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PWB, REPORTS ON
MAY - JULY 1944
(1 OF 2)

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PWB, REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY
MAY - JULY 1944
(1 OF 2)

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AUG 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information & Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy July 29,1944

REPORT OF CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 28

PART I SUMMARY

The Italian government is showing more signs of activity now that it has had time to establish itself in its various ministries. At the cabinet meetings it has faced up to the problem of epuration and has passed a consolidated version of the laws of epuration. Under the previous government a distinction had been drawn between defascistization and epuration; while Count Sforza had been made responsible for the latter, Omodeo, the ex-Minister of Public Instruction, was charged with the task of carrying out the former. Since the change of government it was not quite clear who would be responsible for the immediate task of removing Fascists from public posts. Now both defascistization and epuration have been placed under Count Sforza who has been confirmed in his post as High Commissioner for the punishment of the crimes of Fascism. Time has been needed to build up this High Commissionership which is divided into various sub-sections. Members from the different parties have been asked to collaborate in this work, and it is understood that Scoccimaro will be the Communist candidate. The High Commissionership will concern itself with the following four main functions: the cancellation of Fascist political sentences, the punishment of Fascist crimes (the death sentence is even permitted in certain cases), the defascistization of the National Administration, and the confiscation of fortunes made as a result of Fascist connections.

The announcement made by the Allied Control Commission that a certain number of patriots may join the Italian army in as short a time as possible has met with a favourable response. For a long time members of the various parties and resistance groups have been asking exactly for this. Now the desire to continue the struggle on the part of the patriots will be satisfied, and their experience will be utilised in the common cause. The others will be given preference for any jobs available in agriculture, reconstruction or the police. The patriots will thus receive a practical reward for their

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The announcement made by the Allied Control Commission that a certain number of patriots may join the Italian army in as short a time as possible has met with a favourable response. For a long time members of the various parties and resistance groups have been asking exactly for this. Now the desire to continue the struggle on the part of the patriots will be satisfied, and their experience will be utilised in the common cause. The others will be given preference for any jobs available in agriculture, reconstruction or the police. The patriots will thus receive a practical reward for their contribution to the war, and the danger that their enthusiasm might be allowed to cool, or that they might become disillusioned has been lessened.

These Roman patriot groups which were outside the military center of General Bencivenga, and also subscribed to some of the six parties of the National Committee of Liberation, have now formed an Association of Italian Partisans. About ten groups have joined this Association which is headed by Dr. Sofia-Moretti, who was concerned in the organization of the active anti-fascism some time before the coup d'etat of the 25th of July last year.

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Bonomi, speaking as Foreign Secretary, addressed officials of the Italian Foreign Office during the week. He declared that Italy must revert to her traditional foreign policy of friendship with the Allies of the last war, from which she should never have wavered. He described the Armistice terms as hard, but added that all the ministers had read them and had pledged themselves to abide by them. He believed that Italy and must be prepared to face up to the hard ralities of Italy's situation. He pointed out that according to the memorandum which was added to the Armistice terms at Quebec, the terms of the Armistice could be modified in Italy's favour if Italy contributed substantially towards the struggle against Germany. Italy he said must not only try to return to her traditional friendship, but she must make amends for the wrongs she has committed against France, Greece, Jugoslavia and other countries.

De Gasperi, the leader of the Christian Democratic party, made a speech last Sunday in which he outlined the policy of his party on the major issues. He was listened to by a large, enthusiastic audience. He spoke of the attitude of his party towards the institutional question. He did not commit the party either for or against the monarchy, but reiterated that the issue must be decided by the Italian people themselves after the war. He defined his attitude as being the same as that of Togliatti. The younger members of the audience, it is reported, were discontented with this non-committal attitude and frequently interrupted the speech with shouts of "Long Live the Republic;" there is no doubt that there is an influential section of the Christian Democratic party which is in favour of a republic. De Gasperi also replied to the overtures made by Togliatti for a closer association between the Communist and Christian Democratic parties. He neither rejected nor accepted wholeheartedly these overtures. While praising many of the achievements of Communism in Russia, and pointing out that Communism was in a constant process of transformation, he criticised the excessive intervention of the State, and the threat to individual liberty represented by Communism. He added however, that he thought that the presence of Togliatti in Italy would serve to prevent the negative experiments and errors of the Russian system. He ended his speech by thanking Togliatti for his declaration that the Communist party would respect the faith of Catholics, and reminded his aud-

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In an interview with a PWB officer, De Ruggiero, the Minister of Education, said that he intended to purge the personnel of the teaching staffs of all schools and universities. He praised the work of the A.C.C. in the field of education, particularly in Sicily. He did not consider that this was the moment for sweeping changes in the mechanism of education. He intended to prepare a series of

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articles which in the form of an education bill he would present to the Constituent Assembly. Education must direct Italians towards a belief in an international society. He believed that the fundamental problem of Italian education was the renewal of contact with other countries. He expressed the hope that America, Great Britain and France would re-open their various archaeological and cultural institutes as soon as possible.

In an interview with a PWB officer Alberto Cianca, the Party of Action Minister without Portfolio, stressed the need for purging the administration of former Fascist officials; otherwise there was a danger that the executive power would remain in Fascist hands to the detriment of a democratic government. He believed in particular that the Italian Foreign Office should be purged and more representative Italians chosen to fill the posts vacated.

Sergio Fenoaltea, the undersecretary to the Presidency of the Council, told a PWB Officer that the principal task facing the government was to make themselves known to the public, and this was difficult as the Allies controlled the means of communication and the radio. He felt that Allied policy was too conservative with regard to Italy, and he developed the theme that an intelligent conservative policy would support the new forces of order in Italy, as represented by the Action party, and not the reactionary elements in the country that he said were doomed to extinction through their long association with Fascism.

