done very useful work on the Via Emilia and has captured a considerable amount of German transport and supplies.

C. 60th Brigade Garibaldini.

Commanded by "MONTENEGRINO", DUSAN MILIC, Reserve Lt. of the Jugoslav Army. Commissario is PINO CANZI.

The area of operations is the NUREValley, stretching from FERRIERI t. PONTE DELL'OLIO. The strength of the Brigade is 800 well armed men and it has about 40 venicles. Its armament is 12 mm M/Gs, LM/Gs, flame throwers, rifles etc.

This brigade is more interested in fighting than in politics. Until October 44 it was engaged in clearing up the enemy in the NURE valley and in capturing the towns of FERRIERI, BETTOLA and PONTE DELL'OLIO. After the capture of the last named town the Brigade was able to operate on the plain and finally on the Via Emilia, east of PIACENZA. Its morale is excellent and it has the best fighting spirit of any of the Brigades in this province.

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D. 61st Brigade Garibaldi GIUSEPPE MAZZINI.

Commanded by P[illegible], a regular Italian Alpini officer. Commissario is BAFFINI.

The area in which this brigade acts is the same as that of the 60th Brigade, ie. the Val NURE. Its strength is 580 men, and its armament 12 mm M/Gs, LM/Gs, rifles etc., and its transport is about 40 venicles. It has as yet no very definite political tendencies Its morale is not very good, owing to the fact that the detachment commanders are illiterate peasants who, although good as guerilla figaters, have no abilitiy to organise resistance in a larger area.

Desertions from the German and Fascist forces to the partisans. The desertions from the voluntary Fascist units (Brigata Nera, X Flotilla MAS, SS Italiana, GNR, Muti) are almost nil, because they know that they would be given no mercy by the partisans. However the non-voluntary units such as the Alpini, the Monte Rosa, the Littoria Div. etc. are only too ready to come over to the partisans, which they have done in large numbers. In the province of PIACENZA alone this year there have been about 1,000 desertions. Most of these soldiers have been interned at one time or another in camps in Germany, and are very bitter against the treatment they received.

(Confidential Report. 14.12.44).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

Patriots placed a bomb in a submarine yard in TRIESTE, which blew up a German submarine. In MILAN patriots removed 1,200 pairs of boots ready to be transported to Germany. In BRESCIA they seized from the Fascists [illegible] automatic rifles and 10,000 bullets. A strike broke out in VIGEVANO when the Germans attempted to remove a dynamo. They were obliged to abandon the operation. In MONFALCONE and MUGGIA the public demonstrated openly, protesting against the failure to distrubute soap. The authorities were obliged to distribute two pieced of soap to each worker. Near VICENZA patriots destroyed three German trains full of supplies.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 11.12.44).

VENETO During the night 15-16 December in the Veneto the patriots of TREVISO attacked and destroyed the Republican Guard's barracks at RONCADA, killing 4 Fascists. On the 10th December other parties of patriots destroyed a locomotive at BASSANO on the VENICE-TRENTO line.
(P.W.B. Rome 27.12.44).

APPENINES The area of the Appenines between routes 62 and 63, has apparently been abandoned by the Germans owing to incessant patriot activity. Instead the enemy has succeeded in obtaining control of the VOGHERA-BOBBIO PIACENZA road, and has made an attack, lasting [illegible] in the zone of PARISETTO, in the Province of REGGIO

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(P.W.B. Rome 19.12.44).

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UDINE In the province of Udine, on the 2nd December the patriots derailed an express train going north, near ARTEGNA. On the 4th December another train was obliged to take a detour near GEMONA, and a third was forced to do likewise on the 17th December near VENZONE. Again on December 9th in UDINE a train was forced off its route, and another on 5th December near NUTRIO. The total was three locomotives and 24 waggons destroyed, of which four were loaded with ammunition. Another locomotive was also destroyed during the night of 3rd-4th December on the VENEZIA-TRENTO line. Again during the night of 4th-5th December a train of 30 waggons on the way to Germany was derailed by the patriots of the TREVIGIANO near CASTELFRANCO,VENETO. Traffic on the PADOVA-TREVISO line was interrupted for six days.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.1.244).

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VICENZA On 30th November at PRIAVONA DI MALO in the Province of VICENZA a patriot patrol ambushed an enemy vehicle, killing a general and a colonel, and wounding two other Germans. The same patrol, returning the next day to the same place met a Fascist squad and wounded several of them. Later they succeeded in entering the SCHIO hospital, after having disarmed the guard, and saved the 2nd in Command of the local Brigade, who was in bed there suffering from wounds received during an enemy interrogation.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.12.44).

RAVENNA It is reported from 8th Army Command that during the period from 3rd to 6th December parties of patriots, co-operating with advance allied elements in the RAVENNA-PORTO CORSINO zone, killed 37 Germans and wounded 27.

PONTREMOLI-TIZZANO It seems that small detached German groups are advancing between Pontremoli and Tizzano, on the snowcovered mountains But organised patriot bands who live in the mountains are continually ambushing the columns which pass through the zone.
(P.W.B. Rome 12.12.44).

From evidence given by a British officer it seems that the patriots of the "LUNENSE" Garibaldini Division, operating in a Tuscan region, have killed 1,000 Germans and wounded many others during the period from 1st September to 30th November 1944.
(P.W.B. Rome 18.12.44).

On the 28th November patriots of the DAMIANO CHIESA Brigade executed the Fascist TEDESCHINI ALBERTO of CITTADELLA, who was responsible for the capture and condemnation of many patriots in this locality.
(300 F.S.S. 26.12.44).

III. Mopping-Up Operations.

OZZANO MONFERRATO. After the opening of a railway tunnel between SAN GIORGIO and OZZANO MONFERRATO, a partisan formation belonging to the "Monferreto" Brigade on the 11th November killed eight Fascists and captured 20 Militiamen, six Germans and a large amount of booty, including a lorry. The German Command on November 14th organised with AA forces a punitive expedition in the RIVE, VERCELLI OZZANO, MONTEBELLO, CERRINA, VILLADATI, MURISENGO, BRUSASCO zones, together with similar expeditions launched from TURIN, CHIASSO and TRINO VERCELLESE. Unable to strike at the partisans who had taken precautions, the Germans and Fascists took 80 hostages in OZZANO, and shelled the village of CANTAVENNA, firing on the GABINAO CASTLE which they believed to be the HQ of the partisan formation.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 13.12.44).

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VAL TROMPIA In the Val Trompia the ruins of the villages set on fire by the Fascists are still smoking, but the most savage repression does not break the invisible links between the people of the Valley and the mountain patriots. The other day a peasant accused of "favouring the rebels" was hung, all the members of his family were deported to Germany and his house was burnt. A spy had denounced him to the Italian SS, asserting that he was hiding dangerous "outlaws". The house was surrounded and searched from top to bottom. No "outlaw" was found, but folded between the pages of a Missal was a printed leaflet containing an old proclamation to the inhabitants of the Brescian valleys by the Commander of the "Tito Speri" partisan division and by General Fiori, head of the Liberation Armed Forces in Brescia Province. This sufficed for the peasant's execution without trial or the consolations of religion, the dispersion of his family and the destruction of his house.

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The presence of a strong partisan force in the VAL TELLINA guarantees the keeping of an effective watch over the dams and power stations on which Milan and a large part of northern Italy depend for their supplies of electricity. This winter the SAN GIACOMO DI FRAELE dam alone will contain 25 million cubic metres, corresponding to 50 million kilowatts.

ALESSANDRIA and ACQUI

Large-scale mopping-up operations were recently carried out in the Alessandria and Acqui areas by German forces and detachments of the CUNEO, ALESSANDRIA, VERCELLI and COMO Black Brigades. In VAL SERIANA operations were successfully concluded with the capture of about 700 prisoners, while the number of dead exceeds 200. Large quantities of arms have been retrieved, together with 92 motor lorries and cars. NIZZA MONFERRATO and the neighbourhood is completely clear of partisans.

The "Bruno Pontecchi" black brigade, under the Federal Commissioner, captured numerous deserters, together with individuals suspected of favouring armed bands, who have been arrested in VERCELLI. A large amount of booty has been taken, including hand-grenades, a motor car and two motor cycles.
(Sera, Milan 13.12.44).

IV. Patriots Recognised by Swiss.

The Swiss Government has now acknowledged the military character of Italian refugee patriots fleeing from VAL D'OSSOLA and VAL D'AOSTA to Switzerland, of which there are said to be 2500. In accordance with general practice these patriots will be treated as are other military internees and obliged under internation practice to remain until the end of the war in Switzerland. This Swiss decision is very favourable from a moral point of view as evidencing the internation/military status of the Italian armed forces fighting the Germans in northern Italy.
(U.S. Political Adviser 18.11.44).

V. Partisans and the Greek Crisis.

The German station "Transocean" declares "The war which has broken out between Britian and the Greek fighters for freedom is having an enormously depressing effect on the partisans of northern Italy. It crowns their disappointment at Britain's attitude. Prisoners and deserters stated that the partisans are realising more and more clearly that General Alexander, by appealing to the partisans of northern Italy to cease fighting for the winter, intends deliberately to disband their movement so as to save himself the trouble of fighting them later on. The Italian partisans are clearly in favour of E.L.A.S."

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VI. C.N.L. Claims exclusive rights.

1300

A C.N.L. meeting held on December 3rd unanimously voted the following order of the day "The C.N.L. of northern Italy deprecates the fact that at the present time when a large part of the country is under German oppression and Fascist tyranny, a Government crisis should have arisen in Rome through the intervention of obscure and uncontrolled forces. The C.N.L. of northern Italy, in agreement with the desire of the Parties to maintain unity in the fight for national liberation, explicitly affirms that, until the Constituent Assembly can meet, the C.N.L is the sole legitimate representative of the people and combines the vital forces of the nation.

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The political life of the country must be clearly expressed within the limit defined by the Committees of Liberation and by the Parties composing them, it being excluded that any other authority - even the Crown - can legitimately appeal to cliques outside the Committees of Liberation. The Government must derive from these Committees alone.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 7.12.44).

FASCIST FORCES

VII. Disposition and Composition.

It is reported that the replacement of German troops by units of the "Littorio" Division in West Piedmont continues. At the end of November 1,000 Alpenjager left CUNEO for TURIN, going towards the east; in the Cuneo zone 2,700 men of the "Littorio" Division have arrived.
(Italian Official Source 12.12.44)

There are insistent rumours that the 10th MAS Flotilla will shortly leave the Fascist Military formations in order to become an integral part of the German SS. The following questionnaire, distributed to Militiamen during the last few days, tends to confirm the rumour: "Are you convinced of the necessity of fighting to the end by the side of your German ally? Are you prepared to continue to fight against the partisans? Are you prepared to follow the unit wherever it may go and in whatever manner it may be employed? If the contrary should be the case, state your reasons whether domestic or of health, and if these are plausible you will be released.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.12.44).

On 5.12.44 the Italian Radio stated "The 10th Division is almost completely in position on the Italian front. The six Infantry Battalions, the engineers' battalion and the artillery groups, perfectly armed, are marching south to take up the struggle and form a barrier against the enemy.
(Italian European Service)

VIII. Reports of Disintegration.

The last Fascist military formations are disintegrating. Many Italian SS officers quartered in MILAN were recently arrested under suspicion of anti-German activity
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 11.12.44).

The lack of fighting spirit of the Republican detachments is confirmed and it is added that the Germans "are so convinced of this that they are breaking up the divisions into single battalions which they incorporate with their own and use for mopping-up operations or to guard sectors of little operational importance. Only certain Italian companies have been retained, solely for political reasons".
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 9.12.44).

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 9.12.44).

GERMANS

IX. German Spoliation of Italy.

Agricultural SONDERFUEHRER are established in all towns on and N of the Via EMILIA. They are to requisition foodstuffs and cattle reserves which, in turn, are evacuated from the Lombardian Plains to locations N of the Po river, where they are either allotted to the FERNTROSSE (rear echelon trains) of units committed in Italy, or moved to Germany.

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In several cases, the transporting of requisitioned cattle to rear unit echelon trains is done by the unit to which the cattle is allotted. The Germans have been operating a special ferry to transport cattle across the PO river in the vicinity of MEZZANO RONDANI (F-1?2022).
(P.W.B. A.A.I. -extract from G-2 Interrogation Report 21.11.44).

A compulsory census of bicycles was imposed throughout Fascist Italy, and the majority will be requisitioned. There are still millions of bicycles in circulation in northern Italy. The first instalment of 300,000 must be delivered by the end of December in accordance with the precise obligation assumed by the Fascist leaders towards the German Command. This requisition is already being carried out on a proportionate basis in the various provinces. The Germans have let it be known that they would at present only accept those in perfect condition, with all accessories and sound tyres. There is also the question of goods already seized by the Germans which are stored in warehouses, awaiting the possibility of transport to Germany. For instance in LODI near the POLENGHI LOMBARDO factory there is a big warehouse containing 300,000 motor and bicycle tyres. Also in LODI, near the railway station, the CT keeps a large petrol and oil deposit, besides thousands of boxes of tinned foods.

Huge razzias of cattle are taking place, particularly in EMILIA and the VENETO. The cattle are driven on foot to the BRENNER. It is estimated that already over 25,000 head of cattle have reached the assembly place in BOLZANO province. Many animals die on the way, owing to the discomfort and bad weather. Others die at the assembly centre owing to insufficient food. It is impossible to transport sufficient forage to it... The flesh of beasts which die is frozen and sent across the Alps.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 13.12.44).

Italian petrol production is now nil. All the refineries in TRIESTE, FIUME and PORTO MARGHERA are out of action. Aircraft production in PIEDMONT is nil. The FIAT machinery for making aircraft motors has been dismantled and sent to the LAKE GARDA region from whence it will probably be forwarded to Germany. A great deal of livestock is being requisitioned in PIEDMONT. One of the collection centres is MORTARA.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 11.12.44).

The Germans are methodically continuing the dismantling of north Italian industrial equipment. Only a few big workshops, even in war industries, are working to full capacity. The Societa Italiana Aeroplani Idrovolanti of VERGIATE and the Caproni works at TALIEDO are still manufacturing aircraft for the Germans, but production is small as the main parts, which come from Germany, rarely reach their destination.

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Communications between Italy and Germany remain efficient despite interruptions due to air attacks and sabotage. The BRENNER road is the most attacked, although damage is quickly repaired. Much of the traffic travels via the BRESCIA, BERGAMO, VAL CAVALLINA, VAL CAMONICA, TONALE road, which has never been attacked by Anglo-American aircraft.

Very heavy rail traffic passes through CASALE MONFERRATO, owing to the transfer of goods and materials seized in LIGURIA, where the factory machinery of the western Riviera is being dismantled.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 1.12.44).

SECRET

1299

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At the beginning of December the Germans began to take away the machinery of the torpedo factory in FIUME, and that of the shipyards and other industrial concerns of the town.
(Italian official source 12.12.44).

On the TRIESTE-PORTOGRUARO-MESTRE VENEZIA and MESTRE VENEZIA-TREVISO line the Germans have begun taking away the tracks.
(Italian official source 10.12.44)

X. German future tactics and precautions.

According to four French civilians who crossed the lines near MENTONE on 12th December 1944 all civilians were to be evacuated from VENTIMIGLIA on the 14th December. This order is confirmed from another source, though the effective date is now given as the 18th December, and the villages of TRINITA, BILOI, VERRANDI and BRUNETTI are exempted from the order.

The German general who gave the order is supposed to have told the fascist podesta that the evacuation was due to the imminent threat of an Allied attack. The Germans feared that the population of Ventimiglia and the surrounding villages would engage in guerrilla activity behind the lines. Many sections of the town have been mined, including the Caserma Umberto I. The whole town has suffered severly from Allied naval bombardment.

Further along the coast BORDIGHERA is still unevacuated, though many parts of the commune are mined. Supplies for all the troops, whether German or Fascist, for the Ventimiglia-Bordighera-BEVERA-MORTOLA area come from S.R REMO.
(Italian Intelligence Notes No 2).

The Germans continue pushing civilians out of the country areas, where they have taken refuge. Italians who have been hiding in the galleries of the PIEN. tunnel have been thrown out and the Germans now occupy these galleries themselves.
(Italian Intelligence Supplement No 1. 4.12.44)

XI. German Propeganda Document Captured.

After the capture of some German officers recently the following circular letter, addressed by VON RAHN to all the officers of the propaganda section of every regiment and battalion on the Italian front, was picked up.

"I am perfectly conscious of the sentiment of violent aversion nourished by the German soldiers against the Italians, including those Italians who for one reason or another [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

X. German future tactics and precautions.

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"I am perfectly conscious of the sentiment of violent aversion nourished by the German soldiers against the Italians, including those Italians who for one reason or another [illegible] fight at our side. This negative attitude damages our war effort. It is an emotional impulse which must be better hidden. I should therefore be very grateful to the officers to whom this letter is addressed if they would pay more attention to this and if they would see to the attitude of their men. It is necessary to organise some lectures in which it is explained what benefits Germany has received from the false political reconstruction of Fascist Italy. They must be reminded that the first object is to mobilise all the strength and productive potentialities of the part of Italy occupied by us in order to lighten German needs. Everything in occupied Italy must be exploited by us for our war effort. To obtain the best results every German soldier must understand this. This is our opportunity, for we can avail ourselves of the advantage of the concentrated hate that almost all Italians have for their Republican Fascist government.

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This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

By using our intelligence we can turn this hate in our favour. During the first months after 8th September 43 the German armed forces succeeded in representing the only legal authority in occupied Italy; therefore many Italians turned to us in their difficulties. This political good luck has facilitated our work, but lately our position vis-a-vis the Italians has become worse owing to acts of violence and reprisals committed by our soldiers against the civilian population. General Kesselring's order dated 2nd August 44 specifies clearly that indiscriminate reprisals against the civilian population rather than against the patricts diminishes the trust of the population in the German armed forces and furnishes excellent propaganda for the enemy. These acts on the part of the German troops, even if justifieble, must diminish. It is very urgent to change our behaviour, not for humanitarian considerations, but in cold calculation that this is the best way to take care of the interests of the German war effort in Italy.

The Fascist government, after its recognition as our ally, consigned the following valuables to Germany- nearly all Italian gold, nearly all the radium existing in Italy, great quantities of mercury, and many other precious materials. Besides this Mussolini agreed to send all the machinery and finished products or half finished products which could be useful to our war industry. The Fascist government also collaborated sincerely in making available to our war industries thousands of workers necessary for our workshops, including the fortifications on the Swiss frontier at the river Etsch. This recruiting for Italian workmen is well organised by the Fascist Prefetti and Podesta.

Therefore the German soldier's attitude towards the Italian population is decidely important. Whether we hate the Italians or not is of no importance; the important thing is that we must obtain from Italy everything possible for our war effort. After five years of war we cannot give ourselves the luxury of spoiling favourable situations just to satisfy our emotions. Our sentiments must be held in check, at least for the moment. It is better to satisfy our hate and aversion at the right moment, taking into account particular circumstances of military nature. We must pretend the greatest friendship possible and act without mercy only when it is no longer necessary to hide our real sentiments.
(P.W.B. Rome 13.12.44).

XII. Atrocities.

In the month of October in the GAGGIO MONTANO zone 60-80 civilians were killed and a large number of houses burned in reprisal following a partisan attack in the MONTE BELVEDERE zone. Three women were raped.
(Confidential Source 28.11.44).

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indiscriminate reprisals against the civilian population rather than against the patriots diminishes the trust of the population in the German armed forces and furnishes excellent propaganda for the enemy. These acts on the part of the German troops, even if justifiable, must diminish. It is very urgent to change our behaviour, not for humanitarian considerations, but in cold calculation that this is the best way to take care of the interests of the German war effort in Italy.

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In the month of October in the GAGGIO MOCETANO zone 60-80 civilians were killed and a large number of houses burned in reprisal following a partisan attack in the MONTE BELVEDERE zone. Three women were raped.
(Confidential Source 28.11.44).

Source saw a wounded civilian strung up by the legs at CANTONIERA DI VETTO . This man died through loss of blood, and the body was left there for five days near his home.

1258

A house at BETTOLA was sealed up with 54 persons in it and set alight. The majority were women and children. One mother tried to save her child by throwing it out of the window, but a German soldier threw it back into the burning house.
(Confidential Source 27.11.44).

SECRET

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Refugees who have succeeded in escaping across the enemy lines from VILL.. NOV.. DI B.GN..C..V.LLO, a small village on the L.MONE, have given the terrible details of a reprisal committed by the Germans against the inhabitants of that village. The 17th November was a day of horror. A German Lt. stopped a civilian whom he believed to be a patriot and asked for his identity card. The man pulled out a revolver and killed the officer. The Germans carried out a reprisal against the inhabitants, making even the sick get out of bed and rusned them all into the principal square. A gibbet was erected, to which 4 ropes were attached. The Germans took four men from the crowd and led them to the gibbet. One man succeeded in escaping and ran away in spite of German efforts to shoot him. The other three were obliged to put the rope round their own necks and kick away the box on which they had mounted. The population were made to assist at this spectacle. The bodies were left hanging for two days.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.12.44).

In the days immediately preceeding the last big air raid the Allies made on BOLOGN.. a big round-up was carried out by the Germans, which resulted in the capture of about 10,000 men in the BAZZANESE district. That same day these men were concentrated at CASALECCHIO DI RENO, when about twenty of them tried to escape. 13 of these were re-captured by the SS, tied to trees on the PORRETTANA road, tortured, ie. eyes cut out with daggers, fingers and toes torn off, dagger wounds all over their bodies and finally killed. These bodies were left tied to the trees for five days and five nights, and no one was allowed to go near them although they were fast decomposing

On that same day women and children were killed in the MONTE S. PIETRO district. Information had been given reporting the presence of able-bodied men in their houses, who were able to escape when the alarm was raised. Some babies were killed by knocking their brains out against the walls.
(Confidential Source 20.11.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

XIII. Reactions to Frontline Propaganda Broadcast.

Propaganda talks in German and Polish were recently given on the 92nd Division sector for the benefit of the great percentage of non-Germans along this section of the front. The broadcasts included a short news bulletin in German.

Seven ORs of 2 Companies of 148 Division who had heard the broadcast stated they deserted on the strength of hearing it. A PW from Hamburg said that the broadcast had made up his own mind and that of many of his comrades to desert. Previously they had misgivings and were especially afraid of coloured troops.

XIV. Reactions to Leaflets

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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XIV. Reactions to Leaflets.

A German Captain interrogated at 8th Army Cage on 8th December thought that Allied propaganda as expressed in leaflets was very effective, and that it was quite useless to forbid troops to read the. He thought, however, that a large proportion of leaflets shot over, or dropped by aircraft, failed to reach the troops because they landed at the wrong places.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788221

SECRET
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.. PW from 356 Division who picked up a leaflet reporting the capture of FORLI, remembered this title "Why still defend Italy, when the .llies are fighting in Germany"? His comment was: "That's what I would like to know".

An .ustrian PW from 114 Div. interrogated on 7th December who saw Frontpost in the middle of November, stated that troops were very interested, as they had not seen a German communique for some time, and added that officers were the first to read leaflets.

.. deserter from the Monte Rosa Division found .llied leaflets addressed to the soldiers of his Division on the 25th November. He said that this leaflet dispelled the last hesitation that he had about deserting.

.. student from Mulhouse, belonging to 715 Div stated that the leaflet "The .llies are in Germany, why fight in Italy"? was widely distributed and was a disturbing question to the Landseers. .nother PW, an .lsatian from 715 Div, pointed out that Landseers very carefully studied news of .llied raids over Germany as reported by Frontpost. (P.W.B. H.Q. 15th .rmy Gp 20.12.44).

XV. Leaflets and Radio in Ravenna.

The only leaflets seen in R.VENN. just before the liberation were German safe conducts. ITALIA COMB.TTE leaflets were seen one month ago in the country.

Eighth .rmy Radio was very popular among the partisans. Several of them said that it would be a good thing to repeat the communique on the Italian Front at the end of the transmission because, with the jamming, the reception was not good enough to understand every word of it.

Owing to curfew restrictions evening news is heard only by those few who have a radio set. The procedure during the day seems to be that most Italians, or at least very many, visit the houses of friends who possess wireless sets.

The best broadcasting hours as far as the populations are concerned were 1330, 1430, and 1630.
(R.I.P. 8th .rmy).

XVI. Denials of our Propaganda.

"Rome Radio reports that the famous bronze horses of St. Mark's VENICE were taken to Germany at the behest of the German authorities. .uthoritative circles state that this in no way accords with the facts. Like all other art treasures in Venice, the bronze horses were taken to a place of safety by the Italian authorities so as to protect them from the criminal destruction in which .nglo-.merican pilots are wont to indulge. To [illegible]ge that the bronze horses were taken to [illegible] of the systematic campaign of lies

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POLITICS. 1297

XVII. Morale of Republican Fascists.

Partisans interviewed in the MODENA district give interesting particulars on the spirit of the Republican Fascists in German occupied territory. Notwithstanding limitless faith in the German arms, many of these individuals are breathlessly trying to create an alibi for

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the day when the Allied Armies liberate northern Italy.

Some time ago the families of the Republicans who were south of the river PO received orders to move north of the river; in this way the Germans wanted to be sure that the Italians who remained south of the Po were enemies, and as such they are treating them. Many Fascists have obeyed these orders, but many others realising the desperate situation in which the Nazis find themselves have remained in their houses, trying in every way possible to approach the partisans and the CLN to offer their services. They evidently hope thus to procure their impunity for the future. A typical example is that of two Fascist fanatics of PAVULLO, the head of the local Fascio Rep. RIVAROLI and Cap. COPPOLA, Commander of the Republican Guard garrison. After having spent their time denouncing young men who did not answer the call up and even taking part in the burning of villages where the inhabitants were accused of sympathising with the partisans, they have recently changed their attitude. Having made contact with the partisans they furnished them with interesting news regarding the passage of German divisions through that neighbourhood and put them on their guard against the preparations for mopping up operations in the mountains. This spirit is symptomatic of the atmosphere of terror these Fascists, who a short time ago were willing disciples of Muesclini, are living in today. (P.W.B. Florence Report 18.12.44).

XVIII. Fascist Demonstrations in Milan.

Fascist demonstrations in Milan were continued on December 18th with an increasing display of power. The news about the German counter-offensive has evidently given them great encouragement. Travellers from MILAN have observed a veritable outburst of joy among the popular masses. "Attentistes" who rejected Fascism or regard it with indifference are reported not only to have declined in number, as Mussolini announced in his speech last Saturday (December 16th) but are no more to be seen. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 20.12.44).

XIX. Removal of Foreign Office to Bellagio.

There are indications that the Fascist Republican Government is preparing to transfer its Foreign Office to BELLAGIO. An individual by the name of Bosdari has been inspecting private villas at Bellagio with a view to organising the transfer of offices. (U.S. Political Adviser to A.C. Med. Theatre 18.11.44).

XX. New Appointments.

The appointments of the following Podesta have been announced:

Alessandria: Vittorio NICOLA, Professional man
La Spezia: Mario [illegible]CHI, Vice Podesta: Carlo PONTI [illegible]

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La Spezia: Mario [illegible]CHI, Vice Podesta: Carlo PONTI, joiner and [illegible]do SECOLI, tram conductor.
Sondrio: Luigi [illegible]TTI ?, technician, Vice Podesta: Ezio BERTELLI, engineering worker.

By a decree about to be published, the Republican Fascist Luigi BEGNOTTI has been appointed Commissioner of the Fascist Confederation of Industrialists, replacing Mario COLESANTI, who is to have another appointment.
(Italian Home Service 9.12.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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Colonel Giuseppe GELORMINI today took up the 13th Provincial Command of the Republican Army, while retaining the GNR Provincial Command. Gelormini replaces General CROCE who retains the 250th Command ad interim.
(Repubblica Fascista, Milan 10.12.44).

In accordance with the Duce's instructions of 16.10.44 the following Podesta and Vice-Podesta have been appointed:

ASTI: Podesta Mario Angelo CAVALLERO, Vice-Podesta Silvio CARPENETI, worker Cogne Co.
IMPERIA: Podesta Bernardo ANSALDI. Vice-Podesta: Giuseppe BOSSI, merchant.
REGGIO EMILIA: Commissioner Celso RABOTTI, skilled worker.
PADUA: Podesta Federico FORMISANO, industrial expert.
PARMA: Podesta: Guglielmo DALTARO. Vice-Podesta Alberto PUGOLOTTI
VICENZA: Podesta: Antonio CORNA, industrial organiser; Vice-Podesta Riccardo SILLA, Trade Union organiser.
VERCELLI: Podesta, Angelo MAZZUCCO, hydraulic worker; vice-Podesta, Mario BROGLIA, worker.

(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 3.1.244).

ASTI: Podesta, Luigi FRANCESCHINI, chief technician of the Ossante works.
BERGAMO: Podesta, Giovanni GUALTANI, metallurgy worker
BRESCIA: Podesta, Ruggero FRIGERIO; vice-Podesta; Fulio TONDINI, and Luigi DELETTI
CREMONA: Podesta, Bartolomeo CAFFI, skilled worker; Vice-Podesta Pietro PORCELLI and Rino FRASSICTTO
COMO: Podesta, Carlo CAPPELLETTI, electrician; Vice-Podesta Ubaldo CAIROLI, foreman of the Volta Co and Iride GHEZZI
CUNEO: Podesta Andrea CALANI, vice-Podesta: Francesco MIGLIORATI and Giovanni CONTE.
MANTUA: Podesta Alfonso PETROTTI
MODENA: Podesta Mirko MANZOTTI
PAVIA: Podesta Ferno BROCCHETTA, technical worker in the Vigorelli firm, Vice-Podesta Domenico GRAZIOLI
PIACENZA: Podesta Ernesto MARIANI
ROVIGO: Podesta Bruno CORNIANI, printer
SAVONA: Podesta Alberto REPALLA.
TURIN: Podesta Michele FASSIO, tester in the Fiat works, Vice-Podesta Ottavio BORSARELLI, engineer in the Ital Lux Co and Umberto LEGGI.
VARESE: Podesta Arturo MASCETTI.
VENICE: Commissioner BARBINI
VERONA: Podesta Luigi GRANCELLI, Vice-Podesta Giovanni OLIVA Company Manager and Carlo PALVIS.
(Repubblica Fascista, Milan 28.11.44).

ECONOMICS.

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IMPERIA: Podesta Bernardo ANSALDI. Vice-Podesta: Giuseppe BOSSI, mechanic.
REGGIO EMILIA: Commissioner Celso RABOTTI, skilled worker.
PADUA: Podesta Federico FORMISANO, industrial expert.
PARMA: Podesta: Guglielmo DALL'ARO. Vice-Podesta Alberto PUGLIOTTI
VICENZA: Podesta: Antonio CORNA., industrial organiser; Vice-Podesta Riccardo SILLA., Trade Union organiser.
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(Repubblica Fascista, Milan 28.11.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXI. Food Situation.

FONTANELICE (9th November.)

12356

The food situation was very critical due to the static situation in that sector. Families had food reserves for 10 days only and with no supplies coming from either side these reserves were running extremely low. German troops are looting and destroying anything they cannot themselves make use of.

SECRET

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BRESCIA. Civilian population has been without meat since April last year; it cannot even be procured on the Black Market.

The Bread ration for workers is 375 grms a day, that for non-workers 200 grms a day. On the Black Market bread is 10 lire a kilo. Polenta, which is the mainstay of their diet is becoming very scarce, as the Germans are taking it to Germany for pig food.
Clothing cannot be obtained at any price.

(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A....I. 16.12.44).

VICENZA. In Vicenza about the third week in November the following list of prices came into force:

			current price	Black Market price.
Bread	per kilo	L	2.40	18.00
Flour			-	15.00
Pasta			2.15	-
Rice			4.20	"
Butter			25.00	350.00
Oil			14.00	-
Meat			34.00	100.00
Sugar			12.00	250.00
Salt			-	320.00
Potatoes			3.20	7.00
Vegetables in general			7.00	
Wine	per litre		40.00	"
Milk			4.00	-
Wool and cotton		per cotto	-	100.00
Leather shoes		the pair		1800.00
Woollen dress				6000.00
Petrol		the litre	14.00	115.00

(Italian Official Source 8.12.44).

XXII. Fuel and Power.

The fuel crisis is becoming even more acute; the peasants cut down mulberry trees for firewood, but nevertheless some firms succeed in procuring coal for their own use, for instance Nord Milano, which is only partly electrified. It is recalled that the Fascists recently seized control of this firm and appointed an Extraordinary Commissioner as figurehead, chosen from among the employees. The coke factory stocks are running out. Nevertheless in San Giuseppe del Cairo Montenotte in Savona, and in Vado Ligure the "Cokitalia" deposits still contain several thousand tons of coke besides a certain quantity of coal which is drawn on for the Milan and Turin gas works. The Venezia Marghera and Carrara deposits also contain several thousand tons of coke and coal, but apart from transport difficulties, stocks are not sufficient for one month's

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Flour		-	15.00
Pasta		2.15	-
Rice		4.20	"
Butter		25.00	350.00
Oil		14.00	-
Meat		34.00	100.00
Sugar		12.00	250.00
Salt		-	320.00
Potatoes		3.20	7.00
Vegetables in general		7.00	
Wine	per litre	40.00	"
Milk		4.00	-
Wool and cotton	per otto	-	100.00
Leather shoes	the pair		1500.00
Woollen dress			6000.00
Petrol	the litre	14.00	115.00

(Italian Official Source 8.12.44).

XXII. Fuel and Power.

The fuel crisis is becoming even more acute; the peasants cut down mulberry trees for firewood, but nevertheless some firms succeed in procuring coal for their own use, for instance Nord Milano, which is only partly electrified. It is recalled that the Fascists recently seized control of this firm and appointed an Extraordinary Commissioner as figurehead, chosen from among the employees. The coke factory stocks are running out. Nevertheless in San Giuseppe del Cairo Montenotte in Savona, and in Vado Ligure the "Cokitalia" deposits still contain several thousand tons of coke besides a certain quantity of coal which is drawn on for the Milan and Turin gas works. The Venezia Marghera and Carrara deposits also contain several thousand tons of coke and coal, but apart from transport difficulties, stocks are not sufficient for one month's consumption.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 13.12.44).

MILAN. The number of interruptions in the supply of electric current is assuming alarming proportions owing to the excessive consumption of power for the purpose of heating and cooking in spite of all warnings.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 24.11.44).

LOMBARDY. The stores of raw material and fuel for industries in Lomberdy are becoming exhausted and supplies that come from Germany are less and less. According to source if the factories do not receive raw material and fuel in greater quantities from Germany, it is foreseen that in two months they must stop production, already considerably diminished.
(Italian Official Source 12.12.44).

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BOLOGNA. Except for the gas all the other public services are still functioning. Electricity is reduced. The tram service is normal. Water is scarce but this has been remedied by the opening of wells. (P.W.B. Florence Report 16.12.44).

XXIII. Industry

November 30th. According to latest reports the production of silk and artificial silk materials in northern Italy during the first half of 1944 shows about 25% increase over the same period during the previous year. This is because, firstly it has been possible to improve the supply of raw material and secondly marked industrial improvements have been made. The number of factories, moreover, has increased. Five per cent of North Italian silk and artificial silk production is available for export. No provision is made for supplying civiliens at home, although apparently neither the "black" production nor the more or less open black marketing of these goods can be prevented.
(Europa-Kabel Amsterdam 1.12.44).

XXIV. Air Raids.

BOLOGNA. Bologna, closest to the front of all big Italian cities, is going underground to an increasing extent. The people have made their homes in large, deep air raid shelters. That half of the local population which left the town two months ago has long been replaced by refugees from the front. Moreover, since the front was stabilised, tens of thousands of evacuees have returned to their homes, and the Head of the Province has had to forbid any return to the town after December 10th to prevent dangerous overcrowding. The number of people who want to live in the air raid shelters is so large that he has decreed that admission will only be granted to holders of shelter certificates. Sick people, families with a large number of children, and the homeless get preferential treatment. Bologna today lives in long subterranean galleries. People in sick bays are looked after by doctors and nurses: priests hold services in front of improvised altars. People sleep on palliasses which they received free of charge from the municipal authorities or on mattresses of their own. Here children are born, marriages conducted and the dead blessed. The bombed-out take what remains of their belongings into the shelters and those who bring a bed or cupboard are nicknamed "palace owners".
(Transocean 2.12.44).

XXV. Situation in Bergamo.

Life is BERGAMO is more or less normal, and it would appear that the war has passed it over lightly so far. Indirectly of course it is effected, as for example the normal population is some 80,000

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XXV. Situation in Bergamo.

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The city (divided into BERGAMO ALTO and BERGAMO BASSO) has not been bombed although the "DALMINE" factory some kilometres outside has been badly damaged.

The water supply is excellent and the electricity service normal. Gas is reasonable, although rationed to certain hours each day.

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Cinemas and theatres are working and caffees are open.
The civil hospital in BERGAMO BASSO is normal.

There appears to be no particular control over Radio although discretion and care must be exercised when listening to other than Republican and German stations. Radio Londra and Radio Bari and Algiers are heard well.

Informant had not heard Eighth Army station and did not know of its existence.

There does not appear to be any restriction on travel, but trains are very irregular and any intendingtravellers usually go into the Autostrada and get lifts to MILANO etc.

The shops are open, but have nothing much to sell. Suits of very poor quality material cost 3/4000 lire and shoes of very poor material 250/300 lire. Better quality suits can be obtained through "unofficial" channels at 5/7000 lire. Informant was wearing a raincoat for which he paid 2,300 lire in July, but this was obtained through a friend and he considers it was cheap.

The food issue against coupons is as follows, but is as usual supplemented by Black Market:

Bread 100 grms per day for people not engaged in manual work
250 grms per day for manual workers
350 grms per day for persons engaged on war work.

Meat 100 grms per week sometimes increased. lire 250/260 per kg.

Sugar: 500 grms per month for children up to 3 years
250 grms 3-18 years of age
Nil 18-65 years of age
500 grms-persons over 65 years of age-lire 12 per kg.

Pasta : 2 kgs per month lire 5 kg.

Oil.Fats.Butter: 150 grms per month of one of these

Milk: Nil. excepting for children and sick people.

Salt: 200 grms per month.

(P.W.B. H.Q...cv. ....I. Information to 14.11.44).

PRESS

XXVI. Press in Bergamo.

The following newspapers are sold in Bergamo:

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Oil.Fats.Butter: 150 grms per month of one of these

Milk: Nil. excepting for children and sick people.

Salt: 200 grms per month.

(P.W.B. H.Q...dv. .....I. Information to 14.11.44).

PRESS

XXVI. Press in Bergamo.

The following newspapers are sold in Bergamo:

Corriere della Sera (Milan Daily)
La Stampa di Torino
La Gazetta del Popolo
Il Pomeriggio
Bergamo Repubblicano
L'Eco di Bergamo (A Catholic Paper).

(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. ..... 16.12.44).

SECRET

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PERSONALITIES.

XXVII. Fascist Personalities in Ventimiglia and Piacenza.

PIACENZA.

Ten MANCNI of G.N.R. of RASTIGNZZ.. New post is Head of the Ufficio Politico of Piacenza.

Capt. PONDRELLI of Via Sant'Antonio, Piacenza. Head of the Questura of Piacenza - spy and crook.

Pietro MASINI of Vigoleone, Piacenza. spy and crook.

Giuseppe PROVINI of GROPPALO, Piacenza, spy.

(Confidential Report 14.12.44).

VENTIMIGLIA.

GIOVANNI LORENZI, known as PALIN.
Secretary of the Fascio, also acts as Podesta. A native of TORRI and a notorious partisan-finder. His associates at TORRI are the parish priest

Don Antonio CASSINI and an interpreter with the Germans called

FINIERI.

(Italian Intelligence Summary No 1. 4.12.44).

XXVIII. Army Personalities.

Lieut. Col. GIUFFRIDA commands a group of artillery of the LITTORIO Division.

General FORNELLI-GIACCHETTI - Commandant
Lieut. CARATI - Editor in Chief of the new army newspaper called Monte Rosa, and intended for the Italian Alpine Division. (News Digest 20.12.44).

General GIGLIO C.C. of 202 Commando Regionale d'Emilia

(Italian Official Source 18.12.44).

XXIX. Fascist Delegates to Congress of Journalists.

The Italian Delegation attending the Congress of the European Union of the National Federation of Journalists is composed of

1294

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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Umberto GUGLIELMOTTI, Vice President of the Union,
Giulio BENEDETTI, Commissioner of the National Fascist Syndicate of Journalists and
Enzo PEZZATO, Editor of Repubblica Fascista.

(Italian Home Service 13.12.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

26 DEC 1944
20th December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 33.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Distribution and Organisation of Partisan Bands.

Considerable information has reached us regarding the distribution of patrict bands south of the line PARMA-PIACENZA. Although confirmation from official sources is not yet to hand, enough news has arrived to show that these bands are numerous, well organised, fairly well armed, on the whole well led, and have caused the Germans heavy losses and annoyance.

Major Mauri appears to have extended his control to bands operating in Northern LIGURIA and Southern PIEDMONT.

Reports have also come in of bands operating in the provinces of TORINO(South East), CUNEO, VERCELLI, NOVARA, VENEZIA GIULIA. In LIGURIA the patricts have suffered a set-back, the Liguria Division having lost their Div. H.Q. owing, it is said, to the cowardice of their 2nd in Command.

In LOMBARDY, though patricts are numerous, there is little activity owing to lack of organisation and of arms.

Recent Activity.

It is reported that General Archimede MISCHI, Chief of Staff of the Republican Army has been killed in TURIN.

A number of daring raids and ambuscades have been registered. In MILAN the Phillips Radio Co in Via Padova was raided and in addition to 100 wireless sets, other valuable material was carried off. Successful ambushes were made near BOLOGNA, and SONDRIO, while much sabotage to railways was effected in the VAL DI SUSA, in the VENETO and in FRIULI.

It should be pointed out that all the above exploits occurred about one month ago, from 25th to 30th November.

Morale.

The majority of partisan leaders and delegates [illegible] of Liberation [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 758021

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Distribution and Organisation of Partisan Bands.

Considerable information has reached us regarding the distribution of patriot bands south of the line PARMA-PIACENZA. Although confirmation from official sources is not yet to hand, enough news has arrived to show that these bands are numerous, well organised, fairly well armed, on the whole well led, and have caused the Germans heavy losses and annoyance.

Major Mauri appears to have extended his control to bands operating in Northern LIGURIA and Southern PIEDMONT.

Reports have also come in of bands operating in the provinces of TORINO(South East), CUNEO, VERCELLI, NOVARA, VENEZIA GIULIA. In LIGURIA the patriots have suffered a set-back, the Liguria Division having lost their Div. H.Q. owing, it is said, to the cowardice of their 2nd in Command.

In LOMBARDY, though patriots are numerous, there is little activity owing to lack of organisation and of arms.

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It should be pointed out that all the above exploits occurred about one month ago, from 25th to 30th November.

Morale.

The majority of partisan leaders and delegates from Committees of Liberation, who have arrived in our lines, are very gloomy [illegible] 23 3 the prospects of another winter in the hills. The supply problem will shortly become very difficult, and undoubtedly large numbers of partisans will have to descend into the valleys to obtain food, and lodgings. It is not expected that there will be any large scale surrenders as no trust can be placed in the Fascists and Germans, who shoot or deport to Germany all partisans who are ingenuous enough to give themselves up.

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Report on Conditions In Enemy Occupied Italy -No 33.

SUMMARY 2.

FASCIST FORCES.

Black Brigades.

The mobile portion of these organisations is being trained so as to form fighting units for the front.

GERMANS

Anti-Partisan Units.

The 362nd Div. has organised a Divisional Training School for anti-partisan Units. An officer P/, who commanded an an Anti-Partisan platoon, claims that these units have had considerable success in curbing partisan activity,as they are usually considered as the advance guard of larger bodies and the patriots scatter without engaging.

Cossack Troops.

In FRIULI, there are said to be about 3 ,000 Cossacks under a General DOMANOV. While in general they show no great enthusiasm or energy in the war against partisans, nevertheless in the work of reprisal and looting they are more brutal and destructive then the Germans.

Paralysation of Italian Industry.

A Swiss source states that the Fascists endeavoured to save Italian industries from complete destruction by persuading the Germans to agree to a paralysation. The Fascists asked for a stoppage of 6 months, but the Germans insisted on two years, and this must be obtained by the paralysation of Electric-power producing plants. When the Italian experts studied to save what was possible, German engineers proceeded to destroy completely the electric power stations at BOLOGNA and BENERA.

Requisitioning of Metal and Cattle.

In VENEZIA the Germans are requisitioning metal It is said that they have removed the four famous bronze horses outside the Cathedral of St. Mark, and other well-known bronze figures.

Owing apparently to a shortage of petrol numbers of horses, donkeys and cattle are being requisitioned for transport. Source reported German motor transport being hauled by [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. [illegible]

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Owing apparently to a shortage of petrol numbers of horses, donkeys and cattle are being requisitioned for transport. Source reported German motor transport being hauled by oxen. Animals are driven until they drop, when they are shot, and fresh beasts requisitioned to replace them.

Fighting in Bologna.

A Swiss source states that after several weeks fighting Black Brigades had succeeded in mopping up the patriots in the city. The bitterest fighting took place round the Maggiore Hospital, where patriots had rallied for a last stand. The Germans are apparently convinced that they will be able to maintain themselves in BOLOGN. and are believed to be preparing a house to house defence, as fortification is being intensified both inside and outside the city.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780121

SECRET
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SUMMARY3

A Fake Massacre.

Fascists accused the patriots of having tortured and massacred a number of Fascists in the Maggiore Hospital. The Popolo e Liberta of Bellinzona says that the bodies discovered there were those of Allied soldiers picked up from the battlefield and after suitable treatment, passed off as Fascist victims.

German Emergency Measures.

A state of siege has been proclaimed in VARESE, following upon the bombing of a Nazi-Fascist barracks. The streets are patrolled and shhools closed. Passengers are searched on leaving trains. Hedges are being removed along the MILAN-VARESE motor road. It is believed that the Communists are preparing for a general insurrection in the big cities of N. Italy, and that this is the explanation of the intensified mopping up operations.

Atrocities. are reported from:

RAVENNA: 25th August
CAMERLONE 26th August
MASSA LOMBARDA - early November
RAVENNA 15th November
CASTGLL. DI BOLOGNA - 29th September and 5th October
SANT ALBERTO (RAVENNA) 10th December.
MELETO (SAN GIOVANNI VALDARNO) Four months ago
SAVIGNANO (On the Rubicon) 1st October.
Other cases are reported by Civil Censorship intercepts.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Radio The 8th Army Radio was well received in FORLI and RAVENNA and was much appreciated. It was suggested that more news be given of the Italian Government and political developments in liberated Italy.

Leaflets

Many Germans and Austrians serving in the CARNIA and FRIULI regions are said to be willing to desert, but afraid of the partisans It is suggested that safe-conduct leaflets be dropped on the zone they occupy rather than on zones held by partisans. It was also hoped that in drops to partisans, some newspapers would be included.

German P.Ws opinion on leaflets.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775231

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Atrocities are reported from:

RAVENNA: 25th August
CAMERLONE 26th August
MASSA LOMBARDA - early November
RAVENNA. 15th November
CASAGLIA DI BOLOGNA. - 29th September and 5th October
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German P.Ws opinion on leaflets.

In general the Germans pick up, read and in some cases even collect leaflets. According to statistics from 5th Corps 64% had seen leaflets in the last four weeks. "Frontpost" is most popular and its regular distribution much appreciated, as "the one reliable source of information", "always arriving long before the German communiques". 1252

POLITICS.

The Communist and Socialist parties of Occupied Italy have approved the Socialist Communist alliance in Rome and propose to adapt it to conditions prevailing in the North. The combined parties then state that they would support the proposal for a Republic when a Constituent Assembly has been formed.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 021

SECRET
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The Duce and Farinacci.

It is rumoured that only the Fuhrer's personal friendship for Mussolini keeps the latter from being deposed by the Germans in favour of Farinacci. Mussolini is supported by Buffarini-Guidi, Pavolini, Graziani. Their distruet of Farinacci is so great that they released the notorious Koch and gave him the task of watching Farinacci.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation.

A growing food shortage is reported from all regions of N. Italy. There is also an almost complete lack of fuel. In M.NTOV., however, the situation is good, as supplies of grain have been distributed to the population.

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SECRET

"D" Section Italy (Occ).

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 33.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
"B" Section Italy (Con). 20th December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 33.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the stateof public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information Sources of information are quoted in brackets. This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side lined.

RESISTANCE

1. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

In the foot hills south of the line PARMA-PIACENZA to a depth including FORNOVO-BARDI-BETTOLA and PONTE DICLIO are a minimum of 5,000 men, armed and equipped,with complete freedom of movement and an abundance of transport and petrol. Their zone of operations is along the VIA EMILIA between PARMA and PIACENZA, with continual incursions into towns. They carry out sabotage and attacks against the German lines of communication up to the river PO.

In the foot hills south west of PIACENZA are about 1,500 well armed and equipped men.

In the vicinity of CORNIGLIO are about 500 armed men of the 12th GARIBALDI Brigade of the PARMA Division.

The 31st GARIBALDI Brigade of the PARMA Division has a strength of 700 men and about 60 vehicles, with petrol. The Commander is a professor of ancient history, aged 25, a lieutenant in the Italian Tank Corps. He is a keen patriot, non political, a capable leader, and disciplinarian.

The [illegible] has a strength of 2000 men with about 50 vehicles and petrol. It has several heavy machine guns, with some ammunition and a number of German, Italian and English small arms, with no reserve of ammunition. The Brigade is commanded by a Jugoslav. He is an ex-lieutenant of the Regular Jugoslav Army, a very capable leader and a keen fighter. Discipline is good and politics are forbidden in the band. Civil administration is also good. Their zone of activities is LUGAGNANO.

The 38th Brigade, PIACENZA Division, of which no details are known, has well over 1000 men. The Commander is an ex-student of theology, communistic in outlook and ambitious for a political career after the war. The Brigade is well equipped with transport, petrol and light arms. Organisation and administration are reasonably good.

The 61st (?) Brigade, PIACENZA Division. The Commander of this Brigade was an ex-regular Captain of Carabinieri, exceptionally keen

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RESTRICTED

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In the foot hills south east of PIACENZA are about 1,500 well armed and equipped men.

In the vicinity of CORNIGLIO are about 800 armed men of the 12th GARIBALDI Brigade of the PARMA Division.

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The 42nd GARIBALDI Brigade, PARMA Division has a strength of 1000 men with about 70 vehicles and petrol. It has several heavy machine guns, with some ammunition and a number of German, Italian and English small arms, with no reserve of ammunition. The Brigade is commanded by a Jugoslav. He is an ex-Lieutenant of the Regular Jugoslav Army, a very capable leader and a keen fighter. Discipline is good and politics are forbidden in the band. Civil administration is also good. Their zone of activities is LUGAGNANO.

The 38th Brigade, PIACENZA Division, of which no details are known, has well over 1000 men. The Commander is an ex-student of theology, communistic in outlook and ambitious for a political career after the war. The Brigade is well equipped with transport, petrol and light arms. Organisation and administration are reasonably good.

The 61st (?) Brigade, PIACENZA Division. The Commander of this Brigade was an ex-regular Captain of Carabinieri, exceptionally keen and capable. The discipline of the Brigade is excellent, its strength is approximately 1,500, well armed and supplied, but no details are known. There is no political element in the band. Its disposition and location of its headquarters are unknown. 1290

12th Brigade, GARIBALDI, PARMA Division. Strength 800 armed men The Commander is an ex-medical student, 2/Lieut, in Infantry, with no war experience. His communistic outlook has recently been modified since the dismissal of his political Commisser, and the Brigade is fighting well. It operates against the German lines of communications on route 62 (VIA CISA-FORNOVO) Its general zone of operations is in the mountain area CORNIGLIO-BO

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A COMANDO UNICO of PIACENZA exists, but has very little control, as the individual brigades work as seperate entities.

The COMANDO UNICO of PARMA. Three weeks ago this Command was surrounded by Germans; prisoners were taken and the Commander was killed. One female prisoner, since exchanged, stated that during the interrogations the Germans were interested only in details of the British Command of the partisans and British control of the supply situation. The Command has now been taken over by the father of the 2 I/C Political Commissar. He (the new commander) has no military experience, is aged 55 and no details of his political career are available.

The PARMA Division, under the Command of DARIO occupied the towns of VARSI and BARDI and the surrounding country during the first week of June 1944. HQ was established at BARDI and the bands operated in the VIA EMILIA in the zone of FIORENZUOLA and FIDENZA against the German lines of communication. Much booty was captured and over 100 prisoners taken. The Germans attempted continuously to retake these areas, and finally, in the second week of July, with about 20,000 SS. troops they carried out a large scale rastrellamento. On the 17th July BARDI was bombed by six aircraft. Mountain guns and morters were used in the attack. All partisans were ordered to disband and hide and started to reform after the Germans had left at the end of July. The Committee of Liberation of PARMA reorganised the entire Division. Operations were started on a small scale and finally the complete occupation of the zone was achieved again on a more rigid military basis.

The morale of partisans in this area is very high, as they are living reasonably well on German supplies, but they feel a lack of recognition from the Allies. The lack of liaison between this area and the Allied Command has been due to the considerable distance between Partisan Command and Allied Missions, at least three days walk through the mountains. There is not an abundance of food for the winter, but probably sufficient. Difficulties will be encountered in movement in the area when heavy falls of snow begin. There is lack of suitable warm clothing for winter operations.

An Austrian Captain in command of a small German garrison in BORGO TARO told the partisans that he will not molest them and is preparing to remain until the arrival of the Allied forces. Most of his garrison wear civilian clothing. Considerable numbers of Poles and Czechs and Austrians are joining the partisans and of late quite a few Germans have deserted, together with their vehicles and arms.

A large percentage of these partisans are dressed in German uniforms, the rest in British battledress. Some however are nondescript all wear the partisan Star. Company commanders wear on the breast as badge of rank one small white star on a red triangular background. Political commissars wear three stars on a blue triangular background. (Confidential Source).

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ALESSANDRIA PROVINCE.

Major MAURI is now stated to command the area bounded by the following points:- CUNEO, LIMONE, TENDA PASS, COLLE DI LARCHE. He has under his command a force of 10,000 men split into 5 Brigades in this area.

10 Partisan Div. Str. estimated 2400 mostly unarmed, is located N of ALESSANDRIA.

16 GARIBALDI BRIGADE, [illegible] of AC 0-6281

74th GARIBALDI BRIGADE, area S of AC 0-6281.

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MONTEMAGNO band of 600 men.

61st and 63rd GARIBALDI Brigades under "MARZO" and "DAN".

ROMAGNUSE band under LIBERO

GIUSTIZIA E LIBERTA band under Capt. FAUSTO

These forces occupy the area bordered by the PIACENZA BOBBIO VOGHERA roads.

PAVIA has a town group of 400 men

TORINO PROVINCE

Bands SE of TORINO and SW of ASTI are now banded into 9 GARIBALDI Divisions commanded by NANNI.

3 GARIBALDI Division comprises:-

42 Garibaldi Division - strength 920 - Commander NEGRI
17 " " " 850 - " MARIO
41 " " " 620 " FASCINO

This Division is located along the main road W of TORINO from S. GIORGIO H-6438 to RIVOLI H 8029, in the order W. to E. - 42 Brigade, 17 Brigade, 41 Brigade.

VAL DI LANZO Brand - 700 men well armed, under ARMANDO and BARCHINI, VOLPENO area - H 8358

MAUTTI Brigade - 1000 men under MARCELLIN. No information as to arms. Split into small groups of 100-200 men between VAL DI SUSA H-6441 and VAL DI FO- stated to be occupying the heights only.

GIAVENO band, 150 men (100 armed) under VIAN, west of GIAVENO H-7728.

GAU Brigade - 1000 men - no information as to arms under BARBATO and CAIUZZO area Val PELLICE H-6504.

The Mautti Brigade, also known as the VAL CHISONE Brigade, commanded by MARCELLIN. Strength 700 men poorly armed

4 Garibaldi Division, 1500 men, poorly armed, area middle and lower VAL SUSA H-8441, Commanded by NICOLETTA.

STELLINA Brigade, 300 men, poorly armed, area CHISONE and Upper SUSA H-8441, commanded by LAGHI.

VAL DI LANZO H-8963 and CAMEVESSANO, have now been reoccupied

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These forces occupy the area bordered by the PIACENZA BOBBIO VOGHERA roads.

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3 GARIBALDI Division comprises:-

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17 " " " 850 - " MARIO
41 " " " 620 " FASCINO

This Division is located along the main road W of TORINO from S. GIORGIO H-6408 to RIVOLI H 3929, in the order W. to E. - 42 Brigade, 17 Brigade, 41 Brigade.

VAL DI LANZO Band - 700 men well armed, under ARMANDO and BARCHINI, VORAGNO area - H-8168

MAUTTI Brigade - 1000 men under MARCELLIN. No information as to arms. Split into small groups of 100-200 men between VAL DI SUSA H-6442 and VAL DI FO. Stated to be occupying the heights only.

GIAVENO band. 1800 men (700 armed) under VIAN, west of GIAVENO H-7728.

GARI Brigade - 1000 men - no information as to arms under BARBATO and MARCO also Val PELLICE H-8804.

The Matteotti Brigade, also known as the VAL CHISONE Brigade, commanded by [illegible]. Strength 700 men poorly armed.

4 Garibaldi Division, 1500 men, poorly armed, area middle and lower VAL SUSA H-6441. Commanded by NICOLETTA.

STELLINA Brigade, 300 men, poorly armed, area CHISONE and Upper SUSA H-6141, commanded by LAGHI.

VAL DI LANZO H-8663 and CAMEVESSANO, have now been reoccupied by patriots

CUNEO PROVINCE

1289

VAL PELLICE Brig. [illegible] men, arms and military value good, commanded by [illegible]

VAL SERLANDO Brigade, 400 men, arms poor, commanded by UCCIO.

[illegible] formation, 1800 men, area VAL VARAITA N-8678. No information as to arms.

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VERCELLI PROVINCE.

5th GARIBALDI DIV. 3 Brigades 600-700 unarmed men, area BIELLA J-3781, between GRESSONEY D-2106 and outskirts BIELLA, with western limit SERSA, eastern limit SESSIA river. The leader and the political commissar, ITALO, are Communists.

NOVARA.

OSSOLA reported liberated. Character and strength of formations not known. A recent report mentioned the OSSOLA DIV. commanded by Major SUPERTI, consisting of 420 armed men and 180 unarmed. (A.C. Patriot Branch Advance Detachment 4.11.44).

VENEZIA GIULIA.

North of UDINE a band of about 350 partisans is operating. They are commanded by Capt. GRASSI, ex. Bersaglieri Regt. who goes under the pseudonym of "VERDI". They carry out raids against German garrisons in the area and are in contact with TITO's partisans. They also distribute typed leaflets and news-sheets which are sent to them by the Committee of Liberation of VENICE. They have two 81mm mortars and an unspecified number of BREDA machine guns and rifles.

LIGURIA.

The LIGURIA Division under "Col. MURCHI" whose real name is FONTANA, has one of its HQs at FRESONI. It has no definite political tendencies. Its members wear civilian clothes with a rectangular tricolour on the left breast.

On 5th August 44 about 7,000 Germans and Republicans attacked 1 Coy with Union source was serving, near CASONI. The partisans killed about 90 of the enemy and wounded about 150. Their own losses were only one man slightly wounded, who was taken prisoner, but subsequently managed to escape. After this action the HQ of the Liguria Division was captured, together with large quantities of stores by the Nazi-Fascists. Much of the blame for this was laid on 2/IC, a certain DEL CARPIO, known as "BOIA", who abandoned his men and fled. I Coy also carried out various acts of sabotage.

LOMBARDY.

The situation of the patriots in LOMBARDY is not strong at present. There are large numbers of patriots in the area, but they are unable to take any effective action against the BERGAMO-USMATE and LECCO-COLICO-SONDRIO roads and railways.

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The situation of the patriots in LOMBARDY is not strong at present. There are large numbers of patriots in the area, but they are unable to take any effective action against the BERGAMO-USMATE and LECCO-COLICO-SONDRIO roads and railways, which are of the utmost importance to the Germans, because of their shortage of weapons and equipment.
(P.W.B. HQ Allied Armies in Italy CSDIC CMF Report 8.11.44).

Regional Commands.

Regional Commands (formerly known as Military Committees) subordinate to GENERAL COMMAND, exist in PIEDMONT, LIGURIA and LOMBARDY, MILAN, VENETO, EMILIA and NORTH EMILIA. These include representatives of 5 parties. In MILAN there are six parties, the sixth being republican. In some cases there is also a Consulente Militare.

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From these Regional Commands depend Zone and Provincial Commands. The former exist in areas controlled by partisans, and have a member elected by the bands. The latter are in enemy controlled areas where partisans live at home with civilian jobs or are organised in S.A.P. groups as in N.V.A. These consist of Party representatives and will give way to Zone commands when the areas are taken over.
(Confidential Source 13.12.44).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

According to news from a neutral wireless General Archimede MISCHI, chief of S.M. of the Republican Army has been killed by the partisans in TURIN.
(Italian Official Source 19.11.44).

MILAN. "Corriere della Sera" Milan 22.11.44 reports that on the evening of November 27th a group of armed men with a big lorry stopped outside the premises of the Phillips Radio Co in Via Padova, Milan, overpowered the night watchman, sacked the building and removed 100 wireless sets, four calculating machines, a typewriter, 2,000 wireless valves, a large quantity of copper and 6,000 lire in cash.

TURIN. On November 22nd the Military Tribunal in TURIN passed the following sentences on a group of young women accused of belonging to a partisan band or of assisting patriots: Giuseppina MENSIO, aged 19, from GASSINO, living in TURIN, female worker, sentenced to death: Giovanna Maria D'ALASSO, aged 19, from Brossasco, living in Turin, female employee, and Eleonora BONATTO, to 15 years' imprisonment: Luigia Maria TRIONE to 8 years, and Maria PENOGLIO to 24 years.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano ...11.44).

UDINE. In the Province of Udine on the night of 17th November, a group of patriots attacked 50 Fascists in C.N. MUTO DI TORREANO. In the violent encounter that followed 6 of the enemy were killed. It is verified that on 13th October on the San Vito al Tagliamento-Portogruaro line the patriots blew up a piece of line 200 metres in length. At L.TIS.N. a railway bridge was completely destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 27.11.44).

NORTHERN APPENNINES. The daring actions of the patriots of the "Lombardia" Division, under difficult conditions, are particularly reported recently. Obliged by the excessive enemy pressure to give ground in a zone in the northern Apennines, these men succeeded in quickly organising counter attacks. After their request for help, the atmospheric conditions being favourable, on the 1st December, the Allied Air Force helped them in their operations, with efficacious results. Particulars of the operation are lacking, but it seems that special strategical objectives were reached, and important positions reconquered from the enemy.
(P.W.B. Rome 6.12.44).

BOLOGNA. Near Bologna 70 Germans have been put out of action by patriots

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(P.W.B. Rome 5.12.44).

BOLOGNA Near Bologna 70 Germans have been put out of action by patriots on the road leading to RAVENNA. Fourteen German tanks have been attacked and destroyed.
(Libera Stampa 21.11.44)

1283

SONDRIO Near Sondrio a group of partisans attacked a motor-car carrying Black Brigade officers of the Sondrio garrison, killing one and wounding two. Later, the same motor-car, which had succeeded in extricating itself from the ambush, thanks to the arrival of another car full of German soldiers, was again attacked, together with the second car. One German soldier was killed.
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The Fascist press when announcing that tens of thousands of "rebels" have reported to the authorities in response to Mussolini's "final" appeal, omits to say that a large number of those who believed in Mussolini's promises have been hung, shot, or deported in sealed cattle trucks to Germany.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzone 22.11.44).

III. Sabotage.

VAL DI SUSA. The patriots in the VAL DI SUSA continue their sabotage acts along the railway lines. In the zone between PIACENZA and P.M., to be precise, between BOBBIO and ROVEGNESE, a German attack was been repulsed by the patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 2.12.44).

VENETO During the night of 22-23 November, the Trevigienien patriots in the Veneto blew up a bridge on the MONTICANO road near GORGO AL MONTICANO. Notwithstanding the growing vigilanceof the enemy, patriot sabotage still continues on the VICENZA-TREVISO line and they derailed a goods train on the night of November 30th, destroying rolling stock.
(P.W.B. Rome 7.12.44).

FRIULI The week ending 25th November saw continued sabotage of enemy communications in the FRIULI plain. The embarassment of the Germans by such activities is demonstrated by the ferocity of their reprisals against the civilian population in the area.
(Confidential Source 4.12.44).

VENETO The following sabotage has been carried out by patriots in the Veneto area:

On the 24th November three electric locomotives were wrecked at GEMONA.

On the 25th November an east-bound train was derailed between PRATO CARNICO, and BUTRIO, and a north-bound train was derailed between GEMONA and VENZONE.

On the 28th November a north-bound train was derailed between VENZONE and CARNIA.

On the night of 1/2 December an engine was wrecked near REANE.
(Confidential Source 10.12.44).

IV. Reprisals.

Extraordinary precautions have been taken for the defence of north Italian cities, where bloody

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III. Sabotage.

VAL DI SUSA. The patriots in the VAL DI SUSA continue their sabotage acts along the railway lines. In the zone between PIACENZA and PAVIA, to be precise, between BOBBIO and ROMAGNESE, a German attack was been repulsed by the patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 2.12.44).

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On the night of 1/2 December an engine was wrecked near REANE.
(Confidential Source 10.12.44).

IV. Reprisals.

Extraordinary precautions have been taken for the defence of north Italian cities, where blockhouses are under construction. Thus all the roads leading to TURIN are now barricaded with reinforced concrete walls. In MILAN the situation remains very tense and COSTA and COLOMBO, the leaders of the Black Brigade and "Muti" Legion have been assigned the task of accelerating the work.

Reprisals are being intensified. In SAVONA the German Command arrests 20 hostages weekly, liberating an equal number. This new system of rotation aims at extending the menace to a larger proportion of the population. PISENTI, Minister of Justice, has ordered the liberation of female political prisoners who accept work in Lombard munition factories.
(Gazzette de Lausanne [illegible] 11.44).

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Libera Stampa, Lugano reports from Chiasso that the Germans and Fascists are using asphyxiating gas in order to dislodge the patriots from the mines and caves of the Upper V.I BELLUNO. (24.11.44).

In the Province of UDINE, west of the Tagliamento, parties of German SS are attacking the patriots in four directions. In the course of the bitter fighting the patriots succeeded in throwing the Germans back to SPILIMBERGO. The fighting still continues in this sector.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.12.44).

In the VENETO area enemy anti-partisan companies are still combing the area, burning and hanging.
(Confidential Source 29.11.44).

V. Fascist Pass to Discredit Patriots.

The following is the text of a letter distributed to various addresses by the Fascists in certain zones of Lombardy in order to discredit the activities of the partisans: "To be delivered by hand Signora M.P. via... Pe . Domodossola October 14th. Dear Mother. During the six months I have been with the partisans I have been in a very bad way. Winter is coming on and we have no clothes to wear, no change of shirts, shoes or coats. The food is bad too, a little rice and in the evening soup, but sometimes nothing but a piece of bread. Since the Germans cut our lines of communications it is difficult to get supplies. We cannot satisfy our appetites with the promises of the commissars. The British drop us arms and munitions from their aircraft, but no food. Our officers have everything they want, shelter, warmth and a bed which they share with their sweethearts. They also have warm clothing, good food and plenty of money. But we are shivering with cold in our wretched hiding places and caves in the mountains, where snow has already fallen. And we have to go on guard too. I am terrified when I think of the winter coming on. Don't mention this letter when you write or I should be killed like my friend Gino. He was tied to a tree and the commissars flogged him till they drew blood. This is our plight and our only hope of escaping from the terrors of winter is by flight. With love from Carlo".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 27.11.44).

FASCIST FORCES.

VI. Denials of dissolution of Fascist Forces.

The fascist press has been at great pains to publish denials

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In the Province of UDINE, west of the Tagliamento, parties of German SS are attacking the patriots in four directions. In the course of the bitter fighting the patriots succeeded in throwing the Germans back to SPILIMBERGO. The fighting still continues in this sector.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.12.44).

In the VENETO area enemy anti-partisan companies are still combing the area, burning and ranging.
(Confidential Source 29.11.44).

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FASCIST FORCES.

VI. Denials of dissolution of Fascist Forces.

The Fascist press has been at great pains to publish denials of the dissolution of the Fascist Republican Army. "Il Piccolo", TRIESTE says that the crude Reuter lie that Marshal Graziani has disbanded the Army of Republican Italy is not worth while wasting time over. Nevertheless, this incorrect report betrayed that the enemy camp is concerned with...(text corrupt) the Italian army and tries to attack it, not only with weapons, but also with lying propaganda.
(D.N.B. 24.11.44).

"Regime Fascista" Cremona 26.11.44 says "Anglo-Saxon radio stations, acrd up for news, have repeatedly broadcast lately the news of the dissolution of the Republican Armed Forces. News of this kind a fresh confirmation of the bad faith which characterises all enemy propaganda activity, is not worth denying. We only point out the

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inopportunity of the Anglo-American broadcasts, which indulged in their vain fancies on the very days when, on the Apennine front, Republican troops were giving eloquent evidence of their presence, and in the principalities of northern Italy demonstrations were being held in honour of divisions leaving for the front, or who had distinguished themselves in the defence of national territory side by side with the soldiers of the Reich.

Tribune de Geneve 24.11.44 reports from Chiasso that Regime Fascists says that the Fascist army has gone into action against the Allies. Corriere della Sera confirms this, although Fascist circles are reserved. Troops are apparently in the line against the British contingents of the U.S. Fifth Army on the Gothic Line, west of the breach of the Futa Pass.

VII. Piacenza Police Desert.

In PIACENZA Province numerous desertions continue among the Posts and Telegraphs Militia, the Public Security Auxiliaries and the G.N.R. According to reports, they fear partisan reprisals.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 24.11.44).

VIII. Black Brigades.

Among the Black Brigades in the various provinces, special operational battalions are being formed which, in addition to being highly mobile and aggressive in the struggle against the bandits and outlaws in the provinces, will also be trained to regroup in order to form a fighting unit at the front under the banner of the Fascist Republic. The first of these detachments, formed by the CCNO Black Brigade, was reviewed by the Commander of the Black Brigades in a locality in the Province of SONDRIO, where mopping-up operations were in progress. At the end of the day's operations the Party Secretary spoke to detachments which had come from CCNO, VARESE and SONDRIO, giving them the Duce's greetings, which were received with much enthusiasm.
(Italian Home Service 30.11.44).

A detachment of the "Ettore Capelli" Black Brigade, operating in the LEINI zone, arrested on a farm two British prisoners of war who had escaped from a concentration camp. Four members of the farmer's family were also arrested for having helped them.

Another detachment of the same Brigade, operating in the PINEROLO [illegible] the outlaws' HQ in

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Another detachment of the same Brigade, operating in the PINEROLO district, together with German troops, attacked the outlaws' HQ in this zone, putting to flight a strong force of bandits, of whom 20 were killed, including four leaders of bands.
(Sera, Milan 17.11.44).

IX. Legionaries Abduct and Murder Prisoners.

Eighteen prisoners were removed by night from San Vittore Prison in MILAN by members of the "Muti" Legion and taken to a spot on the MILAN-PAVIA road, where they were killed by revolver shots in the neck. Only four of those killed have been identified.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 24.11.44).

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GERMANS

X. German Methods in Anti-Partisan Warfare.

Three prisoners captured from an Anti-Partisan Unit organised by 362 Division received special instruction at a divisional school and have given the following information on the training and methods employed.

A. Training.

The school which the PWs attended had a threefold purpose: a) to acquaint the men with existing partisan methods, b) to teach them how to detect and deal with the partisans properly and effectively so that c) German activities would not be hampered. The training was not primarily designed to destroy Partisans. On the contrary, the platoon was to simulate organised action, large scale action, if possible, to scare partisans back into the hills where they could do little or no damage. In short, the platoon's ultimate function was to clear and make safe for German vehicles and soldiers all necessary routes of communication and supply.

One PW, the CC anti-partisan Pl, 2nd Lt. STURY, claims that similar operations have been successful in the past as Italian partisans are very apt to scatter when they first see organised troops obviously sent out to find and apprehend them. Instead of waiting to determine the strength of the approaching troops, the partisans scatter to hide,even though they outnumber the Germans by far. By using such small units, the German High Command hopes to conserve some of its depleted manpower, and to keep supply routes open and safe.

In addition to rendering the partisans harmless by causing them to disperse, the Germans have employed other methods to discourage and hamper partisan activities.

B. Anti-Partisan methods.

1. Wherever possible, hostages, such as parents or sisters of partisan leaders or of well-known partisans, are taken. PW claims that these partisans are not maltreated, but held only for the purpose of exchange for the partisan sought. He admits, however, that he has heard of atrocities committ against these hostages, but places all blame for them on SS units.

2. A regular order of battle of partisan band activities and locations is kept by all Divisional G-2s. All information obtained on the various partisan bands is passed on through

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2. A regular order of battle of partisan band activities and locations is kept by all Divisional G-2s. All information obtained on the various partisan bands is passed on through intelligence channels up to the Army G-2 and likewise down to lower echelons. It is the duty of the Anti-Partisan Platoon to obtain information on partisan activities.

3. All civilians in small villages are watched closely and interrogated often as to the location of certain partisan bands and to future operations planned by these bands. Without realising it, civilians have many times given away valuable information on partisan activities. 236

4. Churches are watched closely as it is known that they are used by partisans as observation posts and that sometimes, the Church bells are used to give signals.

5. All persons carrying flash lights and all persons displaying any light at night are immediately arrested.

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6. Ertswhile Fascists, used as agents, join partisan bands with the ulterior motive of keeping the Germans informed of partisan locations and operations. Many agents have gained the confidence of some partisan leaders with an apparently honest admittel that they were Fascist in the past, but with the false claim that they wish to make up for their past, by joining and fighting together with the partisens. Many of these fascists have been killed in the attempt to join, but a few have thus far been successful.

7. Sometimes English-speaking Germans, posing as escaped Allied Prisoners of War, join partisan bands with the hope, as they say, of crossing the front lines. Instead, they operate as agents.

8. All public buildings are watched closely, for the partisans have been noted to use decorative flags as a means of giving signals.

C. Classification of Partisans.

2nd Lt. Stury, who made it clear that he was abiding by WEHRMACHT Regulations (NOT SS), claimed that when partisans are captured or arrested they are classified into two groups:

1. Partisans: Those who bear arms against Germans.

2. Partisan Helpers. Those who do NOT bear arms against the Germans yet asscciate with partisans.

In either case the Anti-Partisan Platoon does not shoot the partisans or the partisan-helpers. In every case all those arrested are delivered to the FELDGENDARMERIE, who interrogate and dispose of them. If they are found to be partisans they are arrested as Prisoners of War. If they are found to be partisan helpers, they are given prison terms or sent to Germany where they will be forced to work. In the event that German deserters are arrested, they are courtmartialed for the desertion, and following the courtmartial they are executed.

Germans found in German uniform fighting or otherwise engaged in anti-German activities are shot and killed on the spot without courtmartial.
(G.2 Intelligence Notes No 78 17.10.44)

XI. German Use of Cossack Troops.

In the FRIULI zone there is a group of approximately 3 ,000 cossacks, under the command of General Domanov. This group have their families and all their worldly possessions with them; they are, for the most part Cossacks. They

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When the Germans use them in action against the partisans they are more brutal than either the Germans or the Fascists. Though they seldom fight the partisans when they pass through the villages or towns which are held by them and they get the chance, they burn, rape and destroy everything they can before departing. They appear to be quite willing to treat with the Osoppo Division, but they will have nothing to do with the Garibaldis, whom they consider to be 100% communist.
(Confidential Source 24.11.44).

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XII. Destruction and Removal of Italian Material.

A great deal of material taken away by the Germans from LIGURIA is arriving at the warehouses in CHIERI (south-east of TURIN) situated near the station.
(Italian Official Source 15.11.44).

For some time there have been negotiations between the Germans and Fascists over the question of industrial plants and special electric plants. Under the pressure of public opinion and alarmed by the future prospect, Fascist hierarchs and Ministers made efforts to gain some modest concession from the Germans in order to save their faces. The Germans deigned to substitute the "inutilizzazione" of plants for the "distruzione" as the standard. The Government and the Minister BUFFARINI considered this as a notable victory and expressed their humble thanks to their masters.

However the standard "inutilizzazione" remained to be defined and committees started work in the hope of inducing the Germans to accept elusive formulae aimed at having the months of "inutilizzazion fixed at six. But the Germans declared that all possibility of resuming industrial production must be excluded for at least two years and this must be ensured by the paralysation of plants producing electric power.

Italian technicians had resumed their work in order to examine what could be saved, when the German colonel presiding over the conditions told them outright that everything would be destroyed without distinction. In justification of this he pointed out that the electric power station at Nettuno, which had been left intact, had been used by the Anglo-Americans to illuminate the zone during the landings and that this had caused serious trouble. It is reported that the power stations at LEGNO and BEVER have already been destroyed.
(Lavoro Stampa, Lugano 24/11/44)

The Germans are driving away nearly all livestock from south of the River PO. North of the river the Germans are requisitioning certain number of cattle, sheep, pigs, horses and donkeys through the Communes and the Italian authorities. It is interesting to note that on the way south an object saw much German AFV being driven by oxen as well as peasants' carts loaded with ammunition and military stores. Most of this was making its way to M.MTCV... horses, oxen and donkeys are worked so hard that when they become exhausted the Germans shoot them and replace them with others.

VENEZIA. The Germans here are taking away metal from the city in all forms. For instance, during the past two months they have taken away the four large horses outside S. Marco cathedral, as well as the well-known figures on the roof of S. Marco which strike a bell to tell the hour.

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Germans recently sent from VENICE [illegible] loads of small Italian metal money. The [illegible] small change given in shops is in the form of [illegible] discs representing centesimi. These may be used again for purchases from the same shop- the name of which is stamped on the disc.
(P.W.E. Gov. H.Q. ....I. Italian Section Report No 49. 24.11.44).

XIII. Situation in Bologna.

According to an official Fascist communique, special Black Brigades, after fighting for several weeks, concluded a large mopping-up operation inside BOLOGNA city and immediately adjoining zones. The communique [illegible] inside Bologna had

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been completely liguidated. P.VOLINI arrived in BOLOGNA and inspected the Fascist formations which carried out the purge.

Italian resistance circles have also confirmed the fact that, on Kesselring's personal order, a complete Blackshirt Division, recently arrived from Germany, spent about one month in hunting, arresting, deporting and massecring many thousands of Bolognese accused of being in some way connected with patriotic movements. The city was subjected to an extremely strict regime which undoubtedly enabled the occupants to restore order in the city, though at a high price.

Even Corriere della Sera has admitted that a long and terrible struggle raged round the Ospedale Maggiore, Bologna's largest hospital, where the partisans rallied in order to defend themselves to the last. With the help of strong artillery, the Fascists succeeded in completely destroying the hospital, killing the majority of the patriots.

Recently the German military authorities, who appear to be convinced that they will be able to remain in Bologna for some months longer, have made some concessions to the inhabitants. According to Corriere della Sera, 20 cinemas have now been opened. On the other hand, all schools and the university are shut. The food situation in Bologna, which lies in the middle of a rich agrarian zone, is satisfactory, as the paralysation of transport has made it impossible to send products, which were formerly exported throughout Italy and also abroad, out of the zone.

It is believed that the Wehrmacht intends to defend Bologna house by house, as fortification works are being continued and even intensified inside and outside the city.
(Basler Nachrichten 20.11.44).

An indication of the German concern over partisan activity in BOLOGNA is their latest threats of savage reprisals including the shelling of buildings, demolitions and mass deportations.
(Confidential source 9.12.44)

Sera, Milan 24.11.44 gives a detailed description of the mopping-up operations in the city of Bologna, including the assertion that a torture chamber was found in the cellars of the Ospedale Maggiore, where the partisans had been entrenched. The cellar contained two cases of food and other supplies, enough to fill three lorries. Two naked bodies were found in the hospital yard, one of which was that of a man who had been kidnapped on November 6th by two men in German uniform. A short distance away could be seen a skull, arm and foot. The first common grave was thus discovered and then another. All the bodies were naked, with ropes

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Regime Fascista, CRemona, 26.11.44 publishes further details about the Bologna mass graves saying "The cellers of the Ospedale Maggiore sheltered 100 partisans of the so-called "Castel Maggiore" Battalion, who intended carrying out further acts of sabotage and terrorism".

An anti-Fascist version of the affair comes from the Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 28.11.44 which says "As regards the mass graves alleged to have been found by the Fascists conteining the victims of the partisans in the Ospedale Maggiore in Bologna, the truth has now been revealed by a Republican officer who, nauseated by the Fascist methods, joined the maquis, followed by several of his men. He made very serious statements, giving precise names and facts, promising to give evidence before any enquiry commission nominated. The

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officer had the duty of garrisoning with his own detachment the zone adjacent to the hospital ruins after they had been evacuated by the partisans. During the evening he was making an inspection when he saw a mysterious lorry arrive and halt near the ruined walls of the hospital. Several Arditi of the "Eugenio Facchini" Black Brigade got out of it and unloaded from the lorry ten or 12 bodies which by their uniforms the officer recognised as Allied soldiers. One after the other the bodies, which had evidently been collected on some neighbouring battlefield, were carried inside the half-destroyed hospital. The next day the Fascist newspapers announced the discovery of naked bodies of Fascists tortured by the partisans. The Black Brigade men had done good work on those poor bodies.

XIV. German Emergency Measures.

According to a decree issued by the German Army Command, curfew for the entire Province of PADUA is fixed from 22.00 to 06.00 hrs. Restaurants and places of entertainment must be closed down by 21.00 hours. Special permits entitling the holders to stay out of doors during the curfew will be issued by the German Garrison Commander. Workmen engaged in fortification work need no special permit. It will suffice for them to show their workers' identity card.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 20.10.44).

A state of siege has been proclaimed in VARESE. The curfew has been advanced to 16.00 hours. Germans and Fascists, armed to the teeth, patrol the streets. Schools are closed. Passengers are searched on leaving trains. Some bombs laid by patriots exploded seriously damaging buildings used as barracks, killing and wounding several Germans and Fascists. This act of violence is all the more significant as Fascist propaganda had proclaimed that Varese Province could now be considered to be completely "liberated from outlaws". Along the MILAN-VARESE motor road, hedges are being removed, behind which the squads franche tireurs fired on German and Fascist motor vehicles. Guards are also being placed at all the bridges which offer patriots hiding places for ambushes. These precautions have been taken at the request of P.VOLINI whose family still live in LUINO in the Villa Frua. Pavolini lives in the Plaza Hotel Via Restrelli, in Milan, but often visits his family, using the motor road. He has four bodyguards who accompany him everywhere. When he is motoring, four gunmen, who are highly paid, shield him with their bodies.

There is still a big influx of Fascist refugees into Varese Province, which is putting the residents in a difficult situation, and even embarrassing the authorities. Almost daily, columns of lorries arrive, carrying furniture and household goods. It is at present necessary to find homes for several hundred refugees from LIGURIA, and nobody knows where to put them.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.11.44)

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According to a decree issued by the German Army Command, curfew for the entire Province of PADUA is fixed from 22.00 to 06.00 hrs. Restaurants and places of entertainment must be closed down by 21.00 hours. Special permits entitling the holders to stay out of doors during the curfew will be issued by the German Garrison Commander. Workmen engaged in fortification work need no special permit. It will suffice for them to show their workers' identity card.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 20.10.44).

A state of siege has been proclaimed in VARESE. The curfew has been advanced to 18.00 hours. Germans and Fascists, armed to the teeth, patrol the streets. Schools are closed. Passengers are searched on leaving trains. Some bombs laid by patriots exploded seriously damaging buildings used as barracks, killing and wounding several Germans and Fascists. This act of violence is all the more significant as Fascist propaganda had proclaimed that Varese Province could now be considered to be completely "liberated from outlaws". Along the MILAN-VARESE motor road, hedges are being removed, leaving which the inquisitive fence tireurs fired on German and Fascist motor vehicles. Guards are also being placed at all the bridges which offer patriots hiding places for ambushes. These precautions have been taken at the request of P.VOLPI whose family still live in LUINO in the Villa Frua. Pavolini lives in the Plaza Hotel Via Restrelli, in Milan, but often visits his family, using the motor road. He has four bodyguards who accompany him everywhere. Each of his motorcar, four gunmen, who are highly paid, shield him with their bodies.

There is still a big influx of Fascist refugees into Varese Province, which is putting the residents in a difficult situation, and even embarrassing the authorities. Almost daily, columns of lorries arrive, carrying furniture and household goods. It is at present necessary to find homes for several hundred refugees from LIGURIA, and nobody knows where to put them.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.11.44).

In the large cities of northern Italy the Communist Party 1284
reported to be actively preparing a plan of insurrection to which the Socialists adhere in principle. The Fascists' fear of this danger explains the intensification of mopping-up operations and razzias against the partisans, who, at a given moment when the Germans and Fascists are engaged in the big cities might bring about a rising among the country people.

Meanwhile, in [illegible] against partisan attacks, points of access to all main roads are being blocked with concrete walls. All the German commands, offices and depots are surrounded by electrified barbed wire.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.11.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

XV. Atrocities.

RAVENNA. On 25th August 12 innocent citizens, including a woman were executed in Ravenna as a reprisal for the killing of Bedeschi (Cattiveria) by the partisans.

CAMERLONE On 28th August the Germans massacred 5 persons in the country near Camerlone without any reason whatsoever. The same day three peasants were hanged at SAVARNA.

MASSA LOMBARDA During the first days of November an entire quarter of Massa Lombarda was set on fire by the German SS and several people were burnt alive in their houses.

RAVENNA In Ravenna on 15th November the Germans blew up 7 houses in Via Fiume VISIC, without giving any notice to the inhabitants. This caused several victims.
(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. ....I. Italian Section Report No 49 24.11.44).

BOLOGNA. Two eye witnesses, escaped from the massacre by the Germans in C.S. GLI. DI BOLOGNA., brought proofs of the martyrdom of Italians, still under the Nazi Fascist yoke. On the morning of 29th September, in the village of Casagli, the alarm was given that a party of SS was on the march in that direction. The alarm gave time for the few men who remained to escape to the mountains. About 80 women and 50 children under the age of 15, took refuge in the church. They were all gathered round the parish priest saying the rosary out loud, when the soldiers broke into the church and compelled everyone present to go outside. Then they drove them all to the cemetery. Whilst the women and children, terrified, left the church, the assassins, violating every respect for the church, killed the parish priest, and a woman, a certain Vittoria Manni, who was paralysed and unable to walk. All those who were thrown out of the church and sent to the cemetery were mown down by machine gun fire. Two women who were only slightly wounded succeeded in escaping and reached C.S. BAGUZZI.

When the Germans had left in the evening four men came down from the mountains and found the church in flames. Amongst the heap of corpses in the firelight they found a baby still alive, wounded in the head and arm.

After having buried the bodies of the murdered people the four men went to the place where the women had taken refuge, who were safe with their families. There they found 21 people who lived in fear and trembling of the return of the Germans. Their fear was realised on the 5th October [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760121

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After having buried the bodies of the murdered people the four men went to the place where the women had taken refuge, who were safe with their families. There they found 21 people who lived in fear and trembling of the return of the Germans. Their fear was realised on the 5th October with the arrival of a squadron of 10 SS. commanded by a captain. On arrival in front of the place where the people were hidden the Germans ordered the men out, about 9 of them. Five were sent off towards Belvedere and the others taken to a field near by where they were killed. Of the five taken to Belvedere, one was killed by the Captain with a pistol, the other four were taken to a precipice and sent over. At the same time a German soldier stationed himself at the edge of the precipice and shot the unfortunates in the neck. Three of the men perished thus, but the fourth survived his fall and towards evening, hearing no more noise he returned to Casa Biguzzi to look for the women who had remained behind. There too the barbarians had committed another massacre. The bodies of the victims were half in and half out of their refuge. Only two men survived in the whole village, Gino Chirici and Celso Manni. The latter owed his life to the fact that he wandered in the mountains until he was sure that the Germans had really gone away. These two men gave the details of the outrage.
(P.W.B. Rome).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760021

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Apart from atrocities against people the Germans have destroyed works of art. In B.DI.. .. SETTIMO they demolished the magnificent 1200 belltower of the abbey, which was one of the most beautiful in Tuscany, and was not of the slightest military interest. The San Quintino chapel is damaged, the walls having fallen, damaging the frescoes of the Cupola, which are by Giovanni da San Giovanni. The rest of the frescoes on the walls by the same artist have been destroyed by German handgrenades.
(P.W.B. Rome).

RAVENN. December 10. Monsignore Rossini, Bishop of Ravenna, today revealed that the Germans executed 70 civilians in the village of S.N .LBERTO. .ccording to reports so far received, said the Bishop, partisans occupied the village on December 4th. They were driven out a few hours later by the enemy who seized and shot 70 citizens in retaliation for the partisan operation. The victims included the parish priest, Don Giovanni Zalambani, the local doctor, Biandi, the schoolmaster, Gambi and a representative of the Podesta, Amadori.
(P.W.B. 5th Army Press Division)

S.N GIOVANNI V.LD.RNO Particulars have now been received of the massacre, about 4 months ago of all the male population of the village of .MELETO. The widow of one of the victims declared that at the beginning of July a group of German soldiers with a motor lorry came to the village and gathered all the population together in the principal square. The women were then put into a great cellar. The men were divided into groups of 20, brought out and killed. One group were machine-gunned in a barn and the bodies, after being covered with petrol, were burnt. Many women who saw the corpses later said that there were evident signs that some of them were alive when set on fire. .ccording to numbers up to date the remains of about 100 men have been found. When the women who had been shut in the cellar came out about mid-day the Germans had gone, the village was in flames, and after putting these out they buried the bodies. There was not one man left to help them. One women had to find the bodies of seven members of her family, husband, two sons, two brothers, a brother-in-law and a nephew. Some particulars of this massace have been provided by the Bishop of FIESOLE, Monsignor Giorgis, who recently came to Rome. He described how the parish priest, Don Giovanni Fondelli was murdered by the Germans whilst trying to prevent the massacre.
(P.W.B. Rome 25.11.44).

S.VIGN.NO -on the Rubicon. The night of October 1st, the Germans blew up houses with d[illegible] in via Rubicone Destra 10, burying under the ruins whole families. Other houses were blown up by the same method. The church, the bridge over the river were also destroyed. Fourteen bodies were discovered by the date of the report (20.10.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 765021

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(P.W.B. 8th Army Press Division)

SAN GIOVANNI VALLARNO Particulars have now been received of the massacre, about 4 months ago of all the male population of the village of ANLETO. The widow of one of the victims declared that at the beginning of July a group of German soldiers with a motor lorry came to the village and gathered all the population together in the principal square. The women were then put into a great cellar. The men were divided into groups of 20, brought out and killed. One group were machine-gunned in a barn and the bodies, after being covered with petrol, were burnt. Many women who saw the corpses later said that there were evident signs that some of them were alive when set on fire. According to numbers up to date the remains of about 100 men have been found. When the women who had been shut in the cellar came out about mid-day the Germans had gone, the village was in flames, and after putting these out they buried the bodies. There was not one man left to help them. One woman had to find the bodies of seven members of her family, husband, two sons, two brothers, a brother-in-law and a nephew. Some particulars of this massacre have been provided by the Bishop of FIESOLE, Monsignor Giorgis, who recently came to Rome. He described how the parish priest, Don Giovanni Fondelli was murdered by the Germans whilst trying to prevent the massacre.
(P.W.B. Rome 25.11.44).

SAVIGNANO -on the Rubicon. The night of October 1st, the Germans blew up houses with dynamite in via Rubicone Destra 10, burying under the ruins whole families. Other houses were blown up by the same method. The church, the bridge over the river were also destroyed. Fourteen bodies were discovered by the date of the report (20.10.44).

MONTECATINI- VALDINIEVOLE "So many ugly deeds have been committed by the Germans with the help of the Republican Fascists. Our men hid themselves and then joined the patriots (including my brother and cousins) and the others then raged against the women and children They have thrown little creatures of the age of Mario and Marcello into wells, they have ravished and then hanged women, burnt other women, hanged old people offhandedly, and finally have done things not to be believed if one had not witnessed them".
(Civil Censorship Intercept 10.10.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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PESCI. "The vile German was not satisfied with so much mourning and ruin, but wanted to add to them on the day before our longed for liberation. In fact during the tragic evening of the 6th September, at 1930 hours, some cursed pioneers placed a small box of dynamite in front of my house and another at the back, and then fired. Just imagine! Everything blown up together with my beloved parents who were buried under the ruins."
(6.10.44).(Censorship Intercept).

IUCC. "Eugenic Cavalliere's mother and signor Minutoli have been burnt alive at M.SS.CIUCCOLI. Because a German was found dead in the neighbourhood, Sandra Settepassi, together with other women and children of ten years of age were machine-gunned and slaughtered at M.SS.RELL.. The Lippi and Francesconi families, with the exception of the latter's wife, have been shot or hanged".
(Civil Censorship Intercept 13.9.44).

XVI. New Radio Station.

On December 6th a new radio programme, originating from German controlled Italy or from Germany itself was monitored in Rome. The station is R.DIO F.NTE, broadcasting in Italien to Italy every day at 1215 to 1300, 1830 to 1900 and 2215 to 2300 hrs on a frequency of 216,221, 449, 47.3 metres. The reception in Rome is very good, and may easily be picked up by any local set. Night reception is the best on 221 metres. The programmes themselves are of much better quality than those on either Radio Tevere or Radio Adriatico. At 2245 hours it is broadcasting on the same frequency as BBC in English (449 metres).
(P.W.B. Rome - Monitoring).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XVII Reactions in Forli and Ravenna.

In FORLI the voice of the 8th Army was well known. The general opinion was that the programme is good and can be listened to with less risks than the BBC because of its being shorter. Leaflets giving the wavelength and time of transmissions, dropped by us on Forli were picked up by the inhabitants.

In RAVENNA 8th Army radio was heard well and was popular. The leader of the G.P Brigade of Ravenna, interrogated on the subject, said that he considered the programmes very good and the "Giro d'Orizonte" feature by Mario Fedulli was much appreciated by his partisans. The only criticism was that there is not enough news about the Italian government and political developments in Italy. The best

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(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.A.I. Italian Section Report No 49. 24.11.44).

XVIII. Comments on propaganda from the Carnia/Friuli zone.

It has been found that many Germans and Austrians serving with the units in this area would willingly desert to the Partisans if they were not, in their own minds, certain that they would be killed on arrival in partisan held territory. It is felt that much could be done by strong propaganda in the form of leaflets dropped by aircraft over German occupied territory in this area, and not over partisan held territory, as has been the case in the past. This type of propaganda should guarantee them their lives, if they desert to the partisans. Leaflets in the form of safe conducts would be effective.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770021

Much good could be done if, on drops to the partisans, certain kinds of newspapers were included in the load; these should contain the latest war news. It has been found that the partisans have little or no idea of what is happening in the world outside their province.

Very few wirelesses are owned by the partisans. It has been discovered, however, that in broadcasts where the name of their particular unit is mentioned, the news is always passed round and printed in their Unit News sheet, and their morale is considerably raised after such broadcasts. So far no individual names have been mentioned from this particular zone. (Confidential Source 24.11.44).

XIX. Information from P.W. Interrogations.

P.W. taken from the Italian Divisions opposing Fifth Army in the Western Appenines say that the Italians do not want to fight and that Allied leaflets addressed specifically to them have increased the number of Italians deserting, both to the partisans and to the Allies.

Twelve P.W. captured by a raid on an advanced post were interrogated by P.W.B. as soon as they got to our lines. Most of them were Silesian Poles. They complained of the lack of news. One produced a German Communique of the 20th November, which he had received on the 2nd December. All P.W.s produced copies of Allied leaflets; one had kept a collection of 8 different ones pinned together, having three different issues of Frontpost, the regular delivery of which was, they said, much appreciated.

Fifty P.W. were interrogated at 5th Army Stockade early in November. Many had not seen any leaflets. Several of them, however, had only been in the line for about a week. Most of the other prisoners confirmed that most German soldiers try to get hold of leaflets when they can, that they read and discuss them before passing them on. A hostile PW, a student from Osnabrueck said "It must be admitted that leaflets undermine the war spirit". Frontpost drew special praise from PW, being described as a reliable source of information, and making a good impression on soldiers always arriving long before the German communique. In two cases PWs had received Frontpost from someone who had been to the rear, where he had found them and brought them along. Another said Frontpost from partisans. The leaflet "Where there is a will, there is a way" was also mentioned as particularly effective.

A student from Sudetenland made this comment "You achieve more with leaflets than we do with grenades".

Leaflet statistics from a corps [illegible] of 246 PW interviewed, 168, 64% had seen leaflets in the last four weeks and 38, or 14% had come [illegible] further [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760021

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Leaflet statistics from a corps ... out of 246 PW interviewed, 158, 64% had seen leaflets in the last four weeks and 36, or 14% had come over carrying safe conducts, while a further nine were in possession of copies of Frontpost.

A PW from 26 Panzer Div. stated that all troops were made to empty their pockets on the day following one of our leaflet shoots. He knew of the case of a German NCO who had been seriously wounded and taken to hospital. A safe conduct was found in one of his pockets, and as a punishment his Iron Cross was taken away from him.

One P.W. read last October of bombings near his home town in Upper Silesia. This news had never been disclosed by German News Agencies, but was subsequently confirmed by a letter from home. Ever since that day he had believed our leaflets.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

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A PW who had seen many copies of Frontpost stated that that was now he first learnt of the desertion of Germany's satellites. This, he stated, more than anything else made him lose faith in a German victory.
(P.W.B. H.Q. ....I. Propaganda and Leaflet Reaction Report No 10 12.12.44).

POLITICS.

XX. Communist Socialist pact in North.

The Italian Communist and Socialist parties in German occupied Italy, approving of the making of the pact concluded between the Communist and Socialist Parties in Rome, have decided to adapt it to the conditions prevailing in the area under their jurisdiction.

After emphasising the obligation to support this policy of mutual understanding, especially within the National Liberation Committee of Northern Italy, on which the six principal anti-Fascist Parties are represented, and after expressing a definite desire for unison and collaboration with these parties, the agreement concludes thus:
"The Directorate of the PC (Communist Party) for the occupied area and the Executive Committee of the PS (Socialist Party) for the occupied area finally declare that they share the conviction expressed by the two central Directorates that the desire of the Italian people is that the imminent Constituent Assembly, to be elected by freed consultation of the people, should proclaim a Democratic Republic.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 16.11.44).

XXI. Report on Mussolini's Health.

It is rumoured in Fascist circles that the state of Mussolini's health has recently become worse and that the Duce is suffering from an acute crisis of his internal compleint which is confining him to bed. The specialists, two Germans and an Italian, who are attending him are very worried, attributing the relapse to Mussolini's extreme activity during the past weeks, as well as to the stimulants he was forced to use in order to meet visitors in a relatively normal condition. During the last few hours various members of the Duce's family have arrived unexpectedly at his villa on Lake Garda which has increased Fascist anxieties.
(Basle Nachrichten 24.11.44).

XXII. New Fascist Radio.

Patriots in north Italy have been warned against the new Fascist radio, the so-called RADIO BAITA, which is directed by VERNETTI and FRANCO BORGIO. In their transmissions they praise the patriots, but really they try to divide their ranks. Radio Baita is not a patriot radio. It is an enemy wireless and the men by whom it is directed are traitors.
(P.W.B. Rome 2.1.244).