During the course of the week a PWB officer was granted a short interview with Monsignor Montini, one of the Papal undersecretaries of State; who touched on the firm anti-nazi attitude of the German bishops and the observation of religious practises among the prisoners of war of the different nations.

Several reports from left wing sources in Naples criticise those of the clergy who from their pulpits attack the Italian Communists and Soviet Russia. These people consider that the priest has a quite unfair advantage when he uses his pulpit as a political platform, whether to attack Communism or to advocate the tenets of the Christian Democratic party.

In Sardinia an important recent development has been the an-

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In Sardinia an important recent development has been the announcement of a fusion between the Sard Party of Action and the Sardinian branch of the Italian Party of Action, as a result of Emilio Lussu's visit to the island. As a result of this fusion, and of Lussu's personal prestige in the island, it seems that the new Sard Action Party will be one of the strongest parties on the island. During his tour of Sardinia, Lussu made speeches in all the important centres. His speech at Nuoro, of which a summary is included in this report, is one of the clearest statements of policy yet made by a politician for Liberated Italy. Lussu openly demanded for Sardinia a Federalistic autonomy on the Swiss model. He suggested that this example should be followed throughout Italy and probably in other European countries. Lussu repudiated suggestions of ordinary

3814

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administrative decentralization as a solution for Italy. In his federal state the autonomous unity (in this case Sardinia) would control agriculture, education, labour, etc., while the Federal State would control only the armed forces and foreign policy.

2 Many Italians of different political views, now favour the idea of an Italian State organized on federal lines. It is felt that the centralized State, set up in Italy after her unification, has never really succeeded in welding the country into one whole. Southern Italians feel that they have been exploited by the North, left without industries or adequate means of transport. Northern Italians tend to feel that Southern Italy with its low standard of living and high rate of illiteracy is keeping the country from taking her due place in Europe. Even the politicians of the old school, who still retain something of the almost religious respect for Italian unity which grew up during and after the Risorgimento, seem prepared to concede something in the direction of autonomy, rather than risk the extreme forms of Separatism such as that advocated by Finocciaro Aprile in Sicily and, to a lesser degree, by the small Sardinian Separatist Party.

No opposition party of any size has arisen to challenge the supremacy of the six official Committee of Liberation parties now forming the government. In Naples the Social Revolutionary Party now claims 5000 members. This party has a programme, which on paper at least, is more radical than that of the official Socialists and to some extent than the Communists. An open schism has now appeared in their governming body, which includes some elements of doubtful repute, so that now there are two Party headquarters in Naples, each issuing a paper "Bandiera Rossa." It seems that this split, which took place in scandalous circumstances, one of the leaders threatening the others with knives, is likely to put an end to any immediate possibility of an important future for this party. Avv.D'Ambra is reported to be in Rome, negotiating for a merger with the official Socialist Party.

One of the most interesting unofficial movements, the Rome Catholic Communists, has now been publicly repudiated both by the Catholic Action daily "Quotidiano", and the official Vatican "Osservatore Romano". The movement claims that there is nothing incompatible between Catholicism and the political technique of Communism, once [illegible] of the early Russian Communists has been

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Latest development in the CGIL - CGL labour controversy is the proposal by the CGIL to hold a Labour Congress for Southern Italy at the end of August. Delegates will be nominated by a neutral arbitrator on a basis of proportional representation of the two Confederations. If Gentili refuses to accept this challenge, it is proposed to hold the Congress without him, possibly on a nationwide basis. Interviews are included with Grandi and Di Vittorio, respectively Christian Democrat and Communist General Secretaries of the CGIL.

No one topic has particularly occupied public opinion this week. In Rome the result of the Bentivegna trial, a sentence of 18 months imprisonment, has met with different reactions. The official Communist line is that Bentivegna is a hero, and that the sentence must be reviewed. Apart from the Communists, however, the sentence is thought by many to have been justified, and it is felt that it will serve as an example. It is generally admitted that an Italian court would have acquitted Bentivegna, or given him a much lighter sentence, on the grounds that his killing of Barbarisi came under the heading of a crime "passionel". Impartial observers however admit that the Anglo-American system is more just.

Another topic of much discussion in Rome is the new system of rationing electric current. In spite of the official explanations given, it is felt that there must be some technical reason why it is necessary to allow 16 hours current every four days, rathern than turning it on for a shorter period every day. Some further explanation would, however, prevent a certain amount of grumbling on this subject.

There has been some criticism of the selection of films distributed for Italian audiences. Pictures like "Sergeant York," "You Can't Take It With You", "I Married a Withh", and "Tales of Manhattan", were received with enthusiasm, but others such as "It Started With Eve," and "Golden Gate", have been criticised as naive and overadvertised. The film correspondent of Osservatore Romano asks why when so many good films -- he instances "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" -- have not been seen by Italian audiences, pictures are chosen which while they are technically well executed and good of their kind, are not of the first

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Yet another report this week stressed the need in Rome for more detailed reporting of news on Liberated Italy.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section
Liberated Italy

July 29th, 1944

Subject: Report on Conditions in Liberated Italy

Recipients of this report are particularly asked to note that it is a security document, classified Secret. It should be kept under lock and key, and should on no account be allowed to get into the hands of unauthorised persons. In view of the nature of its contents, it is undesirable that it should be read by persons of Italian nationality.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy July 29th, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 28

Part II - Annexes

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with De Ruggero	1
2	Interview with Count Sforza	2
3	Interview with Alberto Cianca	2
4	Conversation with Gronchi and Tupini	4
5	Interview with Fenoaltea	4
6	Ministers and the Crown Prince	5
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
8	De Gasperi at the Teatro Brancaccio	7
9	Conversation with Emilio Lussu	9
10	Lussu in Sardinia	10
11	The Catholic Communists	13
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
12	Events leading up to Musotto's replacement	15
	CHURCH	
13	Interview with Mgr. Montini	16
14	Anti-Communist sermons in Naples	16
	EPURATION	
15	Epuration in the Army and the Foreign Service	17

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with De Ruggero	1
2	Interview with Count Sforza	2
3	Interview with Alberto Cianca	2
4	Conversation with Gronchi and Tupini	4
5	Interview with Fenoaltea	4
6	Ministers and the Crown Prince	5
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8	De Gasperi at the Teatro Brancaccio	7
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10	Lussu in Sardinia	10
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	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
12	Events leading up to Musotto's replacement	15
	CHURCH	
13	Interview with Mgr. Montini	16
14	Anti-Communist sermons in Naples	16
	EPURATION	
15	Epuration in the Army and the Foreign Service	17
	PRESS	
16	Plans for a Monarchist daily	
	LABOUR	
17	Interview with Grandi	18
18	Interview with Di Vittorio	18
19	Interview with Secretary to Rome Labour Director	19
20	The funds of the CGIL	19
21	Confederation of State and para-State Employees	19

SECRET

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

Paragraph		Page
	ECONOMIC	
22	Food situation in Rome	22
23	Charcoal and Electricity	22
24	Potatoes scarce again in Naples	22
25	Cost of living in Naples	23

APPENDIX I Reactions to Propaganda
APPENDIX II Unauthorised Powers in Liberated Italy
APPENDIX III The Carigliano District
APPENDIX IV The Tuscan coast
APPENDIX V Public Opinion

Explanation of reliability rating:

Source (reliability)		Report (probability)	
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probably true
C	Sometimes reliable	3	possibly true
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	untried source	5	improbable

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
APO 512

Central D Section Liberated Italy — July 29,1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 20

Part II Annexes

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

1. Interview with Professor De Ruggero, Minister of Education

In a conversation with a PWB officer De Ruggero, Minister of Education in the Bonomi cabinet, discussed the problems which confronted him in the reconstruction of the educational life of the country. De Ruggero is a pleasant, middle aged man, with a quiet manner, who would be in place in any Senior Common Room at Oxford or Cambridge. He remarked that one of the most cherished memories of his life is the occasion, about ten days before Mussolini declared war on France and England, when he was made Doctor honoris causae at Oxford.

De Ruggero said that his immediate objective was to proceed with the thorough purging of personnel on the teaching staffs of all schools and universitites. He expressed appreciation for the work of the ACC in the field of education, especially in Sicily, but added that epuration carried out under Allied auspices in the schools had sometimes been quixotic. Now the Italian Government's law he felt was quite clear, and the work of epuration had already begun in the ministry itself. The entire team of national inspectors had been sacked. He intended to bring the weight of the law to bear on those members of the teaching profession who occupied high posts. He considered that during the fascist regime those occupying high academic positions had a certain amount of liberty, and instanced his own case, saying that for 18 years he had been able to write and lecture without particular hindrance, and that only during the war had he been imprisoned. However he intended to be strict with the university professors. He thought that over than 60 professors of Rome University, including the 18 dismissed by the Poletti decree, would be sent away.

De Ruggero said that he didn't consider that this was the moment for sweeping changes in the mechanism of education. He intended to preserve for the time being what was healthy and to prepare a series of articles which would be presented in the form of an education bill to the Constituent assembly. The country must pronounce on the kind of education system it wanted. In the meantime he had already initiated the process of re-orientation of the schools by a message to the teachers, and he intended to explore this and

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In a conversation with a PWB officer De Ruggero, Minister of Education in the Bonomi cabinet, discussed the problems which confronted him in the reconstruction of the educational life of the country. De Ruggero is a pleasant, middle aged man, with a quiet manner, who would be in place in any Senior Common Room at Oxford or Cambridge. He remarked that one of the most cherished memories of his life is the occasion, about ten days before Mussolini declared war on France and England, when he was made Doctor honoris causae at Oxford.

De Ruggero said that his immediate objective was to proceed with the thorough purging of personnel on the teaching staffs of all schools and universitites. He expressed appreciation for the work of the ACC in the field of education, especially in Sicily, but added that epuration carried out under Allied auspices in the schools had sometimes been quixotic. Now the Italian Government's law he felt was quite clear, and the work of epuration had already begun in the ministry itself. The entire team of national inspectors had been sacked. He intended to bring the weight of the law to bear on those members of the teaching profession who occupied high posts. He considered that during the fascist regime those occupying high academic positions had a certain amount of liberty, and instanced his own case, saying that for 18 years he had been able to write and lecture without particular hindrance, and that only during the war had he been imprisoned. However he intended to be strict with the university professors. He thought that ever than 60 professors of Rome University, including the 18 dismissed by the Poletti decree, would be sent away.

De Ruggero said that he didn't consider that this was the moment for sweeping changes in the mechanism of education. He intended to preserve for the time being what was healthy and to prepare a series of articles which would be presented in the form of an education bill to the Constituent assembly. The country must pronounce on the kind of education system it wanted. In the meantime he had already initiated the process of re-orientation of the schools by a message to the teachers, and he intended to enshrine this and similar statements in the bill. These guiances would insure that instruction follow the spirit formative of an international ... society. Children must be taught at once that war is not the aim of life, teachers and children mustbe cured of the "balilla psychology." De Ruggero said that Italy today was intensly hostile to nationalistic ideas, in which she saw the reasons for her present difficulties, and that he intended to train teachers to have an international outlook. He felt that the fundamental problem of Italian education was the renewal of contact with other countries. Work in this field could be started at once, and in fact he had already arranged for tthe requisition of a large furnished villa in the center of Rome whic h he planned to turn into a "casa di aggiorno dello studioso straniero." De Ruggero hoped that Allied officers on leave for a few days would make use of this house, which would provide facilities for studying at the university of Rome, for studying Italian, and would allow foreigners to meet the type of Italian who represents the real democratic forces of the country, The house will be under the supervision of professor of French

3810

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

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literature at Rome University, Signora Bounous-Pons. De Ruggero hoped that America, France and Great Britain would re-open their various archeological schools and cultural institutes as soon as possible. In this connection he sharply criticised those Italians who express anxiety less Italians become imitators of foreign culture.