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XXIII. Plot against the Duce by Farinacci.

Koch's blind devotion to Mussolini is proved by the importance and delicacy of certain tasks entrusted to him by the latter. Mussolini has always distrusted Farinacci and has now, more than ever cause to fear him owing to his relations with the Germans. If it were not for Hitler's personal friendship for him, Mussolini would already have been set aside. The German Command does not appreciate him and thinks it high time he was pensioned off.

SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 798021

SECRET
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It is reported that the Germans are thinking of entrusting to Farinacci the government of the last strip of Italy occupied by them when the Nazi troops are obliged to withdraw to the last line of defence from CHIOGGIA to the STELVIO. Mussolini and the group of opponents of Farinacci round him-ie. Buffarini-Guidi, Pavolini, Graziani and a few others - have sensed the danger and are on the alert. They released Koch, who lost no time in surrounding Farinacci with a dense network of spies.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 16.11.44).

XXIV. New Appointments.

PIACENZA. Ernesto MARIONI, a worker employed at the local Direzione di Artiglieria, has been appointed Prefectorial Commissioner at Piacenza instead of Angiolo Cappellini, lawyer.
(Stampa, Turin 15.11.44).

Alcibiade Carlo COMPIANI has been appointed Federal Commissioner of the 15th zone and Commissioner of the CASTELLEONE Fascio. The Federal Commissioner has appointed Alfonso MARSILI Commissioner of PADERNO.
(Regime Fascists, Cremona 15.11 44).

The Under-Secretary for Air, Carlo MOLTESE, has asked to be relieved of his post, and General of the Air Force, Ruggiero BONOMI, has been appointed in his place. Moltese has been appointed a Councillor of State.
(Italian Home Service 27.11.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXV. Food Situation.

TURIN The food and rationing situation is farcical. There is plenty of food if one can afford to buy it. It is still possible to buy good clothes at high prices, but generally clothing is rubbish. Money is very scarce and credit notes are being used.
(Confidential Source 17.11.44).

A growing food shortage is reported from all regions of north Italy. The Fascist authorities are gravely preoccupied. In SAVONA the bread ration has diminished by 50 gr; in September there was only half a kg of rice and 50 gr. of butter, and in October there was nothing but bread. Moreover it was announced that new food cards would not be distributed owing to technical difficulties. A similar situation is to be found in GENOA, TRIESTE and ROVIGO. At the same time there is a grave shortage or complete lack of fuel.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 27.11.44).

MANTOVA. On the other hand it is reported that "there is plenty of food in Mantova. 1½ quintals of grain has been distributed to the population, manual workers having received 2 quintals. There

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ECONOMICS.

XXV. Food Situation.

TURIN. The food and rationing situation is farcical. There is plenty of food if one can afford to buy it. It is still possible to buy good clothes at high prices, but generally clothing is rubbish. Money is very scarce and credit notes are being used.
(Confidential Source 17.11.44).

A growing food shortage is reported from all regions of north Italy. The Fascist authorities are gravely preoccupied. In SAVONA the bread ration has diminished by 50 gr; in September there was only half a kg of rice and 50 gr. of butter, and in October there was nothing but bread. Moreover it was announced that new food cards would not be distributed owing to technical difficulties. A similar situation is to be found in GENOA, TRIESTE and ROVIGO. At the same time there is a grave shortage or complete lack of fuel.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 27.11.44).

MANTOVA. On the other hand it is reported that "there is plenty of food in Mantova. 1½ quintals of grain has been distributed to the population, manual workers having received 2 quintals. There is also plenty of flour and vegetables. Oil is practically unobtainable, however, and meat is very scarce.

Bread 150 grms. Lire 3 per kg.			
Meat. Black Market only		lire 100 per kg.	
Oil " " "		" 400/500 per litre.	
Cigarettes per coupon 40 per week (Nazionale) lire 15.			
Black Market	10	Nazionale	lire 25
	20	Serraglio	" 80/85
	20	Africa	" 80/85

(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. [illegible] Report No 49 29.11.44)

SECRET

1281

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

TRIESTE. The Food Office for Trieste Province announces: As from November 8th "Nestogen Nestle" milk powder will be distributed to bottle-fed babies under 12 months. Small children will continue to receive their daily ration of fresh and condensed milk.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 8.11.44).

The Director of the Food Office for Trieste Province announces that the shortage of eggs, and the necessity to reserve available supplies primarily for hospitals and sick people, has forced him to order that, as from November 12th, all eggs received in Trieste must be reported to the Egg Wholesalers' Association which is responsible for supplies being primarily distributed to those in possession of purchase vouchers.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 11.11.44).

MILAN. The Head of the Province has issued a decree totally prohibiting the manufacture of pastries and confectionery, of any kind, including ice creams, from sugar. The stocks of these products existing in the factories must be notified immediately for retail distribution. All stocks of sugar in the factories must be notified before November 15th for distribution to the civilian population.
(Sera, Milan 13.11.44).

Considering that many shopkeepers continue to violate the regulations governing prices and supplies in spite of punishments, the Head of the Province has decided that all future offenders will have their trading licence irrevocably withdrawn and will be sent to "labour battalions" to be employed on public works. He further issued instructions for keeping a close watch on concierges, most of whom are black market middlemen. All concierges liable to punishment will be sent to "labour Battalions", together with Black Market traffickers and will be subjected to penal proceedings.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 19.11.44).

XXVI. Transport.

FRIULI. In order to make the best use of available transport, The German Adviser has ordered all lorries driving into zones where firewood is felled to carry firewood on their return journey whenever possible.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 8.11.44).

Railways MILAN-TURIN line. 200 metres of line were interrupted by the patriots, who also took away material in transit for Germany
(Italian Official Source 15.11.55).

TRIESTE The Germans have begun to carry away the railway lines of the goods station at Trieste and from the station of PRESTANE (in the Commune of VILL. SLAVINA -7 km south of POSTUMIA)
(Italian Official Source 14.11.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760121

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XXVII. Finance.

Cost of German Occupation.

Italy has hitherto been obliged to pay Germany 100 milliard lire occupation costs; eight to ten milliard lire bank notes are manufactured and placed in circulation monthly. The Germans pay a portion of the notes directly to their troops who use them for their own account. The Fascist Government, apparently, has no control over this money.
(Tribune de Geneve 22.11.44).

SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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XXVIII. Situation in Mantova and District.

The following information has been obtained from a refugee whose home is in MANTOVA. He left about the end of September and arrived at FORLI on 9th November.

The population of Mantova may be considered to be somewhat above normal. Some months ago, when the station, etc, was being bombed by allied raids, many people left and went into the country, but lately, as no raids have taken place, the opposite has happened. The normal residents have returned plus a number from the country, who hope to seek refuge in the city, which they consider will be safer than facing the terrors of a battlefield outside, at a later date.

Mantova is considered to be a Fascist city, and in addition to the number of Fascist residents, the population has been still further increased by the influx of a number of Fascists and their families driven back by the Allied advance (some from BOLOGNA and FORLI)

Apart from the station and the surrounding area, the city has not been damaged, and life carries on.

Cinemas and theatres are open.

Electricity and water supplies are normal, but Gas is only supplied between the hours of 1000-1300 hrs and 1800-2300 hrs.

No busses are running and no trams run in the city itself. The only service still running is from Tetro Sociale to Porta Belfiore, where it divides into one service to the Hospital, and one to "Le Grazie".

There is little to buy in the shops and what there is, is expensive. Clothing, etc, may sometimes be found through Black Market Channels.

Shoes cost 1500-2000 lire, whilst a suit of clothes would cost about 4/5000 lire.

Just before subject left MANTOVA the Germans issued an order clearing people out of all houses and buildings in the southern outskirts of the city. The outskirts to be cleared lie between the MANTOVA-CREMONA road and the MANTOVA-PADOVA road. The reason for this order is understood to be in connection with defence works of the city. Source also states that the Germans are preparing a defence line between MIRANDOLA -S BENEDETTO del PO and MANTOVA, on which many civilians are compelled to work. A decree has come out calling up men for work between the ages of 16 and 60. Many are to be sent into Germany. All men are required to register at Mantova [illegible] by 6 pm 7 November 44

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760021

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(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 49 23.11.44).

XXIX. Fuel and Power.

1280

MILAN. The Head of Milan Province has issued a communique informing the population that, in anticipation of the compulsory suspension of the gas supply owing to the shortage of coal, "necessary measures" are being taken. As a substitute for gas it is planned to issue a daily ration of 1,800 g of wood per person, i.e. one piece of wood. No assignment has been fixed for heating. Instead people must have recourse to the Black Market or freeze. Black market coal now costs 1,000 lire per quintal and wood five to 600 lire.

SECRET

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The Fascists, however, assume that the substitution of wood for gas in kitchens will also solve the heating problem. Thus the average family of four persons will have a little over three kg of green wood daily for cooking and heating.

No supplement has been announced for families with old people, children or sick people. The schools will be closed owing to the lack of heating. Actually it will prove impossible to distribute even the proposed wood ration, owing to the lack of means for transporting to MILAN. Furthermore, out of 300,000 families, only one third possess wood-burning stoves.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 27.11.44).

LABOUR.

XXX. Workers in Germany.

The last number of the Clandestine newspaper "Appello" wrote "Franco Frattarelli, Federal Commissioner of GORIZIA, who was arrested on July 4th by the Gestapo, had some interesting experiences during his imprisonment in German gaols which were cut short by his liberation at the end of a month. He was able to observe the state of mind of his fellow captives, political prisoners who had little conception of the reason for their imprisonment. He gained experience of the German prison system, and also learned of the conditions and state of mind of Italian workers in Germany. The Italian worker who voluntarily proceeds to Germany signs a contract containing guarantees of reciprocal rights and duties vis-a-vis his employer. No sooner has he crossed the frontier than this contract ceases to exist".
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 23.11.44).

CHURCH

XXXI. Pope accused of favouring Allies.

"It has now been confirmed that the Pope will hold a consistory before Christmas.... The most burning question asked in Vatican and Government circles of authorities most interested in the politics of the Church is the following: in what proportion will Cardinals be nominated? It is a tradition that Italian Cardinals should be represented in the Sacred College by a large majority, but today, when the Church has intervened, at least spiritually, in the mighty conflict which divides nations and continents, will the Pope be able to resist the pressure which he has himself, to a certain extent, authorised by his no longer disguised partisanship? Do we stand, then, on the threshold of a considerable admission of Cardinals representing the Anglo-Saxon bloc, as the noisy restlessness of Spellman would seem to desire? Or will the Pope choose a middle way between tradition and innovation, retaining, that is, a majority of Italian Cardinals, but bestowing the "hat" on Italian prelates whose political leanings are a guarantee that they will follow the same objectives as Cardinals chosen directly from

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770121

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(Gazzetta del Popolo, Turin 26.11.44).

XXXII. Priest arrested In Domodossola.

Father Giuseppe Bedetti, Superior of the Rosmini Institute in DOMODOSSOLA, has been arrested. Father Bedetti's arrest is attributed to the fact that the fathers had adopted an equivocal attitude before and during the brief period of bandit oppression in that region. The Head of the Province has given orders that the school be trans-formed into a state school.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Report 21.11.44).

SECRET.

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PRESS

XXXIII. Papers in Mantova.

The following newspapers are obtainable in Mantova:

Voce di Mantova (Daily)
Corriere della Sera (Milan daily), arrives one or more days late.
Resto del Carlino.

Another paper, source could not remember the name of it, but which he stated, is edited and controlled by Farinacci.

(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.M.I. Italian Section Report No 49. 24.11.44).

XXXIV. New Paper to Publish Extracts from Rome Press.

A special newspaper called Corriere di Roma has been published containing facsimile reproductions of items and articles in the ROME newspapers. The "joys of liberation" can thus be made known from direct evidence and the respect that Churchill showed for Badoglio and Bonomi when receiving them in slippers on his visit to Rome.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 20.11.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXXV. Spies and Fascists in Udine.

GORI, called TIMAIL of TERENZANO -POZZUOLO DEL FRIULI. He is an ex-sergeant-major of the Alpini, and an active and zealous collaborator of the Germans. Takes part personally in the mopping-up operations and reprisals against the patriots and their families. On the 13th August, at TALMASSONS, together with some Germans he captured hostages and then disappeared mysteriously. Is a dangerous element.
Signora TARONI, Via Caccia n. 48 Udine. People meet in her villa, amongst whom are some friends of hers who are in the pay of the Germans. From this nest of traitors many denouncements have been sent against patriots and anti-Fascists.
Renzo DIANA of REMA, living in UDINE with his sister. He is a habitue of the Patrizio restaurant, and a very active spy. He forms a trio of traitors with his companions PICCOLI and CUSTODAZZI. One of the direct dependents of Custodazzi, VALENTINO TURCO, living in Viale Duodo n. 4, thin, and with his head always shaved is an agent provocateur and is always under Custodazzi's orders.
Another woman who is a spy is MUNER DIRVE, mother of three children

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Renzo BI..N., of RE..N., living in UDINE with his sister. He is a habitue of the Patrizio restaurant, and a very active spy. He forms a trio of traitors with his companions PICCOLI and CUSTODAZZI.
One of the direct dependents of Custodazzi, V..LENTINO TURCO, living in Viale Duodo n. 4, thin, and with his head always shaved is an agent provocateur and is always under Custodazzi's orders.
Another woman who is a spy is ..UNER DIRVE, mother of three children and at the moment mistress of a German Quartermaster sergeant. Before living in Udine she was in ..VIDALE, and she served there as a cook. 1279
(P.W.B. Rome 26.11.44).

ROSARIO NERO dangerous spy. Lives at the corner of Via Zorutti, on the 2nd floor, over the Bar Padlinelli, and is a very active German police agent. He has himself compiled lists of anti-Fascists, several of whom have been assassinated by the Nazi-Fascist police or they have disappeared, leaving no trace whatsoever.
FORTE ..SSIVERA. comes from ..ZZO DI STATO. In Udine he lives in a furnished room in Via Pelli..io and eats at the "Ancora d'oro" restaurant. He is on guard from 21 hrs until 1 o'clock at the Fascist Federation. During the day he has more lucrative work.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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He controls all the passengers who arrive from and leave for the Carnia, and he has all the persons he suspects of anti-Fascist activities arrested at once.
ENORE TIRINDELLI living in Via Spilimbergo N. 18, Udine. He is Commissario Fascista of the MARTINENGO Federation. A dangerous spy paid by the SS.
ANNA CANTONCCI, 19 years old, born in France, usually living in Turin. For a certain period she practised her infamous activities in VERONA where she has kept her address as Signora BARBIERI, Via Cesare Amatore n 14 or 15. At present she is in Udine.
LUIGI CUMERLOLO , Via Viola, n. 19 Udine, a dangerous spy.

(P.W.B. Rome 23.11.44)

LUIGI SARCHIETTI, son of the late Giuseppe and Carlotta Lesc. Born 11 November 1921 in VERONA. Living in Via Incatenate Acquamonte n 17. He is in contact with other spies.
Signorine PERESSINI of NIMIS The elder of the two sisters lived with a certain MARTIS. They are paid informers of a Nazi-Fascist agent who answers to the name of SPANGARO
Signorina delle Camelie, known under the name of IRENE, who is a habitue of the Contarena Caffe in Udine. She is an informer to the Nazi-Fascists.
(P.W.B. Rome)

XXXVI. Fascists of Mantova.

MOTTA - Federale
Col. SISSA Col of Milizia.
PUNGILUPPI, Dott. A keen fascist
GENOVESI, Avv. " "

(P.W.B.Adv. H.Q. A...I. Italian Section Report No 49 24.11.44).

XXXVII. La Spezia Traitors.

Names of the Special Tribunal of La Spezia.

General MASSIMO DE CASTIGLIONI, President of the Tribunal
Doctor PAOLO BELUSCHI Public Minister.
VITTORIO BULFONI. Member of the Tribunal
GIUSEPPE GANDINI. Senior of the Militia.

(P.W.B. Rome 2.12.44).

Other Fascists are:-

The Prefect APPIANI, who is actually collaborating zealously with the Nazis in preparations for destroying the town.

ALBERTO LANOCCA ... Sergeant of the police,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 7[illegible]

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Other Fascists are:-

The Prefect .PPI..NI, who is actually collaborating zealously with the Nazis in preparations for destroying the town.

..LBERTO LA NOCC.. ou... ...ster Sergeant of the police, specialises in persecuting ... betraying anti-Fascists.

M.RCOBELLO Commander of the Black Bri..ade of La Spezia.

VITO SPIOTT.. Engineer, Commander of the Black Brigade of CHI..V..RI and Vice Federale of GENOVA. One of the most infamous of Fascists.

(P.W.B. Rome 2.12.44).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759121

21 NOV 1944

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

20th November, 1944

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 31.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Patriot Activity

The steady Allied advance into the Po plain has had the effect of stimulating the activity of the patriots in the region of EMILIA. For the last two months partisan groups have been accumulating in the hills south of PARMA, REGGIO EMILIA and MODENA, and have been actively attacking German communications.

A Swiss report states that two large scale punitive expeditions in the IMOLA and MODENA zones were repulsed with heavy losses.

In LIGURIA a Justice and Liberty Brigade has also been active.

Fascist sources claim successes in mopping-up operations in the PIACENZA region and in the VAL SOANA (VAL D'AOSTA) H 9972. In the TIMOLAIS Valley (FRIULI) 6000 Germans forced their way against the OSOPPO Garibaldi Brigade after six days heavy fighting. It was learnt later from German sources that the attackers had suffered 1000 casualties.

Partisan Organisation

Details are given of the distribution of bands in the RAVENNA, FAENZA, FORLI and MODENA areas.

German tribute to Partisans.

A Regimental order of the 117th G.R. (98th Infantry Division) of 9th August describes partisan activites and lays down methods of coping with them, naturally ending with instructions to shoot and hang hostages.

FASCIST FORCES.

S. Marco Division. This Division until late October was partly distributed along the Riviera from VENTIMIGLIA to the TURCHINO Pass, and partly about the BRACCO Pass (NW of LA SPEZIA.)

The Etna Division It seems that this Division has been incorporated with the G.N.R.

Women Auxiliaries. The General Commandant of the Womens' Auxiliary [illegible] that 6000 women are in training while

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Women Auxiliaries. The General Commandant of the Womens' Auxiliary Service reported to the Duce that 6000 women are in training while 1,237 are already serving in the forces.

Morale. From Piemonte it is reported that Fascist troops there lack discipline. There is much drunkenness among them, and they are specialists in looting and rape. 1278

New Anti-Partisan Regulations. After the failure to organise the R.Ps (Reparti Arditi Partigiani) and the R.Us (Reparti Arditi Ufficiali) a new force has been set up on September 1st called CCGU (probably Control-Guerriglia). This will probably include what R.Ps and R.Us have been scraped together previously.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 021

SECRET

SUMMARY 2.

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GERMANS

Evacuation of Piedmont.

Rumours persist that the Germans will evacuate Piedmont after the fall of BOLOGN.. It is also said that they have prepared the demolition of the port of L. SPEZI..

Morale.

Frantic efforts are made by the military authorities to prevent defeatism among the troops. In an order of the day to the Hoch-un-Deutschmeister Division, a corporal was reduced and got three weeks close arrest for his lack of confidence in the future.

..trocities.

More reports have arrived of the horrible atrocities committed on captured partisans in the MONTE GR..P.. area, where prisoners were hung by meat hooks under their chins, taking them about three hours to die. Other massacres of villagers are reported from C..RN..IO, 24th July, S..RSIN.., 25th September, M..RZ..BOTTO, CORS..GLI.., ..RCM.. Nuns in the V..L PESIC were raped.

..LLIED PROP..G..ND..

Piedmontese sources report BBC well heard in MONDOVI at 6.30 em on medium wave. In TURIN during the day jamming is strong, but BBC is heard well at 22.30 (Voce di Londra) and news at 23.30 Radio Algiers is also well received. Candidus is now preferred to Stevens.

From UDINE it is said that the Italia Combatte programme is heard well from P..LERMO. From P..DOV.. BBC is popular as ever, but short wave sets have been confiscated.

POLITICS.

P..DU.. It is reported that the Communist Party is powerful in P..DU.. Province, and even finds support among the country people. The ..ction Party is next in importance and has many followers in the towns.

..PP..intments. Dr. ..ntonio BONIZIO and Dr. Pino RCMU..LDI have been appointed Vice-Secretaries of the Party. In the Corps of Black Brigades Col Giovanni RIGGIO has become Inspector-General and Col Edoardo P..STORELLO replaces him as Chief of Staff.

ECONOMICS.

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Morale.

Frantic efforts are made by the military authorities to prevent defeatism among the troops. In an order of the day to the Hoch-un-Deutschmeister Division, a corporal was reduced and got three weeks close arrest for his lack of confidence in the future.

Atrocities.

More reports have arrived of the horrible atrocities committed on captured partisans in the MONTE GRAPPA area, where prisoners were hung by meat hooks under their chins, taking them about three hours to die. Other massacres of villagers are reported from CARNICO, 24th July, SARSINA, 25th September, MARZABOTTO, CORSAGLIA, ARONA. Nuns in the VAL RESIC were raped.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Piedmontese sources report BBC well heard in MONDOVI at 6.30 am on medium wave. In TURIN during the day jamming is strong, but BBC is heard well at 22.30 (Voce di Londra) and news at 23.30 Radio Algiers is also well received. Candidus is now preferred to Stevens.

From UDINE it is said that the Italia Combatte programme is heard well from PALERMO. From PADOVA BBC is popular as ever, but short wave sets have been confiscated.

POLITICS.

PADUA. It is reported that the Communist Party is powerful in PADUA Province, and even finds support among the country people. The Action Party is next in importance and has many followers in the towns.

Appointments. Dr. Antonio BONIZIO and Dr. Pino ROMUALDI have been appointed Vice-Secretaries of the Party. In the Corps of Black Brigades Col Giovanni RIGGIO has become Inspector-General and Col Edoardo PASTORELLO replaces him as Chief of Staff.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation. In PADUA conditions are good, mainly due to the fact that Germans sell on the Black Market a great part of their loot from forward areas.

VENICE. Conditions are bad. The water situation is precarious, owing to air-raids.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET SUMMARY 3.

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MILAN Owing to the influx of refugees and transport difficulties the situation is deteriorating, especially in regard to fats and oil.

PIEDMONT. The situation is fairly good. The harvest has been plentiful, and has already been distributed. The meat ration may deteriorate as herds will now have to migrate from the mountains, where they have been under partisan control, and come down to the plains, where the Germans round up all cattle.

Industries.

The industrial situation in PIEDMONT is very bad, on account of Allied air raids, removal of machinery by Germans, and sabotage by patricts. Skilled labour is lacking owing to the call-up, deportations and German persecution. Modern machinery, raw materials and transport are lacking.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 798021

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

4th December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12 APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 32.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE.

Re-Organisation of the Patriot Movement.

The general tendency is for the CLN to gain control over all the patriots in occupied Italy and all bands, even the Independent Bands, are gravitating towards a unified organisation, now known as the CVL or Corpo Volontari della Liberta.

Details of Bands in the Parma Region.

A fairly complete list of bands in the Parma region is given, together with the names of the leaders, political tendencies of the bands and their distribution.

Recent Patriot Activity.

The approach of winter has apparently curtailed the activities of the patriots and in some quarters, the comparative lull is attributed to lack of ammunition, boots and clothing. Nevertheless, in spite of German successes in Piedmont, where it is reported that the enemy now holds Val Susa, Val Varaita, and Val Maira, a considerable number of raids etc. have been registered. In Vicenza province a railway bridge over the Bacchiglione was blown up, the railway station of Sologna was sabotaged and Sambuco railway tunnel obstructed.

In Padova province the partisans have been quite active and several small garrisons and posts have been attacked. Clashes are reported from Sangano (Turin Province) and Rocca Ciglie (Cuneo Province).

In the Port of La Spezia patriots of a "Giustizia e Liberta" brigade damaged an 8000 ton ship and blew up ammunition near the landing stage, causing much damage to port facilities, and heavy loss of life among Germans.

In the Benedello zone (Modenese Appenines), patriots were driven away after a bitter fight, with considerable loss on both sides.

Morale of the Patriots.

A Swiss source considers that the Fascist Republican Government's intransigeant attitude towards the partisans is about to undergo a change

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Morale of the Patriots.

A Swiss source considers that the Fascist Republican Government's intransigeant attitude towards the partisans is about to undergo a change. This was exemplified by Mussolini's offer of an armistice, which lapsed on November 10th. Much despondency was therefore created when General Alexander's Instructions to slow down operations were broadcast on November 12th, thereby depriving many individuals of the opportunity of saving themselves.

Black Brigades.

Fascist sources claim successes for their Black Brigades of Crema, Verona, Brescia, Bologna and Rovigo and also in the Val Tournanche.

Assassinations.

There has been a notable increase in the attacks on Fascists and Germans, but no outstanding cases have been reported.

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Report on Conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy - No 32.

SUMMARY 2.

FASCIST FORCES.

The order to dissolve the Fascist, Army, Navy and Airforce was made apparently to get rid of unreliable elements who were sheltering in the ranks. Nevertheless certain Divisions still figure as combatant troops, e.g. the Monte Rosa, S. Marco, Littorio etc. The situation remains obscure.

Koch Band.

In spite of first-hand reports of the death of Koch, there are rumours that he is still alive, and his band operating. It is believed that the Fascists have circulated the reports of his death so as to save him from further attempts.

GERMANS.

N.S.K.K.

This corps seems to be composed of French, Belgian and Flemish Fascists, and mainly occupies itself with the transport of rations and stores. It is believed that it indulges in much Black Market activity.

Dispositions.

Swiss sources now declare that the Germans propose to resist as long as possible on the Italian front. The early fall of the Gothic Line was a disappointment to the Germans, and they are fighting hard now to cover the building of a new defensive line which is reported to run roughly from Chioggia (Venice) to Lake Garda; along the Euganean hills, as far as the Stelvio pass, but before they fall back to this line they have prepared a second or third intermediate line.

Morale.

All sources indicate that morale is low, but that an iron discipline prevails and that officers and men are threatened with death if they yield ground.

Atrocities.

Further atrocities committed by German troops are reported from Sassoleone L 9922, 8th October; S. Zaccaria (commune of Castiglione di Ravenna) August 28th, and at Castenaso (East of Bologna); and Merlino, frazione Vacchiazzano (Forli) November 7th.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation

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ECONOMICS.

Food Situation

A very grave situation is expected to develop in N. Italy in December, particularly with regard to fats. As an example of the breakdown of the railway system, 3000 tons of frozen meat, which were destined for Germany, have been held up south of the Po. The Germans were unable to export this stock and gave it to the Fascist authorities, who in their turn cannot distribute it. All round Ferrara the wheat crop has been good, and has already been entirely distributed to the population as the Germans could not find transport to carry it off. In Bologna, up to the end of September the food situation was fairly satisfactory.

Fuel Situation. Torino, Milan, Como and Bologna all complain of shortages of electricity and gas due to lack of coal. In Milan poor persons are felling trees in public parks and gardens for fuel.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

3rd December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 32.

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SECRET
"D" Station Italy (Occ).

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 32.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE.

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands, and General Organisation.

The C.L.N. and C.V.L.

In virtually every town of occupied Italy there is now a C.L.N. (Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale) which is responsible for the supplying and financing of the local partisans, the collection of intelligence about the Germans and Fascists, recruitment of volunteers, organisation of a communications system, etc. Fortunately the good sense of the leaders of the C.L.N. which has prevented them playing politics and, possibly, the lesson of YUGOSLAVIA has prevented a split developing between C.L.N and "independent" bands; indeed recently the tendency has been towards increasing integration of the military organisation of the partisan movement: e.g. the leader of the most important "independent" band in PIEDMONT and a strong anti-Communist, has recently applied for membership of the Liberal Party, which is represented in the C.L.N. It remains to be seen whether this will lead to better collaboration with the Left Wing bands in this area.

Outside PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY "independent" bands are insignificant. In the area where Eighth Army is fighting at present and in North East Italy, all the important bands acknowledge the C.L.N., the authority of which was greatly increased by two developments which took place in the Spring and Summer of this year. The first was the formation of the BONOMI Government which consists of nominees of the six parties represented in the C.L.N. The second was the transformation in June of the "Military Committee for Upper Italy" of the C.L.N into a General Headquarters, which goes by the lengthy title of "General Headquarters for Occupied Italy of the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty" (usually abbreviated to C.V.L.) with an Allied representative attached.

According to a document which announces the formation of the C.V.L. the intention is that its headquarters, which are situated in northern Italy, should co-ordinate as far as possible the activities of existing bands to conform with Allied directives, encourage the formation of new bands, issue training memoranda

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1274

Under the conditions of partisan warfare it is impossible for a central HQ to control in detail the operations of individual bands. Decentralisation is achieved by the constitution of "Regional Delegations" of the C.V.L., which are also called "Joint Military Headquarters" (Comando Militare Unico) These are responsible for organising partisan activity over a large area, e.g. EMILIA, or VENETIA and are responsible to the Committee of Liberation for the area. Finally the bands operating in a particular district are responsible for creating "sector" or "valley" HQs.
(8th Army Partisan Summary No 3 to 11th Nov.).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788027

SECRET
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It is said that the present comparative lull in partisan activities is due partly to the switch over to winter tactics, but above all to acute shortage of ammunition reported from everywhere, and in many areas shortage of food, lack of boots and clothing.
(P.W.B. Advanced HQ A.A.I. 25.11.44).

Dispositions.

STIENTA area. (small place on the Po, N.W. of FERRARA.

Here there is a band 300 strong, called the ZAGHI Band, with its HQ located in ZAMPINE. The band is non political but contains several radicals. It is divided into two companiesof 150 men, which are then divided into squads of 30 men each. It operates in the area north of the river Po and SW of ROVIGO. Its main activities consist in attacking Fascists and helping escaped PW (4 boats were used on the PO for this purpose).

PARMA area - Disposition of Brigades up to 31st October.

They are 8 in number. There is a "Comando Unico", composed of

1 Comandante	PABLO (killed in battle recently)	
3 Vice Commandanti	MASI	ALPINO LIBERO
3 Commissari Politici	MAURI, PELIZZARI	SCHIAVIO
1 Capo di S.M.	OTTAVIO	

Political Tendencies of the Brigades.

12th Garibaldi	Communist
47th "	"
31st "	"
11th Julia	Badoglian
Giustizia e Liberta	Party of Action
Fiamme Verdi	Christian Democrat
Berita	Apolitic
Bill	"

Commanders of the Brigades.

12th Garibaldi	DARIO (Berchini di Bardi)	Commandante
	MARIO (Avv. Parisi di Parma)	Comm. Polit.
	OTTO (Ten. R.E. Ottavio Luna)	Capo S.M.
47th "	IVAN	Commandante
	WILLIAM of Reggio Emilia	V. Commandant
	REMO Cohen di Coretolo	" "
	LIEBERTI (Cortesi Gino)	Comm. Polit.
	NARDO	Capo. S.M.
Giustizia e Liberta	URANO	Commandante

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PADUA area - Disposition of Brigades up to 31st October.

They are 8 in number. There is a "Comando Unico", composed of

1 Comandante	PABDO (killed in battle recently)	
3 Vice Commandanti	NASI	ALPINO LIBERO
3 Commissari Politici	MAURI, PELIZZARI	SCHLAVIO
1 Capo di S.M.	OTTAVIO	

Political Tendencies of the Brigades.

12th Garibaldi	Communist
47th "	"
31st "	"
11th Julia	Badoglian
Giustizia e Liberta	Party of Action
Fiamme Verdi	Christian Democrat
Borotta	Apolitic
Bill	"

Commanders of the Brigades.

12th Garibaldi	MARIO (Marchini di Bardi)	Commandante
	MARIO (Avv. Parisi di Parma)	Comm. Polit.
	OTTO (Ten. R.E. Ottavio Luna)	Capo S.M.
47th "	IVAN	Commandante
	WILLIAM of Reggio Emilia	V. Commandant
	REMO Cohen di Coretolo	" "
	LAMBERTI (Cortesi Gino)	Comm. Polit..
	NARDO	Capo. S.M.
Giustizia e Liberta	URANO	Commandante
31st Brigade	TRASIBULO	Commandante
	RODA	Comm. Polit.
Borotta	Borotta	Commandante
	Borotta sr.	V. Commandante.
Bill	BILL	Commandante
	ROLANDO	Comm. Pol.
Modena	MODENA	Comandante
Fiamme Verdi	Not Known	
Julia II.	" "	

SECRET

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Dispositions of the Brigades.

47th Garibaldi	works on the left bank of the river in the area of RUZZANO, RENZANO PALLANZANO, MONCHIO RIGOSO
Giustizia e Liberta	works in the zone of MONTE CAIO TIZZANO, CORNIGLIO between the rivers PARMA and ENZA.
Fiamme Verdi.	works in the area of MONTE CERVELLINO, MONTE POLO, MARRA, on the left bank of the river PARMA,
12th Garibaldi	works in the zone round BEDUZZO, CALESTANO, MONTE MONTAGNANA on the left hand side of the strada nazionale of CISA
Beretta	acts in the region of MONTE MOLINATICO, BORGALLO and BORGO VAL DI LARO
31st Garibaldi	works in the region of MONTE SANTA DONNA, MONTE DELLA TAGLIATA, MONTE BARIGAZZO in the area round BARDI.

All these brigades are directly responsible to the C.L.N. of PARMA, which undertakes work in connection with feeding and equipping the brigades, publishes a news bulletin, giving up-to-date news of the war fronts and of the work of partisans and including names of traitors. It also does counter-espionage, and receives volunteers for the brigades.
(P.W.B. Florence Ten. A. of Parma.21.11.44).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

VICENZA. It is reported that on the night of the 8th November the VICENZA battalion GUASTATORI blew up the railway bridge over BACCHIGLIONE, derailing a train loaded with war material. As a result of this action 10 youths were shot, one being aged fourteen and another sixteen. All of them were blameless, and were just passing through the place when arrested.
(Confidential Source 24.11.44).

PIEDMONT According to very recent reports from western Piedmont the Germans are now in effective control of the following valleys: VAL SUSA up to MONDANE (K43) and BARDONECCHIA (K41) and MONTGENEVRE (K 40); VAL VARAITA up to SAMPEYRE and CASTELDELFINO (N 67); and VAL MAIRA up to ACCEGLIO (N 46)

The Germans have established themselves firmly in this area and punish by heavy reprisals on the civilian population even the smallest activity on the part of the partisans; this has almost paralysed the partisans, who have virtually ceased operations.

The band led by MARCELLIN has withdrawn to SESTRIERE (M 32).

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The road CUNEO-VENTIMIGLIA, strategically important to the Germans, is, according to recent reports, controlled by German forces at BORGO S. DALMAZZO (N 84) and COLLE DI TENDA(N 82) and by Fascist Republican Forces on the stretch of road from COLLE DI TENDA to BORDIGHERA.
(P.W.B. Rome -Picco 28.11.44).

VENICE Patriots executed Ernesto FACCA, Political Secretary of the PFR of ANNONE VENETO, as well as Ragioniere Oreste CAECIANI, Prefectoral and Political Commissioner of CONCORDIA SAGITTARIA. The same day a lorry load of members of the Black Brigade left PORTOGRUARO in order to carry out repressive action, but near the hamlet of SAN GIUSTO the Fascists were machine-gunned and four were killed, including Michele CASGRANDE, Deputy Commissioner of the Portogruaro Fascio. A patriot detachment invaded the SANTO STINO DI LIVENZA railway station and, after damaging the telephone and telegraph installations, removed clothes and material belonging to the local

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GNR detachment. A patriot detachment executed six Fascists, including the Prefectoral Commissioner of GAGGIO DI MARCON in the VENETO. On the PRIMAGGIORE-PORTOGRUARO line a patriot detachment attacked a German train, firing at three trucks.

PADUA. Patriots assembled in mobile detachments are very active and particularly attack small garrisons in order to obtain arms, ammunition and clothing. Patriots executed the Podesta of PERAGA. A patriot detachment engaged members of a Black Brigade in CAMPODARSEGO, killing the commander of the garrison. In PIOMBINO ten patriots, of them four were wearing GNR uniforms, called at the local GNR detachment claiming that they had the duty of examining the position of certain political prisoners. They wounded a GNR corporal and removed rifles and hand-grenades to a lorry. In ASOLO patriots executed the Artillery Colonel Luigi CAZZAVILLAN, ex-Depot Commander of the 20th Pavia Artillery Regiment.

VICENZA. Throughout the zone patriots are active, particularly carrying out sabotage. At SOLAGNA railway station, partisans, after violent fusillade, detached and derailed the locomotive of a train coming from PRIMOLANO, thus obstructing the traffic. During a clash between patriotsand a Flak detachment which was going to the help of an Alpini and GNR detachment already attacked at the ?SAN FELICITA powder magazine, an Italian NCO and a German Corporal were killed. In CARPANE patriot detachments blew up the 400 m long ? SARBUGO railway tunnel. The explosion also damaged the highroad beside the track. Rail traffic is totally interrupted and road traffic is partially stopped.

TREVISO. A partisan detachment called on the Municipal Guard of ODERZO and ordered him to deliver the keys of the record office. They then removed the mobilisation lists for the 1924-1950 classes.
(Gazzetta Ticinese 9.11.44).

TURIN Motorised elements of a patriot brigade attacked on the 11th November the Fascist garrison of SANGANO, in the Province of TURIN, where they had lost their Commander Sergio de VITIS, in a previous encounter. In this action three of the enemy were killed, nine wounded and 11 made prisoner; a great deal of arms and ammunition were also captured.

CUNEO Near ROCCA CIGLIE, in the Province of CUNEO, parties of patriots blew up the railway bridge on the TANARO at COGNE (AOSTA), and in the adjoining region at the beginning of November large German forces succeeded in defeating some groups of partisans, who retired with small losses. Afterwards, however, they made a daring attack on the enemy camp, killing 11 Germans and wounding 30, without any loss to themselves.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.11.44).

SPEZIA. During the night of 9th November, in the port of LA SPEZIA, patriots of the "Giustizia e Liberta" brigade sabotaged a ship of 8,000 tons, and blew up two big iron rafts which were anchored near the landing stage loaded with great quantities of ammunition. The explosion caused great damage to the port works, and especially to the cranes. Many Germans were killed.

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(P.W.B. Rome 22.11.44).

MODENESE APPENINES. On 5th November in the zone of BENEDELLO the Germans passed to the attack, helped by mortars and guns. There was bitter fighting until evening, when it ceased on the banks of the PANARO. The losses on both sides were considerable. Two days afterwards the Germans [illegible] the most ferocious reprisals, hunting the patriots from house to house, killing four who were in bed wounded. Those who managed to escape crossed the lines.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.11.44).

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Fascist Government's Attitude to Partisans Changing?

There is an impressi that the Fascist Government is about to effect a complete change in its attitude towards the population and partisans in northern Italy. There has recently been a series of dismissals and appointments and the new officials have apparently received orders to drop their hitherto uncompromising attitude and adopt a more conciliatory one. In numerous towns the black-out has been postponed and the police are less strict.

Fascist propaganda can be summarised as follows: "It is now clear that the war in Europe and in Italy will last throughout the coming winter. The outlook as regards food and economic problems is very black. The Fascist authorities will be faced with difficult problems. Would it not therefore be preferable to call a halt to civil war in northern Italy and try to overcome the bad times as well as possible? Let us postpone the deadly struggle between Italians for some months". These arguments undoubtedly find listeners among the anti-Fascists also as the ominous signs of winter have already begun to appear. The possibility of some kind of armistice cannot therefore be excluded.

The partisan commanders naturally oppose such ideas, though they are considering whether they ought not to reduce their effectives and limit their occupation to some of the most important strategic points in order to be able to face the difficulties of winter. The final decision, however, lies with the north Italian Committee of National Liberation and Alexander's HQ. (Der Bund, Berne 27.10.44).

Der Bund also reports that "Alexander's announcement practically demobilising Italian partisans caused great astonishment in Italy and there is no lack of bitter comment, even in anti-Fascist circles. Fascist propaganda accuses the Allies of having sacrificed thousands of young Italians only to leave them to their fate now. It is finally stressed that Mussolini's armistice with the partisans lapsed on November 30th, whereas the Allied demobilisation order was issued on November 12th. s the situation of the partisans who rejected the Fascist offer and remained in the mountains is made even more difficult". (13.11.44).

III. Subterranean Bologna.

Bologna possesses a vast subterranean net, made of a very complete sewer system. This same net enabled many people to escape from the Germans on the 8th September 43. All these sewers which cross the town in every direction and are about the height of a man standing, are 1.70 m in height and 2.70 m in width and have a pavement 30c wide. The biggest are

Via Rome, Via Ugo Bassi, Via Rizzoli, Via Maggiore, Via Mascarella Via Zamboni, Via S. Stefano, Via Castiglione, and all the avenues of the Circonvallazione.

It is obvious that with such a complete system one can pass from one part of the town to the other through the sewers. In practically/every street a

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Via Rosa, Via Ugo Bassi, Via Rizzoli, Via Maggiore, Via Mascarella
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It is obvious that with such a complete system one can pass from one part of the town to the other through the sewers. In practically every street there are holes of entrance or exit.
(P.W.B. Florence Report - Cmo Riccardo 4.11.44).

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IV. Reprisals and Mopping-up Operations.

Blackshirts belonging to the 2nd Battalion of the CREMA "Folisari" Black Brigades with the help of the Crema GNR garrison, successfully terminated brilliant mopping-up operations in the VAILATE and AGNADELLO zone. At Vailate, six escaped British prisoners were found having a meal in the house of the parish priest, GIUSEPPE AROLDI. The priest and the six prisoners were arrested. Arms, compromising documents and two cases full of books and silverware were found in the priest's house. During the same operation ten civilians were arrested, including women.
(Pomeriggio, Milan 1.11.44).

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VERONA Black Brigade detachments, reinforced by the GNR, carried out mopping-up operations in the FONTE district, capturing 18 outlaws and many arms. Subsequently the same detachments, aided by German elements, mopped up the Monte BALDO zone, between CASTELLETTO and PAI, capturing 14 outlaws with arms and ammunition. The first company of the 2nd Battalion of the Black Brigades, together with German detachments, mopped up the BEVILACQUA zone, capturing 41 outlaws, including several heads of bands.
(Pomeriggio, Milan, 1.11.44).

DOMODOSSOLA. A Fascist source reports that the Commission charged with investigating the property of inhabitants of the Val d'Ossola, who have fled to Switzerland since the re-occupation of the valley by the Germans and Fascists, held its first session at DOMODOSSOLA. It sequestrated the NEGRA sawmill, the POLLI factory, the PORTA printing works, the OSSOLANA agricultural concern and the Catena and Corso cinemas belonging to MOBILI who was Commissioner of the Giunta during the 34 days of the partisans' reign.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.11.44).

BRESCIA. The Fascist press reports that a Garibaldi Brigade was almost completely wiped out near BRESCIA. A score of partisans, caught with arms in their hands, were executed on the spot. Another mopping-up operation was carried out in the BOLOGNA region. In an engagement against about 100 partisans, 30 were killed and 20 captured and executed on the spot. Another clash is reported in the ROVIGO region in which both sides lost dead and wounded. Several partisans were captured, of whom four were immediately shot. During an attack by a strong partisan detachment against an isolated garrison in the STRADELLA hills, both sides suffered losses and ten partisans were executed on the spot. The Fascists arrested 300 suspects in the Bologna region.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse. 12.11.44).

VAL TOURNANCHE Auxiliary police detachments, German groups and Moschettieri delle Alpi carried out a mopping-up operation in the Val Tournanche, killing 12 outlaws and wounding eight. Hitherto 70 defaulters have reported to three provisional police posts, handing over their arms. Many outlaws in the mountains have been frozen to death.
(Repubblica Fascista, Milan 8.11.44).

V. Assassinations.

Fascist press reports show a notable increase lately in sabotage attacks on Fascists and German soldiers. In LECCHINO, on November 5th, two time bombs exploded in a restaurant, killing three people, including a German technician of the Tosi works and a German Major. Twelve passengers were killed owing to sabotage on the CREMO-ROVES railway.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 13.11.44).

Numerous members of the Party, Army, and administrative staff of the office [illegible] on October 28th in ORICE[illegible]

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(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.11.44).

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 13.11.44).

Numerous members of the Party, Army, and administrative staff of the office of the High Commissioner of the Adriatic coastal zone, on October 28th in OPICINA attended the funeral service for the leader of the legal section of the German Advisor for FIUME, Doctor Gerald MOSSER, who, during an official trip, was cowardly murdered by bandits.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 29.10.44).

In the VALTELLINA partisans killed six women accused of collaboration. On October 22nd, at TELARNA, in the TARTANO Valley, partisans executed the schoolmistress, Maria Zuccalli, who was also accused of collaboration.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 26.10.44).

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FASCIST FORCES.

VI. The Dissolving of the Fascist Republican Army.

The following material is based on the interrogation of Italian patriots who have recently come across the lines:.

The news transmitted by the German Agency "Transocean" officially announcing from the headquarters of Marshall Graziani that the Army, Navy and the Air Force of the Fascist Republic have been dissolved, had already been communicated by elements coming from the North who had come through the German lines. These sources have furnished the following information:-

Officers and all other ranks of the Fascist Republican Army have been freed from their oath of allegiance to the Republic, but each citizen will have to swear an oath to fight against the rebels, the brigands and the saboteurs. Whoever refuses to take this oath will be deported to the concentration camps of Germany.

The reasons why the German Command has decided to dissolve the Fascist forces may possibly be:

1. The desire to put a stop to any kind of misunderstanding. The Fascist Republican Army was created because it was believed that it would collaborate in the war. After some months, however, it became apparent that no positive result had been obtained, and this army was kept merely for propaganda.

2. To maintain armed forces which could not be relied upon as an ally would mean in the case of a rapid Allied advance the creation behind the lines of a large number of armed and equipped deserters.

3. Owing to the recent dispositions it is believed that in Italy would be left only those who had given proof of their fidelity to Nazi Germany and who would represent a large enough force, not only as a rearguard for the German troops, but also for use as proper groups of snipers and saboteurs.
(P.W.B. Florence).

VII. Fascist Atrocities.

In spite of first-hand reports of the death of KOCH, the torturer of Milan, rumours are still being circulated that he is still alive and operating with his gang. "Popolo e Liberta, Bollinzona" of 9.11.44 states "The Fascist press report published a few weeks ago stating that partisans had ambushed and killed the torturer Hoch near TURIN is false. Koch's band has been fully reconstitued.

In May-June of this year, after the execution by partisans of the Political Secretary of S. MARCO, near RAVENNA, a few days before, the Black Brigade went to the houses of the most notable anti-Fascists in Ravenna with the intention of arresting 40, according to a predisposed list and shooting them. They only found

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In the meantime the third man, who had remained alone in the car, took advantage of the opportunity to escape. Gaudenzi was left for dead on the ground, but he was not mortally wounded. He dragged himself to a house nearby, where they kept him, and the same night was taken to hospital. He has since recovered and is hidden in another part of the country
(P.W.B. Rome, Paganelli. Brunetto di Pasquale 8.11.44).

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VIII. Charges against Diamanti.

The charges have become known against former General of the Militia, DIAMANTI, who was arrested in MILAN on September 22nd in his office, while Commander of the Republican Forces in the LOMBARDY region. Diamanti is accused of commercial swindles and continued embezzlement, prevarication, extortion etc. While living in VERCELLI as Head of the Army Office, Diamanti took a 25% "commission" on military supplies, thus pocketing several million lire. Lt. of the GNR, Gian RITI, has been arrested for complicity.

The MILAN District Military HQ was the scene of another scandal when, on September 19th, a captain of the Artillery, Francesco MANCUSO and Lts. Giuseppe GRISPELLO and Giovanni FAVET were arrested. They had compiled a large number of forms for the delegation of powers concerning the payment of war idemnities and allowances due to Italian soldiers in Germany. They had these forms presented for payment by third persons and then appropriated the cash.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 27.10.44).

GERMANS

IX. The N.S.K.K.

This German body formed by volunteers from FRANCE, BELGIUM and HOLLAND, is mainly used for transportation of food and ammo to the Luftwaffe and Flak Artillerie. It originally had 4 Bns, commanded by a German general:-

1 FRENCH Bn of 1,000 men
1 BELGIAN Bn of 1,200 men
1 FLEMISH Bn of 2,000 men
1 GERMAN Bn of 3,000 men

Each Bn was commanded by an Oberstaffelfuhrer. The French Bn came to Italy from Belgium a year ago and set up in BRESCIA. After one month, its 4 coys and Bn HQ were dispersed; one coy going to MANTUA and the 4th Coy, together with Bn. HQ. going to PAROLA, NW of VERONA. The Bn HQ was still stationed there in September.

Personalities.

OC Bn Oberstaffelfuhrer SEGEL
OC 4 Coy Capt STROLL
Oberstarmfuhrer VOLL

In addition each coy has 3 FRENCH officers and GERMAN and FRENCH N.C.Os.

Each Coy should have 4 columns of 25 trucks each plus staff cars for commanders. 4 Coy has only two columns. Petrol was short and spare parts non-existent.

Pay ORs. 125 lire per 10 days
NCOs 250 " " "

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Each Coy should have 4 columns of 25 trucks each plus staff cars for commanders. 4 Coy has only two columns. Petrol was short and spare parts non-existent.

Pay ORs. 125 lire per 10 days
NCOs 260 " " "
Offrs. 400 " " "
Family allowance, 4,000 lire per month.

Large profits were made by trading with civilians. Petrol was sold to civilians at 35 lire per litre. Officers also were involved in this traffic, but, while ORs were severely punished if found guilty (2 were shot for having sold 50 litres of petrol), officers could safely deal on a big scale in Black Market transactions.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No. 48)

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X. Dispositions and Strategy

RAVENNA. It has been reported that Ravenna is now comparatively empty of Germans. There are only about 1,500 left, distributed on the north-east and south-east outskirts of the town as far as PORTOFUORI, whilst on the South and South-west there are only inspection patrols
(P.W.B. Rome Pagnanelli, Brunette di Pasquale 8.11.44).

UDINE There is a German HQ (type unknown but thought to be a kind of Area or town HQ) in Via AQUILA. It is stated that there are only about 200-250 German troops in the town, but about 1,000 - 1,500 Militia and Esercito Repubblicano (P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

Germans Repair Simplon Line. Repair work is progressing on the Simplon line between ISELLE and DOMODOSSOLA. The track has already been repaired between ISELLE and VARZO. German workers are now repairing the track damaged by partisans during the German-Fascist attack near PREGLIA. It is expected that traffic between DOMODOSSOLA and BRIGUE will be resumed within a fortnight.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.11.44).

Martial Law Proclaimed in Emilia. According to well-informed sources, martial law has been proclaimed throughout Emilia, not only involving the suspension of public entertainment, but prohibiting all persons from forming groups. It is reported that curfew starts at 1900 hrs and citizens are obliged to close all windows but leave doors open in order to facilitate police action.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 7.11.44).

German Strategic Plans? Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona writes 1.11.44: "It is now confirmed that the Germans intend to resist to the utmost on the Italian front; four divisions at full strength, chiefly composed of Alpine troops, have recently arrived from Germany. Kesselring originally hoped that the Gothic line would resist throughout the winter, but being disappointed in this, the Germans hastened to prepare a new and formidable line of defence. Desperate resistance before BOLOGNA in the Apennines, and before RAVENNA is intended in order to permit the completion of the new line, which, almost the whole of the local male and female population has been mobilised to build. The new line runs roughly from CHIOGGIA to GARDA, along the Euganean Hills, and ends at the STELVIO. Fresh units from Germany are being concentrated in the PESCHIERA, VERONA, MANTUA, LEGNANO quadrilateral. The Germans expect a big Allied offensive which would probably have begun already if bad weather had not favoured the defenders.

It is, however, a mistake to think that the Germans are prepared to retire without more ado to their new fortified positions. Instead they are prepared to hold a series of delaying lines, the first of which runs from Apuania along the outlying spurs of the Tuscan and the heights of the Modena Apennines, through IMOLA and ARGENTA to the COMACCHIO marshes. The second runs from RAPALLO along [illegible] to the PO. The third runs along the TICINO

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there are only inspection patrols
(P.W.B. Rome Pagnanelli, Brunette di Pasquale 8.11.44).

UDINE There is a German HQ (type unknown but thought to be a kind of Area or Town HQ) in Via AQUILA. It is stated that there are only about 200-250 German troops in the town, but about 1,000 - 1,500 Militia and Esercito Repubblicano (P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

Germans Repair Simplon Line. Repair work is progressing on the Simplon line between ISELLE and DOMODOSSOLA. The track has already been repaired between ISELLE and VARZO. German workers are now repairing the track damaged by partisans during the German-Fascist attack near PREGLIA. It is expected that traffic between DOMODOSSOLA and BRIGUE will be resumed within a fortnight.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.11.44).

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1270

XI. Behaviour and Morale.

It is reported that while in the towns of northern Italy the Germans behave like "gentlemen", in the country and forward areas they loot the houses, take cattle away and burn houses in the villages. The town of RAVENNA is being looted by the Germans and Cossacks.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

This information is released by Military Consorship for all propaganda exedpt for items side-lined.

A recent report from a refugee who crossed the lines states that "there is a scarcity of heavy machine guns in the German army. Their uniform is moderately good, the [illegible] is noticeably partly Italian; shoes are good. Lately there has been a skin affection among the German troops in the zone of VILLE UNITE (CERVIA) which takes the form of a kind of boil and wounds on the legs and neck. Transport and petrol are very scarce here, so the Germans are obliged to make use of any means they may find on the spot.

Discipline is still firm in the companies. They are divided up into houses. In this way they avoid being victims of Allied Air attacks or partisans. The men are very demoralised because they never see any of the Luftwaffe.

At MATELICA (CASTIGLIONE DI RAVENNA), in the middle of October the Germans destroyed an entire section of the village in order to use the material taken from the ruins to make a ford across the river Sacio. The population had only half an hour's notice, absolutely insufficient, to evacuate their houses. (P.W.B. Rome Pagenelli, Brunotto di Pasquale 8.11.44).

A very reliable source recently returned from the southern Alps declares that the morale of the German soldiers on the Franco-Italian frontier is very low, and suggests that radio and leaflet propaganda should be itensified. (Confidential Source 23.11.44).

About the night of November 15th at S. QUIRINO, nine km north of PORDENONE, two groups of AUSTRIANS, about 30 strong, deserters from VIENNA DIVISION met and clashed. When the mistake was discovered they joined forces. Austrians in the Vienna Division are not allowed leave for fear that they should join the partisans.
(Confidential Source 27.11.44).

The following are the words of a German prisoner on conditions in his regiment: "On October 21st Lt. Col. HARMES, commanding my regiment, passed us in review and read an order to us commenting on it. This order prescribed that every Commander of Platoon or squadron is obliged to execute any man who tries to abandon his position. If the commander does not execute this order he himself will be put to death by the commander of the company. The same thing for the Battalion commanders in respect to the Company commanders.. All soldiers who do not resist to the last in a position will be brought to the regimental Command and one out of every five will be shot. After reading this order Lt. Col Harmes gave the names of the first 20 soldiers who had been shot.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.11.44).

XII, Transfer of Machinery etc. to Germany.

On the electric railway lines TURIN-BUSSOLENO, TURIN-ASTI, CUNEO-CEVA, the Germans are removing the copper wire used for the transmission of current and one of the two rails. The machinery of the Junghans factories on the Giudecca has already been transferred to Germany. The German authorities and the IRI are discussing a standard contract between German and Italian firms for the [illegible] of machinery to Germany.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788221

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.11.44).

Libera Stampa, Lugano, also reports on 6.11.44. During the last few days the dispatch of Italian products to Germany has been intensified by all available means including river barges. In addition to the dispatch of three trains with 60 trucks carrying rice from the NOVARA and LOMELLINA districts, 5000 cows, and 6000 quintals of sugar have been requisitioned in VENETO and EMILIA and sent across the BRENNER.

The Germans have also removed one of the tracks of the double-tracked GENOA-RAPALLO line and taken the dismantled material to Germany. It is reported that they have begun to remove one track of the State Railway's line from COMO to MILAN.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 7.11.44).

SECRET

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SECRET
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XIII. Atrocities.

On the 8th October the village of SASSOLEONE (L 9922) was burnt and the women and children killed by 1 Company, 8th Battalion, 4 FOLA Division Engineers. (Confidential Source 29.11.44).

At S. ZACCARIA (Comune of Castiglione di Ravenna) a certain ARIANO, called RUCHI was hung on August 28th in front of his own house and left there for two days because he was found in possession of an Italian rifle "91". The truth was that he was a "Gappista", but the Germans did not know this. They had come from the front and were in the hayloft belonging to Ruchi, where they found the gun, and they therefore killed him as the only young in habitant of the house. (P.W.B. Rome Paganelli, Bruncttc di Pasquale 8.11.44).

German atrocities continue on the civilian population at CASTIGLIASO (10 k from Bologna) Forty people were first machine-gunned and then hung up after death. In MONTE - RENZIO four families, including two children under six months were killed. (34 km from BOLOGNA)
(Confidential Source 27.11.44).

XIV. German propaganda.

Leaflets dropped at the end of August in the RAVENNA area showed niggers in the act of snatching and violating women in the town of SIENA. The vignettes and description were headed by the title "Facts in Siena".

Other leaflets contained stories of Italians who had crossed the lines and said that in liberated Italy the Italians were abandoned to themselves; that there was no provision for the food problem, which was very grave, and no help to put the public services, light, transport, railways etc. in working order.
(P.W.B. Rome Panarelli, Brunetto di Pasquale 8.11.44).

On 23rd October the Fascist radio stations in northern Italy were being jammed by jamming signals with the same characteristic signal as those used by Germany. No jamming on these stations had been noticed previous to this date, but on several occasions after the 23rd the Fascist stations were badly jammed and in all probability jamming is originating in Germany.
(P.W.B. Unit No 12 Radio Section 8.11.44).

A British IILO made the following statement on German atrocities at FORLI.

"I went to MR 403120 where I was confronted by a number of wooping women. I inspected seven bodies of Italian Civilians, all male, which been removed from the well nearby and obtained the following information:

1. All bodies were tied by the hands.
2. All bodies had been shot through the head at close range.
3. The seven bodies were those of men who were in MERLINO FRAZIONE VECCHIAZZANO on the evening of the 7th November 1944. 12 Germans, a Lt. commanding, gave the order that all the women get out of the house, and all the men remain. [illegible] men had been living in the same house. The women left at about

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A British IILO made the following statement on German atrocities at FORLI.

"I went to MR 403120 where I was confronted by a number of weeping women. I inspected seven bodies of Italian Civilians, all male, which been removed from the well nearby and obtained the following information:

1. All bodies were tied by the hands.
2. All bodies had been shot through the head at close range.
3. The seven bodies were those of men who were in MERLINO FRAZIONE VECCHIAZZANO on the evening of the 7th November 1944. 12 Germans, a Lt. commanding, gave the order that all the women get out of the house, and all the men remain. All the nine men had been living in the same house. The women left at about 1900 hrs on 7th Nov.

The following day one of the women called at the house and asked for her husband, VERITA GUILIO. She was told by the same German officer that there were no Italian men there, and who was pushed out of the house at the point of a pistol. The German officer disclaimed any knowledge of any Italian male ever being there. Signora Verita returned to the other women. 1269

On the morning of November 9th the Germans left owing to a threat of being cut off, and the women returned to the house. They found the bodies of their husbands, sons and fathers in the well. The only reasons for this outrage appear to be that one of the sons killed was 20 years of age. He should have apparently reported for inclusion in the Fascist forces. He had not done so.
(Main HQ 8th Army 15.11.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
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ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XV. Reception of Radio.

UDINE. Permission to possess radio sets is officially limited to members of the Fascist Party, but a number of other people possess them. Friends of subject listened to Radio Bari each day at 1200 hrs.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

BOLOGNA. The London station is listened to generally, especially the transmission of 22.30 hrs on 31/2 metre wave length, and it is not very distrubed. In the country, where all the wireless sets have been confiscated, the leaflets dropped from the air, have been much appreciated.
(P.W.B. Florence report (Cmo Ricardo) 4.11.44).

STIENTA. The most listened to station was the BBC, and in particular the programmes "La Voce di Londra" and the BBC to Europe in French. The main listening periods for the former were at 0830 hrs and 1200 hrs. The usual method was as follows: a group of people, usually small in number, would listen to the news and then individually spread it among the population. A regular organisation was set up for this purpose. Most of the sets here were battery sets of rather poor quality and therefore trouble was experienced with fading No electric power was available for the ordinary citizen. Replacement parts were available through subversive channels and batteries were also changed in this way.

Most stations were either heavily jammed or an attempt was made to do so. However, on one wave length or another, it was possible to receive La Voce di Londra consistently.

The penalty in VERONA for being caught listening to our radio programmes was confiscation of sets, ransacking of house and usually gaol.

Informant says that great reliance is placed on news and propaganda heard from Allied stations. Counter propaganda, as might be expected, is considerable. Source heard from the SBC that the Americans were on the outskirts of BOLOGNA and this seems to have prompted him to make a break through. However, upon reaching Bologna, he discovered that the 8th Army was still 16 km away and so went back to Ravenna and came through there. He was quite naturally surprised at this inaccuracy.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

POLITICS.

XVI. Fascist Republican Propaganda.

The Fascist Republican Ministry of Propaganda is located in the PALAZZO MOCENIGO on CANAL GRANDE in VENICE. At present, the ministry employs about 600 people. The headquarters in VENICE also controls the Italian broadcasting station "E.I.A.R." (Ente Italiano Audizione Radiofoniche) which is located in TURIN and the Army Propaganda office with headquarters at GARDONE SUL GARDA (F-2959) The Republican propaganda at present is based on fabulous tales of the New Secret Weapons and the threat of Russian Communism. A recent paper

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dropped from the air, have been much appreciated.
(P.W.B. Florence report (Cmo Ricardo) 4.11.44).

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(P.W.B. 5th Army Report 18.11.44).

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(P.W.B. AFHQ A.A.I. (From 5th Army Report No 820).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 0321

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XVII. Political Amnesty Proclaimed.

Italian Home Service 28.10.44 gave a decree by which Mussolini proclaimed an amnesty remitting sentences of up to three years' imprisonment for all political and many other crimes. Those guilty of default from the call-up or refusal of military service, as well as thosewho have absented themselves from compulsory labour, are included in the amnesty on the condition that they report within eight days of the publication of the decree.

XVIII. Mussolini's Family

Some members of Mussolini's family are living in MILAN incognito, including VITTORIO MUSSOLINI, who lives at the Touring Hotel under the false name of TITO LOMBARDONE. He is writing a novel which will appear under the name of "Guido".

XIX. Fascists' Panic Rush for Safety.

Since the administration of the Fascist Party was transferred to MILAN from VERONA on October 14th the housing crisis has become more acute in MILAN Many hierarchs' committees, offices, Ministries and sub-Ministries have established themselves in Milan. Fascist officials and employees, including refugee hierarchs from liberated Italy, insist on being well-housed and provided with every household comfort, expelling former residents or installing themselves as arrogant guests. Many Fascist refugees went to the Lake District, but were obliged to return, finding the VARESE and COMO regions already full of their colleagues who had arrived earlier on. In the NOVARA district their stay is disturbed by the activity of the patriots. Recently, the ex-Federal Commissioner of PISA drove his family so hurriedly through Piazza Cavour in COMO that he ended in the lake. One of his daughters was drowned.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona, 7.11.44).

XX. Cione's Ideas for New Party.

Edmond CIONE, who wrote a series of abject articles in Corriere della Sera against his own master Benedetto CROCE, has been received by Mussolini, who apparently wants to use his theories for the foundation of a New Nationalist Party to replace Fascism, which everybody realises is dead. The new Party's motto would be "Via dall'Italia tutti stranieri, Tedeschi, Anglo-Americani etc.".
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 11.11.44).

XXI. Appointments.

The Prefecture announces that by a decree on October 20th the Extraordinary Commissioner for PIEDMONT, acting on the proposal of the Head of the Province, has appointed Professor Doctor Agostino CERUTTI Commissioner for the Extraordinary Administration of the TURIN Savings Bank, and Doctor Emanuele BATTISTELLI Commissioner for the Extraordinary Administration of the Piedmont Federal Institute of Agricultural Credit.
(Gazzetta del Popolo, Turin 26.10.44).

The Secretary of the PFR, under a decree dated November 7th, has appointed Dr. Angelo ROGNONI Federal Commissioner of PARMA instead of ROMUALDI who has been

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Italian Home Service 7.11.44).

Comandante Giulio SEGNO, organiser of the Seamen's Trade Union, has been appointed Podesta of GENOA. Alfredo CAVAGLIANI a worker in the Ansaldo Company and member of the factory committee of the Fossati establishment, and Giovanni LOMBARDO, a tramway worker, member of the factory committee of "Unita" have both been appointed Deputy Podesta of GENOA.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 7.11.44).

SECRET

1268

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759231

SECRET
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The Head of the Province of PAVIA has proposed to the Minister of the Interior the appointment of the Fascist Formo GROSSETTI, industrial technician, as Podesta, and Domenico GRAZIOLI, clerk, and Emilio GUGLIELMETTI, printer, neither of whom belong to the Fascist Party, as Deputy Podesta.
(Italian Home Service 2.11.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXII. Food Situation.

A period of grave food shortage, particularly as regards fats, will probably begin about December in northern Italy. As it is not possible to transport to Germany the stock of 30,000 quintals of frozen meat in deposits south of the Po, the German military authorities have placed it at the disposal of the Fascist authorities, but as they did not supply the means of transport, the frozen meat cannot be distributed.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 11.11.44).

UDINE (to October 18th 44)

The food situation is as follows:-

Bread 150 gms per head per day. Lire 2.30 kg.
Black Market. Lire 80 per kg.

Macaroni Not seen for past two months against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 140/150/ kg.

Salt 100 gms per month. Lire 7 per kg.
Black Market. Lire 120 per kg.

Oil. None obtainable for past three months against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 900/1000 per litre.

Meat. Not issued against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 250/300 per kg.

Cigarettes Black Market;

"Nazionale"	10 cigs.	Lire 40
"Macedonia"	" "	" 45
"Serraglio"	20 cigs	" 100/110
"Popolare"	10 "	35.

Sugar Black Market Lire 150/170 per kg.

A great deal of Polenta is eaten as well as Minestra.

Water supply is normal. Electricity available, but in limited quantity.

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Black Market. Lire 80 per kg.

Macaroni Not seen for past two months against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 140/150/ kg.

Salt 100 gms per month. Lire 7 per kg.
Black Market. Lire 320 per kg.

Oil. None obtainable for past three months against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 900/1000 per litre.

Meat. Not issued against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 250/300 per kg.

Cigarettes Black Market;

"Nazionale"	10 cigs.	Lire 40
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Sugar Black Market Lire 150/170 per kg.

A great deal of Polenta is eaten as well as Minestra.

Water supply is normal. Electricity available, but in limited quantity.

FERRARA.

The whole of this area of Italy, north, south, east and west of FERRARA (in the flat plain of the PO) has a considerable sugar-beet industry, with many sugar refineries. In FERRARA city and throughout the Province, sugar for 9 months has already been distributed to the population.

The growing of wheat is also extensive in this region; the crop has been excellent, and owing to transport difficulties, the Germans have not been able to take this away. The crop has been extensively distributed to the population, on the basis of about a 12 months supply. Hemp is also grown here, and the crop has been dealt with. The fruit crop has suffered somewhat, due to lack of labour to pick it, but a certain amount of the apple crop has been picked, which will be made into jam etc.

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The population, therefore, should not be short of food, excepting in, perhaps, certain cases where distribution difficulties may have prevented some individual families from receiving their supplies. Such a shortage will be purely local, but the food exists and in good quantities. It may be hidden.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 48).

BOLOGNA. (up to beginning of October 44).

The food situation is fairly satisfactory; apart from the general rations which are regularly distributed, with the exception of oil which since Tuscany was liberated is completely lacking, every now and again extra supplementary rations are given.

Bread	200 gr	per day	(workmen 400 gr)
Rice	1000 "	" month	
Pasta	1200 "	" "	
Sugar	-		
Butter	100 "	" "	
Lard	50 "	" "	
Salt	200 "	" "	
Jam	only for children up to three years and old people.		
Eggs	2 each month.		

Black Market.

The maximum prices on the Black Market are as follows:

Flour	20-25 lire the kg.
Meat	120-130 " " "
Butter	400 " " "
Wine	100 " " bottle
Oil	1300-1400 " "
Wood	200-250 " " quintal
Soft coal	1500-1600 lire the quintal
Coke	400-500 " " "
Leather shoes	1300-1400 lire the pair.

(P.W.B. Florence 4.11.44)
Omo, Riccardo.

XXIII. Transport.

COMO. The Central Transport Office announces: New regulations come into force today (November 1st) for motor bus and motor lorry traffic. In order to economise fuel and rubber, transport by lorry of new or old furniture and household goods is forbidden.
(Provincia di Como 1.11.44).

With regard to the requisitioning of bicycles, "which can be looked upon as concluded," Corriere della Sera publishes the following notice specifying the classes of workers exempted from the requisition

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 7.11.44).

XXIV. Fuel and Power.

1267

The solid fuel department of the Ministry of Corporative Economy announces that industrial establishments possessing sufficient stocks of solid fuel may apply for permission to release part of them for heating purposes in favour of their own employees who are the heads of families. Applications should be sent to the department concerned in MILAN which retains the right to effect such reductions as are deemed essential For obvious reasons, the quantities to be released will be very limited. The distribution of fuel without the relevant authorisation will be punished.

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TURIN Should the suspension of electric power in Turin prove absolutely necessary the current will, as from November 1st, be cut from 08.00 to 1300 in southern districts, and from 1300 to 1800 in the northern districts. The above measure through which existing arrangements are reversed, has been taken for reasons of equity. The industries should modify their working hours accordingly.
(Stampa, Turin 29.10.44).

MILAN The Milan press reports that the poor inhabitants of the city have recently been felling trees in the streets and parks for firewood. Corriere della Sera, though defending the inhabitants' rights to procure fuel by whatever means, nevertheless draws the attention of the authorities to the fact, simultaneously demanding that poor families should be given wood in order to spare Milan the mutilation which would be felt particularly after the war.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.11.44).

COMO Considering the very limited amount of available fuel the Head of the Province of Como has decreed that all private stocks exceeding 300 kg of coal and 1000 kg of wood must be notified by their owners to the Provincial Council of Cooperative Economy, failing which the stocks in question will be confisdated without prejudice to other penalties.
(Provincia di Como 6.11.44).

BOLOGNA. Electric power is distributed regularly during the day without interruption. Gas is distributed only during certain hours of the day on account of the scarcity of coal, in fact there was such a difficulty about coal that the total suspension of gas was foreseen. The last consignment was to the sugar factory outside Porta Lama, which was completely destroyed by an Allied bombardment.
(P.W.B. Florence Report 4.11.44 Como, Riccards.)

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

UDINE The railway station has been badly damaged by Allied air raids and civilian travel is prohibited

BOLZANO The town of Bolzano has been practically destroyed; the station does not exist, northe railway lines of BOLZANO-MERANO-MALES VENOSTA, which are completely interrupted.
(P.W.B. Florence Report 5.[illegible] Ferri, Mario).

BOLOGNA The B.I.A.R. Building in Piazza S. Martino has not been hit by the Allied bombardments.

VENICE. The record number of alerts in one day in VENICE is 14, the daily average being six. At the end of the causeway joining the city to the mainland there are bomb craters. The inhabitants often hear the crash of the coastal artillery in the Adriatic positions and, usually several times daily the thunder of the German-Italian AA guns.... For six months now Venice has been without water supply, as bombs destroyed the water supply Yet, in spite of the heat there were no epidemics. At every alert the light is switched off, and all other wartime restrictions prevail.
([illegible] 6.11.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788027

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(Transocean 5.11.44).

XXVI. Trade.

For the first time in 15 months an official statement regarding Italian foreign trade has been published. Since 25.7.44 decisive changes have been noticeable. While, during the second half of 1942 Germany only received 61% of Italian exports, her share during the first six months of 1944 was over 97%. Italy was thus practically only trading with Germany. In spite of this, the total volume of Italian foreign trade has not decreased, but even slightly increased if the reduction of the area of Italy caused by war conditions is taken into account.

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In view of transport difficulties, this fact depicts the cleverness with which the problem has been solved. While the value of German exports to Italy increased by 7.5%, the volume fell by 2%. The value of Italian exports to Germany has increased by almost 9%, whilst the volume has diminished by 7%. The figure proves that Italy has again abandoned the policy observed last winter of resuming the exchange of goods with non-German foreign countries which had almost entirely ceased.
(Europa-Kabel, Amsterdam 27.10.44).

LABOUR.

XXVII. Strikes.

A general strike in Lombardy may be called at any moment. The Fascist authorities have promised, however, to consider the workers' demands regarding the food situation. Consequently the workers' representatives have decided to postpone the date of the strike.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 3.11.44).

STIENTA There are about 3,000 Frenchmen working in the TODT organisation. Bourse believes that they would desert if approached directly by Allied propaganda. He mentioned that regular lectures were being given to these people and to Italians, stressing that Allied propaganda was a pack of lies and that it was impossible that the Allies would ever come near Berlin.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

CHURCH.

XXVIII. Alleged Plan to Restore Temporal Power of Pope.

The MilanCatholic newspaper"Italia" and Corriere della Sera are carrying on lively polemics over the question whether Rome should return to the rule of the Pope. In a leading article which some even believe to have been inspired by Cardinal Schuster, Italia denied that the Italian clergy intended to cooperate in political action whereby Rome would be detached from Italy and returned to the Papacy. The newspaper admitted, however, that other nations were planning to make the Eternal City into the capital of Christianity... It is regarded as possible that the Pope himself may take the next opportunity to express his opinion publicly on this important decision.
(Der Bund 11.11.44).

XXIX. Anti-Fascist Priest.

The priest Giuseppe [illegible], of the village of (VILATE?) Lombardy, hid six Allied pilots in his home for over a year, and it is reported that only a few people in the region knew of this. According to Regime Fascists, Aroldi will probably be sentenced to death.

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(Aftenbladet 1.11.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXX. Atrocities in Bassano.

Altogether 137 Italians were hanged in BASSANO. The man responsible is Lieut. CASSERMAN, the German commander of Bassano garrison. Other s bearing responsibility are the inhabitants of Bassano and the members of 22 Civilian Brigata Nera, who took part in the GRAPPA offensive, and later forced people of Bassano to watch the hangings. Professor SPAGNOLOLELIO of VIALE VENEZIA, the Fascist Commissario of BASSANO and Commander of the Brigata Nera, Doctor BERTIZZOLO

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770221

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Podesta of Bassano, and a Captain in the Brigata Nera Doctor DALLOLIO ERNESTO and his son MILLO, TITA COMIS, a Squadrista, Doctor SANDRIN and Son, ANTONIO TONIOLO afascist propagandist and correspondent of Il Popolo Vicentino, MARTINATO, PARROCCO, VITTORELLI, a wholesale tobacco merchant, MASON an excise officer, GIUSEPPE FAVORO and PANZIERI of Rome, Chief of the Secret Police at Bassano. Also guilty of brutality during the drive against the partisans are GIANNI COMPORINI of MERONTICA, ex-Commander of the Brigata Nera of ZOCCA; also PERILLO of the Italian Intelligence Service, but who usually wears German uniform of the FLICH and who interrogates partisan prisoners.
(Confidential Source 14.11.44).

XXXI. Personalities in Udine, Modena, S. Giovanni in Persiceto, S. Agata Bolognese, Parma, Turin [illegible].

UDINE Capo della Provincia: BARTOLUTTI, Antonio
Segretario Federale: GINA, Gino.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

MODENA. Captain MULLERO commands the SS of the town. He is a German spy, ledding light of the Black Brigade, an ex-sergeant who now dresses as a Lt. of the Black Guard. He is hated by everyone, and because he is so small is known as "Nano" (the dwarf).

S. GIOVANNI IN PERSICETO

LINI, ex.station master of AMOLA in PERSICETO, has committed acts of violence and abuse.

S. AGATA BOLOGNESE

ZABBELLI
PUNO MAGNANI both spies.

PARMA

VENTURINI, Vice Questore, ex naval officer.
Has denounced and condemned many patriots.

VALLI ex federale. Head of the Province of PARMA. He is helped in his anti-patriot task by BERNADINI and a certain PANICARI.

(P.W.B. Florence 16.10.44).

CAMPETELO DI FONTANELLATO (Province of Parma)

MAESTRO. This man sheltered two South African PW, namely 13567 Pte. LEE, [illegible] and Pte., DU PREEZ. He had both these P W arrested by the Germans about the 20th September 43. It was also known that Maestro supplied the Germans with a list of names of Italians who sheltered PW and the names of the PW sheltered by them.

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(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

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(C.S.D.I.C. Interrogation Report).

ROSCA, (Province of Parma).

CELESTE. All civilians in the area are convinced that it was this man who betrayed the 10 British soldiers on 25th December 1943.

"EDOARDO" About 15th June 44 this man was the leader of a partisan band of about 70 men. He got three launches of kit, but distributed none of it amongst his band. Much he sold, but there is still a quantity of ammo and clothing hidden in his house.

(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

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TURIN.

M.SELLI
CUNZI. Both from the political office of the Turin Questura

CAUPO and FELTRE (P.W.B. Rome 15.11.44)

LUNGO Podesta of Caupo
BOLZANELLO Podesta of Feltre are responsible for the hangings at ARTEN. The fires were ordered by MENUZZO, Communal Secretary of VALSTAGNO (Vicenza) and inspector of the Secret Police.
(P.W.B. Rome 13.11.44).

COMO

Some of the names of the Special Fascist Tribunal in Como.

Senator GIOVANNI CERCHIARI, President of the Tribunal
VINCENZO CORTICELLI, Lawyer, Public Prosecutor.
Doctor ANATOLIO GINO PAPINI, member of the tribunal
GIOVANNI SERVENTI " " " "

(P.W.B. Rome 16.11.44).

XXXII. Black Brigade Fascist.

The Black Brigade of RAVENNA is commanded by ADELMO MAZZOTTI, During the Fascist period he worked at the Interconserziale Romagna works of chemical manures, but was always in the pay of the Fascist Federation.
(P.W.B. Rome Report 8.11.44).

XXXIII. Germans in Brescia.

HERMANN PANZER. Native of Milan and ex officer of the Austrian Army. Since 1935 has been the Director of the Pensions HOLL in GARDONE SUL GARDA. This Pensione became a centre for the collection of information of political and military character and German secret agents came there continually to collect information. His daughter ERTA was very useful to Panzer as she travelled constantly between Germany and Italy. Hermann Panzer has contact with the German agents resident in Rome. He was also helped in his activities by his brothers OTTO and WILLY. Otto is proprietor of the Parc Hotel of Merano, and was elected Vice-Podesta in that town In 1942 he write a letter to the Duce asking the favour of serving in the Italian Army with the same rank as he had had in the Austrian army, and was therefore assigned as Captain to the 2nd Alpine Artillery regiment serving also as adjutant. WILLY, a Lt of the 2nd Grenadier Regiment worked at the Central Censorship office in BOLOGNA. He was Director of the Dolomite Hotel at S. MARTINO DI CASTROZZA and recently of the Grand Hotel built at TRENTO (P.W.B. Florence report 16.10.44).

XXXIV. Criminals of FORLI and LA SPEZIA etc.

Corporal ANTONIO FERRARI of FERRARA and ATTEL CRIZZI of FORLIMPOPOLI took

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778127

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(P.W.B. Florence report 16.10.44).

XXXIV. Criminals of FORLI and LA SPEZIA etc.

Corporal ANTONIO FERRARI of FERRARA and ANGEL CRIZZI of FORLIMPOPOLI took a prominent part in the recent massacres of 57 people at SAN PIETRO DI BAGNO

ARPINI, Prefetto of LA SPEZIA helps the Germans in the destruction and sacking of towns.

ALBERTO LANOCCA, Maresciallo di Publica Sicurezza of LA SPEZIA hunts out anti-Fascists for the Germans. 1265

MARCOBELIO, Commander of the Black Brigade of LA SPEZIA is a successor of Borgonini who was executed by the patriots.

VITTO SCIOTTA, Engineer, Commander of the Black Brigade of CHIAVARI, and Vice-Federale of [illegible] is the [illegible] criminal in the area and responsible for [illegible] y patriots.
(Confidential Source 28.11.44).

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

20th November 1944

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12 APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 31.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 31.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship, for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I Disposition of Partisan Bands.

RAVENNA Area. Information about the organisation of bands in the Ravenna Area is now fairly complete. The military commander and liaison officer from the BOLOGNA Committee of Liberation is a Major "Bulow"; other personalities are "Falco", who is chief of GAPs (Patriot Action Groups, who are more or less full time partisans operating in the plains), and "Zolet", who is chief of SAPs (Patriot action Squads composed of week end saboteurs).

Partisans under "Bulow" command are organised in 28 "Mario Gordeni" Brigade and the "Terzo Lori" Detachment. there is also a Ravenna Battalion which is attached to 36 Garibaldi Brigade on the Eastern slopes of the Appenines. 28 Brigade, which has been in existence since last winter, consists of GAPs or, as they are styled by their commander "flying squads", which were organised in five detachments, now reduced to four since one was over-run at CERVIA. These seem to be midway between underground sabotage groups, and military units since personnel, though full-time partisans, live in scattered hide-outs, (usually the homes of sympathisers), and only come together for particular actions. As a result, however, of the recent thinning out of German troops throughout the area, these groups are now beginning to develop into regular bands.

The "Terzo Lori" Detachment, on the other hand, has, since its formation at the beginning of August, lived together as a unit, and is at present camping out (unbeknown to the Germans), in the pine woods on an isolated part of the coast NE of RAVENNA between VALLE DELLE VENE (M 6152) and the CORSINI Canal (M 6042). Owing to the impossibility of a force of any size penetrating the marshes in the hinterland this area is unoccupied by the Germans, except for a few coastal guns and Turcomans to the North and South of the partisans' camping ground.

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conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship, for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

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There are also believed to be small units to the North of the "Terzo Lori" Detachment, and on the same model, in the flooded land round the COMACCHIO lagoon, but precise information is lacking. They do not appear to be under command of "Bulow" and have probably grown up since the combination of the area which presumably followed the discovery by the Germans [illegible] summer, that the Allies were landing supplies in this area.

FAENZA area.

It is uncertain whether a [illegible] under 28 or 29 G.P Brigade. West of FAENZA a partisan band "BIANCOCINI" (some 1,100 strong under "Bob" from [illegible]) 36 Garibaldi Brigade, formerly operated in the Eastern Appenines up to the area of MERADI (M 0501) -

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P..L.ZZOLO (M)305) - C..STEL DEL RIO (M 0016). It consisted of:

.. Brigade entirely composed of men from ROM.GN., including a battelion from R.VENN.. of some 250 men.

4th Brigade, which contained men from B.LOGN. and IMOL.

Remnants of 66 G.RIB.LDI Brigade from C.STEL BOLOGNESE NW of F.ENZ. (M 2427);

.bout the end of .ugust 66 Brigade had to disperse owing to German pressure. The Brigade split up into two detachments; 1st Detachment consisting of men from the BOLOGN. area, after operating in the M. F.GGIOL. area (R 0190) moved towards BOLOGN. in September; 2nd Detachment, which consisted of the men from ROM.GN., remained in the old location. The greater part of both detachments has probably been over-run, but definite information is lacking.

.rea MERC.TO S.R.CENO (R 6587) - S. PIERO in B.GNO (R 3776) S.SOFI. (R 3288)

The remains of S G.RIB..LDI Brigade, which were in the MONTE - CODRUZZO (R 5995) area finally came across the lines on 7th October, and after a period of employment as civil police under AMG and manning FS check posts, have now rejoined the main body of the Brigade in the MERC..TO S..R..CENO - ROMA area.

FERR.R. .rea

Partisans are reported to be very weak in the FERR..RA area, which is a stronghold of Fascism, and where a reliable partisan source considers that we are likely to encounter the "Black Brigade" nuisance There are, however, some 200 men organised in G.PS

.. document was recently brought across our lines from the patriot Commander "BULOW" reporting in full the disposition and achievements of the bands under his command. Its purpose was to enlist more .llied help. Of the 28th G.P Brigade he said "This is the oldest patriotic group in the Province; it is a military unit with branches ll over the province, and counts about 500 patriots grouped in the following detachments:-

Detachment "RICCI UBERTO" ... District enclosed by
M.SS. LOMB.RDA (M 2742)
CONSELICE (M 2749)
.LVEZZOL. (M 3154)
VOLT.NA. (M 3352).

Detachment "SIROCCHI CELSO" ... District of F.ENZA
and LUGO (M 3438)

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In the M. FOGLIO area (R 0190), moved towards BOLOGNA in September; 2nd Detachment, which consisted of the men from ROMAGNA, remained in the old location. The greater part of both detachments has probably been over-run, but definite information is lacking.

Area MERCATO SARACENO (R 6587) - S. PIERO in BAGNO (R 3776) - S.SOFIA (R 3285)

The remains of 8 GARIBALDI Brigade, which were in the MONTE - CODRUZZO (R 5996) area finally came across the lines on 7th October, and after a period of employment as civil police under AMG and manning FS check posts, have now rejoined the main body of the Brigade in the MERCATO SARACENO - FORLI area.

FERRARA Area

Partisans are reported to be very weak in the FERRARA area, which is a stronghold of Fascism, and where a reliable partisan source considers that we are likely to encounter the "Black Brigade" nuisance There are, however, some 200 men organised in GAPS.

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Detachment "RICCI UMBERTO"	...	District enclosed by MASSA LOMBARDA (M 2742) CONSELICE (M 2749) ALFONSINE (M 3154) VOLTANA (M 3852).
Detachment "BIROCCHI CELSO"	...	District of FAENZA LUGO (M 3438)
Detachment "BARONI RUSSI"	...	District of ALFONSINE (M 4448) PIANGIPANE (M 4738) ALFEZZANO (M 4744)
Detachment "BABINO AURO"	...	District of RUBIGNANO (M 3744 BAGNACAVALLO (M 3838) RUSSI (M 4833) RAVENNA - SAN MARCO (M 5228) FIUMANA (M 4628) - RONCALCCI (M 4930).

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Detachment "SETTIMO G.R.VINI" ... District of S. Z.CC.RI. (M 5721) - S. STEF.NO (M 5527) - C.MPI.NO M 5624) -S. PIETRO IN VINCOLI (M 5225) - C.RVI.. (M 6820)

The military activities of the 28th Brigade may be summed up as follows:-

Military actions	594
Sabotage acts	220
..ctions or encounters with the enemy	129
Enemy hors du combat	488

.ll these actions have been carried out in the Province of R.VENN. in the period Oct . 43 to Sept. 44. The casualties of the brigade have been:-

Dead	20
Wounded.....	6.

The Brigade operates all over the Province. ..t present its chief action consists of ambushes and attacks along the roads most used by the Germans. The increase in such actions noticeable in recent months has increased the violence of German reaction. The Brigade has always had to restrict its actions and limit their number owing to scarcity of weapons and ammunition. Sabotage likewise has been restricted by lack of explosives. Its armament is limited to old rifles (Italian and French) and a few automatic weapons (Breda and Fiat). This armament comes in part from the dissolved Italian army but mostly from disarmed enemy units. The same applies to the few explosives it has been possible to get. They have been obtained by dismantling of German mines employed in mine-fields and by raids on enemy stores.

The report says of Detachment "LORE TERZO" - "..lthough is has been in existence only since last August (it could be founded only in this period, when the Germans began to withdraw some units from its area) it has the following successes to its credit.

12 encounters with German forces (130-140 Germans killed or wounded)

15 German vehicles destroy...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

Military actions	594
Sabotage acts	220
Actions or encounters with the enemy	189
Enemy hors du combat	488

All these actions have been carried out in the Province of RAVENNA in the period Oct. '43 to Sept. 44. The casualties of the brigade have been:-

Dead	20
Wounded	6

The Brigade operates all over the Province. At present its chief action consists of ambushes and attacks along the roads most used by the Germans. The increase in such actions noticeable in recent months has increased the violence of German reaction. The Brigade has always had to restrict its actions and limit their number owing to scarcity of weapons and ammunition. Sabotage likewise has been restricted by lack of explosives. Its armament is limited to old rifles (Italian and French) and a few automatic weapons (Breda and Fiat). This armament comes in part from the dissolved Italian army but mostly from disarmed enemy units. The same applies to the few explosives it has been possible to get. They have been obtained by dismantling of German mines employed in mine-fields and by raids on enemy stores.

The report says of Detachment "LORI TERZO" - "Although is has been in existence only since last August (it could be founded only in this period, when the Germans began to withdraw some units from its area) it has the following successes to its credit.

12 encounters with German forces (130-140 Germans killed or wounded)

15 German vehicles destroyed.

Bridge over the R. LAMONE on the RAVENNA -S. ALBERTO road blown up.

Small scale sabotage such as the cutting of German telephone wires and strewing anti-tyre nails.

(8th Army Partisan Summary No 2 up to 28th October 44). 1262

Bands Recently operating in the FORLI area.

The most important band organised by the FORLI Committee of Liberation was a Garibaldi Brigade which operated in the area S. SOFIO (R. 5286) - S. PAOLO IN ALPE (R 2979) - CAMPIGNA. (R. 1978) A series of captured German documents and the reports of a conducted party of escaping British Generals who spent some time with the band, confirmed the effectiveness of the unit. Unfortunately soon after supply dropping started in April, the Germans started serious mopping up: part under FALCO collected on the southern slopes of MT. FUMERONE (R 1679) and may still operate in the area di SAN PAOLO. The remainder under

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"PAOLO", stayed in the S. SOFIA area to the East. During the summer the band was re-organised as 8 GARIBALDI Assault Brigade by a veteran of the International Brigade in Spain from ALFONSINE NW of RAVENNA, who goes by the name of "PIETRO" or "MAURI".

Some form of partisan bands operate throughout most of the enemy rear areas on Eighth Army front. In the plains only small bands, supported by a well organised underground movement exist. (Eighth Army Partisan Summary No 1. to 9th October)

MODENA Area.

On the 14th January last, the C.L.N. of MODENA constituted the first groups of partisans. By May they had grown sufficiently to be formed into five groups, which were called Divisions, the numbers of which varied between 5000 and 6000 men. The Command of these divisions was entrusted to one "ARMANDO", and the Commissar of the whole "army" is "DAVIDE", a doctor in law of the Province of REGGIO.

Commanders of divisions are as follows:-

1st.	Mario of Modena	(Communist)
2nd.	Babbolini	"
3rd.	Angelo	(Party of Action)
4th.	Marcello	(Apolitical)
5th.	Mario Nardi	(Party of Action).

The command had clandestine radios, which enabled it to contact the Allies and receive 17 droppings of arms. The severest mopping up operation which the brigade suffered was that of M. FIORINO, which was carried out by an armoured German division and a division of SS. After this action the Division was to a certain extent disintegrated and the elements which remained in the area reformed into Brigades. The commanders of these new units were

Fulmine
Filippo
Mario da Modena
Menchin
Claudio
(P.W.B. Florence)

German Precautions against Partisans

A German Order was recently found issued by 117 G.R. (in 98 Inf. Div). At that time (8th Aug. 44) the Division had only just arrived in Italy from the Balkans. 117 G.R. set up its HQ in RAVENNA and remained there until the last week in August, when the Division moved forward to be committed in the MONDAINO sector. The document was unsigned and ran as follows:-

REGIMENTAL ORDER OF THE DAY

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775121

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REGIMENTAL ORDER OF THE DAY

1. Partisans - General Situation and Counter-measures.

The development of partisan activities, an increase in which can be expected as the front line draws nearer, demands immediate and effective counter measures. These can only be taken if information on the whereabouts of partisans, their strength, armament and activities, is passed immediately to higher headquarters. It is therefore the duty of every coy commander and O.C. unit to forward all reports of partisan activities by the quickest possible means.

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(Here follows a description of the partisan groups in that particular area)

B. Partisan Activities.

Consist primarily of acts of sabotage. At present they concentrate chiefly on the disruption of communications, the destruction of roads, bridges and telephone communications. But they also attack single cars, horse-drawn vehicles, D.Rs and small groups of men, whilst attempts to destroy the harvest have also been made.

C. Suppression of Partisan Activities.

It is the duty of every German soldier to assist, as far as lies in his power, in the detection and suppression of these partisans. One source of information on partisans is the reports sent in by the troops themselves; this will be supplemented by "liaison officers" appointed by the Regt. Intelligence Officer. For this purpose German speaking Italians should be sought out and their names submitted to Regt. Liaison Officers will not be employed without authority from Regt.....

Counter measures will be taken on the spot against any acts of sabotage, and any attacks on German soldiers, Italian militia or civilians.

I. Prevention of Communications.

This can be achieved by:-

(a) Arresting the friends and relatives of partisans.
(b) Restricting freedom of movement, e.g. advancing the curfew hour (anyone found wandering about after the time laid down will be shot without appeal., unless his identity can be established.
(c) Confiscating bicycles.
(d) Closing down Italian telephone communications.
(e) Closing down restaurants.
(f) Confiscating wireless sets.
(g) If no guard troops or L of C are in the area, a field unit should move in, strong enough to deal with the situation.

II. To persuade the civilian population to maintain peace, and to extract information the following measures are recommended:-

(a) Withdrawing tobacco ration cards)To be done in conjunction
(b) Withdrawing the wine ration)with the Mayor
(c) Imposition of fines.
(d) Transferring all men between 17 and 45 years of age to work in Germany, unless they are members of the Fascist Republican Party.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788027

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The public must be made to realise that any signs of partisan activities in their midst will have the most unpleasant consequences for them as well.

III. In areas where partisans are found in large numbers, or where acts of sabotage are of frequent occurrence and the criminals cannot be found, the following steps are to be taken:-

(a) Arrest Hostages. These are to be chosen on the recommendation of the fascist militia, the Secretary of the fascist party or the Prefect of the Province. The enemy of the country is the Communist.

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Prefects, Party Secretaries, and other fascist headquarters are instructed to prepare lists of all communists in the area, so that these elements are always at their disposal. Hostages must be taken from the circles which produce these criminals, so that, should shooting be necessary, a blow is dealt at others of the same ideology. It is a mistake to concentrate on the so-called "rich or upper classes".

(b) If there is a recurrence of acts of violence, an appropriate number of the hostages will be shot. I reserve the right to order the shooting. This is to brought to the notice of the population in advance, so that their responsibility in this matter is established and brought home to them.

(c) If crimes of outstanding violence are committed, especially against German soldiers, an appropriate number of the hostages will be hanged. In such cases the whole population of the place will be assembled to witness the execution. After the bodies have been left hanging for 12 hours, the public will be ordered to bury them without ceremony and without the assistence of any priest.

(8th Army Partisan Summary).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

REGGIO EMILIA.

Partisan activity in REGGIO EMILIA has considerably increased recently. It appears that the area is becoming the centre of a large partisan concentration under a plan coordinated with the Allied advance. Anglo-American aircraft are constantly dropping arms, munitions and other war supplies to the partisans. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 29.10.44).

Between the 1st September and 15th October Emilian patricts destroyed 19 bridges and 5 motor vehicles, besides interrupting the traffic on 8 roads. In the encounters with the enemy they killed 180 Germans and wounded 103. The Fascist losses amounted to 8 dead, 32 wounded and 4 prisoners. The patricts, who on their part suffered light losses, captured a large quantity of war material (P.W.B. Rome 2.11.44)

PIACENZA. The patricts in this zone, during the last two weeks, have taken about 200 prisoners and a considerable amount of arms, ammunition and explosives. They also blew up a bridge about 10 km from GENOVA.
(P.W.B. Rome 6.11.44).

LIGURIA. A Giustizia e Liberta brigade carried out the following actions in Liguria: Between CAPRANI and ALBENGO it attacked a German motorised column, destroyed two lorries, wounded two and killed 9 Germans; between PIANA BATTOLI and [illegible]

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LIGURIA. A Giustizia e Liberta brigade carried out the following actions in Liguria: Between CAPRENO and ALBIANO it attacked a German motorised column, destroyed two lorries, wounded two and killed 9 Germans; between PIANA BATTOLLA and FOLLO it defied a German squadron armed with morters, killing two soldiers and wounding others; in the area between ROCCHIGNONE and BORGHETTO DI V.R. it attacked an enemy infantry column coming from GENOVA, killing 33 Germans and wounding 15; between BRUGNATO and SESTRI GODANO it destroyed an important bridge. The losses inflicted on the enemy amounted to 52 dead. The same Brigade had a successful encounter in the VALDURASCA locality, slightly north of L. SPEZIA, inflicting losses on the enemy, not yet specified, in men and material. In the same locality a portion of road was interrupted for several days.
(P.W.B. Rome 6.11.44).

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PIEDMONT On 26th October the Fascists in Piedmont left 12 dead and 28 wounded, including a colonel, in their vain attempt to re-occupy a village controlled by patriots. On the night of October 13th the patriots of VICENZA blew up a road bridge on the Brenta at CARTURA, in the province of PADUA and a railway bridge on the VICENZA-VERONA line. A trainload of Germans was derailed. In the accident the enemy lost about a hundred men. The engine and four waggons were destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 8.11.44).

PIACENZA and PAVIA. In the Provinces of Piacenza and Pavia the patriots try to prevent enemy navigation across the Po. A raft of 30 tons was sunk near MEZZANINO and one of 60 tons was destroyed near CORTIZZA. A funicular has been rendered useless near CALENDESO, in the Province of Piacenza, and two underground railway passages were destroyed between CREMONA and PIDENZA. On 27th October a train was derailed and fell into the Po.
(P.W.B. Rome 10.11.44).

MILAN Members of the Third Garibaldi Assault Brigade executed the lawyer DOMENICO DE MARTINO, the notorious OVRA spy who persecuted young partisans belonging to the G.P. De Martino was killed a few yards from his home, which was strongly guarded by policemen belonging to his suite.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 30.10.44).

III. Mopping-up Operations.

PIACENZA. During mopping-up operations in the Piacenza region, militiamen belonging to the Black Brigade captured members of a band which had already assassinated several Fascists in the region, including numerous Communal Secretaries. Forty people captured will be handed over to the Courts.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 31.10.44).

VAL (SOANA?) German units, together with detachments of the 10th MAS Flotilla and the Musketeers of the Alps, have carried out mopping-up operations in Val ?Soana. Seventy outlaws were killed and about a score taken prisoner. Enormous booty, consisting of arms and ammunition of enemy origin as well as various kinds of material, including two armoured cars and several motor vehicles was captured.
(Italian Home Service 30.10.44).

CHIUSAIS Valley. 6000 German troops tried to enter the CHIUSAIS valley and were held off for 6 days in very heavy fighting by the OSOPPO Garibaldi Brigade called IPOLITONIEVO. Finally the Germans succeeded in breaking through. After this action it was claimed that the Brigade had caused 400 casualties killed and wounded. Later it was learned from German sources that their casualties were, in fact, 1000 killed and wounded.

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CHIMOL.IS Valley. 6000 German troops tried to enter the CHIMOL.IS valley and were held off for 6 days in very heavy fighting by the OSOPPO Garibaldi Brigade called IPOLITONIEVO. Finally the Germans succeeded in breaking through. .fter this action it was claimed that the Brigade had caused 400 casualties killed and wounded. Later it was learned from German sources that their casualties were, in fact, 1000 Killed and wounded.
(Confidential Source 5.11.44).

ROM.GN. and MODEN. Recently two large scale actions against the patriots, one in the mountains of Romagna above IMOL., the other in the mountains of MODEN., resulted in complete failure for the Germans and Fascists who lost many men. The Germans ascribe the failure to the Black Brigades, which are reported to have fled, leaving the Germans alone in the field.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 30.10.44).