Touching on the question of the lycees De Ruggero said that he was in favour of maintaining the present distinction between classical and technical lycees, though entrance to the classical lycees must be more rigidly controlled. Italy has a pressing need of people trained in agricultural matters, and therefore her youth should be encouraged to acquire knowledge of these problems at an early age. He deprecated the present easy access to the universities, and said that his bill would strictly limit entrance to institutions of higher studies.

Owing to the paper shortage, no new books are available for this school year, and they will be obliged to use the modified edition of the former fascist standard books. As soon as the paper situation permits, the standard texts will be published, and publishers will be at liberty to submit their texts to the selection board at the Ministry.

The minister mentioned the delicate situation caused by the special position of the Catholic Church in Italy. He said that his bill would provide for the church schools, which of course were "controlled" by the ministry, but he declared that the arrangement whereby private schools were allowed to confer diplomas having and equal authority to those given by the state could not continue. He proposed to solve this problem by the introduction of a state examination, accessible to private and public schools, resembling the London matriculation or school certificate in England.

The old system whereby the minister nominated inspectors and presidents must be abolished and these would then be chosen after a competitive examination under the auspices of a board at the Ministry of Education.

2. Interview with Count Sforza

In a conversation with a PWB officer Count Sforza spoke of his Epuration office. The laws had been modified and they would shortly be applied he said. His office would now look after the defascistation for which previously Omodeo had been responsible. He hoped to have prominent members of each party working in the different epuration commissionerships. Togliatti had promised him the services of Scoccimaro, one of the leading Communists. The effects of these laws would be shortly felt.

Talking of the question of the Monarchy, he said that he still felt himself to be a republican.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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[illegible] said that he regarded Togliatti as an able and cultivated man. Among the Communists he thought that he was the most human and themost gifted. Togliatti had also shown himself most co-operative.

3. Interview with Alberto Cianca

In an interview with a PWB officer, Alberto Cianca, the Minister without Portfolio representing the Party of Action, said that though the present government was democratic, the executive power throughout liberated Italy was still to a large extent in the hands of the people who had been Fascists. It was necessary to remove many of these more Fascist elements if the policy of the government were to be executively efficient. Continually names were being

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

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proposed for government or administrative posts of people who had long Fascist pasts. It was difficult to know the background of these various persons. For example when Bonomi in his post as Minister ff the Interior, proposed the names of new prefects, Cianca insisted that they should have some details as to their previous careers. As a rule these details were furnished by civil servants of the Ministry of the Interior who themselves had been Fascists in the past. He was trying to get a more objective picture of these various functions. Otherwise it was impossible he said to give his approval blindly for such nominations as unwillingly he might be giving his sanction to Fascists.

The Ministers without Portfolio had their own meetings and together acted in the nature of a war cabinet turning their attention to the major issues of policy. He himself watched carefully any tendency towards reaction. He had for example opposed the vote in favour of nominating the Marchese della Torretta to the presidency of the Senate. He did not see the need to resurrect this discredited institution. Both he and other Ministers in the Party of Action as well as the Communist and Socialist ministers had abstained from voting on this issue. The majority obtained by Bonomi was a very small one. He believed that the purpose of nominating a president of the Senate and a President of the Chamber was to provide the Crown Prince with advisors who in the event of a government crisis could counsel the Prime Minister.

He believed it was necessary to purge effectively most ministries. In particular it was necessary to look closely into the Italian Foreign Office. Many of the diplomatic representatives of Italy abroad had had Fascist pasts and it was important to remove these and see that Italy was represented by more democratic persons. In the world of tomorrow it was important that they should be represented by those who understood the technical problems of today. It was important that Italy should be represented by convinced anti-Fascists who were in touch with the people of Italy. Above all it was important that such representatives and such civil servants in the Italian Foreign Office should pursue a straight, honest line of policy. He despised and regretted the policy pursued in the past of cunning or furberia. There was still a tendency he said among Italian Foreign Office officials to base their policy on the hope of playing one Ally against the other. Many of these officials hope that by flattering the English at the expense of the Americans of vice versa to influence and gain favour with the nation they are talking to. This was not only dishonest but shortsighted as a policy as the Italians would inevitably discover.

Speaking of the armistice terms he said that they were not as severe as fifth columnists' rumours liked to pretend. He had heard many of these rumours in the last few days but he knew that they were exaggerated. He hoped however that the terms would be published as they would greatly ease the minds of many Italians. It was better that the Italian people should know where they stood and could realize the gravity of the task which faces the Italian government.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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He explained that the reason why the Party of Action and the Liberal Party each had a greater representation in the cabinet was that after the ministries had been divided evenly among the six parties there still remained the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of the Treasury which remained unfilled. Bonomi himself said that he would like to have freedom of choice to fill these posts by any nomination he cared to make from within the six parties. As a result he chose Soleri for the Minister of the Treasury and DeRuggero for the Minister of Education.

Speaking of Bonomi he said that he was in good faith but he regretted that he was probably a weak man. He was also afraid that Bonomi was inclined to live too much in the past and did not realize that 20 years had passed since he was last Prime Minister. It was not possible, Cianca said, to turn the clock back to where it stood in 1922.

3809

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

SECRET
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4. Conversation with Gronchi and Tupini.

A PWB officer was present at an informal conversation in which among others, the Minister of Justice, Tupini, and the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Gronchi, discussed the Poletti decree which places the activities and the property of the various Fascist Confederations in Rome under the control of the Regional Property Control Offices of the Rome region. The decree was criticised. Evidently it had been expected that these properties would revert to the Italian government.

The conversation turned to the Bentivegna case. The several lawyers present declared that an Italian court would unquestionably have acquitted Bentivegna on the ground of the provocation offered to him and by applying the criteria of the "crime Passionel". The Minister of Justice, however, recognised in the decision of the Allied court that the basis of the judgement must be sought in the Anglo-Saxon respect for liberty and the value attached to human life, irrespective of the person of the murdered victim or the murderer. He felt that the decision, though different from what would have resulted in an Italian court, responded to a more equitable conception of law, which is largely responsible for the greater freedom enjoyed in England or America.

6 Conversation with Fenoaltea.

During the course of a conversation with a PWB officer, Sergio Fenoaltea, Undersecretary to the Presidency of the Council, said that the principal task facing the government was that of making itself known to the country. At present the government had almost no contact with the people, as naturally the Allies controlled the means of communication such as the radio. Italians must know that there exists a new political class drawn from men who suffered under Fascism and were either exiled or imprisoned, and that these men are at the moment the only ones who can provide a government for the country. If this government fails, then the way is open to a violent reaction either to the right or the left, with a resulting dictatorship more rigorous and more nationalistic than even Mussolini's. Fenoaltea hoped that the consultative assembly would be formed at once, as from this body would no doubt be drawn many members of the future constituent assembly, which would decide the solution of the institutional question. Elections at this moment were out of the question, as no mechanism existed to ensure their success. Moreover, the parties, said Fenoaltea, were still largely directive bodies backed by, in some cases, large bodies of opinion, but all, with the exception of the Communists, lacking in organisation. This could only be remedied with the North was liberated and large masses of politically minded persons would swell the various parties of the National Liberation

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

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Speaking about the Communists, Fenoaltea said that their policy might change tomorrow, and that in a way the same was true of the other great mass party, the Christian Democrats, who were hindered from coming out into the open with a clear policy by the silence of the Vatican on so many vital problems.

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

Fenoaltea felt that Allied policy was too conservative with regard to Italy, and particularly British policy. He elaborated the theme familiar to all those who have spoken with leading members of the Action Party, that an intelligent conservative policy in England would support the new forces of order in Italy, as represented by the Action Party, and not the reactionary elements in the country, that he said are doomed to extinction through their long complicity with Fascism.

Fenoaltea said that the government would have more change to prove its worth after the return of Rome and province to the Italian administration on August 15th. He said he wished that the government could nominate to positions without having to refer candidates to relatively subordinate posts to the sanction of ACC. He felt that in practice this assisted an unfortunate Italian characteristic, that of trying to play one authority against the other.

(In fact the Italian government does not have to refer candidates to subordinate posts for the sanction of ACC)

6 Ministers and the Crown Prince.

It is reported that the recent visit of the Ministers without portfolio Ruini (Democracy of Labour) and De Gasperi (Christian Democrat) to the Crown Prince was made as a result of an invitation of the Prince to all the Ministers of the Cabinet, in order to make their personal acquaintence. It is also reported that in the course of this visit the Prince stressed his intention to collaborate closely and loyally with the national government, with a view to increasing Italy's war effort against the Germans.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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

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PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

8 De Gasperi at the Teatro Brancaccio

The morning of July 23, 1944, at 10 a.m., there was a large audience at the Teatro Brancaccio where De Gasperi held a mass meeting. Although of course the majority were Demochristians, there was a strong representation from all parties, and most of the members of the government of Demo-christian tendencies.

Before the speaker appeared the younger members of the group started to sing the anthem of the Christian-Democrats. Every now and then the more enthusiastic elements shouted VIVA DON STURZO, and such shouts were followed by enthusiastic clapping.

Avv. Scelba introduced the speaker. Whenever Scelba mentioned Sturzo, the public interrupted him with great applause. De Gasperi began by saluting the Anglo-American troops, who came to liberate Rome. Then he saluted the Pope, as the savior of Rome. The public rose up and shouted, VIVA IL SALVATORE DI ROMA. Then he made a salute to France and the great majority applauded. A few objected to this salute, but when De Gasperi reminded the people of the responsibility of Italy when the latter had stabbed France in the back, the applause became general.

Then De Gasperi saluted brave Poland. This salute was applauded but not as enthusiastically as the salute to France. De Gasperi insisted on the valour of Poland as the first bulwark of Christianity, and added, "Let's hope that brave Maresciallo Stalin will end this war by giving a satisfactory solution to the Polish problem." Someone in the public shouted VIVA ANCH L'ITALIA.

Then De Gasperi began to speak about the terms of the armistice. He said, that although he could not make them public, he could assure his audience that there is not a word in the armistice that ports, or territorial concessions will be made to the winning powers. Of course, he added, these terms are very severe on the Italians, but they should not let themselves be discouraged. At this point the public rose up very excited because they wanted to know more about the armistice and there was a moment of confusion.

De Gasperi said that Italy needs now the aid of the Allies and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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De Gasperi said that Italy needs now the aid of the Allies and made an open request to the Allied powers that they help Italy to rebuild what has been destroyed. Especially he requested the Allies to let Italy organize an Italian expeditionary force to send to the Front. "We don't want this force to go to the front with the same spirit which induced Mussolini to say: 'All we need are a few thousand dead to sit at the table with the victors.' Our expeditionary force is not on a contract basis with the Allies. It is a unilateral act to save our pride and honor. We don't pretend anything more. We don't want an army of laborers." Applause followed but not too enthusiastic.