SECRET

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IV. Partisan Aid at the Front.

The following is an example of assistance which the partisans are frequently able to render in the front lines:

On 22nd August information was received from a prisoner of war of 115 Recce Unit that his Battalion, which was occupying the PRATO MAGNO with two Coys up, was under orders to withdraw when the signal of two Green Verey lights was fired.

On this information it was decided that the premature firing of this signal might cause some confusion in the enemy camp. Three Italian partisans at once volunteered for the job and armed with a German signal pistol and Green verey cartridges, set out on the evening of 23rd August to cross the PRATO MAGNO. By 2100 hrs. they had reached the vicinity of Bn HQ of 115 Recce Unit at STRADA, on the PONTASSIEVE-POPPI rd, and fired the double green signal three times. Observers state that the signal was taken up and repeated, and within 15 mins explosions started to take place. At PRATALUTOLI, at ROCCHETTA, at PAGLIERICCIO, at RIGIGLIO, demolitions were touched off in quick succession.

The partisans, not content with their success, lay up until morning, and by personal reconnaissance, and by interrogation were able to ascertain that on the road PRATALUTOLI to PRATO, three bridges had been blown up, and the rd blocked in numerous places by cratering and the felling of houses.

On 24th August our own troops found the PRATO MAGNO clear of the enemy, who even now is probably trying to find a scapegoat for the premature firing of the signal to withdraw.

(Eighth Army Partisan Summary No 2.)

FASCIST FORCES

V. Dispositions.

The drawing up of the San Marco Division on the West Riviera between VENTIMIGLIA and the TURCHINO Pass (on the heights backing the strip of coast) is confirmed. Some parts of the Monte Rosa Division are placed between the BRACCO Pass (25 Km north west of SPEZIA) and SESTA GODANO (10 km north-east of the Bracco); they have been moved from the zone of CHIAVARI-PASSO DEL BRACCO, where they were before. In GENOVA there are a large number of fortress troops with mediocre arms and equipment.
(Official Italian Source 19.10.44).

On October 4th the torpedo boat destroyer "Premuda" (ready to take to sea), a mine layer, a corvette [illegible] were seen in the port

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

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(Officiel Italian Source 19.10.44).

On October 4th the torpedo boat destroyer "Premuda" (ready to take to sea), a mine layer, a corvette 4 MAs and 11 motor rafts were seen in the port of GENOVA.
(Italian Official Source 2.11.44).

VI. Constitution.

According to the radio the new Commander of the "Italia" Division, which is in Germany, is MANARDI, who sent a telegram to GRAZIANI on the anniversery of the March on Rome.

It seems that the "Etna" Division is incorporated with the G.N.R. It is composed mostly of legions which took part in the African campaign. This G.U. is commanded by General GIUSEPPE VOLANTE.
(Italian Official Source 1.11.44).

SECRET.

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Women Auxiliaries.

Mussolini received Piera Gazzetti Fondelli, General Commandant of the Women's Auxiliary Service, together with the Provincial Commandants. In a speech to the Duce the Commandant informed him that there are about 6,000 women in training in the various towns, while 1,237 women auxiliaries are already serving in the various units of the Armed Forces. Mussolini warmly praised the Commandant and her fellow commandants.
(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

The ceremony of swearing the oath of allegiance to the Italian Social Republic on the part of the group of Women Auxiliaries of TRIESTE took place in the "Muti" barracks there, in the presence of the military and civil authorities.
(Italian Home Service 30.10.44).

Air Force.

This is practically non-existent. It is made up of a mass of people who do nothing but draw their salary, not having any work to do owing to the total lack of planes.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and .... 27.10.44).

Navy.

It is reported from reliable sources that the following Republican Naval Units have been destroyed by Allied air attacks: Submarines Grongo, Sparide, and Aradam; torpedo boats Lira and Montanari.
(Italian Official Source 1.11.44).

VII. Behaviour and Morale.

PIEDMONT The Fascist troops here lack discipline and order; they habitually get drunk, and are specialists in sacking and rape. Pay is good. The Germans in general do not interest themselves in the behaviour of the Fascist troops in the towns, limiting themselves to supervising them in action. Occasionally they reprimand them, but in general they are pleased that the Fascists should compromise themselves and that the greater part of popular aversion should fall on them
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and .... 27.10.44).

Fascist Rule of Terror in Bologna. The situation deteriorates hourly in Bologna. All political prisoners are killed as hostages, or transferred to the north. The Fascists carry out arrests and deportations unscrupulously. It is confirmed that the Fascists hanged 23 partisans, who had been captured during a mopping-up operation in a public street in Reggio Emilia.

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Further Details of Fossoli Executions. As regards the execution of 70 hostages chosen from among the prisoners of the FOSSOLI concentration camp, it is now learnt that the Bishop of Carpi was informed of the execution and immediately went to the spot, but that he was not even allowed to approach those who were still alive. Five succeeded in escaping at the last moment.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 30.10.44).

According to reliable sources the German decision to leave the Republican troops, in case of a retreat north of the Adige, to defend the line of the Ticino from the west of Lombardy, which is lightly fortified and without natural support, has caused great dread amongst official circles of the Republican Army.
(Italian Official Source 24.10.44).

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VIII.
Anti-Partisan Organisation.

According to recent reports the Fascists are building up a new police organisation to supplement the feeble efforts of the Fascist Police Force, the Republican National Guard (GNR), in combatting partisans. The first step was the constitution of so-called R.P ("Reparti Arditi Partigiani" or Partisan Assault Detachments), which were apparently designed on the principle of setting a partisan to catch a partisan. Each Provincial Military HQ had to form one such detachment of four sections of 12 men, and an officer.

Personnel had, under penalty of being denounced to the Fascist and German political authorities, to declare themselves volunteers, and had the job of ranging the countryside after partisans, deserters etc.

This experiment was not much of a success, and a new idea was tried. Each Regional Military HQ was instructed to raise one battalion of R.U ("Reparti Arditi Ufficiali" or Officer Assault Detachments). The battalion was to consist entirely of officers and to be organised in 3 companies each of 3 sections of 13 second lieutenants and lieutenants.

Since, even under pressure, volunteers could not be found, this scheme too seems to have more or less still born, and finally, on about 1st September, a new organisation was set up called CCGU. The letters probably stand for "Controguerriglia", ie. anti-partisan This organisation, headquarters and training centre of which are at VERCELLI, will probably include such R.PS and R.Us as have been formed. About 1st September a circular from Gen MISCHI, Chief of the General Staff of the Republican Army, stated that all officers who did not volunteer to serve in the ranks in the CCGU organisation would be retired and placed under police surveillance.
(8th Army Report 11-10-44).

GERMANY

IX. Evacuation Rumours.

From reliable sources it is reported that in German military circles it is considered probably that the German troops will be evacuated from PIEDMONT after the fall of BOLOGNA.
(Italian Official Source 27-10-44).

It is reported that the Germans intend to destroy the port of LA SPEZIA completely; all the quays are already mined. The port of SAVONA is among the Ligurian ports from which the shipping transports ammunition and fuel for La Spezia.

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IX. Enemy Rumours.

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(Italian Official Source 27.10.44).

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(Italian Official Source 28.10.44).

The Germans have begun the removal of machinery and material from the AGIP factory (probably from the installation of the TURIN warehouses).

It was recently reported that 70 electric railway engines have been transferred from TURIN to Germany.

In VENETO Province, in which the suspension of every industrial and transport activity is foreseen, as it will be included in the future German defence line, the German town majors have begun the requisition of all the industrial, electric, water and railway plant in the region in order to send it to the ALTO ADIGE.
(Italian Official Source 2.11.44).

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X. Morale and Behaviour.

Spreading Defeatism on Leave. The following is a translation of a captured Order of the Day for the "Hoch-und Deutschmeister division".

"Sentence for K.I.N.K. Simon, Corporal, 2nd Co. 80th Engr Bn.....

3 weeks close arrest and demotion to the next lower grade.

Reasons. During his furlough on 9th July 1944 the defendant
1. Boastfully told people in his village of incidents about the front, which did not correspond to the facts.
2. Recounted occurrences he was not permitted to divulge according to the "Regulations for Men on Furlough" known to him, and
3. Harmed the prestige of the combat soldier by his lack of confidence in the future.

This punishment will be carried out immediately. Procedure in accordance with Army Regulations.

I slapped this actually harmless gossiper on the mouth. In the future these cases will be dealt with only by courts martial.
/s/ M. ROST"

(P.W.B. German Intelligence 4.11.44).

Rahn Warns Fascists against Wonder Weapons.

Transocean reports from Venice 2.11.44: The moral crisis which swept Europe like an epidemic has been overcome, declared the German Ambassador, Rudolf RAHN, at a meeting arranged by the Italian-German Society in VENICE last night. Rahn referred to the frightful examples of Finland, Roumania and Bulgaria, which were awaiting certain and systematic destruction by a ruthless enemy.

Speaking of new weapons the German Ambassador said "we must guard against hoping for miracles other than the miracle of faith, will power and unshakable resolve." There was no such thing as the miracle weapon which appeared like a meteor overnight and destroyed the enemy at one blow. We were forging many new weapons for all branches of the Army, Air Force and Navy. They were being turned out in quickly growing numbers. People were working at top speed and with dogged perseverance in areas safe from air attacks.

German Supply Roads Function Well in Po Valley.

Transocean 30.10.44 stated "Seidlitz reports from VENICE: I counted 210 bomb craters along a second-class bridge over the river south of the Po, but traffic continues to pour across the bridge.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 798027

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Although it is not possible to make detailed statements on military traffic, the increasing proportion of heavy, and the heaviest German weapons seen permits the conclusion that military supplies are excellently organised. According to reliable estimates and under good conditions of visibility every important bridge south of the Po receives on an [illegible] kept)....

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760021

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XI. Atrocities.

FELTRE area. 14 Partisan prisoners were hanged in FELTRE area early in October, with butchers' meat hooks wedged under their chins. It took them approximately three hours to die. The majority of partisans caught on GRAPPA were strung up to the nearest trees.

A British ex-prisoner of war BRYANT was shot in the leg, fell and was left behind. Germans beat his head to pulp with rifle butts. (Confidential Source 15.11.44).

CARNAIO. On the 24th July three German soldiers were killed by the partisans in the mountains of CARNAIO. Next day 25 inhabitants of S. PIERO, three of them old invalids, were arrested and taken to the CARNAIO and executed as a reprisal. Don Ilario LAZERONI, the local priest, asked to follow the innocents and to assist them; he was allowed to do so & and his body was found lying among the others. Eighteen farms in the surrounding district were burned and the cattle taken away.

On the 25th September the Germans withdrew from SARSINA, and the first Allied patrols entered the town led by the partisans. The population welcomed the liberators and volunteered immediately to repair a bridge destroyed by the Germans in their withdrawal. Next day the Germans counter attacked and re-occupied SARSINA. All men who collaborated with the Allies were arrested and 26 of them executed. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Intelligence Report No 43).

MONTE GRAPPA Details of the BASSANO Fascist Black Brigade atrocities after the Monte Grappa battles in four villages alone speak of many partisans hung or shot. Also 4 English, 2 South African and 2 New Zealanders from an Indian Division were shot. Partisans were hung from trees on meat hooks.
(A....I. 10.11.44).

MARZABOTTO The Germans killed 300 people as a reprisal against GAP action. The bodies were put in a common grave.

VALPESIO Easter 1944.

The victim was a certain Armanda, a patriot of CORSAGLIA. Because he refused to speak his arms were broken in several places, and as he still kept silence he was tied to an armoured car and dragged in the snow until he died.

Between ARONA and GOZZANO a few days after the armistice three Jews, father and sons, then living at ARONA, were forced to dig a trench, were buried in it up to the threat and killed by being shot through the forehead and then having the tops of their skulls blown off. The daughter and sister of the three victims was brought to the place knowing nothing about it, shown the massacre of her relations and killed on the spot.

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During a mopping-up operation between PIANFEI and VILLANOVA MONDOVI April, May 1944- a girl was raped by a number of German soldiers. Before leaving her, while she was still screaming, they shot her in the mouth. The girl survived, gave birth to a child and remained for a long time in the hospital at MONDOVI. Nuns in the VAL PESIO were also raped and left pregnant.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.M. 27.10.44).

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GRAPPA After the recent anti-partisan offensive every house in the Northern area of Grappa was burnt and nearly every house in the southern part. Over 1,000 head of cattle were confiscated by the Germans. It is reported that when attacking the Fascists sent women and children ahead. 31 partisans and civilians were hanged in the VIALE VENEZIA at BASSANO. They were left on the trees for 48 hours (Confidential Source)

BERTINORO In Bertinoro 22 time-bombs were placed in the Bishop's Palace, with the only excuse that it could have been used as an OP by the Allies. Fortunately our R.Es got there just in time to neutralise the bombs.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 45.)
1.11.44.

CASONE The village of Casone, near CESENA, was completely destroyed by the Germans before their retreat because a few children threw nails on the road.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 45 1.11.44).

XII. German Steps to Check Railway Sabotage.

The Fascist Newspaper Brianza Repubblicana, writes. "Sabotage to which the railways in the MILAN region are subjected endangers supplies for the German front The OKW has decided to mobilise men aged 18 to 55 in order to guard the MONZA-BERGAMO lines". This order makes citizens responsible for any further sabotage. Severe reprisals will be taken. Those eluding guard duties or not accepting them in such a way as to satisfy the German authorities will expose their families to reprisals or have their property confiscated.
(Tribune de Geneve 28.10.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XIII. Radio.

PIEDMONT Radio Londra much listened to/- Radio Bari and Radio Rome are difficult to hear. Radio New York is little listened to. Radio London was well heard in the morning (6.30) on medium waves in the region of MONDOVI.

At TURIN artificial interference was strong enough to prevent reception, especially during the day. La Voce di Londra is well received at 22.30 and the news at 23.30. Radio Algiers is well received and the news found very interesting.

In general British propaganda is considered good. Candidus is more appreciated than Stevens, who has lost much of his early sting.

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(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.A. 27.10.44).

UDINE North of Udine there are reports that IT.LL. COMBATTE is heard very well from the MILANO station.
(Confidential Source 11.11.44).

It is also reported from Udine that the people listen to our transmissions at 7 oclock and the B.B.C. transmission at 23.30 hrs is also very popular.
(Confidential Source 5.11 44).

PADUA B.B.C. is as usual very popular, but the short wave sets have recently been confiscated.

The 8th Army Radio is heard very clearly.

Bari is very much disturbed.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

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XIV. Leaflets.

PIEDMONT. No leaflets have been seen there, although they have been heard of. Italia Combatte leaflets are unknown there (P.W.B. Rome G.2. and .... 27.10.44).

POLITICS.

XV. Political situation in Piedmont. Anti-Fascist.

The COMMUNISTS are by far the most powerful and best organised political force in TURIN, drawing their adherents from the majority of the industrial workers of Turin.

The SOCIALISTS are few in number and have rallied to the party out of respect for the old names and traditions of Socialism. For all practical purposes they make common cause with the Communists.

At one time the PARTY OF ACTION was purely an anti-Fascist movement, combining men of every shade of political tendencies and views. When Fascism was overthrown and the old parties re-suscitated the adherents of the movement, out of loyalty to the leaders of the anti-Fascist resistence made the movement into a political party. The natural result was a split, the more radical members taking the Party towards the Left, while the more conservative joined the Liberal Party. The Party of Action still has considerable influence in Piedmont, and has a wide following among the younger professional men, intellectuals and students.

The CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, although they support an agrarian policy, with some tendency towards Collectivism, nevertheless, incline to ally themselves with the Liberal Party. The Christian Democrat Party is still in process of reorganisation, but it is expected that it will be able to count on the adhesion of ex-members of the old Partito Popolare, who are numerous in the provinces of CUNEO and also in the country districts of the province of Turin. The Catholic Action has always been very strong in Piedmont, and is also likely to provide adherents.

The LIBERAL PARTY is still in process of organisation. It can count on the support of the majority of the middle class. In the Province of CUNEO (a stronghold of the old Liberal Party), it has considerable adherents among students and professional men. There is still a minority which favours monarchical institutions; the larger part are either republican or merely sitting on the fence. In any case the hostility to the person of the present King is practially unanimous.

In CUNEO and MONDOVI the Liberal Party is prevalent. In the districts of SALUZZO and BRA and ALBESE, which are generally agricultural, the Christian Democrats

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The COMMUNISTS are by far the most powerful and best organised political force in TURIN, drawing their adherents from the majority of the industrial workers of Turin.

The SOCIALISTS are few in number and have rallied to the party out of respect for the old names and traditions of Socialism. For all practical purposes they make common cause with the Communists.

At one time the PARTY OF ACTION was purely an anti-Fascist movement, combining men of every shade of political tendencies and views. When Fascism was overthrown and the old parties re-suscitated the adherents of the movement, out of loyalty to the leaders of the anti-Fascist resistence made the movement into a political party. The natural result was a split, the more radical members taking the Party towards the Left, while the more conservative joined the Liberal Party. The Party of Action still has considerable influence in Piedmont, and has a wide following among the younger professional men, intellectuals and students.

The CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, although they support an agrarian policy, with some tendency towards Collectivism, nevertheless, incline to ally themselves with the Liberal Party. The Christian Democrat Party is still in process of reorganisation, but it is expected that it will be able to count on the adhesion of ex-members of the old Partito Popolare, who are numerous in the province of CUNEO and also in the country districts of the province of Turin. The Catholic Action has always been very strong in Piedmont, and is also likely to provide adherents.

The LIBERAL PARTY is still in process of organisation. It can count on the support of the majority of the middle class. In the Province of CUNEO (a stronghold of the old Liberal Party), it has considerable adherents among students and professional men. There is still a minority which favours monarchical institutions; the larger part are either republican or merely sitting on the fence. In any case the hostility to the person of the present King is practially unanimous.

In CUNEO and MONDOVI the Liberal Party is prevalent. In the districts of SALUZZO and BRA and ALBESE, which are generally agricultural, the Christian Democrats are dominant, although the Communo-Socialists have small nuclei in the towns of MONDOVI, SOVIGLIANO and FOSSANO. In TURIN the Communo-Socialists predominate and are supported by the Party of Action.

Another winter of war will undoubtedly add to the misery and hardships of the population, which will inevitably increase the influence of the left parties.

In TURIN the Communo-Socialists and the Party of Action claim the entire local government. In CUNEO the Liberals and Christian Democrats claim the Prefecture and the Municipality, while the Action Party have been allotted the Presidency of the Province.
(P.W.B. Rome 10.11.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788127

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

XVI. Politics in Padua.

It seems that the Communist Party is the most powerful in the province of PADUA and has a big support even from the small proprietors who think that the big landed proprietors will have to share their land with them. The Action Party comes next and has many followers in the towns.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44)
26.10.44.

XVII. Generals Excluded from Amnesty.

Transocean reports from MILAN that Tullio CIANETTI, Mussolini 's former Minister -- sentenced to 30 years penal servitude at VERONA -- will not be included in the Duce's amnesty proclaimed yesterday, it is learned from a reliable source today. Italian Generals CAVALLERO, GARIBOLDI, ROBOTTI, and others awaiting trial in the prison of PARMA, are also excluded. The press has been silent about this trial for months.

XVIII. Fascist Refugees Repelled by Swiss.

Twenty notorious Fascists are reported to have entered Switzerland recently with a group of refugees. After their arrival in Switzerland they apparently presumed that they could behave as though they were at home and fortunately they made this so plain that they were sent back by the next train. When they raised their hands to give the Fascist salute, the train's departure saved them from being taught a good lesson.
(Berner Tagwacht 26.10.44).

XIX. Appointments and Dismissals.

On the proposal of the Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party, the Duce has appointed as Vice-Secretaries of the Party the Fascist Republicans Dr. Antonio BONINO and Dr. Pino ROMUALDI, who will take up their posts at Milan and HQ respectively.

The Duce has also appointed the lawyer Giuseppe PIZZIRANI, hitherto Vice Secretary of the Party, to be High Commissioner for the VENETO.
(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

In the Corps of the Black Brigades the Secretary of the Party who commands it, has appointed as Chief of Staff the Fascist Republican Colonel (? Edoardo PASTORELLO) instead of the Fascist Republican Colonel Giovanni RIGGIO, who has been appointed Inspector General of the Corps.
(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

By a regulation dated 20.10.44 PAVOLINI ordered that

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(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

By a regulation dated 20.10.44 PAVOLINI ordered that Signorina Maria BEFANI, Reggente Provinciale dell'Ispettorato Gruppi Femminili di PAVIA, Signora Sandra BERNUZZA, commanding an auxiliary detachment, and Doctor Amato DEZZA were to be suspended from all political activity. Maria del CONTE has beenappointed in place of Maria BEFANI and Libera MOSSONI has been appointed director of the "Onore Combattimento" Group in PAVIA.
(Sera Milan 25.10.44).

1236

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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XX. Food Situation.

PADUA. In Padua the living conditions are quite good. Shops are open and almost ~~everything~~ can be found. This is mainly due to the fact that the German soldiers sell on the Black Market a great part of what they have looted in the forward areas. The food situation therefore is satisfactory.

Black Market prices:

Bread	-	3 lire per kilo
Meat	-	45 lire per kilo, although enormous quantities are requisitioned by the Germans.
Butter	-	400 lire per kilo
Oil	-	600 lire per litre
Sugar	-	80 lire per kilo

A good meal in any restaurant does not cost more than 80 lire. It is easy to find a decent man's suit for 4000 lire. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

VENEZIA. Rations are as follows:-

Bread - 200 grms per day per person. Lire 3 per kilo
400 grms per day per person for labourers and normal workers.
Black Market price lire 50 per kilo

Rice - 1 kilo per person per month. Lire 3 per kg.
Black Market price lire 50 per kilo.

Meat - Nil, due largely to transport difficulties
Black Market price lire 250 per kg.

Salt - 10 grms per head per day - lire 2 per kg.

Oil, butter, fats. - Nil. Black Market price for oil lire 700 per litre.

Cigarettes - 20 per week - lire 20 per 20
Black Market price lire 70-80 per 20

Eggs - Lire 12 each.

Electricity is rationed and there is little gas available. The water situation is bad owing to Allied Air Raids. Fuel is almost non-existent, and people are dreading the winter with the dampness and fog which is prevalent in Venezia during the winter months. There are very few motor launches running on the Grand Canal, but the Canal Steamboat service is still running regularly. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 45 1.11.44).

MILAN. Due partly to the additional number of people in Milan and to transport difficulties of bringing food into the city, the food situation is deteriorating. There is a great shortage of fats and oils.

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Meat - 10 lire per kilo, although enormous quantities are requisitioned by the Germans.
Butter - 400 lire per kilo
Oil - 600 lire per litre
Sugar - 80 lire per kilo

A good meal in any restaurant does not cost more than 80 lire. It is easy to find a decent men's suit for 4000 lire. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

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Bread - 200 grms per person per day for non
375 grms " " " " for workers
475 grms " " " " for workers doing heavy work.
lire 2.60 per kilo against coupon
Lire 30 per kilo on the Black Market.
Yellow or white flour may be taken in whole or in part of bread ration.
Butter - 100 grms per person per month.
Prices: lire 50 per kilo against coupon
lire 400-500 Black Market.

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Oil - 50 grms per person per month.
Price unknown, but on the Black Market up to lire 1000 per litre.

Meat- 65 Or 75 grms per person each fortnight.
Price: lire 40 per kilo against coupon
lire 150 on Black Market.

Sugar - 500 grms per person per month
Price: lire 15 per kilo
lire 150/200 on Black Market.

Salt - 100 grms per person per month
Price: lire 5 per kib
lire 100/200 on Black Market.

Tobacco-15 cigarettes per person per week.
On the Black Market prices are: Africa Lire 120 for 20
Serreglio lire 200 for 20.

Vegetables are in fair supply, whilst fruit is somewhat short. Prices of the latter are: 20-30 lire per kilo, according to quality. There are a number of communal kitchens in MILAN. No 10 was opening at the time informant left the city (23.9.44). Anyone may feed at these kitchens without ration cards or coupons. Some have a meal and then fall in at the tail of the queue for a second one. The meals are reported as being very good. (P.W.B. Italian Section Report No 43 22.10.44).

PIEMONTE

On the whole the food situation in Piedmont is moderately good. The 1944 harvest has been good and has already been distributed among the population by the Communal authorities, by means of the handing over of ration cards for bread and pasta and the allowance of an extra quintal and a half of grain per head. This has been done under pressure on the part of the partisan organisation.

The price of grain in the province of CUNEO is 500-600 lire the quintal on the Black Market. The official price is 350 lire per quintal.

Cattle are much reduced in numbers both on account of the lack of fodder - the harvest of which has been poor during the last two years - on account of bad weather conditions and the lack of chemical fertilisers, and also because of the killing off of young animals normally kept for breeding. The situation may become worse when the herds come down from the mountains, where they have been controlled by the partisans, into the valleys, where the Germans are rounding up all cattle.

In the cities meat is distributed once a week in the smallest

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Salt - 100 grms per person per month
Price: lire 5 per kib
lire 100/200 on Black Market.
Tobacco-15 cigarettes per person per week.
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In the cities meat is distributed once a week in the smallest quantities. The price on the Black Market fluctuates between 120 lire (in the country) and 250 lire (in the towns). In the regions under partisan control meat is distributed fairly frequently to the civilian population at 20 lire the kilo. The patriots requisition cattle now that the "ammassi" and "raduni" have ceased to function.

The raising of pigs has much decreased and is mostly done on a small scale by families. The price of pork and salt meats on the Black Market varies between 300 and 400 lire a Kilo.

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Fats. The situation is very critical. Oil has practically disappeared. and the price has gone up to 1000 lire a litre. Lard varies between 300 and 400 lire. As for butter, which is scarce owing to lack of cattle and fodder or because the "emassi" no longer function-/ests 250 lire per kilo in the mountains and 400 to 500 lire in the towns. There will, of course, be the usual seasonal decline in production during the winter.

Cheese and milk. These are absolutely insufficient, in fact have almost disappeared. Even in the mountains milk costs 10-15 lire the litre, when it can be found. It can be said that cheese costs 300/350 lire the kilo and 400 in the towns and it is of poor quality because made of skimmed milk.

Eggs and Chickens. There have been severe epidemics of laringitis. Chickens cost 100-200 lire the kilo, live weight, eggs from 80-120 lire the dozen. Egg pools are no longer functioning and distribution is difficult, especially in the towns. At TURIN, however, in the summer of 1944 eggs could be found at 7.30 lire each.

Maize. Considering the weather the harvest has been exceptionally good. Prices range round 500 lire the quintal and it is easily obtainable.

Potatoes. Good harvest - prices from 6-10 lire the

Dried Vegetables. moderately good harvest - beans 15 lire the kilo.

Fruit. This is very plentiful, has not been exported from the different regions and prices are therefore low. Apples 6 lire the kilo, pears the same. Many apples have been put aside for the manufacture of cider.

Chestnuts. Production has been good. Last year the price was from 1000 to 2000 lire the quintal.

Wine. Production good, but not extremely so on account of lack of copper sulphate. Sulphur has almost entirely disappeared and has reached the price of 2000 lire the quintal, although the official price is 200. The price of wine varies between 30 and 50 lire the litre. In the towns it is almost unobtainable owing to lack of transport.

LIGURIA. Here conditions are extremely bad. Flour has reached 200 lire the kilo. The people often remain for several days without bread the ration of which is very small. Pasta is not distributed monthly. The only product which is found in any quantity is oil. Fruit too is plentiful.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ..... 27.10.44).

TURIN. Milk Production Offences Punished. The Provincial Prices and Consumption Control Commission inflicted on 23 farmers and tradesmen fines ranging from 10,000 to 500,000 lire as well as withdrawing permits for handling milk in the most serious cases. The "Societa Nuova Italia" and the company's board of management have been jointly fined 300,000 lire for making cheese with insufficient fat content and supplying shops with butter without the prescribed seals.
(Sera, Turin 24.10.44).

XXI. Industry

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XXI. Industry.

PIEDMONT. The industrial situation here is very bad, both on account of Allied air raids and the removal of machinery by the Germans, but also because of acts of sabotage by the patriots. There is also a great lack of skilled labour, because of the call-up and German persecutions and lack of modern machinery and of raw materials and transport; finally too there is complete lack of faith in the future. In general only the industries function which produce for the German armed forces - these receive payment which covers any possible damage and the Germans pay without any trouble.
(F.W.B. Rome G.B. and ..... 27.10.44).

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XXII. Communications.

TURIN Stampa, Turin publishes the following text of an order prohibiting motor vehicle traffic. "In view of the large number of ettacks by bandits against soldiers and civilians, and with reference to Article 19 of the unified text of the Municipal and Provincial Law, the Head of the Province of Turin decrees. "Until further orders all civilian motor vehicle traffic is prohibited in Turin in the zone lying within the block posts as from 06.00 hours on October 2nd except under a permit issued by the German Military Town Command. Except in more serious cases infringement of this order will be punished by arrest as well as confiscation of the vehicle which will be carried into effect by decree of the Head of the Province. Motor vehicles which do not draw up immediately on the order of a police agent will b be fired on.
(Stampa Turin 25.10.44).

PIEDMONT Railways are not functioning or only in portions for short distances on account of the destruction of bridges by the patriots and by allied bombing, and of the removal of tracks by the Germans. Wherever there was a double track they have removed one of them.

Telephone and telegraph communications are suppressed. Postal communications are so unreliable that the public rarely has recourse to them. A letter from MONDOVI to VILLANOR. (7 km), took a month and a half.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ...., 27.10.44).

XXIII. Public Health.

PIEDMONT Undernourishment has caused a great deal of tuberculosis, all the more so because the sanatoriums are no longer open. This is particularly the case in the towns. Cases of nervous exhaustion and stomach diseases are numerous. In one town alone of 4000 inhabitants (GOZZANO) on the Lake of ORTA, it was proved that there were 250 cases of gastric ulcer. There is a great lack of medical supplies.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ..... 27.10.44).

XXIV. Air Raid Damage.

PADUA Padua had six bad air attacks, but the town has not suffered much. The station is completely destroyed, and so is the church Eremitana, where the frescoes of MANTAGNA were, but the Basilico of Sant Antonio and the famous chapel of the SCROVEGNO, with its GIOTTO frescoes are intact.

In VICENZA the station has also been completely destroyed, but the town has not suffered at all.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

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(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44). -254

LABOUR.

XXV. Workers in Germany - more Inducements

Sveglia, Milan 15.10.44 publishes the following advertisement under a drawing showing a happy mother and her baby carrying parcels "In order to give greater tranquility of mind to the families of workers employed in Germany a special Bureau has recently been opened at the Employment Offices, where advise and assistance are given. The steps taken for this purpose are important and relief measures have been perfected. For example, it has been arranged to publish a periodical exclusively intended for the families of workers in Germany, which will give them news of their relatives there and also keep them informed of any new regulations which may be of interest to them. Secondly a special canteen will be reserved for workers' families for the distribution of food stuffs and articles of daily consumption with special regard to clothing requirements.

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Stampa Turin 25.10.44 publishes advertisement no 8 under a drawing showing a father playing with his children in a garden. Shall I get my holidays in Germany? Certainly. Men working in Germany are entitled to the normal holiday period with every facility for spending it in Italy. It is for this specific case that a law for temporary repatriation has been drawn up. There are other reasons which may jusitfy repatriation.

XXVI. Industrial Unrest in the North.

There is considerable movement among the workers in most of the North Italian industrial towns. The Fascist authorities fear a fresh general strike similar to that of last March. The present movements are particularly noticeable in MILAN, TURIN, GENOA, VENICE and other towns in consequence of the lack of food, the reprisals against certain workers and clerks who threatened a general strike if their demands were not satisfied.

The situation in VENICE is especially serious owing to the difficult food situation, and the fact that, after the recent raid which caused extensive flooding, thousands of people have been obliged to leave their homes.
(La Suisse 30.10.44).

XXVII. State Control of Industry.

"In view of the necessity to regulate the reduction of weekly working hours in industrial concerns in the Province of Turin, the Head of the Province decrees: "No industrial concern may reduce working hours to anything under 24 hours a week without the previous sanction of the Director of the Labour Exchange of the Province, who will first refer the matter to the syndical industrial organisation. The Director of the Provincial Labour Exchange is charged with the execution of this decree".
(Stampa, Turin 25.10.44).

In connection with closer State control over national economy various industrial bureaux have lately been established to ensure that the branches under survey execute the regulations enforced by war conditions and to prevent disturbances in economic life by attending to the distribution of production in their sector. Thus the industrial bureau for chemistry and rubber has been established under the Minister for Corporative Economy. The bureau controls the production and distribution of chemicals and rubber products, and can prohibit the manufacture of certain articles. The formation of similar bureaux for other industrial branches is being planned.
(Europe-Kabel, Amsterdam 13.10.44).

XXVIII. German Reassurances to Workers.

In order to calm down the fear of the north Italian workers that

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(Europa-Kabel, Amsterdam 13.10.44).

XXVIII. German Reassurances to Workers.

In order to calm down the fear of the north Italian workers that the large industries will be destroyed, P.VOLINI made a speech stating that in MILAN there "existed serious preoccupation about the fate of factories and industrial installations in the case of a German retreat". P.VOLINI continued: "The Duce has interested himself in the matter and, after contacts yesterday with the highest competent German authorities, I have been authorised to communicate to you that productive establishments which assure work and a living to the Milanese and Italian workers and clerks will in no way be destroyed. It is solely planned to destroy installations directly useful for the war". Pavolini's statement was directly inspired by Kesselring and partly reassured the workers and clerks of Milan, Turin and Genoa. The threat of a general strike thus seems to have been avoided
(La Suisse, Geneve 1.11.44).

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PRESS

XXIX. Papers in Padua.

The following Fascist newspapers are read in Padua:

Gazettino of Venice
Crociata Italica of Cremona
Vedetta fascista edited in Vicenza
Regime Fascista of Cremona
Il Veneto edited in Padua.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 47 26.10.44).

CHURCH

XXX. Attitude to Partisans.

PIEDMONT Officially the church takes a neutral attitude, but in actual fact it is in favour of the partisan movement. Naturally it supports the antifascist parties of the right and particularly the Christian Democrats. The help given by the "Cottolengo" is very generous to the bombed out and wounded. One priest at M- is the organiser of a band of youths of L'Azione Cattolica". His house is a clandestine refuge for partisans and he is always ready to take part in actions - however risky and he has collaborated in the collection and supply of arms. He also helps in the care of sick and wounded, although this is very dangerous on account of the strict control exercised over clinics and hospitals, as all those wounded by firearms should be immediately reported to the German authorities.

Another priest organised a squad of boys from 14-16 years to undertake work of sabotage - distribution etc.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ..... 27.10.44).

XXXI. Attacks on Cardinal Schuster.

Farinacci has launched a violent tirade against Cardinal Schuster because the latter, in a recent speech declared that the war was now lost for the Axis and that the only way out was to surrender to the generosity of the victors. Another reason for Farinacci's tirade was the Cardinal's letter addressed to the clergy of Milan after the recent heavy allied air attack. Farinacci's grievance was that the letter contained not a single word of protest and he writes "The terrorist bombers are not even mentioned for fear of offending them".
(Dovere Bellinzona 30.10.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXXII. Extraordinary Tribunals of Milan, Mantova, Bergamo and Sondrio.

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Il Veneto edited in Padua.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 41 26.10.44).

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PERSONALITIES.

XXXII. Extraordinary Tribunals of Milan, Mantova, Bergamo and Sondrio. 233

The names of the special Fascist Tribunal which worked in Milan are:-

EZIO MARIA GRAI, Lawyer, President of the Tribunal
Captain GRAZIE -
Aldo LUPI
Edoardo ZAMETTI

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

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Lt. Col. Girolamo L.NTERI
Capt. SOFO BORGHESE
Lt. REN..TO L.VI..NO
Maj. ETTORE ..CERR.
Maj. C..RMELO VINTI
Maj. GUIDO PIGHETTI
Maj. DOMENICO ROBB.
Capt. ..LBERTO G..SSELL..
(P.W.B. Rome 4.11.44).

Fascist Tribunal of Bergamo.

.lfredo D.NGTTI of the Militia. President.
..GOSTINI PERR.NI - Public Minister
.lfredo B.RILL.RI
..ntonio FONT..NO
(P.W.B. Rome 8.11.44).

Special Tribunal of Mantova.

Raoul M.RCHETTI President
Torquato STRE..FICHI Public Minister
Enrico FRIPOLI Accountant
Guido MOSSINI

(P.W.B. Rome)

Special Tribunal of ..ni which sat in Sondrio.

.ntonio TROTT.. Lawyer
.ngelantonio BI..NCHI
Michele PODDIGHE
(P.W.B. Rome 6.11.44).

XXXIII. Milan Torturers.

The following are the names of well-known torturers of Milan:-

Magg. DONGO Vice-Federale of Torino. Member of the Magistreture
Fascist Secretery (Black Brigade)

Capt.
(Centurione)
ORL.NDI Member of Militia 30-35 years of age
Height 5' 5". Dark, curly hair

Cap Magg. FR..NZONI 50 years of age, low intelligence, Ignorant. Slender type
Round shouldered Height 5' 9" Described as being more cruel then Dongo and Orlandi.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

...Brigade.

Alfredo D.INCTTI of the Militia. President.
..GOSTINI PERR.NI - Public Minister
Alfredo B.RILL.RI
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Round shouldered Height 5' 9" Described as being more cruel than Dongo and Orlandi.

(F.W.B. 8th .rmy Italian Section Report No 43).

XXXIV. Venezia Black List.

Col. MON.CO Commendante Military of the Province of ...nezia
Console MORELLI ...mendante Provinciale G.N.F.
.ge about 50, height 1.65m, keen Fascist, very unpopular.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775127

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Capt. SC.NZI.NI	Secretary of above, native of MIL.N age 45, height 1.70m thin.
Lt. Z.NI or Z.NE	Head of the office of UPI. Native of C..V.RZERE (VENEZI.) age 40, normal build, height 1.75 m. In charge of interrogation and torture.
Capt. FR.NCESE.	Adjutant of G.N.R. Native of S. Italy age 45, thin, height 1.75m. Address: S. M.RI. del GIGLIO (VENEZI.)
Sergente FR.NCESE	Son of above. Age 20, height 1.70m thin.
Lt. LUX.RDO	With G.N.R. age 50, height 1.70m thin
Sjt of Lt. LUX..RDO Dino.	Spy for Italian SS to report to SS on partisan activity Age 20. height 1.70m scar on forehead.
Capt. RIZZO	Ex. Capt of CC.RR. In charge of investigations for recruiting officers. Age 50, wears glasses, 1.70m, moustache.

(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.A.I. Italian Section Report No 45. 1.11.44)

XXXV. Padua Fascists.

The Prefect and Commissari Federali are changed very often. The last Prefect of P.DU.., POLL.ZI, was sacked because found too weak.

The worst Fascists are the brothers ..LLEGRO.

GINO ..LLEGRO, Commandant of the Black Brigade is said to be a sadistic torturer and has a torture room in the Federazione Fascists, Via Riviere Tito Livio. He is responsible for the death of more than a hundred persons.

His brothers activities are more of a political and propaganda nature.

(P.W.B. Adv. HQ ...A.I. Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

XXXVI. Collaborators in [illegible]

M.RIO SOL..RO - Federal Secretary
ZERBINO -Ex prefect of Turin
BR.NDIM.RTE -Consule Generale of the Militizia - native of SOND..RIV. BOSCO
G..ZZOTTI- ex Federale of Turin
Eng. S.RTIR.N. -ex Mayor of Turin

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778-031

S. M.RIA del GIGLIO (VENEZIA.)

Sergente FR.NCESE — Son of above. .ge 20, height 1.70m thin.

Lt. LUX.RDO — With G.N.R. age 50, height 1.70m 6hin

Sjt of Lt. LUX.RDO Dino. — Spy for Italian SS to report to SS on partisan activity .ge 20. height 1.70m scar on forehead.

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(P.W.B. Adv. HQ ....I. Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

XXXVI. Collaborators in Piedmont

M.RIO SOL.RO - Federal Secretary
ZERBINO -Ex prefect of Turin
BR.NDIM.RTE -Console Generale of the Militizia - native of SOM.RIV. BOSCO
G.ZZOTTI- ex Federale of Turin
Eng. S.RTIR.N. -ex Mayor of Turin
Count F.LLETTI of Villa Felletto -ex Federale of Turin
Eng. Count .LESS.NDRO CRSI- one time Inspector General of the Party and Director of .T.G
Cesare BONINO - ex Federale
.ntonio BONINO
Dott. C.RLO BONGIOV.NNI - Member of the Special Tribunal Fierce persecutor of partisans
GL.REI - Federale of .OST. and CUNEO
M.RIO S.R.SINO -Squadrist and spy - now fled to MONDOVI
M.N.SSERO [illegible] of MONDOVI -spies

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788224

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

The brothers BORGN.. -interpreters and collaborators with the Germans.
Avv. GI..COMO VI..LE -ex Segretario politico of MONDOVI-spy
The sisters RINZIVILLO - keep a laundry at MONDOVI which is a well known refuge for spies and SS.
VITTORI.. ORIGLI.. -denouncer of patriots
The Segretario Comunale of P..MP..R.TO -spy
REVELLI -Segretario Politico of MONDOVI
ELIGIO ROSSENTI - Journalist of S..VON. -spy who had Avv. Astengo Cristoforo of Savona shot
"DON ..ELIUS" of CEV.. - spy - incited the Germans from the pulpit against partisans
Dott. REVELLI of ROCC.. CIGLIE -spy
DON.DEI of CL..VES..N.. (C..RRU) - guide to the Germans in their burnings of the houses of partisans.
Signorine MUSSO - hostesses of the GERMAN Command at MONDOVI - spies.
Signorine OCCELLI - collaborators and spies, welcomed the Germans
Professoressa MONTEZEMOLO of MONDOVI - welcomed the Germans with flowers.
Signorine BORGN.. of MONDOVI -spy
Signors S..R..SINO of MONDOVI
Signorine M..NFREDI -Via della Funicolare -MONDOVI spy
BON..LLI -dye manufacturer at MONDOVI -collaborator
DOTT. RONZ.. -Federale of CUNEO, Commander of the Black Brigade.
2nd Lt. RICCI..RDI -Commandant of the SS of MONDOVI, well-known for his savagery, war criminal
Capt TINTO -Commander of the SS at CEV.. and CHIUS..-PESIO
Console BI ..ANTI Head of the Ufficio Politico of TURIN with hq at MONC..LIERI
BI..NCHI -journalist of S..VON.., founder of the Fasci Repubblicani at S..VON.., now President of the Province.

(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and .... 27.10.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 12

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(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ...A. 27.10.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

13 NOV 1944

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th November, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12, APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 30.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisan Organisation in Piedmontese Alps.

The Committee of Liberation of TURIN has organised patriot bands of four types:

1. Autonomous formations (estimated strength 10,000), usually made up of disbanded soldiers, organised militarily with no political leanings.

2. Garibaldi bands (estimated strength 15,000), originally emanating from the Communist Party, though all the members are not necessarily Communist.

3. Giustizia e Liberta Bands (estimated strength 10,000) take orders from the Party of Action and are largely commanded by officers.

4. Matteotti Bands (estimated strength 3,000) belong to the Socialist Party.

Nazi-Fascist Reactions.

The occupation of Val d'Ossola has resulted in the exodus of hundreds of partisans and refugees into the Canton Ticino, and the latter continue to arrive from the OSSOLA, VIGEZZA and FORMAZZA valleys, mostly in a pitiable condition. The Federal Government has warned the partisans that they will be interned. On 29th September, several thousand German SS attacked the Stella Rossa Brigade and divided it into two. The two bodies of the Brigade defended Monte Salvare and Monte Di Caprera with great resolution and eventually escaped. The Germans wreaked horrible reprisals in Caprara, Casseglia and S. Martino. The Stella Rossa Brigade made its first contacts with the 5th Army at Castiglion de Pepoli.

Fascist Press and Radio claimed many successes in mopping-up operations in the provinces of ASTI, VERCELLI, BOLOGNA, RAVENNA, SONDRIO, COMO, VARESE and PIACENZA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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Partisan Activities.

In spite of strong German reactions, the partisans are still active. German transport columns were attacked near BIELLA, and in the Val di SCRIVIA. Considerable clashes occurred near PIGNA (Imperia Province) and near SCURANO (Parma Province).

Daring raids were carried out in SUSA, where patriots were released from prison and in TORINO where a Fascist Colonel of G.N.R. was kidnapped.

FASCIST FORCES.

Navy.

A number of baby submarines of about 28 tons are being collected in TRIESTE. The morale of the crews is said to be very low.

SECRET

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET SUMMARY 2.

All information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

GERMANS

Morale.

All reports indicate a steady decline. The majority of P.Ws interrogated saw no chance of a German victory. The new weapons propaganda had given them a temporary exaltation, but under continued defeats that stimulus was now discounted and war-weariness is now prevalent. Only the fear and uncertainty of what will happen to Germany keeps the army fighting.

Evacuations

More evacuation measures are reported. BUFFARINI-GUIDI and GRAZIANI are said to have issued instructions for the maintenance of order in the Po valley and the organisation of resistance by Fascists in the case of a German retreat.

Atrocities and Reprisals.

The Black Brigade of BOLOGNA has revenged its failures against the partisans by reprisals on the partisans.

The Germans are reported to have massacred 300 men, women and children at MARZABOTTO.

Further details are given of the massacre in SANT'ANNA DI STAZZEMA.

Desertions

Kesselring, in a circular to his troops, threatens deserters or prisoners who surrender unjustifiably with reprisals on their families and confiscation of property.

POLITICS

Death of Koch

Details of Koch's execution have now arrived. His car was ambushed by patriots on the TURIN-CHIVASSO road and Koch and three other passengers were killed by hand grenades

Low Morale of Fascist Party.

Captured documents indicate that the Fascist Party's morale is badly shaken. A report dated early in October complains bitterly of patriot propaganda, particularly in regard to sugar supplies, which, according to popular rumour, are being sent to

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Appointments.

On assuming office as Special Commissioner for PIEDMONT, Dr. Paolo ZERBINO has asked to be relieved of the post of Under-Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior. Dr. Giorgio PINI has been appointed in his place.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
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SUMMARY 3.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation

In TURIN the acute transport problem aggravates the difficulties of food supply. In the VENETO the Allies will be faced eventually with a serious food shortage, as stocks are being transferred to Germany. A report from BIELLA states that famine prevails in the VAL D'AOSTA owing to the heavy shipments of food to Germany via Switzerland, from NOVARA.

The production of sugar for the first week of October in ALESSANDRIA, viz 6000 quintals, has also been transported to Germany.

In BOLOGNA the food situation is described as catastrophic.

LABOUR

Throughout North Italy masses of workmen are reported to have been captured and deported to Germany. It is said that Militiamen are granted a fortnight's leave for every ten workers produced by them.

In TURIN special press gangs are operating, commanded by 300 Fascist officers, under Colonel GAJA.

PRESS

Transocean states that transport difficulties are responsible for a boom in local newspapers and publications, as the big MILAN and TURIN dailies cannot reach outlying towns.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc).

6th November, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 30.

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III. Mopping-up Operations .. .. " 5.

FASCIST FORCES

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V. The Badoglio Generals Trial .. .. " 6.
VI. Desertions .. .. " 6.
VII. Emergency Measures on the Po .. .. " 6.
VIII. Navy .. .. " 7.
IX. Atrocities .. .. " 7.

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XI. Further Evacuation Measures .. .. " 8.
XII. Situation at Bologna .. .. " 9.
XIII. Atrocities and Reprisals .. .. " 9.
XIV. German Propaganda .. .. " 10.
XV. Kesselring Threatens Deserters .. .. " 11.

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XVIII. Mussolini's Activities .. .. " 12.
XIX. Captured Documents Reveal Low Morale .. .. " 12.
XX. Exchange of Duce's Relatives for Democrats? .. .. " 13.
XXI. New Appointments .. .. " 13.
XXII. Death of the notorious Koch .. .. " 14.
XXIII. Escape of Anti-Fascist .. .. " 14.

ECONOMICS

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th November, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 30.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

General Picture of the constitution of patriot bands in the Piemontese Alps.

The C.L.N. of Turin laid down that the patriot bands should be organised into formations of four types:

1. Autonomous Formations.

The first nuclei of these were formed by disbanded soldiers who later were joined by men who should have risponded to the call-up. The organisation of these bands is of a military character, and they have no political commissars of their own. They incorporate men of various political leanings. There are about 10,000 men The disposition of these formations is as follows:

Alta Bassa Langa: MAURI Band
Valli del Monregalese: (Val Tanaro, Val Corsaglia, Val d'Ellero, Val Pesio) - Mauri Bands commanded by Colonel "Vanni" and Captain Cosa.
Val Chisone: MARCELLIN Bands - from the name of the commander, ex champion in skiing.
Val d'Aosta: small formations
Novi Ligure: S. GIORGIO Band - commanded by REPETTO
Asti: small bands
Basso Vercellese: A fair number of small bands.

2. Garibaldi Bands.

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This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

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2. Garibaldi Bands

Although these emanated originally from the Communist Party the groups which form them have not usually any particular political leanings and may be constituted of men of varying opinions. The responsible positions, however are almost entirely held by communists These bands number about 15,000 men, formed into Brigades and Divisions. In each formation there is a Political Commissar - some of whom are in a purely consultative capacity, others are concerned with propaganda. The bands are disposed in

Alto Val Tanaro: a formation with contacts in LIGURIA- a brigade commanded by Capitano "MARTINENGO"
Val Varaita: small bands belonging to Divisions operating in other districts.

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Val Maira: small bands as above
District round Saluzzo: small bands as above
Parts of Val Susa: " " " "
Valli di Lanzo: " " " "
Basse Val d'Aosta: " " " "
Alto Canavesano: " " " "
Parts of the Alto Vercellese: " " " "
Centro delle Langhe: " " " " and two groups under the command of "Lulu" (a Frenchmen) and "Eugenio" of slav origin
Pinerolese: The BARBATO band - one of the best organised and best known
Valsesia: Biellese: "MOSCATELLI" bands, formed by various divisions

Other formations operate in Piedmont controlled by the Liberation Committee of Genova and also perhaps by that of Milan.

3. G.L. (Giustizia e Libertà) Bands.

These take orders from the Party of Action and are largely commanded by officers. They are variously organised and have a political commissar from the Party for every division. Their numbers include about 10,000 men; their disposition is as follows:

In the Cuneese.

Val Vermellagna: at the end of September the valley was under the control of the Germans
Val Gesso: do.
Valle Stura di Demonte: in progress of reorganisation after an attack on a German division which tried to cross the Colle della Maddalena to bring help to troops who were fighting the French (first days of September 44) Bands from the Gesso and Grana valleys also contributed to the action.
Val Grana:
Val Maira suffered a mopping- up operation on the part of Fascist forces on 25th September
Val Varaita: as Val Maira.
Val di Susa:

The G.L. bands have joined with the autonomous bands to provide for the restoration of order in the eventuality of a withdrawal on the part of the Germans. The G.L. divisions and the Cosa division operate in a particularly difficult district.

4. Matteotti Bands.

Belong to the Socialist Party. They have limited forces and operate in regions where other formations predominate. They [illegible] and are dispersed in all the regions of the

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and best known.

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In the Cuneese.

Val Varmellegua: at the end of September the valley was under the control of the Germans
Val Gesso: do.
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Val Grana:
Val Maira: suffered a mopping- up operation on the part of Fascist forces on 20th September
Val Varaita: As Val Maira.
Val di Susa:

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4. Matteotti Bands.

Belong to the Socialist Party. They have limited forces and operate in regions where other formations predominate. They include about 3,000 men and are disposed in all the regions of the Piedmontese alps, the Val d'Ossola and the whole zone up to the Appenines. Some bands also operate in the Monferrato plain.
(F.W.B. Rome27.10.44).

The 8th Garibaldi Brigade - in action in the region between CESENA and FORLI - constituted by the C.L.N. of FORLI. It is commanded by PIETRO MAURI (workman), and the total forces of the Brigade amount to 650 men, formed into battalions. Apart from individual arms, (they have rifles and Beretta guns) the Brigade has some automatic arms, both light and heavy. The Brigade has taken part in numerous actions against the nazi-Fascists, and has done much sabotage It has now made contact with the 8th Army in the region of CESENA. (F.W.B. Florence 26 10 44)

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II. Recent Partisan Activities.

BIELLA On 9th October the Biella G.L. Brigade made a daring attack on a motorised column of Germans powerfully convoyed. Fifteen Germans, among them a high ranking officer, were killed.

IMPERIA A Ligurian Garibaldi Brigade repulsed a German attack near PIGNA in the Province of Imperia.

In VAL DI SCRIVIA a patriot brigade continues to make attacks on enemy transport on the GENOVA -SERRAVALLE Road.

PARMA In the province of PARMA between the 5th and 7th October a Garibaldi Brigade killed 42 Germans and wounded many others near SCURANO.
(P.W.B. Rome 24.10.44).

GENOVA The warehouse which was blown up by the patriots in GENOVA on the 10th October, in the tunnel near LA LANTERNA, contained a great quantity of explosives which the Germans had intended to use to destroy the factories in the zone when they retreated. The explosion caused the destruction of the tunnel and the CALATA MOLO NUOVO and the CALATA DELLA SANITA (wharfs). Other damage was verified in another couple of tunnels further away. Three small warships were sunk and about 200 Germans killed. The repairs to the port are still in progress.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.10.44).

SUSA On 12th October some patriots carried out a daring stroke against the Susa prison, disarming the sentinels and liberating two patriots. A demand for a truce from the enemy who threatened reprisals if it was not accepted, was refused by a group of patriots who ambushed a German motor car and killed 6 officers.

TURIN Elements of a Garibaldi brigade entered Turin secretly and took prisoner a Colonel of the Fascist Republican Guard and removed him, together with two soldiers of the 10 MAS Flotilla.
(P.W.B. Rome 30.10.44).

The mopping up operations by the Germans in the valleys west of TURIN have not weakened the patriots' resistance. Immediately after the retreat of the Nazi-Fascist troops who were certain that they had cleaned up the zone, some Garibaldi Divisions were reorganised. Elements of three brigades inflicted serious losses on the enemy in an attack made against the garrison of PIANO AUDI in the middle of October. Thirty Nazi-Fascist dead were left on the field and others died later in hospital, bringing up the number of casualties to 80. The patriots also took 19 prisoners.
(P.W.B. Rome 1.11.44)

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(P.W.B. Rome 1.11.44)

Sabotage
UDINE -on the evening of 19th October, near UDINE, an electric locomotive which was towing a steam engine, was derailed and the occupants attacked with hand grenades and automatic arms. The two engines were destroyed. On the night of the 24th, in the same sector, an electric train of 30 waggons was derailed. The engine was burnt and five waggons derailed. 12-7

TRENTO Near OSPEDALETTO, in the Province of TRENTO , the patriots destroyed a ware-house full of raw material and machines intended for fortification works.

S.VORGNANO The electric power station of S.VORGNANO in the province of UDINE has been rendered useless.
(P.W.B. Rome 29.10.44).

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GORETTO In Liguria the patriots have attacked GORETTO, forcing the enemy garrison composed of 400 Fascist Alpine soldiers, to retreat towards the north. Some of the Alpini, thinking that the patriots were American soldiers, met with great joy.

BOLOGNA A report sent by OVRA to the Ministry of the Interior, which fell into the hands of the patriots states: "A Committee of National Liberation composed only of elements of the Left is functioning in BOLOGNA. The Socialist Party has the greatest number of followers, whilst the Communist Party, though small, is composed of men of determination; the Action Party draws the intellectual elements, working hard, but only in the political field.

Partisan activity has greatly increased and measures are being taken to prepare for armed insurrection. Three Brigades from the Province of MODENA and one from the ROMAGNA are expected in Bologna. The situation has awakened serious concern in German circles, and even more among the Black Brigades who have received orders to resist the patriots to the last man".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.10.44).

VAL D'OSSOLA. A fascist broadcast on October 17th threatened punishment for the partisans and the pro-partisan population of the Val d'Ossola. The campaign of arrests has already begun. Nothing entitles anyone to believe that reprisals, hitherto usual in such circumstances against the guilty and innocent alike, will this time be discontinued. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 18.10.44).

The entry of armed partisans into Switzerland from Val d'Ossola does not pose a new problem. As they are armed, they will not be allowed to return after recovery from their hardships. The Federal Council has, therefore, issued instructions to the effect that partisans are to be allowed to enter Switzerland only if they are in mortal danger, and they will be interned for the duration of the war. The Swiss frontier guards have been instructed accordingly to inform the partisans of this before their internment.
(Vaterland, Lucerne 18.10.44).

Refugees from the OSSOLA, VIGEZZO and FORMAZZA valleys continue to arrive in the Ticino, almost all in a pitiable state. On October 19th over 900 people, including 300 partisans, arrived in AIROLO in three columns from the SAN GIACOMO Pass and from BEDRETTO. The population of Airolo rivalled the Red Cross in supplying the refugees with food, clothing and blankets. Towards evening a military lorry drove towards Bedretto in order to meet further refugees. Reports also come from BELLINZONA and LOCARNO of the arrival of further groups. An extra train on October 19th transferred 500 refugees from [illegible] Zollikofen, where they will be sustained provisionally.

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LAKE MAGGIORE. In the Lake Maggiore region a partisan band has held MONTE MORTAROM for some time, and carries out raids as far as STRESA. It recently clashed with some Fascist gaolers, killing the Fascist Captain. A Colonel of the G.N.R. and three NCOs were ambushed and killed by partisans near Lake Maggiore. The ORSENA Black Brigade in a recent expedition against the Piedmont partisans lost an officer and three men.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 19.10.44).

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The Stella Rossa Brigade. At dawn on the 29th September some thousands of German SS, guided by traitors, attacked the Stella Rossa Brigade and succeeded in dividing it into two, on the one hand the 1st and 2nd Battalions on Monte Salvaro and on the other the 3rd and 4th Battalions, which managed to take up positions on Monte di Caprara and Monte Sole. After fierce attacks and with the help of mortars and flame throwers, the Germans obtained possession of M. Caprara. The partisans resisted on Monte Sole throughout the night, and succeeded in escaping from M. Salvaro The reprisals committed by the nazis in the region of the battle were terrible and unimaginable atrocities were carried out. In C.PRARA., for example, all the houses of the region were completely burnt down, and in one place thirty women and children were found murdered with hand grenades. The Church of C.SAGLIA was also burnt to the ground, the priest killed and buildings destroyed. In the cemetary were found about 40 bodies of women and children, who were brought there and then killed with machine gun fire. At S. MARTINO 48 bodies of women and children were discovered in front of the burnt out church, all piled up and mixed up with the carcases of animals. Here too the church was set fire to and the priest killed.
The Stella Rossa Brigade made its first contacts with the 5th Army at CASTIGLION DE PEPOLI.
(P.W.B. Florence 25.10.44).

III. Mopping up Operations.

ASTI and VERCELLI A large scale mopping-up operation was carried out during the last few days in the area between the Provinces of Asti and Vercelli by units of the Republican Army and Black Brigades reinforced by elements of the German army. In the grim fighting which followed, 80 outlaws were killed, including the leader of the band, and more than 100 were taken prisoner. Arms and ammunition of American origin were captured- stolen automobiles were recovered.
(Monitoring Report - Axis broadcasts 27.10.44).

All the north Italian press gives plenty of space to the Fascists' numerous operations against the patriots, who are represented as bandits and assassins whom the German and Fascist soldiers must suppress in order to protect the civilian population. The following operations are reported:.
BOLOGNA.During the last days of September, some localities in the Province of BOLOGNA were mopped-up by a Black Brigade, a company of the GNR, Army detachments and German SS detachments. A group of bandits was attacked and routed in Case Ortolane. Five Squadristi were killed during the clash, including Lt. Filippini. Twenty- [illegible] Many arrests were made; a huge

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RAVENNA During the last few days a Black Brigade Company mopped-up some localities in the Province of Ravenna, liquidating groups of outlaws. Seven bandits were killed and others were wounded. Some defaulters were captured and also a considerable quantity of arms of US origin.
SONDRIO Detachments of the GNR during a mopping-up operation killed some outlaws and captured two.
STRESA. At 05,000 hours on October 16th groups of outlaws, armed with machine-guns, attacked a convalescent home for officers and the HQ of the War Cripples' Association in STRESA whilst the personnel of these institutions, accompanied by their families and disabled officers, were preparing for safe transfer elsewhere. Violent fighting broke out between the rebels and the war cripples, aided by members of the 10th M.S Flotilla.
(Dovere, Bellinzona 20.10.44).

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The Italian Home Service 22.10.44 reported mopping-up operations in the following zones:

Cuneo
Province of Como by detachments of the GNR, the Black Brigades and German elements
Province of Varese
Province of Piacenza, near Monte Chiaro, where a motorised column composed of detachments of the "Piacentina" Black Brigade, the GNR and an armoured group of the "Leonessa" made contact with a group of bandits and engaged them in combat.

Operations were also carried out in Val STRONA, Novara Province by a Black Shirt Detachment.
(Agenzia Telegrafica Svizzera 20.10.44).

Following the recent murder of Dr. Antonio GAFFERINO, Head of the Prefecture Secretarial Staff, Black Brigade units have carried out mopping-up operations, killing 20 members of the Communist bands.
(Corriere Della Sera, Milan 16.10.44).

SOCIAL FORCES.

IV. Dispositions.

Alpine troops of the Fascist Republican MONTEROSA Division are in the area of BORGO VAL DI [illegible] (P.6363) and VARESE (P.4041) An estimated 3000 troops of this unit are engaged in anti-partisan activities in those sectors.
(G2 - 6th Army 8.10.44).

V. The Badoglio Generals Trial.

MILAN has been chosen as the theatre for the grand public trial of the Badoglio generals G.ROATTA, M.I.G.C., C.R.CASTELLANO, E.CORUNNA, MARIO, D'INZEO, VECCHIARELLI, SCUERO, ROSI and R.BOTTI who, after awaiting trial for months in VERONA prison, were recently transferred to BRESCIA, from whence they will be sent to MILAN on the eve of the trial. The only general of Badoglio's army who has not been arrested is VERONESE, who made a timely escape abroad. Some ascribe the delay in holding this trial to GRAZIANI who wanted to keep the generals as hostages in order to bargain for his own life or that of other Republican military leaders with the National Liberation Committee. A similar need for hostages was demonstrated by Mussolini's recent order to arrest the relatives of the members of the Rome Government living north of the Gothic line.

With time running short it is planned to sacrifice the Badoglio

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the CLN and an armoured detachment of the "Piacenza" Black Brigade, a group of bandits and engaged them in combat.

Operations were also carried out in Val STRONA, Novara Province by a Black Shirt Detachment.
(Agenzia Telegrafica Svizzera 26.10.44).

Following the recent murder of Dr. Antonio CAPPELLINO, Head of the Prefecture Secretariat staff, Black Brigade units have carried out mopping-up operations, killing 20 members of the Communist bands.
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ENEMY FORCES.

IV. Dispositions.

Alpine troops of the Fascist Republican MONTEROSA Division are in the area of BORGO VAL DI TARO (P 6858) and VARESE (P 4841) An estimated 3000 troops of this unit are engaged in anti-partisan activities in those sectors.
(G2 - 5th Army 8.10.44).

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With time running short it is planned to sacrifice the Badoglio generals in order to force people's hands thus demonstrating the consequence of failure to reach agreement with the patriots to save the lives of Mussolini's chief hierarchs and their families. Inter alia a safe conduct is desired for Mussolini's wife and children to allow them to choose a safe residence abroad. The prisons are full. Other personalities besides the generals have been awaiting trial for many months, including the Air Force General MONTI, who was arrested in ROME during the violation of San Paolo Fuori le Mura.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 21-10-44).

VI. Desertions.

The number of desertions among the MONTE ROSA division is always increasing. 200 Alpini recently went over with their arms to a partisan formation taking with them the wireless apparatus of the division (Italian Official Source 16.10.44).

SECRET

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VII. Emergency Measures on the PO.

The Prefect of CREMONA has ordered that, as from October 18th, no boats are to be allowed on the Po between 18.00 and 06.00 hours nobody is to be permitted to use ferries unless with a special permit delivered by the Prefecture; fishermen are only permitted to fish between 06.00 and 18.00 and are only allowed to carry passengers possessing special permits.
(Regime Fascists, Cremona 18.10.44)

VIII. Navy.

According to news from the crew of the Submarine CB 16 who brought their craft aground on the beach at Senegal (1st October) the CB (Battelli Caproni) are submarines of 28 tons, with a crew of four persons (a Commander, engineer, electrician and wireless operator) They have the following characteristics:

Surface Speed: 7 knots
Immersion Speed: 5 knots
Maximum depth: 70/80 metres
Motors: Naptha and accumulators. They are constructed in the Captoni works at MILAN and taken by rail to TRIESTE where they are finished by Caproni workmen in the S. MARCO shipyards. During the month of September an order for 30 units was in progress to complete the 1st Submarine Squadron CB, which had to be finished for the beginning of October.
(Italian Official Source 17.10.44).

The CB was the first unit to be completed of the 1st Squadron now operating in the Adriatic with a base at VAL FIGO (POLA)
On the 28th September the Squadron was commanded by Captain BACCARINI
There was a Group Commend at TRIESTE.

The CB 12 was at POLA, under construction in the arsenal. It had to be towed to TRIESTE, because it was without batteries.

The CB 7 was also at POLA in the arsenal, almost destroyed as a result of an air raid.

CB 17, CB 18, CB 19 and CB 20 were ready in TRIESTE. Caproni workmen were putting the finishing touches.

Sources were told that the morale of the crews was very low, and some had expressed the intention to desert on the first opportunity.
(Italian Official Source 17.10.44).

IX. Atrocities.

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possessing special permits.
(Regime Fascists, Cremona 18.10.44)

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Immersion Speed: 5 knots
Maximum depth: 70/80 metres
Motors: Naptha and accumulators. They are constructed in the Captoni works at MILAN and taken by rail to TRIESTE where they are finished by Caproni workmen in the S. MARCO shipyards. During the month of September an order for 30 units was in progress to complete the 1st Submarine Squadron CB, which had to be finished for the beginning of October.
(Italian Official Source 17.10.44).

The CB was the first unit to be completed of the 1st Squadron now operating in the Adriatic with a base at VAL FIGO (POL.) On the 28th September the Squadron was commanded by Captain BACCARINI There was a Group Commend at TRIESTE.

The CB 12 was at POL., under construction in the arsenal. It had to be towed to TRIESTE, because it was without batteries.

The CB 7 was also at POL. in the arsenal, almost destroyed as a result of an air raid.

CB 17, CB 18, CB 19 and CB 20 were ready in TRIESTE. Caproni workmen were putting the finishing touches.

Sources were told that the morale of the crews was very low, and some had expressed the intention to desert on the first opportunity.
(Italian Official Source 17.10.44).

IX. Atrocities.

The last number of "Italian Libera" gives details of the death of Professor Quintino DI VONA, a member of the Action Party, killed at the beginning of September. German SS and "Muti" Militiamen arrested di Vona on September 7th at his house at INZAGO on the denunciation of spies. His execution, which took place during the afternoon, was entrusted to boys of 15 and 16. The body remained exposed in the public square until evening. The execution was a reprisal for the wounding of a Fascist and German soldier at INZAGO.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 25.10.44).

1245

Following the MONTE GRAPPA battle 124 partisans were hanged and 22 shot in the villages at the foot of the mountains in BASSANO (@ 28) For their part in the affair the VICENZA Black Brigade drew praise from Mussolini.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I. 21.10.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 963121

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

GERMANS.

X. Morale.

Conditions in the German Army. Prisoners of war recently interrogated expressed very depreciating opinions on the qualities of their officers: "Nowadays officers are no longer any good. The young HJ officers are the worst type of man imagineble; arrogant and incapable."

In 2BV 2nd Co Officers are brutes. Lt. KRNZLAN is a cruel and incompetent man. He has now gone back to the rear for hospitalisation in the opinion of these men this is because he is afraid that he might get a bullet from his own men. A short time ago Major ..SSMANN, also from 2BV 7 was killed by his men".

..lmost all good officers were either killed or wounded in the battles of this summer, says a man from 2 Co 117 IR; the new ones are mostly older reserve officers with little front line experience, 35 years old or so.

There were no complaints about delivery of mail or food. In one case a man stated that the rule was for letters from Germany to arrive in 7 to 10 days.

Attitude towards Capture. Willingness to fight to the last bullet in order to save the fatherland seems again to be notably absent from the units from which prisoners interrogated came.

.. NCO from 8 Co 147 IR who was a deserter, and brought his group along, considered that 70 - 80% of the men of his Co would not be willing to fight to the end. They are mostly older men, 38 years old on the average- they are all tired and do not want to fight any more..

.. NCO from 2BV 7 stated that his men were so much worn down by artillery fire that they gave up without resistance. This artillery fire, more than anything else, made them feel that it was senseless to go on.

Fear of consequences and of being shot is still a strong deterrent to surrender, and desertion. Furthermore, among those who think that there is no sense in continuing the war, there is the hope that they may reach the Brenner, from where they can get home, either to go into hiding or to return after defeat. They therefore try and avoid being taken prisoner, as they do not know when they may return from England or America.

Soldiers' opinions on the war. Among ten soldiers interrogated there was only one who thought that many men in the German army still

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775121

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Soldiers' opinions on the war. Among ten soldiers interrogated there was only one who thought that many men in the German army still believe in victory and the Fuehrer. One man, a parachutist from Austria, admitted that in his unit they no longer knew what to think about continuing the war. He himself had been at the military Academy in POTSDAM and found that they were fed with big phrases whilst the German troops had to withdraw everywhere. The accumulation of material he saw behind the American lines made him even more doubtful about German victory.

Many German soldiers believed in new weapons until the beginning of October, but now disillusionment was spreading rapidly. V1 was at first welcomed, then regarded with suspicion. It is now thought possible that V2 will appear, but little hope for victory is attached to it. Many said that if no new weapons came before October 10th it was no use going on with the war.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788027

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Soldiers' opinions on Post-war Germany Most prisoners take a very gloomy view on Germany's fate in case of defeat.
The gloomiest view on record is that the German Reich will disappear, German territory will be placed under Russian influence, all family life will cease, the intelligensia will be wiped out. Bolshevism is as bad as Nazism, and there is no hope for any future for the ordinary man in Germany.

By some official propaganda stories about sterilisation and permanent enslavement of all Germans by Russia are still strongly believed.

Uncertainty of their personal future is said to wear down the morale of the soldiers. Some believe that they will be marched in parade through Rome. Others that they will sent to work in Russia or Africa. Some are simply so tired physically that they will no longer make any effort at all.

Men who have been in the front line since January are so worn out by artillery that they want nothing more than to be left alone, and have peace so that they can get back to work at home.

Some men are very bitter about the harsh punishments dealt out in their units for the slightest offences.

Fighting spirit would be much lower if the soldiers saw more clearly what their and their country's fate would be after defeat.
(5th Army Interrogation Report).

XI. Further Evacuation Measures.

The forthcoming transfer of the Fascist Secretariat from MADERNO to MERANO is announced. Other Government offices will also move shortly to the ALTO ADIGE. Germans are evacuating military magazines belonging to the Engineer Cops to PAVIA. All boats along the river TICINO have been requisitioned. The imminent evacuation of the population of MANTUA has been mentioned. BUFFARINI-GUIDI and GRAZIANI are issuing orders for the maintenance of order in the Po valley in the event of a German retreat and are organising armed resistance there.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.10.44).

XII. Situation at Bologna.

German reports from BOLOGNA say that "Italian Blackshirts and German defence forces have nipped in the bud attempts by strong rebel groups to prepare a second Warsaw inside Bologna. Should the attacking enemy be able to carry the battle from the Apennines into this city situated at the very approaches to these mountains, the rear of our defenders will be safe.

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Official quarters in Bologna told the correspondent that the first shells to fall in the centre of Bologna were not fired by regular enemy troops, but by partisans, who shelled the town sporadically with mortars and light mountain artillery from various hide-outs. Black-shirts have smoked out the [illegible] nests. Since then the town has been quiet, apart from air attacks. Only the southern fringe of Bologna is being shelled by Allied artillery. 1 of 2 - 4

In the centre of the city too, all resistance movements have been eliminated. Assaults, acts of sabotage and attempts at murder were, for a time, everyday occurrences. The famous Baglioni hotel in the Via Independenza in the centre of Bologna was destroyed.
(Transocean 26.10.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778121

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Another German report speaks of the importance to Kesselring of the Via Emilia - "This is the shortest connection between the Adriatic coast and the Alps, running parallel to the Apennines and across the Po Plain, and is a modern concrete road built by Mussolini. It has not got a single curve and is a masterpiece of Italian road building. Four to six vehicles can travel abreast on the road which, in view of its situation, has become Kesselring's most important supply route. Allied aircraft are roaming the skies like hawks. Camouflage is the most elementary requirement of thedefenders. Traffic runs almost exclusively at night. In daylight notices warn not only against low-flying aircraft, but also against Allied artillery, which keeps observation on the roads and shells them at many points. The Via Emilia is more important than Bologna; its possession or loss decides the fate of the whole of Romagna.
(Transocean 25.10.44).

XIII. Atrocities and Reprisals.

BOLOGNA. The Black Brigade of Bologna, moving towards the north for mopping-up operations, rather than confront the patriots, takesaction against unarmed citizens. At MARZABOTTO, the Germans slaughtered 300 persons, amongst whom were women and children, and buried them in a common greve, as a reprisal for the activities of the G.A.P. At CASALECCHIO DI RENO 15 persons were publicly hung. Another 8 civilians were shot on the 12th September at Bologna (P.W.B. Rome 28.10.44)

SANT'ANNA. The following details are now known about the horrible slaughter which took place on August 12th at SANT'ANNA DI STAZZENA by German butchers, in which nearly the whole population of the little village, amounting to little over 600 inhabitants, was victim of the Nazi ferocity. Using the killing of a German soldier as pretext the SS, numbering about 300, entered the village, divided into squadrons, and at once commenced the massacre. The men were absent, because they had fled from the village to escape forced labour. The first squadron of assassins forced about 100 old people, women and children to come out of their houses, and ordered them to leave the village; however, immediately the poor unfortunate people were grouped in the road a German officer discharged his automatic pistol, killing five people. The others rushed immediately into the nearest houses to save themselves. The Germans then hermetically sealed the doors and windows, and wreaked their fury on the unfortunate people inside, throwing hand grenades and flame throwers.

Not satisfied with this the murderers took the corpses from the houses (and some of the people were still alive), and after having tied them to the railings surrounding a large cross in the middle of the square, emptied their rifles among them. Finally they piled up furniture and chairs from the church near the bodies and set fire to the tragic heap. After this horrible massacre

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788221

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(Transocean 25.10.44).

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Some eye-witnesses have recounted that during the slaughter the Germans behaved in a very cheerful way. They accompanied the groans of the victims with derisive laughter and songs. According to the same witnesses the Germans were helped by elements of the Italian SS.
(P.W.B. Rome 29.10.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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The following is a translation of a poster captured in Italy addressed to Italian civilians and partisans:

"German soldiers have recently been frequently attacked and murdered by partisans. Such occurrences compel the German Command to take measures to prevent the population from behaving in a hostile manner towards German soldiers.

10 (ten) civilians from the FIESOLE district will be placed under the surveillance of the German troops. If the behaviour of the population is good, these persons will be assured of good treatment and their release on the departure of the German troops. On the other hand, in the event of hostile acts against German soldiers, these persons shall be shot.

These persons will be supplied with food by the district of FIESOLE.

The German Command

(P.W.B. ...A.I. German Intelligence 21.10.44).

After 20 Russians deserted with arms to the partisans at ORBASSANO (H 9122) on 4th October, the German Commander threatened to shoot 20 civilian hostages if they did not return.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ ...A.I. 21.10.44).

Following the explosion of a bomb at the "Three Kings" restaurant in TURIN when ten German soldiers were wounded, the German Command ordered the execution of nine "terrorists" who had been captured in possession of arms, including two leaders of Communist bands, Giovanni GARDONCINI and Giuseppe CASEAN., the former known as "Battista" and the latter as "Pippo" who for many months had carried out every kind of violence, robbery and murder against the population of Turin, and the neighbourhood.
(Stampa, Turin 13.10;44).

XIV. German Propaganda.

The TRIESTE radio (enemy controlled) 24.10.44, broadcast a German appeal to the Istrians of the 13th and 43rd Divisions to COME OVER TO THE GERMANS and bring their arms with them, on the grounds that the Allies have let them down and that "Owing to Tito's incapacity" their condition will become much worse this winter.

XV. Kesselring Threatens Reprisals

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XV. Kesselring Threatens Deserters.

Kesselring has issued a circular to his troops, informing officers and other ranks that those who desert, or allow themselves to be captured unjustifiably, will be regarded as traitors and consequently their families will be punished and their property confiscated. 1243

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XVI. Radio Reception.

The following reception was received from LA SPEZIA area "Have tried in vain to receive the ITALIA COMBATTE programme. If possible can you use a shorter wave".

"Italia Combatte" (presumably on short wave), can be heard well in the mountains west of TURIN.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

"Italia Combatte" and other Allied transmissions are much listened to by partisans in the Appenine area just behind the front. (P.W.B. Special Service 25.10.44).

XVII. Leaflets.

The "Italia Combatte" leaflets are received just behind the front and eagerly read and collected. They seem to have created more impression than the broadcasts. (P.W.B. Special Service 25.10.44)

German prisoners interrogated appear to have most of them seen allied leaflets. Only two out of 10 recently questioned claimed not to have seen any. In most units leaflets seem to be widely read and discussed. They are hardly ever given up to the officers, though this seems still to be demanded. The new items in "Frontpost" and other leaflets are mostly considered reliable. Opinion on leaflets is divided between those who take them as propaganda and those who consider them as their best source of information.

A man captured in the MONTEDORI area claims to have seen leaflets fired on several occasions. He remembers that three times the shells burst about 10 yards from the ground and the leaflets were well dispersed; in four cases the shell burst on the ground; in two cases they penetrated about half a yard deep into the earth. They were then dug out by soldiers who wanted to read them.

A P/W from the MONTE POCCHIO area stated that he saw Frontpost and the daily news strips fired, the shells exploded in the air and the leaflets spread over a wide area.

One P/W considered that leaflets on guerilla warfare in Germany and on post-war intentions of the Allies would be very effective. (5th Army Interrogation Report)

POLITICS.

XVIII. Mussolini's Activities.

Mussolini discussed the problem of Italian coastal defences when he received the German Admiral Lowisch. (Agence Telegraphique. Suisse 19.10.44).

Mussolini has received at his HQ the Japenese Admiral Abo, newly appointed Naval Attache to the Fascist Government. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 19.10.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778231

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XIX. Captured Documents Reveal Low Morale.

Partisan surprise attacks often lead to the capture of confidential documents giving valuable indications of the state of mind in Republican Italy. A report dated early in October gives the following account of the situation in TURIN "Bands of terroriste continue to carry out their activities by aggressions and interruptions of the railway, road and tramway communications, nor is there any sign that the propaganda spread by the bands is diminishing. A rumour is being spread to the effect that the October sugar ration will not be distributed except in the case of sick children. This is causing dissatisfaction among the population, who are ready to recriminate, and lay the blame on the Germans, asserting that the sugar intended for the people is being sent to Germany."

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778121

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Another report, dated early in October, about the situation in the Province of FERRARA, states: "The political situation is a little shaken by the arrest of the Director of Public Assistance, CAMPI, and his collaborators, DIRETTI, TARTARINI and BREVIGLIERI, as well as other lesser personalities accused of having appropriated to themselves vouchers for bicycle tyres and having sold for their own benefit objects confiscated from Jews. They have all been committed for trial. The report adds the following indications of the public's state of mind: "Demoralisation and uncertainty have been noticed with regard to Germany's future and her new weapons".

Another document dated the end of June, describes the general revolt of Fascist elements in VERCELLI against Party leaders. This is in the form of a letter with 87 signatures addressed to the Head of the Social republic, the Party Secretariat, the Minister of the Interior and the Head of the Italian Police. The letter says that the majority of the loyal Fascists of VERCELLI Province, "having examined the painful and tragic political, administrative and military situation of the Province have decided that, in the first place, they no longer wish to collaborate so long as arrogant personalities remain in power in spite of repeated complaints made to Pavolini, the Duce, Bufferini-Guidi and Tamburini. Secondly, not being able to tolerate furtner the tragic and harmful disillusionment of the past, and abuse of power in the Starace style, they will only collaborate with Fascists of the highest reputation. Thirdly, they do not wish to remain under tutelage, but desire to govern themselves in an honest manner for the defence of the honour of their families and of their martyred land.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 23.10.44).

XX. Exchange of Duce's Relatives for Democrats?

According to Catholic circles, the Vatican is trying to obtain facilities for the exchange of the families of prominent Democratic and Fascist personalities who are separated from each other by the fighting fronts. Members of the families of BADOGLIO, BONOMI and other Royalist Ministers, PAVOLINI, GRAZIANI and other Fascist leaders are being mentioned. Mussolini is reported to have offered to liberate several people closely connected with anti-Fascist leaders to obtain a vise from the Rome Government for certain members of his family so that they may reach neutral soil.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 24.10.44).

XXI. New Appointments.

After having assumed the office of Special Commissioner for PIEDMONT, DR. PAOLO ZERBINO has asked to be relieved of his post of Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of the Interior. His request has been granted and Dr. Giorgio PINI has been appointed in his place.
(Italian Home Service 23.10.44).

The Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party has made the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770021

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(Italian Home Service 23.10.44).

The Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party has made the following appointments: Enrico (?Santori), Squadrist, who took part in the March on Rome, is appointed Director of the Federation of Republican Fasci in VENICE in place of Comrade Pio LEONI, who has resigned.

1242

On the proposal of the Regional Delegate for the Piedmont Republican Fasci, Comrade Zenn RICCI, Squadrist, who took part in the March on Rome, war volunteer, formerly Deputy Federal Commissioner of TURIN, is appointed Federal Commissioner of ASTI, in place of Comrade Guglielmo SACCHERO, who has been appointed to another post.

On the proposal of the Regional Delegate of the Republican Fasci of the VENETO, Comrade Raimondo (?Radiccioni) is appointed Federal Commissioner of VICENZA, in place of Comrade Innocenzo PASQUELLO.
(Italian Home Service 21.10.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 798021

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XXII. Death of the notorious Koch.

The following particulars are now known about the death of Lieut. KOCH and other Fascist criminals who were with him. The day before Koch's last journey, one of the patriot chiefs succeeded in finding out, at TURIN, precise information as to the type, colour and number plate of the car which had to take the ill-famed torturer from TURIN to MILAN. He also found out the time of departure and itinerary of the journey. Taking what he considered necessary with him, the patriot chief waited, with some of his men, on the TURIN-CHIVASSO road. During the early hours of the next morning, the car carrying KOCH and three other Fascists, was attacked with hand grenades. All four passengers were killed on the spot. In this way patriot justice has been done to one of the worst Fascist criminals. (P.W.B. Special Service).

XXIII. Escape of anti-Fascist.

The former Minister Plenipotentiary, Consul General in LUGANO, TITO CHICCHENDA., who was forced to resign owing to his refusal to join the Fascist Party, has succeeded in escaping abroad in order to avoid Fascist persecution. He lived in PREMOSELLO, near DOMODOSSOL., and was always a staunch anti-Fascist.
(Basler Nachrichten 25.10.44).

ECONOMICS

XXIV. Food Situation.

TURIN. The Stampa, Turin 15.10.44 reports that the transport problem is more acute than ever and constantly confronts the food supply authorities. The situation is further agravated by the fact that the transport organisations charge excessive prices. For instance for the carriage of a parcel of 15 kg from MILAN to TURIN 122.5 lire has been paid, equivalent to 850 lire per quintal, while the railways charge much less. No control exists any longer because no way-bills are being issued. It appears essential to introduce severe control against speculation which is likely to increase further the already grave difficulties.

Sugar Ration The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests announces that the sugar beet campaign is developing so favourably that an unusually large supply of sugar is expected. Owing to the war situation and, above all, to the difficulty of transporting the beet to the sugar factories and the lack of coal, it is necessary to adjust consumption to the actual quantity of sugar available. By measures in course of enactment, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests will therefore ensure that consumers most in need of sugar will receive their requirements as follows: babies up to three years, boys and girls between 14 and

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patriot chief waited, with some of his men, on the TURIN-CHIVASSO road. During the early hours of the next morning, the car carrying KOCH and three other Fascists, was attacked with hand grenades. All four passengers were killed on the spot. In this way patriot justice has been done to one of the worst Fascist criminals. (P.W.B. Special Service).

XXIII. Escape of anti-Fascist.

The former Minister Plenipotentiary, Consul General in LUGANO, TITO CHIOVENDA, who was forced to resign owing to his refusal to join the Fascist Party, has succeeded in escaping abroad in order to avoid Fascist persecution. He lived in PREMOSELLO, near DOMODOSSOLA, and was always a staunch anti-Fascist.
(Basler Nachrichten 25.10.44).

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(Italian Home Service 25.10.44).

A serious food shortage is predicted in the VENETO as soon as the Allies arrive as all stocks have been transferred to Germany.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I. 21.10.44).

The partisan Commander of BRELL. has reported that the enemy is moving heavy rail shipments of food and other goods into Switzerland via NOVARA with the result that famine conditions now prevail in the VAL D'OSTA.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I. 21.10.44).

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XXV. Fuel and Power.

TURIN The Turin power companies announce: The attention of users of electric power for domestic purposes is drawn to the necessity of reducing consumption to the strictly essential minimum for cooking (electric radiators being completely forbidden) during the hours of 11.00 to 13.00 and from 18.00 to 20.00 in order to avoid breakdowns due to excessive consumption. The power companies are no longer able to carry out repairs in case of accidents particularly in the evening.
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 20.1044.)

MILAN Many inhabitants of MILAN who have not yet had gas installed were hitherto entitled to some methylated spirits, firewood and charcoal. The last two are now totally unobtainable, whereas the distribution of methylated spirits has been suspended since July because it has been blocked. It is true that there are midday meals at the communal kitchens, but it is impossible to cook a hot dish in the evening, or even a drink. Whether blocked or not, there is alcohol for liqueur factories and anybody can obtain methylated spirits on the black market at 100 to 200 lire per litre which until June cost only 20 lire In these circumstances what is the situation of people who cannot enjoy even a limited gas allowance?
(Sera Milan 19.10.44).

XXVI. Industry.

The balance-sheets of the year ending 29.9.44 of the big Italian firms, including BREDA in MILAN, OFFICINE MECCANICHE at BRESCIA and NEBIOLO in TURIN, throw a significant light on Italy's industrial situation. The balance-sheets contain no dividends. The reasons given are the same for all the industries, as though the authors of the reports had agreed on them together beforehand. Decreased production owing to the growing shortage of raw materials; destructions due to enemy air attacks; together with temporary interruptions or final suspensions of some branches; the workers' reduced productive capacity (a nonchalent way of explaining the deportation of specialists to Germany and mass abstentions, of which the latest occurred in Milan on September 22nd when at least 200,000 workers, all in the main factories, struck in protest against the police persecutions and the removal of machinery to Germany); the rise in costs of production and over-heads (particularly due to wage increases necessitated by the increased cost of living); the disastrous increase in liabilities owing to the advance required from banks due to the delays in payments of government contracts ; the loss of large sums advanced on government orders cancelled without the slightest compensation. The directors' reports also contained references to the Damocles' sword of nationalisation and to the gloomy, though eloquent forecasts of the future whose "uncertainty" is stressed.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.10.44).

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(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.10.44).

During the first eight days of October the sugar factory of ALESSANDRIA produced 6000 quintals of sugar, which have been taken away by the Germans.
(Italian Official Source 20.10.44)

1244

XXVII. Air Raid Damage.

A Censorship Intercept of 17.10.44 reads "I'll speak to you of BOLOGNA, such as I saw it before leaving: A word is enough massacre. Via Independenza from S. Peters to the railway station is no more in existence. The same can be said of Via Falliera, Via Dame, Via Rome, of a part of Via Saffi, Via S. Felice, of that quarter called the Bolognina from Corticella upwards, of Via Gioto, Via delle Amitre and of the neighbouring streets, Via dei Mille included.
SECRET

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SECRET
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XXVIII. Unrest behind the front line.

The Situation in the towns of EMILIA behind the Italian front is very difficult. Martial law has been proclaimed in BOLOGNA, REGGIO EMILIA, PIACENZA and MODENA. German troops and Fascists patrol the streets day and night. Small armoured cars are concentrated in the most important squares for immediate action in theevent of a popular rising. Machine-gun nests have been built at the corners of streets. The black-out lasts from 18.00 to 17.00 hours.

Industrial and commercial life is practically at a standstill. In spite of the fact that the region is a rich food producing centre, the food situation is catastrophic. Recent air attacks on Bologna razed whole quarters to the ground, rendering 10,000 homeless. (Der Bund 19.10.44).

XXIX. Monza Province Closed to Refugees.

Since housing possibilities are totally exhausted in MONZA, the Prefectoral Commissioner has been authorised by the Head of the Province in future to reject all applications for residence until further notice, including those from refugees, bombed out persons and evacuees.
(Sera Milan 14.10.44)

LABOUR.

XXX. Fascists Aid Mass Deportations to Germany

Resistance circles declare that throughout northern Italy the occupying power has been capturing and deporting to Germany masses of workers. Blackshirts are assigned to seize the workers. Militia-men are granted a fortnight's leave for every ten workers delivered, which is very important because all other leave is suspended. In TURIN special worker capturing units have been formed and are commanded by 300 Fascist officers, under Lt. Col. Gaja.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 22.10.44)

XXXI. Clandestine Appeal to Workers.

The Italian Socialist clandestine paper La Terra reports that in towns "the workers' guard of machines and public institutions" is ready to fight and die if only the industrial wealth of their country can be saved.

A similar organisation is being prepared among the country population in order to prevent the destruction of agricultural installations. The same newspaper declares in a proclamation to the peasants "The life of our families, our sons, of our women lies in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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XXXII. Work in Germany for Wives of Internees.

The Stampa Turin 13.10.44 reports that the employment offices are authorised to accept applications for work in Germany presented by the wives of former interned Italian soldiers, converted into free workers. The wives will be given 5,000 lire as an engagement bonus and sent to the places where their husbands are employed. Employment in the same factory cannot be guaranteed, but the contract will ensure employment in the same locality.

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PRESS

XXXIII. Transport Shortage Causes Boom in Local Press.

New Dailies are springing up in Fascist Italy like mushrooms after the rain. A region which a year ago had only 31 papers now has 48. Every town with more than 50,000 inhabitants has its own paper. The large number of new publications in the provinces is indirectly due to transport difficulties. The big papers in MILAN TURIN and VENICE find it difficult to reach the smaller towns in time for early morning sale. Hence the provincial press is experiencing an unprecedented boom. The provincial cities are overcrowded with air raid refugees and thus the number of readers has grown.

Provincial papers with a former circulation of from 3 ,000 to 4,000 now sell between 10,000 and 12,000 copies. Newspaper prices have remained far behind the devaluation of the lira. The 50 centesimi paid for a newspaper are worth less than the sheet on which the paper is printed. No copies remain unsold.

All newspapers have been socialised. A paper of the VENETO in PADUA, anticipated the law and, on its own initiative, turned itself into a joint stock company with its staff as shareholders. The press is making good profits. Advertisements yield sufficient profits for the workers to receive normal dividends. Losses have up to now been met by the State.

The paper which has to make the greatest efforts to remain above water is Resto del Carlino of [illegible]. It is produced in the front zone in a village near Bologna, as the city printing offices have been bombed out. The provision of paper, transport and news material is extremely difficult. The staff are constantly in danger. As previously/[illegible] PINI, the editor-in-chief narrowly escaped an anti-Fascist attempt on his life.
(Transocean 24.10.44).

XXXIV. Fiume Publications.

FIUME The publications of the local paper "La Vendetta d'Italia" continue. In the Resistance field the "Stella Rossa" which gives the Tito bulletin, comes out. The possibility of a clandestine press can be excluded, as Fiume possesses only three typographic machines, all controlled.
(P.W.B. Florence 18.9.44).

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy(Occ)

25th October, 1944

..LLIED FORCE HE..DQU..RTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGIC..L W..RF..RE BR..NCH
Unit No 12. .PO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED IT..LY - NO 29.

SUM..RY

RESIST..NCE

The Nazi-Fascist Reaction ..s was feared, the hard-won independence of the DOMODOSSOL. zone h.s been swept away by a determined advance of German and Fascist columns, supported by planes, tanks and artillery. Domodossola itself has been retaken by the Nazi-Fascists and thousands of inhabitants are fleeing to the mountains. Many refugees have asked for asylum in Switzerland and over 8000 children have been evacuated by the Red Cross. The patriots, under the leadership of Dr. TIB..LDI are continuing the battle in the upper valleys, but this resistance cannot be long protracted in view of the lack of ammunition and food.

..nother large-scale offensive is being made against the "Fiamme Verdi" Partisan Division in the V..L S..BI.. and V..L TROMPI..... The patriots have been resisting valiantly against overwhelming forces, but are now reported as retreating.

In the ..OST.. valley the Germans have occupied the COL DU MONT between the V..L D'ISERE and the V..L GRIS..NCHE and now control all the entries into the ..osta valley.

In spite of constant mopping-up operations the patriots of BRESCI.. still maintain their positions in a large zone, including part of the BERG..MO district, and some of the TRENTINO valleys beyond Lake G..RD..

The Margheriti Brigade, between Lake ISEO, Lake IDRO, was attacked recently by large German and Fascist forces. ..fter inflicting heavy losses the patriots were able to escape, through the mountains. They lost only four dead and one prisoner, who was tortured and hanged in the main square of CORN..

Information is available regarding the Langhe Division, the 3rd ..lpini Division, the 9th Garibaldi Communist Division, and the 2nd Ligurian "Felice Cascioni" Communist Division, operating in Western PIED..NT and N..W. LIGURI.. The Langhe Division appears to be hostile to the neighbouring Communist Divisions, but the observer stated that he did not notice that such animosity was reciprocated by the latter

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SUMMARY

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Information is available regarding the Langhe Division, the 3rd Alpini Division, the 9th Garibaldi Communist Division, and the 2nd Ligurian "Felice Cascioni" Communist Division, operating in Western PIEDMONT and N.W. LIGURIA. The Langhe Division appears to be hostile to the neighbouring Communist Divisions, but the observer stated that he did not notice that such animosity was reciprocated by the latter. Additional information is given about the Pippo band in the BAGNI DI LUCCA zone, and reports of the existence of women patriots and even of entire female armed detachments.

The exploits of Tonino SPAZZOLI and Silvio CORBARI (killed in action) have now become legendary among the peasants of the ROMAGNA

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FASCIST FORCES

Morale. To check panic among the Fascists the German Embassy circulated a story that New Divisions would shortly arrive in Italy and that a gas would be used which had the property of solidifying petrol.

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SECRET 25th October, 44.

Report on Conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy, No 29.

SUMMARY 2.

The Milan "Aldo Resiga" Black Brigade. The Commander of the Brigade recently deposed and executed four members of his Brigade for abuse of power.

The Koch Band. The Koch Band, arrested by the Questura of MILAN, has been released through the intercession of BUFFARINI-GUIDI. A later report, not yet confirmed, says that KOCH himself was shortly afterwards ambushed and killed by partisans.

GERMANS

Dispositions. There is still uncertainty about probable German intentions. The general view seems to be that while, in the case of a general break-down, Liguria and Piedmont will be hurriedly evacuated, nevertheless centres like MILAN and GENOA will be defended to the bitter.end. In the meantime, northern Italy is being systematically despoiled of machinery, cattle, food and goods of every kind.

ECONOMICS.

The food situation. The food situation in the large N. Italian cities is becoming very serious. The excellent harvest this year has brought no relief as the Germans have increased their exactions and where the partisans are in control, the grain is not delivered to the Ammazzi. MILAN and BOLOGNA are reported to be very similar to Rome just before its liberation, ie. large numbers of refugees have swarmed in, the bulk of them Fascists.

LABOUR

Strikes. PAVOLINI has conferred with the Germans in GENOA, who have mastered the situation there and in L. SPEZIA and SAVONA by mass arrests among the workers.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc).

25th October, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 29.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

25th October, 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 29.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

Western Piedmont and North Western Liguria. An impartial observer who in August and September spent seven weeks with the patriots in north western Italy gave the following information regarding bands in that region.

The Langhe Division) non political.
The 3rd Alpini Division)

The 9th Garibaldi Division - Communist, operating in territory adjoining the above triangle, to the north-west.

The 2nd Ligurian (Felice Cascione) Division - Communist, operating in western Liguria as far as the French frontier.

The Commander of the Langhe Division, who has since joined the Liberal Party, and officers of his unit, insisted that their forces were non-political and purely interested in fighting the Fascists and Germans. They admitted to a political colour in that they represented the party in power in the area, and were in opposition to the Communists. They were strongly critical of the Garibaldini, who, they said, were anarchists. They accused them of conserving their amms for use in a future coup-d'etat. The observer, who spent some time at the subsidiary headquarters of the 2nd Ligurian Division and at the headquarters of the 9th Garibaldi Division, did not confirm this impression. The officers of the latter division, and the political Commissar were communists and many had been political prisoners, but only a small percentage of the rank and file had been active

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Bagni Di Lucca. The "PIPPO" Band.

The following details were furnished by a patriot who had belonged to the above band.
The "Pippo" band was formed during the first days of March and is commanded by a Lieut. who assumed the name of Pippo; it numbered about 500, but has been several times in contact with the enemy and has suffered several mopping-up operations, with the result that it now has not many more than 100 adherents. Apart from individual arms the formation has four machine guns, and has received as many as six lots of arms dropped by the Allies

The band recently took part in the liberation of MONTE FEGATESE, holding its position for 7 consecutive days and only relinquishing it to patrols of the 5th Army.
(P.W.B. Florence Di. L.).

Women Patriots.

A company of armed women patriots are operating in the PIACENZA area.
(P.W.B. Special Service 22.10.44).

The Italian Clandestine paper "Il Combattente" writes "Many women form part of the actual fighting formations. In the fourth "Piemonte" Division there is an entire detachment of young girl Garibaldians. In some cases women head partisan formations. In Emilia a woman is in command of the Garibaldi Brigade, and in Lombardy another is Deputy Commissar".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 17.10.44).

FORLI

A Garibaldi Brigade commanded by "PIETRO" is reported to be operating in the area SANTA SOFIA-CORNIOLO-STRBATENZA - south of FORLI. This brigade has been formed by elements of the Garibaldi Brigade which was led by "Libero" and was located in BAGNO DI ROMAGNA. According to various reports "Libero" ran away with the funds of the brigade amounting to two million lire.

Two patriots have roused the enthusiasm and admiration of the people of Romagna, and although a month has elapsed since their arrest and execution by the Germans, everybody still speaks with respect of their feats:

TONINO SPAZZOLI (alias FRANCO JIM)
SILVIO CORBARA.

Spazzoli was engaged in anti-Fascist activities ever since the armistice; he organised resistence in Romagna, and several times crossed the lines to give valuable information to the Allies. He was in charge of a radio transmitter in RAVENNA and succeeded in

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Silvio Corbara was the leader of a band of about 200 partisans operating in the area TREDOZIO-MODIGLIA. This band has apparently been very active and had several clashes with the Germans. During the last one on MONTE TREBBO, the Germans suffered heavy casualties. Corbara is described as having been a gallant and strong minded man. He once entered the town of FAENZA dressed as a Fascist Milite, went into a public bar and seeing the picture of Ettore Muti on the wall he tore it down and threw it away. A console of the Militia who was present asked him his name, he replied "CORBARA", then disarmed the

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console and kicked him all round the main square of FAENZA amidst the laughter of the crowd. After that he halted a German car, disarmed the driver and disappeared with the car.