SECRET

3807

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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De Gasperi enumerated the main problems which now are preoccupying the Italian government -- roads, buildings, and above all, prisoners. He invited the Allies to return the latter. He pointed out the example of Russia which has returned over 2000 French prisoners. He hopes that the other powers will follow Russia's example.

He approved the unity of all parties and said he was moved to see six different currents united in the common effort. Then he mentioned the future "costituente". At this point a large group of people shouted VIVA LA REPUBBLICA, followed by loud applause. Another smaller group shouted VIVA LA MONARCHIA; there was a moment of confusion and people became very excited. The reporter had the impression that the shouts of VIVA LA REPUBBLICA were of the extremist Demo-christian wing, and not from other parties.

At this point De Gasperi said: "We don' want to raise the consitutional question now. It is the people who shall decide. However I shall quote two episodes concerning the King.

"1) As soon as Trentino was liberated, the King came to visit us, and he appeared to us as the saviour and the true representative of the Italian people who came to bring us back to the Italian nation.

"2) In 1924, when we were at the Aventino, two members of the house (Amendola was one of them) and myself went to the King and asked him in the name of the Italian liberty to get rid of Mussolini. The King refused to do it. From that moment he became responsible. With reference to the monarchical question I am in complete agreement with my friend Togliatti." (Togliatti had declared himself ready to accept tomorrow the will of the Italian people)

De Gasperi disapproves of the Socialist-Communist plan of Factory Councils as instruments of the government. He wants city councils, which will bring back to the Italian people the civic concept of municipal liberties which had been destroyed by Fascism. The Italian people want to go back to the system of communal liberties which is the most valuable asset of the British Commonwealth and was originated by the ancient Italian municipalities in the Middle Ages.

De Gasperi hopes that Russia will cooperate. He gives credit to Russia for her war effort. He said that Russian successes are the proof that racial doctrines adopted by Germany and Fascism are of no value. A people of 140 races and languages could beat the

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

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De Gasperi hopes that Russia will cooperate. He gives credit to Russia for her war effort. He said that Russian successes are the proof that racial doctrines adopted by Germany and Fascism are of no value. A people of 140 races and languages could beat the German nation which claimed to be pure and united. He approves of the abolition of class distinction obtained by Russia. However he made some reseves with reference to the property question, saying, "It is not yet clear at the present stage of the Russian Revolution how much property is left to private enterprise and to what extent private initiative is allowed. We realize that the system of oppressive work adopted by Stalin was necessary to put the country on a war footing. Yet I hope this will never happen to Italy, because this should be the last war. We don't want the extremist remedies adopted by Stalin. The Russians point to Stalin as their saviour. We still point to another Communist who saved us 2000 years ago, Jesus Christ." The meeting ended quietly, without demonstration.

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

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9 Conversation with Emilio Lussu

In a conversation with a PWB officer, Emilio Lussu, one of the most prominent members of the Party of Action, spoke of his visit to Sardinia from which he had just returned. He was the founder of the Sardinian Party of Action after the last war and is regarded in Sardinia as almost a legendary figure. He had not visited the island since 1927 when he had been sent to the confino from which he escaped in 1929. He said that he had spoken on the radio and had addressed various public meetings on the island. He was struck by the appalling misery and the economic conditions on the island. For example miners went to work in the coal mines without shoes, and there were no shoes for the peasants who worked barefoot. Even during and after the last war people had not descended to such poverty. It is essential to find boots for these workers who are carrying on useful war work. In view of the fact that there had been many Italian soldiers on the island there was a scarcity of food. He had traveled throughout the island and was able to form a picture of the general conditions there.

He had also toured in southern Italy and had been struck by the way in which Fascism had eaten into the soul of the middle class and the middle aged. Fascismhad had a far more corrupting and extensive influence than he had ever imagined possible. A whole generation and a whole class had been corrupted during the last twenty years. He had returned to Rome more than ever convinced that the only hope for Italy lay in a completely revolutionary change. It was impossible to purify or reform a country by evolutionary processes. It was necessary to remove the corrupt influences by force. It would probably be difficult he said for English or Americans to realize why certain Italians were so morally intransigent. This moral intransigency he explained has risen as a result of the last twenty years of corruption. There was no possibility of compromise with those forces which had led Italy to her present abyss. A complete change was necessary and the King and Monarchy are symbols of the Fascist past. It was therefore essential to remove these symbols and to change completely the governing class. At times he was depressed when he saw the evil influences of Fascism but there was one thing which comforted him

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

most prominent members of the Party of Action, spoke of his visit to Sardinia from which he had just returned. He was the founder of the Sardinian Party of Action after the last war and is regarded in Sardinia as almost a legendary figure. He had not visited the island since 1927 when he had been sent to the confino from which he escaped in 1929. He said that he had spoken on the radio and had addressed various public meetings on the island. He was struck by the appalling misery and the economic conditions on the island. For example miners went to work in the coal mines without shoes, and there were no shoes for the peasants who worked barefoot. Even during and after the last war people had not descended to such poverty. It is essential to find boots for these workers who are carrying on useful war work. In view of the fact that there had been many Italian soldiers on the island there was a scarcity of food. He had traveled throughout the island and was able to form a picture of the general conditions there.

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

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When Northern Italy is liberated important political forces will be released to swell the ranks of democracy but there will naturally be a stronger tendency in the north toward Communism. He himself was not afraid of Communism but he thought the present policy of the Communist party was obscure. It was difficult to say whether they were right wing or left. He would prefer them to follow a more definite left wing policy.

As a result of his visit to Sardinia a fusion between the Sardinian Party of Action and the Party of Action had been achieved. This would be announced toward the end of the month. With this fusion he was convinced that the Party of Action in Sardinia would represent the majority. They party had a stronger following, he said, than the Communists.