Another time in FORLI he went to the Fascist Federatiri; the Federale CAPANNA was absent, so he left a signed note saying that if any further atrocities were committed in the province Capanna would be executed. (Capanna was killed later by the GAP). Before the Fascist realised who he was, he disappeared. The roads were promptly blocked and all Fascists mobilised to try and arrest him. Two hours later CORBARA rang the Fascist HQ and told the Chief of Police not to worry anymore because he was well away in a safe place.

On 18th August CORBARA and Arturo SPAZZOLI, brother of Tonino Spazzoli, were rounded up in CASTROCORO. Seeing no possibility of escaping, after a fight to avoid being taken prisoner, they both committed suicide. Their bodies were hanged and exposed for two days in the main square.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41.).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

UDINE. On October 5th 30 patriots drove a truck into a German ordnance depot at VISCO, UDINE province, disarmed the guard and German sergeant major, carried off 1000 rifles and 30 machine guns and four mortars.
(P.W.B. Special Service 221.10.44).

BRESCIA. In spite of constant German and Fascist mopping-up operations patriots in BRESCIA are maintaining their positions in a large zone including part of the BERGAMO district and seom of the TRENTINO valleys beyond LAKE GARDA. The partisans scored a number of successes including the capture of PONTE DI LEGNO, where they took a large amount of booty.

German and Fascist forces, 3000 strong, with some 50 armoured vehicles, recently attacked the Margheriti Brigade between LAKE ISEO and LAKE IDRO. The Fascists, working on information received from their spies, succeeded in surrounding the patriots in the CORNA zone, but the latter managed to escape through an almost inaccessible mountain route. During the encounter the Germans and Fascists lost several dead and many wounded, including a German officer of high rank, who was gravely wounded. The patisans lost four dead and one prisoner, who was hung in the main square after having been tortured.
(Popolo e Liberta 16.10.44).

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(Popolo e Liberta 16.10.44).

TREVISO The following is a list of activities carried out during September by patriots in Treviso province.
Night September 8th - patriots destroyed locomotive on the line between TREVISO and VICENZA.
Night September 10th- Disarmed a detachment of the Republican Navy at VEDELAGO, capturing 20 men.
Night of 13th Sept. Disarmed German garrison at NERVESA, killing two and wounding three.
Night of 15th Sept. Derailed train on TREVISO-VICENZA. line, destroying the engine and two trucks.
Night 18th Sept. Destroyed bridge in the locality of CORNUDA on the MONTE BELLUNA-FALTRE line.
During the month in patrol actions five Fascists were killed, six telephone lines and one centralino destroyed and 50 line interruptions caused.
(P.W.B. Special Service 24.10.44).

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1256

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778232

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The Italian Home Service on 16th October announced the capture by Fascist and German troops of DOMODOSSOLA, and a German advance into the OSSOLA valley.

A report from Switzerland states: Contrary to other reports DOMODOSSOLA was occupied on the morning of October 15th after violent fighting a few km from the Swiss frontier. According to documents captured by partisans, the campaign was ordered by the Fascist High Command in order to occupy the Simplon line up to the Swiss frontier. The Giunta and the Domodossola authorities evacuated the town before the arrival of the Germans and Fascists. The partisans, who had been forced to retreat owing to the lack of heavy armements, withdrew to the valleys in order to continue the struggle. The exodus from the villages continues. Thousands of inhabitants are fleeing to the mountains with clothes, some furniture and a few head of cattle. Traffic on the Simplon line is completely interrupted. On the morning of October 15th aricraft bombed not only Domodossola, but also localities situated between Domodssola and ISELLE, notably VARZO. Bombs were also dropped on the roads to the Swiss frontier, which were filled with civilian refugees, causing dead and wounded. Hundreds of refugees asked for asylum in Switzerland. Other groups of refugees are reported to have reached GONDO. A total of over 3,250 children from the DOMODOSSOLA region recently reached BRIGUE through the efforts of the Red Cross.
(La Suisse Geneva 16.10.44).

Another report says: The German advance in the Ossola valley has been delayed through the action of the partisans, who blew up the PREGLIA bridge, four km north of DOMODOSSOLA. It is reported that the SS have not yet reached ISELLE. The partisans are trying to hold the roads converging on Domodossola. The FORMAZZA valley, stretching north between the TICINO and the VALAIS, is entirely in the hands of the partisans, who hope to maintain their position in the CRCIO gorge, at the mouth of the valley. They also retain control of the ANZASCA, ANTRONA and BOGNANCO Valleys. The VIGNEZZO valley is entirely in the hands of the Fascists. Some members of the anti-Fascist Giunta have taken refuge in Switzerland, but its leader, Dr. TIBALDI, is carrying on resistance on Italian soil. It is doubtful, however, whether resistance can go on owing to the scarcity of munitions.
(Tribune de Geneve 16.10.44).

The Germans and Fascists in the campaign against DOMODOSSOLA are reported to have used nearly 3,000 men, 25 light tanks, six batteries of medium artillery. The attack was mainly carried out by Militiamen of the "Muti" Brigade who, after five days of fighting, suffered 485 dead and 371 wounded.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 17.10.44).

Another report states: The Germans and Fascists in Domodossola are reported to have executed some Italian police officials and rail-

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Another report states: The Germans and Fascists in Domodossola are reported to have executed some Italian police officiels and railway men already, who were accused of sympathy with the partisans. The occupying power, however, has not yet carried out reprisals against the population. Over 3,000 Fascist SS of the "Monte Rosa" Division, under Colonel Schwarz's commend, his HQ being in BIELLA, were employed against Domodossola. There does not seem to be much chance that the partisans will be able to return to Domodossola, and further fighting in the mountains is anticipated, as the Germans seem to have decided to mop up the whole zone.
(La Suisse Geneve 17.10.44).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 765021

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It is reported that it was GRAZIANI who induced the highest German authorities to carry out the campaign against Domodossola. Contrary to rumours, discord in the partisan junta in no way influenced the military command of thepartisans. The set-back resulted from the partisans' inferiority in arms and numbers. The high morale of the partisans is shown by the fact that their units remained intact even after the fall of Domodossola. It is hoped that the Fascists will abstain from reprisals owing to the partisans' humane treatment of the Fascist prisoners.
(Basler Nachrichten 17.10.44).

VAL SABBIA-VAL TROMPIA

The German military authorities in Italy have begun a large-scale offensive in several of the regions occupied by the partisans, mainly in the VAL SABBIA and the VAL TROMPIA, where the Wehrmacht is fighting the "Fiamme Verdi" partisan Division. Up till now, the patriots have succeeded in stemming the advance of the enemy, whose deployment of forces is officially characterised as gigantic. The partisans are retreating. Another big battle, already lasting a week, is being fought north of TURIN. There too the Germans and Fascists are superior to the partisans in armaments and numbers.
(La Suisse, Geneve 17.10.44)

AOSTA Valley

The Germans have occupied COL DU MONT connecting the VAL D'Isere with the VAL GRISANCHE. The Italian and French partisans, fighting together in this region, continue to hold some of the surrounding mountain crests. The Wehrmacht now controls all the entries into the Aosta Valley.
(Tribune de Geneve 10.10.44).

PIEDMONT

Piedmont partisans have occupied TORRE PELLICE, the entry into the Pellice Valley.
(Tribune de Geneve 10.10.44).

VARESE

In Varese the Fascist Commissioner of MILANTE was killed. The Fascists made several arrests and sentenced to death four people. The Fascist press reports that a special court-martial sentenced to death two partisans, who were immediately shot, and two others to 30 years imprisonment.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.10.44).

PADUA The Proctor of PADUA University, the famous professor of chemistry, EGIDIO MENEGHETTI, former fighter for liberty has succeeded in escaping to a neutral country, although the Germans set a price

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(Basler Nachrichten 17.10.44).

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(National Zeitung, Basle 10.10.44).

FASCIST FORCES

III. Disposition and Composition

LIGURIAN coast Most of the Ligurian coast is now reported to be held by the Italian SAN MARCO Division. 12356

TURIN Anti-partisan squads have been formed in Turin. They are reported to consist of 300 officers, but no troops and are commanded by Lt. Colonel GALI. They are armed with pistols and hand-grenades.
(F.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44).

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CHISONE The TIR.N. Battalion of the MONTE ROSA Division has been withdrawn from Chisone on account of desertions.
(P.W.B. Special Service 24.10.44).

It is reported that Fascists and members of the Republican army will shortly leave for Germany. They went to take their families with them, but is is uncertain whether Germans will allow this. Possibly to check panic the German Embassy has put into circulation a rumour that a first batch of ten Divisions will shortly arrive in Italy, and that a gas which immobilises engines by solidfying petrol will soon be in use.
(P.W.B. Special Service 25.10.44).

COMO Neo-Fascist SS are everywhere taking over houses evacuated by the Germans. On the 10.9.44 part of BORGO VICO, the northwest suburb of COMO was cleared of inhabitants to house neo-fascist SS arriving from Tuscany.
(P.I.D. 18.9.44).

Fascist regular and irregular forces.

The Monte Rosa Division and the San Marco Division are composed of regular troops, many of whom were interned in Germany and returned to Italy on condition of joining the Fascist army.

The Monte Rosa Battalions and the San Marco Battalions are composed of Fascists who have volunteered to fight the patriots.
(P.W.B. Special Service 18.10.44).

IV. Black Brigade activities.

Fascist Black Brigades with some Alpine and mountain troops recently attacked the communes of MULAZZO, APUANIA province, & SUVERO, SPEZIA province. The First Ligurian Division finally drove out the enemy who withdrew after burning houses and killing civilians.
(P.W.B. Special Service 19.10.44).

22nd Black Brigade "Faggioni" Vicenza. The important action carried out by the brigade, which called forth the Duce's praise and which was recorded in the Order of the Day of Fascism and the Social Republic, took place on a twenty five kilometre stretch of territory in the GRAPPA area. The object of the action, which was successfully achieved, was the clearing out of an area which was considered a stronghold of rebels.
(Axis Monitoring Report 15.10.44 P.W.B.).

V. Morale.

G.N.R. The following excerpt from documents found at the Provincial H.Q. of the GNR in AREZZO, gives an idea of the state of morale in the force.
1. "To my regret I am daily receiving reports stating that members

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1. "To my regret I am daily receiving reports stating that members of the GNR are allowing themselves to be disarmed without making use of their weapons. Weapons are issued for one purpose only, in order to uphold the dignity of the uniform and protect the person of those to whom they are entrusted. This state of things cannot be tolerated any longer. Members of the GNR must defend themselves to the last cartridge... A true soldier dies with his weapons in his hands. A man who fails to do this is a coward, and cowards will be brought before a court-martial. "

(sig) Lt. Col. Girolamo BACCHETTI
Provincial OC.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770021

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VI. Mussolini Receives "Muti" Commandant.

Colonel Franco COLOMBO, Commandant of the Ettore Muti Legion in MILAN, was received by the Duce at his HQ. Colonel Colombo, after having expressed to the Duce the allegiance of the Legion, spoke of the organisation and the effectives of the Legion itself. (Italian Home Service 10.10.44).

VII. Disciplinary Measures in Milan Black Brigade.

Fascist Newspapers rarely fail to contain reports of executions. The readers of the newspapers have grown correspondingly indifferent, and propagandists hardly know how to succeed in intimidating the pub... An exceptional event occurred on October 13th, however, when their o... comrades executed in Milan four members of the "Aldo Resega" Black Brigade. The Commander of the Brigade, who has his own press bureau, announced that his unit was a politico-military organisation, exclusi... ly composed of irreproachable moral elements. He had therefore degraded and executed four members of the brigade, owing to repeated abuse of power. Repubblica Fascista said that they were criminals who had succeeded in finding their way into the "Aldo Resega# Brigade. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 16.10.44).

VIII. The Koch Band.Released.

It is reliably reported that the Questore of MILAN arrested the group of Milan torturers, acting under the orders of BUFFARINI GUIDI. Through the intercession of Guidi he was then forced to release them and resign his job. They have since resumed their activities. (P.W.B. Special Service 19.10.44).

GERMANS.

IX. Dispositions.

LIGURIA Along the Franco-Italian frontier in LIGURIA the enemy is keeping what troops he has on the move to give the impression of greater strength than he actually has in the area. The enemy is short of transport. Against the partisans the usual weapons used by the enemy are MG 42s and 81 mm mortars and occasionally light artillery. Only a small percentage are equipped with SGs (P.W.B. Special Service 21.10.44).

The German Command of the Wehrmacht and of the SS have been moved fr... ISTRIA to GRADISCA D'ISONZO (south west of GORIZIA) and to TARVISO. The evacuation of the civil population has been arranged along the coastal zone between LIGNANO and BELVEDERE excluding the localities respectively west and east of the Marano Lagoon and Grado. (Italian Official Source 30.9.44).

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LA SPEZIA In La Spezia civil mobilisation of men aged 16 to 60 ha... been ordered for the preparation of defences. Officers of the Germ... pioneer detachments at present being dispatched to GENOA have been ordered to defend the port and city to the utmost. (Libera Stampa Lugano 18.10.44).

MILAN The Fascist Ministry of Public Works has been transferred from TRIESTE to MILAN. Corriere della Sera's publicity offices in the Via Santa Margherita in Milan have been requisitioned by the Germans, who evidently found the adjoining Hotel Regina, where the SS Command had had their HQ since September 1943, inadequate. These and other indications confirm the intention of the Germans and Fascists to defend Milan to the utmost. All buildings housing commands or administrative

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offices are being isolated through the evacuation of the neighbouring houses. Inmates are given 24 hours to leave. The buildings thus isolated are being surrounded by barbed wire. Several streets have been closed to traffic by concrete barricades. The whole quarter round the Hotel Touring and the Via Parini between Piazzale Fiume and the public gardens have been evacuated..... reinforced concrete air raid shelters are being converted into strongholds. Almost all windows have been walled up, leaving only small loopholes. A number of barricades have been raised at exposed points. In fact, they are real forts, equipped for relatively long resistance. The same plans for defence to the utmost are reported from COMO, where the Via Milano zone towards CAMERLATA is being evacuated.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 17.10.44).

X. Evacuation Preparations.

It seems that the removal of the German hospitals which are in ALESSANDRIA to north of the Po is imminent.
(Italian Official Source 14.10.44).

REGGIO EMILIA The Germans are removing 50 million lire worth of raw material and machinery from factories in the Reggio Emilia area.
(P.W.B. Special Service 24.10.44).

Reports about the Germans' intentions in northern Italy are contradictory. Some indicate that the departure of the main German forces stationed in LIGURIA, LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT is imminent, whereas others hint at defence to the limit.

Three German divisions now in PIEDMONT would be withdrawn; part would return along the TONALE road, which special detachments of sappers keep constantly free of snow, while part would be sent to reinforce the troops in the VENETO. This tends to confirm the German intention to abandon the Emilian front and retire to the north.

On the other hand, during the last few days some German Commands have established themselves in COMO and BERGAMO. Possibly, however, the Germans really mean to withdraw and the Commands established in COMO and BERGAMO are charged with coordinating the evacuation via the Valtellina, where some 20,000 men are reported to be concentrated
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 7.10.44).

LAKE GARDA Further reports confirm that Germans east of Lake Garda intend to use the Fascist Forces to cover their eventual retreat and that of the Polizia Trentina which has been used to garrison this area.
(P.W.B. Special Service 25.10.44).

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The same plans for defence to the utmost are reported from COMO, where the Via Milano zone towards CAMERLATA is being evacuated.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 17.10.44).

X. Evacuation Preparations.

It seems that the removal of the German Hospitals which are in ALESSANDRIA to north of the Po is imminent.
(Italian Official Source 14.10.44).

REGGIO EMILIA The Germans are removing 50 million lire worth of raw material and machinery from factories in the Reggio Emilia area.
(P.W.B. Special Service 24.10.44).

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XI. Morale.

During a recent rastrellamento in TUSCANY there were so many desertions from two companies of Alectian troops that the remainder have been disarmed and are now awaiting trial.
(P.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44).

Germans captured recently in the Gothic Line complained of the lack of preparedness. One admitted that the general picture in Italy as elsewhere was gloomy - "in fact" he said "some men had named the green line (Gothic line) the "black line". But morale in his unit was still good, and as for himself "I still have hopes of victory".

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The attack appears to have been a surprise to most of the German troops. One said that they were much surprised when they saw Canadian troops; they had not known they were there. All they had been told was that the line must be held, but when it came to it, there was so much confusion that no-one knew what was going on. The attack was a real surprise. Another admitted that they were not sufficiently prepared for such a wave of tanks and infantry. But he believed that the new weapon would replace the GAF and would right everything; he was certain of German victory.

Considerable demoralisation seems to have resulted from the confusion of the attack. One Polish deserter when interrogated described an open act of insubordination which he witnessed at BIBBONA, when a Capt. ordered stragglers to assemble at a point which was exposed to artillery. An uffz. flatly refused to obey this order and a very loud row ensued in front of the men. Finally, the Capt. gave in and the Uffz took his men to a position of his own choosing.

An older prisoner, aged 38, when interrogated stated frankly "We are all very down, but no-one dares say anything". "There we were with rifles and hand-grenades against tanks - what can we do? Youngsters are still imbued with Nazi ideals and want to go on fighting, hoping for something to happen, he said, but all the older soldiers want the war to come to an end at once without knowing what to do to bring this about.

One prisoner said that the fighting on the Italian front is harder for the German soldier to take than in Russia, because of the concentrated Allied artillery fire and the Germans' complete lack of air support.

One non-commissioned officer thought the absence of the Luftwaffe was due to lack of petrol and believed that Germany still had plenty of planes.

A prisoner interrogated on 23rd August said that morale in his unit was depressed. "Everybody is in the dumps, and everybody grumbles, but still they all carry on stubbornly. Disengagement is the order of the day, and with our shortage of motor transport it's not so simple". Another said that his regiment was supposed to be motorised, but that was only on paper, in reality they had no M/T and had to march all the time.

Most prisoners are emphatic on the demoralising effect of the attacks by partisans. It is sufficient illustration of the Germans state of nerves that on a stretch of road between AREZZO and SAN SEPOLCRO, where trees and shrub afforded cover for partisans and where there were notices "Achtung, Partisanen", machine-gunners sitting

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(P.W.B. HQ A.A.I. 20.9.44).

XII. Behaviour and Atrocities.

An extract from a captured German letter dated 20th June 1944, written by a German officer to his parents, gives a lively picture of the devastation caused by German looting in Italy.

"We provision ourselves from the country. War must feed war, is our motto. If it rains, then we go on the hunt for umbrellas. If women with such an apparatus come tohand, then the Landswers run after them and grab one. Not a chicken, not a goose is left behind. Oxen and waggons are taken out of their stalls, since otherwise there is no opportunity to carry away what little is left. Behind us is

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only a trail of devestation. The people run away or have already made themselves doubly safe against the enemy artillery and the plundering German soldiers on their way through. Not a cupboard that has not been broken open; you need only to open the drawers and you have everything.
(P.W.B. German Intelligence H.Q. A.A.I. 20.10.44).

Germans are buying up the last of Italian stocks. In COMO Italians were suspended from using their ration cards while the Germans emptied the shops, some using bundles of Italian ration cards at a time.

The German military authorities in MILAN have announced that no fuel will be distributed to Italians this autumn and winter. Quantities of wood are being despatched to Germany.
(P.I.D. 18.9.44).

In the Apuanian Alps the Germans have destroyed between thirty and forty villages, of which a large number were burned with flame-throwers, after being sprayed with petrol. A large part of the male population of these villages has been deported to Germany.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.10.44).

UDINE Enemy attacks in the Udine area and in the Appenines continue. In CARNIA, Udine, the Germans issued an ultimatum to patriots to lay down their arms and return home on pain of reprisals against civilians in the surrounding countryside. The patriots refused to accept the ultimatum, which expired on October 6th and the Germans are now taking heavy reprisals, burning towns and villages.
(P.W.B. Special Service 20.10.44).

EMILIA and ROMAGNA The Committees of Liberation of Emilia and Romagna denounced to the Allied authorities atrocities committed by Germans in their retreat from the Appenines. The Frazione of VADO, south of BOLOGNA, was completely destroyed and about 250 civilians killed. All cattle were carried away.
(P.W.B. Special Service 19.10.44).

XIII. Relations with Fascist Troops.

A captured German regimental order reveals the bad relations existing between German and Fascist Republican troops

"The following is a report on the state of affairs prevailing among Italian troops who have been trained in Germany.

It comes as an even harder blow to Italian officers and men when they discover that on Italian soil they are not treated by their German comrades with the respect they expected as a result of their experiences in Germany. Discourtesy on the part of German officers, tactlessness and lack of respect for military honour, and even in some cases, complete lack of trust, have all been the [illegible]

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It is natural that those officers, NCOs and men who are attached to Italian units as liaison or training cadres treat their Italian comrades with the respect due to fellow warriors of the German forces. In the same way troops will be instructed as to the manner in which they must behave with particular reference to the order on the form of greeting to Italian soldiers of the Republican Army. It is not denied that the majority of Italian officers are regrettably guilty of not always returning the salute of German soldiers, but whatever effect

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this may have on the German soldier it is his duty as a member of the German army to set an example. The Commander in Chief Italy and the inspector of Italian Forces South West theatre are requested to take up this matter with Italian War Office and General Staff with a view to placing a similar responsibility on members of the Italian Republican Forces.

In the report of one of the German district hqs it is stated that German MT drivers are "accepting as gifts" the pistols, and even the watches of Italian officers in return for lifts. Such behaviour is bording on black mail and will be dealt with in the severest manner. Troops will be notified that the German Command takes an extremely serious view of this practise and further occurrences of this nature will meet with the strictest punishment. Furthermore German drivers are ordered to give lifts to any member of the Italian Forces in uniform, who is able to produce the proper authority for travelling.
(P.W.B. a.a.I. German Intelligence)

POLITICS

XIV. Mussolini urges defence in north.

Mussolini, not wanting to see his Government become a mere ghost, is reported to be urgently insisting with Hitler that northern Italy should be defended vigorously.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.1044).

XV. Mussolini's Escape Planned?

It is stated from reliable sources that about 200 m east of FALCONE (6 km north west of DESENZANO DEL GARDA) south of the DRUGOLO castle, there are three motor planes hidden among the trees which seem ready for departure, and it is supposed that they are intended for the personal use of Mussolini.
(Italian Official Source 13.10.44).

XVI. Transfer of Ministries etc.

It is officially announced that the Directorate of the Fascist Republican Party has transferred its seat to MILAN. PAVOLINI and his staff will conduct affairs from the new Party office.
(NPD 17.10.44).

It seems that the reduced Africe Italiana Ministry must remove to MILAN. Various ministries residing now in VERONA, have already begun the dismissal of the casual employees, advancing six months' salary.
(Italian Official Source 15.10.44).

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(Italian Official Source 6.10.44).

The Ministry of Finance has been moved from BRESCIA to MILAN where 15 rooms have been requisitioned for offices.

The General Direction of the State Monopoli has been moved from VENICE to COMO.

It was stated that the Foreign Office had been moved to 1232 CADENABBIA (lake of Como), but it seems according to another source that only the section for the internees has been moved from GREZZA Val PANTENA (North of VERONA) to COMO.

In general from the information above mentioned a centralisation movement of the Republican Government organs towards Lombardy

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and particularly towards MILAN is confirmed.
(Italian Official Source 30.9.44).

XVII. Conditions in Brescia and Bergamo.

Severe German-Fascist repressive measures have made it impossible for political committees to function in towns in BRESCIA and BERGAMO provinces.
(P.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44).

XVIII. Appointments.

The Secretary of the Fascist Party has appointed Lt. Col. Leopoldo GAGLIARDI as Federal Commissioner of VARESE.
(Italian Home Service 9.10.44).

General Alberto TRENTO has been appointed Presiding Judge of the Supreme Court Martial of the Fascist Republic.
(Radio Monitoring Report 15.10.44).

ECONOMICS.

XIX. Food Situation.

The food situation has been considerably aggravated in recent weeks in northern Italy, particularly in VENICE, GENOA and TURIN. The distribution of meat has been suspended in several regions. The Venetians have become vegetarians. Water and medical supplies are very scarce. There is talk of a reduction in the bread ration. There is also a general scarcity of potatoes. The German requisitioning of agricultural products and cattle have considerably increased in spite of the opposition of the peasants. Rice has become very scarce and is mostly to be found on the black market, which is becoming more and more flourishing.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.10.44).

MILAN. The weekly meat ration, distributed on Saturdays has been converted in theory into 50 g of cheese, but as cheese is unobtainable with ration cards, people make their own arrangements. The stocks of soup ingredients are exhausted and the September ration was completed with an extra distribution of "white" flour. In fact the flour was 68% adulterated. The fat ration for October is 50 g of butter and one decilitre of oil (naturally seed oil). Milk, which is completely skimmed, is reserved for children. There is no coal or firewood for heating. However, the Fascist authorities do not trouble much as they expect others to be there this winter.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 4.10.44).

VAL D'OSSOLA. The food situation in the Val D'Ossola is still very serious and hunger is general.

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PADUA Grain production in PADUA province is reliably calculated at 1200,000 quintals, of which 500,000 have been delivered to the people. The Germans are calculated to have taken 150,000 quintals.

MILAN This year's harvest in the Milan area is excellent, but the exact figures are difficult to obtain, since German, patriots and peasants all prevent the grain from reaching the Ammassi.
(P.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44)

PIEDMONT In Piedmont food appears plentiful in the areas controlled by the partisans, and here it is shared out on a communal basis by the head of the band. Reports indicate that in the larger towns and in TURIN especially the position became really serious with the advent of the winter. Black markets seem to be encouraged in the towns

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occupied by the enemy. The partisans raid these towns and the enemy supply routes for such commodities as salt, sugar, tobacco and wheat. For several weeks to come fruit will still be plentiful. Flour in the area is white.

LIGURIA. In Liguria the position is totally different. Cut off from the fertile plains by the mountains, and with German forces along bot the coast and the main supply routes, the average daily diet of the partisans and the civilian population is a potato soup, sometimes wit a meat addition, approximately 300 grammes of brown wheat husk bread and fruit, while the season lasts. Some people have a little rice, but there is no pasta. The little milk there is is reserved for children. There is no butter, and a certain amount of goats milk cheese. Honey is 280 lire the kilo and oil more valuable than money. Tobacco is virtually unobtainable. Children are the main source of worry to the population and partisans alike.

The position of VENTIMIGLIA is especially serious, on account of shelling, which disorganises distribution.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44).

Clothes are obtainable, but all woollens are ersatz and give no wear. The partisans in their areas control the more essential items such as warm coats etc. Boots are also controlled in this manner and are obtainable only through partisan controlled channels. Good boots of the ski type cost from 1200 to 2000 lire. Bootmakers are extremely clever at repairing and studding of boots.

Soap is extremely scarce and expensive and completely ersatz when one can get it. Usually it is an abresive such as sand or pummice.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44)

XX. Transport.

Metano Dump in the Province of BOLOGNA.

Since it is easy to get Metano gas, cars of all kinds use it. This gas is extracted in the following places
PORRETTA.
FERRARA (S. AMBROGIO)
GAGGIO MONTANO
CASTIGLION DE PEPOLI
RIOLA.
MIRANDOLA
About 10,000 cubic metres are extracted daily.
(P.W.B. Florence 19.10.44).

FERRARA. The latest date by which bicycles must be reported has been postponed until October 10th. Bicycles not reported by then will be confiscated.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 8.10.44).

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PIEDMONT and NW LIGURIA. -Partisans' Transport.
The Langhe Division has a certain amount of transport. The 2nd Ligurian Division has not more than half a dozen vehicles. There is little or no petrol - sometimes the partisans capture it from the Germans and Fascists. In the area of the 2nd Ligurian Division there are about 100 mules in use. Mules in this area are valued at between 20,000 and 50,000 lire according to strength and training.
(P.W.B. Special Service. 23.10.44).

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XXI. Industry.

W. PIEDMONT and NW LIGURIA.

Little or no industry is being carried on in W. Liguria except for a certain quantity of oil pressing and wine making.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44).

XXII. Public Health.

Medical Supplies. Partisans in PIEDMONT area are relatively well supplied with medical supplies, though there is a shortage of bandages. In LIGURIA concentrated foods, many essential drugs and anaesthetics are unobtainable. The partisans in all these areas maintain small hospitals in the safe districts and doctors are attached to each band.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44).

XXIII. Situation in Milan and Bologna.

MILAN, where life is becoming daily harder, is assuming the characteristic aspect of a city behind the front line, like Rome before its fall. Thousands of refugees, almost all of them Fascists or collaborationists, ceaselessly flock towards Milan. Lodgings are extremely expensive, partly because most people detest this kind of refugee. Those unable to find a place in the city overflow into the countryside round and the COMO and VARESE regions are also packed Many villas belonging to anti-Fascists have been requisitioned. Elsewhere, owners or tenants are obliged to place "superflous" rooms at the disposal of the homeless, as Fascist fugitives are euphemistically called.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 8.10.44).

BOLOGNA. The war has come close to this city. Bombardment and incessant air attacks day and night are hampering business life and work, but public services are functioning and restaurants and food shops are open. The markets are supplied from rural districts although under great difficulties. The newspaper Resto del Carlino is still published, although greatly reduced in size. Street cars are running. There is water and electric light. Most shops selling other than daily necessities are closed. The oldest university in Europe is still open. Notices announce the beginning of the new term on November 1st. Fugitives from the Apennines have increased the population from a quarter of a million to roughly 300,000. All flats, houses and hotels are full, especially as many houses have been destroyed by bombs. There is great distress among the fugitives, and the people in general are depressed. They fear that the city will be destroyed by enemy bombardment and bombing, especially since the failure of the Cardinal Archbishop of Bologna, Naselli Rocca, to obtain a promise from the Allies through the Vatican that the city would be spared.
(Transocean 12.10.44).

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(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 8.10.44).

BOLOGNA. The war has come close to this city. Bombardment and incessant air attacks day and night are hampering business life and work, but public services are functioning and restaurants and food shops are open. The markets are supplied from rural districts although under great difficulties. The newspaper Resto del Carlino is still published, although greatly reduced in size. Street cars are running. There is water and electric light. Most shops selling other than daily necessities are closed. The oldest university in Europe is still open. Notices announce the beginning of the new term on November 1st. Fugitives from the Apennines have increased the population from a quarter of a million to roughly 300,000. All flats, houses and hotels are full, especially as many houses have been destroyed by bombs. There is great distress among the fugitives, and the people in general are depressed. They fear that the city will be destroyed by enemy bombardment and bombing, especially since the failure of the Cardinal Archbishop of Bologna, Nasalli Rocca, to obtain a promise from the Allies through the Vatican that the city would be spared.
(Transocean 12.10.44).

LABOUR.

XXIV. Forced Labour.

Germans Enforce Labour Service in Cremona. All men in the CREMONA Province between the ages of 16 and 20 have received orders to report without exception at the local German HQ for compulsory labour service. Those failing to report or trying to escape to other provinces will be deported to Germany. If they join the maquis members of their families will be deported. All must report with picks and shovels.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 14.10.44).

VENICE According to an order issued by the Labour Section of the German Command in Venice young people between 14 and 16 are exempt

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from civil labour service. The daily pay for men over 16 is 50 lire and for women 40 lire. They are given, moreover, the following weekly extra rations; half a kg of flour, half a kg of sugar, 1.5 litres of wine, 50 g of salt and 21 cigarettes. Their former employer is obliged to continue paying the worker two thirds of his wages. Conscripted persons are only required temporarily and they are guaranteed to be able to return home at night.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 8.10.44).

XXV. Strikes.

Germans Arrest GENOA workers. PAVOLINI has arrived in Genoa, where he conferred with the German military authorities on the situation in LIGURIA. The latter have succeeded in mastering the situation in GENOA, LA SPEZIA and SAVONA by means of mass arrests among the workers who were on strike. The patriots remain active outside the principal cities. In GENOA curfew has been advanced to 20,00 hours.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 5.10.44).

MILAN Strikes lasting for several hours took place in Milan as a protest against the political persecutions and the transport of machinery to Germany. The strikes occurred in the main factories of Milan involving 10,000 workers.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.10.44).

PRESS

XXVI. Clandestine Press.

The following clandestine papers are published and distributed in ROMAGNA:

Voce Repubblicana
Romagna Socialista
Italia Libera.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

PERSONALITIES.

XXVII. A spy in Brescia.

GUILIO TOGNI of Brescia, fled with his family to CASTENEDOLO Officer of the Republican Fascist army, spies for the Germans, giving military information and details about soldiers and officers of the district of Brescia who have not joined up. Stops young men in the streets and asks for their papers. Hated by the whole population of Brescia, by whom he is called the "Sansculottes of the Revolution".

(P.W.B. Florence

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(P.W.B. Florence 9.10.44).

XXVIII. Bologna Fascists.

Spies.
ZANOTTI - he denounced many patriots to the SS.
TOGLIANI - father and son
SCHIOPPA - the consul's son
ALBERTI

1230

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Republicans.

R. ZAMBONI - Head of the SS
TEN PIFFERI - Works against the partisans.
FRANZ PAGLIANI
BONINSEGNI
TORRI
COPPOLA RETTORE
PROF. RESTA - of the University
GUIDO GIORDANI
PERICLE DUCATI
AVV. DESTITO
(MARIO BERGAMO)
CHELINI (SABIEN I)
Ten. Col. ZOPPO and his two sons.

Suspected Persons.

Reg. BENSO
ANGELINI - Student
CORAPI - ex-O.C. G.U.F.
Avv. MARI. U.I.
PERICLE MARTELLI

XXIX. Spies and Fascists at FORLI

PAOLO SALIMBENI
TANCINI
ROSSI
LOGLI RANICIO
QUARTELLI ETTORE
BEDESCHI GUILIO
FATTOVICH - Surveyor of Studies
ROMUALDI Brothers
GARANDINI - Director
BONAROTTI - "CIT"
PESARESI PLINIO
DR. ALLEGRI - Ravenna
LOMBINI - Predappio
DE LUCCI - Fascist Secretary of PREDAPPIO
VIOLANI TULLO
BORDANDINI - Printer
JEAN - Evacuation Office
MACIAROL
GOFFARELLI - a criminal
DINDONATI SERGIO
Reg. BONORA ANTONIO
LARICE - Republican Questore
D. BROY EUGENIO
VECCHI DARIO

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D. BROY EUGENIO
VECCHI DARIO
Avv. PAOLO MARIA GUARINI
Dott. BOFONDI- Fascist Prefect
GIGLI
PESARESI ANTONIO
FOSSI
TESORIERI
Dr. FUZZI
VITALI - Viale Bolognese
NORCINI - a spy - Corso Garibaldi
Avv. CASAGLI - a great friend of the prefect Bofondi
Via Regnoli
Dr. NATALINI - a squadrist and spy
BONDI CAMILLO - Via Sant'Anna
LALLI SECONDO - spy
MILITE CRESCENTI - Via Palazzolo
BIONDI - a road milite
Sottotenente VENTURI - spy

(P.T.O.

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XXX. Fascist Personalities at Ravenna and Bologna

RAVENNA

BOGASSI - 1st Republican Prefect
BARONE PAULUCCI DI CALBOLI - former Fascist Ambassador in Madrid
ANDREANI - Chief of Police
SPERO - Milite
CAPANNA - Milite

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

BOLOGNA

Prof. FRANZ PAGLIANI - Commissario Regionale
Prof. GOFFREDO COPPOLA - Rector of University - well-known German collaborator.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

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(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

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To Local Government Sub-Comm

28 OCT 1944

SECRET
D SECTION ITALY (OCC.)

18 October 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censroship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY NO. 28

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Patriot Activity. There are signs that the Fascists, taking advantage of the lack of movement on the Allied Front, are concentrating forces against the patriots. In the Udine zone such action has already taken place and the enemy, employing several thousand troops, has driven the partisans out of a large area.

It is probable that in the near future an effort will be made to reconquer the Val d'Ossola. It is reported that considerable forces, mostly of the San Marco Division, are assembling at GRAVELLONA under General MISCHI. The FIAMME VERDE partisans have been very active in the VAL CAMONICA capturing or inflicting losses on garrisons at BORNO and BIENNA. In the VENETO and FRIULI regions violent fighting has been reported and Swiss sources state that the patriots control a large area in the CARNIA

In the TREVISO province on the CONSIGLIO plateau, German forces supported by Fascists have started operations. Another operation has been started against patriots in the Asiago region.

Reports from the Appenine region indicate raids and counter-raids throughout the zone.

The OSOPPO Division has been active against enemy motor transport on the roads between TRIESTE and VENICE between 15-28 September.

Patriot Bands. Information has been received about the general organization and location of the following bands:

1) STELLA ROSSA BANDE, under MARIO MUSOLESI in the VADO, MENZONE, and VERGATO zone, south of BOLOGNA.

2) CORBARA group now under Romeo CORBARA, between R. SENIO and R. SINTRI, south of IMOLA.

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3) 36TH "BIANCONCINI" Garibaldi Bande, under "BOB", in two detachments, south east of BOLOGNA, between R.'s SENIO and SANTERNO, and between R.'s SENIO and LAMONE.

4) MAJOR MAURI's Division in N.W. Piedmont.

5) "FELICE CASCIONE" Garibaldi Division (Communist) in N.Liguria.

Large bodies of men are reported operating south of BETTOLA (PIACENZA Prov.)

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Fascist Forces. A number of Black Brigades are reported as already formed.

Desertions. Many desertions are reported from German troops in Milan while Czechoslovak units are said to have indulged in incidents and mutinies.

Two companies of the Fascist Monte Rosa Division are said to have joined the partisans and a Battalion of the S. Marco Division en route fr m Liguria to ALESSANDRIA arrived only 100 strong.

Deserters describe the situation as chaotic.

General arrested for corrupt practices. General Filippo Diamanti, the well-known and ill-famed Fascist leader, has been arrested and charged with obtaining large percentages on military supplies.

Police Chief resigns. Eugenio Cerrutti, Chief of Police, has resigned for private reasons and is replaced by General Renzo Montagna.

Italian SS. In Nov. 43, the Italian SS was reported as consisting of 10,000 men in 11 battalions located in the chief cities. After the numerous desertions, the total strength in March 44 fell to 6200, mostly concentrated around Torino.

End of Koch Band. A report from Milan states that as a result of protests on the part of Cardinal Schuster, the entire band of torturers has been arrested.

GERMANS

Reports persist that the Germans are ready to evacuate Piedmont. It is expected that the Fascist Divisions will eventually act as rearguards and there is considerable alarm among Fascist collaborationists who fear that they will be abandoned by their allies.

Atrocities A prisoner of war declares that a German Major looted books from the library of Princess Ginetti and from theCommune's library in VELLETRI.

The Carthusian monks of Farnata Monastery were removed by German troops and the monastery looted.

In a villa near FRASSINE (MASSA MARITTIMA GROSSETO) a lady and her two children were murdered by German soldiers and the Villa set on fire.

ECONOMICS

The food situation in Milan is now reported

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ECONOMICS

The food situation in Milan is now reported as very bad, that of LA SPEZIA as disastrous.

FIUME is favoured by the Germans and the Black Market there is fairly moderate.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

"D" Section Italy (Occ.)

18 October 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY NO. 28

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

[illegible] October, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 1[illegible] APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -No 28.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items sidelined.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisans.

General Organisation, and Disposition of Bands.

Zone south of BOLOGNA. "Stella Rossa"Brigade. Mario MUSOLESI commands this brigade, he is known as the "Wolf of the Mountain". The brigade has always been active in the Tosco-Emilian Appenines, and more precisely in the zone of VADO, MENZONE and VERGATO. After a series of skirmishes, the said brigade divided itself into two parts, towards the middle of June; one group joined the 36 Garibaldi Brigade, and the other one established itself on Mount FIORINO.

"CORBARA" Group This group is at present in the zone between SEGNO and SINTRI. It is only made up of 150 men, but they are well armed. Recently in a skirmish against the nazi-fascist forces at PREDAPIO the Commander of the Group (one of the brothers Corbara) was wounded. He took refuge in a peasant's house, but later on was discovered. He was accompanied by three other patriots and a woman called INES VESSALI. The latter rather than fall into the hands of the enemy, killed herself and Corbara and the other three were murdered. The corpses were hanged and exposed in the Casto Caro Square, at Forli and Faenza. Now Romeo Corbara, brother of the deceased, commands this group.

THE 36TH GARIBALDI Brigade "BIANCONCINI". The Commander of the Brigade is "Bob" of IMOLA. The 36th Brigade is composed of the 4th and 8th Brigades Garibaldi. The 8th Brigade was made up exclusively of men from ROMAGNA, whilst the 4th contained men from IMOLA and BOLOGNA. Actually the 36th Brigade is composed of two sections with 550 men in each. The 1st Detachment is made up of men from BOLOGNA, and province; it is active on the mountain chain between SERNIO and S. ERNO. Among recent actions, [illegible] skirmishes on the flanks of Monte FAGGIOLA and Monte BATTAGLIA [illegible] appears that this detachment started to move towards [illegible] take part in its liberation. The 2nd

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(P.W.B. Florence).

LA SPEZIA area. A Comando Unico has been formed controlling all partisans in the Spezia area. It consists of a Commander and a Chief of Staff, three Vice-Commanders and three political Commissars, representing Communists, Christian Democrats and Action Party. The Command has defined living and defence zones for each brigade, has issued orders forbidding requisitioning of cash, and has applied to the Italian Ministry of War for 3,200,000 lire for the upkeep of 3,000 patriots now in action near PARMA for one month.
(P.W.B. Special Service 2.10.44).

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SECRET
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SOUTH-WESTERN PIEDMONT and NORTH LIGURIA. Patriots who control a large zone of south-western Piedmont are commanded by MAURI, a regular army major, with no strong political views, though he is reported to have leanings towards the monarchy. Under him are Captain COSA, a reserve officer and by all accounts an excellent type of man. He commands an "autonomous" division, ie. non political and organised on a military basis, but according to source, with leanings towards the "parties of order" - the Christian Democrats and Liberals. Also under MAURI is NANNI, a Communist divisional commander.

South of these divisions in Northern LIGURIA is the "FELICE CASIONE"GARIBALDI Division (Communist), which also, though to a somewhat uncertain extent, recognises Mauri's authority.

Source was of the opinion that the "autonomous" divisions have the highest military value, as they only can be relied on to take concerted action. (Mauri's bands, in spite of the Communist Nanni, he appeared to regard as autonomous) Communist divisions, he said, were often led by inexperienced young men, full of courge and enthusiasm, but tending rather to individual acts of gallantry than to large scale orderly actions. The Communists in PIEDMONT generally are tending to act independently of the CLN.

In TURIN there is a general known as ALESSANDRI, who has command of the "autonomous" bands in PIEDMONT. There is another general commanding the "GIELLI" (Giustizia e Liberta) divisions. As far as source knew there was no unified command of the Communists

Source emphasised that both the recruiting and division into units of patriots was on a regional basis rather than according to politics or numbers. Thus a native of western Liguria from the zone in which the Garibaldi (Communist) division operates, would be more likely to join this division, even if he were not a Communist, rather than go elsewhere in search of a band more in accordance with his personal views. The leaders and political commissars of a division are Communists, but often a high proportion of the adherents would be patriots possibly without strong political views. Similarly a brigade would not be composed of any specific number of men, but of all the partisans operating in a certain area, probably a valley, who would come under the orders of one brigade commander. Three brigades is usually the composition of a division.
(P.W.B. Special Service 7.10.44

MAURI's divisions produce a weekly newspaper "La Rinascita d'Italia" on a hand printing press. The paper consists of two pages, gives instructions and appeals to discipline, and news of local partisans' activities, but not general war news (this is obtained from the wireless). One of the collaborators is a priest. On the same printing press the patriots produce leaflets in Czech, German and Italian, and could do so in English if necessary. Russian leaflets are written by hand, in Russian characters, on ordinary stencils and re-produced on a duplicator. Leaflets contain desertion propaganda and have been fairly [illegible] On one occasion a leaflet raid produced 150 deserters, of whom [illegible] "Monte Rosa" Italians.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788127

South of these divisions in Northern LIGURIA is the "FELICE CASIONE"GARIBALDI Division (Communist), which also, though to a somewhat uncertain extent, recognises Mauri's authority.

Source was of the opinion that the "autonomous" divisions have the highest military value, as they only can be relied on to take concerted action. (Mauri's bands, in spite of the Communist Nanni, he appeared to regard as autonomous) Communist divisions, he said, were often led by inexperienced young men, full of courge and enthusiasm, but tending rather to individual acts of gallantry than to large scale orderly actions. The Communists in PIEDMONT generally are tending to act independently of the CLN.

In TURIN there is a general known as ALESSANDRI, who has command of the "autonomous" bands in PIEDMONT. There is another general commanding the "GIELLI" (Giustizia e Liberta) divisions. As far as source knew there was no unified command of the Communists

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LA SPEZIA. The SALVADORI Band, which was attached to the National Liberation Committee of Spezia, but is now organised by a superior naval officer, works at the source of the river SERCHIO(PONTE DEL DIAVOLO). The 5000 workmen who are doing forced labour in the LA SPEZIA arsenal are very anti-fascist and are already in contact with the patriot organisations.
(P.W.B. Florence R.P. 15.9.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

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PIACENZA BETTOLA. There are 10,000 partisans under army officers operating south of Bettola. Military Commanders have been appointed by the Committees of Liberation of BOLOGNA, MODENA, REGGIO, PIACENZA, PARMA, FERRARA, FORLI, and RAVENNA.
(P.W.B. Special Service 30.9.44).

Recent Partisan Activities.

DOMODOSSOLA.

A provisional liberation government has been set up for the MAZASCA, ANTRONA BOGNANCO, DIVEDRO, ANTIGORIO, FORMAZZA and CENTOVALLI valleys. It consists of Professore E.T. and a council of six, mainly technical experts, chosen from four partisan groups - the "Garibaldini", who are Communist, the Valtoce supporters of Badoglio, the Val D'Ossola local workers and Christian Socialists. Almost all able-bodied men have been drafted into the partisan forces. Arms have been parachuted and landed by aircraft at the new airfield at VILLADOSSOLA. There is a British and Russian mission at DOMODOSSOLA, but it is not known how it arrived there. The Italian Frontier Guards have been removed and replaced by "Garibaldini". In every village there is a commissioner responsible for the maintenance of order and for the administration.
(La Suisse, Geneve 1.10.44).

On the other hand the food situation in DOMODOSSOLA is reported to be very difficult, especially for the civilian population, which is completely cut off from Fascist Italy. The Germans in the north west area are stripping cattle and fodder from the mountain regions, which have already suffered more than the plains from partisan requisitioning. (P.W.B. Special Service 30.9.44).

The shops have all their stocks in the windows, but often even the windows are empty. The people hope for Allied food supplies by aircraft as well as ammunition and guns to secure an extension of the liberated territory.
(Gazette de Lausanne 3.10.44).

The provisional Giunta at DOMODOSSOLA has set up a concentration camp for Fascists, collaborationists and those who were against resistance, who are all regarded as hostages in case of enemy atrocities.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 28.9.44).

It is reported that "Considerable fighting forces, largely consisting of Blackshirts of the "San Marco" Division, under MISCHI's personal command, are assembled in GRAVELLONA, possibly planning the reconquest of the DOMODOSSOLA region. The partisans were obliged to evacuate OMEGNA on LAKE ORTA and to retreat to the mountains. GRAVELLONA is in Fascist hands.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 20.9.44)

VAL CAMONICA. Fiamme Verde partisans have occupied PONTE DI LEGNO, thus cutting one of the principal roads through the VAL CAMONICA. They have attacked German troops at work at PEZZO DI SCALVE, captured the entire garrison at BORNO and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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(P.W.B. Special Service 5.10.44).

UDINE North East of CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI (UDINE) the enemy, employing several thousand troops as part of his drive to clear this area of patriot forces, succeeded in re-occupying a large zone. Wholesale murder and burning of houses is now in progress.
(P.W.B. Special Service 3.10.44).

VENETO Violent fighting is reported between partisans and Fascists in VENETO and FRIULI. The partisans occupied territory containing over 100,000 inhabitants in CARNIA. During a battle near VALDAGNO, in the TRENTINO, the Germans and Fascists lost 200 dead.
(Gazette de Lausanne 30.9.44).

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REGGIO EMILIA. In a brilliant attack against German engineers rebuilding a bridge near CEREDOLO (frazione of Ciano d'Enza, Reggio Emilia) 35 Germans were killed.

CHIAVARI-VOGHERA. Patriots who were recently forced to withdraw from the Chiavari-Voghera road made the stretch of road between BOBBIO and SAN STEFANO D'AVETO impassable before they withdrew.
(P.W.B. Special Service 3.10.44).

BOLOGNA Partisan formations in the Imolese and Bolognese Apennines support the allied advance by ambushing German supplies and lorry columns. Violent clashes took place in the BRONI zone, and many German lorry columns have been attacking along the Via Emilia and in PIACENZA and PAVIA. An attack launched by numerous enemy columns in the ASIAGO Plateau caused the patriots to retreat in an orderly manner to pre-arranged positions. Enemy losses were particularly heavy. A large zone in the MONFERRATO region was liberated, including the important centres of MONCALVO, VIGNALE and OTTIGLIO. In SCURZOLENGO a violent attack was repulsed.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.10.44).

TREVISO In Treviso province, on the CANSIGLIO Plateau, the Germans, supported by the Fascists, started intensive mopping up operations. The resistance movement reports the death of several hundred Germans and Fascists. The partisans, however, were obliged to retreat to the mountains owing to inferior armaments, having suffered heavy losses themselves. Another large-scale German and Fascist operation is in progress in the ASIAGO region. In the LANGHE district, the north PIEDMONT partisans now occupy a large area. In the MONDOVI region, they have set up a concentration camp containing 250 German prisoners.
(Gazette de Lausanne, 4.10.44).

The OSSOPPO Division The Osoppo Division between the 15th and 28th September has made 24 attacks against motorised enemy columns on the principal roads between TRIESTE and VENICE and on other secondary roads. 52 German soldiers have been killed, 32 wounded and 18 captured. 8 locomotives have been rendered useless, and two railway waggons destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 7.10.44).

FASCIST FORCES

II. Dispositions

Five Bersagilieri battalions, each of 1000-2000 men, exist on the strip of coast from Savona to Massa Carrara. The armament of each company is as follows:

4 pieces 47/32)
3 mortars 81) for coastal defence
2 " 45)
8 Breda "37"
18 Fucili mitragliatri
36 Pistole Berretta 34 cal. 9
12 antitank mines
x individual arms, machetti and hand grenades

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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12 antitank mines
x individual arms, muskets and hand grenades.

These troops are organized as follows: 1 battalion of 5 companies, 1 company of 4 platoons, 1 platoon of 4 squadrons of 10 men plus a squadron for services. They are troops taken by force and the morale is very low. Desertions mount up to about 7 men per company per day.
(R.I. Report PWBD Section 15.8.44)

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III. Black Brigades

The commander of these formations is the Minister Pavolini. In every principal town a "Black Brigade" has been formed. Each Black Brigade is formed of two groups; one used for the town and the other mobile, destined to external operations against Patriot formations.

According to other sources, it seems that the groups which had to operate against the Patriots were placed instead by the side of "SS" formations and depended from that Command for operations. From reliable sources the following "brigate nere" have been formed:

- 1st Black Brigade "Ricciardini", Piedmont
- 2nd " " employed in the Como zone (August)
- 6th " " " " " Novara zone (September)
- 7th " " " " " Vercelli zone "
- 10th " " Brescia
- 14th " " employed " " Varzi " (August)
- 18th " " " " " Pavia " "
- 28th " " Piacenza
- 30th " " Reggio Emilia
- 35th " " Apuania
- 36th " " "Mussolini"; moved from Lucca towards the north
- – " " "Ettore Muti"; Ravenna
- – " " "Athos Cappelli"; Turin
- – " " "Aldo Resega"; Milan
- ? " " impiegate nella zona di Vicenza (Sept.)

(S.IKM. 28.9.44)

IV. Morale and Desertions

The "Libera Stampa" Lugano, 4.10.44, reports from MILAN: In Milan many German soldiers have deserted, and incidents and mutinies have occurred among the Czechoslovaks. In CUNEO province, Cossack units have been disarmed and they are being employed in constructing fortifications. Two companies of the "Monte Rosa" Division deserted in full strength with arms and ammunition, forming themselves into a partisan formation in the Ligurian Apennines. A battalion of the "San Marco" Division on being transferred from Liguria to Alessandria and TERRE BERETTI, arrived at their destin-

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Sailors who have deserted describe the situation as chaotic. Orders and counter-orders are given, each more impossible to execute than the last. A sailor arrived in Milan on short leave and went to the German Command before reporting his unit in order to obtain his traveling papers. He was immediately sent to MUNICH after being told it was now useless to go to LIGURIA. In BOLOGNA

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a revolt broke out among the members of the Black Brigades who had been ordered to move into the front line in the Adriatic. In the Piacenza region, 40 Russian soldiers crossed over to the partisans and were incorporated in the "Nadotti" detachment of the "Giustizia e Libertà" Brigade.

There is complete disagreement between the GNR and the Republican Army. The latter entirely lacks means of transport. The GNR and the Black Brigades requisition wholesale, even carts. Espionage has intensified inside the Republican Army on the part of violent Fascist elements which however are generally identified. (News Digest 7.10.44)

V. General Charged with Corrupt Practices

Libera Stampa, Lugano, 4.10.44, reports from Milan: General DIAMANTI has been arrested during the last few days charged with having obtained large percentages on military supplies. Six members of his staff have also been imprisoned for defrauding soldiers' families who were due to receive special allowances. (News Digest 7.10.44)

VI. Resignation of Police Chief

Eugenio Cerrutti, Chief of Police, has asked to be relieved of his post for personal reasons. He is replaced by General Renzo MONTAGNA, while (? Guido Leto) has been appointed Deputy Chief. General MONTAGNA's present position is that of Regional Commandant of the Republican Army in Lombardy. (News Digest 7.10.44)

VII. Italian SS

According to news given by the officers of the SS Italian prisoners of war, in November 1943 "The Italian Armed Militia" had a total strength of about 10,000 men and was constituted of 1[illegible] battalions located in the principal towns.

The Commander of the "Armed Militia" was General Hansen. Afterwards the Armed Militia assumed the denomination of "Volunta[illegible] Italian Legions" or the "SS Italian Legion", and afterwards the "1st Grenadier Brigade of the SS."

S[illegible]ome of the above mentioned battalions constituted the 1st regiment of the Armed Militia (Col. de Marie) who is notable for

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VII. Italian SS

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Some of the above mentioned battalions constituted the 1st regiment of the Armed Militia (Col. de Maria), who is notable for the composition and partial participation of war operations (1st SS Battalion on the Anzio Front); the remaining battalions self-sustaining.

After the numerous desertions, in March of this year, the total strength of the "Italian SS" had decreased to 6,200 men, who were mostly concentrated in the zone near Turin.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799021

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In Rivoli Torinese the IX Battalion was fused with another which had orders, not very precise, to constitute, it seems, an artillery regiment.

In June of this year an instruction battalion (Col. Antenora) was stationed in Ferrara, and included 600 officers. The tactical training was very carefully carried out and also the various instructions. /were
(S.I.M. 28.9.44)

VIII. Savage Reprisals Threatened in Novara

Libera Stampa, Lugano, 4.10.44, reporting from MILAN, publishes a document which has fallen into its hands and which runs as follows:

"Italian Socialist Republic - Novara Prefecture - 486th Division. To all Mayors and Commissioners of the Province of Novara. SECRET. 'The Head of the Province of Novara has proof of the connivance of relatives with deserters and defaulters. As the activities of these lawless men are carried out with inhuman bestiality and heartless violence against unarmed people, and with sadistic fury against state property in obvious obedience to enemies of the State, it is decreed that: All male members of families of deserters and defaulters between the ages of 15 and 65 are to be arrested and sent to a concentration camp in Novara. Their property, both personal and real, is to be confiscated by the State as compensation for the losses incurred through the action of these outlaws. All police forces and mayors will present lists for approval and signature and will act with all urgency in the application of this order. State administrative offices will supply officials to deal with the properties so confiscated.' Signed: Head of the Novara Province, F. Vezzalini."
(News Digest 7.10.44)

IX. End of the Koch Gang

The ill-famed Koch Band, probably composed of the same persons who tortured political prisoners in Rome, had as one knows established its headquarters in Milan, in Via Paolo Uccello 15. After Cardinal Schuster's protests, in which he revealed the ferocities of these political prisoners in Milan, the

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The ill-famed Koch Band, probably composed of the same persons who tortured political prisoners in Rome, had as one knows established its headquarters in Milan, in Via Paolo Uccello 15. After Cardinal Schuster's protests, in which he revealed the ferocious tortures inflicted on political prisoners in Milan, the Questore's Villa was surrounded by police agents, and after a short resistance the entire band was arrested. It was composed of 53 persons, amongst whom were women, who assisted at the tortures. There was also a great quantity of cocaine, morphine, and other drugs found, together with various instruments of torture, amongst which was the famous steel casque with screws. 60 persons were discovered in the prisons, 2/3 of whom were in piteous physical condition from the tortures they had suffered. If the Nazi-fascist

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authorities have been obliged to take the Koch band away it is a sign that his criminal activities, only too widely known, preoccupied the Germans and Fascists, who had him as a favorite until today.
(I.C. 8.10.44)

X. Call-Up Fails in Udine

Libera Stampa, Lugano, 4.1.44, reports from MILAN: The call-up of the 1914-26 classes in Udine Province was a great failure. Only 8% reported.
(News Digest 7.11.44)

GERMANS

XI. Dispositions

A fairly reliable report dated 23.9.44 stated that the German HQ in TURIN is moving to MILAN. The report warns that if the Germans evacuate Piedmont leaving it to the Fascists, resistance by the latter should not be underestimated.

All bridges on the roads and railways between TURIN and MILAN have been repaired. Traffic is very great.
(PWB Special Service 30.9.44)

Two German divisions, including the Hermann Goering armored division, are reported to be in MILAN.

Partisan band in the French Frontier area reports that it holds 2000 sheep and 500 pigs which are being kept concealed until the Germans go.

Negotiations have taken place to secure at least operational unity between OSOPO and GARIBALDI divisions in UDINE.

Nearly all aerodromes in PIEDMONT are reported to have been blown up, and the damage camouflaged. This is a further indication that the Germans may be preparing to withdraw from PIEDMONT
(PWB Special Service 2.10.44)

LA SPEZIA: For the defence of the port of LA SPEZIA there are 2 battalions, one Marine and the other infantry. There is the guarding of the 5000 Italian workers who are removing all the debris from the shipyard and digging the sites for the defence. The morale of these troops is very low, especially among the Austrians.
(R.F.43 Report PWB Section No.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759221

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(R.P.43 Report PWBD Section 15.9.44)

XII. Preparations for Evacuation

GORIZIA Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 21.9.44, reports from VENICE.
UDINE According to announcements made by the Prefectures of GORIZIA AND UDINE, the German Army authorities have demanded the immediate removal of maize and sunflower crops, as well as shrubs and trees for cervin/ as hiding places, growing in fields over 200 m. wide along the following roads: GORIZIA=SANTA LUCIA= d'ISONZO, GORIZIA=AIDUSSINA, GORIZIA=MONTESPINO, GORIZIA=GRADISCA,

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and GORIZIA-UDINE, as well as along the VIALE VENEZIA, the VIALE TRICESIMO, VIALE CIVIDALE, and VIALE PALMANOVA, all within the boundaries of the UDINE municipality. The same applies to the following railway lines: UDINE-GORIZIA-SAGRADO and GORIZIA-MONTESPINO-SAN DANIELE, as well as the fields around the German barracks and all kinds of army offices. Offenders will be prosecuted. (News Digest 2.10.44)

XXXI. Kesselring Confers on Fascists' Future

Der Bund, 29.9.44 reports from CHIASSO: It is reported that during the past few days an important military and political conference was held at Kesselring's GHQ attended by Graziani and Pavolini as representatives of Mussolini's Government. The fate of Fascists when the Wehrmacht evacuates the greater part of northern Italy was discussed.

According to information so far received, one of the most discussed problems was the fate of the Fascist troops. Apparently Graziani proposed that they should be withdrawn first to the Veneto and then taken to Germany if withdrawal beyond the Alps was necessary. Kesselring, who has always opposed the use of Blackshirts in the front line, appears to have been unwilling to accept the burden of the Fascist forces, which have often proved unreliable, on a difficult retreat. Consequently the question is still unsettled and the fate of the Fascist Army is uncertain.

At the same meeting the fate of Italian collaborationists in the event of the Wehrmacht being withdrawn from Italy was studied. Fascist circles have been deeply impressed by what happened recently in Belgium and France, when hundreds of persons who had worked for the Reich were left to their fate. Pavolini pointed out that it was not only a question of withdrawing Mussolini's Government and the more important collaborators to safety, but also officials in the still occupied towns and provinces. On this matter too, Kesselring apparently gave vague assurances. It is expected that a further meeting will be called to discuss the same subject.
(News Digest 2.10.44)

[illegible] Litera Stampa, Lugan 4.10.44 reports: The Germans are continuing preparations for evacuation. All the Bologna sewers are [illegible] before they withdraw. In Formovo do

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[illegible] Brenner [illegible]
Nazis and all kinds of Army officers.
(News Digest 2.10.44)

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(News Digest 2.10.44)

[illegible]AN Libera Stampa, Lugano 4.10.44 reports: The Germans are continuing preparations for evacuation. All the Bologna sewers are mined and will be blown up before they withdraw. In Forno di Tarro, the "petrolio" Company's plants have been mined. The population has been forced to evacuate MASSA in Apuania. In order to accelerate the evacuation, the Germans used machine-guns and fired several buildings. In the same town 6T workers were sent to Germany without even being allowed to say goodbye to their families. It is reported that on the Via Emilia, tanks and armored cars pass by with very clear Red Cross emblems on the upper parts of [illegible]

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XIV. German Evacuation Not Yet in Progress

Popolo e Libertà Bellinzona 30.9.44, reports from the Italian frontier: The situation in Milan remains chaotic. The Nazis concentrated in Brianza, who were due to leave two hours after the official announcement of the capture of Rimini have not moved yet. They are reported to have received counter-orders to wait longer, in view of military developments on the Emilia front. The delay is also believed to be due to the personal intervention of Mussolini on behalf of the Fascists, who want to postpone their isolation. There is no hurry, as the road to the Brenner via the Tonale Pass will still guarantee rapid evacuation for several weeks.

The British are expected to advance on Ravenna and Ferrara but, even if Bologna falls fairly soon, the Fascists do not think the Allies will immediately aim at Milan. It is confirmed that the Germans are hastily constructing a defensive line from CHIOGGIA along the Fugarean Hills to Verona. The inhabitants of this region have been mobilized and work is proceeding day and night. Defence works are also being prepared along the MINCIO.

When there was a danger that Allied troops from France might cross into Italy via the Piedmontese Alps, the German High Command sent three divisions including an armored division taken from the Balkan front, to this zone. The armored division has now been hastily transferred to the Rimini front.

Meanwhile, there are constantly new signs that the Germans do not intend to remain much longer in Northern Italy. 16 German women employed at the Milan SS Command in the Hotel Regina have left for Germany. Industries carrying out work for Germany have been given October 15th as the final time limit for deliveries. Systematic destruction prior to the Nazi evacuation has already begun in various places.
(News Digest 4.10.44)

XV. German Defence Preparations in MILAN and COMO

Tribune de Geneve, 3.10.44, reports from CHIASSO: The Germans are preparing for street fighting in Milan. The whole quarter has been evacuated and mined, especially round Piazza Fiume. Many blockhouses have been constructed inside the town. Similar measures have been taken in Como, where the Villa Marta has been requisitioned for German troops. In Via Borgo Vico, a building cap-

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Gazette de Lausanne, 3.10.44, reports from CHIASSO: The Fascist press reveals that the Speer Organization has requisitioned all means of water transport on the north Italian rivers, while the OT has confiscated all private cars. It is reported that barricades and trenches have now been built in the streets of Como, particularly in the Corso Varese.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

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XVI. Germans Destroy Turin Aircraft Plant

Gazette de Lausanne 30.9.44, reports from CHIASSO: The Commander of the German Engineers in TURIN has dynamited the Ali d'Italia aeronautical plant. The buildings were first surrounded by numerous machineguns as a precaution against popular reaction. The plant and the machinery of the FIAT, SPA, Lancia, Aeronautica d'Italia and Ferriere-FIAT factories have been requisitioned.
(News Digest 2.10.44)

XVII. Preparation for Evacuation

Libera Stampa, Lugano 4.10.44, reports from MILAN: The material and apparatus of the FLORENCE and VERONA radio transmitters, transported some two months ago to BUSTO ARSIZIO, have been forwarded to MERANO. The material of the San Remo transmitter recently arrived in MILAN and was also forwarded to MERANO.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

XVIII. Behaviour

Source thought that the Germans were preparing to hold TURIN but further west to the frontier they had been pulling out, leaving Czech and Austrian troops behind. They had not yet got to the last stages before the evacuation when he understood only police troops were left.

The morale of the Czech and German units was extremely low. They seemed to realize the Germans had lost the war. They did not venture much out after dark.

Partisans had greatly harried the retreat of the Germans on their way out. The whole attitude of the Germans to the partisans had become more polite and cordial, especially to the well organized bands. The source related an incident which he seemed to think was typical: Towards the end of September source took part in negotiations at MONDOVI for the exchange of prisoners. Partisans had captured two Germans and the Germans three Partisans. Germans had taken 40 hostages at Mondovi, but the partisans refused to open negotiations until the hostages were released, and this was promptly done. (Source says that the practice of shooting hostages was more or less finished in this area.)
(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

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(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

VICENZA In the Province of Vicenza, the Germans have arrested many Republican policeman.

LEGNAGO A few days ago the German Army Command sentenced to death Renato Iasquato of San Pietro for having sheltered 5 British soldiers for some time, and for having kept in contact with a gang of rebels.
(News Digest 4.10.44)

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XIX. General Conditions

German control on the surface was strict. Permits from the Germans were necessary for any kind of movement or activity. Notices had recently been put up on the walls of TURIN saying that anyone who put his hand in his pocket would be liable to be shot at sight. Germans had control posts on all the main roads, and carried out frequent round ups of men in the streets, public meeting places, cinemas, etc. Actually, outside the towns it was possible to circulate pretty freely, especially after dark, as the Germans were afraid to put in an appearance then.

Transport of all kinds was almost entirely lacking. The railway services in the whole area had been suppressed. One effect of this was a big variation from area to area in economic conditions. In the Province of CUNEO, for example, food was plentiful because there was no means of transporting it elsewhere.
(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

XX. German Looting

P/W was stationed in NEMI, a suburb of Rome during May 44. After the Allies attacked, the Germans had to make a hasty retreat and he was told by Major HILDEBRAND of LUFTWAFFENGSSTADT near DARMSTADT to pack some of his belongings. When he asked the Major if he wanted some of the books packed, he was told not to bother as there was not time. P/W looked over these books and found that they were stolen from the Library belonging to the Princess GINETTI and others from the BIBLIOTECA COMUNALE in VELLETRI. The Germans previously put out propaganda that they had taken this woman's valuable books to Rome and returned them to her. The books are still in a hiding place known to the P/W and could be shown for veracity. The Major was a personal friend of HITLER and had the rank of SS GRUPPENFUHRER in the SS. P/W Heard from a paratrooper that the Library of MONTE CASSINO was ordered confiscated by GOERING and shipped to him; among the important works taken were some parchments belonging to the time of Friederich II.
(ADV PWB. 29.9.44)

XXI. Monks Removed by Germans

FARNETA "After midnight of September 1st the

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FARNETA "After midnight of September 1st the Germans entered the Carthusian Monastery at FARNETA and shut up the Carthusians in one of the premises, compelling them to put on civilian clothes. All were taken away...The monastery has been robbed both by the Germans and by local thieves."
(Confidential source 28.9.44)

XXII. Atrocities

FRASSINE "In a villa near the Frassine, an Italian lady, 100% Aryan, had remained with her two baptized daughters; the husband, an engineer by name of EINSTEIN, brother of the physicist, was hidden. The Germans (not the SS but simply German officers and soldiers)

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killed with their revolvers wife and children and locked up in the house two of the wife's nieces (100% Aryan) both about 10 years of age, and before leaving set fire to the villa. Fortunately these little girls were saved by peasants of the neighborhood. (Confidential Source 2.9.44)

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

XXII. Alps Southwest of CUNEO

BLO said that broadcasts, especially Italia Combatte, were listened to "religiously". Reception was good. Each patriot division in this area runs a newspaper, for which they rely entirely on Allied news broadcasts. Even if only one patriot was able to listen, everything he heard would be known well all over the area in a very short time.

BLO had never seen a leaflet, though he believed that some, written in German, had been dropped on the area. Leaflets he thought would be less effective than radio because they would be regarded as less recent. Patriots were particularly delighted when a broadcast mentioned their bands or leaders by name. BLO did not think there would be any objection to the use of these names as they were all nommes de guerre. He particularly suggested that the bands under Mauri e Cosa should be featured shich have been doing excellent work.
(PWB Special Service 5.10.44)

XXIII. Ligurian Coast

A patriot from the FELICE CASCIONE Garibaldi Division (West Ligurian Coastal area t VENTIMIGLIA) said that he had never seen an Italian Combatte leaflet, but that he had been within reach of a wireless set working on current and had listened regularly to the Italia Combatte programme. It had come through very clearly on short wave -- he thought 31 M. It was not always possible to carry out the instructions owing to lack of supplies, but they gave a general idea of the line of action required and were followed where possible. The greatest value of the programme, he thought, was that it made the patriots feel that their work was appreciated and overcame their sense of isolation by telling them

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POLITICS

24. Politics in La Spezia

There are 5 political parties (Liberal, Christian Democratic, d'Azione, Socialista and Communist), which are represented in the National Liberation Committee. The greater numbers of followers are in the ranks of Liberals or Communists.

As for the P.F.R., the Federation of La Spezia was closed May 29th, after an Allied bombardment, and the consequent demonstration by the women. The members of the party in the Spezia zone prove to be a very small number. (15/8/99 R.P. 43, Repeat PWB 'D' Section)

25 The German Fortress of Tyrol

K 12 Innsbrucker Nachrichten, 13/9/44 (do not quote). The commissioned Mayors from Bolzano Province have been convened to a three-day course at the Pana Inn, near St. Christina in the Val Gardena. Addressing them Hofer said: "War-experienced people in our majestic mountains will, in this fateful struggle again take the lead and, remembering their historical obligation in the struggle for the liberation of Greater Germany, desire to be among its champions. We want to be a tremendous fortress in the south of the Reich, the Reichs-Festung Tirol, inside which only one thing exists: unshakeable loyalty, the determined will to fight, absolute certainty of victory, effort and readiness for the utmost sacrifices". (News Digest 7/10/44)

26 Zerbino's First Action

K S Transocean (for Far East), 3/10/44 . Seidlitz reports from Turin: The curfew in Turin has been relaxed and the hour when everyone must be off the streets is now 10 PM. This is the first measure of Dr. Paolo Zerbino whom Mussolini appointed High Commissioner Extraordinary for Piemonte. Zerbino is 39 and is looked upon as one of the most energetic Fascist fighters. As he is simultaneously also Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of the Interior, he has a special prerogative which enables him to attack problems from a new angle. (News Digest 5/10/44)

27. The Mussolini-Ricci Quarrel

The "Popolo e Liberta", Bellinzona, 29/9/44; reports from the Italian frontier: The Duce's letter to Ricci was apocryphal. The real reason for the quarrel between Mussolini and Ricci was a plot aimed at proclaiming Mussolini President of the Republic, depriving him of all political and military power and dismissing his chief collaborators, Pavolini and Graziani. Command would have been assumed by Farinacci, Ricci and some other extremists, who accuse

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28. Compulsory Listening in

K 19 Deutsche Adria-Zeitung, 23/9/44, reports from Friuli: Owners of restaurants, cafes, etc., with radio installation are reminded of their duty to put on the loudspeakers during the news broadcasts.

29 Politics at Turin

So many members of the Turin CLN had been arrested, that it no longer met as a body. Two or three people at the most would meet together in a street rather than in their houses. Even the professor, who was supposed to be a delegate of the CLN, seemed hazy about the names and personalities of some of the PARTY

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party leaders.

The professor calculated that a maximum of 4% of the inhabitants of Turin were politically conscious. Of these, he rather hesitantly estimated that about 50% would be Communists, 10% Socialists, 20% Liberals,(older intellectuals) 15% Action Party (Younger intellectuals) and 5% Christian Democrats, who had only just begun to organise.

Many of the Communists, said the professor, who obviously did not care for this party, were not convinced Marxists and adhered to the Party because it seemed the one most likely to take action. Some he thought, liked it because of its resemblance to Fascism. He thought that many would cease to adhere to Communism when they realized the degree of State control entailed in the Party programme, and when other strong parties arise to rival it.

The Professor thought that the Turin Communists distrusted Togliatti, who they felt had abandoned them. He did not know of any link between Turin and Rome Communists. Nor did he have any clear idea as to the strength of Russian influence. He said that two patriot bands in the Val Sesia and in the Biellese had political commisars who were Russians sent from Moscow.

Of the other parties, he said that the Socialist Leaders are ambitious and squabbled for position. The Action Party, he said regretfully, might have counter-balanced the left, but it had swung over to the left itself, and the left parties now had preponderance. He said that it had been agreed upon that the Communists should control the Prefetture and the Socialists the Municipio.

Although he would not commit himself, the Professor seemed afraid of the possibility of disorders occuring after liberation, and he was anxious that there should be an Allied occupation of at least a month, and preferably longer.

In the country, interest in politics was negligible, and Communist influence slight. In Cuneo, Province, he thought that 60% of those interested in politics were Liberals, the province having a strong liberal tradition.

In the factories themselves, the workers commissions set up by the first pre-armistice Badoglio government, still functioned, with official recognition, as duly elected bodies. He thought these would on the whole be an influence against Communism, as excellent relations, based on anti-Fascist feelings, had been established between factory owners and managers and commissions. The representatives would realize they could not reason in the same way with a government, even if it were Communist.

There had been strikes two months ago, when the workers were ordered to dismantle their factories for transport to Germany. The Professor thought that a

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ECONOMICS

30. Food Situation

CHIASSO.- With the beginning of the autumn rains a wave of pessimism has spread over northern Italy, where the people are terrified at the prospect of another winter under German occupation. If life is still tolerable in Milan and many evacuees have returned to the city, in Venice the situation of the inhabitants is extremely bad. Water is lacking and food is very scarce. Medical supplies are unobtainable and economic life has collapsed. Similar conditions prevail in many valleys cut off from the rest of the country owing to catastrophic communications. Bologna and towns near the fighting are in a particularly difficult situation. (4/10/44 News Digest)

1219

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 7[illegible]

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except items sidelined.

MILAN Popolo e Libertà, Bellinzona 28.9.44 reports from the Italian Frontier: For some weeks no meat has been availble in Milan. The weekly ration has been substituted by 50 gm. of cheese, which is rarely obtainable. Rationed goods at controlled prices are absolutely impossible to find. Bread and milk supplies are inadequate and fats and eggs are totally lacking. The distress has led to a considerable number of suicides.
(News Digest 2.9.44)

LA SPEZIA Owing to the interruptions of the communications with the agricultural zones in the north, the alimentary conditions of the population are disastrous. There is a vivacious Black Market with very high prices (for instance flour at 80 lire the Kg.)

Industry is practically non-existent after the bombardments and the public services do not give gas or electric light, and water is scarce.

The port does not function at all, as it is obstructed by 3 Italian cruisers which have been sunk there. Also the Submarine arsenal has been obstructed by the Germans with a ship commanded by wireless.

The evacuation of the town is almost total and includes the greater part of the administrative offices. The schools are closed.
(R.T.43 Report PWBD Section 15.8.44)

FIUME From the point of view of alimentation, the Germans are trying to attract the sympathy of the population by giving them some produce generously. There is a very well developed black market but at rather low prices. All the public services are in full function: water, gas, light. The evacuation of the town is minimum. The bombardments have caused damage to the barracks of the 4th Artillery and 26th Infantry regiments (the latter has been transformed into a military hospital). The torpedo factory has been hit in various parts. FIUME VENETO (PORDENONE) has been for the greater part evacuated. The shipyard which has not been hit continues to work; The ROMSA (raffinerie oli minerali) has been almost totally destroyed.
(PWBD Section 18.9.44)

LUCCA Black Market prices in May, 1944:

Cigarettes A.O.I.	Lire 80 per packet
Lard	" 500 per kilo

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

(News Digest 2.9.44)

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LUCCA Black Market prices in May, 1944:

Cigarettes A.O.I.	Lire 80 per packet
Lard	" 500 per kilo
Oil	" 1200 per flask
Meat	" 100 per kilo
Butter	" 400 " "
White flour	" 55 " "
Cheese	" 350 " "
Beans	" 50 " "
Pork meat	" 400 " "

(Confidential source 13.5.44)

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda, except items side-lined.

XXXI Transport

The Transocean (for Far East) 29.9.44 Seidlitz reports from MILAN: Since the disappearance of taxicabs from MILAN, tricycles pedaled by men are doing a steady business. They have taken over from taxis the meter and flag. Formerly these tricycles, most rickety affairs, were used for transporting baggage. Now they have been upholstered and the Milanese proudly ride in them on their business trips. MILAN has adapted itself to the changed situation. For all problems, the people have found a solution. Work in shops and factories continues despite there being from 5 to 8 air raid alerts every 24 hours.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

TORTONIA=ALESSANDRIA LINE - On the 13 September three ardhes of the bridge on the River Scrivia to the west of Tortona fell on account of a bombardment; being difficult to mend, the Germans have abandoned the idea of repairing it.

VOGHERA=TORTONA LINE - On the 15 September the bridge on the CURONE torrent at PONTECURONE (17 Km. southwest of VOGHERA) was interrupted; no repairing is in process. On that date the trains from GENOVA, came as far as CARBONARA SCRIVIA (5 km. south of TORTONA) and those from MILAN and PIACENZA as far as VOGHERA. On the 22 September the Germans began the destruction (perhaps removal) of the lines from this railway.

ROADS - Three thousand workers repaired the PO bridge at OSTIGLIA, which began to function on the 24th September.

The OSTERIA DELLA BACCA bridge on the PO (7 km. southeast of PAVIA) attacked by aviation on the 23 September, was not hit.

Italian workers and German soldiers are working on the bed of the ORCO torrent (northeast of CHIVASSO) to allow the passage of motor traffic, also in case of an interruption of the autostrada bridge over the same torrent. (S.I.M. 27.9.44)

RAILWAYS - The Germans have begun the destruction of the trunk lines PARMA=BRESCIA and BOLOGNA=PIACENZA; one track of the latter is already ruined. Germans are taking away all the locomotives from

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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RAILWAYS - The Germans have begun the destruction of the trunk lines PARMA=BRESCIA and BOLOGNA=PIACENZA; one track of the latter is already ruined. Germans are taking away all the locomotives from the MILAN railway yards at PORTA MAGGIORE.

GENOVA=OVADA LINE -- Takes all traffic between West Liguria and Piedmont.

SPEZIA=PARMA LINE - all rolling stock of the Spezia division is being collected and sent up north.

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TURIN=ASTI=ALESSANDRIA LINE - In working order; the VILLANOVA d'ASTI viaduct has been mended (22 September).

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MORTARA=ALESSANDRIA LINE - The PO bridge has been mended at VALENZA.

TORINO=PINEROLO LINE - The trunk line between TURIN AND CANDIOLO (12 km. south of TURIN) is in working order.

TURIN=IVREA=AOSTA LINE - Between TURIN-IVREA is working.

MILAN=TURIN LINE - Intense traffic is passing on the DORA BALTEA bridge at SALUGGIA (10 km. northeast of CHIVASSO); all the line is in working order.

VERONA=BRENNERO LINE - after the interruption of the ADIGE bridge south of MEZZACORONA (17 km. north of TRENTO) and at ORA, the Germans have fixed the railway lines on the high road parallel to the railway.
(S.I.M. 26.9.44)

XXXII. Industry

MILAN DNB (for Europe) 29.9.44 reports from Milan: To bring about the reorganization of the coal industry in the Fascist Social Republic, an "Ufficio per Combustibili Solidi" has been set up, which will supervise coal distribution among consumers, purchase and sale, transport and production. The activities of the coal monopoly, which has existed for several years, will be confined to the imports of foreign coal. (News Diges 30.9.44)

Degummed hemp, produced on a large scale only since the outbreak of the war, has developed into an excellent raw material for the Italian textile industry. Mixed with cotton, silk, lanital, and artificial silk, it is used in the manufacture of the most varied kinds of cloth. In the manufacture of cloth for military purposes it has completely replaced cotton, and it is also being used more and more for medical purposes.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

The Germans have commenced the requisition of the FIAT works where they have already fixed their Command and offices.

The Germans have asked for the inventory of all the sanitary material (inclusive of the radium) which exists in the Cancer Institute and other Milanese institutes; all this material is blocked.

The Galileo works in Florence have been moved to the PORDENONE zone (40 km. southeat of Belluno) They have been placed in what was a cotton factory, the building of which stands isolated to the north

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(S.I.M. 26.9.44)

XXXIII. Finance

MILAN DNB 3.10.44 reports the three large Italian banks, Banca Commerciale Italiana, Credito Italiano, and Banco di Roma held their annual general meetings in Milan. The balance sheets for the last

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business year were adopted and all three banks decided to transfer their net profits to the reserve or to carry them forward. This is the first time for a long period that no divident is to be distributed. The last dividend was 4% in the case of each bank.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

A decree published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale changes the regulations for registered shares. The new regulations envisage a card index of shareholders to be established in the Ministry of Finance. Within the next three months all joint stock companies are obliged to hand in a list of stockholders. All changes in property and stocks will be registered in the card index and shareholders must report heir nationality and race. Joint stock companies must announce their non-Aryan shareholders by 29.11.44. Shareholders and their heirs are entitled to demand from the Ministry of Finance certificates for their share of property. Joint stock companies failing to change bearer shares to registered shares or failing to hand in the list of shareholders will be fined amounts to a maximum of 5% of the firm's share capital for each delay of half a year.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

Last August the Dinar was quoted at about 35 centimes to the Italian lire.
(S.I.M.) 27.9.44)

XXXIV General Conditions

MILAN All stocks of firewood of more than five quintals, and coal of more than 50 kg. must be declared by October 10th.

The Commune warns all owners of petrol, charcoal and producer gas driven vehicles that they must declare them by Oct. 3d.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

PRATO "As you know the town is isolated and there are few inhabitants; shops as well as factories are all closed and the workers are all unemployed...Everything is lacking, because the Germans take everything up and take it away -- oxen, horses, everything else.... The railways hardly work and many bridges have been blown up as around here they are all mined."
(Confidential source 22.7.44)

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(Confiddntial source 22.7.44)

L A B O U R

XXXV. Conscription

An announcement of Sept. 1th made by the Trieste Prefecture and the Supreme Commissioner for the ADRIATIC coastal zone states that in accordance with the decree of 23.11.43, the labor mobiliz-

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ation of all men aged 16 to 60 domiciled in TRIESTE municipality has been ordered for war work. The Labour Exchange will start by calling up the youngest year classes for a period of four weeks. Men will be paid 50 lire a day and free board. Employers, moreover, are bound to continue the payment of normal wages. Anyone evading conscription will be punished by law.

VENICE All able-bodied Venetians between 14 and 40 who do not possess an official labour bookmust report for work. Laborers receive good wages and additional food rations.
(News Digest 5.10.44)

XXXVI. Strikes

MILAN. Libera Stampa, Lugano 4.10.44: A three hour strike took place in many MILAN factories on Sept. 22 as a protest against the intensified transports of machinery of Lombard industries to Germany. The Piedmont railwaymen's strike has now been going on for over ten days, almost without defedtions.
(News Digest 7.10.44)

C H U R C H

XXXVII The Church and Partisans

All parish priests are either politically agnostic or anti-fascists. Some help the Partisans with information, by smuggling wounded Partisans into hospitals, as recruiting agents, etc.

Mauri had approached the Bishop of Mondovi to ask for spiritual aid for his divisions. The Bishop replied that he could not openly supply this, as he must not embroil the Church with the occupation authorities. He would however double the number of priests in certain valleys, and if extra masses were said in the mountain churches, no question would be asked.
(PWB Special Service 7.10.44)

MILAN A Capuchin friar, Don Gian Antonio AGOSTI, 58 years old, was arrested the 13 June in MILAN because he had helped Jews and individuals hostile to the State. The arrested man, who for 27 years has received confession in the Duomo, has admitted having given Jews forged identity cards, with the help of a forger whose name he has not revealed. Don AGOSTI has added that all dealings concerning the

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(Confidential Source 16.6.44)

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PRESS

XXXVIII. Press in Occupied Italy

The ordinary press continues to keep the same uniform character, thanks to the censorship system, according to which the schemes to follow in order to arrive at a determined conclusion are distributed. In MILAN the "Corriere della Sera" continues to be the most read newspaper together with the "Stampa" of Turin. Many daily papers have been stopped, amongst which even the "Popolo d'Italia", Fascist party organ; topical periodicals, except the German "Signal", fashion and art magazines, and also the courageous "Relazioni Internazionali" of the I.S.P.I. of which it is worth while to remember that it followed up to the last the judgment of true documentation. Great confusion reigns in the "interna corporia" of the daily papers, because no one wants to take the responsibility of the Direction, and so they are obliged to follow a rotation system. A daily paper which proclaims itself as Catholic, "L'Italia", does not vary from the others either in the omission of the publication of the Pope's speeches, or summaries of such. The "Regime Fascista" represents the absolute extreme of the Party Press. Violent attacks and personal quarrels create a panorama of curiosity of all the little Fascist stupidities. Recently, the polemic Borsani-Farinacci caused a great fuss, which had to be silenced by high authorities. Little newspapers such as "Mitra","Il Legionario," "La Fiaccola", "Il Moschetto", etc., have taken the place of daily papers and reviews suppressed, and are almost all unknown in the town and so are distributed gratis to the troops. The system of devaluing the military and political capacity of the Allies has had to be abandoned by the Fascist Press.

There are clandestine pamphlets, edited mostly by the Parties, but few copies are printed. The "Risorgimento Liberale" and "L'Italia Libera" come out and two other Communist and Demo-Christian pamphlets that are not known. Their circulation is difficult owing to the scarcity of numbers, and the risk which is serious for the readers. There is not a lack of paper, and the question is only expense, but the printers are scarce on account of the rigorous control. The compilation of the articles is worthy of praise, and from this aspect not to be compared with the Pamphlets of the Tuscan Parties. The news of the partisan activities in Northern Italy, of the activities of the Parties, the dispositions of the Committee are clear and complete. But news of liberated Italy is either missing altogether or

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(Appendix D Section Bulletin 12)

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This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda, except articles sidelined.

PERSONALITIES

XXIX FASCISTS of ROVERETO

DOTT. RENZO DE PRETIS - nicknamed Pet of Via Rialto
DOTT? RISSA of Corso Vittorio Emanuele
Stonemason Rome ROBISCELLA of Via Santa Maria
(PWB Special Service 5.10.44)

XL. BELLUNO

The head of the Fascio at BELLUNO is ALFREDO ROCCA.

XLI. Forze Armate Fasciste - Lombardia

GEN. SOLINAS - Regional commander, Republican Fascist army.
TEN. COL. SENATORE - Capo di Stato Maggiore (giustiziato?)
MAGGIORE ANELO - Assitant Capo di Stato Maggiore
MAGGIORE PESAPANE - Capo ufficio operazioni
TEN.COL. ZARDO - Ufficiale a disposizione
MAGG. DALL'OSO - Ufficiale propaganda
COLONELLO CALLEGARI - Comandante provinciale di MILANO
GENERALE GATTI - Luogotenente della Milizia
(PWB Florence 7.10.44)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759121

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

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Local Government

8 OCT 1944

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

27th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY-NO 26.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE.

Patriot Activity. The slowness of the Allied advance through the Gothic line and the difficult country of the Appenines has apparently had the inevitable effect on patriot activity. The general partisan offensive from the Alps in combination with Allied armies descending into the Po valley has not been realised. Nevertheless considerable progress has been registered. The entire VAL D'OSSOLA is practically controlled by patriots and a provisional government has taken over the administration of a large zone in the LAGO MAGGIORE and VAL D'OSSOLA region on behalf of the Committee of National Liberation of N. Italy. The NW shores of LAGO MAGGIORE are apparently still held by Germans and elements of the S. Marco Division, and CANNOBIO, after changing hands once or twice, was last reported in the possession of the patriots.

In the Alps the Fascist press rather belatedly admits fighting in the MONT GINEVRE and MONT CENIS passes, and the practical encirclement of the Germans in the MADDALENA PASS (COL D'ARGENTERA). In the CUNEO region patriots have repelled German attacks in VAL VARAITA and VAL MAIRA. In VENEZIA GIULIA, good relations are reported between Italian and Yugoslav partisans. The former operate in the UDINE and CARNIA zones; the latter in GORIZIA, TRIESTE and ISTRIA. GORIZIA is completely isolated and travel in that zone can only be undertaken with a permit issued by partisans.

Reprisals. COLICO (COMO Province) was the scene of reprisals and counter reprisals between Fascists and patriots. Unfortunately the German SS. intervened and destroyed a neighbouring village.

From BOLOGNA and MODENA provinces and the ROMAGNA come tales of partisans executed and numerous villages destroyed.

Assassination. Dr. RAFFAELE MANGANIELLO the notorious Fascist tyrant, was killed by patriots on the road from MILAN to TURIN.

FASCIST FORCES.

The morale of the Tagliamento G.N.R. Legion is said to be good and the discipline strict. 15

Towards the end of July the "Aldo Resega" Black Brigade of MILAN was reported to number about 2000. At that time they were transferred to NOVARA to take part in mopping-up operations.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780121

Patriot Activity. The slowness of the Allied advance through the Gothic line and the difficult country of the Appenines has apparently had the inevitable effect on patriot activity. The general partisan offensive from the Alps in combination with Allied armies descending into the Po valley has not been realised. Nevertheless considerable progress has been registered. The entire VAL D'OSSOLA is practically controlled by patriots and a provisional government has taken over the administration of a large zone in the LAGO MAGGIORE and VAL D'OSSOLA region on behalf of the Committee of National Liberation of N. Italy. The NW shores of LAGO MAGGIORE are apparently still held by Germans and elements of the S. Marco Division, and CANNOBIO, after changing hands once or twice, was last reported in the possession of the patriots.

In the Alps the Fascist press rather belatedly admits fighting in the MONT GINEVRE and MONT CENIS passes, and the practical encirclement of the Germans in the MADDALENA PASS (COL D'ARGENTERA). In the CUNEO region patriots have repelled German attacks in VAL VARAITA and VAL MAIRA. In VENEZIA GIULIA, good relations are reported between Italian and Yugoslav partisans. The former operate in the UDINE and CARNIA zones; the latter in GORIZIA, TRIESTE and ISTRIA. GORIZIA is completely isolated and travel in that zone can only be undertaken with a permit issued by partisans.

Reprisals. COLICO (COMO Province) was the scene of reprisals and counter reprisals between Fascists and patriots. Unfortunately the German SS. intervened and destroyed a neighbouring village.

From BOLOGNA and MODENA provinces and the ROMAGNA come tales of partisans executed and numerous villages destroyed.

Assessination. Dr.RAFFAELE MANGANIELLO the notorious Fascist tyrant, was killed by patriots on the road from MILAN to TURIN.

FASCIST FORCES.

The morale of the Tagliamento G.N.R. Legion is said to be good and the discipline strict.

Towards the end of July the "Aldo Resega" Black Brigade of MILAN was reported to number about 2000. At that time they were transferred to NOVARA to take part in mopping-up operations.

Partisans and the G.N.R. The Garibaldi Divisions of VAL SESIA, VAL D'OSSOLO, CUBIO and VERBANO distributed leaflets last August to G.N.R. Carabinieri and Public Security Police, calling on them to abandon the Fascists and join the partisans.

Ricci's dismissal from the G.N.R. A Swiss explanation of Ricci's dismissal attributes it to the ridicule Ricci heaped on Musselini when he described to certain ladies the Duce's effort to fire a cannon on his recent trip to Germany.

Carabinieri A letter-writer in PIEDMONT states that in BRESCIA about the beginning of August the Carabinieri and Police spontaneously joined the partisans.

SECRET

1945

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759121

SECRET
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SUMMARY 2.

Milan Torture Chambers. The torturers of San Vittore Prison in MILAN who were deposed by the German Commandant, have resumed their work at the Aberdan H.Q. Porta Venezia, Milan. It is said that one of them, MANFREDINI, unable to make a prisoner speak in the San Vittore prison, tortured his four-year-old daughter before his eyes. The prisoner broke down and subsequently hanged himself.

GERMANS.

Reports from Switzerland indicate that the Germans are ready to evacuate COMO and VARESE provinces en masse. Almost all civilians, with their families, have already left COMO.

From VERONA it is reported that the S.S. Command has left the city in the direction of the BRENNER PASS. It seems that German H.Q. forsees that wide zones in N. Italy will have to be abandoned so as to occupy certain strategic points in force to protect the escape of German troops back to Germany.

Morale. It is said that recent events in France are not generally known to the German soldiers. Throughout the VENETO Germans are steadily buying civilian suits. In VERONA alone over 700 have been sold.

Propaganda. On Sept. 10th German aircraft dropped leaflets on MILAN declaring a wonderful new weapon was shortly to come into action and then 250,000 Fascists would march on Rome.

Atrocities. Massacres are reported from GOMBITELLI (CAMAIORE), FORNO (near APUANIA) and along the shores of LAKE MAGGIORE.

POLITICS.

From BOLOGNA it is reported that the city workers are in general distinctly Communist, while the countr. people are Catholic and conservative. Nevertheless, even in the country round LUGO, MOLINELLO, BUDRIO, FAENZA there are large districts which are intensely communist.

Appointments. Ing. GIUSEPPE SPINELLI is Padesta of MILAN in place of GIUDO ANDREONI
PIERO RANDT is appointed Federal Commissioner of FERRARA.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation. The grain harvest has been excellent and though threshing is proceeding slowly, there have been abundant offers of wheat so that the Black Market price has dropped to 620-700 lire the quintal (100 kiles) In MILAN province, to save petrol for ploughing, its use for threshing or for transport has been forbidden. In CREMONA owing to the milk shortage, ice creams have been prohibited if milk in any form is used in them. In the VENETO the early potato crop was spoilt by rain, but the main crop has been very abundant. BOLOGNA black

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Situation in GENOVA. The harbour is completely mined and all port installations and quays destroyed. Almost all buses and the best trams have been taken away by the Germans. Many works have had their machinery removed. A letter dated 17th August states that the city has been without water for a month and a half due to air raids.

LABOUR.

Italian labourers recently escaped from Germany report that amongst Italian, Polish, Russian and French workers clandestine organisations are very active, particularly Communist ones, but so far they lack arms. It is reported from N. Italy that the deportation of workers to Germany has ceased owing to chaotic railway conditions, but nevertheless mass arrests continue and all the prisons of LOMBARDY, VENETO and LIGURIA are crammed with prisoners.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

Local government

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

27th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 26.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 27th September, 1944.

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Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 26.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisans

General Situation.

It is reported from Switzerland that up to 12th September the VENTIMIGLIA zone was firmly held by Italian patriots who controlled the coast up to DIANO MARINA The Nazis have withdrawn from the whole of the western Riviera, concentrating their available forces in GENOA. The so-called Ligurian Wall has been almost entirely abandoned, owing to its doubtful effectiveness. Apparently it was not even finished owing to lack of cement. The most important coastal cities are still garrisoned by the Fascist "San Marco" divisions whom the partisans constantly harass, while awaiting the signal for general insurrection.

The patriots carry out constant attacks along the Via Aurelia. They are also very active in the CUNEO region and have repulsed German attacks in the VAL VARAITA and the VALMAIRA, heavy losses being inflicted on the enemy. The situation for the civilians is deteriorating daily in GENOA and the eastern Riviera. Numerous railways under bridges on the GENOA-PISA line have been converted into shelters where hundreds of families bivouac together pell-mell. Sabotage has almost completely eliminated all rail traffic. Fearing general insurrection the Nazis take drastic preventive measures. The Marazzi prisons are crammed with hostages.

Recent reports from VENEZIA GIULIA show that good relations exist between the Italian and Yugoslav partisans, the latter operating in the GORIZIA, TRIESTE and ISTRIA regions. The Italians are operating in the regions of UDINE and CARNIA. GORIZIA is completely isolated. Anyone wishing to travel in that zone must obtain a permit from the partisans.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 12.9.44).

The Fascist press reveals that the Germans who evacuated Briancon are retreating towards the Mont GENEVRE pass, 12 km away. The Germans still hold the MADDALENA Pass, where they are practically encircled by the partisans from the STURA pass. On September 13th Fascist sources for the first time indicated that fighting was going on in the MONT CENIS district, where the Germans are trying to hold the pass.
(Gazette de Lausanne 14.9.44).

1213

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As far as can be judged from BERNE the importance of the Italian partisan movement consists largely in the fact that it gives the German troops a feeling of being surrounded by small groups of fanatical anti-Germans, thus gradually undermining their fighting morale. All report the catastrophic conditions of the roads and railways in northern Italy, when captured, and the difficulties which will arise when Kesselring attempts to withdraw his army.
(News Digest 13.9.44).

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Disposition of Bands.

GORIZIA 9 partisan corps and 33 partisan Divisions (entirely Slovene) are operating in the GORIZIA area. A band of 70 britons, commanded by an English Major, was operating in the TARNOVA area. A TRIESTE assault brigade is operating on the CARSO (plateau on which Gorizia stands) The Garibaldi brigade is operating towards CARNIA, while the MAZZINI and MANELI Bns are operating east of UDINE in the COLLIO area. Battalions, according to one informant, are composed of three companies of 30 and 60 men each armed with rifles, pistols and hand grenades. Nearly all the men wear Italian army uniforms, stolen from stores, wearing the Red Star on their forage caps. Each Battalion has a political commissar and a vice commissar who give Communist propaganda lectures to the troops when they are not on the move.
(P.W.B. Adv. HQ. A.A.I.)

ROMAGNA The whole organisation of volunteers of ROMAGNA is mobilised to ensnare German movements. The patriots have extended their occupation of the MODENA and REGGIO EMILIA zones up to a point near the VIA EMILIA. The entire VAL D'OSSOLA is, for every practical purpose, controlled by the patriots.

In the VAL D'OSSOLA, near the MASSONE mountains there is the patriot band of DEDIO, 600 men, well-armed, disciplined, and without political affiliations. They can be used for surprise attacks. They captured DOMODOSSOLA.

The Garibaldi forces in VALLE GRANDE, VAL DI ALA and VAL DI VIU (upper valleys of VAL LANZ O -TORINO) include 4000 partisans, but they are badly armed.
(Confidential source 15/16 September).

SESIA and ANZASCA Valleys. Here there is the Garibaldi MOSCATELLI Division, 2000 men strong, but without heavy arm

The Third and Fourth Garibaldi Divisions regrouped after the mopping-up operations, and their forces are moving towards GENOVA. Detachments have been left to control the CHIAVARI-PARMA, the CHIAVARI-BUSALLA and the GENOVA-PIACENZA roads.
(Confidential Source 7/8 September)

The news broadcast by the 5th Army Radio on 1st September at 2100 GMT, about the disbanding of the MONTE ROSA division is not true, and has had an unfavourable effect on listeners. The Monte Rosa is located between NERVI and CHIAVARI and fights against the patriots with ferocious reprisals on the population. The Monte Rosa is at present moving towards the Western Alps, perhaps to MONCENIZIO and MONGINEVRO
(Confidential Source 14th September)

GARFAGNANA area

COREGLIA ANTELMINELLI band - about 400 men, partly armed.