10 Lussu in Sardinia

Emilio Lussu has no finished his tour of Sardinia, and appears to have achieved the principle aim of his visit, to fuse the Sard Party of Action (which he founded after the last war) and the Sardinian branch of the Italian Party of Action. He is believed to have effected the fusion on the basis of a Federalist autonomy for Sardinia, to be followed by similar autonomy for the other regions of Italy.

It is thought that at a forthcoming Congress, to be held at Nuoro, the Sard Party of Action, which has a much larger number of adherents, will absorb the Italian Party of Action. Much depends on the attitude of Mario Berlinguer, head of the Italian Party of Action in Sardinia and Sforza's assistant on the Epuration Commission. Berlinguer is so far reported to have left Lussu full liberty and initiative.

Everywhere he went, Lussu received an enthusiastic reception. He spoke, among other places, at Carbonia, Oristano, Nuoro, Sassari, Alghero and in many other little Communes of the Island.

His most important speech was made at Nuoro, in the presence of the High Commissioner. In this he defined clearly his conception of Federalistic autonomy, which he said would be the tendency of many European countries in their reconstruction; he mentioned

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

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His most important speech was made at Nuoro, in the presence of the High Commissioner. In this he defined clearly his conception of Federalistic autonomy, which he said would be the tendency of many European countries in their reconstruction; he mentioned Spain, Belgium, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Jugoslavia and France. Sardinia, he hoped, would be to Italy what the cantons of Uri, Schwitz and Underwalden had been to the Swiss Confederation. The Federal State would deal with foreign policy, with diplomatic and consular representation, with problems of the armed forces, and certain other problems. All questions such as agriculture, hygiene, mines, labour would be dealt with by the Sardinians themselves.

"Autonomy has nothing to do with the usual decentralization offered as a substitute for a centralized state by those who want to give a little to save the rest. Decentralization means delegation of State powers, centralizing them in the provinces. This would be no us to us. Autonomy means, as we conceive it - and I believe I am

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

interpreting not only my own thoughts but the thoughtsof all parties in Sardinia -- the constitution of a State for which, in the fundamental law of the Federal State, autonomy is contemplated as a basic institution." Lussu stressed that the ideal of autonomy, first confined to one party in the island, was now common to all parties. In Italy the conception of an autonomist-federalistic State was no longer represented by a minority, but was partof the programme of all the great political parties.

Interviewed at Cagliari by a Sardinian collaborator of PWB, Lussu gave the following account of his impressions of the island.

"What impressed me most is the poverty which reigns in Sardinia. I have been in Continental Italy and have not seen such a state of poverty. I have seen women in the country districts, barefooted, badly dressed, ragged. I have never seen Sardinia in these conditions. The children are starving and malaria ridden, the miners go to the mines with bare feet and their clothes in rags. I knew that things were bad in Sardinia, but I did not expect to find the island in these conditions.

"I have noticed a certain superficial hostility towards the Anglo-Americans. My speeches have been designed to dispel any unpleasant feelings, and I can state that my tour had cleared up this political point. After my speeches hundreds of young men asked to be allowed to fight in all districts of the island; this is a fact which struck me particularly.

"I have had to realise that the Italian army is a disaster, a dishonour which has reached the last depths of shame. There is no more honour, there is no dignity, there is nothing good. It is pitiful and terrifying as a spectacle, and it is also a factor of corruption.

"Everywhere the Fascists are still at their posts; in the Prefectures, in the Communes, in all the public administrations, wherever I have been the people tell me that the Fascists are still masters.

"There is much confusion in the political parties, and it seems that a state of anarchy exists. The desire of every citizen to be inscribed in a party is something pitiful. I have tried, through the prestige which I enjoy on the island, to correct all this, but it needs intensive work of the best political elements, and of the young. It is a problem which deserves the greatest consideration, and which

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

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"I have noticed that for anything to be done, people wait for the initiative to come from above, without taking the matter into their own hands and repairing the damage themselves. This is the most frightening form of corruption inherited from Fascism."

Speaking of his speech at Nuoro, Lussu explained that he took the opportunity of explaining his ideas there, because the most eminent representatives of both the Sard Party of Action and the Italian Party

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

of Action were present, and he wished to clarify the problem to them. Afterwards they had embraced him and said that the speech was the greatest political speech ever made in Sardinia.

The two parties had decided on a fusion in one party, which will be the Sard Party of Action. This will take place at the end of July, in a Congress to be held at Nuoro on the 29th and 30th. The Sard Party of Action will adhere in general to the programme of the Italian Party of Action, while preserving its identity and characteristics. "The immense popular mass which adheres to the Sard Party of Action does not exist in any other party of Italy, and I have found nothing to equal so vast a movement. It must be given organization and discipline."

In his broadcast before leaving the island, Lussu announced publicly that the fusion was to take place. The unified party would be called the Sard Party of Action, but would adhere to the National Party of Action.

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

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1. The Catholic Communist Movement

One of the leaders of the Catholic Communists is D'Amico; about thirty, he is the son of a professor at the Santa Cecilia academy of Music, and has himself studied music. His father was imprisoned during the German occupation of Rome, but he himself escaped capture, although actively engaged on the clandestine organization of his party, and the production of its paper "Voce Operaia."

In conversation with PWB officer, D'Amico said that during the period of clandestine activity his party was second in numbers only to the official Communist party, which counted 3000 active adherents in Rome as against 2500 Catholic Communists. (This claim may be true: the Catholic Communists appear to have had a high proportion of adherents, particularly among students and young intellectuals).