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FIANO (Torino H 9246) (localit, called Luccese) 500 partisans headed by a naval officer called BROFFERIO.

ALPE DI SANT'ANTONIO (north of Lucca) to the north east of Mount PANIA. 200 partisans led by source Only 50 of them armed a month ago.

STRADA DI ARNI to the north of Alpe di Sant' Antonio; 300 partisand headed by a British officer.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

SECRET

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A confidential report of the Republican General Staff gives a list of the valleys where the partisans were most active during July. In the CANAVESE district there were 2,000 partisans, in the VAL DI LANZO 2000 committing acts of sabotage throughout the valley and in the VAL DI SUSA 1,500 who were most active in cutting railway communications. The list stated that the main partisan group was commanded by "Captain Butler" and had occupied the majority of the Canavese district. In the VAL SANGONE there are 1,800 partisans. The men under Captain Butler had occupied the whole of the Upper CHISONE Valley, which also dominates the FINESTRE PASS. The 2,000 partisans in the GERMANASCA and PELLICA valleys have mined almost all the bridges and control the most important centres.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 15.9.44).

GENOA The nos of patriots vary greatly from place to place. Many thousands are operating in the province of GENOA and even more in the province of SPEZIA.

SESTRI PONENTE, placed in the industrial area of GENOA, and inhabited mainly by workmen is perhaps the most dangerous spot for Germans and fascists. After September 8th 1943 no organised fascist activity was possible there. Germans can enter Sestri Ponente only if two battalions strong at least. Recently they occupied all the town with large forces, to cope with workmen's rebellions and strikes. In the workshops of Sestri Ponente armed groups were formed for the purpose of locating mines and seizing workshops to prevent destruction. In the beginning these groups received instructions from the workshop managers, but they are at present controlled by the various political parties.

As to organisation, there are squads which meet for a particular operation, and then disappear to assemble again for another action. In the main units there are (1) the military chief with his staff (2) the political commissioner in liaison with various parties or with the local underground centre or committee (3) the President of the Court Martial which issues regular sentences concerning the discipline and offences of the men in the unit. (4) various services.
(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 21.9.44 Italian Source).

Recent Activities of Partisans.

TREVISO On 4th September patriots blew the bridge/rail/ over the river DESE between TREVISO and MESTRE. It caused an interruption for five days. They also caused minor interruptions on the BASSANO GRAPPA-TRENTO line at the SOLAGNA tunnel (G-2394)

VAL SERIANA A group of patriots invaded the station of GAZZANIGO in VAL SERIANO, in the province of BERGAMO. Having stopped two trains on arrival and controlled all the personal documents of the travellers, they captured a German Lieutenant, a Fascist aviator, three militiamen and many other Fascists. Following this incident Nazi-fascist troops flowed in to the Val Seriana. A very vident battle took place, which lasted four hours, resulting in losses on both sides.
(P.W.B. Rome 18.9.44).

DOGLIANI Patriots made a violent attack against the German garrison at DOGLIANI (Province of Cuneo 0 1967), obliging the enemy to retreat. Two armoured cars

1212

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 790027

(Censura Stampa Lugano No. 5042).

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PADOVA. During an air raid alarm in PADOVA patriots killed COLONEL BARTOLOMEO FRONTEDU, who collaborated actively with the Germans. 10 hostages were shot as a reprisal.

BOLOGNA Patriots planted a bomb in the office of the Fascio at BOLOGNA. The explosion completely destroyed the building. Three Fascist militia were killed and others wounded.

MILAN The Germans have taken 250 hostages in Milan, whom they threaten to shoot in reprisal for the shooting of 25 German soldiers. The Archbishop of Milan has

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taken steps to prevent the new massacre.

TUSCANY The well known Fascist official MANGANIELLO, who had recently ordered inhuman atrocities against the civil population in TUSCANY, has been captured whilst trying to escape to the north.
(P.W.B. Rome 19.9.44).

PISTOIA North of PISTOIA the Germans have been obliged to send three battalions to the PAVIA region where over 1,000 partisans are fighting.

ISTRIA The Commander of the Carabinieri at the head of the police force of ISTRIA has gone over with all his men to the patriots. He appealed to the Italians in Istria to unite with him in the fight against Nazi-Fascism.
(P.W.B. Rome 24.9.44).

LAKE MAGGIORE-VAL D'OSSOLA In the Lake Maggiore and Val d'Ossola regions the partisans are now in control of territory containing over 100,000 inhabitants. A provisional Government containing representatives of all political parties has assumed the administration on behalf of the National Liberation Committee for northern Italy. Christian Democrats are in charge of the departments of Education, Social Welfare and Justice. One of the first tasks of the new administration is the acquisition of special foods for children and of medical supplies. The International Red Cross is taking up the matter. (Popolo e Liberta 14.9.44)

The partisans have not yet mastered the counter-attack by the Fascist "San Marco" Divisions on the north-west shore of Lake MAGGIORE. The Germans are still at LORO DI VALMARA, near BRISSAGO 14.9.44 At attempt to advance into the interior in the direction of the VALLE CANNOVINA has been halted at CAVAGLIO and, according to unconfirmed reports the partisans have retaken CANNOBIO (Also reported from other sources)
(Tribune de Geneve 14.9.44).

II. Reprisals.

LAKE MAGGIORE After occupying CANNOBIO, the SS arrested part of the population, transporting them to the further shore of Lake Maggiore.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.9.44).

COLICO. The Fascists recently executed an anti-Fascist in the public square of Colico (province of COMO E-4438)who was suspected of helping the partisans. A few days later the partisans executed a Fascist in reprisal and the Fascists replied by hanging three hostages in front of the Hotel Risi, leaving the bodies exposed for three days. The parish priest of Colico, who had tried to bury the bodies, was himself threatened with hanging. The partisans then executed three Fascists in the public square and the German SS replied by destroying the village of (VILLADICO?) above Colico, the partisan staff HQ. Only the church and convent were spared.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 9.9.44).

BOLOGNA In the province of BOLOGNA seven partisans were killed at FUNO on August 7th, four at SAN LAZZARO DE SAVENA on August 8th and 14 were hung at PIANORO. The village of FUNO was burnt down, as were many farms at SASSO MARZABOTTO, RUPPIO

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has gone over with all his men to the patriots. He appealed to the Italians in Istria to unite with him in the fight against Nazi-Fascism.
(P.W.B. Rome 24.9.44).

LAKE MAGGIORE-VAL D'OSSOLA In the Lake Maggiore and Val d'Ossola regions the partisans are now in control of territory containing over 100,000 inhabitants. A provisional Government containing representatives of all political parties has assumed the administration on behalf of the National Liberation Committee for northern Italy. Christian Democrats are in charge of the departments of Education, Social Welfare and Justice. One of the first tasks of the new administration is the acquisition of special foods for children and of medical supplies. The International Red Cross is taking up the matter. (Popolo e Liberta 14.9.44)

The partisans have not yet mastered the counter-attack by the Fascist "San Marco" Divisions on the north-west shore of Lake MAGGIORE. The Germans are still at LORO DI VALMARA, near BRISSAGO 14.9.44 At attempt to advance into the interior in the direction of the VALLE CANNOVINA has been halted at CAVAGLIO and, according to unconfirmed reports the partisans have retaken CANNOBIO (Also reported from other sources)
(Tribune de Geneve 14.9.44).

II. Reprisals.

LAKE MAGGIORE After occupying CANNOBIO, the SS arrested part of the population, transporting them to the further shore of Lake Maggiore.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.9.44).

COLICO. The Fascists recently executed an anti-Fascist in the public square of Colico (province of COMO E-4438)who was suspected of helping the partisans. A few days later the partisans executed a Fascist in reprisal and the Fascists replied by hanging three hostages in front of the Hotel Risi, leaving the bodies exposed for three days. The parish priest of Colico, who had tried to bury the bodies, was himself threatened with hanging. The partisans then executed three Fascists in the public square and the German SS replied by destroying the village of (VILLADICO?) above Colico, the partisan staff HQ. Only the church and convent were spared.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 9.9.44).

BOLOGNA In the province of BOLOGNA seven partisans were killed at FUNO on August 7th, four at SAN LAZZARO DE SAVENA on August 8th and 14 were hung at PIANORO. The village of FUNO was burnt down, as were many farms at SASSO. MARZABOTTO, BUDRIO, MEDICINA, ANZOLA and other villages.

MODENA In the Modena region 120 persons were shot during August. In the Modena Appennines, BARDI, VARSI, BORE, VIANINO and other villages were devastated or destroyed.

ROMAGNA In Romagna 30 persons were shot at FORLI, 33 shot and 30 houses burnt down at GALEATA, SANTA SOFIA and SAN PIERO, 80 shot and 30 houses destroyed at FRAGHETO.

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At Mussolini's birthplace PREDAPPIO, five persons were hung and the bodies were taken down and hung again at FORLI
(Libera Stampa Lugana 14.9.44).

III. Assassination

Italian Home Service 18.9.44 declares: "On the morning of Friday, September 15th, DR. RAFFAELE MANGANIELLO, while driving from MILAN to TURIN, to take up his post as head of the province, fell into an ambush organised by the outlaws. A company of the GNR and the Duce's bodyguard, together with a group of the Black Brigade "Athos Capelli" commanded by the Federal Commissioner of TURIN, immediately carried out a mopping up operation. After a clash with the outlaws, three bodies were recovered, and it was possible to proceed to the identification of the body of Dr. Manganiello, brutally mutilated.

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Disposition.

LUCCA. In Lucca itself the only Fascist organisation is the Black Brigade, composed of about 50 men whose morale is very low.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

BOLOGNA At the beginning of July the republican army was still in existence, but in great disorder at Bologna. Some of source's friends who had to present themselves for enrolment were sent home again because the republican army had neither food, nor clothes nor arms. Others were taken by the Germans and incorporated in German uniform under German officers in the coastal detachments. The GNR is made up of old "squadristo" and of boys of 16-18. There are also in BOLOGNA special groups such as the parachutists, very few in number, with their centre of conscription in the city and barracks, Via Zamboni and the 10th MAS 1. Bn.
(P.W.B.

TAGLIAMENTO LEGION of the GNR. Morale is good and discipline strict. The Battalion is engaged in rounding up partisans behind the German lines. It has previously been operating in a similar role with the rest of the Legion in the SESTA valley.
(C.S.D.I.C. report - Italian source(reliable)

NOVARA At the end of July the Black Brigade "Aldo Resega" of MILAN contained about 2000 men- women also belonged to the Brigade. They were armed with rifles Mod. 91 and Beretta automatics. Their uniform was khakhi cotton trousers and black shirts At the end of July the brigade was transferred to the zone of NOVARA, in order to finish up a mopping-up action.
(Italian official source 15.9.44)

V. Call up.

In the provinces of BOLZANO, BELLUNO and TRENTO, besides the 1922, 1923 and 1924 classes, young men belonging to the 1927 class, and very recently the whole the 1910 class, have been called up.
(Gazzetta Ticinese 14.9.44).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. MR 124

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(Gazzetta Ticinese 14.9.44).

1211

VI. Italian Troops in Germany.

"I am in a city called Gunzenhausen. We are not treated as prisoners, but survey the Italian workmen, and are called "Italian police".
(Censorship Intercapt 8.6.44)

"I find no words to describe my life. Night is day and in the morning we start again our military training. I cannot complain about my physical condition, although I have seen gigantic people often exhausted. The food is quite German

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a loaf of black bread made of barley flour and pine sawdust, which gives us violent stomach aches. Our living conditions are so hard, that we do not even wish them to beasts. I hope I shall soon be back in Italy."
(Censorship intercept 25.5.44)

VII. Partisan Ultimatum to National Republican Guard.

Propaganda leaflets were distributed in late August by the Garibaldi partisans of North-East Piedmont to Fascist Republican Guards and to Carabinieri or Public Security Police. The documents are sent out from the Command of the Garibaldi Shock Divisions of VAL SESIA, VAL D'OSSOLA, CUSIO and VERBANO. They tell the G.N.R. that "The hour of final decision has come,"and that the"Allied armies are now crushing the last remnants of Hitler's hordes" that "even the National Republican Guard is safe no longer, and for this reason the Fascists have sold it to the Germans, by having it incorporated into the Armed Forces enrolled by the violence of Hitler and Mussolini". They appeal to them to "break the chains which enslave you to Nazism and Fascism and join our units with such arms and ammunition as you can carry. You will be received like brothers.", telling them "This will be the last appeal which the Garibaldi men will make to you;".

A similar appeal is made to the Carabinieri and Public Security Police, urging them to come over to the ranks of the patriots as so many of the Carabinieri had already done.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 11.9.44).

VIII. Carabinieri and Police take to the bush in Piedmont.

A Censorship intercept of 18.8.44 declares "The General Command of the Carabinieri was transferred to BRESCIA with all the archives.... From direct information it appears that until a short time ago the Carabinieri continued their regular service of maintaining public order and only a few weeks ago they and the police spontaneously took to the bush".

IX. Reason for Ricci's Dismissal from G.N.R. Command.

On the evening of August 18th Mussolini and Ricci had a violent quarrel at HQ. Next day Mussolini wrote a letter to Ricci as follows: "Dear Ricci. After what happened last night I can no longer avail myself of your collaboration. I cannot tolerate that you should question my orders, still less that this should occur in ladies' drawingrooms; nor can I permit you to treat Graziani and Comrade Basile with contempt. We need men, true men, who stand by their cannon without laughing at such a form of training. Therefore from August 19th I myself will take over the command of the GNR and you will proceed on a date which I shall specify to hand over to the Chief of the General Staff, who will be advised by me Mussolini".

The conflict between the two was thus the result of a disagreement between Ricci and Graziani. As regards the illusion to cannon and ladies' drawingrooms, it appears that during his recent trip to Germany Mussolini tried to fire a cannon and Ricci ridiculed him in certain drawingrooms.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.9.44).

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.9.44).

X. Attempt on Graziani's life denied.

Foreign press reports of an alleged attempt on Graziani's life in BOLOGNA are officially denied in MILAN. The official denial stresses that he is now at the HQ of the Italian Army, which he commands, and that the Army HQ is not located in BOLOGNA, but at some other Italian town.
(Transocean 17.9.44).

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XI. Milan Torture Chambers Still Active.

The infamous group of torturers who were relieved of their posts at the San Vittore Prison by the German SS Command are carrying on their activities with increased vigour at the "Oberdan" HQ near the Porta Venezia in MILAN where torture chambers have been established underground. The group, composed of the Squadrists BOSSI, COLOMBO, MORELLI, BIANCHI, DESIO and MANFREDINI, is commanded by Lieut. MELLI. Manfredini is still at San Vittore.

An episode is reported of a political prisoner at San Vittore, who, having refused to speak under torture, was confronted with his four-year-old daughter whom MANFREDINI tortured in his presence. The prisoner broke down and disclosed the required information, subsequently hanging himself in his cell.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 9.9.44).

XII. Police Instructions regarding escaped Allied P.W.

A document recently captured dated 18th September gives a list of South-African, New Zealand and British PWs who were "sent to labour camps in this province (Padova) and who escaped after the German occupation.... They are to be traced and held". This list was for distribution to "all police stations of Northern and Central Italy, and gives names of men who were in camps at SAONARA (PADUA), ABANO TERME (PADUA), MEGLIADINO S FIDENZIO (PADUA), VIGODARZERE (PADUA), BAGNOLI DI SOPRA (PADUA), MESTRINO(PADUA), VIGHIZZOLO D'ESTE Labor Camp, and PONTE SAN NICOLO (PADUA) Labour Camp.
(Censorship Intercept 18.9.44)

XIII. Appointment.

The Former Under-Secretary of Republican Aviation TASSARI, has become Chief of Staff of Aviation.
(G.2. Adv. Intelligence 18.9.44).

GERMANS

XIV. Dispositions.

Reports from the Swiss frontier state "The Germans are ready to evacuate the COMO and VARESE regions en masse. Almost all civilians with families and soldiers' families have already left COMO with their luggage. Petrol reserves are thus being exhausted. Final stocks are kept carefully hidden for the evacuation of troops, which, according to orders must be carried out on the receipt of a telephone signal, within two hours at most. Outlying garrisons in militarily important zones are constantly complaining of their urgent requests for petrol. The situation is very confused in VARESE. The Germans hardly take any interest in the partisan offensive on Lake MAGGIORE. The German Command in VARESE does not answer the anxious appeals for reinforcements coming from detachments in the villages along the western shores of the Lake. It merely occupies itself in redeeming Nazi prisoners, offering to exchange them for hostages taken by Fascists.
(POPOLO E LIBERTA Bellinzona 14.9.44).

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(POPOLO E LIBERTA Bellinsona 14.9.44).

VERONA The SS Command, together with much heavy material, has suidenly left the city, travelling in the direction of the Brenner. The few remaining communications have been interrupted owing to these exceptional movements and many motor vehicles coming from VENICE with regular permits have been requisitioned. The German Command foresees the relinquishing of wide zones in northern Italy in order to limit the occupation to certain strategic points and key positions which protest the retreat of the German divisions when they have to open a passage back to Germany.
(P.W.B. Rome 18.9.44).

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It is reported that no German reinforcements have reached the Italian part of the CENTOVALLI Valley, which is held by the partisans and from whence 40 Germans fled to Switzerland on September 9th. The Germans, however, apparently consider it important to keep both shores of LAKE MAGGIORE free in order that they may use it as a corridor of escape to Switzerland. Reinforcements have also arrived on the left shore of the Lake, where the railway line from BELLINZONA to MAGADINO and LUINO is being watched day and night by strong German patrols.
(Basler Arbeiter Zeitung 11.9.44).

The German Command has ordered the Nord railway of MILAN to concentrate at SARONNO all the German rolling stock in service and 200 goods waggons; they have asked also for 40 waggons daily for the urgent removal of stock. This news can be connected with previous reports of preparations for evacuating the town.
(Italian Official Source 15.9.44).

XV. Morale.

The German local Command in BOLOGNA has issued a report on the purge of German officers suspected of anti-Nazi sympathies. The soldiers have been unfavourably impressed by it. The introductory salute to Hitler was received with particular irony.

Events in France are not generally known and many German soldiers ask civilians for news. Morale is not at all high and the opinion that the war is lost has gained foothold. There is very little confidence in new weapons, and a remarkable tendency to shirk service by all kinds of devices such as medical certificates or even desertion.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 15.9.44)

Throughout the VENETO the Germans are buying civilian clothes in increasing numbers. In VERONA alone over 700 suits have been sold.
(Gazzetta Ticinese 14.9.44)

By the first week of September various German offices in COMO had been closed down and there was a brisk trade in civilian clothing. One shop in Como sold two hundred raincoats to Germans in two days.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 11.9.44).

XVI. Propaganda.

On the morning of September 10th aircraft dropped thousands of leaflets over MILAN saying: "Resist"! The second weapon is ready to come into action immediately Prepare yourselves for extraordinary events. Two hundred and fifty thousand Fascists are ready to march on Rome and to carry the Duce with them on their shoulders.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.9.44).

XVII. Neo Fascist Relations.

According to reports from Chiasso relations between the Germans and the Fascists are very strained as, inter alia, was noticeable from a letter from Major Giuseppe Santero addressed to the Fifth Regiment of the Marines of the

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XVII. Nazi Fascist Relations.

According to reports from Chiasso relations between the Germans and the Fascists are very strained as, inter alia, was noticeable from a letter from Major Giuseppe Santero addressed to the Fifth Regiment of the Marines of the "San Marco" regiment stating: "In spite of the honest willingness of the Italian officers relations (with the Germans) have deteriorated. Liaison officers, mostly NCOs, take an attitude which is far from being disciplined, and offends the most elementary rules of decency. Moreover, their claims are daily growing more impudent and their attitude more arrogant. General opinion, even among the soldiers, is that the Germans sabotage the work of the Italian divisions.

The shortage of arms, insufficient food rations, bad equipment, the confiscation of our reserve boots, although the Germans realise that the remaining footwear is not sufficient for us, the revolting attitude of the German troops towards Italian officers, all this has a bad influence on the morale of our soldiers. These facts

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are also the principal reason why large numbers of Italians desert and join the patriots. The great majority of the Italian soldiers who betray the Germans were trained in Germany. It cannot be denied that the Germans do their utmost to make themselves disliked.
(Aftontidningen 17.9.44)

The Fascists complain and accuse the Germans of systematic robbing, not only of the last miserable remaining industrial resources, but even of private houses, out of which every object of value is being removed. Industrial establishments are closed owing to the following causes: air attacks, German pillaging, transport paralysed by sabotage, decreasing labour and lack of raw materials.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 8.9.44)

XVIII. Atrocities.

GOMBITELLI (CAMALORE Town) Because of an attempt on the lives of two Germans, 15 peasants were executed and not allowed to be buried.

FORNO (Near Apuania) As a reprisal for partisan activity the Germans and Fascists of the Flottiglia MAS killed 63 men, without trial, all innocent.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

LAKE MAGGIORE. The Germans and Fascists, having re-occupied the right shore of Lake Maggiore, carried out a terrible revenge against the villagers. Swiss residents who managed to escape to Switzerland asserted that the revenge was carried out with "unimaginable bestiality" Women and children were herded into the public square, where they were kicked and struck with rifle butts. Some of the wives of partisans were shot. Towards evening, four transport boats arrived, and took the women and children to LUINO in order to frighten the partisans from further activity. The Fascists threatened to shoot these hostages in the event of further partisan activity.
(Basler Arbeiter Zeitung 11.9.44).

An account was recently given by a Commander of the Fascist Republican Carabinieri of reprisals taken by detachments of the Hermann Goring Division against the people of STIA (AREZZO) because of partisan activity. Among the dead, who numbered 88, were several children (one less than a year old) and two women over seventy.
(P.W.B. Advanced.)

POLITICS

XIX. Politics in Bologna.

The clergy, according to source, have great influence, especially in the country; the workmen of the city are clearly communist; the countryman on the whole is quite well-off and very catholic and conservative - therefore a bitter enemy of communism. In the province near [illegible]

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The clergy, according to source, have great influence, especially in the country; the workmen of the city are clearly communist; the countryman on the whole is quite well-off and very catholic and conservative - therefore a bitter enemy of communism. In the province, near ROMAGNA (LUGO, MOLINELLO, BUDRIO, and FAENZA), there are large stretches of countryside quite extremist and intensely communist. The Communist party is trying to moderate the violent character which the communes of Romagna are adopting. The Party of Action is very strong also and the chiefs of Bologna often come from this violent part of the province.
(P.W.B. Rome)

1209

XX. Foreign Diplomats' new Quarters.

The moving of foreign diplomats from VENICE to the new Italian "City of Diplomats" has practically concluded. The name of the new diplomatic city has not been revealed yet, but it is known that it is a famous health resort situated in beautiful surroundings. All first-class hotels there have been placed at the disposal of the foreign diplomats. Eleven countries in Europe and Asia are at present maintaining

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diplomatic missions at the seat of Mussolini's Government. Important departments of the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Popular Culture will also move to the "City of Diplomats", where the first foreign journalists have also arrived.
(Transocean 12.9.44).

XXI. Propaganda.

The illegal newspaper of the Socialist Party Youth Federation, "Rivoluzione Sociale", in its Lombardy edition, reports that propaganda activities were carried out by the Youth Federation including film-showing in a street and in a public place, and the distribution of pamphlets, arousing favourable comments everywhere from the population, who strongly encourage them. Two pamphlets have been distributed.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 8.9.44).

A Censorship intercept - captured telegram - reads as follows: "Most urgent instruct newspapers: publish as STEFANI news food difficulties in ROME

Minister MEZZASOMA.

(9.8.44)

XXII. Appointments.

Ingeniere Giuseppe SPINELLI has been appointed Podesta of MILAN in place of Guido ANDREONI. Spinelli is Fascist Provincial Labour Commissioner.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.9.44).

The Party Secretary today appointed Comrade Piero RANDI? Federal Commissioner of FERRARA.
(Italian Home Service 15.9.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXIII. Food Situation.

The Italian grain harvest is excellent, according to the latest reports. Owing to the lack of coal and fuel, the threshing, however, is proceeding slowly. Nevertheless, offers of wheat are abundant, especially on the black market, and the price in many north Italian provinces is now 620 - 700 lire a quintal, as compared with a price two or three times as high a short time ago.

Milan. In order to assure the supplies of fuel necessary for agriculture, the Head of the Province has forbidden, until further notice the use of motors, for threshing cereals and small seeds. From now onwards machines worked by water power must be used for such work. It is also forbidden to use liquid fuel for tractors or small tractors used for [illegible]

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The illegal newspaper of the Socialist Party Youth Federation, "Rivoluzione Sociale", in its Lombardy edition, reports that propaganda activities were carried out by the Youth Federation including film-showing in a street and in a public place, and the distribution of pamphlets, arousing favourable comments everywhere from the population, who strongly encourage them. Two pamphlets have been distributed.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 8.9.44).

A Censorship intercept - captured telegram - reads as follows: "Most urgent instruct newspapers: publish as STEFANI news food difficulties in ROME

Minister MEZZASOMA.

(9.8.44)

XXII. Appointments.

Ingeniere Giuseppe SPINELLI has been appointed Podesta of MILAN in place of Guido ANDREONI. Spinelli is Fascist Provincial Labour Commissioner.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.9.44).

The Party Secretary today appointed Comrade Piero RANDI? Federal Commissioner of FERRARA.
(Italian Home Service 15.9.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXIII. Food Situation.

The Italian grain harvest is excellent, according to the latest reports. Owing to the lack of coal and fuel, the threshing, however, is proceeding slowly. Nevertheless, offers of wheat are abundant, especially on the black market, and the price in many north Italian provinces is now 620 - 700 lire a quintal, as compared with a price two or three times as high a short time ago.

Milan. In order to assure the supplies of fuel necessary for agriculture, the Head of the Province has forbidden, until further notice the use of motors, for threshing cereals and small seeds. From now onwards machines worked by water power must be used for such work. It is also forbidden to use liquid fuel for tractors or small tractors used for transporting goods".
(Sera, Milan 11.9.44).

CREMONA. The Cremona Prefecture announces: Owing to the milk shortage, the Head of the Province prohibits the sale of ice creams containing milk under any form.
(Regime Fascists, Cremona 12.9.44).

Whilst heavy rain has spoilt the first potato crop and has only permitted the distribution of restricted quantities, the present crop is abundant and of good quality. The Venice Provincial Food Office has therefore been able to supply households with sufficient stocks.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 30.8.44).

The Head of the Province of VENICE as Chairman of the Provincial Corporation

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for nutrition and agriculture, has decreed that potato growers must, within ten days of lifting their crop, report the quantity harvested to the Munidpal Office of Agriculture, and, until they surrender it, preserve it from theft and damage by weather. Potatoes needed for the next season, as seed or fodder, and for home consumption, need not be reported.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 5.9.44).

MILAN. The Head of the Province received the Commissioner of the Fascist Industrial Workers' Union, the Chief of the local Economic Police, and the Secretary of the Provincial Food Supply Control Board, whom he instructed as regards the future activities of the workers' food supply control squads. These consist of employees and workers cooperating with the competent official bodies in the campaign against the Black Market. One of these squads recently discovered 2,335 kg of soap in a Milan poultry shop, the owner of which, Alfonso Mariani has been arrested.
(Corriere della Sera, Mialn 10.9.44).

BOLOGNA. Food is good because of the proverbial richness of the country products. On the black market everything one needs can be found at a reasonable price, e.g. a kg of meat costs 80 lire, 1 kg of butter 150 lire, a kg of bread 30 lire, eggs (free sale) from 7 to 9 lire each. Material and shoes are lacking. A man's suit costs about 8000 lire, a pair of men's shoes 3000 lire.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

XXIV. Industry.

To save labour andachieve a simple control of production and distribution, the Italian textile trade will undergo considerable concentration. Wholesale trade will be confined to a few original so-called "confidence" stores, while retail trade will be limited by a redistribution of livences. Businesses to be closed down must declare their stocks to the local Economic Boards, which will turn over such stocks to the National Textile Board.
(D.N.B. 12.9.44).

XXV. Situation in Genoa.

In GENOA the harbour is completely mined - all cranes and other elevating apparatus have been destroyed. The Caracciolo and Mortini quays are said to have been blown up; the breakwater has been interrupted at several places; the quays of the seaplane enclosure have been cut off from the mainland. All is ready to destroy electric power stations and ship repairing sheds.

Almost all the buses as well as the best tramcars have been taken away by the Germans. In many works the plant was taken down and the machinery removed.

Railways did not operate during July. At that time it took a day to reach MILAN from GENOA for passenger trains, and goods trains could not operate at all. Along the Ligurian Riviera railways operated for passengers only, as far as VENTIMIGLIA with five or six interruptions on the west coast, and only over a distance of 20 kilometers on the east coast, ie. from GENOA to SORI.

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(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 21.9.44 (Italian Source)

An intercept from a letter dated 17.8.44 says "GENOA is now an inferno. They have been without water for a month and a half continuous indiscriminate bombing. You can understand what this means, let us hope it will all be over soon, as at GENOA they are waiting with open arms to receive the Allies".
(Censorship Intercept 17.8.44).

LABOUR.

XXVI. Fascists and Germans Compete for Labour.

For months in Fascist Italy there has been sharp competition for labour between the Italian and German military Commands, and also between the State and Communal Labour Offices. Each branch makes alluring offers in order to attract

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the few available volunteers. Regime Fascista publishes an appeal from the Fascist military labour inspectorate calling up workers for "urgent reconstruction and defence work" Besides the usual promises of good wages and food they are also promised unconditional protection against the German and Italian authorities and a special document whereby they can only be employed in Italy and, if possible, near their homes. The possessor of such a document is exempt from military service and other services, and cannot be arrested in razzias. Many workers have become distrustful of these increasingly liberal working conditions and prefer to await events, staying with relatives in the country, or joining the maquis.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 16.9.44).

XXVII. News of Workers in Germany.

Considerable groups of Italian workers are reported to have arrived in northern Italy after a dangerous flight from deportation centres in Germany. The workers generally enter the partisan brigades, fearing Fascist reprisals, or because they are unable to reach their homes in central or southern Italy. They report increasing desertions among foreign workers deported to Germany.

A member of the staff of the clandestine paper Italia Libera interviewed some of these workers, from whom he obtained the following details: Resistance organisations are very active, especially among Italian, Polish, Russian and French workers. There exists a well-organised clandestine Communist Party which has, however, hitherto been unable to procure the arms for its supporter which would be necessary for over-throwing the German tyranny.

It is reported that the Germans in northern Italy recently stopped the deportation of workers to Germany and also the recruiting of so-called "voluntary" workers. This is ascribed to the catastrophic transport conditions between Italy and the Reich. Mass arrests among the Italian population are, however, continuing According to reports all prisons in LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT, the VENETO and LIGURIA are packed with political prisoners, while the concentration camps are becoming more numerous. Italia Libera estimates that there are now over 100,000 political prisoners,
(Der Bund 14.9.44).

XXVIII. More details of the Todt Organisation.

At SIRMONE on Lake GARDA there is the HQ of the Organisation TODT in Italy responsible for Regional H.Q.s (Bahleitungen)

At MONTEPIANO (L.7304) there was until the end of July Bauleitung 5, O.C. Hauptmann, FENN, with an administrative staff of thirty Italians and responsible for 7000 workers.

Of these 7000 workers 600 were furnished by the Austrian firm of "POAR" of VIENNA (Manager BANNERT) and the others were furnished by the following firms:

(1) DEL FANTE of ROME, represented by Ing. CATTANEO
(2) [illegible] ROME, represented by Ing. MORETTI.

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(3) BERTOLINI, represented by Ing. BERTOLINI
(4) LENZI, of PISTOIA, represented by Ing. LENZI.
(5) MONARI, of PORRENTA, represented by MONARI Bros.
(6) GARBATI of CARRERA, represented by Ing. GARBATI.
(7) VANNUCCI of FLORENCE, represented by Ing. VANNUCCI.
(8) ILSA, of FERRARA, represented by Ing. RIMONDI
(9) FREGHI, of FERRARA, represented by Ing. FREGHI and Ing. PRAMPOLINIL.
(10) ROBATTI, represented by Ing. ROBATTI
(11) GIACHETTI, represented by Ing. GIACHETTI,

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Average daily pay for workers is 60 lire. One man in thirty is made Squad Chief and is better paid. A register was kept of all workers employed. Forty percent of wages was withheld by ITALIAN firms, causing some discontent.

At the end of June, 1944, Bauleitung 5 moved from MONTEPIANO to NOVELLARA, near MODENA.

In March 1944 all ITALIAN employees of Bualeitung 5 were forced to sign a document vowing never to speak of the activities of the Bauleitung and of their fidelity to the Nazi regime No part was taken at any time by the Republican Fascist Government in the relations between the workers and the Organisation TODT.

The following are further names of ITALIAN contractors on the GOTHIC Line (Central Appenines):-

(1) Area S. BUCIA: ROMANELLI and Cooperative RAVENNA
(2) Area GIOGO: RODIO, LIVERANI and PAOLETTI.
(3) Area DICOMANO: AURELLI, ALIBONDI, LA BRUNA AND MARMINI.
(4) Area S. GUADENZIO: RICCI, SIAF.

(G-2 Advanced Intelligence 18.9.44)

PERSONALITIES.

XXIX. Fascist Chief of LUCCA.

IDRENO' UTIMPERGHE Violently hated by the population.

(P.W.B. Advanced)

XXX. Black List in Cupramontana and Matelica.

BALDUCCI, a Lieut in the Fascist Militia, of CUPRAMONTANA (Sh.24(W)S2828) Is known to have murdered P.Ws and handed others over to the Germans. Balducci is said to be still in the Cupramontana area.

FINAGUERRA, a Lieut in the Italian Army, of MATELICA. Is responsible for the death of the parish priest at BRACCANA. Very anti-British and acted as a spy for the Fascists. Finaguerra is said to be now in prison at Matelica (Sh.24(W) S 1908)

(CBDIC 2.9.44)

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Captured letters reveal that the officers listed below are on service with the Fascist Republican Government:-

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TESTONI, Luigi Lieutenant Colonel, commanding the 65th Deposito Misto Provinciale

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FRACASSI, Pompeo Lt. Col, Vice Commandante Provinciale G.N.R. PISA
FERRAUTO, Agostino, Colonel 46th Comando Military Provinciale.
MENCACCI, Ottorino Lt. Col. Commanding the 101st Military District.
VALENZA, Ignazio Major, Commissary for the settling of Allowance claims of families of Navy personnel -ABUANIA MASSA.

(Censorship Intercept 8.9.44).

XXXII. Carita's Assistants.

The names of Carita's Assistants are:-

CAP. LOWLEY, Cap. GENTILI, Ten. SOTTILI, Ten, CASTALDELLI
Ten. UFARTINI (UFARTUCI?), Ten. FAEDDA, TEN BELLESI, and Ten. CORRADESCHI.

(P.W.B. ADVANCED)

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc). 20th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 25.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans The patriotic movement is growing rapidly and in the Piedmontese mountains has assumed the appearance of genuine military operations. The Ligurian and Parmesan zones have also been the theatres of heavy fighting recently. The Germans made determined efforts to clear the GENOVA-PIACENZA road and succeeded in doing so owing to the shortage of ammunition among the partisans. In the ORCO valley (SAVONA Province) the 10th Flotilla MAS has suffered severe losses in their mopping-up operations.

In the BELLUNO Province a week's fighting resulted in losses of 500 men for the Germans. The patriots eventually retired, owing to lack of ammunition it is claimed, but succeeded in escaping to the mountains.

From the VAL D'AOSTA, IMPERIA, TREVISO, TOLMEZZO come reports of sharp fighting and considerable German losses. A Swiss correspondent with the partisan forces in northwest Italy speaks of a general patriot offensive in the Provinces of TORINO and NOVARA, on the Riviera and in the LAGO MAGGIORE district. He reports extensively the capture of DOMODOSSOLA, CANNOBIO, BRISSAGO, describes the organisation of the patriot brigades under Italian generals, and notes the presence of British officers.

Sabotage Railway and road communications have suffered severe damage as a result of widespread and determined sabotage offensive on the part of Garibaldi Brigades. The most important operations were in the TOLMEZZO region, Routes 13,15, and 52 and the MILANO-TORINO and NOVARA-LUINO railway lines.

Assassinations In MILAN the German Police Commissioner was shot and killed by two cyclists.

Reprisal Atrocities. The Popolo e Liberta of BELLINZONA reports that hostages have been killed by being hanged on butchers' hooks, thrust under their chins.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12, APO 512.

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1206

FASCIST FORCES

Fascist radio claiming successful operations, mentions the 10th Black Brigade in BRESCIA Province, 22nd Black Brigade in VICENZA, 18th Black Brigade in PADOVA, the 28th in PIACENZA, the 30th in REGGIO EMILIA and the 1st in TORINO.

Fascists ready to run More Fascist gerarchs and squadrists have taken up quarters near the frontiers, so as to be ready for any emergency.

S. Vittore Prison Treatment of political prisoners in said to have improved considerably as the German Commandant, Colonel Rauf, deposed the warders who were responsible for the cruelties inflicted.

SECRET

(1677)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. PRO 021

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SUMMARY 2.

GERMANS

Swiss sources declare that the Germans are ready to evacuate LIGURIA, and even PIEDONTE and LOMBARDY.

Behaviour Reports from the front indicate that the German troops are behaving better than previously and villagers complain less of their conduct.

Atrocities. Massacres are reported from VALLUCCIOBA and PARTINA. A particularly horrible story comes from SAN POLO, where it is said 47 patriots and civilians were buried alive with gelignite, which was then exploded.

Poison Gas. Rumours that the Germans intend to use poison gas are persistent. The RUMIANCA factory at PIEVE VERGONTE (Novar Province) is said to be manufacturing gas.

POLITICS

No report has been issued on Mussolini's cabinet meeting of August 31st. It is believed that one of the subjects discussed was the difficulty of providing offices for the Government departments which are crowding into the shrinking territory along the Swiss frontier. There is also difficulty about replacements for State and Party officials who have resigned or been dismissed.

Generals on Trial. German wireless announces that in late September a trial will be held of Generals CARACCIOLO, GARIBALDI, ROSI, VECCHIARELLI, MOIZO, ROBOTTI and SCUERO, as responsible for the collapse of the Italian Army.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation In MILAN producers and shopkeepers have been ordered to make a general stock-taking by September 15th, and since the 10th stocks have been blocked and can only be sold by permission of the authorities.

Cheese in the north is generally in good supply and Black Market prices are not much above controlled prices. The Tobacco ration is to be reduced to a daily 15 grammes as from 11th September. In TRIESTE owing to shortage of electricity water consumption is to be reduced.

LABOUR

A general strike is reported in BOLOGNA, REGGIO EMILIA and GENOA, with partial strikes in MILAN, TURIN and NOVARA.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 20th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 25.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ops).

20th September, 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 25.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items sidelined.

RESISTANCE

I. Partisans.

The attacks conducted by partisans against the German troops and the Fascists in every region still occupied are becoming more orderly every day, and assuming the character of a real general offensive. In LOMBARDY, LIGURIA and PIEDMONT there are reports of great progress. Even in the principal towns, where the German and Fascist troops are concentrated, the situation is very black for the oppressors; many localities in the immediate vicinity of the Italo-Swiss frontier have been firmly occupied by the patriots, who want to try and prevent Fascists from slipping into Switzerland. There is news also that the patriots of GENOVA have obtained control of some parts of the town and some of the surrounding areas. At TRIESTE the mass of workers have gone on strike, refusing to work any more for the Nazi war machine. In ISTRIA more than a thousand patriots are working with the support of the population. In many regions Fascist control has been entirely swept away and German troops do not halt in the area, merely passing through on their way to the front.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.9.44).

Disposition of partisan bands

SAVONA The position of the patriots in the SAVONA area has excellent possibilities. They are on their way to unifying their command and their actions. (20-24 August)

VENETO Within established blocks patriots of the Garibaldi Divisions in northern Veneto are setting up their own military government, organising police, civil and transportation services in the liberated territory. (9.9.44).

VALMOZZOLA-FORNOVO-SALSOMAGGIORE. In this zone there are six detachments with 340 individual arms, one MG, one 20mm MG and twelve machine rifles. (early Sept.) (W.S.W. Parma - route 62)

At TORTIGLIA, there [illegible]

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RESISTANCE

I. Partisans.

The attacks conducted by partisans against the German troops and the Fascists in every region still occupied are becoming more orderly every day, and assuming the character of a real general offensive. In LOMBARDY, LIGURIA and PIEDMONT there are reports of great progress. Even in the principal towns, where the German and Fascist troops are concentrated, the situation is very black for the oppressors; many localities in the immediate vicinity of the Italo-Swiss frontier have been firmly occupied by the patriots, who went to try and prevent Fascists from slipping into Switzerland. There is news also that the patriots of GENOVA have obtained control of some parts of the town and some of the surrounding areas. At TRIESTE the mass of workers have gone on strike, refusing to work any more for the Nazi war machine. In ISTRIA more than a thousand patriots are working with the support of the population. In many regions Fascist control has been entirely swept away and German troops do not halt in the area, merely passing through on their way to the front.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.9.44).

Disposition of partisan bands

SAVONA The position of the patriots in the SAVONA area has excellent possibilities. They are on their way to unifying their command and their actions. (20-24 August)

VENETO Within established blocks patriots of the Garibaldi Divisions in northern Veneto are setting up their own military government, organising police, civil and transportation services in the liberated territory. (9.9.44).

VALMOZZOLA-FORNOVO-SALSOMAGGIORE. In this zone there are six detachments with 340 individual arms, one MG, one 20mm MG and twelve machine rifles. (early Sept.) (W.S.W. Parma - route 62)

At TORRIGLIA there is a concentration of German troops to carry out the Nazi plan to free the VOGHERA-TORRIGLIA-GENOVA road from partisan control. (Late August 44). 1204

COLLE ARGENTERA Italian patriots in full cooperation with French patriots are fighting the common enemy at the COLLE ARGENTERA and in the STURA Valley. Numerous encounters took place in the PADOVA area and in the upper POLESINE. In the town of IMPERIA the local jail was attacked and 80 political prisoners were freed. Also numerous German artillery emplacements have been damaged in the same region (31.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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LA SPEZIA. The Command of the Pisa Division of patriots operating near LA SPEZIA has been reorganised with less personnel. For the time being, certain Communist Bands have been excluded because, in the opinion of the divisional leaders, their actions on the occasion of a recent mopping-up operation were not satisfactory. However, arrangements have been made with leaders of these Communist bands for coordination of action wherever feasible. (30.8.44).

TOLMEZZO Heavy fighting between German and Patriot forces is reported going on in the region of TOLMEZZO (Highway 52). There are more than 1000 Cossack troops in TOLMEZZO who fight with the Germans. The military situation in the territory of the Garibaldi Division is improving, and partisans are extending well-managed control of military and political affairs in the entire zone. The Command desires to occupy TOLMEZZO, capital of the CARNIA region. There is now a battalion of SS troops, a battalion of Russian Cossacks, a battalion of Fascists and other minor forces in TOLMEZZO. Occupation of this town would limit German control to a narrow stretch along the railway PONTEBBA-TARVISO. (30.8.44).

The patriot column GIUSTIZIA E LIBERTA under the command of BOIA was planning to open an operation against the road tract LA SPEZIA-CHIAVARI-SESTRI LEVANTE -SAN METRO VARA-VAL DURASCA on the night of 2-3 September.

PARMA. Thirty First GARIBALDI Brigade is in the PARMA zone. The Commander is GIACOMO CROLLALANZA; Captain is ETTORE COSENZA; Commissar is LUIGI LERIS. The force consists of 400 men (3.9.44)

GENOVA. One source made contact with a band of 100 armed and 300 unarmed men who intend to operate in the zone east of GENOVA. They have only one commander, a Ten. Di VASCELLO ZOLESIO ANTONIO. Arms include 12 Stens, one MG and some Italian rifles, but they have very little ammunition. This ZOLESIO band, principled and well-disciplined is always interfered with by MARZIO because they are not communists. (Confidential Source).

Recent Partisan Activities.

The fight between the partisans and the German-Fascist forces has been continuing for some weeks. About 26th August the enemy made a desperate attempt to clear the highway, and the partisans were in great need of weapons and ammunition to stem the attack. By 2nd September it was reported that the highway had been cleared of partisans, giving the Germans the free use of the entire route from PIACENZA to GENOVA. The patriots are out of supplies and an Alpine Division is continuing mopping-up operations against them. There are German planes over the area nightly. These look for signal fires and then bomb and strafe the dropping zone (area referred to is in the PIACENTINO APENINES centered on BOBBIO with a 30 km radius) (Confidential Source)

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ORCO Valley During operations in the ORCO valley a contingent of 100 men, belonging to the 10th Flot. MAS has been annihiliated. 380 dead have been counted, 300 have been captured and the same number wounded, during the whole operation.

BELLUNO From 27th August to 3rd September, Germans, supported by tanks and armoured cars, conducted a large mopping-up operation against patriots southeast of BELLUNO. Violent fighting for a period of one week resulted in about 500 dead for the enemy. The Garibaldi Brigades after receiving the brunt of the attack successfully, retreated into the mountains because of the scarcity of ammunition. (Confidential Source)

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780121

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Through actions now in progress (9.9.44), the Ligurian Division has killed 52 Germans and wounded 15, destroyed two trucks and damaged three, and blown one bridge and damaged another. Only two patriots were wounded. This division will be forced to suspend activities in ten days due to the lack of ammunition.

VAL D'AOSTA Four hundred Germans were killed and wounded when patriots attacked a strong German column at QUARTO PRAETORIA in the VAL D'AOSTA The patriots also suffered severe losses before withdrawing into the lateral valleys. 9.9.44.

IMPERIA Patriots launched surprise attacks in the IMPERIA zone, causing severe losses to the San Marco Division. DIANO MARINA, five kilometers northeast of IMPERIA, has been occupied. (8.9.44)

TREVISO At PIEVE DI SOLIGO and CISON DI VALMARINO in the province of Treviso, 120 Germans were killed and many captured. Much booty was also taken. The large mopping-up operation in the CANAVESE and in the SESIA valley did not diminish the efficiency of the patriot formations.

TOLMEZZO The TOLMEZZO-PALUZZA road and the TOLMEZZO-AMPEZZO-FORNI DI SOPRA road have been closed by patriot action. Partisans were fighting Germans and White Russian Mercenaries in VILLA SANTINA as of 3rd September but partisan munitions were almost expended. Routes 51 and 52 are temporarily closed to heavy traffic.

TIZZANO VAL PARMA It is believed that a mopping-up operation against patriots has begun in the area of TIZZANO VAL PARMA. (1.9.44).

The enemy has been attacking in force in the SESIA valley. Fascist troops have been severely beaten in numerous encounters in the CANAVESE, in the BIELLA region and in the plains of NOVARA. Bitter and sharp fighting took place in the SERIANA valley. The road has been interrupted by the patriots in the vicinity of LANA. (COL DI LANA). Numerous German fortifications have been destroyed in the Region. The town of LANGHIRANO DI PARMA (35 Km s of Parma) has been occupied by the patriots.
(Confidential Source 31.8.44).

The Garibaldi Divisions which are operating in the provinces of VICENZA, PADOVA and TREVISO have begun with great success violent campaigns against all the railway communications of the zone. Some trains have been derailed and many switches have been either destroyed or damaged. Besides this, owing to the many attacks against convoys, the enemy is obliged practically to stop all night traffic. The patriots of a Garibaldi Division which is operating inthe province of UDINE, has shaken off an attack against NIMIS; with the help of the concentrated and precise fire of the morters they have obliged the Germans to retreat towards PORTENO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759121

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(P.W.B. Rome 9.9.44).

1203

DOMODOSSOLA After two days siege DOMODOSSOLA has been captured by partisans from the neighbouring valleys. The garrison, approximately 600 strong, 50% of whom were SS, surrendered to a numerically superior and well-armed force of partisans. According to certain reports, all the SS have been killed and other Wehrmacht soldiers and Blackshirts succeeded in escaping to the mountains, from whence they are trying to reach Switzerland. The garrisons of PREGLIA and VARZO have also surrendered.
(La Suisse Geneve 11.9.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

The liberation of DOMODOSSOLA by the partisans represents a brilliant military success achieved after eight days' clever and daring fighting. The town fell without any fighting however. The partisan brigades which took part in its capture were the "Piave", and "Valdossola" which cut the DOMODOSSOLA-NOVARA highway, and the "Garibaldi" which held the western operational areas.
"Basler Nachrichten"11.9.44).

A special correspondent who visited the GHQ of the "Piave" Brigade on Lake Maggiore writes that operations developing in that sector form only one phase of the strategic plan which includes the liberation of the whole of Italy. The Supreme Command is composed of Italian Generals to whom is attached an Allied Military Mission. The present offensive is developing in four main sectors, that is, the Provinces of TURIN and NOVARA, the Riviera and LAKE MAGGIORE. The partisans are gaining ground everywhere, several thousand Germans and Fascists being dead, wounded or taken prisoner.
(Corriere di Ticino Lugano 7.9.44).

The "Piave" Brigade consists of two battalions -the Cesare Battisti" and the "General Perotti", commanded by Captains ARCA and PIPPO. These troops, which appeared to be excellently commanded, have already brought civilian life back to normal in the villages which have so far been liberated. It is generally thought that the Lake Maggiore partisans will launch a large-scale offensive in order to capture the whole zone. They now possess a small fleet, which will shortly be increased. Every partisan has a pseudonym, for instance, one is called "Robespierre". The men do not know each other's identity, but only the pseudonyms. They come from all over Italy. Hitherto the partisans have not received any pay, but have been supported by their families.
(La Suisse, Geneva 6.9.44)

CANNOBIO After the liberation of Cannobio, where the German garrison had to put up the white flag, the patriot offensive extended to the entire province of NOVARA. A partisan brigade, advancing beyond Cannobio has occupied OGGEBIO, obtaining control of all the surrounding area.
(P.W.B. Rome 14.9.44).

On September 2nd at 11.00 hours, partisan groups, armed with rifles, revolvers and hand grenades, came down from the mountains and attacked the German occupation troops in CANNOBIO. The Germans opened violent machine-gun and tommy-gun fire and the fighting lasted until 16,00 hours. The German custom. post at the Swiss frontier was very violently contested, but on September 3rd in the morning at the frontier the Italian tricolour was hoisted, and three young partisans assumed the customs control
(Arbeiter Zeitung, Schaffhausen 4.9.44).

The operation at DOMODOSSOLA is apparently being led by a British Colonel and a Captain. On the evening of September 3rd, the Union Jack was hoisted simultaneously with the Italian tricolour near the Swiss fronter at BRISSAGO.
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(Arbeiter Zeitung, Schaffhausen 4.9.44).

The population on the shores of LAKE MAGGIORE supports the partisan offensive and general strikes have been called in STRESA and PALLANZA. The Germans have arrested numerous hostages. In expectation of an important partisan offensive on the right shore of Lake Maggiore the patriot brigades are advancing fighting in the direction of PALLANZA and STRESA.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 5.9.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770021

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During the afternoon of September 8th, an exchange of hostages took place between the Wehrmacht and the partisans in LUINO, which is still occupied by the Germans. An SS Captain from the German GHQ in MONZA arrived at the HQ of the Brigade in order to discuss the exchange of further hostages. Apparently the Wehrmacht recognises the Lake Maggiore partisans as belligerent units.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.9.44)

Owing to the agravated situation Fascist Militiemen have been obliged to abandon INTRA and to take refuge in LUINO. The "San Marco" Blackshirt battalion come to the rescue and have begun to fortify the surroundings of LUINO. Fighting in this district appears to be imminent.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.9.44).

II. Sabotage.

Route 51 was completely cut by sabotage at PERAROLO on 3rd September. Railway tunnel collapsed and the road was cratered. The resulting landslide buried both, and it will take at least three weeks to repair. Patriots in this area now have routes 51 and 62 blocked at two defiles as well as two blocks on Route 52 to the east.
(Confidential Source 5/6 Sept.)

On September 8th patriots of the Giustizia e Liberta Division blew up the powder factory at CANTONE a few kilometers from AGAZZANO The establishment contained over 200 tons of explosives. Every day the Germans came there in vehicles to load charges for small and medium artillery.
(Confidential Source 11.9.44).

On the night of 7th September patriots of the 31st Garibaldi Brigade blew the rail bridge on the FORNOVO-FIDENZA line, 1000 meters north of MEDESANO. On the night of 8th September the same group did complex damage to the overpass west of BRUCIATE. Ten days would be required for repairs.
(Confidential Source 11th September 44.

Patriots have sabotaged the MILANO-TORINO railway near CHIVASSO THE SEMPIONE railway has been sabotaged at the CUZZEGO Bridge and the NOVARO-LUINO line at the galleries. 56 trucks with aeronautical material have been captured in the TORINO zone.
(Confidential Source 20-24 August).

The northern Italian Command has announced that it has detailed 300 saboteurs to harass the German retreat.
(Confidential Source 8.9.44).

Patriots destroyed rail bridge over the T. MALONE between CHIVASSO and TORINO on the MILANO-TORINO line. Saboteurs have cut the rail line between AIRASCA and TORINO.
(Confidential Source 3.8.44).

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(Confidential Source 3.8.44).

Patriots now have all roads between PONTEBBA (highway 13) and the BRENNERO cut.
(Confidential Source 9.9.44).

During the last days of August railway points at the GALLARATE sorting station at MADONNA in CAMPAGNA were blown up by a bomb, the result of sabotage activity, which caused the death of four Fascist Militiamen and serious damage to the railway plant.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 6.9.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 82

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III. Assassination

In MILAN two cyclists attacked and shot the German Police Commissioner on his way home on August 27th. The Fascists executed five partisans in MILAN.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 5.9.44).

IV. Certificate of Safe-Conduct for German Deserters.

The following is a copy of a certificate delivered by a partisan band in ASCOLI-PICENO to a German deserter.

"It is herewith declared that Sig -, born at Linz (Austria) on 24.8.1909, previously belonging to the German Medical Corps, voluntarily joined the patriots of the Banda "S. Vito" and has taken part with them in armed conbat against Nazi-Fascist elements".

Vice Commandant
Ten.Col. L. Lescai.

V. Latest Fascist atrocities against Partisans.

It appears that in the CANNOBIO area, among other things innocent hostages were "hanged" by a new method, that of suspending them on hooks such as those used by butchers for hanging carcesses of beef up on the wall, driven under their chins. The martyrs expired after hours of excruciating agony.
(Popolo e Libertà Bellinzona 7.9.44).

FASCIST FORCES

VI. Black Brigades in action.

According to the Italian Fascist Radio Black Brigades have been active recently as follows:

In the locality of BEVEGNO (BRESCIA) units of the 10th Black Brigade "Enrico Fermiu" carried out a large-scale mopping up operation which brought excellent results. The same brigade carried out some fruitful mopping-up operations in collaboration with German units in the area near SORLIO. Another similar operation was completed with full success at PONTE DELL'OGLIO.

The 22nd Black Brigade at VICENZA has completed mopping-up operations in PIAN VERIANO. There was much fighting with rebel groups and a large quantity of arms and war material was also taken.

The 18th Brigade at PARMA has carried out an effective operation at BORGO B.VIZZINO.

The 28th PIACENZA Black Brigade carried out [illegible]

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The 18th Brigade at PADUA has carried out an effective operation at BORGO PADOVANO.

The 28th PIACENZA Black Brigade carried out mopping-up operations in S.N PAOLO and SORBOLO.

The 30th Reggio Emilia Black Brigade carried out anti-rebel disinfection operations in some localities. Near BELLINZA, in collaboration with the German Command, the men of this Black Brigade fought for three hours on end against the bandits, ending by annihilating them completely.

Elements of the 1st TURIN Brigade, in collaboration with a company of the Republican Army, engaged in a hard struggle with the rebels in S.S.VECCHIO TORINESE, succeeding finally in dispersing the bandits, many of whom were killed and others captured.
(P.W.B. Monitoring - Axis Radio 18.9.44).

SECRET

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VII. Propaganda for enlistment in Compagnie della Morte.

Fascist Republican propaganda posters inciting young men to enlist in the COMPAGNIE DELLA MORTE have been found in recently liberated territory and run as follows:

"With the Fallen in mind, return to the fight with the DEATH COMPANIES"

"The DEATH COMPANIES will vindicate our dead and bring new honour to our arms. Join Now."

"If you, young man, think of yourself as an Italian, if in your veins runs the uncontaminated blood of our race, to arms. The Federal Enrolment Centre will give you arms and a stretch of Italian soil to defend".

Young Man
Who has never denied your country. The Federal Enrolment Centre will willingly provide you with the opportunity of contributing to the salvation of Italy. Enrol now."

(P.W.B. 8th Army).

VIII. Fascists Take Refuge in Frontier Zone.

More and more Fascist leaders and Squadrists, coming from every part of Italy, are fleeing as the Allies advance, and have chosen places very near to the frontier as their last refuge. A large percentage of high naval officers, no longer safe at sea, has gone to the mountains, many having chosen their HQ in RECOARO TERME in VICENZA, others who are more prudent choosing LANZO D'INTELVI, COMO. Many members of the 10th MAS Flotilla are stationed in the latter place. They had formed the personal bodyguard of the former commander of the submarine "Barbarigo" ENZO GROSSI .
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.9.44).

IX. Finance Guard Take to Flight

All the Finance Guard stationed around CREMENAGA fled to the "maquis" in order to avoid deportation, having previously received instructions to prepare for departure to the front.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.9.44).

X. German Ultimatum to Republican Troops

On 25th August at ASTI Republican troops were confined to barracks and given a choice of entering German units or being transferred to Germany as labourers.

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.9.44).

X. German Ultimatum to Republican Troops

On 25th August at ASTI Republican troops were confined to barracks and given a choice of entering German units or being transferred to Germany as labourers.
(Confidential Source 1.9.44)

1201

XI. Improved Conditions in San Vittore Prison.

An Italian who had recently escaped from San Vittore Prison in MILAN gave the following description of the treatment meted out to political prisoners: "The treatment has very much improved since Sergeants KLIMSA and KOCH and Corporal HEIMMLER, who was chiefly responsible for the brutalities inflicted on prisoners, have been deprived of their authority. At present the prison is under the command of a Czech NCO of the Feldgendarmerie whose behaviour is correct. This change of guard occurred owing to the determined intervention of Col RAUF and Captain SEVECKE. Captain Sevecke, a young

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man aged 32, a native of Hamburg, was formerly a naval officer. It can be said of the SS Commandant of the MILAN garrison that he has performed his task with energy, but without cruelty. Several times he has intervened personally in the prison in order to recall his over-zealous underlings to the observance of regulations and correctness of procedure. It was through him that Sergeant KLELL, the predecessor of KLIMSA, notorious for the tortures inflicted, and the disgraceful means he used in interrogations, was sacked.
(Popolo e Liberta, Lugano 4.9.44).

XII. Fascist Atrocity.

At COSSATO, near BIELLA, two young brothers were stopped by a patrol of the Republican Guard;as they had failed to report for military service they were shot on the spot. Their bodies were thrown on to a cart and their parents were obliged to yoke oxen to it and drive it through the village six times as an example to the population.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I.)

GERMANS

XIII. Dispositions.

German garrisons are reported as follows:-

SAPPADA:	one battalion	(Province of BELLUNO)
CROCE COMELICO	120 men	" " "
SAN STEFANO	100 men	

(Confidential Source 10.9.44).

The zones controlled by partisans in LIGURIA are hourly expanding. The Wehrmacht is withdrawing from this zone, and the impression is given that Kesselring plans to abandon the whole of Liguria, with the exception of GENOA. A strong German garrison in GENOA is at present fighting the patriots. All the industries in the town are paralysed. Thousands of workers are being evacuated.
(La Suisse Geneve 5.9.44)

General Leyers assembled all the officials of the various RUK offices on September 7th, informing them that, in view of the present war situation, it was necessary to foresee the possibility of abandoning PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY. Everything was already arranged for the transfer of offices, but it was necessary to arrange for the transport of the most important industries and the dismantling of others. Individual centres would be visited by German officers who would take the necessary measures. All goods on order must be delivered before November 15th.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 8.9.44).

XIV. Behaviour.

Investigations carried out in towns and villages show that there has been a slight improvement in the behaviour of the German troops. Although in

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Investigations carried out in towns and villages show that there has been a slight improvement in the behaviour of the German troops. Although in PESARO and FANO, for example, indiscriminate destruction and demolitions have been carried out, in the villages the peasants do not complain as they used to and in certain places have said that the soldiers behaved very well.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 8.9.44).

XV. Morale.

During a meeting concerning the distribution of wheat to the population a German officer said to another officer "Give it to them, as we have no time to take it away".

SECRET

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Many German officers, in hotels and other public places, do not talk to each other for fear of being overheard by Nazi spies.

Morale of all troops is very low and they are tired. Equipment is in a bad state of repair. They all expect the end to come soon.
(Confidential Source 27.8.44).

Officer prisoners taken by the Garibaldi seem to have faith that the Siegfried and Alpine lines will hold, according to another report.
(Confidential Source 9.9.44).

XVI. Atrocities.

VALLUCCIOLE 160 women, 20 boys, 6 children - 230 innocent people massacred whilst standing on their doorsteps watching the German soldiers going up the mountain.

PARTINA 30 innocent people massacred, peasant women, artisans, all engaged in their work.

SAN POLO In three common graves 47 patriots and civilians were buried. After being obliged to put gelignite among their clothes, they were buried alive and them blown up.
(P.W.B. Rome 13.9.44).

The villages of BORGO LUCREZIA, PONTE MURELLO, CARRARA BASSA AND CARRARA ALTA, north of the river METAURO have been completely destroyed by systematic blowing up of every single house. In each case the occupants were given very few minutes to evacuate the building and were unable to save any of their belongings. It has not been possible to ascertain the reasons for this, if any, as these devastations were obviously not part of reprisal measures. Partisan activity had not taken place in these villages.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 31.8.44).

XVII. Manufacture of Poison Gas.

It is said that much poison gas is being manufactured at the RUMIANCA factory at PIEVE VERGONTE. It is liquid of the FT type, which evaporates when in contact with air.
(Confidential Source 21.8.44).

POLITICS

XVIII. Mussolini's Activities.

The Duce, in the presence of the Head of the Province, received the new Mayor of MILAN, GIUSEPPE SPINELLI, former secretary of the Union of Industrial Workers of Milan. Together with Spinelli the Duce received the two assistant Mayors, ANGELO GAMBA and MANLIO MORSETTI. GAMBA, a veteran of the first world war, was section manager of the building and upkeep department of the Caproni

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(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio, 18.9.44).

1200

The Fascist Press had not yet published a report on the cabinet meeting held by Mussolini on August 31st (6.9.44) Measures were probably discussed and approved which were not intended to be made known to the public. Such affairs are numerous. The transfer of Ministries, chancelleries, public offices etc, in the constantly shrinking area causes the authorities much worry. The area along the Swiss border is already crowded. Except for the German Embassy, which is staying close to Mussolini's HQ the remaining diplomats have mostly established themselves in BELLAGIO on Lake COMO. The Fascists are also concerned about the replacement of those State or Party officials, officers etc. who have resigned or who have been dismissed.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 6.9.44).

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XIX. Removal of Officials to Germany

According to well-informed circles the Germans have notified employees of administrative offices in COMO that they will be transferred to MUNICH next week The OKW has adopted the same measures for public officials inLOMBARDY cities. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.9.44).

Reports from Birassago on 7.9.44 say "It is learned that several Fascist dignitaries have just left northern Italy in order to move to the Reich with their families. Mussolini is apparently still remaining in Italy. German offices in MILAN and TURIN have been transferred to the South Tyrol.
Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.9.44).

XX. Trial of Generals.

It is announced from Mussolini's HQ that a treason trial against the Italian Generals who bear the main guilt for the collapse of the former Italian Armed Forces will take place in the second half of this month. The Special Tribune will meet in a northern Italian town so far unnamed. The following generals have been under arrest since the beginning of this year: CARACCIOLO, GARIBOLDI, ROSI, VECHIARELLI , MOIZO, ROBOTTI and SCUERO. General Caracciolo, the Commander of the Fifth Army, is the one best known abroad. He was found in a Roman Monastery disguised as a monk. General Gariboldi, the Commander of the Eighth Army and successor to General Messe, is also very well known. The charges against him include that of sabotage. Rosi and Bechiarelli were commanders of the troops stationed in MONTENEGRO and ALBANIA and of those in GREECE. MOIZO was the High Commissioner for LJUBLJANA. General VERCELLINO, who commanded the Fourth Army was also under arrest, but was found not guilty in preliminary investigations, and was released. A number of Generals who are in the enemy camp are expected to be sentenced in contumacia. They include AMBROSIO, the former Chief of the General Staff.
(Front und Heimat (German Telegraph Service for Forces Papers) 7.9.44)

XXI. Appointments.

The PAVIA lawyer PANIGATTI, Prefectorial Commissioner of PAVIA, has been appointed Podesta of PAVIA.
(Pomeriggio Milan 31.8.44).

The Secretary of the Party has appointe d the following Federal Commissioners.
Reggio Emilia Republican Fascist GUGLIELMO FERRI
Treviso Republican Fascist Captain ALFREDO VALENTI
Ferrara: Republican Fascist CIRO RANDI.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio 10.9.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXII. Food Situation.

Black Market foodstuffs recently assumed such proportions in MILAN that the authorities have been obliged to order all producers and tradesmen to make a general stocktaking by September 15th. Goods will be blocked from September 10th and may be

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 9.9.44).

According to a new decree of the Ministry of Agriculture, Parmesan cheese must henceforth only be produced in the Provinces of PARMA, REGGIO EMILIA, MODENA, MANTUA and BOLOGNA, and the fat content must not exceed 25-27%. The butter ration is difficult to obtain.

SECRET

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Hungary is supplying 6,000 tons of sunflower oil, some of which has already arrived. The new cultivation programme rejects the growing of sunflower seeds in favour of winter rape, which may become free Italy's most important oleaginous plant, as it is now possible successfully to combat the rape beetle.

A large number of dairy machines have arrived from Germany, as well as several wagonloads of churns and other dairy implements badly needed by the Italians in order to increase production. It is easy to obtain cheese on the black market, almost at controlled prices, and cheese merchants hold large stocks.
(News Digest 9.9.44).

The local State Monopolies office announces that the tobacco ration will be reduced to 15 g daily per smoker as from 11.9.44. The reduction is entirely due to transport difficulties which, it is hoped, will be overcome very shortly.
(Pomeriggio, Milan 6.9.44).

The Prefect of TRIESTE Province announces that, owing to the shortage of electricity, the city's water consumption must be reduced. The mains will only be open from 07.00 to 09,00 and 18.00 to 19.00 hours. If this measure fails to reduce consumption, the main valves will be altogether closed and consumers will be forced to fetch water from fountains.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 24.8.44).

XXIII. Transport.

The recent Republican Fascist measures to maintain Italian goods traffic include stipulations to ensure the transport of lumber. In future transports on railways, roads, rivers, lakes, and lagoons are subject to permission having been obtained. This measure is designed not only to regulate the transport of timber, but also to control the lumber market, and to combat the numerous abuses in the past. The transport of fruit and vegetables calls for special measures as the difficulty in arranging, and the interruptions in railway traffic have led to the use of lorries to an increasing extent which is not desirable owing to the necessity to economise in fuel, and the influence on prices. By the measures taken fruit and vegetables must again be transported by rail, and efforts will be made to supply large towns from the nearby districts. By a system of various zones, growers can guarantee fair prices.
(Verkehrs Nachrichten 28.8.44).

The Fascist authorities in MILAN have forbidden people to ride bicycles in groups. Individual cyclists are allowed to ride in the city, but they must dismount ten metres before any of the numerous control posts.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 5.9.44).

XXIV. Air Raid Damage.

Out of TURIN's 25,000 houses, about 19 000 have been destroyed or damaged by air attacks, 99000 have been repaired as well as 215 industrial

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(Verkehrs Nachrichten 26.8.44).

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Out of TURIN's 25,000 houses, about 19 000 have been destroyed or damaged by air attacks. 99000 have been repaired as well as 215 industrial establishments and 158 buildings. 6,000 houses are being repaired. It is estimated that the sum of 1.5 milliard lire will be necessary for the reconstruction of the city.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.9.44).

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SECRET

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LABOUR

XXV. Strikes.

A general strike has broken out in BOLOGNA, REGGIO EMILIA and GENOA and partial strikes in MILAN, TURIN and NOVARA. In the smaller and still unliberated cities such as FALLANZA, STRESA, and ARONA all work has ceased and the Germans are systematically arresting all men between 16 and 50 years. All who can do so escape through the forests and join the partisans.
(Basler Nachrichten 8.9.44)

PRESS

XXVI. German Instructions to Press.

The Fascist Newspapers of September 2nd did not contain reports of the Allied entry into VENTIMIGLIA, and the advance along the LIGURIAN coast. Instead of this the newspapers report news which readers already know and which originated from enemy and neutral radios. They continue imperturbably to follow the dictates course of ignoring or touching up disagreeable reports as long as possible. It is perhaps just because this is becoming increasingly difficult that the Prefect of MILAN, on August 29th, discussed "propaganda problems" with the newspaper editors. At the same time the arrival is announced of a new press chief at the German Consulate General in MILAN. Replacing Heymann who is being sent to Stockholm for more important press affairs, PABST, the correspondent of some Berlin newspapers, will in future hand German instructions to the Fascist press in MILAN.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 6.9.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXVII. Pesaro Fascists.

The following Fascists fled north at the entry of the Allies:

Sgt. Major MACCHI and his son; war criminals well known in the province, responsible for the arrest and execution of several hostages.

Capt. LACULLI, Capt. of the Milizia in Pesaro.

Gen. Col. VANDINI. Comissario of the Republic for the Marche.

Capt. TARQUINI Chief of the U.P.I. (Ufficio Politico Investigazioni).

Col. BALARINI of the Milizia, was responsible for the arrest and execution of several partisans.

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CANESTRANI, Primino: was the prefect's right hand man and general factotum for all the "dirty work".

(P.W.B. 5th Army 8.9.44)

XXVIII. Turin Kamandant

Col DIERICA, Sicherungs Kamandant for the TORINO area, is responsible for about 20 hangings of hostages and burnings of houses. His HQ is located at SCALENGHE.

(Confidential Source 22.8.44).

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9 SEP

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

13th September, 44.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 24.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans

While there does not yet appear to be a general insurrection, reports, mostly from Switzerland, indicate a state of widespread civil war in the mountain regions of PIEDMONT and LIGURIA, with constant raids and counter raids on both sides. The OSSOLA valley seems to be firmly held by the patriots who have extended their control to STRESA. Sharp clashes are reported from the VAL D'AOSTA, the VAL TICINO and near PAVIA.

At FOSSANO and SALUZZO patriots succeeded in liberating political prisoners and now control a number of villages in the area. In the province of CUNEO punitive expeditions failed to dislodge the partisans from the Communes of BARGO, NOVELLO and ENVIE.

In LIGURIA the Garibaldi Brigades are increasing their activities and have scored several successes against Nazi-Fascist columns. In the province of MODENA German motor transport is constantly attacked.

A report from BELLINZONA mentions the surrender of the garrisons of MERGOZZO, FONDOTOCE and OMEGNA, mostly composed of Poles, and of the voluntary enrolment of individual Poles and Slovak soldiers in the patriot bands.

Information has been received about the formation of apparently large and well organised bands in the VENETO and VICENZA regions.

Reprisals.

The tale of reprisals on innocent people continues. These have occurred in PADOVA, TORRE PELLICE (PIEMONTE), CANNOBBIO (LAGO MAGGIORE) where 10 hostages were hanged in the main square, and

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Fascist radio claimed successes for the First Mobile Black Brigade and the Seventh Black Brigade in the SALUZZO region. 1198

Assassinations.

The principal cases reported this week are those of FLAVIANO RIPETTA, Fascist Commissioner of ESILE in the VAL DI SUSA, Lt. Col. GAMBETTI, near BIELLA, and BENEDETTO PIRILLO, a notorious warden of the ill-famed San Vittore prison in MILAN.

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SECRET
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SUMMARY 2.

FASCIST FORCES

The Repubblica Fascista states that a Blacksh.. Legion "T..GLI..ENTO" has been stationed south of RIMINI to set free German troops. The Fascist radio claims that the "ETN.", 1st ..nti-parachute and ..th Division is almost complete.

In addition to the Black Brigades who garrison their own towns and their neighbourhood, Mobile Black Brigades are being formed to operate where required.

GERMANS

Apperently preparations have been completed to cope with a sudden and enforced evacuation of Italy. In the meantime occupied Italy is being systematically ransacked and machinery etc. prepared for removal to Germany.

The PO Bridges A fascinating duel is going on between the Allied Airforces and the partisans on one side and German engineers on the other over the bridges of the Po. German engineers are working ceaselessly to restore communications over the Po as fast as they are broken. Pontoon bridges are used by night and concealed by day.

POLITICS

Mussolini is reported as still in the Villa FELTRINELLI, at GARGNANO (LAKE GARD.) and securely guarded by German agents. An unconfirmed Swiss source considers that the Swiss Government may allow asylum to Mussolini only if he reaches the frontier in a very bad state of health.

The Fascist Party The recent resignation of PARINI and RICCI are thought to be symptomatic of the break up of the Fascist Party, which is looked upon as a sinking ship.

Political tendencies in the VENETO The strongest anti-fascist parties in the VENETO are said to be the Christian Democrats and the Communists. The exect proportion is unknown, but it is thought probable that the former are the more numerous. The Veneto was usually Monarchist in the past, and it is possible that even today about 20% of the population are still monarchist.

ECONOMICS

In the North an increasing shortage of ... reported. No butter ...

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GERMANS

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The PO Bridges A fascinating duel is going on between the Allied Airforces and the partisans on one side and German engineers on the other over the bridges of the Po. German engineers are working ceaselessly to restore communications over the Po as fast as they are broken. Pontoon bridges are used by night and concealed by day.

POLITICS

Mussolini is reported as still in the Villa FELTRINELLI, at GARGNANO (LAKE GARDA) and securely guarded by German agents. An unconfirmed Swiss source considers that the Swiss Government may allow asylum to Mussolini only if he reaches the frontier in a very bad state of health.

The Fascist Party The recent resignation of PARINI and RICCI are thought to be symptomatic of the break up of the Fascist Party, which is looked upon as a sinking ship.

Political tendencies in the VENETO The strongest anti-fascist parties in the VENETO are said to be the Christian Democrats and the Communists. The exact proportion is unknown, but it is thought probable that the former are the more numerous. The Veneto was usually Monarchist in the past, and it is possible that even today about 20% of the population are still monarchist.

ECONOMICS

In the North an increasing shortage of dairy products is reported. No butter is reaching the large towns, and the price in MILAN has risen from 400 to 420 lire the Kilo; the daily milk ration in MILAN has been fixed from the 1st September at 500 grms for children under three, 150 grms for children between 4 and 18 and 250 grms for adults over 65. For the rest of the population the ration will depend on available supplies. The city of VENICE is reported to be without drinking water owing to air raid damage. Epidemics are feared in consequence.

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SUMMARY 3.

Harvest The wheat and maize crops are reported as being better than last year.

Finance There is an acute shortage of paper currency in N. Italy. Notes have practically disappeared. Items as low as 100 lire are being paid for by cheque. The shortage is believed to be due to hoarding in the hopes of a favourable revaluation when the Allies arrive. Italian gold deposits are reported to exist in Switzerland the Argentine and Japan.

Air Raid Damage. MILAN marshalling yards are repeatedly bombed with great precision by low flying Allied aircraft. BOLOGNA station has also suffered from the continual raids.

LABOUR

The clandestine Socialist paper "Avanti" has made an appeal to workers to resist deportation.

Trains deporting workers to Germany now have military escort to prevent rescues by partisans.

PRESS

The clandestine press in N. Italy is continually increasing. The "Avanti" has trebled its circulation and the Socialist Party possesses six other newspapers, appealing to different classes of the population.

THE CHURCH

Cardinal SCHUSTER recently made a reply from the pulpit to the large-scale attacks made by the Fascist press on the Pope and the Church.

The Crociata Italica. This Catholic Fascist paper has for editor a priest called DON CALCAGNO, with a correspondent and agent in VENICE, DON ZANIBELLI. Both priests have been black listed by the Committee of Liberation.

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Stasior Sub Comm.

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

13th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 24.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 24.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans

Disposition of bands.

CANSONE Valley Here there is a band commanded by Sgt. MARCELLIN and his brother, [illegible] ski champion.

BELLICE Valley There is said to be a band here commanded by Gen. OPERTI.

SUSA Valley Various small groups are being formed at points scattered about this valley.

SESIA Valley Here there is a band commanded by the Communist MOSCATELLI.

AOSTA All the war material from the TESI FUOCHI barracks is in the hands of the Alpini, who are fighting the Germans.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report 3.9.44).

Recent Partisan Activities

CUMIANA Having been informed of the presence of Partisans in the area, sixty men of the Italian SS arrived on a mopping-up and requisitioning expedition. Partisans in the surrounding mountains were warned and attacked the SS, taking most of them prisoner. After this setback a mixed Bn of Italian and German SS arrived and carried off all the male inhabitants between the ages of fourteen and seventy. Sixty-eight of them were condemned to death and as the Italian Republicans refused to carry out the sentence, a German NCO shot them one by one in the nape of the neck with a revolver.

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BARDONECCHIA The German SS Bn stationed at BARDONECCHIA took part in a mopping-up operation in the ROMANCHE and MAURIENNE valleys on the French side of the frontier, against armed formations of the Maquis. An NCO told sources that the French partisans inflicted heavy losses on the Germans, who had about two hundred men put out of action.

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GENOA. Partisans are continually sabotaging telegraph and telephone wires, high-tension cables and other military works. On three occasions ammunition dumps were heard exploding. The partisans in the area around GENOA are in need of assistance, as they get caught by the SS if they come down into the city in search of amunition, weapons and food.

In Via C.S.[illegible]OVA, in broad daylight, a partisan shot a Republican SS Lt. dead and afterwards got away.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report 3.9 44).

PISTOIA. To the North of PISTOIA there is open warfare between the patriots and Nazi-fascists. The patriots keep control of many strategic points on the Appenines and of many of the heights around SPEZIA. Near VERGHELLI on the 5th August during a lively combat the patriots killed 162 Germans. A Fascist garrison has been captured in V.L S.BRIA.

MODENA. In the province of MODENA, where the Germans can only depend on motorised transport for their supplies, there are continuous attacks on the enemy vehicles.

LIGURIA. The Garibaldi Brigades in LIGURIA keep the enemy forces at bay. Fascist patrols have been repeatedly disarmed on the Via Aurelia in broad daylight. A thousand metres of telephone lines have been cut near CHIAVARI. The BOSSI tunnel between the valleys of BIANCO and FONTANA has been destroyed. From IMPERIA the enemy has been obliged to initiate operations on a coastal sector occupied by the patriots. The latter have repulsed the Germans at VIANO CASTELLO capturing a considerable quantity of war material. A motorised nazi-Fascist column, of about a thousand men, fell into an ambush near PIEVE DI TECO; 100 Germans and fascists were killed in the encounter. In the valley of NERVIA, the Nazi-Fascists who had sacked and burned some villages were attacked by patriots and driven away. The patriots took possession of the Republican Fascist Guards' camps at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and RAPALLO, capturing an arms dump and a food deposit which was ready to be sent to Germany. At RECCALI patriots patriots captured some German functionaries and liberated [illegible] 60 men who were about to be deported to Germany. They have overcome the local Fascist garrison at PIAN DI PRETI.

PIEDMONT. 30 patriots of a Garibaldi Brigade carried off from the powder magazine of FOSSANO 15 quintals of explosives which was subsequently used to blow up the entrance of the prison and thus 175 political prisoners were liberated and immediately joined with the patriots. Similar operations were carried out at SALUZZO, where other political prisoners were liberated. LANGHE, DOGLIANI, [illegible] CORPA, BAROLO, MONFORTE, NOVELLO, FOSSOLASCO, SERRAVALLE and PINEROLO

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CUNEO. Notwithstanding the mopping-up operations in the Province of Cuneo, it has not been possible to drive the patriots away from the Communes of BARGE, NOVELLI and ENVIE, which are controlled by them. (P.W.B. Rome 5.9.44).

MILAN Province. Attacks, sabotage and reprisals border on civil war here. The Fascist "Muti" Brigade has its own torture chambers in MILAN and as a result several of its members were ambushed and killed during the last few days.
Nine hundred soldiers belonging to the "Muti" and "Varchi" Brigades encircled SANT'ANGELO LODIGIANO village at 04.00 and after killing a

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woman and a man, the father of four children, began to search and pillage houses under the pretext of capturing young recruits. As a reprisal patriots killed the Federal Commissioner, BACICCCHI, whom they held as a hostage.
(Tribune de Geneve 30.8.44).

IVREA Two partisans wearing Red Cross uniform presented a false document to the authorities of IVREA hospital authorising the removal of two wounded partisans captured during an encounter with Fascists. The guards, happy to avoid having to watch the prisoners, handed over the wounded, who were promptly transferred to a safe place in an ambulance.

VERBANO Patriots are making converts among the heterogeneous invasion troops. Polish and Slovak troops present themselves voluntarily at partisan road blocks, handing over their arms, food and ammunition, and asking to be enrolled.

In MERGOZZO a garrison comprising 35 men passed over completely to the partisans, their commanding officer, a German Major, committed suicide. Their example was followed by the garrisons of FONDOTOCE, and OMEGNA, the latter comprising 150 men, mostly Poles.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 25.8.44).

BERGAMO A strong rebel band, commanded by former officers of the Royal Army, invaded the Piazzale of Gazzaniga station, in VALSERIANA in the Bergamo area, where they halted two trains which were arriving. They then examined the personal documents of all the travellers, removing a German lieutenant, an NCO, an officer of the Republican Air Force, three militiamen of the GNR, a Finance Militiemen, a Fascist Brigadier in mufti, and several other Fascists, all of whom were taken to their mountain HQ.
(Dovere Bellinzona, 28.8.44).

TURIN The entire electricity system which furnishes the town is in the hands of the patriots, who are able to interrupt it as and when they wish.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.9.44).

OSSOLA Valley Partisan activity in the OSSOLA valley was extended on September 3rd over the whole region to the west and north of STRESA, which, according to reports received, is entirely occupied by the Italian maquis. Fascist and German detachments evacuated the region or let themselves be interned, as, for instance, did the frontier post at S.N BARTOLOMEO in VALMARA, which consisted of Germans who reported at the Swiss frontier on September 2nd at 5.30 pm.
(Gazette de Lausanne 4.9.44).

AOSTA Valley The Italian press reports that [illegible] of the German SS [illegible]

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AOSTA Valley The Italian press reports that Blackshirt detachments of the German SS engaged a group of 300-400 partisans in the QUARTO PRAETORIA region, in the AOSTA valley, killing 38. Detachments of the GNR and a group of partisans, commanded by a British officer, clashed at another point in the Aosta valley. Further fighting took place in CERANO, in the TICINO Valley and near PAVIA (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 3.9.44).

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MILAN During working hours a small group of patriots, belonging to the GAP, entered the Siciliano factory in Via Carlo Pisacane in MILAN seized the telephone exchange and all entrances and called a meeting of the workers. A member of the partisan group addressed those

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assembled, inviting them to cooperate with the patricts in sabotage activities, and to be ready for the next decisive blow against the Fascists. All the workers responded to the full.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.9.44).

BOBBIO After three days fighting the Germans have occupied BOBBIO at PASSO DEL PENICE. Apparently they are interested in the PIACENZA-BOBBIO-GENOVA road, which they now control in part. Patricts will be obliged to abandon some positions in this area unless assisted by Allied Air power.
(Confidential Source 4.9.44).

CASARSA An entire goods train was destroyed when patricts attacked the station of CASARSA..

Germans are attacking in force in the VARAITA valley to gain access to the ARGENTER pass. The Germans are being held at DEMONTE, with heavy losses on both sides. Encounters are also taking place in the CANAVESE valley.
(Confidential Source 4.9.44)

Partisans in VENETO and VICENZA

On MONTE NOVEGNO there are about 2000 partisans made up mostly of Alpini, and commanded by a Tenente Colonello of the Alpini. These are considered a first-rate group of men.

On the ALTIPIANO DI ASIAGO there are bands of partisans amounting to some 1000 men, neither well-armed nor well-organised. They are led by an ex Communist Deputy

The ARZIGNANO Brigade, about 1000 strong, is well organised and armed and has had a successful operation against Germans and Republican Fascist forces.

At the COLLINE DI CHIAMPO there are three well organised bands, about 500 strong.

All these bands receive their directives from MILAN.

The partisan bands in the VENETO are organised by the FRONTE UNICO DELLA LIBERTA (with HQ in MILAN) and not by various political parties, as occurred south of the Gothic line. The result is that the partisan bands are absolutely non-political.

Bands in the PADOVA area

The partisan bands under the Padovan Military Command are as follows:-

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Zone 1.	Brigata CALVI	-	Bands of VILLANOVA DI CAMPOSAMPIERO
			CURTAROLO
			STRA.
Zone 2.	Brigate BRENTA	-	" LEGNARO
			PONTELONGO
			PIOVE DI SACCO.

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Zone 3. Brigate "X" Bands of STANGHELLA
PONTELANCO
S. SIRO DI BAGNOLI

Zone 4. Brigata MAZZINI " MONSELICE ESTE
GALZIGNANO
TREPONTE DI TEOLO

(P.W.B. Advanced).

Reprisals

The Fascist press reports that the police authorities executed 13 partisans in (?BIGNALE) NOVARA province in reprisal for attacks carried out in this region. The Mayor of CASTAGNOLE LANZE, ASTI province, was kidnapped by partisans and executed in a wood. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 30.8.44)

PADUA Besides hanging three partisan leaders in retaliation for the killing of the Fascist Colonel in PADUA, the authorities also shot ten partisans which they kept as hostages. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 24.8.44).

TORRIGLIA The mopping-up near Toriglia concluded with the capture and execution of three patriots. As a reprisal three Germans were executed. This provoked a punitive expedition which a German unit, assisted by the GNR and the Militia, effected against the inhabitants of the hamlet of SCOFFERA in the Commune of DAVAGNA, where the houses were set on fire. A certain woman called Fossa protested against the burning of her few possessions. She was bound for three hours with her hands raised, and then, before being set free, one of her arms was shattered by machine-gun fire.

ARGELATO The partisans blew up the Fascio in Argelato with a time-bomb wounding four and killing five people. The Black Brigade carried out unspecified reprisals.
(Gazette de Lausanne 24.8.44).

In TORRE PELLICE in PIEDMONT six respected Waldensians were publicly hanged and several houses were destroyed in reprisal for the activities of the patriots.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 29.8.44).

CANNOBIO A group of partisans descending from the Cannobio valley during the afternoon of August 26th, carried out a successful surprise attack on the hamlet of Cannobio on Lake Maggiore, killing four German soldiers. In reprisal on August 27th, during the evening, 40 hostages were taken from the civilian population and hanged in the main square. Members of the Fascist Militia on duty there were immediately deported to Germany on the orders of the German authorities.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 29.8.44)

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 29.8.44).

CANNOBIO A group of partisans descending from the Cannobic valley during the afternoon of August 26th, carried out a successful surprise attack on the hamlet of Cannobio on Lake Maggiore, killing four German soldiers. In reprisal on August 27th, during the evening, 40 hostages were taken from the civilian population and hanged in the main square. Members of the Fascist Militia on duty there were immediately deported to Germany on the orders of the German authorities.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 29.8.44)

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On August 17th three companies of the First Mobile Black Brigade "RICCIARELLI" carried out a wide mopping-up operation in the CAVALLERMAGGIORE-SALUZZO-PONTE SUL PO area.

The Seventh Black Brigade of VERCELLI carried out a mopping up operation on August 19th in the OLCENENGO-SAN GERMANO-CAVAGLIA-CASTELLO-BORGO D'ALE-PIGNANO area. On August 20th the same brigade carried out a mopping up operation in the SALUZZO-CAVAGLIA-PIVERONE area, arresting four people.
(Italian Home Service 2.9.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778231

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

II. Assassinations.

The Fascist Flaviano Ripetta, Commissioner of the Republican Fascio of ESILE in VAL DI SUSA, has been killed by partisans. A unit of the "Athos Capelli" Black Brigade, accompanied by members of the "Leonessa" Armoured Group and by airmen from the "Dobbiaco Battalion, under the direct command of the Federal Commissioner of TURIN, immediately went to the locality and engaged in combat.
(Italian Home Service 27.8.44).

Near BIELLA partisans killed Lt. Col. GAMBETTI.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse)

Patriots killed BENEDETTO PIRILLO, the infamous guard of SAN VITTORE prison in MILAN.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 26.8.44).

A few days ago a German soldier was killed by unidentified persons in PONTE TRESA. In reprisal German troops broke into a house near which the soldier had been killed, arrested the whole family, including women and children, and executed them on the spot. Their cries could be heard in Swiss territory.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 27.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

III. Dispositions.

The Repubblica Fascists states that in the Adriatic sector of the Gothic Line, south of RIMINI, the Black Shirt "TAGLIAMENTO" Legion has been installed in order to set free German units. Mussolini is hastily forming a new Division, also supposed to replace German troops which have been sent to the Franco-Italian passes.(31.8.44).

Recently formed companies of Alpenvorland police regiment took the oath at BOLZANO and SLUDERNO.
(News Digest 28.8.44).

IV. Organisation

According to news received the formation of the First anti-Parachute and Guards AA Division is almost completed. This Division which, As Marshal GRAZIANI announced, will be called "ETNA" , will be undertaking operations in Italy.
(Italian Home Service 24.8.44).

In addition to the Black Brigades for garrison purposes which operate in their own town and surrounding region, Mobile Black Brigades are being formed which are intended to be transferred according to various requirements. The first Mobile Black Brigade is at present operating in PIEDMONT, under the direct orders of Minister PAVOLINI, commanding officer of the Auxiliary Corps of the

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(Stampa Turin 20.8.44).

The Italian POLICE are divided for purposes of action to deal with common crime, economic offences and political offences. The economic Police are utterly corrupt, while the Political police do their best to help victims escape from persecution by the neo-Fascists. Local groups of Neo-Fascists claim autonomy of action; for example one such group recently arrived at MONTECATINI to kill DONEGANI, who was however away. (P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44)

SECRET

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According to an announcement in TRIESTE province, men in offices belonging to the classes 1914 to 1926 and who are liable for military service, must report by August 16th, and will not be called to account provided that a delay is satisfactorily justified.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 16.8.44).

The Fascist Air Force, will, it is reported, shortly be dissolved. All officers and personnel who do not accept incorporation in the Luftwaffe will be deported to Germany. In anticipation of this measure, a German detachment arrested all members of the Air Force at the Italo Balbo Barracks in Milan on August 25th.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.9.44)

Military parachutists belonging to the "FOLGOR" and "NEMBO" divisions, apart from the normal allowance, receive an extra flight indemnity of Lire 794 net monthly. This sum is paid to officers, N.C.Os and troops alike.
(Civil Censorship Intercept 18.8.44).

V. Morale.

There is great friction in MILAN between the Police and "Muti" units and all militarised Fascists in general. A few weeks ago a Fascist was killed by a member of the Security Police; a few days ago an agent was disarmed and brutally beaten by a Fascist. Similar incidents continue to take place in a steady stream. The Questura HQ is guarded every night by a picket of police armed with machine guns and hand grenades, for fear of a Fascist "coup de main". The chiefs of the police carry on very intense work in order to disembarass themsleves of rivals who command the new competing Fascist formations.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 31.8.44).

The National Liberation Committee for northern Italy quote a statement concerning the disappearance of an SS General, a Colonel and several officers under false names... The report continues "The police are in a state of crisis, but the GNR are in no better condition. Every day brings tales of desertions, complaints of embezzlement and acts of violence among the soldiers themselves.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 22.8.44).

VI. Further Deportations of Carabinieri

Over 1,000 Lombard Carabinieri officers were urgently summoned to MILAN and deported to Germany without their families being informed.
(Der Bund Berne 23.8.44).

VII. Atrocity by Squadrist

During the recent enemy occupation of TORLANO 22 persons have been burnt alive and two children massacred in their beds; the butcher responsible for this was PETARCA, head of the Squadristi of the village.

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(P.W.B. Rome 5.9.44).

VIII. Appointments.

1192

Gen. TESSARI, Head of the Air Force General Staff, has been relieved of his post; a subsequent order has placed him on the retired list.
(Italian Home Service 3.9.44).

Colonel MARIO CANDELORI has been appointed Commander of the Forest Militia.
(Italian Home Service 3.9.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770021

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GERMANS

IX. Dispositions

It is reported from MILAN that trucks carrying heavy and light arms and ammunition were unloaded in the DUNNANZIO district, some at PORTA GARIBALDI. The building was surrounded by Cheavaux de Frise, entrances and windows were protected by reinforced sandbags with loopholes. Similar preparations are being made in other districts. Twenty thousand Fascist Militia Of Black squads who had escaped from liberated Italy are operating throughout the city. German soldiers have received detailed instructions for the possible evacuation of the city within two hours. Their assembly point is the HQ of the Kommandantur at Piazza Brescia.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 25.8.44).

The German authorities have forbidden navigation on the Italian parts of Lake Maggiore and the Ticino river. Fishermen may not go beyond 50 m from the shore. No boats are allowed out at night. Offenders will be fired on immediately.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 26.8.44).

PADOVA There was a Czech division in this area commanded by German officers. The soldiers were well dressed in green uniforms and carried a red, white, and blue cockade in their caps. The equipment seemed excellent. There were also about 1000 Germans in Padova.

GLAVERA DI MONTELLO (TREVISO) The Germans had built underground petrol dumps into the side of the hill just below the British war cemetary.

TRISSINO near CHIAMPO (Province of VICENO The Germans are constructing an airfield here.

The Commune of TAGLIO DI PO and the neighbouring commune of PONTE TOLLO were flooded early in June when the Germans burst the dykes. The floods go to a depth of 20 Kilometers and stretch from about FOCE DEL PO to DONATO. The water is about two metres deep. Further dykes have been mined, but not yet broken. These will be blown up in the event of an Allied attack or coastal invasion.
(P.W.B. Advanced).

Firms south of the PO are reported to have been ordered by the German authorities to prepare for removal northwards. La SPEZIA is being feverishly evacuated.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

German authorities have ordered Italian Industries to deliver large quantities of chlorine which will, it is believed, be used for the production of poison gas.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.8.44).

X. Security Precautions.

According to Corriere della Sera the Germans are taking extraordinary precautions in northern Italy, and have organised in MILAN "Scherheits Kompagnie"

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 220021

Their assembly point is the HQ of the Kommandantur at Piazza Brescia.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 25.8.44).

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The Germans are frantically trying to repair the bridges on the river PO and in many places have already constructed temporary floating bridges, which are moored at the side of the river when not in use.
(Italian Official Source 9.9.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 0121

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XI. Behaviour

Extracts from a document regarding orders issued to German troops in FLORENCE demonstrates the stress laid on maintaining the discipline and prestige of the German army. For example:

"Requisitioning of all supplies, including those intended for immediate consumption by the troops is prohibited. Merchandise released for free purchase is exempted".

Requisitioning of even the smallest quantities must be authorised by the Military Administrative Group of Florence and the Administrative Officer of the Army".

"4th Prcht Division must again inform all its units that looting and all acts of violence against the civilian population must be prevented. This is absolutely essential in preserving the prestige of the German Armed Forces and the Parachute Troops".

On the other hand ruthless action is ordered against partisans etc.

"Ruthless action against any act of violence committed against German soldiers is essentid. The use of arms in that case is authorised in accordance with the "Army Order for Combat against Partisans".

"Civilians must be conscripted ruthlessly for labour-services - such as filling up bomb-craters, clearing streets of debris etc,"
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 7.9.44).

XII. Reprisals.

The Germans have occupied and sacked the town of FANANO. They hanged 18 patriots and evacuated the population.
(Confidential Source 30.8.44).

The Germans and fascists punished the inhabitants of INTRA and PALLANZA for helping partisans by depriving the two places of bread rations for an indefinite period.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.9.44).

POLITICS.

XIII. Mussolini's Refuge.

Mussolini is reported to be still living with his family in the Villa Feltrinelli at GARGNANO on LAKE GARDA. The strictest guard is kept and in order to reach him one must pass the control of 32 German agents in GARGNANO.
(Tribune de Geneve 24.8.44).

The Swiss Federal Council has recently agreed that in case Mussolini should

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The Swiss Federal Council has recently agreed that in case Mussolini should apply for admittance into Switzerland, the request will be denied, according to a report from a diplomatic source in Switzerland.

According to the same source the Council may admit Mussolini into Switzerland only in case he should reach the Swiss frontier in a state of very bad health. It was stated that to date (the last 7th) no request had been made by Mussolini.
(Confidential Source 29.[illegible]44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. MR 92-21

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XIV. Disintegration of Fascist Republican Party.

Facts indicate that the Fascists today can, less than ever, expect to halt the internal political disintegration by terrorist means. The rapidity of this disintegration is shown by the resignation of many noted Fascist officials who, under various pretexts, are one after the other leaving the sinking ship. Instances of this are the resignations of PIETRO PARINI and RICCI.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 23.8.44).

XV. Diplomatic Corps has not moved.

Transocean reports from VENICE. Diplomats accredited to Mussolini's government have not left their official residence, it was stated here by authoritative quarters, in reply to rumours abroad that the diplomatic corps in Italy had moved to the Alps in view of the situation on the southern front.
(25.8.44).

XVI. Propaganda Fascist and Anti-Fascist.

During the last week, the walls of MILAN have been plastered with an alleged text of Croce's letter of resignation to Bonomi, without comment, but with obvious passages in heavy type. It is reported that the public is not impressed.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

The Communist Party in northern Italy is conducting intensive propaganda among the working classes through its paper COMBATTENTE and by means of pamphlets.
(P.W.B. Adv. HQ. A.A.I.)

XVII. Pavolini's Health.

It is reported from TURIN that PAVOLINI had his right leg amputated, though his condition is not serious. The newspaper denies the version given by the Fascist radio and newspapers regarding the heroism of Pavolini and his companions. Actually, dressed as ordinary Militia without distinctive signs of rank, they were ambushed by patriots some distance from the fighting zone and fell without offering any resistance to their attackers, who suffered no casualties. "Poor Pavolini, how slow and difficult will his coming flight to Germany be with only one leg".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 25.8.44).

XVIII. Anti-Fascists Tortured and Murdered.

The Action's Party's Clandestine Newspaper "Italia Libera" gives details of the death of GIANANTONIO MANCI which occurred in the first fortnight of July. Count Manci, the well-known Trentino Socialist, was arrested in Trento and taken to Bolzano for interrogation. He was installed in a hotel which had been converted into a prison, and after 16 hours of torture, which did not succeed in making him talk, he committed suicide, throwing himself out of the window.

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The same newspaper reports the death in PADUA of Professor LUIGI TEDESCO, leader of the Action Party in Padua. During Curfew time a group of Fascist assassins removed him from his house, ostensibly for interrogation at the SS HQ, but actually they brutally murdered him en route, leaving his body in the street. Simultaneously with Manci's arrest the SS broke into the office belonging to Lawyer (BETTINI ?) in TRENTO, a well-known anti Fascist and an active member of the Action Party. While they carried out a noisy search of the surroundings Bettini was brutally beaten then killed in his own office.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 31.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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XIX. Anti-Fascist Parties in VENETO.

The strongest parties in the VENETO are the Christian Democrats and the Communists. It is difficult to know which has the greatest following, but probably the Christian Democrats are the stronger. The Veneto used to be Monarchist in sympathy, and the informant thought that about 20% of the people would still declare themselves monarchist.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

XX. Appointments.

The Party Secretary appointed Comrade NELLO CARUCCI Commissioner for the Federation of Republican Fasci at NOVARA.

The Republican Fascist MARIO CAVALLERO has been appointed Podesta of AOSTA.
(Italian Home Service 25.8.44).

The Secretary of the Party has appointed the Squadrist Dr. FEDERICO LOCATELLI as Federal Commissioner and Commander of the Black Brigade of ALESSANDRIA and Comrades GIORGIO ROD., CELESTE ZANELLI and Dr. GIUSEPPE TORDI as Federal Vice-Commissioners.
(Italian Home Service 29.8.44).

The Commandant of the Varese Legion, Brigadier CESARE BRACCI, has been appointed head of the Province of PESARO
(Libera Stampa Lugano 26.8.44)

ECONOMICS.

XXI. Food Situation

MILAN As from 1st September the daily milk ration for children under three is 500 g.; children between four and 18 150 g, for adults over 65 250 g. The ration for adults between 19 and 65 will depend on the amount available.
(Corriere della Sera Milan 29.8.44).

Despite the favourable pasture conditions the shortage of dairy products in northern Italy is increasing, especially in areas where cattle are on the mountain pastures which are often under partisan control. Consequently no butter is reaching the large towns, and the butter price is increased in MILAN from 400 to 420 lire per kilo, while the quality is poor. Cheese dairies are working to full capacity, and plenty of hard cheese is available on the free market,

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(News Digest 30.8.44).

VENICE Reports from the frontier state that the city is almost completely without drinking water as a result of air raids. It is feared that epedimics may break out.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 30.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

SECRET
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MILAN Wheat threshing is now in progress and figures so far show the yields to be far above the average. It can already be stated that this year's crop bar ha is bigger than last year's. Maize prospects are described as excellent; crops are likely to be bigger than last year's The unfavourable weather has caused only slight harm.
(D.N.B. 1.9.44)

XXII. Fuel and Power.

TURIN. The Societa Italiana pel Gas announces that from August 25th until further notice the gas service in TURIN will be reduced to three and a half hours daily.
(Stamp. Turin 28.8.44).

XXIII. Transport.

Military events in France and in the central Italian front are beginning to be felt in the MILAN, TURIN and GENOA area. Numerous transports going in various directions indicate that the war is approaching northern Italy. Allied bombings of communications are so habitual that they are scarcely mentioned in the press. The cutting of railway communications has made transport by motor vehicle necessary over long distances. Transport difficulties are felt most in food supplies by the large cities. Corriere della Sera mentioned insuperable difficulties in MILAN where, in particular, there is much suffering among the poor.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 30.8.44).

XXIV. Finance.

The shortage of paper currency in north Italy is reported to have become a real problem by the beginning of August. Notes have practically disappeared, and items as small as 100 lire are being paid for by cheque. Among the reasons given for this shortage is the conjecture that the press has been destroyed by bombs. It is thought likely, however, that paper currency is being hoarded in hope of a favourable valorisation when the Allied forces arrive
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence summary 28.8.44).

During the last year of the Fascist Regime the importation of war material from Switzerland was very intense. As a precautionary measure Switzerland requested that gold be deposited in the Banca di Credito Svizzero (Berne) as a guarantee. At the moment there is a little less than a billion lire left to Italy's credit there.

Other gold deposits exist in Argentine and Japan. The gold deposit in Japan was transferred there from Brazil when Brazil declared war. Japan has been asked by Italy to return this gold, but she has

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(Stampa Turin 26.8.44).

XXIII. Transport.

Military events in France and on the central Italian front are beginning to be felt in the MILAN, TURIN and GENOA areas. Numerous transports going in various directions indicate that the war is approaching northern Italy. Allied bombings of communications are so habitual that they are scarcely mentioned in the press. The cutting of railway communications has made transport by motor vehicle necessary over long distances. Transport difficulties are felt most in food supplies by the large cities. Corriere della Sera mentioned insuperable difficulties in MILAN where, in particular, there is much suffering among the poor.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 30.8.44).

XXIV. Finance.

The shortage of paper currency in north Italy is reported to have become a real problem by the beginning of August. Notes have practically disappeared, and items as small as 100 lire are being paid for by cheque. Among the reasons given for this shortage is the conjecture that the press has been destroyed by bombs. It is thought likely, however, that paper currency is being hoarded in hope of a favourable valorisation when the Allied forces arrive
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence summary 28.8.44).

During the last year of the Fascist Regime, the importation of war material from Switzerland was very intense. As a precautionary measure Switzerland requested that gold be deposited in the Banca di Credito Svizzero (Berne) as a guarantee. At the moment there is a little less than a billion lire left to Italy's credit there.

Other gold deposits exist in Argentine and Japan. The gold deposit in Japan was transferred there from Brazil when Brazil declared war. Japan has been asked by Italy to return this gold, but she has refused.

During the Italian occupation of southern France, French gold was acquired through the Italian Commercial attache, amounting to several millions. This gold was not consigned to the Italian Treasury, and its whereabouts are unknown to Italian authorities in liberated Italy.
(Confidential Source 27.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

German controlled Italy does not have facilities to print more than 100,000 money bills a day. Assuming that all bills printed under the Germans are 1000 lire notes, the Germans cannot put on the Italian market over 3 billion lire each month. The only printing shop in Northern Italy which has the facilities to print Italian paper currency is in MASLIANICO, province of COMO. (P.W.B. Rome 25.8.44).

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

Allied aircraft still repeatedly bomb the MILAN marshalling yards with incredible precision, flying very low to attack road and railway bridges. Nobody thinks of replacing destroyed property as prices are astronomical. The municipal authorities grant compensation at an average rate of 20,000 lire to those who have lost all their household goods through bombing, but today it costs 80,000 lire to purchase furniture for a bedroom and nearly 500,000 lire to furnish a medium sized three roomed flat. Thus the compensation only covers the purchase of one solid table.
(News Digest 4.9.44).

MILAN Recent anglo-american air raids have caused ruinous destruction to Via (Aurelio Saffi) and the railway line running alongside. The bombing of VENTIMIGLIA on August 4th caused grave damage to the BEVERA railway station. The remaining two trains serving the Riviera from the west use steam engines, while those from the east have been completely abandoned. Road traffic is slow and very difficult owing to the serious interruptions. Transport between GENOA and SPEZIA is almost exclusively confined to rafts with an engine. After the destruction of the PO bridges transport between GENOA and the hinterland became extremely precarious.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 23.8.44).

IMOLA (BOLOGNA) The outskirts of the town and targets such as bridges and stations have been constantly bombed throughout May, June, and July.
(Civil Censorship Intercept 22.7.44)

LABOUR

XXVI. Appeal to workers to resist deportation.

The Clandestine Socialist paper "Avanti" recently published a long and impassioned appeal to workers to resist deportation with all their strength, to"unite round the factory executives and when the noose is tightly drawn, rebel and again rebel. Some of you," it says " will fall, but you will fall honourably as in battle. The Nazi thugs will not dare to murder you en masse until you are on German soil and your decision will save thousands of your brothers who, the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

print Italian paper currency is in MESSANICO, province of COMO.
(P.W.B. Rome 25.8.44).

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.8.44). 1169

XXVII. Forced Labour.

The deportations to Germany of all able-bodied men and women, except mothers of small children continued throughout the second week in August. The trains now have a military escort, so that the partisans have not been able to continue their rescues.
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).
SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760221

SECRET
This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

XXVIII. Krupp works advertise for workers.

The Krupp works are now advertising in the Italian press for mechanics, unskilled workers, dynamiters, masons and women labourers for lighter work, who are promised the lump sum of 5,000 lire, as well as the usual privileged conditions.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 24.8.44).

XXIX, Removal of Machinery by Germans.

GENOA. The workers are particularly embittered by the removal to Germany of such machinery as the Germans do not destroy. The UNIONE IT..LI..N. TR..VIE ELETTRICHE has been ordered to send a dozen of their latest type of trams to Germany.
(P.I.D. Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

PRESS

XXX. Clandestine Press.

The clandestine press in northern Italy is continually increasing. The northern clandestine edition of "Avanti" has trebled its circulation, now standing at 15,000, while the Socialist Party has six new papers - "L'Operaio, La Terra, Rivoluzione Socialista, La Campagna Il Partigiano and Edificazione Socialista".
(P.I.D. Weekly Intelligence Summary 28.8.44).

In several northern cities the G.P celebrated the liberation of PARIS. Leaflets were distributed hailing the liberation of the French capital. All the clandestine papers in LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT, LIGURIA and VENICE expressed the joy of the Italian people.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 24.8.44).

Anti-Fascist newspapers which circulate in the VENETO are the Socialist paper "Fratelli d'Italia" and the Communist paper "La Riscossa". There is a third published by students, of which the informant could not remember the name. These papers are printed in VENICE and ..DRI.., and then distributed and circulated throughout the province.
(P.W.B. Advanced)

THE CHURCH

XXXI. Cardinal Answers Fascist Attacks on Pope.

Fascists, with the support of the Germans, have launched a clever large-scale attack on the Pope and the Catholic Church with leaflets, [illegible] manifestos, speeches and newspaper articles. In a recent [illegible] Cardinal SCHUSTER answered

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 947131

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 24.8.44).

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Fascists, with the support of the Germans, have launched a clever large-scale attack on the Pope and the Catholic Church with leaflets, books, manifestos, speeches and newspaper articles. In a recent address from the pulpit of MILAN Cathedral, Cardinal SCHUSTER answered this attack. The Cardinal recalled in strong terms that Pius XII had sent whole columns of food and medicine to southern Italy, Rome and Latium; "Pius XII's personal relations abroad - especially with President Roosevelt, are used to Italy's advantage"

Cardinal SCHUSTER's not ambiguous opposition to the Fascist campaign caused some incidents. It is also affirmed that the occupation authorities, irritated by his attitude warned him not to go further in

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this direction if he wished to avoid measures being taken against him Repubblica Fascista's editorial attacks the Cardinal, accusing him of "dividing minds" and adopting an undignified attitude. Thus relations between the Fascists and Catholics are again very tense, and open complications may ensue.
(Der Bund Berne 28.8.44).

XXXII. Catholic Fascist Newspaper.

There is a Catholic Fascist newspaper published at CREMONA called Crociata Ittalica, which gives whole-hearted support to the Germans. The editor is DON C.LC.GNO and he has a correspondent and agent in VENICE called DON Z.MBELLI. Both these priests are on the Committee of Liberation's black list and both have been suspended by the POPE.
(P.W.B. Advanced).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 947

(Der Ed.M Berno [illegible]).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 798021

9 SEP 1944

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc). 6th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 23.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Bands near the Gothic Line.

Reports are now arriving of the location and strength of the Patriot Bands operating near the Gothic line. The PESARO Brigade and the 6th GARIBALDI Brigade in the URBINO district have now been absorbed and overrun for the most part by the Allied advance. Small bands are now reported north of PESARO in MONTAGNA (North of S. SEPOLCRO), in the VERGHERETO and the ALPE DI S. BENEDETTO, MONTELLO (West of S. MARINO), PONTASSIEVE (under a British officer), the ALPE TRE POTENZE and several around PISTOIA. MONTEFIORINO is the HQ of the 2nd(?) or GINO BOZZI Garibaldi Brigade, which appears to be numerous and well organised.

Activities in the North

Reports from the APPENINES indicate that the bands in the neighbourhood of PARMA and BOLOGNA have been active, In LIGURIA the patriots control large areas, and a Blackshirt Division has been forced to keep concentrated in the cities of GENOVA, SPEZIA and SAVONA.

The Repubblica Fascista states that in NOVARA Province the Germans have cut down all bushes and hedges along motor roads to deprive partisans of cover for their ambuscades. The Alpine valleys continue to be scene of much skirmishing and mopping-up operations. The Germans appear very anxious to keep control over the chief passes ie. M. CENIS, LITTLE S. BERNARD, the STELVIO and the BRENNER. They have not yet been able to dislodge the patriots from the LITTLE S. BERNARD.

FASCIST FORCES

It is officially announced that Fascist armed forces in Italy number

41,000 men under the German High Command
26,000 " " Marshal Graziani
43,000 " " H.Q. of the Republican Army.

Employed outside Italy

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41,000 men under the German High Command
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Employed outside Italy

60,000 in France
1,000 " Albania
50,000 " Greece
6,000 " Aegean Islands
3,000 " Russia

Large units now in Italy are - MONTEROSA (Alpine) Division, S. MARCO Division, ITALIA Division, LITTORIO Division.

Morale

The Germans appear uneasy over the morale of the S. MARCO Division, and have arranged many propaganda lectures for the unit. The result is not very happy.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

SECRET SUMMARY 2. 6th September, 1944.

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The men are not allowed to possess ammunition. When Mussolini inspected the Division he was escorted by numerous S.S. officers with tommy-guns. Every day the officers have to report in writing that their units have not written subversive inscriptions on the walls.

Nazi-Fascist police in Milan

A victim reports the bestial cruelty of the Nazi-Fascist police towards political prisoners. While the German S.S. and the Italian UGO group (O.V.R.A. police headed by Dr. UGO ALBERTI) confine themselves to whips and truncheons, the Fascists of the Ufficio Speciale, headed by Lieutenant MILANI COLOMBO and BRACCO indulge in every form of medieval torture.

GERMANS

Morale.

One source reports that a German soldier told him he would have been happy had that bomb killed Hitler. All the German soldiers he had met expressed strong anti-Nazi feelings. Another report states that though severe orders prohibit Italians from giving hospitality to German soldiers, this does not prevent almost every German soldier from having a civilian suit.

Atrocities.

More massacres and atrocities are reported from FORNO DI MASSA, PESARO - people burnt in their houses, FOSSOMBRONE - a passer-by compelled to hang fellow countryman with his own hands under pain of death, BAGNOLI (PADOVA province) - eight people killed with flame-throwers, SESTO FIORENTINO, VAGLIA, CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI and PONTASSIEVE.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

It is reported that "Frontpost" has a good circulation among German troops.

ECONOMICS

The Food Situation

FERRARA German requisitioning of cattle is causing a shortage of milk, meat and cheese. Prices are still fairly moderate.

VERONA Life is very dear, and the Black Market is essential
PADOVA High prices in the Black Market for butter and oil were reported in July.
TURIN The quality of bread has much deteriorated.

Transport.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

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TURIN The quality of bread has much deteriorated.

Transport.

All reports indicate much interruption of traffic caused by the bombing of bridges, but the Germans are working indefatigably to restore communications.

Industries.

Output in northern Italy has only been reduced by about 5% as a result of air-raids (up to June 44) Textiles, sugar refineries and shoe factories are hardly affected, but most industrialists are keeping production as low as possible to conserve stocks. These are considerable, as export has ceased and internal distribution is hampered by transport difficulties.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET

SUMMARY 3. 6th September, 1944.

Finance

Republican and Nazi officials are anxiously collecting gold. A gold sovereign has fetched 12,000 lire. Their object is to accumulate funds for their eventual flight. The inflation of currency has led to loss of confidence and to the buying of all kinds of goods.

Air Raid Damage

FERRARA, VERONA and PADOVA have all been extensively damaged. The stations have been wrecked, but as many non-military objectives have been hit, and there have been many complaints.

LABOUR

Owing to the complete corruption reigning in the TODT organisation in Italy, only about one third of the personnel on the pay-rolls is at work. Falsification of pay-sheets and ration strengths is the order of the day. Italian engineers sabotage their work, and the workers, if employed, desert to the partisans

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 765021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775027

Subject Edit Course

9 SEP 1944

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th September, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 23.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 6th September, 44.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 23.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Dispositions.

In the Adriatic sector the main partisan units have been over-run by us, including the former PESARO Brigade. According to a reliable source the only units left behind were the so-called Patriotic Action Groups (GAP). These are small bands of varying sizes, which are formed, usually by the Communist Party, for isolated sabotage actions, propaganda etc. in large towns or in country unsuited for guerilla operations. They must be distinguished from the Garibaldi Brigades which are combattent guerilla units in the mountains. In PESARO there are stated to be 150 GAP members and two months ago there were also four small units of 30 men each which roamed around the countryside and took turns with the 10 carbines available. Source believed that an attampt would be made to constitute a brigade from these elements, and this has probably occurred, since a communication has recently been received, complete with official stamp, from a unit described as the BRUNO LUGLI Garibaldi Brigade which was operating in the MT. DELLE FORCHE area. Strength and armament are not known.

In the eastern Appenines (CAGLI-URBINO-SAN SEPOLCRO area) partisans are also for the most part on our side of the line. This was formerly the area of the 5 GARIBALDI Brigade and there are no indications that any considerable units have been formed to replace it. There is however a report of a small and not very effective band at MONTAGNA, north of SAN SEPOLCRO, and there are probably still partisans in the ALPE DELLA LUNA and the MERCATTELLO areas, both of which have previously been reported as partisan areas. On a captured German map the road SAN SEPOLCRO-PENNABILI and onwards is shown as dangerous owing to partisan activity. The map is undated, but from the front shown, cannot be very old.

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There is still no information as regards the fate of bands on either side of the Gothic Line in the VERGHERETO area and in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO further West except that the "STELLA ROSSA" band, formerly on MT. FALTERONA dissolved. A new small band, however, is reported west of SAN MARINO in the MONTRIOLO area.

N. PONTASSIEVE -GALLIGA Here there is a band of 30 under a British Captain.

NE PISTOIA -MIGLIANA -end of July Members of a partisan band led by an Italian Army Captain were met here. All wear armbands and white cloths on their heads and carry white sticks. Their only arms are small arms. They have recaptured some livestock seized by the Germans

SECRET

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and issued some meat to the locals. Source knew of no other exploits of this band, but they claim to control the road COLANO-FIGLINE-MIGLIANO. No reprisals or punitive expeditions had taken place against them.

NE PISTOIA. In the hills around S. PELLEGRINO are said to be many partisans, many of them deserters from the Italian labour gangs employed on the Gothic Line.

N. PISTOIA - Nr. PRACCHIA. There is a partisan HQ at CAMPODIZOLO nr here. Many of thepartisans work in the SMI arms factory here, which is under German control; some of the produce finds its way to the patriot bands.

ALPE TRE POTENSE. Partisan HQ under Lieut "PIPO" here. Fairly well armed with automatic weapons and radios. - July.

N. PISTOIA - FANANO area - July The Commander of this band goes by the name of ERCOLE, and has his HQ somewhere in the area of M. CIMONE.

The active strength of bands in this area is about 500, but many more could be put into action if they had arms. They are organised into groups of 35. They are armed with 12 Brens, many Stens, rifles, pistols etc. PIPO's band is the best armed, but more ammunition is required and they are expecting radios. They have had some clashes with the Germans, notably at OSPITALE, conducted by PIPO, but they are not very active for fear of reprisals, and need operation orders. The bands find it necessary to change the location of their HQ frequently. This band had received several "drops" of arms in the MONTEFIORINO area, and this area had been almost under partisan control. However, at the end of July, the arrival of a large number of Germans, who burnt three villages obliged the partisans to move further south.

The following bands come under the N. LUCCA Committee of Liberation:

1. Band of 300 needing arms on the mountains North of CORREGLIA
2. Band of 200, of whom 30 are armed, commanded by informant at NE of DANTA DELLA CROCE.
3. Band commanded by Allied ex PW officer, including some Mongols, 2km north of last mentioned band.

North of Gothic Line.
SMERALDO

OSPITALETTO - August Partisans operating from MONTEFIORINO were seen here. The HQ of 2nd or GINO LOZZO GARIBALDI Brigade is at M. FIORINO. The CO at OSPITALETTO is one Ten. LELLI. The partisans occupied SESTOLA, but a punitive expedition drove them out on 3/4

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ALPE TRE POTENSE. Partisan HQ under Lieut "PIPO" here. Fairly well armed with automatic weapons and radios. - July.

N. PISTOIA - FAMANO area - July. The Commander of this band goes by the name of ETTORE, and has his HQ somewhere in the area of M. CIMONE.

The active strength of bands in this area is about 500, but many more could be put into action if they had arms. They are organised into groups of 35. They are armed with 12 Brens, many Stens, rifles, pistols etc. PIPO's band is the best armed, but more ammunition is required and they are expecting radios. They have had some clashes with the Germans, notably at OSPITALE, conducted by PIPO, but they are not very active for fear of reprisals, and need operation orders. The bands find it necessary to change the location of their HQ frequently. This band had received several "drops" of arms in the MONTEFIORINO area, and this area had been almost under partisan control. However, at the end of July, the arrival of a large number of Germans, who burnt three villages obliged the partisans to move further south.

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NORTH of Gothic Line.
EMILIA

OSPITALETTO - August. Partisans operating from MONTEFIORINO were seen here. The HQ of 2(?) or GINO BOZZO GARIBALDI Brigade is at M. FIORINO. The CO at OSPITALETTO is one Ten. LELLI. The partisans occupied SESTOLA, but a punitive expedition drove them out on 3/4 July. The brigade is up to 1,000 strong with small arms only. They want orders badly. They were on good terms with the population.

TERENZANO - August. It is stated that partisans in this area were successful in blowing the two bridges here. This means that they have secured their western flank. Their zone of influence now is bounded on the north by the R. SECCHIA from its source in the ALPE DI SUCCISO to the area of its confluence with the DRAGONE River; on the east very roughly by the road MONTEFIORINO - ALPE S PELLEGRINO In this area there are at least 8000 partisans. Their HQ is at MONTEFIORINO, which town, together with several others, they control completely. They have radio, but no RT. This they urgently require. They control two power stations which distribute light to their own area only.

S. BOLOGNA - CASTIGLIONE-VERNO - 16th June. The patriots are very active in the area of CASTIGLIONE and VERNIO. On 10th June partisans

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asked all men in this area of the 1926 class to join them, which met with great success.

S. BOLOGNA Nr. VADO patriots assaulted the Fascist Military Camp and killedthe chief of them. SENIORE BERNINI of the 67th Legion of BOLOGNA.

S.W. PARMA At FORNOVE near PARMA patriots are very active. It is thought that they were commanded by COL. SALVATORE of the 6th REGT. BERSAGLIERI.

BOLOGNA Up till June there had been little overt partisan activity in the city of Bologna itself. An informant heard that there were many in the surrounding countryside. Their activities consisted of ambusning solitary German trucks and small bodies of soldiers as well as hiding crops etc. from German search parties.

NW. BOLOGNA -ANZOLA Mid June. At ANZOLA groups of partisans have been very active. In June groups of these partisans came down from the mountains into the village and took awey Lt. MGs from an SS troup. There was ineffective German and Fascist reaction.

NW. BOLOGNA- LOIANO May/June. In the hills of LOIANO well organised groups of partisans are commanded by Italian Air Force officers. These partisans have been in contact with the Committee of Liberation of FLORENCE and BOLOGNA and were much assisted by the peasants.

TRIESTE Area.

NE TRIESTE -VILLA OPICINA A partisan brigade known as the BRIGATA TONCI is reported to be very active in the area of VILLA OPICINA. They are led by a Slav officer and number about 1,200. Originally Nationalists, they became Communists with the success of TITO's movement. A cinema at VILLA OPICINA was blown up during a show for German soldiers. The number of killed and injured is unknown. (8th Army Special Interrogation Report to 21.8.44).

Recent Partisan Activities.

Northern Appenines.

The Nazi Fascists have not been successful in the attempt to break the resistence of the Garibaldi brigades in the northern Appennines to make the rear of the Gothic line secure. The results have been negative of the punitive raids on a big scale in the provinces of PARMA and the VALLE LATERALI DELL'OSSOLA. On July 28th the patriots occupied MONTE CUANA and MONTE BRAMPA in the zone of CARPINETI, between the higher valleys of CROSTOLA and SECCHIA. (P.W.B. Rome 30.8.44).

GAVI, OVADA and CAMPO LIGURE There are 2500

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(P.W.B. Rome 30.8.44).

GAVI, GVADA and CAMPO LIGURE There are 1500 patriots in this region, but they are almost totally lacking in arms.
(Confidential source 17.8.44).

LIGURIA Large areas in Liguria are controlled by the patriots. A Blackshirt Division, sent to the Riviera from Germany to maintain order, has been forced to retreat to large towns such as GENOA, SPEZIA and SAVONA.

According to the paper Repubblica Fascists, the hard-pressed German troops in NOVARA province have been forced to remove all the bushes and hedges along the motor roads in order to prevent the partisans from using them as cover for their attacks.
(Aftonbladet 23.8.44).

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FERRARA, ROMAGNA (CERVIA and FORLI) S.MARINO URBINO In the above areas partisans are not numerous and their organisation is poor. The most important band is one led by CORBARA operating in ROMAGNA near FORLI. It succeeded in advancing to FAENZA.
(Lt. Z., P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

SPEZIA and GENOA During the last 24 hours (21.8.44) thousands of workers from SAVONA, LA SPEZIA and GENOA have joined the partisans. Patriots operating in the VALTELLINA near BORMIO surrounded 100 Czechoslovak soldiers, who joined the maquis without a shot being fired.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 21.8.44).

ALPINE PASSES Although relatively neglecting the maquis in the Piedmontese and Lombard mountains the Italo-German Commands are making a considerable effort to retain control over the chief Alpine passes of MONT CENIS, the LITTLE ST BERNARD, the STELVIO and the BRENNER. MONT CENIS has been in the hands of the Germans since April. The partisans control the LITTLE ST BERNARD, but the Fascists are trying to extend their control to the AOSTA VALLEY, where, during May, they established colonies of refugees from central Italy. The Fascists never made much effort to dislodge the partisans from VALSESIA, but as soon as the latter appeared in the OSSOLA VALLEY, the Germans and the Fascists sent up to 8,000 motorised and armoured troops there. Mopping-up operations have taken place in the VALTELLINA up to the STELVIO pass, from where the maquis could not be expelled.
(Tribune de Geneve 19.8.44).

VALTIDONE and BELLUNO Partisans operating in the VALTIDONE in EMILIA and in the Province of BELLUNO are inexorably combating the activity of false partisans. Fascist spies and enemy Carabinieri were executed at FELTRE. A spy belonging to the infamous MUTI squad, which had been captured at EDOLO, was immediately executed. Patriots, in reprisal for the execution of two of their members by the GNR in BRESCIA and in VALTROMPIA attacked the GNR barracks and disarmed the Militia, executing five on the same spot where they had shot the patriots. Patriots operating in SESTO CALENDE in VARESE blew up high tension pylons. A battalion in BELLUNO blew up a bridge between LONGARONE and CASTELLO LAVAZZO, seized a station and destroyed a train carrying goods. In FELTRE many German trucks were destroyed, while a railway bridge in PIAN DI CAMPOGNA was blown up.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

The control kept by the Italian patriots on the strategical parts of the Alps has cost the Germans serious losses. The actions of the patriots have become so serious that they have been the subject of a discussion in a council of war held by the enemy in BERGAMO. The Military Commander (German) for LOMBARDY, General Diamente, has advised that no other classes should be called up for [illegible]

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(P.W.B. Rome 31.8.44).

S. UBALDO A battle took place at the S. UBALDO Pass after a strong enemy attack. The Germans were repulsed after having 30 killed and 50 wounded. The losses of the patriots were 12 men.
(P.W.B. Rome 28.8.44).

IVREA Patriots of the VAL D'AOSTA have blown up a locomotive laden with dynamite in a tunnel near Ivrea, causing its complete destruction and interrupting enemy traffic.

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VOGHERA In the VAL STAFFORA, near VOGHERA, a mixed battalion of Nazi Fascists were put to flight after a violent encounter, leaving 200 dead and wounded on the ground. In the zone of BELLUNO the Germans have repeatedly been attacked by the courageous JULIA and BERETTA brigades, losing on the whole about 500 men. A camp of the Fascist Republican Guard was attacked and dispersed at MONPIANO near BRESCIA, by a daring night attack.
(P.W.B. Rome 26.8.44).

PIACENTINO Mopping-up operations in the PIACENTINO appear at present to be suspended, though it is known that the Germans desire, at all costs, to keep the provincial road PIACENZA-BOBBIO-GENOA open. A German division is therefore being concentrated in PIACENZA. A clash with the first units, coming from PERINO to BOBBIO is imminent. Opposing these units is the "Giustizia e Liberta" Brigade, commanded by the famous "Fausto" whose effectives number nearly 5,000.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 22.8.44)

FAVALE DI MALVARO In fighting that took place on 12th and 13th August north of Favale di Malvaro the Nazis and Fascists lost a verified total of 150 men and also heavy arms at the hands of the Third Garibaldi Brigade. Losses of the Brigade were comparatively light.
(Confidential Source 17.8.44).

SWISS FRONTIER Seventeen Germans were recently stripped and booted over the Swiss frontier by partisans. Together with eight Fascists, they formed a patrol attached to a group of 300 men engaged in mopping-up operations, when they fell into an ambush. The partisans killed one Germans and three Fascists with their first burst of fire, after which a German captain, previously captured by the partisans, shouted, ordering the soldiers to lay down their arms, as they were completely surrounded. The Germans and Fascists obeyed, whereon the patriots informed the German Command that the mopping-up must be suspended if the prisoners' lives were to be saved. This took place. The partisans, who numbered 11 operating in the frontier zone thought that the action described above was the best way of disembarrasing themselves of the prisoners, though the Fascist militiamen were kept as hostages.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 22.8.44).

PADOVA By 10th July 1944 5000 armed men were operating in this zone. They only received their first supplies from the Allies at the beginning of March. The movement was not, however, very enthusiastically supported. Centres of resistance were at ZOVON DI VO, MONTAGNA, CAMPOSANPIERO, GALSIGNANO, TREPONTI, PRAGLIA. Many acts of sabotage were carried out. The railway lines PADOVA-VICENZA, PADOVA-CAMPO S. PIERO,-BELLUNO were interrupted, also the viaduct VICENZA-DOLO.

The principal localities for parachute drops were CAVARZERI, PATRIARCATI (Zona MONSERA-BOVOLENTA) ZOVON DI VO, MONTAGNA (Prati Region).
Almost all the students of the University and the Professors took part in the patriot movement in PADOVA. Their activities were such that the Republican authorities gave orders that

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(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

The OSOPPO Brigade. - (Operating in N.E.Italy- exact location not known) 1182

During the last two months of its now long and intense activity the "Osoppo" Brigade has killed about 500 Germans, interrupted important railway lines in 33 different places, blown up 8 railway bridges, derailed several trains, destroyed 12 road bridges, captured, destroyed or damaged many convoys of vehicles belonging to the invader.
(P.W.B. Rome 31.8.44).

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FASCIST FORCES

II. Total Effectives of Fascist Forces, and Dispositions

Under the German High Command - .. ' 41,000 men
Under Marshal Graziani - 26,000 men
" the HQ of the Republican Army. 43,000 "

Forces employed in Italy

The MONTEROSA Division 16,000 men and 600 officers, of whom 450 are already employed in LIGURIA.

The S. MARCO Division (3a) 4,000 men and 170 officers, employed in LIGURIA

The ITALIA Division (4a) 10,000 men and 500 officers, of whim 200 are still at HEUBERG (GERMANY); assembly zone NOVARA -VERCELLI.

The LITTORIO Division. 13,000 men and 460 officers, of whom 160 are still at SENNELAGER (GERMANY)

Republican Forces employed outside the country.

France: 60,000 men
Albania: 1,000 "
Greece: 50,000 "
Isle of Egeo: 6,000 men
Russia: 3,000 "

(Italian Official Source25.8.44).

VERONA In June the old PASUBIO Division which used to be stationed at VERONA, was being reconstituted there.
(P.W.B. Advanded C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA The only Fascist Forces in the city were a battalion of the MUTI who (with the exception of some members who were in league with the Committee of Liberation) were responsible for all the brutalities carried out in the city and for setting up a torture chamber for political prisoners.

The Carabinieri, on the whole, behaved in a friendly fashion to the resistance movement. Only some members of the officers and NCOs remained faithful to the Army, among them COL SALVATORE PACETTI, who became commander of the R.N.R. there.

In the Questura there were very few anti-fascists. A notorious persecutor of patriots was Questore NINO PALMIERI, another was the Alice Commissar Dott. BARILA, and the Brigadiere of the Political Squad BINOTTO.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

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(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

General Staff of the Republican Fascist Forces.

The Secretariat of the Chief of Staff, Mobilisation Departments and the Recruiting Office have been moved from BERGAMO to FERRARI near BRESCIA.

General Staff Signal Battalion was formed about mid-December from civilian personnel, who were later militarised. Location is BERGAMO.

ETTORE MUTI Battalion It consists of about 15,000 volunteers. The HQ is situated in MILAN in a building bounded by Via SAN PROSPERO, Via DANTE and Via BROLETTO.

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28 OTTOBRE "M" Battalion consisting of about 1200 men, located at MASSAROTTI Barracks at CREMONA. Functions are police duties and fire-watching.

9th BERSAGLIERI Battalion located in the LAMARMORA barracks in CREMONA; consists of about 900 men, whose morale is very low.

Republican SS Company HQ in MASSAROTTI barracks in CREMONA; has three detachments quartered in various parts of the town.

Two battalions of the Italian African Police are quartered in the MANFREDINI barracks in CREMONA. The men go about the town unarmed. Most of them are former Fascist Squadristi and their morale is high. There are two other unspecified units in CREMONA.

Training Schools. The Post OCTU School and Infantry Academy were transferred to ALESSANDRIA during last winter. About half of the officers on the permanent staff of these schools have joined the Republican Army; of the others some have been deported to Germany and the rest who tried to escape deportation have gone into hiding. The Pioneer Training School in the MONTANARA barracks at MANTUA started functioning on April 1st 1944 and is attended by both Germans and Italians. There is also a Training School for Wireless Operators at ESTE and a Glider Pilot Training School on the OSSALENGO airfield.
(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

II. The San Marco Division.

It is known that the SAN MARCO Division is at present employed on coastal defence work in the SAVONA area west of GENOA. Until the middle of March 1944 the Division consisted of about 3500 ex PW from camps in Germany. After the arrival of numbers of Naval Reservists, recruits and volunteers, the Division was classified as Marine Inf. Division and given the name of SAN MARCO. Despite certain privileges they enjoy, the Germans appear to be worried about the morale of the Division, and they do everything they can to raise it. Specially selected German officers and NCOs who pretend to have complete faith in victory give many propaganda lectures, but it is said that the result of this propaganda is NIL. The men are not allowed to possess ammunition, and when Mussolini inspected the division he was escorted by numerous SS officers holding MGs at the ready. The men cannot express their sentiments freely and even the officers are daily given a one hrs pep talk by a senior German officer. Severe measures are taken against deserters and every day unit commanders have to render a return in writing that on the walls of their men's quarters there are no subversive inscriptions.
(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

III. SS. Bn. S. Grato.

At 9th June 44 the Battalion was about a thousand men strong and was quartered in the new seminary about 100 m. ssw of S. GRATO church. The men are drawn from all age-groups, mainly from those of 1920-25. They have seven 47/32 machine guns. Their equipment is Italian, in fairly good condition. In May 44 the gorget patches

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(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

II. The San Marco Division.

It is known that the SAN MARCO Division is at present employed on coastal defence work in the SAVONA area west of GENOA. Until the middle of March 1944 the Division consisted of about 3500 ex PW from camps in Germany. After the arrival of numbers of Naval Reservists, recruits and volunteers, the Division was classified as Marine Inf. Division and given the name of SAN MARCO. Despite certain privileges they enjoy, the Germans appear to be worried about the morale of the Division, and they do everything they can to raise it. Specially selected German officers and NCOs who pretend to have complete faith in victory give many propaganda lectures, but it is said that the result of this propaganda is NIL. The men are not allowed to possess ammunition, and when Mussolini inspected the division he was escorted by numerous SS officers holding MGs at the ready. The men cannot express their sentiments freely and even the officers are daily given a one hrs pep talk by a senior German officer. Severe measures are taken against deserters and every day unit commanders have to render a return in writing that on the walls of their men's quarters there are no subversive inscriptions.
(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

III. SS. Bn. S. Grato.

At 9th June 44 the Battalion was about a thousand men strong and was quartered in the new seminary about 100 m. ssw of S. GRATO church. The men are drawn from all age-groups, mainly from those of 1920-25. They have seven 47/32 machine guns. Their equipment is Italian, in fairly good condition. In May 44 the gorget patches were replaced by rhomboidal red facings, with red shoulder-straps. Badges of rank are the same as in the German Army. On their caps they wear the skull of the German SS and on their left arms the Fascist eagle and "littorio". The officers and some of the NCOs carry Beretta pistols Cal. 9. ORs have carbines. Morale is low, as nearly all the men are anti-Nazis. Some of them told source that they would desert to the Allies if they were sent to the front.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

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IV. Nazi-Fascist Police in Milan.

An interesting statement has been received on the organisation of the Nazi-Fascist police in MILAN, on its methods and the identity of executioners and spies who are at the head. Source was imprisoned in the political prisons of MILAN for

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more than three months, luckily under a false name, before crossing the lines.

The Commander of the SS in LOMBARDY is Captain SAVECKE (GERMAN) and has his headquarters in MILAN at the Hotel Regina.

The following are under him:

1. The German SS in rather scanty numbers, and they could do little if Fascist Collaboration were missing.

2. The so-called UGO group, headed by a Doctor UGO ALBERTI; is composed of policemen and graduates of the police force already in the OVRA Service.

3. The special office (U.S.) ex. U.P.I. (Ufficio Polizia Italiana) from the Republican National Guard, and in theory autonomous, but in reality absolutely controlled by the SS.

Reports and accusations are presented for the consideration of German functionaries by Italian spies. These functionaries give a judgment against which there is no appeal, and the person sentenced has no right of defence. The concentration camp where Italians who have escaped being shot are sent is at FOSSOLI, in the province of MODENA; they are afterwards deported from there to Germany. As regards the Germans and the UGO group, their methods are well-known but they do not generally go farther than the whip and the truncheon. Those, however, who are known for their bestial cruelty are the Fascists of the U.S., headed by three officers Lieut MILLI, Lieut. COLOMBO, Lieut BRACCO. There is not a medieval torture which they have not used on the unfortunate Italians who have fallen into their hands. (P.W.B. Rome 28.8.44).

GERMANS

V. Disposition.

FERRARA There is no German command in the town. All the offices have been transferred to the villas situated in the immediate vicinity, and there are few German troops stationed there. All the fortifications towards the sea along the Adriatic have been suspended since the occupation of ANCONA seemed imminent two months ago. At GAMBETTOLA there is a big fuel dump. SANTARCANGELO and its surroundings swarm with Germans. All the bridges between RAVENNA and RIMINI have been bored for mines. There are also many Germans in the zone of VERRUCHIO and VERGLANO. There are none in the Republic of S. MARINO, of which the neutrality has recently been confirmed by Kesselring. Beyond the Republic the country on the way to CARPEGNA is full of German troops. In the zone of SASSO CERVARO there are 2,000 militia of the Battaglione "M". Source was told that in CARPEGNA the Germans have worked hard preparing fortifications, particularly towards BADIA TEBALDA, which has been completely evacuated by the civilian population. There are Germans in the neighbourhood of URBANIA but in smaller numbers (P.W.B. Adms Ten. di V. 25.8.44).

VI. Morale.

Lt. Z. spoke with [illegible]

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(P.W.B. Rome Ten. di V. 25.8.44).

VI. Morale.

Lt. Z. spoke with one German near FERRARA who said "I should have been pleased if that bomb had hit Hitler". He noticed a strong anti-nazi feeling among all the German troops he met.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

In the LUCCA and PISTOIA zones the Germans have already begun retreating, and have obliged the peasants to cut all the olive trees and have been requisitioning every kind of foodstuff. Farmers of the district around LUCCA assured source that they had been without bread for days. Very severe orders forbid the Italians to give hospitality to Germans, but this does not prevent almost every German soldier

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from having his civilian suit ready.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

The diary of a Viennese soldier in the Germany, recently captured, shows how little sympathy he and his countrymen have with the Nazis. The diary starts -

"When I came back from my leave into hospital and was released from there, I thought: "Well you've got to go back to the front as cannon-fodder again. Oh, no my dear Hitler, Austrians arn't so stupid! We don't need to fight for our freedom, for we shan't get it as long as Germany't still alive. For us it's : Down with the Nazis, for they will never be satisfied as long as they live"..... I'm still only a young chap, but this much I know; until Germany is wiped off the map there will be no peace in the world, for these people want to conquer the whole world".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 31.8.44).

VII. Atrocities.

PORNO DI MASSA
The Germans massacred 60 persons at PORNO DI MASSA because Partisans had been there.

PESARO The Germans burnt some people in their houses as a reprisal for the killing of two Germans

FOSSOMBRONE A passer-by was compelled to hang a fellow-countryman with his own hands in order to avoid being hanged himself. The victim's crime was not known to him.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z 20.8.44).

PADOVA There were as many atrocities here as in other provinces, among them one at BAGNOLI, where a whole family of 8 people were killed for having harboured two English parachutists. They were burnt in their home by the Germans with flame-throwers The Fascists in this region however behaved even more cruelly than the Germans.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44)

SESTO FIORENTINO 10 April. A search for partisans was made, and although none was found, six people were dragged from their beds and killed in cold blood.

VAGLIA Five people were killed here for the same reason.

CASTELNUOVO DEI SABOIONI . 4th July. According to the anti-fascist clandestine press the Germans massacred 70 persons here on the above date.

PONTASSIEVA Thirteen persons killed here on the 20th June in reprisal for the killing of one German soldier. Among them was a child of 4.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

VIII. "Frontpost"

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

my dear Hitler, Austrians arn't so stupid! We don't need to fight for our freedom, for we shan't get it as long as Germany't still alive. For us it's : Down with the Nazis, for they will never be satisfied as long as they live"..... I'm still only a young chap, but this much I know; until Germany is wiped off the map there will be no peace in the world, for these people want to conquer the whole world".
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"Frontpost" is well circulated among German soldiers. A P.W. interrogated was very much impressed by the factual tone.
(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

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POLITICS

IX. Administration in CREMONA

The political and administrative organisation of the province of CREMONA centres round ROBERTO FARINACCI. With him he has Republican and military personalities who work in an atmosphere of perfect harmony with the Germans.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

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X. Parties in Trento and Bolzano.

In the cities the strongest parties are the Communist and Socialist. In the country the priests have enormous influence according to the local tradition. There is a strong desire for local autonomy in the TRENTO.
(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

XI. Feeling in FERRARA.

The spirit of the population is anti-German, but there is a strong Fascist nucleus in the province, supported by the middle classes.
(Lt. Z. P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

XII. Treatment of Jews.

A search was carried out among the Jewis prisoners of the S. VITTORE prison in MILAN during the afternoon of July 31st. The inspection, which included women, was exacting and ruthless. A Polish Jew who concealed a sum of money, was kicked to death, after being subjected to blows and 80 lashes. The head of the Jewish group was shut in an underground punishment cell after the search, being left five days without food and three days without water.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 21.8.44).

ECONOMICS.

XIII. Food Situation.

FERRARA Cattle requisitions carried out by the Germans are now causing a certain lack of milk, meat and cheese. Prices are still moderate:

Eggs 8 lire each, butter 300 lire a kg, Meat 160 lire per kg.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z. 20.8.44).

VERONA June Life is very dear and the population has to resort to the Black Market to live.

Bread is 4 lire the etto, and a pair of shoes cost 2,500 lire.
(P.W.B. Advanced C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA In July butter on the black market was 350 lire the kilo, oil was 500 lire the litre. Milk could only be obtained by bartering other goods for it. Sugar, pasta and rice were distributed every three months on a ration of - sugar 1.5 kg, pasta and rice 3 kg. The bread ration, of the worst quality and without salt, was 200 grams per day. Jam was rarely distributed.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

TURIN During the recent period a deterioration in the quality of bread has been noted. This is due mainly to the need for using large quantities of rye, which has been mixed with the grain in the proportion of 40 parts rye to 60 parts grain. Added to this there have been transport difficulties and some bakers have received

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(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 9.8.44).

XIV. Transport.

The tram services of the big towns, although reduced are mainly working.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

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FERRARA Ferrara station is completely destroyed. The railways in the zone are in the following condition:

Venice line. not working at all because of the interruption of the PONTELAGOSCURO bridge. Between the station of Ferrara and that of Pontelagoscuro there are hundreds of waggons that cannot be moved either in one direction or the other. Source had heard that TODT workers were reconstructing three of the bridges in the zone of FRANCOLINI (FERRARA). At the moment the columns cross the PO at night by means of pontoon bridges, which are taken away in the day time and placed on the banks of the river. The vehicles which have to be taken across by day are moved on large boats.

Rimini line. This is interrupted in several places (a month ago at five points) and previous to the last attack was only taking military traffic.

Modena line. Begins two stations beyond Ferrara, and source did not know how far it went.

Bologna line. Source did not know at what point it commenced, but he did know that all the traffic of the Romagna for Lombardy went on the MANTUA line.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

CHIVASSO The railway bridge on the river PO south east of CHIVASSO is being used. Traffic passes over it.

The MILAN-TURIN line is in full function. It is thought that the interruption between CHIVASSO and BRANDIZZO (south-east of CHIVASSO) has been mended.

On the MILAN-USMATE-BERGAMO line the railway bridge on the ADDA at PADERNO ROBIATE is interrupted. The traffic is deviated from USMATE on the line for LECCO and at CALOLZIOCORTE (7 km south south east of LECCO) on to the BERGAMO branch.

On the BERGAMO-ROVATO-BRESCIA lines the railway bridge has been reopened.

The MILAN-TREVIGLIO-BRESCIA-VERONA line has been re-opened. On the ROVATO-VERONA (VENICE) line only military convoys are allowed.

The railway bridge on the MINCIO at PESCHIERA DEL GARDA, many times attacked by the Allied airforce without success is in full working order.
(Italian Official Source 20.8.44).

XV. Industry.

The output of factories in northern Italy has only been reduced by about 5% as a result of air raids (up to June 44). The textile industries, sugar refineries, and shoe factories have hardly been affected at all. Most industrialists in the north are keeping their production as low as possible and conserving their stocks. These are considerable, as export to foreign countries has ceased and distribution in Italy is hindered by transport difficulties. As regards the distribution of goods in northern Italy, nobody pays any attention to the decrees issued by the

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MILAN The FALK steelworks at SESTO S. GIOVANNI, employing more than a thousand workers, have suffered no bomb damage up to June 44.

The MARELLI factory at the southern extremity of SESTO S. GIOVANNI has never been hit. It employs about a thousand workers (June 44).

The TECNOMASIO ITALIANO BROWN -BOVERI works have not been hit in any raid (up to June 44) They at present employ about a thousand workers.

The INNOCENTI factories in the eastern suburbs of MILAN had not been hit up to June 44. They employ from 1,500 to 2,000 workers.

CREMONA

The ARMAGUERRA factory produces ORIANI MG, BERETTA MP and various types of ammunition. It employs about 1,500 workers, working three eight-hour shifts.

The OFFICINA MECCANICA ALDIGHIERI produces engines and chassis for trucks. It employs about 500 workers in three shifts of eight hours each.

The OFFICINE MECCANICHE FERRABOLI produce tractors and agricultural machinery, employing about 200 workers in one nine-hour shift.

The OFFICINA SALVATORE DOTTI is working exclusively for the Germans. It produces methane gas. Source could give no details concerning number of workers and output.

The OFFICINA DOTT. MARIO STORTI produces varnishes, methylated spirit, tincture of iodine and other pharmaceutical products. Most of its output goes to the Germans.

CASTEL MAGGIORE

The firm of BUINI and GRANDI employs about a thousand workers and produces electrical equipment.

CESENA

The Cesena Sulphur refinery, a subsidiary of the MONTECATINI concern, lies immediately north of the railway station, with which it is connected by a siding. Since early January the refinery has been practically unproductive, owing to the lack of raw material caused by the bombing of RIMINI station and by the shortage of M... (illegible).
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XVI. Finance.

Republican and Nazi officials are anxious to get hold of gold and as much as 12,000 lire has been paid for a gold sovereign. The object of this is to accumulate funds against the evil day when flight to Switzerland will be imperative.

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BRESCIA. June 44. Owing to the inflation people have lost confidence in paper money and are endeavouring to buy goods of all kinds. For some time past, depositors have not been allowed to withdraw more than 30% of their accounts in cash, and to do even this a permit from the Provincial authorities is necessary.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XVII. Agriculture.

MILAN. June - Chemical fertilizers were practically unobtainable and could be bought on the black market only in very small quantities at very high prices.

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Agricultural machinery in the factories and warehouses of Milan had been requisitioned and taken away to Germany, but source believed that machinery belonging to the farmers has not been requisitioned.
(C.S.D.I.C. report).

XVIII: Social Conditions and Public Health.

MILAN Citizens who have been bombed out receive assistance from the authorities. Last January source received 10,000 lire as a first payment for the value of a house of his which had been destroyed. In the early days those who had been bombed out were accommodated in the elementary schools, but this is no longer possible (May 44) and they are now evacuated to BONIROLA, ABBIATEGRASSO, VIGEVANO, BUSTO ARSIZIO, VARESE, COMO, GALLARATE etc.

Health conditions are still good (May 44), and most kinds of medical supplies can be obtained. Both the old and the new OSPEDALE MAGGIORE, as well as the military hospital is still functioning.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XIX. Air Raid Damage.

FERRARA Damage has been pretty extensive, especially to industry and communications The railway hardly works at all any more. Mail service is almost everywhere carried out by courriers on foot. A letter takes an average of 15 days even for short distances.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z. 20.8.44).

VERONA In the allied raid on 7th July the central station was hit, the industrial quarter and the railway damaged. The civilian hospital was also hit, causing 50 casualties. Another raid on the same districts was made on the 8th July, and railway traffic was brought to a standstill.
(P.W.B. Advanced C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA There have been eight raids up to 10th July. A good many non-military objectives have been hit, with corresponding effect on civilian morale.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

LABOUR.

XX. Corruption in the TODT Organisation.

A Polish PW, formerly of the Todt organisation, recently interrogated, confirmed that the organisation is corrupt from top to bottom. Senior officials are interested only in lining their own pockets and assist each other in misusing the high priority which the organisation enjoys and in falsifying accounts.

The favourite means of falsification is that of time sheets and ration strengths. In order to get the required number of bodies, the O.T. is willing to take anyone and as a consequence it attracts a great many undesirable elements (from a German point of view). Having got the desired numbers, slacking and absenteeism [illegible]

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The favourite means of falsification is that of time sheets and ration strengths In order to get the required number of bodies, the O.T. is willing to take anyone and as a consequence it attracts a great many undesirable elements (from a German point of view) Having got the desired numbers, slacking and absenteeism on the part of the worker is welcomed rather than checked, because of the gains which accrue to individuals.

In Italy only about one-third of the personnel on the firm's payroll were at work. The remaining two thirds had only joined to get the necessary O.T. pass. Rations and clothing were, however, always drawn for the full number and the surplus could then be disposed of to the civilian population for private gain. In spite of this absenteeism, total working hours were always ballooned up in order to draw increased pay.

ANTON DI SPERANDIO, for example, would make out a false receipt from Italian labourers - ostensibly hired for special work- and would so pocket ten thousand lire, less the rake-off claimed by the Lagerfuehrer who obtained the necessary signatures. Thanks to language difficulties, bookkeeping was a farce anyway.

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With corruption abroad, it was too much to expect good work, and the Italian technicians had a happy knack of building defences incorrectly and not in the intended places, by way of revenge or as an attempt at sabotage. Several were threatened with prison because of this.

The Italian workers had their own form of revenge, for as soon as conditions became hard they deserted to the partisans. The Germans supplied a guard of ten German and ten Italian soldiers under a German Cpl over the PRATO ALEONIC camp where source was working, but before long the NCO concluded a non-agression pact with the partisans. The understanding was that he should not be molested and that he would help to get the outstanding balance of wages for some of the workers who had been cheated of it for a long time. He succeeded in getting it on the same day of asking (13 June 44) because he pointed out that otherwise the men would desert. The Italians concerned lasted out only 24 hours for a rumour came round that the firm was to retire and build fortifications in the ALPS and they deserted en bloc.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report 10.8.44).

XXI. Fascist Syndicates.

The Fascist Syndicate is a mere myth and works only as a police imposition. The working classes are controlled from the clandestine front, which organises strikes on a large scale, among which was a recent one in TURIN (in the second half of July). A fact worthy of note is that the industrialists are bound up with the C.N.L. to which they look for future government. The C.N.L. supplies a subsidy of 2000 lire per month to the families of partisans or deported workers.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXII. Fascists in Ferrara.

Dott NINI ZANARDI - Via Romei (Todt)
Ing. MORI (one of the founders of the F.R.)
OLAO GAGGIOLI - Cons le Generale M.V.S.N. ex-member of the Fascist Grand Council.
GIULIO and ARRIGO RIVANI - Via Palestro - collaborators with the Germans.
Ing. ZACCARINI - collaborator of the Todt.
TONINELLI
Rag. CAMPI - Vice Fiduciario of the G.F.
The brothers BONETTI, Spies of the O.V.R.A., torturers.

The Prefect is VEZZALINI, and is assisted by the Chief of the Fascist Gestapo in Ferrara (name unknown) who is a real criminal.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

XXIII. Fascist

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XXIII. Founders of the fascio of Padova.

Capt. DUMAS SOGLI, Squadrist - now a member of the German SS.
DIEGO - squadrist - guilty of the death of a boy in Padova, stupid type.

Prof. CARLO ANTI, late Rector of the University.

ALLEGRO ALFREDO - squadrist, ex-commander of the Muti, ex-director of the UDA
ALLEGRO NELLO - squadrist, Political Commissar of Camposanpiero, wears the uniform of a Lieutenant.
ALLEGRO TONINO - squadrist, spy
CALAFATTI ENZIO, of the German SS - blond with a moustache

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CROPPI ORESTE - officer in the GNR of Padova.
RINALDI - spy, employee at the town hall of Padova.

SACCHETTO ALEARDO
SIMEONI ATTILIO
CARENZA SAVERIO — Fascists of long standing who have used their political position to reach the highest posts in the educational world.

VIVARELLI — President of the Special Tribunal of BOLOGNA, now Federal Commissioner of PADOVA

CAPT. DINO PRISCO - Squadrist.

(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

XXIV. Fascist Chiefs in Veneto.

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA.

Dr. CIMBERLE
Prof. VELO
DE FACCI
BERTIZZOLO

(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

XXV. Carita's Assistants in Florence.

BIAGGINI
CHIAROTTI — Members of Carita's SS
Also a railwaymen named CASADEI (torturer).

(P.W.B. Advanced)

XXVI. Genova collaborator

A certain BASILE is the principal collaborator with the Germans in GENOVA now.
(P.W.B. Memo 30.8.44).

XXVII. Military Personalities.

Brig. JALLA — O.C. Regional Military HQ ALESSANDRIA (March 44)
Gen. MESCA — Inspector of GNR MILAN (May 44)
Gen CASTRIOTA " " " TURIN "

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Federal Commissioner of PADOVA

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Col. MISSIALE OC GNR Legion TURIN (May 44)

(C.S.D.I.C.)

XXVIII. Well known Fascists at Bologna. 1177

GIUSEPPE AMBROSI , Proprietor of the "Nuova Italia" who asked German authorities to be allowed to be present when 10 Italian patriots were shot.

CAPT AIELLO
CAPT LEMBO of the Political Police.

PROF. COPPOLA, Director of the University, who would not allow non-Fascist students to be admitted to examinations.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 21.8.44).
SECRET

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 30th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 22.

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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 22.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

30th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -No 22

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

The "Carlo Rosselli" Brigades. The following brigades of patriots have been orgenised by the Action Party in Tuscany:-

Rosselli Brigade No 1.(about 650 men) operating in the area BAGNI DI LUCCA, VAL DI LIMA (eastwards), ALPE TRE POTENZE since December 43. It sustained many encounters with enemy troops coming from LUCCA and PISTOIA. The Brigade HQ has been in contact with 5 Army agents and received many supplies by parachute. About July 14 when German units were occupying the Gothic Line positions in the area, it was forced to dissolve through mopping up operations. Some elements moved towards PRATO and PISTOIA. A very efficient unit under the command of a certain Ducceschi intended to reach LIVORNO and put itself at the disposal of the Allied Armies. No further news has since been heard of it.

Rosselli Brigade No 2.operating in the MUGELLO region; armed with Italian weapons (light MG, and also some Mausers and Parabellum) No exact news has recently been heard of it, but it seems that it sustained a considerable fighting period with German units.

Rosselli Brigade No 3. with three companies of about 100 men each. Operated previously in the area of MONTESPERTOLI, where 100 men have been left under the command of Capt. DEL MONACO (battle name BERTINI) 100 men (including a very efficient squad commanded by a certain BERTO) in the FLORENCE area, under the command of Capt VIVARELLI (HQ at MONTICELLI). Another 120 men are spread along the Northern perimiter of FLORENCE in the area of PONTE ALLE MOSSE: well armed with lt. M.G. they moved there a few days ago from the area SCANDICCI BELLOSGUARDO (9.8.44).

Rosselli Brigade No 4. being constituted under the command of Major NARDI, who already has 155 men. HQ at le due Strade. Possibly this unit will include the reorganised men of Cap. [illegible]

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1175

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Rosselli Brigade No 5. About 1000 men distributed in the 4 areas of FLORENCE (OLTRARNO is one of these areas). They are included in a stronger force of about 3,000 men (most of them Communists -200-300 of other parties), armed and with amunition for two hrs.

The Action Party also has an autonomous unit of about 150 men at CAGGIO MONTANO operating behind the Gotnic Line. Because of its location it will probably fall under the jurisdiction of the Partisan

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Military HQ of EMILIA.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 9.8.44).

Allied Instructions to Partisans.

Instructions are being issued to partisans by the Allied radio and by the "Italia Combatte" programme, particularly to those who fought in FLORENCE , urging them to continue their fight towards the north and to look out for certain divisional signs of the Germans. The enemy will be forced to use the roads and will be hampered by patriot activity from the hills on either side. Out of the whole of Italy the Appennines will probably afford the best situation for patriot revenge on the enemy.

Warnings have also been given to the patriots of MILAN and TURIN not to let their enthusiam at the success of the patriots in PARIS run away with them, but to await instructions from the Allied Command. (P.W.B. Rome 25.8.44).

Partisan organisations in the north

The Garibaldi Brigades, 3 to 4000 strong, operate under the control of the C.D.L. and are intended to be apolitical; it seems, however that they are all of Communist tendencies, and are in close touch with the Communist party.

TUSCANY Mountains of CARRARESE: One Garibaldi Brigade has just been formed. In the same locality operates a small but active group commanded by a British Captain.

Three months ago there were three Garibaldi Brigades in the mountains south of the road FORLI* FAENZA. One brigade only exists now owing to severe German reprisals.

In the provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA the G.A.P. are so numerous that they have formed two G.A.P. Brigades.

BOLOGNA Prov. of BOLOGNA: 1 G.A.P. Brigade with its H.Q in VADO South of MODENA and
REGGIO EMILIA 1 Garibaldi Brigade very strong and efficient. HQ in ABETONE.

EMILIA Prov. of PARMA: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "BICCELLI" not very efficient.

Prov. of PIACENZA: 1 strong military organisation.

LOMBARDY

The partisan movement has been rather weak. The great majority of partisan groups is controlled by the Party of

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LOMBARDY Prov. of PIACENZA: 1 strong military organisation.

The partisan movement has been rather weak. The great majority of partisan groups is controlled by the Party of action. Great activity is deployed by the Communist Party among the workers and the organisation of strikes and sabotage has been more successful in LOMBARDY than in PIEDMONT.

PIEDMONT There are seven Garibaldi Brigades in Piedmont.

VAL DI LANZA	: 3
VAL DI SUSA	: 2
BIELLESE	: 1
NOVARESE	: 1

Two new brigades are being formed in the Province of TURIN. In addition to these formations there are several groups of the Party of Action and monarchist bands commanded by regular officers.

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VENETO Mountains of SCHIO VAL D'ASSO: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "FRATELLI BANDIERA"
Province of VITTORIO VENETO : 1 Garibaldi Brigade "NINO NANETTI"

FRIULI 1 Garibaldi Brigade.

TRIESTE 1 Garibaldi Brigade who works in close liaison with the Jugoslave.

TRENTINO In the Trentino the German influence is very strong and therefore it is extremely difficult to organise resistance. An Austrian Catholic Party exists in TRENTO and contacted some time ago the Communist Party. Several meetings took place, but a base of agreement could not be reached because of the strong nationalist feeling of the Austrian Catholics. (P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

Appeal by "Green Flames".

The "Green Flames" (Fiamme Verdi) have issued a patriotic appeal to the partisans and others containing the following paragraphs:

"Men of the valleys - we count on your collaboration, we are sure that you are all our friend . We nevertheless give you the following counsel and directions: The "Green Flames" are part of the regular army of the Italian Government. Each member, before he joins, takes an oath not to do anything against liberty or justice, nothing that will be contrary to moral and religious laws or military honour. Whoever breaks this oath is punished according to martial law. Those who, using threats and violence, commit crimes of various kinds in the mountain districts are not partisans; they are true brigands and robbers

The "Green Flames" will defend you against such people, they will fire and justice will be done. Do not let yourselves be deceived by the astuteness of the Republicans, who come to you pretending to be partisans, ragged and famished, making insolent declarations against Fascism. Be on your guard! Many have fallen into this trap. Make a note of all the wrongs you endure for having given aid to the King and the partisans; if possible have the statement witnessed and signed by persons of repute. Make a note of anyone who secretly works against the "Green Flames", who reaps unjust profits, who gives unnecessary help to the Germans or the Fascists. When liberty is restored Justice will be done. Collect small stocks of food and put them in a safe place. They will be useful to you in the critical moments that may come during the German retreat. Do not hide these stores near your houses, because there they would be easily detected. Anyone who helps the Germans or the Republicans will also be considered a traitor. If you are forced to collaborate, find some means of doing damage. 1174
("Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

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("Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

Petriots Incite "Wehrmacht" to Mutiny.

An appeal has been issued by the partisans which has been widely distributed among German troops in Italy. It is addressed "To the officers, N.C.Os and men of the German Armed Forces," and begs them to "listen to the words of truth addressed to you by the Italian patriots in your own interests and in those of your country and your families". It continues "Hitler's mad adventures are leading Germany to utter disaster. You are losing the war because your cause is unjust.... Events are changing from one moment to another. The Soviet Armies, in their victorious advance of liberation, are nearing the German frontiers; the invasion of Europe by the armies of Britain and the U.S.A. has been victoriously begun. In Italy, the soldiers of General Alexander, bravely supported by Italian patriots who now

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form an army, are victoriously advancing up the peninsula driving the German troops, whose fate is irremediably sealed, towards the north. .... The fate of Nazism has been sealed. There are plain and striking signs that the end is near. There are, in the first place, the events of July 20th. Hitler escaped death by a mere chance. .... It is a case of organised revolt... Terror reigns in Germany.. The Nazi leaders are only able to govern by proclaiming a state of siege. The SS has begun to attack the Wehrmacht..... Give up the useless fight. Hand over your arms to the Italian patriots, or turn them with decision against the SS and the Gestapo, the true enemies of the German people..... Our cause is the same as yours... liberation Death to Nazism! Long live Liberty! Long live peace! National Liberation Committee of northern Italy".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

Partisan activities in general.

LIGURIA Will the Allies land also in LIGURIA? The entry into PIEDMONT from the sea is open owing to present partisan activities there. From IMPERIA the Germans attempted mopping-up operations in the direction of the partisan-occupied coast. The partisans, however, repelled the Germans at DIANO CASTELLO, capturing a considerable amount of war material, as well as at the part of DIANO MARINA and several other localities. A German and Fascist motorised column consisting of 1000 was ambushed at PIEVE DI TECO, and 100 men were lost. In the NERVIA Valley, Germans and Fascists pillaged and burned villages, but were finally chased away. Partisans captured the GNR barracks at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and BARGONE, including an arms depot, and large food stocks ready to be sent to Germany. At BORDIGHERA, partisans captured a wheat truck ready to leave for FRANCE. At BARGAGLI they captured three German NCOs and liberated a group of 60 men who were about to be sent to Germany. At PIANDEPRE they overpowered the garrison.
(Tribune de Geneve 15.8.44).

PIACENZA In an encounter near FARINI D'OLMO in the Province of PIACENZA, the patriots have killed 22 German soldiers and taken much booty in the way of arms and amunition. There have been patrol actions on the Via Emilia, especially in the district of FIRENZUOLA. Near CIRIE, in the Province of TURIN patriots have interrupted an electric cable which served the war industries used by the Germans. The railway TURIN-MODANE has been damaged for a long distance near GOLLEGNO. Sabotage has also been committed near TORTONA against the lines of communication and some highway bridges have been damaged. Other attacks against the enemy lines of communication have been made at NARZOLE in PIEDMONTE. Important factories which were working for the Germans have been rendered useless after the damage inflicted by theG.A.P. to the electric installations, also at SESTRI LEVANTE and TRIGOSO.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

SUSTRI An enemy convoy was drawn into an ambush near CHERELE.

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Death to Nazism! Long live liberty! Long live peace!
National Liberation Committee of northern Italy".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

Partisan activities in general.

LIGURIA Will the Allies land also in LIGURIA? The entry into PIEDMONT from the sea is open owing to present partisan activities there. From IMPERIA the Germans attempted mopping-up operations in the direction of the partisan-occupied coast. The partisans, however, repelled the Germans at DIANO CASTELLO, capturing a considerable amount of war material, as well as at the port of DIANO MARINA and several other localities. A German and Fascist motorised column consisting of 1000 was ambushed at PIEVE DI TECO, and 100 men were lost. In the NERVIA Valley, Germans and Fascists pillaged and burned villages, but were finally chased away. Partisans captured the GNR barracks at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and BARGONE, including an arms depot, and large food stocks ready to be sent to Germany. At BORDIGHERA, partisans captured a wheat truck ready to leave for FRANCE. At BARGAGLI they captured three German NCOs and liberated a group of 60 men who were about to be sent to Germany. At PIANDEPRE they overpowered the garrison.
(Tribune de Geneve 15.8.44).

PIACENZA In an encounter near FARINI D'OLMO in the Province of PIACENZA, the patriots have killed 22 German soldiers and taken much booty in the way of arms and amunition. There have been patrol actions on the Via Emilia, especially in the district of FIRENZUOLA. Near CIRIE, in the Province of TURIN patriots have interrupted an electric cable which served the war industries used by the Germans. The railway TURIN-MODANE has been damaged for a long distance near GOLLEGNO. Sabotage has also been committed near TORTONA against the lines of communication and some highway bridges have been damaged. Other attacks against the enemy lines of communication have been made at NARZOLE in PIEDMONT. Important factories which were working for the Germans have been rendered useless after the damage inflicted by theG.A.P. to the electric installations, also at SESTRI LEVANTE and TRIGOSO..
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

CHERELE An enemy convoy was drawn into an ambush near CHERELE. During the encounter which lasted two hours, the Germans lost 7 big motor vehicles. A Nazi Major was killed. The patriots also made 59 prisoners, 14 of which belonged to the TODT organisation.
ASIAGO Enemy troops fell into an ambush near Asiago, losing, between dead and wounded 59 men, many arms and a great quantity of ammunition. Only one patriot was killed and five were wounded
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FOSSANO Thirty men from the Garibaldi Brigade carried off from Fossano powder factory 15 quintals of explosives, and subsequently used it to blow up the prison gates and liberate 75 political

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788621

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TURIN Life in TURIN depends on the partisans, as even Stampa is forced to admit. The newspaper complains that the city's entire electricity supply is controlled by patriots who have seized all the power plants and are able to deliver or cut off power as they like. Thus the large factories in Turin working for the Wehrmacht have stopped work. Stampa further accuses partisans of hindering Piedmontese farmers from delivering cattle and cereals and admits that the Germans are unable to take anything because of the partisans who control the countryside around the city.
(Arbeiter Zeitung, Basle 18.8.44).

MILAN In spite of advanced curfew hours in MILAN, owing to recent disturbances, two members of the Black Brigades have been shot by cyclists, who escaped. Other cyclists seriously wounded a marine. According to Fascist reports a pitched battle south of PAVIA cost the partisans 15 dead. German SS detachments arrived for the first time in VALSOLDA and the frontier region north of LAKE LUGANO, where the maquis has been established for a long time. Numerous arrests have been made and several executions are reported.
(Tribune de Geneve 12.8.44).

PISTOLA Behind the German ranks in the neighbourhood of PISTOIA, big patriot units, with the help of the Allied aviation, have given open battle to the enemy, inflicting notable losses of both men and means. The activity of the patriots has upset all the German communications and the supplies from the north to the front lines.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

BRESCIA Mussolini's ex-private secretary OSVALDO SEBASTIANI, who became the President of the Corte dei Conti Republicani, has been captured by the patriots at PASSIRANO; in the province of BRESCIA. After a brief trial he was executed.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44.)

RAVENNA, FORLI and BOLOGNA The patriots who were operating in the RAVENNA zone, FORLI and BOLOGNA, in a month of activity have inflicted serious damage on the enemy. They have blown up 5 bridges, interrupted 16 railway lines, destroyed 4 armoured cars, and 43 other motor vehicles, damaged 60 other motor vehicles, burnt two trains loaded with paraffin, destroyed an electric station and damaged seven others, killed 212 German soldiers and 10 Fascist militia, disarmed 165 Fascists, captured 15 machine guns, 279 rifles, 16 quintals of ammunition, 53 revolvers and hand grenades.
(P.W.B. Rome 21-8.44).

Italo-Yugoslav Co-operation. A new agreement has been reached between the Italian Committee of National Liberation and the Yugoslav Liberation Committee, which provides for the publication of a joint newspaper for mixed brigades etc. On the frontier zone a single Committee has been formed from Italian and Yugoslav partisans.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 13.8.44).

1173

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

...Lavoro, Basle 18.8.44).

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1173

Reprisals.

LAKE MAGGIORE According to well-informed sources at FONDOTOCE on Lake Maggiore ten days ago the GNR shot 42 people, including one woman, accused of having sheltered partisans. The bodies were buried in a field. For the same reason a whole family was condemned to death at the end of July. The control along the 3 km frontier strip has been tightened: all persons found beyond a fixed line are now shot without trial.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 9.8.44).

SECRET

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No pardon is given to partisans taken prisoner by the German army. They are shot without exception, and even hostages in a concentration camp must often expiate their sympathy with the partisans in the same way. Owing to the shortage of men, the German Army's punitive expeditions to the mountain valleys are now rather unsuccessful. As soon as a punitive expedition has left the area, partisans re-occupy the position.
(News Digest 15.8.44).

The Fascist campaign against the partisans has now been launched in the SOLDA and CAVARGNA valleys between the eastern arm of LAKE LUGANO and the Swiss TICINO and GRISON frontiers. German SS are being employed. Several villages are already occupied , and numerous executions have been carried out. Partisans have withdrawn to the higher valleys. Further south Fascists try to prevent partisans approaching the Swiss frontier by felling the woods along the border. This measure is still in its initial stage.
(Gazette de Lausanne 15.8.44).

NOVARA. A decree was issued on July 18th by BARBERA, Prefect of Novara under the heading "Reprisals for acts of brigandage". The following instructions were given - for "the maintenance of public order".

1. Firstly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic killed by the bandits, three members, chosen from the lists already compiled, of families of deserters, defaulters or maquis elements in the region in which the crime occurred will be immediately executed.

2. Secondly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic abducted by partisans, five of the aforesaid relatives will be seized as hostages.

3. Thirdly, for every act of plunder, sabotage of destruction perpetrated to the detriment of the Fascists or members of the Armed Republican Forces, the property and goods of the above-mentioned will be confiscated.

4. Fourthly, for every act proved under any of these categories the population of the Commune or region where the crime was committed will, failing information being received or assistance given within 24 hours, leading to the aprehension of the culprits, be liable to a fine, varying from 100,000 lire to one million lire, according to the gravity of the offence.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

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(News Digest 15.8.44).

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Transocean, reporting from VENICE on 13.8.44, declares "Police investigation of the bomb outrage at the Palazzo Giustiniani, HQ of of the GNR, led to the discovery of a central organisation which directed several groups of partisans and saboteurs. Among those arrested are members of Venice society. The number of people killed in the outrage has now risen to 13.

Nothwithstanding the recent mopping up operations carried out by Fascists, partisan bands gather throughout the VALTELLINA, one of their tasks being the hindering of the destruction of the dykes, and electrical power houses serving MILAN and the vast surrounding region.
(Popolo e Liberta 17.8.44).

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III. Allied Recognition of Partisans.

At the first meeting in Rome, the Allied Commission of Control has given ample recognition to the war contribution of the patriots and the Italian Navy against the common enemy.

Colonel Shipp has declared that, particularly in the battle for the liberation of Florence, the Tuscan patriots have given proof of great courage and have proved themselves of great help to the Allies. Rear Admiral Morgan expressed high praise for the proofs furnished by all the Italian Navy since her participation in the war at the side of the United Nations. He also said that he had proposed an officer of the Italian Navy for one of the highest British awards of valour.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.8.44).

At the side of the Polish troops and under the command of the 8th Army the C.I.L. has taken part in numerous actions on the Adriatic sector. From the hard and victorious battle for the liberation of the Filottrano, to the forcing of the river Musone, from the part taken in the battle for Ancona to the occupation of Jesi.

The fight for FILOTTRANO, in which the NEMBC took part, was the most violent of the last operations of the C.I.L, which gained on this occasion fresh praise from General Sir Oliver Leese. He sent the following message to General UTILI. "My very best congratulations to you and your troops for the success of the conquest of FILOTTRANO after hard fighting -"
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Organisation.

G.N.R. The Gazetta Ufficiale publishes the following Decree of the Duce:

Article 1. The GNR becomes part of the first fighting arm of the National Republican Army. Its present police tasks will cease from December 31st 1944.
(Italian Home Service 14.8.44).

For reasons that are strictly personal General RICCI has asked to be relieved of the Command of the GNR and his request has been granted. The Duce has expressed his gratitude to him for his work during the first phase of the organisation of this armed formation, and has confirmed him in his office as president of the ONB. From today (20.8.44) the Duce himself has temporarily taken over command of the guard and has issued instructions to officers of the GNR which, in accordance with the law, ranks as the first fighting service of the National Republican Army.
(Italian Home Service 20.8.44).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 0121

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1172

V. Recruitment.

As from September 1st, voluntary enrolment in the Air Force AA will be re-opened. All Italian citizens between the ages of 17 and 50 are eligible for enrolment.
(Italian Home Service 20.8.44).

The recruiting centre for the second instructional course of the Women's Auxiliary Service for the 10th MAS Flotilla will open in VENICE between August 20th and 30th. All women between 16 and 35 will thus be able, if suitable and physically fit, to join the glorious 10th Flotilla. (Italian Home Service 19.8.44).

SECRET

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A special recruiting campaign for the 9th Assault Detachment has been inaugurated. Recruits, who must belong to the 1927-1909 classes inclusive, are to report to the recruiting centre for Bersaglieri volunteers in SAVONA.
(Sera Milan 7.8.44)

A large number of the 8,000 soldiers belonging to the "Monte Rosa" Division vanished in transit from the BRENNER to MILAN.
(Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

The Italian Armed Forces have followed the German example by establishing Propaganda Companies, whose members, both officers and men, report for the Italian press and radio and take photographs and films. Their first reports, just published in the newspapers, describe the journey of Italian divisions to the front. Italian war reporters were formerly employed by publishing houses on a private salary basis. Most of them wore Party uniforms and did their journalistic work without actually taking part in operations.
(Transocean 13.8.44).

It is announced that the "Corpo di Guardia di Finanza" will be disbanded on August 15th. Officers and men will be given the choice of enlisting in the GNR or of being deported to Germany.
(Popolo e Liberta 11.8.44).

Deportation of Disobedient Officers According to a reliable source, 2000 Italian Customns Officers who refused to obey the recently issued order either to join the Militia or enrol for labour service were deported to Germany. Half their number, however, succeeded in escaping and joined the partisans.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 16.8.44).

VI. Black Brigades in Action.

All the Directors of the Federations take turns in commanding the Black Brigades. Amongst the numerous brigades which went into action during the last few days, are the 31st Brigade of GENOA and the 7th Brigade of VERCELLI.

On the 9th of August, the 1st Black Brigade "Ricciarelli" captured several partisan bandits, among whom was the son of General PAGLIERI. The bandits were shot. One company of the same brigade captured three rebels on August 21st.

The 7th Vercelli Brigade captured a group of deserters, who did not answer the call to arms. It then carried out a mopping-up operation, organising reprisals against the murderers of a Fascist.

The 6th Novara Brigade, on the 11th of August, engeged rebel forces near BRIANA. In the course of the fighting, three rebels were killed and others wounded. No losses were sustained by the Black Brigade.

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A member of the 18th PADUA Black Brigade, on the 17th of August attacked a truck carrying ten armed bandits. The outlaws fled, but two were captured by the Fascists, together with the truck. On the 18th August, a patrol encountered the well-known rebel GALVANI. When ordered to stop, Galvani fled. The patrol opened fire, wounding Galvani, who later died in hospital.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759031

SECRET
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On the 18th of August, members of the 22nd VICENZA Black Brigade carried out mopping-up operations in the village of NALO. The village was at first encircled with the cooperation of the National Republican Guard. Then began the mopping-up operations in the village houses. Fifteen men were arrested to account for themselves, and eight hostages were taken. On the 9th of August the 22nd RAVENNA Black Brigade shot five anti-Fascists, responsible for the murder of the Fascist GUSTAVO SOLDOLI.
(P.W.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

GERMANS

VII. Security Measures.

Martial law has been imposed on the following towns: BOLOGNA, FERRARA, FORLI, MODENA, PARMA, PIACENZA, RAVENNA, and REGGIO DI EMILIA. Kesselring announces that all acts of sabotage will be repressed with the greatest severity. Families of men who have passed over to the resistance movement will be executed.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 18.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that in the Italian TICINO valley the Germans have blown up bridges in order to control the region. Only some bridges were spared.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

After the bombardment of SPEZIA the Germans during the Spring and early Summer of this year removed large quantities of material from the naval dockyards at SPEZIA to various places in the CARRARA area for safe keeping: this material consisted chiefly of copper, nickel, tin, rubber and electric cables. Since then all these materials have been sent away by train to Germany.
(8th Army Report 18.8.44).

The village of MASLIANICO, three km north of PONTE CHIASSO, was evacuated on the afternoon of August 17th on the order of the Wehrmacht. The village is one km from the Swiss village of VACALLO. From Swiss territory a large number of the inhabitants could be observed leaving with suitcases. This exodus caused great distress in the region. The evacuees will be deported to Germany, a measure taken in accordance with the decision made for the occupation of the three km frontier strip by the German and Fascist Armed Forces.
(Gazette de Lausanne 18.8.44).

TheGerman authorities have forbidden the use of electric current by the civil population in the operation zone, in a strip of about 120-130 km from the front.
(Italian Official Source 21.8.44)

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VIII. Behaviour.

The Nazis and Fascists use the following system in order to discover whether the inhabitants of a district are in favour of the patriots or not. Republicans disguised as patriots are sent to the

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(News Digest 21.8.44).

"Not only do they plunder the peasants' cottages, stealing or burning or smashing whatever they find, but moreover they kill all the men they find. Yesterday for example they killed near here (Volpaia) fully 130 people and burned them after killing them.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775037

Among those were three priests, engineers, old men and children. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that the German Command in northern Italy has ordered the requisition of bicycles, radios and sewing machines.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

IX. Germans V. Mussolini- Industrialist Arrested.

The German authorities are reported to have arrested in BRESCIA BERRETTA, an important industrialist and owner of machine-gun factory working for the German army, and also his son. The main charge against them was that they had delivered 1,000 rifles to the Republican army on Mussolini's personal order. The son, who is an eminent engineer, was deported to Germany.
(Gazette de Lausanne 18.8.44).

X. Propaganda.

An appendix to a communique of the O.K.W. of the 19th June 1944, captured in Italy shows what German troops in Italy are told by their officers concerning the use of V-1. It begins:

"As we learn from London through neutral reports, the English Prime Minister has appointed a special commission, composed of technicians, engineers and chemists, whose task it will be to find ways and means effectively to counter the new German explosive-weapons.

In the meantime, the attack on the English capital, after three times 24 hours, continues without a pause. According to reports from a Swedish newspaper, work in the large factories in the London area is at a complete standstill"..... "Robot, the mechanical man, is what Reuter calls the weapon whose effects the English island, to start with, is now beginning to feel and the employment of which caused Parliament to be convened at once.".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

XI. Atrocities.

CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI Following the killing of two Nazi soldiers the Nazis erected 17 gallows in PREMARIACCO, seven in ORSARIA, both hamlets near CIVIDALE DEL FRIULE, hanging 24 political prisoners from the region whom they had informed that they were going to work in Germany. The population was forced to watch the execrable spectacle.
(Libera Stampa 12.8.44).

OVINDOLI (AQUILA) The German troops burnt alive two Indian prisoners who had escaped. In spite of petitions by the parson and the [illegible] the German Command did not even allow their identities to be ascertained.
(Civil Censorship Summary 3.8.44).

GUARDISTALLO (LIVORNO) The Germans shot not 71 innocent people in cold blood before they left.
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

FLORENCE "Many poor little children [illegible] off by the [illegible]

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(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

XI. Atrocities.

CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI Following the killing of two Nazi soldiers the Nazis erected 17 gallows in PREMARIACCO, seven in ORSARIA, both hamlets near CIVIDALE DEL FRIULE, hanging 24 political prisoners from the region whom they had informed that they were going to work in Germany. The population was forced to watch the execrable spectacle.
(Libera Stampa 12.8.44).

OVINDOLI (AQUILA) The German troops burnt alive two Indian prisoners who had escaped. In spite of petitions by the parson and the ... the German Command did not even allow their identities to be ascertained.
(Civil Censorship Summary 3.8.44).

GUARDISTALLO (LIVORNO) The Germans shot 71 innocent people in cold blood before they left.
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

FLORENCE "Many poor little children had their tiny little hands cut off by the retreating Nazis. This is no exageration but a cruel truth, not to mention other heart-breaking crimes".
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

CICALAIA LARI(PISA) At S. MINIATO they availed themselves of the Bishop's authority, and had all the population gathered in the Chiesa Maggiore; when it was full of innocent people they locked the doors and

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set the mines to work. The result was : 60 dead and 300 wounded!"
(Civil Censorship Extract. 16.8.44)

POLITICS

XII. Friction between anti-Fascist parties in north

Constant friction appears to exist between the two most important parties in northern Italy: Communist and Azione. The Partito d'Azione is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT; it has the support of several regular officers, who are very much disliked by the Communists. It is said that while the main task of the Communists is to fight the Germans and Fascists the Partito d'Azione does not cooperate and is more keen to deal with politics, thus hampering the resistance movement.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

XIII. Special Commissioners for threatened zones.

The Duce, in view of the growing difficulties of liaison between central and provincial offices, and in consideration of the particular nature of certain territories of the Social Republic that have become zones of operations or are in the immediate rear of the front, has set up two Special Commissions, one for EMILIA and ROMAGNA, and the other for LIGURIA. The Commissioners are entrusted with all tasks of government connected with measures which must be taken immediately for the sake of the populations. They are: Dr. Armando ROSSI for EMILIA and ROMAGNA and Dr. LUIGI SANGERMANO for LIGURIA.
(Italian Home Service 15.8.44).

XIV. Parini re-enters the Foreign Office.

The Head of MILAN Province, Dr. PIERO PARINI, has asked to be relieved of his office and to reassume his grade and relative functions in the Foreign Office. His wish has been complied with and Dr. Mario BASSI, at present Head of VARESE Province, has been appointed Head of the Province of MILAN in his stead.
(Italian Home Service 18.8.44).

XV. Evacuation of Government Offices.

The Fascist Ministries and Government offices which have hitherto been quartered in the cities and spas of northern Italy between VENICE and BRESCIA will now be moved further to the west. Some of these offices will be moved to BERGAMO and localities in the provinces of MILAN and COMO. Several offices of the Ministry of War Economy will in future be situated in MILAN. Offices specially interested in maintaining contact with the German Embassy, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will at present hardly leave the Lake GARDA region. Those diplomatic representatives with the Fascist Government, however, who have been conducting their affairs from

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 19.8.44).

XVI. Deportation of Jews to Germany.

It is reported that arrests and deportations of Jews are still continuing, and they are trying vainly to evade these measures. The apprehended persons, regardless of age or sex, are sent to Germany and from there to an unknown destination. During the past few days 600 Jews left FOSSOLI concentration camp. (Agence Tel. Suisse 12.8.44)

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XVII. Appointments.

AOSTA. Mario CAVALERO has been appointed Prefect Commissioner of Aosta. The post of "Podesta" is thereby cancelled.
(P.W.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

ROVIGO The former prefect of AREZZO, Dr. Melchiorre MELCHIORRI, has entered upon his duties as prefect of Rovigo.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 31.7.44).

ALESSANDRIA, REGGIO EMILIA, TREVISO The Party Secretary has appointed the following Federal Commissioners: Pietro SAU to Alessandria, Mario VIZZI to Reggio Emélia; Francesco BAYER to Trevise.
(Italian Home Service 16.8.44).

CUNEO The Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party today appointed Comrade Secondo RONZA Federal Commissioner for Cuneo.
(Italian Home Service 17.8.44)

PADUA At a Government building in PADUA, the Prefect PRIMO FUMEI, appointed to the Foreign Ministry, installed his successor FEDERICO MENNA, former Prefect of Rovigo in office.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 5.8.44).

NOVARA. Enrico VEZZALINI has been nominated Head of the Province of Novara in place of GASPARE BARBERA who has been called to other duties.
(Corriere della Sera Milan 9.8.44).

TURIN Ingeniere Lorenzo TEALDY and Squadrista Carlo POLLONE, lawyer have been nominated Vice-Federal Commissioners for TURIN.
(Italian Home Service 12.8.44).

ECONOMICS

XVIII. Food Situation.

Italian early potato supplies are abundant, and the demand is not particularly great. The price is about 12 lire a kg. As the time approaches when the winter crop will be lifted the situation in the potato market becomes less stable. While the Government did not fix a maximum price for early potatoes, growers of winter potatoes are prohibited from charging over 140 lire per quintal. As growers are able to obtain 600 lire or more, it is doubtful how the Government will enforce the above price. Prospects for the crop are good, but dry weather is now necessary.
(Merkbericht des Reichsnahrstandes 3.8.44).

Milan Milk Shortage. The food situation, especially as regards essentials is becoming particularly acute in the big urban centres. In MILAN, there is a scarcity of milk. Pomeriggio discusses the alarming situation.
(Dovere Bellinzona, 14.8.44).
Sera complains that while many [illegible]
their children [illegible]

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Sera complains that while many parents are unable to obtain milk for their children, cafes and bars sell ice cream at black market prices.

TURIN Stampa points out that lately the quality of bread has greatly detericrated and explains that large quantities of rye flour are used; the newspaper also complains that many bakers sift flour and sell white bread on the black market. (15.8.44)

A decree in course of preparation permits, in addition to the production, the free sale of salt produced by private individuals

with plants having a producing capacity not exceeding ten quintals per month.
(Italian Home Service 118.44).

XIX. Finance.

It is officially announced that from August 15th Bank Interests will be generally reduced. The interest rate of the Banca d'Italia as well as the discount rate, has been 4.5% since May 1936, while private credit concerns, including publicly owned banks charged 7.5% for loans.
(DNB 14.8.44)

In FIUME the police put an end to a flourishing illicit traffic in gold coins, arresting a dozen persons and confiscating coins amounting to 1,000,000 lire.
(Europa Press 10.8.44)

TRIESTE The first newspaper boys to issue their own money are doing a thriving business in this town. But they are not the only ones. The great shortage of small change in Italy has induced many businesses to issue their own additional currency. Street car companies have issued little bits of tin stamped with the value and the name of the company. Some shops have adopted bits of cardboard which they will accept in payment for future purchases. New and old postage stamps are also being used, but these have proved of little use owing to their stickiness when moist. Newspaper boys hand out their own money in exchange for legal currency and are willing to take it back again in payment for the next day's newspaper.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

XX. Air Raid Damage.

VENICE Thousands and thousands of Italian fugitives from Allied bombs are camping on the numerous small islands in the lagoons north and south of VENICE. It is as if history is repeating itself. Venice was built by people who escaped to the impassable lagoons from the horrors of the war. Living conditions are extremely primitive on the islands. The supply question is most difficult, but the fugitives are glad to have found this refuge, primitive as it is.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

RIMINI Rimini has been bombed and the front line towards the sea has been evacuated. At RICCIONE, air-raid alerts are being sounded pretty often; part of the town must be evacuated.
(Censorship Intercept 9.11.43).

RASSINA Bad news from Rassina - The cement factory was blown up owing to war reasons. The town has suffered heavy damage (28.7.44)
(Civil Censorship Intercept).

FIGLINE As I write, the factor
(Civil) Censor

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(Civil Censorship Intercept). 1169

FIGLINE As I write, the factories are being blown up. 26.7.44
(Civil Censorship Intercept 16.8.44).

LABOUR

XXI. Forced Labour.

The Junkers aircraft factories publish advertisements in the Fascist press announcing further facilities for workers going to Germany, besides the previously stated 5,000 lire bonus and family allowances, namely: the possibility of workers' families being able to accompany workers to Germany, declaring that such an opportunity would hardly be available in the future.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 11.8.44).

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In order to procure men and women for Germany, razzias are carried out on Sundays after Mass. These razzias were started in the villages. Trucks arrived in front of the churches when the faithful were about to come out. All able-bodied men up to 60 years old and the strongest women were arrested and loaded on to the trucks. Razzias are reported from the VALTELLINA and from VAL SESSINA. Several priests who attempted to interfere, were arrested.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 11.8.44).

XXII. Conditions of work in Germany.

The following letter was written from a woman worker in Germany to her mother in Italy: "I have been feverish for the last fortnight, but they make me work 12 hours a day all the same. I am earning 12 to 14 RM a day, but my food costs me six RM a day and then they only give me enough bread and jam for a child. Don't have any illusions about my sending you money and don't expect any. I could earn more, but my self-respect matters to me. You have no idea of the work I have to do. I can't describe it. My hands are unrecognisable.... If you know any people leaving for Germany, tell them to throw themselves under the train rather than come here. I am only allowed to write once a month and I have got to say I am well. I have been taken in by the Germans. I thought that, going as a volunteer, I should be given better, more humane, more civilised treatment, according to the promises they made me before I left. At the age of 18 I have unwittingly found death at the hands of barbarians".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 14.8.44).

XXIII. Strikes.

MILAN It is reported that the MILAN situation is most critical Further hostages were shot after fresh sabotage. New strikes have broken out and the Germans have intensified the deportation of workers to Germany.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 15.8.44).

BRESCIA Brescia workers were on strike from July 24th to July 29th. The strike is reported to be in protest against insufficient salaries, but was really in order to sabotage production.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

CHURCH

XXIV Pro-Allied Clergy Attacked

Crociata Italica draws the attention of the Fascist authorities to the fact that in some churches in the MILAN archdiocese at every decade of the Rosary after the doxology, the following ejaculation is always uttered "Deliver us Lord from the sword of the German". The newspaper adds that it does not know how many days' indulgences are attached to such an ejaculation, but that "some ... too much ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 790021

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The same newspaper requests the Fascist authorities to intervene against the decision of the LOMBARDY Episcopates, by which priests cooperating with the newspaper Crociata Italica are threatened with suspension.
(Dovere Bellinzona 11.8.44).

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XXV. Fascists of Ferrara.

Head of the Province VEZZALINI, responsible for the killing of 11 citizens (hostages) following the execution of Federale GHISELLINI by the patriots in November 43.

Ing. Girolamo SAVONUZZI
Avv. [illegible]ZI
Avv. ZANATTA
Avv. TEGLI
Sost. Proc. del Re Pasquale COLAGRANDE
Rag. TORBOLI
HANAU - father and son

ROSSI
MIRANDOLA, young son of the best tailor in the city
MELCHIORRI, a florist who has a shop in Corso Roma
ALBERTO VERDI, Mayor of Ferrara
Console GIULIO DIVISO, head of the O.V.R.A. (local branch)
Avv. Count RONCHI
Signora CASAI TUMIATI (O.V.R.A.)
DEL FANTE (O.V.R.A.)
The brothers LUBERGNANI.

(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

30th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 22.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

30th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -No 22

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

The "Carlo Rosselli" Brigades. The following brigades of patriots have been organised by the Action Party in Tuscany:-

Rosselli Brigade No 1. (about 650 men) operating in the area BAGNI DI LUCCA, VAL DI LIMA (eastwards), ALPE TRE POTENZE since December 43. It sustained many encounters with enemy troops coming from LUCCA and PISTOIA. The Brigade HQ has been in contact with S Army agents and received many supplies by parachute. About July 14 when German units were occupying the Gothic Line positions in the area, it was forced to dissolve through mopping up operations. Some elements moved towards PRATO and PISTOIA. A very efficient unit under the command of a certain Ducceschi intended to reach LIVORNO and put itself at the disposal of the Allied Armies. No further news has since been heard of it.

Rosselli Brigade No 2. operating in the MUGELLO region; armed with Italian weapons (light MG, and also some Mausers and Parabellum) No exact news has recently been heard of it, but it seems that it sustained a considerable fighting period with German units.

Rosselli Brigade No 3. with three companies of about 100 men each. Operated previously in the area of MONTESPERTOLI, where 100 men have been left under the command of Capt. DEL MONACO (battle name BERTINI) 100 men (including a very efficient squad commanded by a certain BERTO) in the FLORENCE area, under the command of Capt VIVARELLI (HQ at MONTICELLI). Another 120 men are spread along the Northern perimiter of FLORENCE in the area of PONTE ALLE MOSSE: well armed with lt. M.G. they moved there a few days ago from the area SCANDICCI BELLOSGUARDO (9.8.44).

Rosselli Brigade No 4. being constituted under the command of Major NARDI, who already has 155 men. HQ at le due Strade. Possibly this unit will include the reorganised men of Cap. Vivarelli coming from Rosselli Brigade

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NND 947 [illegible]

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Rosselli Brigade No 5. About 1000 men distributed in the 4 areas of FLORENCE (OLTRARNO is one of these areas). They are included in a stronger force of about 3,000 men (most of them Communists -200-300 of other parties), armed and with amunition for two hrs.

The Action Party also has an autonomous unit of about 150 men at CAGGIO MONTANO operating behind the Gothic Line. Because of its location it will probably fall under the jurisdiction of the Partisan

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Military HQ of EMILIA.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 9.8.44).

Allied Instructions to Partisans.

Instructions are being issued to partisans by the Allied radio and by the "Italia Combatte" programme, particularly to those who fought in FLORENCE , urging them to continue their fight towards the north and to look out for certain divisional signs of the Germans. The enemy will be forced to use the roads and will be hampered by patriot activity from the hills on either side. Out of the whole of Italy the Appennines will probably afford the best situation for patriot revenge on the enemy.

Warnings have also been given to the patriots of MILAN and TURIN not to let their enthusiam at the success of the patriots in PARIS run away with them, but to await instructions from the Allied Command. (P.W.B. Rome 25.8.44).

Partisan organisations in the north.

The Garibaldi Brigades, 3 to 4000 strong, operate under the control of the C.D.L. and are intended to be apolitical; it seems, however that they are all of Communist tendencies, and are in close touch with the Communist party.

TUSCANY Mountains of CARRARESE: One Garibaldi Brigade has just been formed. In the same locality operates a small but active group commanded by a British Captain.

Three months ago there were three Garibaldi Brigades in the mountains south of the road FORLI* FAENZA. One brigade only exists now owing to severe German reprisals.

In the provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA the G.A.P. are so numerous that they have formed two G.A.P. Brigades.

BOLOGNA Prov. of BOLOGNA: 1 G.A.P. Brigade with its H.Q in VADO south of MODENA and
Reggio EMILIA Garibaldi Brigade very strong and [illegible] HQ in ABETONE.

EMILIA Prov. of PARMA: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "BICCELLI" not very efficient.

LOMBARDY Prov. of PIACENZA: 1 strong military organisation.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788221

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LOMBARDY
The partisan movement has been rather weak. The great majority of partisan groups is controlled by the Party of Action. Great activity is deployed by the Communist Party among the workers and the organisation of strikes and sabotage has been more successful in LOMBARDY than in PIEDMONT.

PIEDMONT There are seven Garibaldi Brigades in Piedmont.
VAL DI LANZA : 3
VAL DI SUSA : 2
BIELLESE : 1
NOVARESE : 1
Two new brigades are being formed in the Province of TURIN. In addition to these formations there are several groups of the Party of Action and monarchist bands commanded by regular officers.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778321

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VENETO Mountains of SCHIO VAL D'ASIAGO: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "FRATELLI BANDIERA"
Province of VITTORIO VENETO : 1 Garibaldi Brigade "NINO NANETTI"

FRIULI 1 Garibaldi Brigade.

TRIESTE 1 Garibaldi Brigade who works in close liaison with the Jugoslavs.

TRENTINO In the Trentino the German influence is very strong and therefore it is extremely difficult to organise resistance. An Austrian Catholic Party exists in TRENTO and contacted some time ago the Communist Party. Several meetings took place, but a base of agreement could not be reached because of the strong nationalist feeling of the Austrian Catholics. (P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

Appeal by "Green Flames".

The "Green Flames" (Fiamme Verdi) have issued a patriotic appeal to the partisans and others containing the following paragraphs:

"Men of the valleys - we count on your collaboration, we are sure that you are all our friends. We nevertheless give you the following counsel and directions. The "Green Flames" are part of the regular army of the Italian Government. Each member, before he joins, takes an oath not to do anything against liberty or justice, nothing that will be contrary to moral and religious laws or military honour. Whoever breaks this oath is punished according to martial law. Those who, using threats and violence, commit crimes of various kinds in the mountain districts are not partisans; they are true brigands and robbers

The "Green Flames" will defend you against such people, they will fire and justice will be done. Do not let yourselves be deceived by the astuteness of the Republicans, who come to you pretending to be partisans, ragged and famished, making insolent declarations against fascism. Be on your guard. Many have fallen into this trap. Make a note of all the wrongs you endure for having given aid to the King and the partisans; if possible have the statement witnessed and signed by persons of repute. Make a note of anyone who actually works against the "Green Flames", who reaps unjust profits, who gives unnecessary help to the Germans or the Fascists. When liberty is restored justice will be done. Collect small stocks of food and put them in a safe place. They will be useful to you in the critical moments that may come during the German retreat. Do not hide these stores near your houses, because there they would be easily detected. Anyone who helps the Germans or the Republicans will also be considered a traitor. If you are forced to collaborate, find some means of doing damage.
("Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

Patriots Incite "Wehrmacht" to Mutiny.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

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Patriots Incite "Wehrmacht" to Mutiny.

An appeal has been issued by the partisans which has been widely distributed among German troops in Italy. It is addressed "To the officers, N.C.Os and men of the German Armed Forces:" and begs them to "listen to the words of truth addressed to you by the Italian patriots in your own interests and in those of your country and your families". It continues "Hitler's mad adventures are leading Germany to utter disaster. You are losing the war because your cause is unjust.... Events are changing from one moment to another. The Soviet armies, in their victorious advance of liberation, are nearing the German frontier; the invasion of Europe by the armies of Britain and the U.S.A. has been victoriously begun. In Italy, the soldiers of General Alexander, bravely supported by Italian patriots who now

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form an army, are victoriously advancing up the peninsula driving the German troops, whose fate is irremediably sealed, towards the north. .... The fate of Nazism has been sealed. There are plain and striking signs that the end is near. There are, in the first place, the events of July 20th. Hitler escaped death by a mere chance. .... It is a case of organised revolt... Terror reigns in Germany.. The Nazi leaders are only able to govern by proclaiming a state of siege. The SS has begun to attack the Wehrmacht..... Give up the useless fight. Hand over your arms to the Italian patriots, or turn them with decision against the SS and the Gestapo, the true enemies of the German people..... Our cause is the same as yours... liberation Death to Nazism! Long live Liberty! Long live peace! National Liberation Committee of northern Italy".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

Partisan activities in general.

LIGURIA Will the Allies land also in LIGURIA? The entry into PIEDMONT from the sea is open owing to present partisan activities there. From IMPERIA the Germans attempted mopping-up operations in the direction of the partisan-occupied coast. The partisans, however, repelled the Germans at DIANO CASTELLO, capturing a considerable amount of war material, as well as at the part of DIANO MARINA and several other localities. A German and Fascist motorised column consisting of 1000 was ambushed at PIEVE DI TECO, and 100 men were lost. In the NERVIA Valley, Germans and Fascists pillaged and burned villages, but were finally chased away. Partisans captured the GNR barracks at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and RAPALLO, including an arms depot, and large food stocks ready to be sent to Germany. At BORDIGHERA, partisans captured a wheat truck ready to leave for FRANCE. At BARGAGLI they captured three German NCOs and liberated a group of 60 men who were about to be sent to Germany. At PIANDEPRE they overpowered the garrison.
(Tribune de Geneve 15.8.44).

PIACENZA In an encounter near FARINI D'OLMO in the Province of PIACENZA, the patriots have killed 22 German soldiers and taken much booty in the way of arms and amunition. There have been patrol actions on the Via Emilia, especially in the district of FIRENZUOLA. Near CIRIE, in the Province of TURIN patriots have interrupted an electric cable which served the war industries used by the Germans. The railway TURIN-MODANE has been damaged for a long distance near GOLLEGNO. Sabotage has also been committed near TORTONA against the lines of communication and some nighway bridges have been damaged. Other attacks against the enemy lines of communication have been made at MARZOLE in PIEDMONTE. Important factories which were working for the Germans have been rendered useless after the damage inflicted by theG.A.P. to the electric installations, also at SESTRI LEVANTE and TRIGOSO.

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(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

CHERELE An enemy convoy was drawn into an ambush near CHERELE. During the encounter which lasted two hours, the Germans lost 7 big motor vehicles. A Nazi Major was killed. The patriots also made 59 prisoners, 14 of which belonged to the TODT organisation.
ASIAGO Enemy troops fell into an ambush near Asiago, losing, between dead and wounded 59 men, many arms and a great quantity of ammunition. Only one patriot was killed and five were wounded
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FOSSANO Thirty men from the Garibaldi Brigade carried off from Fossano powder factory 15 quintals of explosives, and subsequently used it to blow up the prison gates and liberate 75 political

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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TURIN Life in TURIN depends on the partisans, as even Stampa is forced to admit. The newspaper complains that the city's entire electricity supply is controlled by patriots who have seized all the power plants and are able to deliver or cut off power as they like. Thus the large factories in Turin working for the Wehrmacht have stopped work. Stampa furtner accuses partisans of hindering Piedmontese farmers from delivering cattle and cereals and admits that the Germans are unable to take anything because of the partisans who control the countryside around the city.
(Arbeiter Zeitung, Basle 18.8.44).

MILAN In spite of advanced curfew hours in MILAN, owing to recent disturbances, two members of the Black Brigades have been shot by cyclists, who escaped. Other cyclists seriously wounded a marine. According to Fascist reports a pitched battle south of PAVIA cost the partisans 15 dead. German SS detachments arrived for the first time in VALSOLDA and the frontier region north of LAKE LUGANO, where the maquis has been established for a long time. Numerous arrests have been made and several executions are reported.
(Tribune de Geneve 12.8.44).

PISTOIA Behind the German ranks in the neighbourhood of PISTOIA, big patriot units, with the help of the Allied aviation, have given open battle to the enemy, inflicting notable losses of both men and means. The activity of the patriots has upset all the German communications and the supplies from the north to the front lines.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

BRESCIA Mussolini's ex-private secretary OSVALDO SEBASTIANI, who became the President of the Corte dei Conti Republicani, has been captured by the patriots at PASSIRANO; in the province of BRESCIA. After a brief trial he was executed.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44.)

RAVENNA, FORLI and BOLOGNA The patriots who were operating in the RAVENNA zone, FORLI and BOLOGNA, in a month of activity have inflicted serious damage on the enemy. They have blown up 5 bridges, interrupted 18 railway lines, destroyed 4 armoured cars, and 43 other motor vehicles, damaged 60 other motor vehicles, burnt two trains loaded with paraffin, destroyed an electric station and damaged seven others, killed 212 German soldiers and 10 Fascist militia, disarmed 135 Fascists, captured 15 machine guns, 279 rifles, 16 quintals of ammunition, 53 revolvers and hand grenades.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

Italo-Yugoslav Co-operation. A new agreement has been reached between the Italian Committee of National Liberation and the Yugoslav Liberation Committee, which provides for the publication of a joint newspaper for mixed brigades etc. On the frontier zone a single Committee has been formed from Italian and Yugoslav partisans.

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(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 13.8.44).

1164

Reprisals.

LAKE MAGGIORE According to well-informed sources at FONDOTOCE on Lake Maggiore ten days ago the GNR shot 42 people, including one woman, accused of having sheltered partisans. The bodies were buried in a field. For the same reason a whole family was condemned to death at the end of July. The control along the 3 km frontier strip has been tightened: all persons found beyond a fixed line are now shot without trial.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 9.8.44).

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No pardon is given to partisans taken prisoner by the German army. They are shot without exception, and even hostages in a concentration camp must often expiate their sympathy with the partisans in the same way. Owing to the shortage of men, the German Army's punitive expeditions to the mountain valleys are now rather unsuccessful. As soon as a punitive expedition has left the area, partisans re-occupy the position.
(News Digest 15.8.44).

The Fascist campaign against the partisans has now been launched in the SOLDA and CAVARGNA valleys between the eastern arm of LAKE LUGANO and the Swiss TICINO and GRISON frontiers. German SS are being employed. Several villages are already occupied , and numerous executions have been carried out. Partisans have withdrawn to the higher valleys. Further south Fascists try to prevent partisans approaching the Swiss frontier by felling the woods along the border. This measure is still in its initial stage.
(Gazette de Lausanne 15.8.44).

NOVARA A decree was issued on July 18th by BARBERA, Prefect of Novara under the heading "Reprisals for acts of brigandage". The following instructions were given - for "the maintenance of public order".

1. Firstly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic killed by the bandits, three members, chosen from the lists already compiled, of families of deserters, defaulters or maquis elements in the region in which the crime occurred will be immediately executed.

2. Secondly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic abducted by partisans, five of the aforesaid relatives will be seized as hostages.

3. Thirdly, for every act of plunder, sabotage of destruction perpetrated to the detriment of the Fascists or members of the Armed Republican Forces, the property and goods of the above-mentioned will be confiscated.

4. Fourthly, for every act proved under any of these categories the population of the Commune or Region where the crime was committed will, failing information being received or assistance given within 24 hours, leading to the aprehension of the culprits, be liable to a fine, varying from 100,000 lire to one million lire, according to the gravity of the offence.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

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II. Sabotage.

Transocean, reporting from VENICE on 13.8.44, declares "Police investigation of the bomb outrage at the Palazzo Giustiniani, HQ of of the GNR, led to the discovery of a central organisation which directed several groups of partisans and saboteurs. Among those arrested are members of Venice society. The number of people killed in the outrage has now risen to 13.

Nothwithstanding the recent mopping up operations carried out by Fascists, partisan bands gather throughout the VALTELLINA, one of their tasks being the hindering of the destruction of the dykes, and electrical power houses serving MILAN and the vast surrounding region.
(Popolo e Liberta 17.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759121

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III. Allied Recognition of Partisans.

At the first meeting in Rome, the Allied Commission of Control has given ample recognition to the war contribution of the patriots and the Italian Navy against the common enemy.

Colonel Shipp has declared that, particularly in the battle for the liberation of Florence, the Tuscan patriots have given proof of great courage and have proved themselves of great help to the Allies. Rear Admiral Morgan expressed high praise for the proofs furnished by all the Italian Navy since her participation in the war at the side of the United Nations. He also said that he had proposed an officer of the Italian Navy for one of the highest British awards of valour.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.8.44).

At the side of the Polish troops and under the command of the 8th Army the C.I.L. has taken part in numerous actions on the Adriatic sector. From the hard and victorious battle for the liberation of the Filottrano, to the forcing of the river Musone, from the part taken in the battle for Ancona to the occupation of Jesi.

The fight for FILOTTRANO, in which the NEMBO took part, was the most violent of the last operations of the C.I.L, which gained on this occasion fresh praise from General Sir Oliver Leese. He sent the following message to General UTILI. "My very best congratulations to you and your troops for the success of the conquest of FILOTTRANO after hard fighting -"
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Organisation.

G.N.R. The Gazetta Ufficiale publishes the following Decree of the Duce:

Article 1. The GNR becomes part of the first fighting arm of the National Republican Army. Its present police tasks will cease from December 31st 1944.
(Italian Home Service 14.8.44).

For reasons that are strictly personal General RICCI has asked to be relieved of the Command of the GNR and his request has been granted. The Duce has expressed his gratitude to him for his work during the first phase of the organisation of this armed formation, and has confirmed him in his office as president of the ONB. From today (20.8.44) the Duce himself has temporarily taken over command of the guard and has issued instructions to officers of the GNR which, in accordance with the law, ranks as the first fighting service of the National Republican Army.
(Italian Home Service 20.8.44).

1763

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 0021

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1763

V. Recruitment.

As from September 1st, voluntary enrolment in the Air Force AA will be re-opened. All Italian citizens between the ages of 17 and 50 are eligible for enrolment.
(Italian Home Service 20.8.44).

The recruiting centre for the second instructional course of the Women's Auxiliary Service for the 10th MAS Flotilla will open in VENICE between August 20th and 30th. All women between 16 and 35 will thus be able, if suitable and physically fit, to join the glorious 10th Flotilla. (Italian Home Service 19.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 998127

A special recruiting campaign for the 9th Assault Detachment has been inaugurated. Recruits, who must belong to the 1927-1909 classes inclusive, are to report to the recruiting centre for Bersaglieri volunteers in SAVONA.
(Sera Milan 7.8.44)

A large number of the 8,000 soldiers belonging to the "Monte Rosa" Division vanished in transit from the BRENNER to MILAN.
(Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

The Italian Armed Forces have followed the German example by establishing Propaganda Companies, whose members, both officers and men, report for the Italian press and radio and take photographs and films. Their first reports, just published in the newspapers, describe the journey of Italian divisions to the front. Italian war reporters were formerly employed by publishing houses on a private salary basis. Most of them wore Party uniforms and did their journalistic work without actually taking part in operations.
(Transocean 13.8.44).

It is announced that the "Capo di Guardia di Finanza" will be disbanded on August 15th. Officers and men will be given the choice of enlisting in the GNR or of being deported to Germany.
(Popolo e Liberta 11.8.44).

Deportation of Disobedient Officers According to a reliable source, 2000 Italian Customns Officers who refused to obey the recently issued order either to join the Militia or enrol for labour service were deported to Germany. Half their number, however, succeeded in escaping and joined the partisans.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 16.8.44).

VI. Black Brigades in Action.

All the directors of the Federations take turns in commanding the Black Brigades. Amongst the numerous brigades which went into action during the last few days, are the 31st Brigade of GENOA and the 7th Brigade of VERCELLI.

On the 9th of August, the 1st Black Brigade "Ricciarelli" captured several partisan bandits, among whom was the son of General PAGLIERI. The bandits were shot. One company of the same brigade captured three rebels on August 21st.

The 7th Vercelli Brigade captured a group of deserters, who did not answer the call to arms. It then carried out a mopping-up operation, organising reprisals against the murderers of a Fascist.

The 6th Novara Brigade, on the [illegible] forces [illegible]

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(Tribune de Ge

The Italian Armed Forces have fo
establishing Propaganda Companies, whose members,
men, report for the Italian press and radio and take photographs
films. Their first reports, just published in the newspapers, describe
the journey of Italian divisions to the front. Italian war reporters
were formerly employed by publishing houses on a private salary basis.
Most of them wore Party uniforms and did their journalistic work
without actually taking part in operations.
(Transocean 13.8.44).

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operation, organising reprisals against the murderers of a Fascist.

The 6th Novara Brigade, on the 11th of August, engaged rebel
forces near BRIANA. In the course of the fighting, three rebels were
killed and others wounded. No losses were sustained by the Black
Brigade.

A member of the 18th PADUA Black Brigade, on the 17th of August
attacked a truck carrying ten armed bandits. The outlaws fled, but
two were captured by the Fascists, together with the truck. On the
18th August, a patrol encountered the well-known rebel GALVANI. When
ordered to stop, Galvani fled. The patrol opened fire, wounding
Galvani, who later died in hospital.

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On the 18th of August, members of the 22nd VICENZA Black Brigade carried out mopping-up operations in the village of NALO. The village was at first encircled with the cOoperation of the National Republican Guard. Then began the mopping-up operations in the village houses. Fifteen men were arrested to account for themselves, and eight hostages were taken. On the 9th of August the 22nd RAVENNA Black Brigade shot five anti-Fascists, responsible for the murder of the Fascist GUSTAVO SOLDOLI.
(P./.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

GERMANS

VII. Security Measures.

Martial law has been imposed on the following towns: BOLOGNA, FERRARA, FORLI, MODENA, PARMA, PIACENZA, RAVENNA, and REGGIO DI EMILIA. Kesselring announces that all acts of sabotage will be repressed with the greatest severity. Families of men who have passed over to the resistance movement will be executed.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 18.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that in the Italian TICINO valley the Germans have blown up bridges in order to control the region. Only some bridges were spared.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

After the bombardment of SPEZIA the Germans during the Spring and early Summer of this year removed large quantities of material from the naval dockyards at SPEZIA to various places in the CARRARA area for safe keeping; this material consisted chiefly of copper, nickel, tin, rubber and electric cables. Since then all these materials have been sent away by train to Germany.
(8th Army Report 9.8.44).

The village of MASLIANICO, three km north of PONTE CHIASSO, was evacuated on the afternoon of August 17th on the order of the Wehrmacht. The village is one km from the Swiss village of VACALLO. From Swiss territory a large number of the inhabitants could be observed leaving with suitcases. This exodus caused great distress in the region. The evacuees will be deported to Germany, a measure taken in accordance with the decision made for the occupation of the three km frontier strip by the German and Fascist armed Forces.
(Gazette de Lausanne 18.8.44).

TheGerman authorities have forbidden the use of electric current by the civil population in the operation zone, in a strip of about 120-130 km from the front.
(Italian Official Source 21.8.44)

1162

VIII. Behaviour.

The Nazis and Fascists use the following system in order to

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(P./.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

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The Nazis and Fascists use the following system in order to discover whether the inhabitants of a district are in favour of the patriots or not. Republicans disguised as patriots are sent to the villeges, pretending to seek food for the partisans. As soon as these spies have left with the gifts the villages are invaded. Men and women are killed and everything is put to the fire and the sword. Recently, as reprisals for assistance given to the partisans, 80 persons were shot in PIACENZA.
(News Digest 21.8.44).

"Not only do they plunder the peasants' cottages, stealing or burning or smashing whatever they find, but moreover they kill all the men they find. Yesterday for example they killed near here (Volpaia) fully 150 people and burned them after killing them.

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Among these were three priests, engineers, old men and children.
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that the German Command in northern Italy has ordered the requisition of bicycles, radios and sewing machines.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

IX. Germans V. Mussolini- Industrialist Arrested.

The German authorities are reported to have arrested in BRESCIA BERRETTA, an important industrialist and owner of machine-gun factory working for the German Army, and also his son. The main charge against them was that they had delivered 1,000 rifles to the Republican Army on Mussolini's personal order. The son, who is an eminent engineer, was deported to Germany.
(Gazette de Lausanne 18.8.44).

X. Propaganda.

An appendix to a communique of the O.K.W. of the 19th June 1944, captured in Italy shows what German troops in Italy are told by their officers concerning the use of V-1. It begins:

"As we learn from London through neutral reports, the English Prime Minister has appointed a special commission, composed of technicians, engineers and chemists, whose task it will be to find ways and means effectively to counter the new German explosive-weapons.

In the meantime, the attack on the English capital, after three times 24 hours, continues without a pause. According to reports from a Swedish newspaper, work in the large factories in the London area is at a complete standstill"..... "Robot, the mechanical man, is what Reuter calls the weapon whose effects the English island, to start with, is now beginning to feel and the employment of which caused Parliament to be convened at once.".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

XI. Atrocities.

CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI Following the killing of two Nazi soldiers the Nazis erected 17 gallows in PREMARIACCO, seven in ORSARIA, both hamlets near CIVIDALE DEL FRIULE, hanging 24 political prisoners from the region whom they had informed that they were going to work in Germany. The population was forced to watch the execrable spectacle.
(Libera Stampa 12.8.44).

CVINDOLI (AQUILA) The German troops burnt alive two Indian prisoners who had escaped. In spite of petitions by the parson and the [illegible] the German Command did not even allow their identities to be ascertained.
(Civil Censorship Summary 3.8.44).

GUARDISTALLO (LIVORNO) The Germans shot 71 innocent people in cold

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(Civil Censorship Summary 3.8.44).

GUARDISTALLO (LIVORNO) The Germans shot 71 innocent people in cold blood before they left.
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

FLORENCE "Many poor little children had their tiny little hands cut off by the retreating Nazis. This is no exageration but a cruel truth, not to mention other heart-breaking crimes".
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

CICALAIA LARI (PISA) At S. MINIATO they availed themselves of the Bishop's authority, and had all the population gathered in the Chiesa Maggiore; when it was full of innocent people they locked the doors and

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set the mines to work. The result was : 60 dead and 300 wounded!"
(Civil Censorship Extract. 1 8.44).

POLITICS

XII. Friction between anti-Fascist parties in north

Constant friction appears to exist between the two most important parties in northern Italy: Communist and Azione. The Partito d'Azione is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT; it has the support of several regular officers, who are very much disliked by the Communists. It is said that while the main task of the Communists is to fight the Germans and Fascists the Partito d'Azione does not cooperate and is more keen to deal with politics, thus hampering the resistance movement.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

XIII. Special Commissioners for threatened zones.

The Duce, in view of the growing difficulties of liaison between central and provincial offices, and in consideration of the particular nature of certain territories of the Social Republic that have become zones of operations or are in the immediate rear of the front, has set up two Special Commissions, one for EMILIA and ROMAGNA, and the other for LIGURIA. The Commissioners are entrusted with all tasks of government connected with measures which must be taken immediately for the sake of the populations. They are: Dr. Armando ROSSI for EMILIA and ROMAGNA and Dr. LUIGI SAN ERMANO for LIGURIA.
(Italian Home Service 15.8.44).

XIV. Parini re-enters the Foreign Office.

The Head of MILAN Province, Dr. PIERO PARINI, has asked to be relieved of his office and to reassume his grade and relative functions in the Foreign Office. His wish has been complied with and Dr. Mario BASSI, at present Head of VARESE Province, has been appointed Head of the Province of MILAN in his stead.
(Italian Home Service 13.8.44).

XV. Evacuation of Government Offices.

The Fascist Ministries and Government offices which have hitherto been quartered in the cities and spas of northern Italy between VENICE and BRESCIA will now be moved further to the west. Some of these offices will be moved to BERGAMO and localities in the provinces of MILAN and COMO. Several offices of the Ministry of War Economy will in future be situated in MILAN. Offices specially interested in maintaining contact with the German Embassy, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will at present hardly leave the Lake GARDA region. Those diplomatic representatives with the Fascist Government, however, who have been conducting their affairs from VENICE are now preparing to move. The greater part of the COMO region

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 19.8.44).

XVI. Deportation of Jews to Germany.

It is reported that arrests and deportations of Jews are still continuing, and they are trying vainly to evade these measures. The apprehended persons, regardless of age or sex, are sent to Germany and from there to an unknown destination. During the past few days 600 Jews left FOSSOLI concentration Camp. (Agence Tel. Suisse 12.8.44)

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XVII. Appointments.

AOSTA. Mario CAVALERO has been appointed Prefect Commissioner of Aosta. The post of "Podesta" is thereby cancelled.
(P.W.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

ROVIGO The former prefect of AREZZO, Dr. Melchiorre MELCHIORRI, has entered upon his duties as prefect of Rovigo.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 31.7.44).

ALESSANDRIA, REGGIO EMILIA, TREVISO The Party Secretary has appointed the following Federal Commissioners: Pietro SAU to Alessandria, Mario VIZZI to Reggio Emilia; Francesco BAYER to Treviso.
(Italian Home Service 16.8.44).

CUNEO The Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party today appointed Comrade Secondo RONZA Federal Commissioner for Cuneo.
(Italian Home Service 17.8.44)

PADUA At a Government building in PADUA, the Prefect PRIMO FUMEI, appointed to the Foreign Ministry, installed his successor FEDERICO MENNA, former Prefect of Rovigo in office.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 5.8.44).

NOVARA. Enrico VEZZALINI has been nominated Head of the Province of Novara in place of GASPARE BARBERA who has been called to other duties.
(Corriere della Sera Milan 9.8.44).

TURIN Ingeniere Lorenzo TEALDY and Squadrista Carlo POLLONE, lawyer have been nominated Vice-Federal Commissioners for TURIN.
(Italian Home Service 12.8.44).

ECONOMICS

XVIII. Food Situation.

Italian early potato supplies are abundant, and the demand is not particularly great. The price is about 12 lire a kg. As the time approaches when the winter crop will be lifted the situation in the potato market becomes less stable. While the Government did not fix a maximum price for early potatoes, growers of winter potatoes are prohibited from charging over 140 lire per quintal. As growers are able to obtain 600 lire or more, it is doubtful how the Government will enforce the above price. Prospects for the crop are good, but dry weather is now necessary.
(Marktbericht des Reichsnahrstandes 3.8.44).

Milan Milk Shortage. The food situation, especially as regards essentials is becoming particularly acute in the big urban centres. In MILAN, there is a scarcity of milk. Pomeriggio discusses the alarming

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(Dovere Bellinzona, 14.8.44).
Sera complains that while many parents are unable to obtain milk for their children, cafes and bars sell ice cream at black market prices.

TURIN Stampa points out that lately the quality of bread has greatly detericrated and explains that large quantities of rye flour are used; the newspaper also complains that many bakers sift flour and sell white bread on the black market.
(15.8.44)

A decree in course of preparation permits, in addition to the production, the free sale of salt produced by private individuals

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with plants having a producing capacity not exceeding ten quintals per month.
(Italian Home Service 118.44).

XIX. Finance.

It is officially announced that from August 15th Bank Interests will be generally reduced. The interest rate of the Banca d'Italia as well as the discount rate, has been 4.5% since May 1936, while private credit concerns, including publicly owned banks charged 7.5% for loans.
(DNB 14.8.44)

In FIUME the police put an end to a flourishing illicit traffic in gold coins, arresting a dozen persons and confiscating coins amounting to 1,000,000 lire.
(Europa Press 10.8.44)

TRIESTE The first newspaper boys to issue their own money are doing a thriving business in this town. But they are not the only ones. The great shortage of small change in Italy has induced many businesses to issue their own additional currency. Street car companies have issued little bits of tin stamped with the value and the name of the company. Some shops have adopted bits of cardboard which they will accept in payment for future purchases. New and old postage stamps are also being used, but these have proved of little use owing to their stickiness when moist. Newspaper boys hand out their own money in exchange for legal currency and are willing to take it back again in payment for the next day's newspaper.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

XX. Air Raid Damage.

VENICE Thousands and thousands of Italian fugitives from Allied bombs are camping on the numerous small islands in the lagoons north and south of VENICE. It is as if history is repeating itself. Venice was built by people who escaped to the impassable lagoons from the horrors of the war. Living conditions are extremely primitive on the islands. The supply question is most difficult, but the fugitives are glad to have found this refuge, primitive as it is.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

RIMINI Rimini has been bombed and the front line towards the sea has been evacuated. At RICCIONE, air-raid alerts are being sounded pretty often; part of the town must be evacuated.
(Censorship Intercept 9.11.43).

RASSINA Bad news from Rassina - The cement factory was blown up owing to war reasons. The town has suffered heavy damage (28.7.44)
(Civil Censorship Intercept).

FIGLINE As I write, the factories are being blown up. 26.7.44

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(Civil Censorship Intercept 16.8.44).

LABOUR

XXI. Forced Labour.

The Junkers aircraft factories publish advertisements in the Fascist press announcing further facilities for workers going to Germany, besides the previously stated 5,000 lire bonus and family allowances, namely: the possibility of workers' families being able to accompany workers to Germany, declaring that such an opportunity would hardly be available in the future.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 11.8.44).

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In order to procure men and women for Germany, razzias are carried out on Sundays after Mass. These razzias were started in the villages. Trucks arrived in front of the churches when the faithful were about to come out. All able-bodied men up to 60 years old and the strongest women were arrested and loaded on to the trucks. Razzias are reported from the VALTELLINA and from VAL SASSINA. Several priests who attempted to interfere, were arrested.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 11.8.44).

XXII. Conditions of work in Germany.

The following letter was written from a woman worker in Germany to her mother in Italy: "I have been feverish for the last fortnight, but they make me work 12 hours a day all the same. I am earning 12 to 14 RM a day, but my food costs me six RM a day and then they only give me enough bread and jam for a child. Don't have any illusions about my sending you money and don't expect any. I could earn more, but my self-respect matters to me. You have no idea of the work I have to do. I can't describe it. My hands are unrecognisable.... If you know any people leaving for Germany, tell them to throw themselves under the train rather than come here. I am only allowed to write once a month and I have got to say I am well. I have been taken in by the Germans. I thought that, going as a volunteer, I should be given better, more humane, more civilised treatment, according to the promises they made me before I left. At the age of 18 I have unwittingly found death at the hands of barbarians".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 14.8.44).

XXIII. Strikes.

MILAN It is reported that the MILAN situation is most critical Further hostages were shot after fresh sabotage. New strikes have broken out and the Germans have intensified the deportation of workers to Germany.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 15.8.44).

BRESCIA Brescia workers were on strike from July 24th to July 29th. The strike is reported to be in protest against insufficient salaries, but was really in order to sabotage production.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

CHURCH

XXIV. Pro-Allied Clergy Attacked.

Crociata Italica draws the attention of the Fascist authorities to the fact that in some churches in the MILAN archdiocese at every decade of the Rosary after the doxology, the following

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were arrested and loaded on to the trucks. Razzias are reported from the VALTELLINA and from VAL SASSINA. Several priests who attempted to interfere, were arrested.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 11.8.44).

XXII. Conditions of work in Germany.

The following letter was written from a woman worker in Germany to her mother in Italy: "I have been feverish for the last fortnight, but they make me work 12 hours a day all the same. I am earning 12 to 14 RM a day, but my food costs me six RM a day and then they only give me enough bread and jam for a child. Don't have any illusions about my sending you money and don't expect any. I could earn more, but my self-respect matters to me. You have no idea of the work I have to do. I can't describe it. My hands are unrecognisable.... If you know any people leaving for Germany, tell them to throw themselves under the train rather than come here. I am only allowed to write once a month and I have got to say I am well. I have been taken in by the Germans. I thought that, going as a volunteer, I should be given better, more humane, more civilised treatment, according to the promises they made me before I left. At the age of 18 I have unwittingly found death at the hands of barbarians".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 14.8.44).

XXIII. Strikes.

MILAN It is reported that the MILAN situation is most critical Further hostages were shot after fresh sabotage. New strikes have broken out and the Germans have intensified the deportation of workers to Germany.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 15.8.44).

BRESCIA Brescia workers were on strike from July 24th to July 29th. The strike is reported to be in protest against insufficient salaries, but was really in order to sabotage production.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

CHURCH

XXIV. Pro-Allied Caergy Attacked.

Crociata Italica draws the attention of the Fascist authorities to the fact that in some churches in the MILAN archdiocese at every decade of the Rosary after the doxology, the following ejaculation is always uttered "Deliver us Lord from the sword of the German". The newspaper adds that it does not know how many days' indulgences are attached to such an ejaculation, but that "some quarantines would not be too much either for the priests, who formulated it, or the faithful who repeat it".

The same newspaper requests the Fascist authorities to intervene against the decision of the LOMBARDY Episcopates, by which priests cooperating with the newspaper Crociata Italica are threatened with suspension.
(Dovere Bellinzona 11.8.44).

SECRET

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XXV. Fascists of Ferrara.

Head of the Province VEZZALINI, responsible for the killing of 11 citizens (hostages) following the execution of Federale GHISELLINI by the patriots in November 43.

Ing. Girolamo SAVONUZZI
Avv. P[illegible]ZI
Avv. ZANATTA
Avv. TEGLI
Sost. Proc. del Re Pasquale COLAGRANDE
Rag. TORBOLI
HANAU - father and son

ROSSI
MIRANDOLA, young son of the best tailor in the city
MELCHIORRI, a florist who has a shop in Corso Roma
ALBERTO VERDI, Mayor of Ferrara
Console GIULIO DIVISO, head of the O.V.R.A. (local branch)

Avv. Count RONCHI
Signora CASAI TUMIATI (O.V.R.A.)
DEL FANTE (O.V.R.A.)
The brothers LUBERGNANI.

(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc)

30th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

2 SEP 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY-NO 22.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans

Considereble information has reached us regarding the formation and distribution of partisan brigades in N. Italy. It is reported that the movement is not so strong in LOMBARDY. This is not surprising in view of the fact that the low-lying country does not afford good cover for guerrillas. On the other hand, strikes and sabotage have been more successful in that region than in PIEDMONT.

Civil war appears to be raging in N. Italy. The offensive taken by Black Brigades, Fascist Divisions and German SS formations is encountering an obstinate resistance, and the partisans have inflicted heavy losses even on German forces. The Fascists have now officially adopted the German system of reprisals against hostages, though they content themselves with a more modest quota of victims. For example, the Prefect of NOVARA on 18th July decreed that for every Fascist killed three hostages would be shot, and for every Fascist kidnapped, five hostages would be taken.

Assassinations

Mussolini's ex-private secretary OSVALDO SEBASTIANI, was captured by partisans at PASSIRANO (FRESCIA Prov.) and executed.

Co-operation with Yugoslavs.

The Italian Committee of Liberation and the Yugoslav Committee have agreed to publish a joint newspaper for mixed partisan forces.

Allied Recognition.

The Allied Control Commission paid a tribute to the efforts of the partisans in Tuscany and to the work of the Italian Navy. General Sir Oliver Leese also praised the work of the Italian Corps of Liberation.

FASCIST FORCES

1108

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 776021

SUMMARY

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FASCIST FORCES

1138

According to a decree of the Duce, the G.N.R. will cease to function as police after 31st December and will become part of the fighting arm of the Republican Army.

RICCI resigned the commend of the G.N.R. and Mussolini has taken over the temporary command

Desertions. The recently arrived Monte Rosa Alpine Division has lost large numbers of its men by desertion.

Propaganda Companies. The Italian Divisions trained in Germany have followed the German example and installed propaganda Companies in their midst.

SECRET

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SECRET
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SUMMARY 2.

Guardia di Finanze. These were to be disbanded on August 15th and were to join the G.N.R. or go to Germany. 2,000 Customs Officers who refused to join the Militia were deported. En route, however, half of them escaped.

Black Brigades. These claim successes in their fight with the partisans but their victories seem according to their own account, to have been won over isolated individuals or small groups.

GERMANS

Kesselring has imposed martial law on BOLOGNA, FERRARA, FORLI, MODENA, PARMA, PIACENZA, RAVENNA and REGGIO EMILIA, and threatens to repress sabotage with the greatest severity. Other security measures are the blowing up of certain bridges in the TICINO valley, the evacuation of villages on the Swiss frontier and the prohibition of electric current in a zone 120-130 kilometres from the front.

Atrocities Intercepted Italian letters mention many horrible incidents which may possibly be exagerated, e.g. (OVINDOLI (AQUILA) 2 Indian P.Ws. burnt alive; FLORENCE, children's hands cut off; S. MINIATO, people locked in a Church and blown up with mines.

POLITICS

It is reported from the North that the Action Party is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, but that the Communists complain that they are too keen on politics and do not co-operate with the extreme Left in the fight against Nazis and Fascists.

Fascist Ministries. Ministries/hitherto have been quartered between VENICE and BRESCIA are to be moved further West towards BERGAMO, MILAN and COMO. The COMO region, it is said, will be considered the chief centre of Fascist Government.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The food situation in the big cities is becoming acute. MILAN is without milk, TURIN complains of the bad quality of the bread.

Finance From August 15 Bank Rates are to be generally reduced. There is a great shortage of coins and low-priced currency in Italy. Street car companies, shops etc, issue their own tokens. In TRIESTE newspaper boys have issued a token currency of their own.

LABOUR

The Junkers aircraft factories advertise further facilities in the Fascist press for workers going to Germany. Raids to obtain impressed workers still continue. It is reported from the VALTELLINA and VAL SESIA

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LABOUR

The Junkers aircraft factories advertise further facilities in the Fascist press for workers going to Germany. Raids to obtain impressed workers still continue. It is reported from the VALTELLINA and VAL SESIA that the latest enormity is to seize worshippers as they leave Churches after Sunday services. Priests who protested were arrested.

Strikes. New strikes are said to have begun again in MILAN. BRESCIA workers also struck from July 24th to July 29th.

THE CHURCH

The "Crociata Italica" (Fascist clerical paper) protests that in some MILAN churches the faithful pray to be delivered from the sword of the German, and also asks the Fascist authorities to prevent the Bishop's of LOMBARDY from suspending priests who work for the "Crociata Italica".

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To: INTERIOR

23rd August, 1944.

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans Information is beginning to reach us about the organisation and activities of patriot bands in the Appennine zone north of the Arno. A "Corps" of about 6000 men with H[illegible] at MONTEFIORINO controls an area between MODENA and MASSA-CARRARA. This corps is in touch with bands in the GARFAGNANA, organised by a British officer, and on the other flank with the bands in the PARMA district. The first two groups are well armed as they have received many weapons and much ammunition from the Allies.

In northern Italy a veritable civil war is raging between partisans and "Black Brigades", supported by German punitive expeditions. It seems that in spite of losses, and savage German reprisals on defenceless villages, the Patriots on the whole appear to be holding their own and infliciting heavy casualties. Close contact seems to have been established with the French Maquis.

Sabotage Reports up to the end of July indicate that sabotage is widespread. Briges and trains appear to be the chief objectives.

Assassinations The removal of Fascists is proceeding steadily. The principal victims this week are GIOVANNI TULLO, former Mayor of TALMASSON, and the industrialist PEGHETTI of MILANO.

FASCIST FORCES

The S.MARCO Division was last reported in ALESSANDRIA, and elements of the BERSAGLIERE "ITALI" Division were observed in PAVIA It is said that towards the end of June two Italian Divisions coming from Germany killed their officers and dispersed, a great part joining the patriots. It is not yet known to which of the new Italian divisions this report refers, but one is believed to be operating in PIEDMONT on the side of the patriots, and the other in the VAL CAMONICA, VAL TROMPIA and SABBIA valley.

Desertions Up to 24th July desertions from the Fascist Army and police to the patriots are estimated at 1,245 officers and N.C.Os

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A Milanese source reports that Fascist soldiers recently arrived in MILAN thought they were destined for the ANZIO front. When they heard that the front was now at FLORENCE, about 25% deserted.

GERMANS

Behaviour From the north it is reported that the behaviour of the occupying troops, hitherto correct, is becoming more undisciplined. In COMO officers are said to be letting themselves go in the matter of food and drink.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. [illegible]

SECRET

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SUMMARY 2.

Atrocities The sorry tale of reprisals continues. The latest incidents come from CUMANIA, VAL SESIA, CRISPINI, TRIESTE (where in April 100 hostages were shot and 51 hanged for 2 bomb incidents), CALUSO (AOSTA Province) CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI, MELETO, S.MARTINO (VALDARNO). In the M. SACIARI area two wounded partisans had their eyes put out and were finished off with knives.

In AREZZO province from 17th June to 3rd July 224 persons were massacred in various localities.

At TANCIA near M. S. GIOVANNI, it is said that even children of two years of age were killed, being stood on chairs as they were not tall enough for the height of the Machine Gun fire.

POLITICS

A press polemic is raging between GIOVANNI REZIOSI, High Commissioner for racial questions in the Corriere della Sera and FARINACCI, in Regima Fascista. PAVOLINI was forced to intervene.

PAVOLINI, the Secretary of the Party, was himself wounded recently in a clash with the partisans.

Political tendencies. The VALDARNO The prevailing tendency in the industrial zone is Communist. The peasants are indifferent.

TRIESTE While the whole city is violently anti-German, the active propgganda is carried on by Slav refugees and is Communist. Trieste has been annexed by the Germans and the Fascist Party has no voice there. In fact, on 20th September the notorious squadrista SALERNO, appointed Prefect of Trieste, was expelled by the German SS in 12 hours.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The situation in N. Italy is deteriorating rapidly, as the peasants, for fear of the Germans removing their grain, are refusing to thresh their wheat.. The situation in TRIESTE is very bad, as the city is entirely dependent on the hinterland and the Germans systematically export all they can to Germany or to German troops in Italy.

Fuel and Power. Electric power in TURIN has again been reduced.

Transport The situation is quite chaotic. Petrol stocks are almost exhausted owing to air raids and tyre shortage is likely to cause the cessation of motor transport. The railway system has almost entirely broken down.

Finance Inflation grows daily. The Gazzetta del Popolo estimetes the public Debt at 600 milliard lire. Certain MILAN banks are refusing to pay cheques issued in VENETO and LIGURIA

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Industry. More factories are reported to have had their machinery removed to Germany.

LABOUR

Hitler and Mussolini have recently agreed to put all Italians interned in Germany at Himmler's and Goebel 's disposal for forced labour. Although many Italians are seized for labour in Germany, most succeed in escaping en route and few reach their destination.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

23rd August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12.
APO 512.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

23rd August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Further information has recently been received on partisan bands in the neighbourhood of the Gothic line from two Italian naval officers who crossed the line shortly before July 31st.

The most important and best organised band has its HQ at MONTEFIORINO and is organised as a "Corps" covering the area SAN MARTINO-PIAN DELAGOTTI-PASSO DELLE RADICI-PASSO DELLE FORBICI-MONTE GIOVARELLO-MONTE SCALOREDOLO-high ground between CEREDOLO and MONTE SANTA GIULIA.

Patrols from the "Corps" cover the surrounding areas reaching by day and by night, the latter in particular, to a distance of 25-30 Kms from the above line. Other bands occupy the area of SESTOLA and FANANO in the MODENA area. The patrols operating in the area of REGGIO are in contact with the bands in the PARMA area. The "Corps" has a strength of about 6,500 men, of which 1,000 are at present without arms.

These bands were confining their attention to the garrison of the above mentioned areas and to raids on the GIARDINI DEL CERRETO road, attacking the Germans on the march. There were also occasional raids on the EMILIA road

Results obtained through the destruction of bridges included the interruption of transport on the GIARDINI road and of motor convoys for about one week on the CERRETO road. During June about 15 bridges were destroyed on the secondary and main roads. The German telephone line between MODENA and BOLOGNA has been cut.

The electric power stations at LIGONCHIO, FARNETA, PIETRAVOLTA, GAZZANA and STARTARA were in the hands of the partisans who limited productivity to the needs of the civilian population.

[illegible] bands of partisans were forming, already equipped

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Around BISENZIO bands of partisans were forming, already equipped with enough explosive to blow up the road parallel to BISENZIO and to the main railway line (direttissima) FLORENCE-BOLOGNA (a road carrying a great deal of German military traffic). The carrying out of such an operation would be made possible by dropping arms in the area sufficient to enable the partisans to block the road, which is closely guarded, for the time neeessary to destroy it.

The two Italian officers interrogated gave the following list of partisan bands whom they had encountered on their route:

APELLA (TAVERNELLE) About 50 men armed with Tommy guns, Italian

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hand grenades, pistols, 2 L.M.Gs and 1 Hvy M.G. They had sent away many volunteers through not having arms for them.

RIGOSO About 150 men, fairly well armed. As was generally the case this band could have increased its personnel if it had the means of of arming them. It lacked also medical supplies and money.

MONTE TONDO DI GARFAGNANA A band commanded by a British Major/from the Commandos, dropped by parachute together with a British W/T operetor and five Italian Officer Specialists. It is amongst the best organised and equipped as regards arms and means of communications. It was not yet in contact with the more distant band in the same zone. Sources established contact for it with the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO. So far it has only about 85 men.

CAPANNE (GARFAGNA) A band of about 50 men, adequately armed. In touch with Major J for receiving parachute supplies.

CORTE A band of about 30 men armed with British automatic weapons. In touch with Major J.

Area surrounding CIVAGO Bands in this area are under command of the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO.

OSPITALE (beyond the GIARDINI road and out of the area of the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO.) A point of contact between the mobile forces of the "Corps" and the roving bands depending on partisan commands in TUSCANY Generally these were about 30 strong. The bands in TUSCANY generally had a better armament than those in the area of MODENA or LIGURIA, having receive d supplies more regularly by parachute; while their means of obtaining food were worse.

ALPE TRE POTENZE A well-armed band (about 250 men) with many Russians and some English who had escaped from prison camps, together with two wireless operators.

MANDROMINI A band of about 40 men, adequately armed. With them was an Italian woreless operator, without radio, lost during descent.

PORTAFRANCE (Near ORSIGNA) A well-armed band of about 30 men. In contect with MANDROMINI and the bands of TUSCANY.

DONNA MORTA (Near ORSIGNA) Well armed band of about 30. In contact with MANDROMINI and bands in TUSCANY.

ORSIGNA Occupied by the "Buozzi Brigade" under the MONTEFIORINI "Corps" H.Q., who were carrying out raids about 15 July 44 on the PORRETTANA road and in the area of PRACCHIA.

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Supplies for these bands by parachute were generally received fairly regularly even though often, after being warned by radio and with good weather conditions, nothing is dropped. In one area peasants nearby reproduced the flares and received the supplies instead. Source recommended frequent changes of layout flares to avoid this. Radio sets were frequently received disassembled without technical personnel or instructions.
(G.2 Advanced Intelligence 13.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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another source gave information about the partisan bands in the CARRARA area.

In the zone MASSAROSA-CARRARA and APUAN Alps immediately behind there is a well organised band which is well armed and kept supplied by regular parachute drops; it consists of about 50 men who all come from the district. It was formed in May, and the leader of the band is W/O Domenico AZZARI, aged 23/24 an ex ardite who has plentiful supplies of money, but who is probably rather an adventurer. The band was considered by source to have a strong communist tendency.

In the MONTE SOGNO-TAMBARA-PISANINO zone there is a band of about 300 mixed refugees. They are reported to have occupied the town of FORNO on the day of the allied landing in France. After this attack two Pls of the M.S Flotilla from SPEZIA and seme Germans in three trucks came to FORNO and assassinated 62 men and women in the village, who were taken at random from their houses as a reprisal for the action of the band. Among the victims were the Maresciallo and the Appuntato of the Carabinieri.
(P.W.B. Advanced 8.8.44).

TRIESTE

The patriots are active in the whole province, and organisation is very good. TRIESTE is the centre of organisation for UDINE, GORIZIA, CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI, MONFALCONE. There is strict collaboration too with partisan forces of MONTE GRAPPA and with the DIVISIONE ALPINA JULIA.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M.)

BREUIL

A French civilian source who crossed the lines on July 22nd stated that the highway connecting BREUIL with CHATILLON is entirely under the control of Italian partisans. Large contingents of partisans who are operating under the command of an Italian army captain, are concentrated in this region. They largely outnumber German garrisons in this sector. Despite a lack of weapons, equipment and ammunition the partisans supposedly have the situation well in hand, due (1) to their numerical superiority, and (2) to the fact that most WEHRMACHT troops garrisoned in this region are CZECHS, who, to a certain extent, co-operate with the partisans. The German garrison of BERUIL is a detachment of 10 men only, who maintain a daily courier service with their unit at CHATILLON. The partisans, it is claimed, have made an agreement with the Germans in this sector, which permits them to control the courier service on highway BREUIL-CHATILLON. According to this agreement no

1154

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 770021

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(G2 Fifth Army Report No 698. 26.7.44).
SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

SECRET

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The "Gruppi Gappi" and "Squadre d'Azione".

Partisan activity in the city of FLORENCE was carried on by the "Gruppi Gappi" and the "Squadre d'Azione", the former were small detachments of trained men, including Garibaldini, who did the more dangerous work of dispatching Fascists or carrying out sabotage. These groups had been responsible for the deaths of GENTILE, COL. INGARANO, COL. GOBBI, and a colonel in charge of the Istituto Geografico all notorious Fascists and collaborationists with the Germans. On instructions from "Radio Combatte" from Rome they had also killed VOLPINI, who had fled north to Florence after the fall of Rome. Volpini was held responsible for the deaths of ten English people. The "Squadre d'Azione" were groups of young men whose principal task was to help the civilian population by personal service, maintain morale, transport Allied news and information, and act as informants.

The Committee of Liberation considered that the main value of partisan activity in the town had been to deny to the Germans the services of the Republican Fascists. The Fascists were the instruments through whom the Germans exercised control over the civilian population. By shadowing them, and rendering their actions void, or if necessary by dispatching them for good and all, the Germans were deprived of these tools. Partisan activity was not so much directed against the Germans (because of the discrepancy of arms, which made this impossible) as against the Fascist traitors.

The hold-up of the Allies on the CASSINO front greatly reduced partisan activity. The long wait sent people into hiding. Many would have risked taking part in active anti-German operations even with the very limited means at their disposal had the Allied advance been more rapid or at least continuous.
(P.W.B. advanced)

German Precautionary Measures against partisans. In May partisan activity in the area of BERGAMO and north of MILAN was on the increase. A PW was told in May by an Italian engineer of the (destroyed) MACCHI works at VARESE that a number of German troops had been killed by snipers. It was known to PW that certain roads in the above mentioned areas were declared out of bounds to German troops.

In BRESCIA itself a revolt in the town was thought possible and 256 AA Bty worked out firing charts, showing about 100 keypoints in this location, on which fire would be directed in case of an open outbreak.
(SSDIC 8th Army Report 2.8.44).

Anti-Fascist Activities in MILAN. An Allied source who escaped from German-occupied Italy after being in MILAN and other districts that anti-Fascist activity often took the form of Communist or Fascist slogans against Allied air-raids. Three examples of this type of propaganda were:

1. Writing upon bombed-out German Headquarters "10 German officers killed in this Kindergarten".

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760031

instructions from Italia Combattente from Rome they had also killed VOLPINI, who had fled north to Florence after the fall of Rome. Volpini was held responsible for the deaths of four English people. The "Squadre d'Azione" were groups of young men whose principal task was to help the civilian population by personal service, maintain morale, transport Allied news and information, and act as informants.

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Anti-Fascist Activities in MILAN. An Allied force who escaped from German-occupied Italy after being in MILAN and other districts that anti-Fascist activity often took the form of caricatures or Fascist slogans against Allied air raids. Three examples of this type of propaganda were:

1. Writing upon bombed-out German Headquarters "10 German officers killed in this Kindergarten".

2. After a raid at LAMBRATE, a burnt trainload of aircraft engines was inscribed "English cowards! our war effort is ruined".

3. In the same place, half-destroyed [illegible] of paper for newspapers were inscribed "toilet-paper for Fascists and other kindred rabble".
(P.W.B. Italian Report 8.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759121

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Various partisan activities.

EMILIA The latest National Resistance Communique announces a big battle which is taking place in EMILIA between 6,000 partisans and German forces, superior in number and material. In spite of their inferiority the partisans inflicted considerable losses on the enemy and captured three artillery batteries. After several days' fighting the partisan brigades received orders to withdraw in small groups, taking their captured booty with them. Several bloody clashes with the enemy are reported from the ABETONE district. The insurrectional movement in the LA SPEZIA zone is spreading. In the province of PADUA partisans attacked the 18th Blackshirt Brigade, from which a number of desertions are reported, in spite of German control. COMO partisans challenged the Second Blackshirt Division.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.8.44).

MILAN On the morning of August 8th a time bomb exploded on a German army truck in MILAN. Five people, including a woman, were killed and four others died of injuries. Thirteen were wounded by splinters. The Milan Commander of the German Security Police stated in the press that the attack had been carried out by members of the GAP organisation (Gruppi Azione Partigiani), which was composed of ordinary and political criminals. On August 10th in Milan a Fascist Captain was killed and some soldiers were severly wounded. As a reprisal for these two attacks 26 previously arrested GAP members were sentenced to death. Fifteen were shot on August 10. The same fate will be ordered for the others if sabotage reoccurs. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 11. 8.44).

VAL DI TARO In the Val Di Taro the operations continue on a vast scale between groups of patriots and Nazi Fascist troops. The Germans have more than 500 men, a considerable quantity of war material, means of transport and food reserves. A Nazi Fascist Battalion has been attacked and dispersed in the high valley of the STAFFORA. The enemy has left 200 dead and many wounded.
(P.W.B. Rome 10.8.44).

BEDONIA About 1000 partisans in the BEDONIA region repulsed an energetic mopping up operation, causing notable losses to the Germans, capturing 88 guns and many machine-guns. Patriots of the Garibaldi Brigade from the provinces of MODENA and REGGIO disarmed garrisons occupying FRASSINORO, TOANO, VILLA MINOZZO, LIGONCHIO, BUSANO, COLLAGNA, RAMISETO and CEREDOLO. The Fascist replied by attempting strong mopping-up operations, supported by tanks and mortars, but were repulsed, losing 90 killed and wounded. The same Garibaldi Brigade also clashed near VILLA with 200 Germans and 300 Fascists who suffered 100 dead and 40 wounded after two days' fighting.

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(Stampa Turin 5.8.44).

MEINA Piedmont partisans have carried out a daring coup de main against the SIMPLON line, interrupting the same in the MEINA region.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

MILAN Squads from groups of the Azione Patriottica are energetically operating right inside Milan, attacking a German motor column on July 11th in the station square. A big German truck was completely destroyed and several Germans were killed and many wounded.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788221

SECRET
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PIEDMONT The Italian clandestine newspaper "Il Partigiano Alpino" reports numerous actions carried out by partisans in northern Italy. In PIEDMONT, partisan troops occupied the villages of PONZONE, VALLE MOSSO and (?SESSERA.) and, still holding them, are forcing the textile factories in the region to increase workers' salaries. A German detachment was attacked at STAFFARDA and suffered 20 dead and 15 wounded.
(Gazette de Lausanne 9.8.44).

PARMA It is announced from PARMA that 400 German SS stationed in PALANZANO were engaged in mopping-up operations against partisans operating in the Parmesan Apennines.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 8.8.44).

UDINE The Questor of UDINE, together with the principal municipal officials, were arrested by the SS and deported to Germany for not collaborating sufficiently with the occupation authorities. The Gold Medallist and Fascist BARBA, former deputy Mayor of UDINE was imprisoned in the local goal for refusing to collaborate with the Fascist authorities. A call-up in Udine of the 1912-1926 classes was ordered by the occupation authorities, but resulted in a farce, as the only person presenting himself was a hunchback.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 9.8.44).

German motor columns were attacked by the patricts near ARTA in the Province of Udine. Three German soldiers were killed, three wounded, many vehicles damaged and destroyed. The same group afterwards attacked another enemy convoy of supplies near ESEMON, near CADORE, capturing five motorised courrier, killing three German soldiers and taking others prisoners.

PASSO DI SAN UBALDO On 20th July a patriot group holding the PASSO DI SAN UBALDO was attacked in force by German soldiers. The Germans were repulsed with 30 dead and 50 wounded while 12 patriots were killed.
(Confidential Source 14.8.44).

ARONA Having heard that a German SS Battalion some distance from TURIN had to transfer to LAKE MAGGIORE, some patriots who work near ARONA blew up a viaduct on the way. The result was that the train which carried the German soldiers fell down the ravine with nearly all the waggons. The enemy losses were 30 dead and 200 wounded. For reprisal the German command sent two battalions of SS into the provinces of BOLZANO and TRENTO, which ravaged the countryside for more than ten days.
(P.W.B. Rome 8.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

VERONA On the night of July 24th, following an agreement made between the heads of the patriots and the allies, the first act of sabotage on a grand scale was put into action, in the zone of VERONA. Not less than 43 attacks were made in order to interrupt or delay the enemy military communications on the following railway lines:
VICENZA to VERONA, PADOVA, CITTADELLA, SCHIO and RECOARO

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CASTELFRANCO to TREVISO, CITTADELLA, BASSANO, MONTEBELLUNO CAMPOSANPIERO and TRENTO
CITTADELLA to CAMPOSANPIERO, BASSANO, GRISIGNANO and OSTIGLIA

The damage done to these lines caused interruptions of various lengths of time, from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 40 hours, completely blocking the communications for 10 days.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

SECRET
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The important powder factory of ROSSANO VENETO was blown up by a group of patriots.

During a plucky attack against the station of VICENZA two locomotives and a high tension line were destroyed. The patriots also damaged railway bridges at CITTADELLA.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

UDINE at FORGARIA a train full of ammuniction was blown up. At VEZONE a certain piece of the railway has been interrupted and at BORDANO the electric plant has been completely destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 12.8.44).

III. Assassinations.

Seven members of the "Black Brigade" composed of Blackshirts were killed by guerrillas at MONCALIERI while they were guarding the body of the town's Federal Commissioner who was killed a few days ago.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 2.8.44).

The former Mayor of TALMASSON, GIOVANNI TULLO, was shot in the street while walking with friends. Two unknown men on bicycles managed to escape.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 26.7.44).

In MILAN two patriots have executed in his home the Fascist industrialist airman PEGHETTI, collaborator with the Germans.
(P.W.B. Rome 17.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Disposition.

According to reliable sources elements of the S. MARCO Division have arrived recently in the zone of ALESSANDRIA. As is known from previous reports, it seems that this G.U., commanded by General PRINCIVALLE, is composed of very young elements from concentration camps in Germany and would have a strength of about 12,000 men. The division finished its training in the camp of GRAFENWOHR.

Elements of the Bersaglieri division "Italia" have arrived in PAVIA. The division possesses the normal armament of a German infantry division. As was already known, this G.U. is commanded by Gen. CARLONI and finished its training in the HEUBERG camp.
(Italian Official Source 8.8.44).

There is a training camp at ALESSANDRIA for junior infantry officers. The Commander of the school was Major ZURLETTI, helped by [illegible] and Lt. IVALDI.

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TURIN The Provincial Command was headed by Colonel MARZOCCHI (according to previous reports the provincial commander was General VALLETTI BORGNINI), assisted by Lt. Colonels LORI and BOERIS and Capt. VETERE.
(Italian Official Source 8.8.44).

VARESE The measures which the Republican authorities have been obliged to take in VARESE Province prove the fact that the Fascists do not feel sure of the Province, where the activity of the patriots is particularly strong, and where the population also openly show their hostility. In MARZIO on the VARESE-LUINO railway, barracks have been prepared for 1000 Italian SS, charged with the maintenance of order in the region. In GAVIRATE, 150 parachutists of the "Nimbo" Legion have

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arrived from LAZIO, where they say they fought against the Allies. Their morale is very low and they are unable to hide their dissatisfaction.

The morale of the PAI (Italian African Police) living in BUSTO ARSIZIO, is no better. Everywhere there is fear of being sent to German camps for a period of training. The same fear exists among the survivors of the "San Marco" Battalion, who were sent from the Cassino front to rest at VENTIMIGLIA. The Battalion, which originally contained 1000 men, has been reduced to 250. Some were killed and others deserted.
(Popolo e Liberta 7.8.44)

TRIESTE The only Fascist forces there are elements belonging to the SS, who do not number more than 50, and have been well chosen for their spy work and collaboration with the Germans.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

RIVOLI In the zone of RIVOLI TORINESE there was an SS Command headed by a Colonel; it occupied a villa opposite to a seminary which was being built near the church of S. Grato. In the seminary was billeted about a thousand SS who belonged mostly to the 1920 and 1925 classes. The individual armament consisted of a rifle model 38. Morale was very low, and many showed a wish to desert as soon as they were sent into the zone of operations.
(Italian Official Source 13.8.44).

MARRADI At BRISIGHELLA there is an Italian garrison of the Republican Military Board of Health, composed of 100 men.

At MARRADI and in the neighbourhood there are only Fascist Militiamen who always appear together with the Germans, as they would not dare to do anything alone. At MARRADI, BRISIGHELLA and district no carabinieri has been seen recently. At TRADOSSIO there are only a few Fascist Militia. At SELAVAPIANA as well as at BADIA PRATAGLIA there are many Fascists. In the MANDRIOLO Passes there are about 20 carabinieri, paid by the Germans, who are in very low spirits, knowing what their end will be.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.)

GNR. General RICCI, Commander of the GNR, reviewed a Blackshirt detachment on August 7th, near VENICE. These Militiamen will leave for Germany, where they will be trained for ARP service.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.8.44).

V. Desertions.

MILAN An industrialist who met Italian soldiers arrived at Milan from Germany noted that they had expected to be going to the Anzio front and were startled to hear that the front was now at FLORENCE. The effect was that about 25% deserted.
(P.I.D. Intelligence Summary 7.8.44).

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(P.I.D. Intelligence Summary 7.8.44).

ALESSANDRIA It is reported that about mid-June the entire force of Carabinieri of ALESSANDRIA deserted.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 17.8.44).

Two Fascist Divisions, after being trained and fitted out by the Germans, were sent to Italy about the end of June. As soon as the train which carried them had passed the frontier the soldiers of the two divisions stopped the convoy and killed the officers. A great

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part of the soldiers joined up with the patriots. It is reported that one of these divisions now works in PIEDMONT and the other in LOMBARDY, where they help with the control of the CAMONICA, TROMPIA and SABBIA valleys.

Desertions from the Fascist army have continued during the last weeks. Up to the 24th July the following number of soldiers have surrendered - In LOMBARDY 245 officers and non-coms, and 986 ORs.- in PIEDMONT 330 officers and non-coms: and 765 ORs. - in LIGURIA 131 officers and non-coms: and 544 ORs. The total is 706 officers and non-coms: and 2695 ORs. Adding to this number elements from the police, militia, air force and navy one arrives at the total of 1245 officers and non-coms: and 3768 troopers.
(P.W.B. Rome 16.8.44).

VI. Evasion of oath of allegiance by Reserve Officers.

Several thousand reserve officers of all service classes living in MILAN, have received written orders from the military KOMMANDANTUR to take the oath of allegiance to Mussolini and the Republic. The oath has been under discussion for some time. The Fascist press reports that many of these notices were returned because persons had departed leaving no address.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 10.8.44).

VII. Fascist forces in action against partisans.

A regular civil war is reported to be raging in the Italian northern Provinces since two Fascist divisions arrived from training centres in Germany, where recently Mussolini inspected them. The decision to use Fascist troops against partisans was taken at the last meeting with Hitler and Mussolini. Italian partisan HQ reports that numerous deserters from Mussolini's divisions have arrived at their lines, where they are now fighting against their former comrades.
(Svenska Dagbladet. 5.8.44).

VIII. Collapse of Fascist Navy.

The Fascist Navy is practically non-existent. In SPEZIA there are only a few MAS and anti-submarine craft. The construction of two cruisers has been suspended. Almost all the sailors compulsorily enlisted in the Fascist Navy have fled, some to the maquis and some to Switzerland.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 2.8.44).

IX. Atrocities.

In GENOA in the middle of July about 70 political prisoners 1751
were taken from the MARASSI gaol to the hills near the town. The GNR forced the prisoners to dig their own common graves. The work lasted three days in order to prolong the torture of the victims.

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 1.8.44).

GERMANS

X. Disposition.

MARRADI There are more than 2000 German infantry near MARRADI between BRISIGHELLA and BORGO S. LORENZO. Near Marradi there are also two anti-aircraft posts with 5/6 guns.

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At TRADOSSIO there are many Germans, also at GALEATA and at S. SOFIA various German Commands and anti-aircraft posts
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.)

TRIESTE The city is garrisoned by a small force, about 1000 and about 1000 SS, with about 10 tanks.
(P.W.B. Rome. U.M. to end of June).

PWs from the Inf. Lehr Regt. say that their CO has indicated that the line of the ARNO will not be defended "to the last man". A recent bulletin signed by HITLER has been distributed to German soldiers telling them that the defensive phase of the war will be over in six weeks and that from then on the German Army will once more take the offensive. PWs. agreed that morale in the regiment was high and that it was considerably bolstered by this proclamation from Hitler.
(5th Army G.2 Report 11.8.44).

XI. Behaviour.

It is reported from COMO that German behaviour has become less correct and more aggressive. Officers now drink, sing and overeat with rather forced gaiety. Fresh fruits, such as cherries, are all seized by the Germans who sell things they receive from Germany, especially in exchange for civilian clothes. They often consume large amounts in restaurants, and then refuse to pay more than a fraction of the bill.
(P.I.D. 10.7.44).

After strenuous efforts the German Waffen-SS has carried out a successful mopping-up operation in the PARMA APENNINES between the UPPER PARMA Valley and the ENZA Valley, sacking and burning down all the villages in the region, including RUSINO and MORAGNANO. The following is the method of procedure: The first group deported all the able-bodied men; the second group removed furniture and linen; a third removed all the cattle, and the last group burned the houses. In one village eight people were hung by the feet.
(Gazette de Lausanne 7.8.44).

Three deserters captured by the allies stated that they turned themselves in rather than obey the following orders given on withdrawal of their unit over the ARNO;

1. Poison all wells.
2. Kill or steal all cattle.
3. Shangai all males between ages 18 and 45 for work in GERMANY.

(XIII Corps Intelligence Summary 11.8.44).

Italian prisoners are interrogated at three consequetive times and in three different places. During the interrogation the Germans induce the prisoners to talk with coercive measures as well as threats with arms.

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The concentration camp for Italian prisoners is at BOLOGNA.
(Italian Official Source)(13.8.44).

About one thousand Italian workers and a score of Germans soldiers were killed during an Allied bombardment of DALMINE steelworks which ere producing for Germany. Large numbers of casualties were caused owing to the fact that the Germans did not allow workers to leave the factory during an air raid in order not to lessen production. Even when it became clear that planes were directly attacking plant German

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guards prevented the arms workers from the leaving the factory. (P.I.D. 17.7.44).

With reference to the German propaganda drive in German-occupied Italy during May 1944, the following secret document from the Chief of the SS in Italy exposes the falsehood of promises that partisans who gave themselves up and surrendered their arms would not be punished.

1) The DUCE has issued a decree which gives assurance that all partisans or fugitives will not be punished if they present themselves within the 24 hours of the day 25.5.44 at an Italian or German Police Command or at an Italian or German Military Command and deliver up their arms.

2) In the chief cities of the Province, attached to the police posts, collection centres will be instituted for those reporting and for the arms they turn in. The Police stations should place themselves in contact with the Military Commanders and the Prefects in order to establish in each Province a camp, in which those reporting can be houses until their transport to Germany..... The transport to Germany of those who report will be undertaken by the Chief of military administration - Chief Labour Division and by those responsible in each sector.....
(P.W.B. German Intelligenee).

XII. Morale.

According to a reliable observer in north LOMBARDY all members of the German army continue to give the military salute, to the exclusion of the Nazi salute now ordered by Hitler.

Two middle-aged Field Security Policemen and a young Luftwaffe soldier, all Bavarians, were conversing in German in a north Italian public vehicle and supposed that no one could understand them. Discussing how long the war would continue one of the F.S.Ps. said "If only what was attempted last Thursday were to succeed, it would all be over". The other observed that "If we still try to win, it will take a year to lose, but naturally it should be finished in two months". The young airmana as lacking in enthusiasm as his elders, observed of the new weapons that "The others will know the answer always, and then everything will be destroyed".
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

During July the Germans ordered the fields in lower FRIULI to be ploughed as they fear the possibility of a landing of allied airborne troops. 1150
(Libera Stamps, Lugano 9.8.44).

The Germans are much afraid of the partisans. For example on the 12th July two partisan companies crossed the CONSUME. They

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On July 26th source spoke with a German Lieutenant who said that it was too bad that Hitler was still alive, as the war would have to go on. Nevertheless in spite of their low morale the German soldiers still fight well.
(P.W.B. Rome, P.A., P.V. and S.M.).

A P.W. who deserted to the Allies on August 15th said that on his last leave in BERLIN in January 44 he found people generally depressed, and hoping that war would soon be over one way or the other. But he found the morale generally better in Berlin than on the front in

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Italy, particularly since the Allied offensive began in May. (P.W.B. Advanced 16.8.44).

Many prisoners have arrived from Germany, some of whom were near PEPPINO, and we hope to see him arrive from one day to the other, unless he has remained in GORIZIA or BRESCIA awaiting events, that is to say the collapse of Germany. These prisoners, among whom a friend of Peppino, have been released through lack of food... (Censorship intercept 7.8.44).

XIII. Atrocities.

CUMANIA As a reprisal for a partisan attack all the men between 14 and 70 were taken and 68 were condemned to death. As the Fascists refused to execute the sentence a German officer killed the prisoners in cold blood one by one with a shot through the neck. (P.W.B. Rome 7.8.44).

VAL SESIA Yesterday, in order to show that they intend to carry out their threat of shooting 25 persons for each one shot by us, they themselves carried out the shooting, and then massacred 28 citizens as hostages. They took men, women and children at random and killed them where they found them; even one sick person was assassinated in his bed.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 20.7.44).

CRISPINO 16 persons were killed at Crispino (reprisal for action by 4th Garibaldi brigade). As usual the victims were obliged to dig their own graves and then they were killed with M.G. fire. Amongst this number was the parish priest of Crispino who had always been considered by the population as Fascist, but his Nazi Republican ideas didn't save him.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.).

TRIESTE On 15th April 10 Germans were killed in a cinema. 100 hostages were taken and immediately shot. After a fortnight another attempt was made in a house at Via Grega 15, ex Italian officers' club, transformed after September into a German nom-com. club. A time bomb was taken in at one oclock in the morning by a man disguised in German uniform. It went off at 13.30 causing the death of 5 German soldiers. At 17.00 hrs on the same day 51 Italians were hanged in the same house and were then exposed at the windows, where they remained for two days. Terrible atrocities were also committed against the Jews.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M. to end of June).

CALUSO - province of AOSTA A contingent of German SS and Italians took 14 political prisoners from the new prisons of TURIN, massacred them and threw them into a ditch.
In the CONTRADE S. PANCRAZIO, in the same municipality the Germans took every inhabitant from the houses and killed them with revolver shots; there were about 70 persons. Then they set fire to the village immediately afterwards.
(P.W.B. Rome 16.8.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome 16.8.44).

VALDARNO When the miners of the VALDARNO zone refused to accompany the Germansback to Germany the Hermann Goering Division, on the 7th July attacked the villages of CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI, MELETO, SAN MARTINO. They took 40 hostages, made them burn houses and crops. Then they shot more than 200 civilians, among whom were women and children. To end up they destroyed the corpses, turning flame throwers on the dead and wounded. On June 20th in the MONTE SCARAI an old peasant of over 70 years of age, and a boy of 13 were captured by the Germans. They were accused of having helped the partisans and were hanged, together with 17 of the latter

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who had been taken on July 20th. In the MONTE SACRARI also two wounded partisans captured in a house had their eyes put out and were finished off by the Germans with knife thrusts. On July 19th in MONTE MUGNAIO eight civilians were killed and a boy of 14 was castrated. (P.A., P.V. and S.M. P.W.B. Rome).

AREZZO In 15 days alone from 17th June to 3rd July 224 persons were massacred in various localities. Among the victims was the parish priest of CHIANA, killed by the Germans whilst giving absolution to 45 hostages.

CONTIGLIANO COLLE BACCARO At TANCIA in the vicinity of MONTE SAN GIOVANNI they even killed children aged 2, and as they did not reach the height of machine gun fire they were stood on chairs. (Censorship Intercept. 3.8.44).

MARCELLINA 9 men disfigured and murdered.

SCAURI I can only tell you that they put the people in line and urged them to double time and brutally whipped one poor blind woman unable to hurry, who was shot, together with her brother who came to her defence.

VIGNANELLO For one dead German they killed 35 inhabitants, just taking anyone from the streets.

GIOVANNI VAL D'ARNO For the death of one German and wounding another they turned the guns on the town; then they went through the houses and took all the men they found; they took 62 and shot 40. The other 22, after being forced to dig the graves of the 40 were held as hostages, in order to keep the population under control.

OFFAGNA 7 people were killed point blank by the German soldiers; the killed people were all of the same family and among them there was a little girl two years old. (Civil Censorship intercepts).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XIV. Reception at Trieste.

[illegible] very efficacious. The most listened to programmes are those from London at 22.30 and 23 on short waves - 31 and 49 metres. Every slav and Italian family listens to these two transmissions. Medium wave transmissions are very disturbed. (P.W.B. Rome U. M. to end of June).

POLITICS.

XV. Another rift in Fascist Party

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POLITICS.

XV. Another rift in Fascist Party

New press polemics have started between two Fascist leaders. The High Commissioner for Racial Questions, GIOVANNI PREZIOSI, attacked FARINACCI, accusing him in Corriere della Sera of being a liar. Farinacci replied with violence in Regime Fascista which provoked a new polemic between the two, who were formerly known for their friendship. PAVOLINI intervened, uring the adversaries to devote their energies to "grave problems" of the present hour.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.8.44).

XVI. Pavolini wounded in action against the Partisans.

The Secretary of the Party, Minister PAVOLINI was wounded in a fight against bandits in the mountains of PIEDMONT.

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As commander of the newly founded Blackshirt divisions the Minister and his staff visited the area of operations and participated in an action which was just being carried out. The Minister, who personally led a patrol party, was wounded, together with a few comrades of the 10th Italian MTB Flotilla, among them the Federal Secretary of BRESCIA and the Federal Vice-Secretary of TURIN.

Immobilised by his injury PAVOLINI had to remain lying for four hours under fire, until he could be rescued by a German patrol party. His state of health does not give any cause for anxiety. (T.P. 12.8.44)

XVII. Political tendencies in Trieste and Valdarno.

The prevailing tendency in the industrial zone of VALDARNO is Communist. The peasants are non-political. The Clergy do much propaganda in the villages.
(F..., P.V., and S.M. P.W.B. Rome).

TRIESTE is the centre of the LITORALE ADRIATICO and since the 10th September has been entirely under German control. Besides the province of TRIESTE proper there are also included UDINE, GORIZIA, FIUME, POLA. Trieste is the headquarters of the High Commissioner, DOTT. RAINER (no judgment made by the civil tribunals is valid unless countersigned by him). Only the Communist party exists, but the population is united in its hatred of the Germans. There are many slav refugees there and the anti-Fascist and anti-German propaganda is carried on entirely by them, although the people of the city are Italian in outlook.

The Fascist Party has no power and no authority there. On the 20th September the Fascist Party sent there as Prefect the notorious Squadrist SARTORIO, but the SS gave him 12 hours to get out of the city on pain of being sent to Germany.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome).

XVIII. Concentration Camp Atrocities.

It is reported that 73 prisoners, all political suspects, were massacred in the concentration camp at FOSSOLI. Among the victims were men from every party, officers, professional men, old and young people, guilty only of being the children of other persons who had been assassinated. The reports have caused the widest consternation in cities in LOMBARDY, especially in MILAN, where the majority of the victims belonged.

XIX. New Appointments.

Lt. Col. NICOLA BRUNI, who fought valiantly on various fronts, has been nominated Chief of Police in UDINE.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 28.7.44).

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Immobilised by his injury PAVOLINI had to remain lying for four hours under fire, until he could be rescued by a German patrol party. His state of health does not give any cause for anxiety.
(T.P. 12.8.44)

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(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 28.7.44).

ECONOMICS.

XX. Food Situation.

COMO A young Italian from COMO reports that ordinary people there are now so tired and starved that they wonder if they can hold out. Everything is still available on the Black Market, but at fantastic

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prices. Shops selling textile goods in COMO have been ordered to remain open with full staff, though they are forbidden to sell. (P.I.D. 10.7.44).

In LOMBARDY food prices are rising at an increasing pace, sugar fetching 150 lire per kg and soap 170 lire per kg. (Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

TRIESTE. For four months the city has been very hungry, particularly because it is so dependent o n the Italian hinterland. What food is to be found is extremely expensive. Fat and meat are practically non-existent. Oil costs 1,200 lire a litre, butter 1000 lire a kilo. The German controlling power, which at first appeared to afford some protection is now completely disinterested. Fish is seized and is sent off every day to Germany or to German messes in Italy. The people of Trieste occasionally - about every fortnight - get some at a ration of about ½ a kilo per family. Trieste is one of the cities of Italy which is suffering most. (U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

VENETO According to a report of mid-July the grain throughout the VENETO was harvested, but still in the fields; the Germens were having the greatest difficulty in getting it threshed. (P.I.D. 7.8.44)

LOMBARDY According to a reliable source seen in late June the Italian local authorities in LOMBARDY have been doing everything possible to hasten the harvesting in order to distribute grain to individuals, and save it from German requisitioning and destruction due to fighting. Some people have gone into the country to hargest on their own; partisans have burnt some crops. (P.I.D. Italian Region 17.8.44).

An urgent appeal to the peasants, published in Repubblica Fascista, indirectly confirmed the unsatisfactory delivery of the present wheat crop. The Fascist newspaper tries to convince the peasants that by their attitude "they weaken the national resistance power at one of its most delicate and important points, thus helping the enemy!" Behind the enemy, however, lurks Bolshevism which, if the enemy were victorious, would dispossess the peasants of all their land. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 7.8.44)

In agreement with the local German Command, the MILAN Provincial Farmers' Union will distribute 3,000 pairs of shoes of three types and 4,500 pairs of light walking shoes to farmers who have shown themselves to be the worthiest contributors to the pooling centres. Four thousand supplementary tobacco retions will be distributed per two quintals of the product contributed. Another 5,600 tobacco rations will be distributed to those farmers who have shown the greatest care in the cultivation of the wheat crop and handing it over to the pooling centres. (Sera Milan 2.8.44).

The German Command has offered 2,000 tobacco ration

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(Sera Milan 2.8.44).

The German Command has offered 2,000 tobacco ration cards which will be given as prizes to farmers delivering the greatest amount of produce to the State depots.
(Provincia di COMO 4.8.44).

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XXI. Fuel and Power.

TURIN Electric power is again rationed in TURIN. In the upper parts of the town power will be supplied from 08.00 until noon, and in the lower parts from 14.00 to 18.00. Owing to lack of coal, gas distribution has ceased entirely.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 29.7.44).

XXII. Transport.

TRIESTE is cut off by partisan action as regards rail communications either with LUBLANA or FIUME of POLA. The line TRIESTE-VENICE is continually attacked from MONFALCONE to the junction of OPCINA.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

According to reliable Milanese sources it was impossible for a private individual to get permission to travel from BOLOGNA to FLORENCE. A manufacturer from PLACENZA had both his automobile and his chauffeur seized by Germans last week while journeying thence to MILAN. Except where prevented from doing so by the Germans, the Fascist authorities have mostly deserted the villages and small towns of Tuscany. The refugees arriving in MILAN, for whom money is being collected, are mostly small Fascist officials of this kind.
(P.I.D. 10.7.44).

The traffic situation in the area of the military command 1019 continues to remain extremely strained. The shortage of petrol and tyres has particularly serious consequences. According to the report of the local command of PESARO the fuel reserves in that province have been completely exhausted, since emergency measures following the continual enemy air attacks speedily used up stocks of petrol. The entire situation is so bad that, failing new distributions, vehicles still on the roads will be laid up at the latest in t two months because their tyres will be compltely useless. Assistance in this matter is urgently required because otherwise owing to the complete failure of railway connections the supply of military centres with war-essential goods and that of the population with the necessities of life will become impossible.....
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 10.8.44).

XXIII. Finance.

Inflation grows daily in Italy. The war contribution imposed by the occupying Power in northern Italy has recently been raised from six to ten milliard lire per month. According to the Gazzetta del Popolo, the State's obligations towards the Bank of Italy have probably raised the public debt to some 600 milliards whereas the loss of territory, and consequently of receipts, represent a gap which the Treasury will find hard to fill. Metal coins have disappeared. Hoarding has assumed vast proportions, and prices have risen astronomically.

(Journal de Geneve 8.8.44).

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(Journal de Geneve 8.8.44).

The Corriere della Sera Milan 4.8.44 writes "It has been brought to our notice that certain important MILAN banks are provoking serious disturbances in the industrial and financial domain by arbitrarily rejecting all cheques issued in the VENETO and LIGURIA, and particularly at GENOA. It seems to us that this is a deliberate move to disorganise and sabotage in view of the fact that failure to accept the currency chiefly on circulation has, as its logical reaction, the immediate suspension of relations with all the areas affected by this timid ostracism imposed by our banks.

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XXIV. Industry.

The CMASA aircraft factory at MARINA DI PISA, which employed almost 800 workers, ceased work about mid-April. In May the Germans moved all the machinery to BORNAGO, nr NOVARA, with 2-3 engineers (names of two are ODDONE and ANGIUS) and 300-400 specialist workers, who were not heard of again. The remainder of the workers were paid 75% of their wages for 3 months. In June the CMASA factory had not yet resumed production at BORNAGO. The installations there belong to FIAT, of which CMASA is a subsidiary, and were at the time occupied by the "Aeronautica d'Italia" aircraft factory evacuated from FLORENCE. The FIAT personnel were very successfully "going slow".

The Ammunition factory of FORNACE DI BARGA is now closed. The machinery has been transferred to Germany and the employees engaged by TODT (beginning of June).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary).

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

MACERATA Following increased enemy air attacks war weariness among the people continually increases. The population is greatly worried, leave their occupations and fly at the first alarm, or retreat to the country with their most essential belongings. The behaviour of by far the greater part of the population during air attacks is bewildered and undisciplined. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 10.8.44).

MILAN The latest air raid on MILAN was most effective. The goods yards at LAMBRATE station were ruined and trains are now forced to halt 20 km away. The INNOCENTI factory at Lambrate also received a direct hit.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.8.44).

BRESCIA The bombing of BRESCIA in mid-July involved buildings housing the Ministries of Finance and of the Interior and the Headquarters of the National Republican Guard (Palazzo di Broletto), all near the Cathedral. These buildings had been destroyed, while only one bomb hit the Cathedral. The result was to create fairly complete administrative chaos in and around Brescia and to increase popular admiration for the accuracy of the allied bombing.

It is interesting to compare the account of the BRESCIA raid transmitted by TRANSOCEAN to the Far East on 14.7.44:-

"BRESCIA was attacked twice within the past 24 hours by Anglo-American aircraft. Considerable damage was done to residential quarters. Several hospitals were destroyed. The Cathedral, dating back to the seventeenth century, was on fire on Friday morning (14.7.44).

MILAN While it was reported in late July that those MILAN factories which were supplying German war industry were still at work, an overseer at PIRELLI's observed that on 27.7.44 only half an hour's work

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(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

PARMA "Old PARMA was not damaged, but the other part, especially the centre is flat; via Mazzini, the piazza, via Dante, Pilotta, Cavour, Farini and adjacent streets, as far as the entrance to the city, have all been hit.
(Censorship Intercept 21.8.44).

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TRIESTE suffered an air raid towerds the end of March. No military objective was hit. All the latter are spread round about the station of Campo Marzio (railway to Pola) as far as the naval wharfs Apart from the "idrascolo" there are no military objectives near the Piazza Unita . This air raid caused about 1200 dead and 1000 wounded. The second raid, which took place at night from 0.30 to 1.30 was very accurate and completely destroyed the great refinery at AQUILA. The losses among the civilian population were very few - 22 dead and 50 wounded. Three other small raids on the docks at MONFALCONE were more in the nature of nuisance raids; a small boat was sunk and a submarine under construction was destroyed. The airoplane factory was badly damaged.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

PIACENZA. The railway bridge in PIACENZA, together with the bridge across the Enza on the Via Emilia, were both destroyed during an allied air raid.
(Gazzetta Ticinese, Lugano 7.8.44).

LABOUR

XXVI. Forced Labour.

By a recent agreement between Hitler and Mussolini all Italians, military or civil, interned in Germany, have been put at Himmler's and Goebels' disposition for forced labour.
(P.W.B. Rome 9.8.44).

MILAN On July 2nd early workmen's trains into Milan from the north west were stopped at NOVATE MILANESE and all males were taken off by the Germans. When this was noised abroad people left the train at SARANNO and disappeared into the fields. Only a few girls finished the journey.
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

VERCELLI Out of the first half of the July group of 220 men from a harvest centre in VERCELLI en route for a German camp, only 80 have arrived at their destination.
(Popolo e Liberta 7.8.44).

PRESS

XXVII. Clandestine Press.

A source from MILAN expressed a great admiration for the Clandestine Press. He regarded it as the most efficecious propaganda, and told the story that the German officer commanding in MILAN is, to his annoyance, generously supplied by anti-Fascists with their papers.
(P.I.D. 26.6.44).

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PERSONALITIES

XXVIII. Dangerous elements at Trieste.

Prefect COCEANI - ex Fascist consigliere - collaborator
Avv. PAGNINI - Mayor of Trieste
FUMAI - Head of the squadrece - spy - ex-dancer, kept by prostitutes.
Dott. REINER (Austrian) High Commissioner - Nazi.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M. to end of June).

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XXIX. Fascists of Treviso.

Lawyers

CHIRELLI IGNAZIO (Consigliere Nazionale)
BENETTI (ex Federale)
FARAONE LUIGI (ex Segretario Provinciale ex Mayor)
MONICO
NIZZOLI

Engineers

ANTONIUTTI

Doctors

ANTONIUTTI
BOCCAZZI CINO (It appears that he is now with the Information Branch of the Comando Supremo)
CRANIO

Professors

BAZZO
BOCCASSI ISOTTO (Inspector of Schools)(retired)
Signorina PENE (Inspector of provincial schools)

Various Personalities.

Cav. ZOPPELLI (owns an anonimous printing house)
Dott. MASOTTI
Comm. Dott. MARASCIULLO (Vice Questore)
Dott. BERTOLI (Vice President of the Canale della Vittoria)
CAVEDAL (of the Comando G.I.L)
Rag. SEGANTINI
Rag. FURLANETTO
Dott. DEL GRECO (Vice Federale, Console della Milizia)
Rag. SAIBENE (Vice Federale)

Squadrists

FRASCOGNA (Factotum G.I.L.)
BELLIO (Usciere at the Civilian Hospital)
FUGALLI PAOLO (Employee of the Sindaciti)

Young Men belonging to the Squadre Giov. d'Azione.

FANNI (belongs to the Federazione fascista)
ARDITO (Volunteer with the Germans)
AZZOLA (" " ")
SCHIAVON FERDINANDO (Student)
SCHIAVON EMILIO (Student)
The brothers (Volunteer

1146

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MIZZOLI

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ANTONIUTTI

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SCHIAVON FERDINANDO (Student)
SCHIAVON EMILIO (Student)
The brothers ANTONIUTTI (Students)
DE VIDE (Student)
NICOLETTI (Student). (P.W.B. Bari 28.7.44).

1146

XXX. Fascists north of the Arno

Piero PIEROTTI of SAN LORENZO A PAGNATICO A well known Fascist Propagandist. At SAN CASCIANO and at SAN GEORGIO himself threw bombs at the local population who were asking for food.

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Vice Brigadiere of the G.N.R. MOSCHINI of SAN FREDIANO A SETTIMO
Constantly arrested patriots. Assisted Germans in manhunts in VOLTERRANO and in LUCCHESIA.

Tenente BENENI of PISA
Commands an execution squad composed of fascists of the 80th Legion.

The following fascists fled the city of CRESPINA

PAUDOLF LEOPOLDO Sec. Politico. Fascist Republican Party. Squadrist. Collaborated with German SS.

PETTINELLI ORAZIO, Squadrist. Fascist Republican Party

The following Fascists fled COLLE SALVETTI:

LEPORI UGO Republican Fascist. Squadrist. Marshal in Rep. Guard and in MVSN.SS. collaborator May be in VERSO MANTOVA

VIRGILI, Carlo fu Olinti Aged 42, Fanatical Republican Fascist.

(P.W.B. 5th Army 11.8.44).

XXXI. Officer collaborator at Viterbo.

"I was left with a few men and a 2nd Lt., an ardent squadrist, and I had a machine gun with me. A few days later, 2nd Lt. FIORINI went to VITERBO in order to call the Germans".
(Censorship Intercept 19.7.44).

XXXII. Personalities at Montecatini.

"Concerning the political situation, she says that as from last October, the PRINCE was the Prefect Commissioner ans since May 1st Mayor. The Secretary of the New Republican Fascist Government is Avv. MARIANI . At MASSA? where dott. PANENTI was the Commissioner, the position has been taken over by GOSTINO INNOCENTI since October.
(Censorship Intercept 6.7.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

To: INTERIOR

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

16th August, 1944.

0 AUG 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section,
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 20

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans The recent advance towards the Arno and consequent over-running of regions largely occupied by partisans, has given us a clearer view of the strength, ubiquity and determination of the patriot movement.

In Florence partisans played an important part in the operations and Allied officers present have paid tribute to their courage and discipline, and recognised the heroic character of their leader "Potente" who was killed in the city he had helped to liberate.

From all over Italy come reports of bands of patriots raiding and operating. German punitive expeditions and assaults by Fascist militia seem to have no other result than the burning of villages and the massacre of innocent people in return for heavy losses.

The whole partisan movement is so wide-spread that it almost takes on the aspect of a general rising. A German source admits heavy losses among troops employed against partisans.

FASCIST FORCES

Eight Fascist Divisions appear to have been formed - 2 Alpine Divisions under Graziani are reported to have started operations against the patriots in the mountains west of M. Maggiore.

Desertions. Up to July 15th the utmost chaos prevailed among the Army and police owing to continual desertion.

GERMANS

Swiss sources report that Germans are fortifying two lines of defence in N. Italy, one is the Pedemontana-Sette Comuni plateau line and the other a little further back, runs from M. Grappa to the

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Partisans The recent advance towards the Arno and consequent over-running of regions largely occupied by partisans, has given us a clearer view of the strength, ubiquity and determination of the patriot movement.

In Florence partisans played an important part in the operations and Allied officers present have paid tribute to their courage and discipline, and recognised the heroic character of their leader "Potente" who was killed in the city he had helped to liberate.

From all over Italy come reports of bands of patriots raiding and operating. German punitive expeditions and assaults by Fascist militia seem to have no other result than the burning of villages and the massacre of innocent people in return for heavy losses.

The whole partisan movement is so wide-spread that it almost takes on the aspect of a general rising. A German source admits heavy losses among troops employed against partisans.

FASCIST FORCES

Eight Fascist Divisions appear to have been formed - 2 Alpine Divisions under Graziani are reported to have started operations against the patriots in the mountains west of M. Maggiore.

Desertions. Up to July 15th the utmost chaos prevailed among the Army and police owing to continual desertion.

GERMANS

Swiss sources report that Germans are fortifying two lines of defence in N. Italy, one is the Pedemonte-Sette Comuni plateau line and the other, a little further back, runs from M. Grappa to the mouth of the Piave. It is also thought that the arrival in Italy of Italian Divisions is meant to relieve German troops, who are badly needed in France and Russia.

Behaviour As usual the German retreat is signalised by savage atrocities and massacres of civilians. A bad case occurred at Guardistallo. Other reports come from Cerbaiola and Corniona, Colle Val D'Elsa, Gubbio, San Casciano, Farnese, Anna, Lanciano and S. Savino.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
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SUMMARY 2.

ECONOMICS

Industries. From the north come reports of great falling off of production due to lack of materials, air raid damage, removal of machinery by the Germans and sabotage.

Air Raid Damage. Intercepted letters from May to July report extensive damage in Rimini, Ferrara, Milan, Genova, Pesaro, Bologna and Viareggio.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 16th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12.
APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 20

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16th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 20.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Partisan formations appear to have played a large part in the final liberation of the city of FLORENCE. All these formations depended on the Tuscan Committee of National Liberation (C.T.L.N. of Florence) which was connected with the C.L.N. of MILAN. Under it worked a military Junta responsible for organising GARIBALDI Brigades throughout TUSCANY. Garibaldi Brigades, being active guerilla units, did not function in the city itself. However, for such purposes as liquidation of Fascists, propaganda etc. the town was divided by the Committee into four zones, each under an inspector. The area South of the ARNO was Zone 4, under a professor called DAMI. Each zone controlled a Patriotic Action Group (Gruppos Azione Patriotica or GAP).

The partisans were composed of elements of every party and also of apolitical elements. They elected their own military leaders and their own political commissioners. Their choice fell on individuals notable for courage and organising capacity. The C.T.L.N. only sent information and general directives to the Command HQ of the Division. The Division which operated in the Florence area was called the ARNO Division (not to be confused with the A.R.N.O Division which was in the IMPRUNETA area). It numbered about 2000 men operating in the zone PRATOMAGNO-MONTEGIOVE-MONET MORELLO-MONTE SCALARI.

Commando Divisione d'Assalto
Garibaldi "ARNO".

22nd Bde "Lanciotto" Pratamagno	22nd Bis Bde "Sinigaglia". M. Scalari.	10th Bde "Caiani" Pratomagno	"Fanciullacci" Bde M. Morello.

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The Division was divided into Brigades as above.

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The Division was divided into Brigades as above. It was formed at the beginning of June 1944.

When our troops arrived in the southern part of FLORENCE some 400 partisans of 22 Garibaldi Brigade (ie. the "Lanciotto" Brigade) together with the Brigade Commander Lieut Adige BARDUCCI, alias POTENTE, were found there. The bulk of this unit had been compelled to retire from the PRATOMAGNO area owing to the severity of German reprisals. The Brigade drifted into the town as the allied troops approached and POTENTE, with two companies, established himself in a villa overlooking the BOBOLI Gardens. Other partisan elements, already in the city brought their numbers up to 6/800. It was decided to employ them in clearing up the snipers which the Germans and Fascists had left in the town. By Agreement with the commander

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the partisans handed in their arms, which were stored in an armoury under partisan guard and issued as required. Unfortunately POTENTE was recently killed on a sniper hunt; he will shortly be given a public funeral.

In the hills north and east of FLORENCE the CAIANI and FANCIULACCI Brigades are reported to be still operating. The CAIANI (10 Garibaldi Brigade) Brigade of four companies operates in the FIESOLE-SETTIGNANO area. It is said to be well armed with automatic weapons, but short of ammunition. Its leader is "BRUNETTO". In the MT. MORELLO area the FANCIULACCI Brigade of three companies under "OTTONE" is operating. The brigade suffered heavy casulaties when attacked by the Germans about 20 July, and its present strength is probably not more than 300. It is also known as 8 Garibaldi Brigade. The SENIGALLIA Brigade, which formerly operated in the SAN GIOVANNI VAL D'ARNO area, has been over-run by our troops and the former commander DANIELE DOLFI, or "GICBE" is now political commissar of the LANCIOTTO Brigade.

FLORENCE has given an opportunity of seeing from close quarters a Garibaldi Brigade in action. The British officer responsible for organising the partisan patrols reports that he was very impressed by their keenness and discipline. Though his men wore gay red scarves and the red star on a white and green background POTENTE himself maintained that his band was non-political and these were not the Communist emblems, but merely the local national signs of the partisans in his area. He himself was a former clerk in the Ministry of Finance branch at COMO and served in SICILY as a lieutenant in an Italian paradhutist regiment.

POTENTE's statements, even if possibly not entirely accurate, at least show the lengths to which he was prepared to go to make it possible for men of other political opinions to serve under him. It is probably also the case in other effective partisan bands that still fighting. The LANCIOTTO Brigade was quite prepared to accept politics are not allowed to play a considerable part while the unit is as Chief of Staff a parachutist Italian colonel, a regular staff officer whose experience had been gained as Chief of Staff of the Fifth Italian Army. The Colonel himself was quite happy to serve under a former minor civil servant, and in the partisan headquarters military salutes appear to be interchangeable with clenched fists.
(8th Army Summary No 23 and P.W.B. Rome).

News of Partisans north and south of Gothic Line.

North of FLORENCE little fresh information about partisan activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men including British and Russian ex-PW and German [illegible] reported in the RAZZOLO area [illegible] there is still

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News of Partisans north and south of Gothic Line.

North of FLORENCE little fresh information about partisan activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men, including British and Russian ex-PW and German deserters, is reported in the RAZZOLO area. Further east along the GOTHIC LINE there is still no information about the powerful bands which formerly operated in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO on either side of the FLORENCE-FORLI road, except that the leader LIBERO is believed to have been killed. The fate of partisans to the South West in the VERGE RETO area is also obscure at the moment. In the PRATOMAGNO and ALPE DI CATENAIA the withdrawal of the bulk of the LANCIOTTO Brigade and the disbandment of the PIO BORRI Brigade (23 Garibaldi Brigade) has left only isolated groups of partisans.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 7121

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S. OF LUCCA A large body of Russians on horse-back enquired at SAN FREDIANO. A SETTIMO for information about partisans on the VERRUCA. They were in the area more than 8 hrs and then rode towards the Pisan hills. (10 or 13 July)

N OF LUCCA There is intense partisan activity in the SERCHIO valley NW OF BAGNI DI LUCCA and the LIMA valley to the NE as far as ABETONE There are SS garrisons in GARFAGNANA (UPPER SERCHIO valley) (June)

NW of PISA- In May it was reported that partisans are active in this area. A young and energetic Air Force officer, LT. LOMBARDI is in command.

SW FIRENZUOLA, MONTECARELLI Many TODT workers have escaped from MONTE CARELLI, which has been occupied by partisans. In spite of German control, partisans hadpreviously succeeded in capturing many of the TODT workers' tools. Resistance units of the area had thus obtained trucks and weapons. (13 June).

N.E. TREVISO An informant had heard that there were partisans active in the hills W of AVIANO, who had raided several German columns. Despite German attempts to round them up, they were still operating successfully in May.

SW. PARMA -FORNOVO (June) A large band of partisans who wear German or Republican uniforms are operating in the hills to the south of this town. From all accounts they are well armed and well disciplined.

NW. of BRESCIA The Fascist Republican authorities have put a price on the head of a BRESCIA industrialist BERETTA, owner of the steel works here, alleged to have supplied weapons to the partisans of the area. GARDONE VAL TROMPIA.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

MARRADI In the Marradi area there was and probably still is a band belonging to the 10th "Firenze" Brigade, composed of 80 men, commanded by a Sardinian specialist in sabotage whose name was "Angelo". He had been dropped by parachute from an English plane at the end of April. In the MARRADI-BRISIGHELLA area, in the direction of FAENZA, besides this band there were other bands operating, but it is not known whether they belonged to the "Firenze" Brigade or to the "Bologna" Brigade, as they acted along the border of the two provinces. In the period from May to the end of July the 10th Firenze Brigade had had 10 clashes with the Germans, in which they had lost 8 dead and 10 wounded, whilst it is believed that the Germans lost 200 dead and about 60 wounded.
(Lt. WC. P.W.B. Rome).

EMILIA and ROMAGNA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 989021

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(Lt. WC. P.W.B. Rome).

EMILIA and ROMAGNA

About 3 months ago "Garibaldi" Brigades were organised in the 4 ROMAGNA. After a severe round-up for men these brigades were dispersed. About a month and a half ago one of the brigades was reformed, and another two were reorganised in the zone between FORLI and the MARCHE. There exist also brigades of G.A.P., one at FORLI and one at RAVENNA, with a strength of about 120 to 150 members. There is one brigade GAP at BOLOGNA and one at REGGIO EMILIA. There is also a partisan detachment at VADO, a Garibaldi Brigade on the MODENESE APENNINES. In the zone of PARMA there has been a Garibaldi Brigade "PICELLI" organised. At PIACENZA the partisan movement organised by officers was very strong.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

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LOMBARDY The Communist Partisan movement in LOMBARDY found serious difficulties on account of the great diffusion of the Partito d'Azione which appeared to want to control the movement itself. A month and a half ago there only existed detachments and discussions were proceeding to constitute a common Military Command in order to be able to form proper Garibaldi Brigades.

PIEDMONT In Piedmont there already exist 7 Garibaldi brigades ie.

1 Division in the VAL DI LANZO of 3 brigades.
2 Brigades in the zone of BIELLA
1 " " " NOVARA
2 " in construction in the Province of TURIN

The partisan movement of the Partito d'Azione is strong in PIEDMONT.

VENETO The following brigades have been organised in VENETO.

1 Brigade known as the "Fratelli Bandiera" at SCIO and VALDAGNO.
1 Brigade known as the "Nino Nenetti" at VITTORIO VENETO.

Besides these there also exist

1 Partisan Brigade in the FRIULI
1 Brigade known as the "Trieste" operating in ISTRIA, but composed of officers and men of different provinces.
(P.W.B. 8th Army).(10.8.44).

Up to now there appears to have been little penetration of Communism in the ALTO ADIGE. Groups are found as far as RIVERETO and no further. There is some contact between Italian and Austrian Catholics in the BOLZANO for common work of anti-Nazi propaganda. (P.W.B. 8th Army).

The following report of partisan activities in the PIACENZA Province is given in the Fascist official report.

"It is confirmed that for some time past bands of partisans have been moving towards the province of Piacenza or in the frontier districts from Tuscany and Liguria. They can be divided into three categories -Badoglian, activist bands (bande d'azione) and Communist bands. While at one time groups of rebels were operating on the frontiers of the province, recently they have stationed their command HQs in the following localities: MORFASSO as the HQ of the Communist bands; GRUPPO DI PIOZZANO, BECORARA and (NALE?) as those of the Garibaldi Brigade, MEZZANO SCOTTI and BOBBIANO DI TRAVO as those of the Badoglian bands. A group of 100 men appear to be in the Provincial Park and the Albergo Provinciale, while the bands' patrols are thrusting towards BHIAVENNA and CASTELL'ARQUATO above TAVASCA.

In the neighbourhood of FARINA D'OLMO the following bands are operating "Red Star" 120 men, "Istriano", 100 men, "Montelauro" 200 men, "Captain Gaspere", 200 [illegible]

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In the neighbourhood of FARINA D'OLMO the following bands are operating "Red Star" 120 men, "Istriano", 100 men, "Montelaura" 200 men, "Captain Gaspare", 200 men, "Captain Selva" 200 men. Thus in a radius of a few km 820 armed men are stationed. Discipline in the bands is strong; they are generally composed of defaulters of the 1920, 1921, 1924, 1925 and 1926 conscript classes.

SECRET

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"Every band is exceedingly well-armed; for example the "Captain Gaspare" band has eight heevy machine guns and 80 ordinary machine guns and the "Istriano" eight automatic sub-machine guns and 62 ordinary machine-guns.

Our armament is simply negligeable as compared with this abundance of automatic weapons, and this has a great influence on the morale of our soldiers.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 27.7.44).

Activities of Various Bands.

After hard fighting the patriots succeeded in throwing the Nazi Fascist troops out of the VALLE DEL LYS, inflicting severe losses on them.

PEROSA, near PINEROLO has been occupied by the Patriots.

German attacks on nuclei of resistance as SESTRIERES have been repulsed, notwithstanding the numerical superiority of the enemy.

The patriots have taken under their control the valleys of GRANA, STURA and GESSO. The roads leading to them are blocked to prevent the enemy from sending supplies and returning to the attack.

There have been violent encounters in the Modenese Appanines. The Germans have plundered and burnt 14 villages as reprisals. Following sabotage against the stations and plant of the electricity in the north of Italy, only 50% of the electric energy can now be used by the enemy.

Groups of Italian patriots which are fighting in the LIGURIAN ALPS and in particular along the coast line SPEZIA-GENOA have attacked barracks at CHIAVARI, capturing big dumps of arms, munitions and food. Following this the patriots have advanced as far as BORGOTARO, from where they have chased the local garrison and captured all the harvest which was distributed amongst the people and the rest destined for the necessities of the patriots.

A patriot brigade attacked a party of Fascists near MODENA, north of the Appenines, killing 100 Militia and wounding 60. Immediately afterwards the patriots occupied MONTEFIORINO, half way between MODENA and LA SPEZIA.

500 Fascist Militia that advanced on VARZI and BRALLO, to commit acts of reprisals against the civil population, were met and routed by patriots. The Fascists left 70 dead and as many wounded on the spot together with some vehicles and a notable number of heavy and light arms. German motorised units coming from VOGHERA are now moving to help the defeated and dispersed Fascists.

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In the VALLE DEL NURE a strong enemy attack against a nucleus of patriots has been repulsed with the efficacious help of the Allied Air Forces. A considerable contingent of German troops is preparing to renew the attacks against the patriots in the zone of the ABETONE. The Germans have already had considerable losses in this locality. Apart from the number of dead and wounded, which is not yet ascertained, the Germans have left 250 prisoners in the hands of the patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.8.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759021

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

In the Tuscan-Emilian Appenines a Romagnolan Brigade of patriots has developed a series of efficacious operations which finished, amongst other things, in the temporary occupation of SANT'AGATA, FELTRE, and of FREGHETTO. Many political secretaries of the zone were executed.

The patriots have interrupted the SEMPIONE line at MEINALINA, at CORTINA and at DOBBIACO, the line from CADORE to CASTELLAVAZZO, the UDINE-TREVISO line at CASARZA.
(P.W.B. Rome).

At RIVA in the TRENTINO the German police have discovered a subversive organisation working against Germany. It had taken the name CESARE BATTISTI.
(Squilla Italica Basle 29.7.44).

The Gazetta del Popolo Turin reports from VERCELLI. G.N.R. Assault Battalion units, collaborating with the German police and supported by the "Leonessa" Tank unit and Italian SS and artillery, pressed an attack against bandits in the mountainous regions of VERCELLI and NOVARA. Many captured in thepossession of arms were executed and others, famished, demoralised and in rags surrendered without fighting. Many prisoners were allowed to serve their country in labour camps. The struggle was pursued unremittingly. The Commander of this particular unit imposed a fine of 50,000 lire on the industrialists and tradesmen in the region for their mildness towards bandits, which sum will be handed over to the families which had lost relations killed by outlaws.
(27.7.44).

The policy of reprisals has now entered a new phase in Fascist Italy. Today hostages are taken from among offenders arrested long before the crime for which they are punished occurred, and they are executed at the scene of thesubsequent crime. In GENOA, five "Terrorists" were shot as a reprisal for the recent murder of General PARODI, the local Federal Commissioner.
(Tribune de Geneve 1.8.44).

Recently Razzias in northern Italy were extended to the trains as the Fascist police have begun to stop and search local trains in the middle of the country. In an article entitled "Wild West in MILAN" Republica Fascista deals with the nightly shooting in Milan streets, which has now become the rule. The Milanese, awakened by the noise of wild revolver, rifle and machine-gun fire and bursting hand grenades, receive the impression of pitched battles being fought in front of their houses. The following morning they learn that it was the Fascist patrols' usual nightly shooting at shadows and ghosts, in which, however, it is seldom that anyone is even slightly wounded. Fascists are being urged to cease wasting ammunition.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 2.8.44).

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 2.8.44).

A correspondent in a letter from GENOA writes "GENOVA is like hell; a never ending fight is raging between nazi-Fascists, besides anglo-American planes are continually bombing the town".
(Censorship intercept. 3.7.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

In VENICE 20 nazi fascists were killed and 50 wounded in the collapse of the Giustinian palace caused by the patriots.

A German P.W. from 162 Inf. Div. stated that while his regiment (236 Tank Destroyer Coy) was employed against partisans in NE Italy the Regiment suffered considerable losses through killed and deserted. 3rd Battalion had 80 dead in 4 months, 45 being killed in one engagement. Heavy losses were also suffered during fighting in Central Italy in June. At the time of his capture (2nd July) the fighting strength of his regiment had shrunk to 500 men. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I.).(5.8.44).

Dangerous activity by partisans is reported in the vicinity of MODENA by a PW officer of 4 Para. Div. where many vehicles had been attacked during the night. Special orders were issued demanding that not less than three vehicles travel at a time. Partisans used German and Austrian deserters, order them to stop vehicles demanding a lift. When the vehicle is stopped the partisans attack it. In many cases German deserters or stragglers were being asked by Italian farmers to lay down their arms and change uniform for civilian clothing. If they decided to do so representatives of the partisans would visit them and ask them to join their groups. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I. 5.8.44).

Partisans report enemy positions. There are an increasing number of reports of partisans who report enemy positions to our patrols. For example :

5th Army report dated 27.7.44 mentions partisans in 2 corps sector reporting a line of MG positions. Other partisans reported emplacements of 2 large guns, having been told by the gun crews that they were to fire on LEGHORN.

5th Army report dated 1st August. Further partisans reported location of pill boxes with tunnel connecting the two andposition of road-block. Other partisans reported 4 men Gemman patrols cutting wires at .... and waiting to ambush our wire party. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I.).

II. Sabotage.

NOVARA In a daring raid patriots destroyed the airoplane factory and the deposit of propellors at ARMENO in the Province of Novara.

CARPI Other patriots attacked a train full of German troops near Carpi, inflicting severe losses on the enemy.

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At the beginning of July the German authorities made a disagreeable discovery. The trains coming from the north of Italy with cattle, had neither escort nor fodder. The lack of escort facilitated the stealing of the horses and mules along the way; the lack of fodder provoked the death of those which remained. Afterwards it was found that this was the result of clever acts of sabotage carried out by the deliverers of the beasts and the railway staff. The German attempts to remedy this were useless, and so the enemy finds it ever more difficult to take the animals away from the Italian agriculturists to Germany. Rather than allow the animals to arrive in Germany the Italians prefer that they should die on the way.
(P.W.B. Rome 28.7.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

FASCIST FORCES.

III. Organisation

There now appear to exist eight Fascist Divisions: the Monteviso and Monte Rosa Alpine Divisions, the San Marco, Marine Divisions, the Italia Littoria and Mussolini Motorised Infantry Divisions and the Vesuvia and Etna AA Divisions. The two Alpine Divisions, under Graziani's command are reported to have recently started operations against the "Maquis" in the mountains west of Lake Maggiore. Others are reported to have been sent to the Tuscany front. Some, however, have not yet crossed the Brenner.

The Corriere della Sera, Milan reports that two companies of the "Muti" Legion left on July 27th for operational zones. They were the Ferrara company and the motorised company "Baragiotto" with full fighting equipment.
(Gazette de Lausanne 2.8.44).

IV. Desertions from Army and Police in Tuscany.

The clandestine paper "Ribelle" published the following extracts from a report on the situation in the Military Commands in Tuscany, received on July 15th from a reliable source.

"Province of AREZZO", Provincial Command. Almost all the personnel employed ran away some days ago, some to their own homes, some to increase the rebel ranks. The members of the command have received orders to fall back on BOLOGNA.

Province of Florence 201st Regional Command 60 members of the "Security Company" who were under the orders of the Regional Command have deserted to the Maquis. It was found necessary to keep the remainder of the troop in barracks in order to avoid furtner desertions.

Province of Pistoia. The position is practically the same as in Florence and Arezzo. Powerful bands of rebels are established in the mountains overlooking Pistoia.

Province of Lucca. Many bridges, already mined by the Germans, have been blown up by the rebels at night, no watch having been kept on them by the Germans.

Province of Apuania. The same as for Lucca.

In conclusion the utmost confusion and chaos prevails in the Military commands throughout Tuscany. The Regional recruiting for the army has shown that the system is unsuitable in all respects.
(Squilla Italica Basle 29.7.44).

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Marco, Marine Divisions, the Monteviso
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(Squilla Italica Basle 29.7.44).

V. No leave to places south of Bologna and Spezia.

An intercepted letter reeds "... and if they refuse to send me where I asked to go I will go to any Convalescence camp they choose for me, and I will then know what road to take. However, leaves are not granted to points beyond BOLOGNA and SPEZIA, but you will realise that all I need will be to get one day away from bare for me".
(Censorship intercept 25.7.44).

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SECRET
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VI. Duce's letter to Graziani

The following is an extract from a letter sent by Mussolini to Graziani after he had announced his resignation "Dear Graziani, The struggle against the bandits must be organised in such a way as to make a strong impression on the population and fill our united supporters with enthusiasm. The organisation must involve the effort of the whole Social Republic against this "Vendee insurrection" and extend to all provinces, radically cleaning them up". This letter is regarded as evidence that Graziani opposed the utilisation of the Fascist Army against partisans.
(Gazette de Lausanne 1.8.44).

GERMANS

VII. Dispositions.

It has been reported that the Wehrmacht is rapidly fortifying two defence lines in northern Italy, one running between PADUA and the SETTE COMUNI PLATEAU, well known from the last war, and the second slightly further back between MONTE GRAPPA and the mouth of the PIAVE river, the line held by the Austrians in the Spring of 1918. Both lines are destined to defend the routes to Yugoslavia. Having abandoned the construction of fortifications on the plain of the PO the Germans confine themselves to preparing positions on the southern Alpine slopes.
(Gazette de Lausanne 2.8.44).

It is reported that the withdrawal of German troops from Italy, conforming with the agreement reached at the Hitler-Mussolini meetings, has already started. During the last few days "the Hermann Goring Division re-crossed the Po to the Veneto, while five Italian Divisions which have returned from Germany have been sent to the firing line. It is affirmed by well-informed circles that the Germans, once they have abandoned LIGURIA, PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY, which, it is predicted, will be soon, will resist for some time along a line crossing the regions of MANTUA and VERONA, in order to assure the retreat of the majority of their forces over the BRENNER, after which the VENETO will be evacuated. Destructions in TRIESTE confirm this hypothesis.
(Popolo e Liberta 31.7.44).

VIII. Evacuation of Civilians and anti-partisan measures.

A civilian reported notices posted by Germans in NODE and CUCIGLIANA, saying in part:

"Because there have been actions against German soldiers and cutting of the telephone wires all

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The struggle against the bandits must be organised in such a way as to make a strong impression on the population and fill our united supporters with enthusiasm. The organisation must involve the effort of the whole Social Republic against this "Vendee insurrection" and extend to all provinces, radically cleaning them up". This letter is regarded as evidence that Graziani opposed the utilisation of the Fascist Army against partisans.
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VIII. Evacuation of Civilians and anti-partisan measures.

A civilian reported notices posted by Germans in NOCE and CUCIGLIANA, saying in part:

"Because there have been actions against German soldiers and cutting of the telephone wires all towns on M. PISANO between ASCIANO and BUTI north of the ARNO River must be evacuated of all men between the ages of 16 and 50; otherwise, they must present themselves to the first German CP to be enrolled for work in LUCCA Province, where they will receive pay and food. All men between the ages of 16 and 50 found in this area, after 2nd August 1944 may be considered as partisans. Italians, for the benefit of your Fatherland, obey this order or be considered traitors of your country".

By order of the German Command.

(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.I 10.8.44).

SECRET

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An order found in the SUBBIANO area in mid-July, after stating that all persons found in possession of arms or hiding partisans etc. would be shot, continues:

"Any village where it can be proved that there are bandits, or where attacks against German or Italian soldiers have been made, or where acts of sabotage intended to damage or destroy warlike stores have taken place, WILL BE BURNT TO THE GROUND. Moreover, male inhabitants of the village over 18 years of age WILL ALL BE SHOT. Women and girls will be interned in labour camps.

ITALIANS.

The well-being of your country and the fate of your families are now in your hands. The German Armed Forces will carry out the above orders justly, but without mercy, and with all the severity and the consequences of the case.

THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE
GERMAN ARMED FORCES.

(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

IX. Behaviour.

An extract from the diary of a German deserter reads as follows, showing that the Germans themselves are sometimes shocked at the behaviour of their fellows:

"Yesterday we met in a small pub, as so often, a drunken "LANDSEER" who in spite of repeated warnings would not give up trying to steal several bottles of wine from the very hospitable landlord. We were able in the end to frustrate his intentions, but what a slight such conduct throws on the mentality of the German soldier. I think we must ascribe a major part in the earning of this title to ourselves, for unfortunately such types are only too well represented with us". (P.W.B. German Intelligence Report 29.7.44).

X. Atrocities.

A terrible atrocity was committed by German troops at the end of June as they retreated through GUARDISTALLO, a village some 6 miles east of CECINA.

In mid-June the Germans, knowing that partisans were operating in the Guardistallo district, came to an agreement with the priest and the communal-secretary of the village whereby they should discourage the villagers from hostile acts against German troops.

On June 29th, however, a band of Garibaldi Brigade partisans,

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On June 29th, however, a band of Garibaldi Brigade partisans, from another district, clashed with a column of German artillery, which was taking up positions on the Guardistallo-Cecina road. After a pitched battle, in which several Germans were killed the partisans withdrew. The Germans, as a reprisal, began by shooting out of hand three inhabitants from an adjacent farm, in addition to a woman refugee who was living there. In another farm they killed a woman and her daughter (who was in bed), and near the same place a man and his wife who were refugees. Eight of the partisans, who had been taken prisoner, were made to dig a large pit at the edge of a thicket

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near a farm; they were then machine-gunned and thrown into the pit, together with a dog which had also been machine-gunned. (P.W.B. 5th Army).(6.8.44).

CERRATOLA and CORNIOLA. 25 civilians massacred as reprisals for resistance. (P.W.B. Rome 5.8.44).

COLLE VAL D'ELSA Some villages near Colle Val d'Elsa were raised to the ground.
(Censorship Intercept 24.7.44).

GUBBIO A German officer was killed, so 40 persons were taken from their houses and shot.
(Censorship Intercept 2.8.44).

SAN CASCIANO.

Another name to add to the long list of priests, victims of the blind, bloody nazi fascist barbarity is that of Fra Narciso, of the Capucine order who lived in a monastery near SAN CASCIANO, which has been recently liberated by the allies. Brother Narciso was killed without any reason whatsoever whilst he was watching quietly, without any particular intention in view, some Germans putting mines in the road. All at once a German soldier shot at him. Fra Narciso in dismay asked why they had shot at him, but the German soldier was not yet satisfied and discharged another two shots at him until he saw his victim motionless and covered with blood on the ground.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.8.44).

Another priest was the witness of an incident of ferocity at CEDOGOLO in VAL CAMONICA. Arriving in BRENO, whence many people had fled to escape the reprisals which the Germans were carrying out at Cedegolo, the priest heard that there was a young man in his death agony in the hospital and asking for the Last Sacrament. He asked to be allowed to go and administer it. The Militia consented, but accompanied him to the bedside of the boy. On arrival there, suspecting that the boy was a partisan and had been wounded in the recent clash, they prevented the administration of the sacrament and massacred the youth in his bed under the eyes of the priest.
(P.W.B. Rome. 4.8.44).

LARNESE Two British P.Ws were given away to the Germans by some spy, captured, put in jail and shot three days later by machine gune fire

LENA As a reprisal for the killing of some Germans twenty persons were put into a house and shot, among them women and children and then the house

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(P.W.B. 8th Army). (6.8.44).

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ARNA. As a reprisal for the killing of some Germans twenty persons were put into a house and shot, among them women and children and then the house was burnt.
(Censorship Intercept 3.7.44).

1137

LANCIANO. The Germans rounded up all the young men here and shot them. One young man who was found in possession of arms had his eyes put out, his arms bound and was then shot.
(Censorship Intercept 3.7.44).

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760021

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S. SAVINO, Prov. Arezzo

At a villa in S. SAVINO Germans set up an "Inquisition Room" to try and obtain information about partisans in the district The owner of the villa was accused of being the leader of the local partisan movement, was tortured, but managed to escape. His family were also tortured and his son later found killed and horribly mutilated.
(F.S.S. 13.8.44).

XI. Treatment of Jews.

The following letter indicates that in spite of other preoccupations the Germans are still occupied in trying to carry out in Italy their campaign against the Jews.

"I request details of the number of Jews arrested by the Italian officials in accordance with the order of 30.11.43, divided according to men, women and children, and at the same time information as to whether these Jews can be taken over by the Security Police and the Security Service.

If not, I should like the reasons given which prevent this.

SS Sturmbannfuehrer.

(P.W.B. German Intelligence) (12.8.44).

XII. Propaganda.

The strongest theme of the German Propaganda is that the Allies bring with them hunger and devastation.
(P.W.B. 5th Army report 6.8.44).

The following is the text of a leaflet issued by the Germans as propaganda to their own troops.

LEAFLET FOR ALL SOLDIERS OF THE COMMAND-ZONE OF THE GERMAN MARINE-COMMANDOS IN ITALY.

Soldiers and members of my command-zone.

The fifth year of total war confronts us with new and difficult assignments. We can and shall master them if we concentrate our physical and material energies combined with a fanatical will-power to victory. Our enemies know that they cannot match or surpass us, either on the battle-field or in the economical realm. Therefore they try to undermine the morale of the German people. For this purpose they use bomb-terror, propaganda and agitation by radio, and the spreading of false rumours to the front [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. NR 0121

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The following letter indicates that in spite of other preoccupations the Germans are still occupied in trying to carry out in Italy their campaign against the Jews.

"I request details of the number of Jews arrested by the Italian officials in accordance with the order of 30.11.43, divided according to men, women and children, and at the same time information as to whether these Jews can be taken over by the Security Police and the Security Service.

If not, I should like the reasons given which prevent this.

SS Sturmbannfuehrer.

(P.W.B. German Intelligence) (12.8.44).

XII. Propaganda.

The strongest theme of the German Propaganda is that the Allies bring with them hunger and devastation.
(P.W.B. 5th Army report 6.8.44).

The following is the text of a leaflet issued by the Germans as propaganda to their own troops.

LEAFLET FOR ALL SOLDIERS OF THE COMMAND-ZONE OF THE GERMAN MARINE-COMMANDOS IN ITALY.

Soldiers and members of my command-zone.

The fifth year of total war confronts us with new and difficult assignments. We can and shall master them if we concentrate our physical and material energies combined with a fanatical will-power to victory. Our enemies know that they cannot match or surpass us, either on the battle-field or in the economical realm. Therefore they try to undermine the morale of the German people. For this purpose they use bomb-terror, propaganda and agitation by radio, and the spreading of false rumours to the front line troops and the home-land.

You must obey the following six commendments:

1. Do not listen to any enemy broadcast even if there isn't anybody round to watch you. Subdue your curiosity and desire for sensational news. Remember that the enemy has only one objective in mind, to make you falter and to weaken your resistance. It is also forbidden to listen to musical programs of the enemy. Penitentiary punishment will not only be given to subversive elements, but to anybody disobeying this order.

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2. Don't spread rumours. The majority of unfavourable news originates from enemy agitation. Spreading of rumours will be punished by penal servitude even if the instigator did not hear the broadcast himself. Personal comments also are forbidden.

3. According to the will of the Fuehrer, the Party and the Wehrmacht must lead the German people to victory. Resent therefore the attempt of dissidents to split the Wehrmacht and the NSDAP. You not only have the right, but it is your duty to silence immediately those who try to make mischief or originate discord. Make them ashamed by your example. Remember that total warfare asks for everybody's help and therefore accomplishments cannot be perfect always. Good will has to make up for certain lapses.

4. Never discuss military matters in railroads, streetcars, or restaurants. The enemy listens. In total war the enemy is interested in everything: armament, supply, food, morale, discipline, and the relationship between leaders and subordinates. Don't discuss military topics even in your own family circle. Be extremely cautious when talking to other soldiers. Keep in mind the Fuehrer's order that nobody should receive more information than is necessary in order to carry out his mission.

5. Don't burden the folks at home with your own worries. They suffer sufficiently. It is neither manly nor chivalrous to tell unfavourable news to the weak ones; instead, console them when writing home.

6. Observe yourself and your comrades to note whether or not the impression you make is correct. Remember at all times that you are the model for many others and that you are responsible-together with them- for the final victory of our people.

MEENDSEN-BOHLKEN
Admiral.

(Confidential source 28.7.44).

XIII. Morale.

E of S. MARCELLO -COLLINA German soldiers here complained of lack of weapons and were much discouraged by the fact that the positions they had built were still empty.

Some informants who are Senior Officers in the Italian Navy, state that special Staff Officers were sent from Germany to spread reports among units of the German Navy at VENICE about the efficacy of secret weapons.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report to 8.8.44).

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(8th Army Special Interrogation Report to 8.8.44).

POLITICS

XIV. Pavolini's last instructions in Florence.

1136

One informant stated that PAVOLINI was known, before leaving Florence, to have organised 400 men with orders to shoot or enter on a Black List, all those who collaborated with the Allies. He also left behind him one of his secretaries PUCCIO PUCCI, believed to be living at the Savoy Hotel. Another Fascist reported to have been left behind is the Marchese SANTIANI, via Italo Balbo 9.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 8.8.44).

SECRET

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XV. Location of Ministries in Northern Italy.

"The Board of Education is at PADOVA and the War-Department has moved to several small villages on MONTE GRAPPA. I asked a soldier for the name of one of them, and he told me that the "Direzione Generale" for officers is located at PATERNO, on the MONTE GRAPPA.
(Censorship Intercept 13.7.44).

The Republican Fascist Ministry of Justice is located at CREMONA, Corso Garibaldi 25.
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

ECONOMICS.

XVI. Food Situation.

Conditions in the PISA district during June and July.

Economic conditions were not too bad. Here are the typical Black Market prices:

Bread	Lire	25 to 50	the kilo
Beans	"	40-60	" "
Pasta	"	30	" "
Rice	"	30	" "
Wine	"	50	" litre
Olive oil	"	1200	the litre.

Meat became very plentiful in the last few weeks as the peasants were slaughtering their stock clandestinely (to avoid German requisitioning) and selling it privately.
(P.W. B. 5th Army Report 6.8.44).

Regime Fascist CREMONA 29.7.44 reports: From the month of February until June fines of over 224,000,000 lire have been imposed by the Provincial Price Commissions for breaches of food regulations.
(4.8.44).

Life in PADUA. The children perhaps would not exist without dreaming of dishes of "pasti" meat, etc. We are not afraid of the alerts and the bombardments: it was this that was lacking: Nerves are very solid and I have no desire to be evacuated".
(Censorship Intercept 3.5.44).

XVII. Transport.

Lack of Car Tyres in northern Italy.

A circular letter of the O.M. (a motorcar factory in Brescia) reads as follows:

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MONTE GRAPPA.
(Censorship Intercept 13.7.44).

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(Censorship Intercept 3.5.44).

XVII. Transport.

Lack of Car Tyres in northern Italy.

A circular letter of the O.M. (a motorcar factory in Brescia) reads as follows:

"Owing to lack of standard measure tyres, many vehicles must adopt wheels of different size from the normal one:"
(Censorship Intercept 31.7.44).

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XVIII. Industry

MILAN The "Compagnia Generale di Elettricita" factory in MILAN Via Borgognone 34, constructs engines for electric locomotives It employed about 5,000 workers, but production has been hindered by lack of material and the attitude of the workers and most of the Italian managers. There is a German control commission.

APUANIA The Factory of the same society in APUANIA has been dismantled. The machinery has been partly taken to pieces and hidden, partly removed by the Germans.

MILAN The Pirelli firm in MILAN was working on a small scale owing to damage by bombing and shortage of material (May)

PONTE S. PIETRO and TRESEZZO The Caproni aircraft works at PONTE S. PIETRO and TRESEZZO employ about 6,000 workers. Junkers aircraft are repaired there

SW. BERGAMO-DALMINE Torpedoes, shells and bombs are produced in factories here (Mid May)

NOVARA The refining plant of the ANIC factory of LEGHORN had been removed to NOVARA, where there is another ANIC factory (July).

An informant who was a technical worker of PIAGGIO firm in PONTEDERA said that Piaggo factories had left Pontedera in May and were distributed among the following localities:

TRINITA (close to railway station) manufacture of parts for the wings of FW 190.

BIELLA HQ manufacture of parts for german aircraft engines.

CEVA Large storage depots

ALBA(SW ASTI): MONDOVI
FINALE LIGURE (SW SAVONA)

The managing Director was Eng. COLOMBELLI, from PONTEDERA, who co-operates with the Germans. About 1,000 workers had been compulsorily transferred from PONTEDERA: many others were engaged in the new area. (8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

XIX. Public Health.

"... There is a severe epidemic of typhoid, scabies and other infectious diseases.... We are just stunned and don't understand anything, not even a purge can be found and falling ill one must pay [illegible]

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Italian managers. There is a German control commission.

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XIX. Public Health.

"... There is a severe epidemic of typhoid, scabies and other infectious diseases.... We are just stunned and don't understand anything, not even a purge can be found and falling ill one must per force die". (CHIETI 4.8.44).
(Censorship Intercept 5.8.44).

XX. Air Raid Damage. 1135

BOLOGNA

Although Bologna is to a large extent destroyed, the DUCATI factories there for producing radio sets for the German Air Force have not been bombed.

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SECRET
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RIMINI Trains for the south for civilians go as far ar RIMINI, where the Officina Mecanniche Reggiane" mechanical works have been entirely destroyed by heavy bombing.

PRATO, SESTO and CASTEL FIORENTINO stations, as well as the locomotives there, a total of 140, have been destroyed.

ROVIGO is intact, but FERRARA is greatly damaged by bombing. The district around PADUA has been hit and MESTRE even more so LAMBRATE, near MILAN has been badly hit.

In a letter dated 17.7.44 a correspondent writes "Air raid alarms are more and more exasperating, but there were few bombardments on MILAN, which particularly aimed at the railroad. In EMILIA, on the contrary, which represents the back area, life is rather hard on account of the continuous air attacks. The towns are being destroyed systematically and reduced to deserts. We cannot understand how such terroristic raids, as the recent one over BRESCIA, are possible; the city was heavily hit, chiefly in the centre. PIACENZA, CREMONA, MANTOVA and mainly BOLOGNA were repeatedly bombed".
(Censorship Intercept 3.8.44).

Another writer states "If you could see what LA SPEZIA is reduced to, you would no longer recognise it. The beautiful avenue LUNGOMARE, via Piave, viale Garibaldi... are only a heap of rubbish.
(Censorship Intercept 1.8.44).

GENOA May 18th. On Friday 19th, we had another terroristic air raid. Many churches and houses were hit. The Pittalunga Cinema was half demolished... it seems that the whole section around the Cinema was the particular target. Buildings in Via Casaregia were damaged too, as well as the Church of S. Zita just in the middle of the Corso Buenos Aires, many blocks in Via Trento, the "Carabinieri" Barracks in Via Trieste, the Fiat premises, the Upim stores in Via XX Settembre, the firemen's Barracks, and many other places all over the town. It was really terrific".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

PESARO " Here the bombardments have greatly damaged the City, especially TREBBIO and PANTANO. The 2nd Artillery Barracks were hit, the soldiers have gone; in the city nothing is left; if you could only see the disaster and desolation!".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

BOLOGNA "Just imagine in BOLOGNA, owing to the repeated attacks, the sewers were damaged and the other pipes overflowed.".
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

VIAREGGIO Viareggio is bombed every day ... Some days ago a very

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BOLOGNA "Just imagine in BOLOGNA, owing to the repeated attacks, the sewers were damaged and the other pipes overflowed.".
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

VIAREGGIO Viareggio is bombed every day ... Some days ago a very heavy raid smashed the dockyard, the Varignano, via S. Francesco, via Ravia, the townhall, the pivot bridge, the old Fascist Headquarters, the Commissariat, the Unica stores etc."
(Censorship Intercept 21.7.44).

RIMINI "..... Rimini does not exist any more. Even the workshops have disappeared. This is the 20th bombardment she has gone through we call her the "great wounded". The hospital, the Suffragio Church, Castellaccio, the building of poor Mr. Trozzolini, all razed to the ground. So many places don't exist any more...
(Censorship Intercept 2.8.44).

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PRESS

XXI. Clandestine Papers.

MILAN A number of clandestine Italian newspapers appear in MILAN, but not in BOLOGNA, although newspapers printed elsewhere are circulated there. "La Nuova Italia", and "La Liberta" are emong the underground newspapers in MILAN.

The FRONTE DELLA GIOVENTU, a youth organisation depending on the Comitato di Liberazione, has published an underground sheet called the RISCOSSA since May 1st 1944. Only about 8 numbers of this sheet were produced under extreme difficult conditions. One secret publishing centre was Villa delle Rose.
(P.W.B. 5th Army 26.7.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXII. Dangerous Fascists north of the Front.

RAVENNA The prefect of the Province of RAVENNA is BOGAZZI, Franco. MONTANARI is the Fascist Federale.

AREZZO. MELCHIORE MELCHIORI, Prefect of the Province of Arezzo since April is alleged to have escaped with 18 million lire belonging to the Bank of Italy.

Capo Manipolo VEGOLI and a certain ABBATECOLA are alleged to have carried out several murders in Arezzo.

ROVIGO Informant drove about 65 prominent Fascists by truck from CAMPIGLIA to ROVIGO. At Rovigo, which seems to be a concentration point for Fascists, at least of TUSCANY, the evacuees were received by the chief of the province, MENNA, Federico, his assistant GNESI of S. GIULIANO TERME, one of the worst Fascists of PISA Province, and a professor from VOLTERRA (Name unknown). Their reception was very cold and the exiles were sent to three little villages (one was POPOZZE), each about 10 km from ROVIGO.

E of PISA - CALCI Another driver brought Fascists from VOLTERRA to CALCI and then nr ROVIGO. The passengers were cheerful and insolent. They included Capt DELLE MURE of VOLTERRA. The organisers of the expedition were a certain Capt RUSSO(?) and a veterinary surgeon of CAMPIGLIA (latter in civilian clothes)

PISTOIA Capt ENZO ORIOLO, son-in-law of the well-known writer GIOVACCHINO, is an enthusiastic member of the Republican Army, and was serving nr PISTOIA as ADC to a German General.

PISA CO of the Carabinieri in PISA, Lt. Col. CUNEO, was strongly pro-German. One of his officers, however, Capt ARENA, seems to have been most helpful to patriots recently.

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1134

VOLTERRA. Republican officers in command of mopping-up operations around VOLTERRA were DE RENZIS, LT TREZZI, Maresciallo APPICTTI.

LUCCA In January last the Military Provincial HQ of LUCCA was commanded by Col Cesare CHIARI, and the Discipline and Personnel Bureau by Lt. Co. Mario ARCAMONE.

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VOLTERRA. Dangerous Fascists escaped from Volterra are

Cons. OLIVIERI
Maj. MARCHETTI (Militia)
PAGLIANTI

and from POMARANCE-

BACCI (Mayor)
2/Lt. FONDI (Militia).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

XXIII. Dangerous elements in the Fascist Republican Army.

Capt RENATO BILLI and Capt MASTRANGO - two officers of the so-called Fascist army. Both have served their German masters very zealously.

MARINO ROTELLI, paid spy of the Germans and member of the O.V.R.A. He had many captures, tortures and executions of patriots on his conscience.

Maresciallo GINO OLIVIERI, who increased his salary by aid to the Nazis.

BRUNETTO ROSSI offered to go voluntarily on the so called punitive expeditions against the patriots. Has numerous murders on his conscience, thought out and committed in cold blood, of which he boasts to his companions.

GINO TURCHI, squadrist, sciarpa littorio, agent of the O.V.R.A, paid for his cruelty.

FROSINI, sadistic executioner, squadrist of 1921.

MARIO SOLDI, sergeant of the "Death Battalion".

ARTURO ALMI who apart from the usual executions, asked for and obtained permission to take part in a Fascist execution platoon which assassinated 19 patriots in the locality of MONTE MAGGIO.

XXIV. Active Collaborators in anti-partisan operations.

OC. SS. in North Italy - Gen. ASTER
OC. SS. for LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT and LIGURIA -COL RANK
DR. SALERNO: Head of TURIN Province.
GIUSEPPE SOLERO PRF Commissar.
CONSOLE RY MILITIA - GIOVANNI PERINI
1 Siniore Ry - ALESSANDRO CAZZANI

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1 Siniore Ry - ALESSANDRO CAZZANI
Centurione GIOVANNI PERINI
Maresciallo ALBINOLO
Centurione GIOVANNI PONZETTI
Capo Manipolo - PIETRO GIOLITO
CISTERNINO AMILCARE - Head of FFSS.

(Confidential Source 12.7.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788121

2020

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HEADQUARTERS
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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6 AUG 1944

9th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section,
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisan Bands On the immediate front of the Allied Armies news of Partisan activity has been rather meagre. There are two reasons for this - (1) The powerful and active bands in the ANCONA-MACERATA-CAGLI-URBINO area have now been absorbed by the Allied advance and (2) The bands in the Florence zone find themselves in the midst of the German army and the population is subjected to the most savage reprisals for any guerilla activity in the neighbourhood.

It is to be expected that a further Allied advance will have the effect of bringing these groups into action against Germen rear-guards.

In the various Alpine valleys radiating round Turin, bands totalling some 13,000 men were reported up to the end of June, and the following areas were known to be under their control at that date: LANZO, LANGHE, UPPER PINEROLO valley, VAL SESIA and some of the OSSOLO valleys. Of the bands along the Gothic line in the vicinity of Florence, there are a few weak groups still south of the line. A band of 250 is reported in the ALPE DELLA LUNA, and the TANI battalion of the PIO BORRI Brigade in the ALPE DI CATENAIA. In the PRATOMAGNO the "Sandro" Battalion (late Bruno) is much disorganised after it had been disarmed by the Communist "Lanciotto" Brigade. This latter has moved back to N.E. of Florence on MONTE GIOVE.

Another band under a Russian Lt. Colonel has left M. MORELLO and moved east of Florence. They left behind them another band of about 400 Carabinieri.

The only news of bands behind the Gothic line is a report that the 6th Garibaldi Brigade is near VILLAMINOZZO, S.E. of MODENA.

The Black Brigades. Fascist radio has claimed successes for their new Fascist Party patrols in PAVIA, MANTOVA, VERCELLI, NOVARA, VARESE There can be little doubt that a strong Fascist offensive is on the way and that Patriot forces will be hard put to it for the next few weeks.

FASCIST FORCES

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775121

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FASCIST FORCES 1139

Rumours of GRAZIANI's resignation are now denied and Transocean declares he will take command of the new German-trained Italian divisions and probably also of the Black Brigades.

Fascist Divisions. The "Monte Rosa" Alpine Division is reported now in ALESSANDRIA, and believed to be en route for TURIN. The "21st April"Group is also in Turin. It is expected that the new Fascist Divisions will join in the offensive against the partisans.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799121

SECRET SUMMARY 2.

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Morale. Letters written by Fascist soldiers reveal the harassing nature of their service in connection with the guerrillas.

GERMANS

Increased Severity of Reprisals. The highest testimony to the efficacy of the partisans has been the great increase in the severity of the reprisals inflicted. The Germans are said to have announced that they will shoot 100 civilians for every German killed. In some areas their savagery seems to have attained its purpose, as the local population has become quite hostile to the partisans.

Behaviour Even Germans themselves admit they cause senseless and wanton destruction. From every side come reports of cities plundered, villages burnt down, and mass murders of civilians.

Propaganda. This seems to be concentrating entirely on the V.1. flying bomb.

POLITICS

A reliable account of the political tendencies in recently liberated areas comes from LIVORNO. The mass of the population is politically apathetic after 20 years of Fascism. At the present moment many are attracted to Communism. The Christian Social, and Democratic Parties are said not to have much influence, though the Clergy has gained great popularity for its resistance to Fascism and assistance to P.Ws. and Patriots. The prestige of the monarchy is very low.

Transfer of Fascists to Germany It is reported that all Fascist functionaries and their families must transfer themselves to Germany For the moment they are staying in N. Italy, but must be prepared to be evacuated at a moment's notice.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation. From MILAN it is reported that prices in the Black Market have reached new heights and are still rising.

Transport. From VALENZA comes news of the inconvenience and loss of time caused by damage to one of the Po railway bridges.

Fuel and Power. In TURIN further restrictions in the use of electricity are reported.

Exports. New regulations prevent all free exportation. All contracts must be submitted to the central authority set up to control exports. The exportation of a large number of articles has been forbidden unless they cannot find a sale in Italy. Other goods can be manufactured

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788127

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Air Raid Damage. The MACCHI airoplane factory in MASNAGO has suspended all work owing to serious damage.

LABOUR

At the end of June a leaflet to encourage workers on strike was circulated jointly by the Socialists and Communists.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788021

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

9th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 19

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Up to the 30th June 1944 partisan strength in northern Italy was estimated as follows:-

In the VAL D'OSSOLA and the VAL SESIA	3,000
In the CUNEO Province:	5,000
In the VAL D'AOSTA	1,500
In the VAL DI SUSA:	1,500
In the VAL D'ENSA	900
In the LANZO and CANAVESE valleys:	900

The following areas were known to be under partisan control at that date:

LANZO
LANGHE
The upper PINEROLO valley
VAL SESIA
Some OSSOLA valleys

1181

There are some 20 groups in the region north of latitude 45 30 and between Lake ORTA and MONT BLANC, the strongest of which [illegible] ORTA to MONTE ROSA and

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VAL SESIA
Some OSSOLA valleys

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There are some 20 groups in the region north of latitude 45 30 and between Lake ORTA and MONT BLANC, the strongest of which controls the region from LAKE ORTA to MONTE ROSA and from BIELLA to COLLEMORO. Only 1,000 men are armed, but given supplies there is a potential membership of over 10,000.

It is everywhere reported that the Partisan members would be greatly increased if more supplies were made available. This is particularly true in the TURIN area, where the enemy is expected to begin mopping-up operations, partly with the purpose of securing the harvest for the Reich.

The Bohemians and Ukrainians who have been incorporated into the Wehrmacht and stationed in PIEDMONT and LIGURIA show a marked desire to work with the patriots. (Confidential source).

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On the immediate army front partisans are not at present very active. In the Adriatic sector the powerful bands operating in the MACERATA -ANCONA area have now been overrun. Further west, the CAGLI-URBINO SAN SEPOLCRO area was formerly a centre of partisan activity directed from CAGLI. The main bands were 5 Garibaldi Brigade (theoretically communist) in the Mt. NERONE area and its liberal counterpart 1 PROLETARIAN shock brigade at PIETRALUNGA. Both units are now south of the line. The Proletarians were over-run when we entered PIETRALUNGA in the first half of July. On the following day the Garibaldini received a message to come down from the mountains to help our troops at PIETRALUNGA, who were being counter-attacked. After some discussion and under the impression that they would be allowed to continue fighting with us as ordinary infantry, they tardily obeyed and arrived at PIETRALUNGA to find we had evacuated. They held the village for a time and then retired to the surrounding hills, where they found themselves in no-man's land and had eventually to be disarmed. Partisan elements further north were subsequently contacted, but proved uncooperative, alleging dissatisfaction at the disarming and treatment of 6 Garibaldi Brigade (echoes of this dissatisfaction have even spread as far south as Rome where it has appeared in editorial columns of the Roman press.) There are thus virtually no partisans in an area suited to their activities and very lightly held by the Germans.

In the area from SAN SEPOLCRO to south of FLORENCE partisans have been kept in check by savage German reprisals. The cumulative effect of this systematic destruction, combined with indiscriminate shooting and hanging of civilian hostages or organised massacres such as those perpetrated at S. POLO and CIVITELLA, has been to cause a rift between the civilian population and the partisans which in some areas has approached actual enmity. Such bands as remain south of the Gothic Line are of little account. In the ALPE DELLA LUNA there are reported to be some 250 men and in the ALPE DI CATENAIA elements from the TANI Bn of the PIO BORI Brigade may still remain. The only unit left on the PRATOMAGNO is the "SANDRO" Batn of the same "brigade" which is, however, very disorganised after having been more or less disarmed by the more powerful communist LANCIOTTO Brigade before the latter left for the FLORENCE area. Finally, on either side of the INCISA-FLORENCE road there are rather ineffective partisan elements in the Pt. VOMO DI SASSO and MT. MOGGIO areas.

Further back along the Gothic line and in the hills round FLORENCE partisans have been very active in the past. No recent information has been received of the strong bands which existed some time ago in the area of Mt. FUMAIOIO and it is possible that they have gone to ground as German forces concentrate on the Gothic line. The same may be true of the Garibaldi Brigade commanded by a certain LIBERO in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO further west.

To the north ~~west~~ east of FLORENCE a strong body of partisans has collected round Mt. GIOVI. They have recently been joined by the LANCIOTTO Bri gade from the PRATOMAGNO, which is now south of BORGO SAN LORENZO. According to one report the band based on MT. MORELLO, north of FLORENCE, which is commanded by a Lt. Col. BORRUSKI a Russian ex member of the International Brigade in SPAIN, has now moved East of the town to the area north of the FLORENCE-PONTASSIEVE road, where a band of some 250 men was previously reported. It is not known whether they have been followed by their ideologically not very sympathetic neighbours on MONTE MORELLO, a band of some 400 Carabinieri, complete with officers, which was reported on the properties of GEN INFANTE, former M.A. London and Washington, and a prominent [illegible] the Italian High Command in [illegible]

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Little information is available on bands behind the Gothic Line except for a recent report from a reliable source that 6 Garibaldi Brigade is in the area of VILLAMINOZZO, south east of MODENA.

The fate of bands along the Gothic Line depends on the extent to which the Germans continue their policy of reprisals, to which there are indications that they

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have now added the weapon of infiltration of partisan bands by agents (a member of the Brandenburg Regiment has been reported to be engaged on this work) and of disruption by a "Department of Crypto-Propaganda". This institution is said to publish leaflets ostensibly emanating from a partisan band and designed to set the bands against each other by claiming for one band the credit for achievements which belong to another.

An informant was told by a certain Captain T in TURIN that the LANZO VALLEY is largely controlled by a partisan band composed mainly of men from the former Italian 5th Army. They are well organised, and equipped and their relations with the civilian population are good. The commander is said to be Gen. VERCELLING, former GOC of the 4th Army. Activity has taken the form of active resistance to German punitive expeditions, which as a rule are now the only German types to be seen in the area. This active resistance includes instigating strikes in TURIN, purging the local Fascists and occupying such towns as CORIO and BARANGERO.

CUROGNE. At Cuorgne in the Province of AOSTA there is a band of Partisans under the leadership of Capt NinoQUERIO, which is thought to be about 400 strong. It has successfully repulsed Fascist punitive expeditions, as for example on December 8th when 78 Fascists were killed. It is under an unspecified central command, which supplies arms, funds and orders. The informant had heard of other bands at RONCACANAVESE and BARDONECCHIA, the latter being said to number about 1000 ex-soldiers. The civil population and the Carabinieri were very cooperative the latter even giving passes to the partisans to be out after curfew in order to collect rations.

VALSESIA There are very active bands of partisans in the Val SESIA area, led by a certain MOSCATELLI. The strength is between 3000 and 3,500, plus 150 to 200 British and American prisoners of war. The headquarters were formerly at RIMELLA, but are now at RIMASCO. It is stated that at one time these bands took BIELLA, and held it for several days.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary No. 22 to 28th July).

BORGO SAN LORENZO The "Potente", Lanciotto and "Molle" groups are operating in the area of BORGO SAN LORENZO. They belong to the First Brigade Garibaldi; their strength is about 1500 men. They are under the control of the Committee of Liberation of Borgo San Lorenzo, which is in liaison with the Committee of FLORENCE. The informants belonged to the "Molle" group, which is smaller than the other, having a strength of about 150 men. It has been recently formed. The groups were very active in the past months. A village (VICCHIO) was occupied in February for one day and during a mopping up of Hermann Goering Division they fought for 36 hours. Another mopping-up was organised by Germans with Italian troops of the "San Marco" and "Muti" Battalions, without any results. The partisans cannot act now because of German reprisals. They are waiting for the Allied attack on Florence in order to harry the Germans from the other side. It is not difficult for the partisans to find supporters because the peasants are friendly to them, but they are in need of weapons, having only five or six Sten, an Italian LMG, some German and Italian rifles and revolvers.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799021

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(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary No 22 to 28th July). 1130

VOGOGNA The Fascist press reports that strong bands of partisans stopped a train on the Milan-Domodossola line near VOGOGNA, and demanded the soldiers controlling the line to surrender. A short clash occurred, during which the partisans fled leaving two dead. The Fascists lost two wounded.

TURIN Turin newspapers publish the following communique issued by the German Command "On Friday morning in Turin, an outlaw attacked a German officer with a

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knuckleduster and wounded him in the face. Onlookers did not stir and did not try to prevent the attack, either through fear of, or sympathy for, the partisans. The population is urgently requested to participate to the utmost in the destruction of, and the hunt for, partisans, in order to avoid severe reprisals. Owing to the attitude of the population, the curfew is fixed at 20.30 hrs, from today (24.7.44) (Neue Zurcher Zeitung.)

Mopping-up Operations. -- Use of Black Brigades.

Three bandits were killed during mopping-up operations carried out by an action squad of the Blackshirt "Augusto Cristina" Brigade in Verbania. A fourth bandit, captured wearing the uniform of a Lt. Colonel of the Republican Air Force, is now in prison in NOVARA.
(Stampa Turin 17.7.44).

PADUA As a consequence of the activity of partisan groups, who commit all sorts of crimes against peaceful citizens, peasants and workers, the Command of the 13th Black Brigade has begun large-scale operations against these bandits, which will continue until the total mopping up of the bandits and the re-establishment of public order.

The first results of these operations are the following: In the SANTOCAMPARIO sector the rebels have been attacked and dispersed. Their meeting places have been destroyed. In CONSELVO, groups of rebels have been captured. Arms, ammunition, food and enemy explosives have been seized.

In the MONTENA sector, Fascist groups, in co-operation with the National Republican Guard and a German unit, have attacked an important partisan unit, strongly armed. The fighting which took place in the area occupied by the rebels lasted many hours, and ended with the total destruction of the band. Ten rebels have been killed. The others dispersed, escaped towards the Cremona and Rovigo Provinces.

PAVIA In ORTI, thirty-six volunteers of the 14th Black Brigade, under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel BIANCHI, have carried out mopping-up operations against rebel groups. This operation, carried out in collaboration with the Germans, has brought about excellent results. Ten militiamen of the N.R.G. were killed: six others were seriously wounded. It is estimated that the rebels sustained much heavier losses. Colonel OLIVER(?) Commander of Pavia expressed his satisfaction at the results achieved.
(P.W.B. Monitoring - Aris Radio 6.8.44).

MANTUA and VERCELLI The Fascist press reports [illegible] Fascist Guard patrols [illegible] troops terminate mopping up [illegible] in the MANTUA and VERCELLI regions and [illegible] to have killed 110, and arrested some 200 partisans. The latter will be tried by the Tribunal. Italo-German losses are estimated at 12 killed and 30 wounded.

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owing to the attitude of the population, the curfew is fixed at 20.30 hrs, from today (24.7.44) (Neue Zurcher Zeitung.)

Mopping-up Operations. -- Use of Black Brigades.

Three bandits were killed during mopping-up operations carried out by an action Squad of the Blackshirt "Augusto Cristina" Brigade in Verbania. A fourth bandit, captured wearing the uniform of a Lt. Colonel of the Republican Air Force, is now in prison in NOVARA.
(Stampa Turin 17.7.44).

PADUA As a consequence of the activity of partisan groups, who commit all sorts of crimes against peaceful citizens, peasants and workers, the Command of the 18th Black Brigade has begun large-scale operations against these bandits, which will continue until the total mopping up of the bandits and the re-establishment of public order.

The first results of these operations are the following: In the SANTOCAMPARIO sector, the rebels have been attacked and dispersed. Their meeting places have been destroyed. In CONSELVO, groups of rebels have been captured. Arms, ammunition, food and enemy explosives have been seized.

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(F.W.B. Monitoring - Axis Radio 6.8.44).

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(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 27.7.44).

VAL SESIA New prisoners are now being executed by the thousand. Mopping-up operations have been carried out in the Val Sesia, where an independent Republic had been proclaimed, and in many other valleys of PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY. In the Province of NOVARA, after only one expedition 350 prisoners were executed. After the recovery of VARESE, which had been occupied by partisans, 210 prisoners were shot. Expeditions are now being undertaken in the APENNINES, south of PARMA and PIACENZA. At BETTOLA, whence can in Ligurian harbours can be reached such as RAPALLO and SESTRI, the partisans are reported to have lost an important battle, and 60 of their men were executed. Repression is becoming collective. At

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BUGLIO, in the VALTELLINA, 500 men attacked the partisans by surprise. The inhabitants of the village fled with the patriots, and they had good reason. The Fascists set fire to the village of 1,400 inhabitants, completely destroying it. The same measures have been taken in Tuscany.
(News Digest 24.7.44).

Hanging of Hostages.

The hanging of hostages instead of shooting has created an unfavourable impression on Italians, as it recalls the martyrdom suffered by numerous Italian patriots during the Austrian domination. In TURIN, on July 23rd, two further hostages were hanged following sabotage, the nature of which was not specified, at the railway station.
(Gazette de Lausanne 27.7.44).

Rumours of Trouble in MILAN.

Reinforcements of the GNR have arrived in MILAN, consisting of picked troops parachutists, and motorised battalions. These troops are intended for use against the threat of a general revolt, which is increasing in the city.

II. Sabotage.

Towards the end of June a large patrol of patriots entered the experimental section of the ALFA-ROMEO works, which had been evacuated to ARMENO on LAKE ORTA, and was working to full capacity for the Germans and destroyed delicate machinery which will not be easily replaceable.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 20.7.44).

III. Assassinations.

BRESCIA On the 5th July at about 5 oclock, while he was travelling towards BORGO SAN GIACOMO, the Republican Fascist Lt. LIBERO AICARDI, was captured by an armed band. As Aicardi stated that he had always worn the Fascist badge, he was compelled to get into the bandits' car, and was taken to COLLE SAN BERNARDO.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio 6.8.44).

BIELLA On July 7th the Mayor GIUSEPPE BERTOTTO and the Secretary of the Commune GIROLAMO BENEDETTI, who was also the veterinary surgeon of Vegliomosso were kidnapped from outside their homes, and were recently found shot dead, their corpses showing signs of ill-treatment prior to death.
(Regime Fascista 7.7.44).

1129

GENOA The 80 year old Fascist CARLO MARRANA was killed in his villa near RECCO on July 7th. (Corriere della Sera Milan 6.7.44).

MILAN At Castel Nuovo, Milan the Fascist Secretary was shot by an unknown person.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 24.7.44).

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LECCE Two partisans assassinated a German customs officer on July 2nd at GAGIO, near LECCE. The murderers fled with their families. Although the inhabitants knew what had occurred nobody denounced the perpetrators. As soon as the Germans learnt their names, however, they fired the houses and compelled all the inhabitants to do forced labour for not denouncing the murderers.
(Provincia di Como.)

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FASCIST FORCES

IV. Reorganisation of the Army - Italian troops on front.

An announcement that new Italian formations are being employed at the front is expected daily. Current Italo-German discussions are believed to be dealing with this matter, and the Fascist press in general is preparing its readers for the future tasks of the Italian troops. A report from Mussolini's H.Q. published in the evening edition of the Corriere della Sera, states that an extensive regrouping of Italian troops is now taking place as the prelude to large-scale employment of the newly formed Italian units. The report adds that all Italian volunteer formations which have been employed at the front in Italy have been withdrawn, to return to the fighting line later regrouped with the new units. It is also stated that Italian troops will be employed at the front as well as in fighting against partisans. Italian troops have been formed partly as battalions and partly as divisions. Volunteers who reported for front line service in Italy after the armistice have been formed into battalions, while troops trained in Germany have been formed into divisions.

Italian airmen have not been withdrawn from the front. In July they repeatedly scored successes as fighters and torpedo-pilots against superior U.S. bomber formations and strongly protected convoys

Italian troops outside Italy continue to be employed in different tasks. In Germany and France, special Italian smokescreen commandos are operating. In Budapest, Italians are employed in air defence and in Montenegro, Greece and on the Aegean Islands, German and Italian units are closely cooperating.
(Transocean 20.7.44).

Seidlitz reports from Venice "The mobilisation of the Fascist Party runs parallel to the employment of the Italian divisions trained in Germany. The far-reaching internal political measures to be expected after the Duce's trip to Germany are thereby not exhausted. These internal problems have been in the foreground of the Italian press since the Duce's return from his talk with Adolf Hitler.

The total mobilisation of the Fascist Party, whose male members between 18 and 60 will be incorporated in Black shirt Brigades, will result, the authorities hope, in purging of the hinterland of bandits who of late have become more active. The Blackshirt brigades will in practice be police in the rear of the Italian divisions fighting at the front.
(Transocean 28.7.44).

V. Graziani to command Black Brigades.

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V. Graziani to command Black Brigades.

According to news from a wireless source , General GRAZIANI has assumed the command of the Army, composed of German and Republican forces and working under the dependency of Field Marshal Kesselring. This measure on the part of the German Command can be interpreted as a consequence of the return into Italy of the Republican forces trained in Germany.
(Italian official source).

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Foreign reports alleging that Marshall Rodolfo GRAZIANI has resigned are refuted by competent Italian quarters - reports Seidlitz from Venice - In fact, the Marshal is now more than ever the centre of Italian military reconstruction. His functions are not merely those of a Minister of War. For some time it has been an open secret that Graziani would assume command of the newly-trained Italian divisions. Now Regime Fascista announces the fact. It writes: " Graziani will assume command of all the Armed Forces. He will also lead the fighting against the rebels." This formula indicates that the new "Black Brigades" are also under Graziani's command. (Transocean 29.7.44).

VI. The 1st Battalion "Raggruppamento 21 Aprile".

This unit was formed from Fascist volunteers during the latter part of December. Under the personal direction of Gen. GAMBERA the unit was organised in TRIESTE and in January moved in the vicinity of TORINO where it has since been employed in police duties and combat against the partisans. The RAGGRUPPAMENTO 21 APRILE are 2 battalions fully equipped and trained for combat duty and may possibly be employed along the defenses of the GOTHIC line. Desertions have been very few since the personnel are volunteers who still firmly believe in defending Italy against the "Allied egressor".

The Raggruppamento consists of two infantry battalions with approximately 450 men in each. The battalion has 4 companies plus a headquarters detachment. The 4th company is designated as the heavy company.

Weapons	1st. Co.	12 LMGs, model BREDA .30. Rifles Model .91
	2nd Co.	(same as 1st co)
	3rd Co.	9 morters, 45mm and rifles model .91
	4th co.	6 HMGs, model .37 plus 2 AT guns model 47/32

Personalities. C.O. RAGGRUPPAMENTO 21 APRILE - Gen GAMBERA
1st Bn. 1st Co. C.O. Capt SPERANDIA
" " 1st Lt. FERRARI
1st Lt. CHILASTRI.

(G.2. 10.7.44).

VII. The Monte Rosa Division

The Italian division "Monte Rosa" has been transferred from Germany to the north of Italy. It is at the moment at ALESSANDRIA and destined for TURIN. The enemy, in its despair, hopes to use this division against the patriots in the north of Italy, where the always increasing proportion of the clandestine fighting creates grave anxiety.

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The Nazis think that the morale of this division is rather good, as the soldiers and the officers have been kept in complete ig- of the present situation in Italy. The division knows almost nothing of what has happened in June and July. They think blindly that the line of resistance is still across the middle of Italy. They do not even know of the defeat and retreat of the Kesselring army, the liberation of all central Italy, of Rome, Perugia, Arezzo, Siena, Livorno Ancona etc. They do not know that the capital of Tuscany is about to be snatched from the nazi-fascist [illegible] occupation.

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How could they know these things? The "MONTE ROSA" division has been until now in Germany, obliged to remain there, not as an allied troop, but as a blind instrument, destined to be used only when needed for the exigencies of war by the Germans. The enemy thinks in this way to deceive the soldiers and officers of the "Monte Rosa" division, pushing them into a fratricide war against their own compatriots.
(P.W.B. Rome).

VIII. Fear of Partisans.

An Italian soldier writes in June "I do not feel quite well - on account of the rebels' increasing activity. Believe me, this province is pretty infected (Grosseto). You know I am a "squadrista", "marcia su Roma", and these merits of mine mean crimes to them, and might lead me to the end you imagine. May God help us! If there should be any place for me in TURIN, try to let me know. I am ready to leave even my family."

Another writes "I am on guard this evening and foresee a bad night; we must be on the alert, because the rebels are near us and we may expect an attack any minute".
(Censorship extracts. 24.7.44 and 19.7.44).

IX. Mopping up by the "Legione Guerrigliatori".

An Italian soldier writes saying he belongs to the "Legione Guerrigliatori" at RASSINA and takes part in operations for the capture of patriots hiding in the mountains. "We are always taking trips into the mountains, hunting for deserters, often walking entire nights and days and only after a week or two, we return to the barracks and can rest. Now I am resting as I have just returned from one of these pleasure-trips".
(Censorship intercept" 18.7.44).

X. Italian soldiers sent to Germany in German uniforms.

"We have for five days today "writes one soldier " had the honour of wearing the uniform of our German camerades who are treating us not only like friends, but like brothers. We shall leave within a few days for a training period in GERMANY by the side of our German comrades".
(Censorship intercept 31.7.44).

XI. Temporary officer's complaints.

"The official order about temporary officers arrived this morning. We are going to be sent away because other officers, those who (in the Government's opinion) have done much more than we did, will take our places. After having spent 8 years on military service (half of which have been passed overseas), it is very bad to be treated like that. What shall I do? This is how the Government pays their partisans

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(Censorsnip intercept 28.7.44).

XII. Fascist Forces side with partisans.

Occasionally events occur which show that even the small Fascist forces which still serve the occupying power are no longer reliable. Many fascists, dreading the future, betray their friends of yesterday

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and help the partisans. At BOBBIO, for instance, not far from BOLOGNA, the Luftwaffe had an important aircraft observation post. Thanks to help from some Fascists, the partisans were ablt to take the post by surprise, capturing 76 rifles, 370 hand grenades, 15,000 cartridges and the barrack funds amounting to 13,000 lire (News Digest 24.7.44).

GERMANS

XIII. Dispositions - rumours.

There are rumoured to be three fresh divisions arriving to hold the line of the river FOGLIA at PESARO.
(8th Army Special Intelligence Summary -early June).

XIV. Increased severity of reprisals.

Perhaps the most important development in the past few weeks has been the increased severity of German reprisals, of which the massacre at CIVITELLA, is only an example. British sources confirm that for any German killed the Germans are threatening to shoot up to 100 civilians, and are carrying their threats at least partly into effect. There is no doubt that this indiscriminate butchery has been to a large extent effective in the area north of AREZZO, and after exceptionally savage incidents, as at SUBBIANO, it is reported to have resulted in open hostility on the part of the peasants towards the partisans, as a result of whose activity they have seen their homes burnt and their relations shot.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary).

On 22nd July the Italian Home Service stated that Field Marshall Kesselring had just issued the following orders to his troops:-

1. To take action in the most energetic manner against armed rebel bands, saboteurs and criminals whose activities in any way affect the conduct of the war and disturb public order.

2. To establish a percentage of hostages in localities where the existence of armed bands can be proved, and to shoot these hostages every time there is an act of sabotage, in the said localities.

3. To carry out acts of retaliation, even to the point of burning down civilian houses, in those areas where attacks have been made against German military detachments.

4. To hang in public squares all persons guilty of homicide and all leaders of armed bands.

5. To hold responsible the inhabitants of those places where

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4. To hang in public squares all persons guilty of homicide and all leaders of armed bands.

5. To hold responsible the inhabitants of those places where telephone or telegraph communications have been broken, or where there have been acts of sabotage aimed at interrupting road traffic by spreading glass splinters, nails etc, damaging bridges or in any way obstructing roads.

This is brought to the notice of all citizens, who must contribute so that criminal acts against the nation can no longer be committed by elements in enemy pay.
(News Digest 24.7.44).

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XV. Appeal for "Security Companies".

The German Military Command in BERGAMO published in the press an appeal addressed to the male population exhorting them to join "Security Companies" now being formed. The appeal states that the enemy stands before the door, and the fatherland is threatened. Inside the country paid agitators and rebels in mountain districts are active. Everything looks as though the fatherland will fall into a whirlpool of indescribable misfortune. On the southern front the brunt of the battle is born by German troops; it would be unfair to burden them also with the task of looking after internal security. The invitation to join the Security Companies applies especially to the 1918 and 1921 classes. Every Italian, regardless of his Party, may join the Companies. He will only be used in Italy for internal security services and will receive the same treatment as German soldiers. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 27.7.44).

XVI. Morale.

Extracts from a captured German diary show the low state of morale which ignorance of the general situation gives rise to in the German soldier. Excerpts in early June indicate their surprise when ordered to retreat.

4 June. From retreating troops we heard that ROME had been evacuated, the Tommies are only two km away from it. So we're too late.

5. June. The inhabitants of Rome greeted the Tommies with flowers and shot at us. One infantry battalion deserted. One can hardly believe it. Fighter-bombers, fighter bombers and more fighter bombers!

6. June. Retreating columns only can be seen. The invasion has apparently begun. Landings in CALAIS, LE HAVRE and on the German border. Now we know why we're so weak here. The main issue is in the West...

29 June. At 1800 I destroy my rifle and -- with explosive and am caught at it by the Tommies. No opportunity to get away. Italians try to go away with me, but the Tommies stop them. The Tommies make a very good impression. Decent, clean and correct. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 1.8.44).

The food situation of the troops appears in most cases to be poor. One excerpt from a diary states:

"The food is still as bad as one can imagine (June 10). The sergeant major and the other NCOs constantly eat meat, they have cakes baked for them and enjoy all sorts of special issues, whilst the private soldier must make do with the fare put before him. Many of them simply go and plunder and you can see lots of them spending the whole day over the cooking range.".

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5. June. The inhabitants of Rome greeted the Tommies with flowers and shot at us. One infantry battalion deserted! One can hardly believe it. Fighter-bombers, fighter bombers and more fighter bombers!

6. June. Retreating columns only can be seen. The invasion has apparently begun. Landings in CALAIS, LE HAVRE and on the German border. Now we know why we're so weak here. The main issue is in the West...

29 June. At 1800 I destroy my rifle and -- with explosive and am caught at it by the Tommies. No opportunity to get away. Italians try to do away with me, but the Tommies stop them. The Tommies make a very good impression. Decent, clean and correct. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 1.8.44).

The food situation of the troops appears in most cases to be poor. One excerpt from a diary states:

"The food is still as bad as one can imagine (June 10). The sergeant major and the other NCOs constantly eat meat, they have cakes baked for them and enjoy all sorts of special issues, whilst the private soldier must make do with the fare put before him. Many of them simply go and plunder and you can see lots of them spending the whole day over the cooking range.".

Again "The food is worse than when we had rations Class II. Corruption is flourishing in every nook and cranny. Even out of the little bit which reaches the company the sergeants and so on get their extra chow besides the normal fare. And it is all the same all

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the way along the route which our rations take from regiment to battalion, supply service, company. Everywhere there are so many who take their little bit. When the food finally arrives here, its half spoiled if it has spent several days in the Quartermaster's store es for example, the bread or the margarine, from which half the company was recently ill...

..." then the first reconnaissance car of South Africans came clattering along the road and I packed my kit on it. They immediately offered me something to eat, cheese and white bread spread thickly with butter the like of which I have seldom enjoyed during the war. One of them gave me his last bar of chocolate. I was particularly glad to be able once more to taste some real tea. By way of comparison I was able to offer the Tommies some of our German army coffee.

Their entire equipment and supplies etc. exceeded my expectations If you make comparisons with our situation, the result is devestating for us. My only wish is that all our dour fanatics might "come over" just for a day".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence).

The following information is derived from the owner of a villa west of PERUGIA where General EIDRICHT had his HQ from the 9th to the 20th June.

"The behaviour of the officers towards the owner was perfect until their departure, when a motor car and a water colour were stolen. In general the officers were very distressed by the odds against which they were fighting. "One tank against a hundred". They said that the services had broken down so far that the division had been ordered to live on what they could find on the country side. The only enthusiasm was raised by the news of the flying bombs, and the informant was proudly shown the special bulletin announcing their employment. The officers believed that another secret weapon had been used on the Russian front.".
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 23.6.44).

XVII. Relations with Italians.

LIVORNO. "For about an hour we wandered round among ruins rather than inhabited houses, and always with our heavy rucksacks on our backs. We vainly attempted several times to ask for the Army hostel, but the Italians are in the mass a distrustful, cowardly people. As soon as we knocked on the door and announced ourselves as German soldiers, doors were simply not opened on principle, and after a time we would hear the opening of a window on the first floor, only to be told that we must go further in the opposite direction. In the end we gave it up in a fury."
(German Intelligence Report 29.7.44 P.W.B.).

XVIII. Behaviour.

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XVIII. Behaviour.

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Extracts from another German diary run as follows:-

"As everywhere else, our soldiers here have behaved like savages. Many rooms are in disorder; cupboards have been knocked off and boar's heads [illegible] books torn and trampled to bits.

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All around lie utensils kicked to pieces and articles of clothing torn out of cupboards --- and to think that I have to fight alongside such people!"
(P.W.B. German Intelligence)

June 26th.- originally our regimental staff ran amok here - you cannot really call it anything else; everywhere you go you get the same picture of melancholy desolation; even here our soldiers have not restrained their lust for destruction and loot. I prefer not to go into the matter too closely, for it grieves one to see the wanton destruction here....
(P.W.B. German Intelligence).

XIX. Atrocities.

LA CHIASSA 18th July. The wnole village of La Chiassa was burnt by the Germans.

BIBBIENA The Germans burnt the following villages in the area of Bibbiena as reprisals for partisan attacks - TALLA, SALUTIC, ORTIGNANO, RAGGIOLO, VILLA, CHIUSI DELLA VERNA, PONTENANO, DAGNENA. The last named village was completely destroyed. (8th Army).

SIENA was plundered throughout by the Germans. (Censorship Intercept)

VICOVARO The German brigands before they left plundered and sacked all the houses in the village including my own, and killed 28 people, women, children and old people in the most atrocious way".
(Censorship Intercept 27.7.44).

PALOMBARA SABINA "Those brutal cowards who fled away, achieved real slaughter; they killed 35 persons, the best ones in the village.
(Censorship Intercept 26.7.44).

MONTEPULCIANO(SIENA) "Vile, murderous Germans, who, losing the war, vented their rage: like the criminals and barbarians they are and always have been. They tore out the eyes and tongue of a poor woman, leaving her like that. They cut off the breasts of another. Horrors, unbelievable horrors.".
(Censorship Intercept)

PERTICANO Plundering and burning.

CONTIGLIANO On the 12th June when the German columns had all passed, sections of sappers destroyed everything, burning some of their own wooden houses, which in turn set fire to the houses of civilians. They set fire to a hamlet and then threw into it four men injured by them.".

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XX. German Propaganda.

Leaflets written in English and issued by the German Military Command Office, were captured at (REZZO) on the 17th July. The following is a typical example:-

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HOW THE ALLIES ARE GOING TO WIN THE WAR

What good are all your planes, warships and taks against that new German weapon.

V. NUMBER I.

Are you still convinced that you are winning?

Your armchair strategists have always claimed that the new dreadful weapon is an invention of German "propaganda". But out of a clear sky it struck.

Since June 16th, London and southern England are being continuously blasted day and night by those mysterious flying meteors.

The entire British press was immediately muzzled by rigid censorship. What a nice job your politicians do have now in hiding the truth about the disastrous effect of

V. NUMBER I.

But YOU will learn the truth just the same. You will also find out that Germany has just begun to play one of her trump cards.

HOW ABOUT V NUMBER 2 TO V NUMBER X?

POLITICS

XXI. Politics in recently liberated areas.

The President of the Committee of Liberation in LIVORNO recently expressed what appeared to be an unbiased view of the political and economic state of the city. This description might readily be applied to a number of the recently liberated areas. The mass of the people, he stated, after 20 years of Fascist domination, were politically apathetic. Many at the moment were attracted by communism. This tendency, he felt, needed to be counterbalanced by the propagation of an intelligent form of socialism, not that he was a socialist, but that a swing to the left is inevitable, it is important that it should take a rational form. The present communist Sindaco was a capable and sincere man, and it was therefore to be hoped that an accomodation between the parties of the left will take place. The Christian parties (Christian Socialists and Christian Democrats) do not have much influence, though the clergy, by and large, are extremely popular on account of all they have done in recent months for the population. The prestige of the monarchy was at a low ebb, mainly on account of the "sterility" of the House of Savoy. (P.W.B. Fifth Army 31.7.44).

XXII. New Species of Deportation.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759027

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XXII. New Species of Deportation.

The Germans have begun a new kind of deportation to Germany. This time it is not a question of Italian workers or soldiers changed into reluctant slaves of the Nazi war, but of Fascist Gerarchs and functionaries. In fact, by orders given from the German High Command in Italy, all Fascist functionaries must transfer themselves quickly from north Italy to Germany. Not only themselves, but also the families of these functionaries must go. These families have had order to stay temporarily near the Italian German frontier in order

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that they can be evacuated into Germany at a moment's notice. Many families of the members of the pseudo Republican government are already in Germany and have been there a month. First of all those of PAVOLINI, GRAZIANI, BUFFARINI and MEZZASOMA, who were evidently very proccupied in chosing a settlement worthy of the personality and renown of the respective heads of the families. (P.W.B. Rome 2.8.44).

XXIII. Pavolini in Milan.

The Secretary of the Party presided over a meeting of the commanders of some of the "Black Brigades" from LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, held at the Casa del Fascio, MILAN. He received many Fascists from invaded Italy and from Milan. He also visited the HQ of the Muti Legion. (Italian Home Service 21.7.44).

XXIV. Refutation of Reports about Mussolini.

Seidlitz reporting from Venice refutes foreign reports that Mussolini has remained in Germany, declaring that a week ago he returned to the seat of the Italian Government in northern Italy. (Transocean 29.7.44).

XXV. Fascist Treatment of Political Prisoners and Convicts.

The cruel treatment of political internees in Fascist prisons can be explained by the fact that the secret police uses prisoners for obtaining denunciations and tries thereby to discover the various "Committees of National Liberation" whose activity remains powerful and which remain elusive. This last fact goes to the credit and honour of those Italians who, despite tortures, have betrayed nothing. As far as is known only two committees have been caught, one in MODENA and another in TURIN, which latter case led to the trial of General PEROTTI and his collaborators, which began in April.

The Fascists committed the imprudence of liberating all the ordinary criminals and recruiting them en masse for the police force and the Republican Guard, and SS youths, aged between 15 and 18, are now interspersed among them. This creates a most unfortunate situation, and the Fascist newspapers are full of the exploits of bogus policemen who shamelessly rob civilians. In reality they are real policemen who often cannot be caught, but who are naturally severely punished when arrested. This is one of the most terrible evils of this regime, reborn by the will of the occupying power, who all too often is obliged to seek its most faithful servants in the underworld.
(Feuille d'Avis Neuchatel 19,7,44),

XXVI. Orders concerning material d[illegible]

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XXVI. Orders concerning material dropped by enemy aircraft.

"The Head of the Province of COMO, in view of the fact that [illegible] materials might be dropped by parachute from enemy aircraft, and as it is considered necessary on the ground of requirements of a military nature, and for reasons of public security in such an eventuality, to prevent such materials from being handled by civilians - orders that it is absolutely forbidden to all citizens not only to remove but also to touch materials of any kind whatsoever, dropped by, or falling from enemy aircraft. Anyone who finds them

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must at once notify the nearest Italian or German military command or police post. Persons who infringe this order, provided their offence does not constitute a more serious crime, are punishable by detention up to three months and a fine up to 2,000 lire. Those who furnish indications leading to the recovery of the above-mentioned materials will receive as a reward a sum of money proportionate to the importance of the materials in question".
(Provincia di Como 18.7.44).

XXVII. Fascist Propaganda.

Repubblica Fascista, Milan 12.7.44 contains a loose pamphlet showing a poster nailed to the wall on which is written "Who sells himself to the enemy? The Saboteur. Who deprives his own comrades of work? The Saboteur. Who casts innocent families into misery? The Saboteur. Who makes the peaceful population pay for the consequences of his own crimes? The Saboteur.".

In Milan Fascists spread propaganda leaflets on July 25th representing the symbolic figure of Italy resting her hands on Mussolini's Fasci as if to protect the. Over the picture is written in red: "July 25th", and underneath "Fatherland's dishonour". The leaflets also contain cartoons showing Victor Emmanuel and Badoglio vainly trying to demolish Lictors and Fasci. The Fascist press devotes enthusiastic articles to these leaflets, emphasising the symbolic significance of this "work of art and policy".
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 26.7.44).

ECONOMICS

XXVIII. Food Situation.

The following were the prices of foodstuffs etc. in GENOA at the end of June:-

Olive oil	Lire 1000 per litre
Flour	Lire 50 per kilo
Beans	" 30 " "
Cigarettes ("Af ca")	lire 80 per pkt of 20.
Wine	Lire 80 per litre.

No Curtailment of Grain Quota for Pools. The Prefecture announces "Certain farmers have been faced with various difficulties (theft etc) in connection with the handing over of the prescribed amount of grain to the pools. No curtailment of this amount can be conceded. Any producers guilty of irregularities or abuses will receive the appropriate exemplary punishment. The grain belongs not only to the

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(Corriere della Sera Milan 17.7.44).

Black Market Prices In Milan. The prices in the black market in MILAN have reached new heights and are continually rising. Meat costs 250 lire per kg, butter 450 lire per kg, cooking salt 100 lire per kg, eggs 120 lire per dozen and oil is unobtainable. Owing to the increasingly precarious transport problem stocks of fruit and vegetables in LIGURIA went bad.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 217.44).

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Twenty nine bakeries have been closed in MILAN for selling white bread. As the report does not say that they will be replaced by other bakeries, their clients will be doubtless obliged to resort to communal kitchens.
(Gazette de Lausanne 27.7.44).

XXIX. Transport.

Railways. The railway bridge on the PO at VALENZA (MORTARA-ALESSANDRIA line) has been struck by two bombs. The railway traffic continues normally; the lines have been moved where the bridge is damaged, to the highway bridge which is coupled to the railway bridge and was also hit) allowing in this way, with manoeuvres, the transit of half a train at a time. In the province of PAVIA the Germans have requisitioned about 300 head of cattle, which they have taken to VALENZA, probably to use them for the carts used to clear away the rubbish and for the transport of repairing material.

In the bombardment of 23rd June on the railway viaduct of VILLAFRANCA D'ASTI (18 km west of ASTI) two arches were destroyed and the road underneath was interrupted for some time by the heaped up ruins. The railway was also damaged near the viaduct of Villa Nova d'Asti (north west of Villafranca d'Asti).

Restrictions on bicycles in TURIN. The Prefecture announces "In view of the repeated criminal attempts on the part of bicyclists, from today (July 22nd) until furtner notice, all bicycle traffic is suspended within the toll gates of the city of Turin, even for persons previously in possession of permits. Exceptions will be made only for members of the Armed forces and the police, when in uniform. Trade cycles will be allowed, with the exception of bicycles with trailers. Infringements of this regulation will be punished by the usual penalties, and in addition, the immediate confiscation of the bicycle".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 22.7.44).

Registration of car parts in Adriatic zone. To insure the transport necessary for warfare and for supplying the population with essential goods, the High Commissioner of the Adriatic Coastal zone has issued the following decree regarding the registration of motor cars: "All motor cars and trailers, spare parts, tubes and tyres available in the Adriatic Coastal Zone on June 1st, 1944, or owned by people residing within that zone on that date, must be reported to the Prefect by the owners or holders by July 25th at the latest. The sale, utilisation, or other means of disposalof the aforesaid articles will in future only be allowed with the permission of the Prefect, and illegal transactions are declared void. Articles not reported, or illegally disposed of, will be confiscated. Infringements will be punished with a fine, the amount of which is not limited, or imprisonment for at least six months. These reporting in due course will not be punished for previous contraventions in this respect.".
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 12.7.44)

XXX. Fuel and

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(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 12.7.44).

XXX. Fuel and Power.

Electricity Restrictions. Further restrictions in the use of electricity in TURIN are reported "In view of the present situation, which makes the normal production and distribution of electric power precarious because many transport lines are frequently interrupted

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and some plants are out of action, it has been necessary in the first place to obtain the greatest use of the power available, and subsequently, when the situation deteriorated, a reduction in the total consumption of power".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 22.7.44).

XXXI. New Regulations for Exports.

The Ministries responsible for Italian Foreign trade issued new instructions regarding Italian exports by which the period of free exportation is closed. In future all export contracts must be submitted to the central authorities controlling exports, and the exportation of a great number of articles will only be allowed if their sale on the home market encounters difficulties. Other goods may only be manufactured for exportation. Some important branches of the Italian export business have been subjected to considerable production restrictions during the last few days. Three months ago the utilisation of metals in manufacturing toys has been stopped entirely. The manufacture of musical instruments by Italian retailers is prohibited and the present production is nearly all destined for exportation.
(Europa Kabel 7.7.44).

XXXII. Air Raid Damage.

Aircraft Factory Damaged. The "MACCHI" aeronautical factory near MASNAGO has suspended all war work owing to serious damage caused by air raids. The few workers remaining have, by irregularity, reduced the production programme to/One of secondary importance.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 21.7.44).

LABOUR.

XXXIII. A Socialist-Communist Joint Leeflet in Turin.

The following is the text of a leaflet circulated, during the last week of June among strikers in TURIN:

"Workers of Turin. You have risen of your own will against the new pillaging of the Nazi-Fascist rule, which wants to rob you of machines which you feel to be your own because they are wet with the sweat of your brows.

Workers! You are thus not merely defending your own right, but you very properly want to stop the machines, when moved, from serving to prolong the last hours of the Nazi-Fascist wild beast, now at its very last gasp.

Workers of Turin! Nazi-Fascism has replied to your protest with further brutal reprisals intending to starve you and your families

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XXXI. New Regulations for Exports.

The Ministries responsible for Italian Foreign trade issued new instructions regarding Italian exports by which the period of free exportation is closed. In future all export contracts must be submitted to the central authorities controlling exports, and the exportation of a great number of articles will only be allowed if their sale on the home market encounters difficulties. Other goods may only be manufactured for exportation. Some important branches of the Italian export business have been subjected to considerable production restrictions during the last few days. Three months ago the utilisation of metals in manufacturing toys has been stopped entirely. The manufacture of musical instruments by Italian retailers is prohibited and the present production is nearly all destined for exportation.
(Europa Kabel 7.7.44).

XXXII. Air Raid Damage.

Aircraft Factory Damaged. The "MACCHI" aeronautical factory near MASNAGO has suspended all war work owing to serious damage caused by air raids. The few workers remaining have, by irregularity, reduced the production programme to/one of secondary importance.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 21.7.44).

LABOUR.

XXXIII. A Socialist-Communist Joint Leaflet in Turin.

The following is the text of a leaflet circulated, during the last week of June among strikers in TURIN:

"Workers of Turin. You have risen of your own will against the new pillaging of the Nazi-Fascist rule, which wants to rob you of machines which you feel to be your own because they are wet with the sweat of your brows.

Workers! You are thus not merely defending your own right, but you very properly want to stop the machines, when moved, from serving to prolong the last hours of the Nazi-Fascist wild beast, now at its very last gasp.

Workers of Turin! Nazi-Fascism has replied to your protest with further brutal reprisals intending to starve you and your families.

The Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity and the Turin Federation of the Italian Communist Party, representing the working classes, bound by a pact of united action, are resolved to help and defend you in the present struggle which you are waging with such pride and courage against Nazi Fascism so as to stop their new act of brigandage.

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Long live working class solidarity
Death to the Nazis.
Death to the Fascists.

The Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity.
The Turin Federation of the Communist Party.

(P.I.D. Italian Region 11.7.44).

PRESS.

XXXIV. Increase in Clandestine Press.

Libera Stampa Lugano 26.7.44 publishes the following extract from the clandestine newspaper "Avanti" no 36. July 10th. "New newspapers have come to join "Avanti" in the battle, and to fight on the right side. Edited by the Italian Socialist Party, under difficulties and with sacrifices which it is easy to imagine, there are "Rivoluzione Socialista and Giornale della Federazione Giovanile, "La Terra"is the newspaper of the agricultural workers, "La Citta Nuova" that of the professions, technical workers and clerks, "Operaio" that of the the proletariat and industrial workers, and "Il Partigiano" that of the Matteotti Brigade".

CHURCH

XXXV. Continuation of attacks on the Church.

Regime Fascista, Cremona, 25.7.44 continuing its attacks against the Church, claims that the Vatican is responsible for the terrible bombing of Italy, and adds "Vatican circles told Cardinal Spellman that if Italy/submitted to terrorist bombing, it would collapse".

Cardinal of Venice Condemns. The Patriarch of Venice, Cardinal Adeodate Piazza, in a pastoral letter sharply condemns an attempt against the HQ of the GNR at Venice, which has so far resulted in ten deaths and 40 injured "It is necessary for blind passion to be replaced in Italian hearts by the condemnation of such crimes".he says

PERSONALITIES.

XXXVI. Fascists of Udine and Provincia.

PISENTI avv. on. PIERO — 1st Prefect (Fascist) of Udine
Deputy of the First Fascist
Legislature and Consigliere

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Death to the Fascists.

The Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity.
The Turin Federation of the Communist Party.

(P.I.D. Italian Region 11.7.44).

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PISENTI avv. on. PIERO — 1st Prefect (Fascist) of Udine
Deputy of the First Fascist Legislature and Consigliere Nazionale of the Camera dei Fasci e delle Corporazioni.

PAGANI dott. RAFFAELLO — Ex. Preside della Provincia.

ZOCCOLARI — Member of the Direttorio di Udine employee of the Ditta Luigi Spezzotti

SECRET

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SAMBO ALFREDO	Federal Inspector. Employee of Dazio in the commune of Pasian di Prato - thug.
GORASSINI RENZO	Native of Pasian di Prato, living at Udine.
CUTTINI	Ex mayor of Pasian di Prato
BARNABA PIER ARRIGO	Ex Fascist Deputy Mayor of Udine until the Armistice.
CAINE	Seniore of the Milizia
GAMBERINI	Cavaliere. Spy. Employed by the Consiglio dell'Economia
MARINO dott. ALBERTO	Vice Commissar of the Squadra Politica della Questura of Udine. Ferocious persecutor of anti-fascists. After the fall of Fascism he gathered together numbers of fascists for the reconstitution of the party.
LINDA	Violent squadrist, trader, member of the Direttorio, Federale of Udine. Spy by profession.
DELLA MAESTRA cav. ASSUERO	Udine, Piazza Umberto 1. Ex political secretary of BASILIANO (UDINE). Political informer of the Questura.
MODOTTI cav.uff. GIOVANNI	Retired inspector of schools. Ex Mayor and Political Secretary of Basiliano. Ferocious fascist. Real despot for many years in his commune.
RAINIS MANLIO	Founder of Fascism in Basiliano. Thug; organiser of punitive expeditions
DEL GUIDICE ROMANO	Squadrist - Thug - Major in the Militia at TIVOLI.
PICCO RICCARDO	Ferocious squadrist and spy.
POLESELLO	State doctor of Basiliano, ex vice secretary of Basiliano. Spy

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BONANNI	Elementary schoolmaster of Udine Ex Major in the Alpini. Fanatical Fascist.
CASTELLETTI GIUSEPPE	On of the most violent and ferocious thugs of the province of Udine. Journalist of the "Gazzettino" of Venezia.
MIGLIORINI	Segretario Ragioniere of the Province of Udine.

SECRET

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SECRET
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BONORA GIOVANNI	Casa delle Uniforme Fascistd, Udine, Via Cavour.
ROIATTI Comm. GINO	Squadrist, Ex Consigliere Nazionale Agent of the "Montecatini".
TAVANO avv. ARTURO	Native of Lestizza (Udine) Ex Mayor of Lestizza and Commisser of Campo-formido
PANTALONE	Head doctor of the Psychietric Hospital of Udine.
MARCHETTI	Son of the treder Romeo. Fascist spy
FORTUNATI	Ragioniere of the Banca del Friuli. Fanatical Fascist. Teacher of young Fascists.
SPIVAK GINO	Fascist spy
SZILAGIJ FRANZ	Ladies Hairdresser, via Paolo Serpi, Udine. Of Hungarian origin. A noted fascist and spy of the Ovra.
MASSARUTTO rag. GIOVANNI.	Squadrist. Notorious Fascist secret agent. Friend of the ex secretary of the fascist party of Serena.
MONTERISI	Cavaliere. Treder in coffee.
MURATTI BOBBO	
RUSSO LUIGI	Ex prefect of Chieti, ex. Capo di S.M. della Milizia, ex Secretary of the Presidenza di Mussolini.
RUSSO	Brother of the above.
ZECCA	Squadrist and dangerous spy
PISCHIUTTA	Doctor of Commercial Sciences, but a professional fascist and brother of a fascist martyr (Pio Pischiutta) Violent by nature.
SANDRINO	

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	Agent of the "Montecatini".
TAVANO avv. ARTURO	Native of Lestizza (Udine) Ex Mayor of Lestizza and Commissar of Campo-formido
PANTALONE	Head doctor of the Psychiatric Hospital of Udine.
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SANDRINO	Municipal functionary.
LIZZI	Cavaliere. - Martigacco (Udine)
SABBADINI geom LIVIO?	Codroipo
SGOBARO (geometra)	Basiliano - ex Fascist mayor.
DE CECCO geom ELIO	Basiliano.

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LEONE dott. FRANCESCO	Veterinary surgeon - from Basiliano. a stupid fanatic - in the confidence of the Questura
ZANINOTTO MICHELE	Basiliano
CIRIO	Employee of the Litografia CHIESA of Udine - madly pro-German
ALLATERE avvocato	(not to be confused with avv. Antonio Allatere).
MATTIOLI GALLO	squadrist, gangster, racketeer.
MATTIOLI	Brother of the above
PLACEREANI	Doctor of law. Secretary of the Workers' Union. Embezzeller.
PREINDL	Doctor of Udine. Ex Federal Secretary - violent- profiteer
ALVERA	President of the Liceo Ginnasio of Udine. At the school he used a hidden microphone to check on the beliefs of his professors.
ACCORDINI	Medico di reparto
DE ZORZI	Accountant. ex employee of the Banca Cattolica del Veneto. Centurione della Milizia - one time capo of the guardie di citta of Udine. - violent - embezzeler
ROTELLA	Lawyer - squadrista
RECCARDINI	Ex bankrupt - squadrist, a fascist of 20 years standing.
VERITTI	Lawyer - director of the fascist peper "Il Popolo del Friuli".
CHIESA PARIDE and brother	Owners of an anonimous firm of printers. Violent squadrists

(P.W.B. Bari 19.7.44).

XXXVII. Various dangerous elements.

2/Lt. FULGENZI AUGENIO of FABRIANO, S.W. of IESI DOMO, together with a German captain formed a tribunel for the interrogation of

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	of Udine - medly pro-German
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XXXVII. Various dangerous elements.

2/Lt. FULGENZI AUGENIO of FABRIANO, S.W. of IESI DOMO, together with a German captain formed a tribunal for the interrogation of suspected partisans.

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BIONDI, FALINI, BARINDELLI and INNOCENTI, all of RASSINA, worked with the Germans and hanged four partisans at CASTEL FOLOGNANO. (8th Army Intelligence summary no 22).

LT. SCOTTI (Neapolitan) who commanded No 2 company of TAGLIAMENTO battalion of the Republican Guard is believed to have escaped to

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FLORENCE. His unit was engaged in operations against patricts in the CITTA DI CASTELLO area and included two Lieutenants FARO of SALERNO and sgt. GAMBACORTA; the latter commanded the firing squad responsible for shooting partisans.
(8th Army Intelligence Summary No 22).

GENOA

CARLO EMMANUELE BASILE is Prefect of the Province of GENOA. He was formerly Fascist Federale of TURIN and NOVARA. His headquarters are in the PALAZZO Hotel (formerly Bristol) in Via XX Settembre.

FLORENCE

Two lawyers called MACCA and PICCHI, are President and Prosecutor respectively of an extraordinary Tribunal set up by the Republicans in Florence to judge political offences.

The Commander of the Fascist Republicans in the barracks which are near S. MICHELE EXTRA is a Consul of Militia named MARCHIORI

A certain ORLANDI Carlo of GENOA was always with the German troops in this area. He is described as a sailor and a cruel Fascist.
(8th Army Intelligence Summary No 22).

FLORENCE

South of Florence at PALAZZOLO the following Republican Officers are serving in 113 Engineer battalion.

Commander	Major FACCIABENE
Adjutent	LT. DE MICHELI
Oc. 3 coy	Capt FRANCESCHETTI
OC. 4 coy	Capt. MARINO
Other officers	LTS. IMPARATO, DAL MEDICO, PATTI
	2/Lts. GUCCIONI, DE SIMONE,
	MALORNI DI CORRADO, INDACO.

(8th Army Intelligence Summary July 21st).

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SECRET

9th August, 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

APPENDIX

Italian Partisans in Action.-16.6.44 - 20.7.44

A British Captain, with other British soldiers, was dropped by parachute in the middle of June and landed in the plain NW of AREZZO. He was quickly captured by the Germans and equally quickly escaped from them. At the suggestion of two young men he joined a partisan band operating in the vicinity, where he was soon afterwards joined by two more of the parachutists. The area where they worked was the southern sector of the PRATOMAGNO massif between FLORENCE and AREZZO.

The band was an independent unit called by the name of its commander, Lieut RAOUL, and based on two farms on M. ROVERAIA.

Strength. 60 Italians, 2 Germans, some French and Russians, 2 S. Africans, 2 British parachutists, 1 British parachutist officer (informant); later joined by 1 British officer and 2 O.R.s.

Weapons. 1 Sten.
Italian and German rifles and revolvers.
Amn. in abundance.
German explosives.
This was increased by a parachute drop of
8 Brens
45 Stens
100 lb. of explosive.
Booby traps
Battle-dress and boots.
) in the plain N of LATERINA; took 3 days to collect and had very stimulating effect on morale.

Transport Donkeys and mules. (A donkey costs as much as 21000 lire).

Food. 2 hot meals a day. Peasants being friendly, food was never scarce. Payment was always made except to known fascists or the unsympathetic.

ACTIVITY AND METHOD OF ACTION:

1. For 4 months Raoul's band had been attacking German transport on the road CASTIGLION FIBOCCHI-S. GIUSTINO. Their method was as follows:-

20 men station themselves at the road-side under cover of darkness. After first light, a grenade is thrown at the first

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20 men station themselves at the road-side under cover of darkness. After first light, a grenade is thrown at the first isolated vehicle to pass, and fire is directed at the driver's cab. When the truck stops, they close in, kill any survivors, and remove the contents. In this way, and by occasional attacks on Italian Listening Posts (which never resisted) and on German AA sites, Raoul had succeeded in arming his whole band. No attempt, however, was made to destroy the truck's engine or remove the wheels. In this period they had had only one casualty, when the truck attacked proved

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APPENDIX 2.

not to be isolated, being followed by another armed with MG and riflemen riding on the mudguards.

2. After the arrival of the Englishmen and the finding of the parachute supplies it was decided to begin laying mines on the roads. The method devised by informant was as follows:-

6 lb of plastic were laid in the middle of the road on a moonless night at 2230 hrs after a careful recce of the position. This was attached by Cortex to a release spring-switch on the roadside, the spring being kept depressed by means of a heavy stone which was itself attached to a trip-wire stretched across the road to a tree at a height such that it would be missed by a pedestrian, a cyclist or a small car.

The work took 20 minutes, including interruptions due to passing traffic, and was completely successful.

This method was sometimes varied in that 10 lb of 808 were used instead of Plastic, and string was used instead of wire which caused delay by getting entangled.

On another occasion 10 lb of Plastic were used instead of 6 lb and time-pencils (1½) were attached to neighbouring telegraph-poles. Both were very successful.

On the last occasion, the vicinity of a German camp and German patrols made a pressure-switch desirable instead of a trip-wire. The result was equally satisfactory.

When it was a question of destroying a bridge, lack of explosive suggested the cratering of the road over the bridge with 25 lb. of 808 and getting the villagers to continue with digging.

THE LEADER. Lieut. RAOUL enjoyed the confidence and respect of his men without being able or without wishing to enforce discipline. Lacking in judgment rather than courage, he was sometimes with difficulty dissuaded from foolhardy moves that would have cost severe casualties and achieved nothing. He was jealous of his position as Commander and proud of his quality of partisan. This made him slightly difficult as a colleague and caused friction with other bands. Once a fortnight he would mysteriously disappear, and return with 50,000 lire, possibly received from the Florence Committee of Liberation. The last informant heard of Raoul, shortly before rejoining the allies, was that he had attacked the Germans at PIEVE and, having been wounded in the ensuing mopping-up operations against ROVERAIA

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THE MEN. The only useful members of the band, in informant's opinion, were four of the Italians, 2 Frenchmen from the Foreign Legion, 2 Russians, and the British. The rest were so much worse than useless, that it was risky to have their company in an operation. Most of them were from the 1926 class, which had been called but had largely disbanded itself after receiving its arms. Informant had the impression that they had been attracted to the Partisans by the good meals. There was no sapper among them. The two Germans (one an Austrian) had been captured and enrolled in the band. They worked in the

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APPENDIX 3.

kitchen and were well liked; but after the shooting of three German prisoners later on, they took fright and made off.

DISCIPLINE AND TACTICAL SKILL

Military discipline as we know it was absent. The leader had to contend with much "back-chat" in making known his plans. The rudiments of tactics were neglected to the point of endangering the whole band. Thus when the Band had begun its move to a new area near CIVITELLA south of the plain, the four parties lost contact and much calling and shouting ensued. Time was lost and the move had to be abandoned. It was later learnt that the Germans in the plain had been warned by the noise and were waiting for them. Before fire was opened to take "cover from view" was to expose oneself to the taunt of cowardice; once fire was opened after an exploit it was "sauve qui peut". Though Raoul himself was never among the stampeders, he was sometimes unable to see that a proposal was tactically impossible. Nor was the notion of military security any better developed; in an area known to be subject to German combing, they would boast of their exploits to the local population.

POLITICAL COLOUR

The Band considered itself Communist, but had only the primitive conception of Communism that consists of the spoliation of the rich. They wore the Italian colours on the collar-patch and the Red Star on their caps. Their poor discipline may have been the deliberate application of a misconceived idea of Democracy.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER BANDS.

Other bands in the area were:-

(1) BRUNO'S BAND: TALLA 30 men
(2) BOBBY's Band: ANCIOLINA 30 men.

These two bands were about 8 miles apart, were composed, like Raoul's of men from the 1926 class, and had been completely inactive. The arrival of the equipment by parachute and its finding by Raoul's band roused them to action, and they asked for a share of the arms. Raoul lent Bobby a Bren gun and a Frenchman to fire it, the target to be a truck on the road. Bobby's patrol of 10 men, however, got drunk in the village, were attacked by Germans on the way back, and made their escape under the covering fire of the Frenchman with the Bren gun. It was not part of the plan that this fire accounted for 15 German dead. Later on Raoul quarrelled with Bobby, accusing him of abusing his partisan rank by looting houses, and mobilised his band to attack him.

This desire on the

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(1) BRUNO'S BAND: TALLA 30 men
(2) BOBBY's Band: ANCIOLINA 30 men.

These two bands were about 8 miles apart, were composed, like Raoul's of men from the 1926 class, and had been completely inactive. The arrival of the equipment by parachute and its finding by Raoul's band roused them to action, and they asked for a share of the arms. Raoul lent Bobby a Bren gun and a Frenchman to fire it, the target to be a truck on the road. Bobby's patrol of 10 men, however, got drunk in the village, were attacked by Germans on the way back, and made their escape under the covering fire of the Frenchman with the Bren gun. It was not part of the plan that this fire accounted for 15 German dead. Later on Raoul quarrelled with Bobby, accusing him of abusing his partisan rank by looting houses, and mobilised his band to attack him.

This desire on the part of one band to disarm another was not an isolated case. Informant had gone to TALLA in response to a message from BRUNO requesting arms, and also in order to see about a wireless set said to be in Bruno's possession (which turned out to be an unserviceable German one). Bruno had occupied TALLA after the departure of the Germans and had posted flamboyant notices signed by himself as "Commandante". He was now in hospital, having been wounded by a bomb dropped by a German plane to which he was signalling in the belief that it was British. While lunching with some of Bruno's men informant and his companion were surprised to see the room invaded by

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armed men, who ordered them to hand over their weapons. When the shouting had died down, it appeared that the men were a patrol commanded by a Canadian officer sent from UOMO DI SASSO (E OF REGELLO) by the 22 Garibaldi Brigade to disarm a band of men whose prolonged inactivity encouraged the suspicion that they were really fascists masquerading as partisans. Bruno's men were content to be disarmed and to go off with the men of the Garibaldi Brigade. The Canadian officer preferred to attach himself to informant's band and returned with them. He stated that the 22 Garibaldi Brigade was 1000 men strong and had been inactive for a month.

RELATIONS WITH BRITISH PERSONNEL.

The knowledge that the Allies were interested in them was a great stimulus to the Partisans. The union of British Captain and Parachutist in informant won him a prestige that even his ignorance of the language could not impair. He was allowed a free hand by Raoul, who was ready to follow his example and even sometimes his advice. The exact mutual relationship between Partisan Band Leader and attached British officer is however a delicate one. Informant strongly disapproved of the preparations to attack and disarm Bobby's band. This, combined with minor irritants such as flies, dysentery and the partisan's eating habits, finally convinced informant that he would achieve more by breaking loose from Raoul and operating with his own band. Raoul had no objection, allowed him to select the two parachutists, the two other British soldiers, the other British officer, one S. African, three Italians, two Frenchmen and a donkey or two, and provided him with 10,000 lire With this band informant moved 5 miles SE to GELLO and began operations on his own.

LESSONS

From his experience with the partisan band, informant considers that the following lessons may be drawn:-

(1). Small bands of not more than 50 men are much more effective than large ones. In any one area there should be several small bands located according to the road system. One reason is that the Germans tend to ignore small bands; another is that a small band can more easily get away from the scene of its exploit without leaving a trace. Existing large bands should therefore decentralise and split up into autonomous units.

(2) A radio receiving and transmitting set is indispensable both for the reception of allied orders and for keeping in touch with the course of events. Initiative is blunted by ignorance of what is happening elsewhere; and as Partisan activity changes in character according as the Allied line approaches, they must know exactly how far away the Allies are

(3) Partisans should be warned not to embark on operations

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(3) Partisans should be warned not to embark on operations of too ambitious a scale. Small-scale attacks, if continued over a long period and at varying points, inflict just as much damage on the enemy in the end, are far more wearing to his nerves and cost the Partisans fewer casualties. Moreover being frequently repeated, they are made with ever increasing skill.

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APPENDIX 5.

(4) Partisans should be told to use their eyes and make mental note of everything of military importance, against the day when they can report it to an allied HQ. When the Allied line is close to their area, the Band should not wait until they are actually liberated, but should send an emissary across at once to give the information while it is still of value and capable of being exploited. Mortar and gun positions and O.Ps are targets on which early information is especially desirable.

(5) The only way to prevent reprisals against civilians is to have the villages in the partisan area evacuated. As German savagery succeeds in its purpose of creating an atmosphere hostile to partisand, it is necessary to warn civilians that the Allies have means of finding out who has betrayed any partisan to the enemy.

Source - 8th Ammy Special Interrogation Report 22.7.44.

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