It is evident that D'Amico felt more in sympathy with the official Communist party than with the Christian Democrats, whom he tended to present as the enemies of his movement, representing the forces of clerical reaction. The Christian Democrats opposed his party, and in the Vatican their influence was very strong. The Pope himself was a sincere man, acting in good faith, who had spoken sympathetically of the Catholic Communists during the clandestine period. He was, however, surrounded by Christian Democrats. The Christian Democrats, complained D'Amico, now had the advantage of three daily papers expressing their point of view -- the party paper "Il Popolo", the Catholic Action "Quotidiano" and the Vatican "Osservatore Romano."

The official Communist party, on the other hand, had shown great understanding. It was no part of the Communist policy to persecute

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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The official Communist party, on the other hand, had shown great understanding. It was no part of the Communist policy to persecute the Church, so long as the Church does not constitute itself an obstacle to the realization of the Communist aims. Togliatti in particular had been very friendly. In fact in some parts of Sicily, where Catholic workers had joined the party, Togliatti had told them that they should transfer to the Catholic Communists as soon as a section was set up in their district.

Asked why, if Catholics could join the Communist party, it was necessary to have a separate Catholic Communist party, D'Amico explained that Catholics were allowed into the official party in spite of their religious faith, while his movement maintained that Catho-

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olicism and Communism were entirely compatible.

Asked whether he favoured a State Church, D'Amico explained that it would not be necessary. A Communistic regim in Italy would be democratic in that it would represent the Italian people, who were 99 per cent Catholic. Catholicism would therefore automatically be the State religion, though of course there would be complete freedom of worship. On questions such as divorce, Catholics of course would obey the rules of their Church, but there was no reason why the State law should prevent the small minority of non-Catholics from doing as they please.

The Catholic Communists' views on relations between the Church and state are clarified in a pamphlet "Il Comunismo e i Cattolici", which was written and published by D'Amico during the clandestine period, and has now appeared in an edition for general sale. The pamphlet is addressed primarily to Catholics who distrust Communism; it maintains that while the Church can, and should, lay down the aims which a State must try to achieve (abolition of exploitation, care of the health, and the moral and material education of citizens, etc.) it cannot and should not attempt to dictate the means by which these ends can be reached, any more than it can dictate to a doctor the medicine he should use to cure a sick child. The Catholic Communists maintain that Communism is the only regime under which a State can achieve those ends which Catholicism holds desirable.

The Church in Rome has repudiated the movement, first through a number of articles in the "Quotidiano" and on July 23rd by a leading article in the "Osservatore Romano", by Father Cordovani, stating clearly that it is impossible to be simultaneously a Catholic and a Communist, and quoting the "Quadragesimo Anno" "No one can be a good Catholic and at the same time a true Socialist." Father Cordovani explains that if by Communism is meant a remedy of some of the evils of so-called Capitalism, the improvement of the standard of living of the working classes, a more just distribution of wealth, the abolition of the class of exploiters and, by consequence, of exploited, nobody can honestly condemn such a programme. The only mistake, in this case, would be to choose a name so compromised as Communism. The Catholic Communists however, have shown that by Communism they are not prepared to wait for these aims to be achieved

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

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"We Catholics," writes Father Cordovani," in accordance with the demands of reason and the positive law of God, must never be absent from the struggle, must collaborate with everybody; but those who lean more to Marx than to the teaching of the Church, who do not realise what they are embracing nor what they are abandoning, and [illegible] the tyranny of one class for the tyranny of another, cannot be said to act as Catholics

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

12 Events Leading Up To The Replacement Of High Commissioner Musotto in Sicily

The following background material to the events which resulted in the recent change in the High Commissioner of the Italian government in Sicily, have been made available from an excellent source.

It appears that at the end of June the National Committee of Liberation of Palermo unanimously asked to be received by Bonomi and requested that a plane be put at their disposal to reach Salerno. As no plane was forthcoming, the acting President of the Committee, Avv. Vincenzo PURPURA, went on behalf of the committee to explain to Bonomi the political situation in Sicily. The conversations are said to have taken place at the Villa Guariglia on July 2nd. Avv. Purpura pointed out to the President of the Council the urgent necessity of dismissing the High Commissioner, Musotto, whose ambiguous attitude he said was in reality of aid to the separatist movement. He made this request in the name of all the parties of the Committee of Liberation. Purpura moreover warned Bonomi that the High Commissioner's staff lent its backing to prominent separatist leaders, and that they went as far as spreading rumours about the alleged relationship between separatist exponents and members of the Italian Cabinet.

Bonomi is reported to have agreed that in view of the evidence it would be better that Musotto go, but that he would naturally have to consult with the ACC, since Musotto had been nominated Prefect of Palermo by the Allied Military Government.

As a possible substitute for Musotto, in the name of the Committee of Liberation and of the Giunta Consultiva for Sicily, Purpura suggested Comm. Mercadante, deputy Attorney-general at the Palermo Court of Appeals, who had been designated by former Minister of the Interior Aldisio to be head of the Italian police. The Christian Democrats alone made reservations on Mercadante's account, as they would have preferred Aldisio.

The upshot was the nomination of Aldisio as High Commissioner

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

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The upshot was the nomination of Aldisio as High Commissioner for Sicily and the adjacent islands, though it is reported that Bonomi did not, at least in the early stages, favour this appointment.

3803

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

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CHURCH

13 Interview with Monsignor Montini, Under-Secretary of State to the Vatican (22-7-44)

Monsignor Montini is a youngish man (he is 47 years old) of great charm and obvious intelligence. He is said to have a great influence at the Vatican and to be much trusted by the Pope. In an interview which was necessarily short because the pressure of his work is so great, he talked cordially and freely. He was asked about the present state of Catholicism in Germany.

He said that the hierarchy, the clergy and the orders as well as a great majority of Catholic organizations such as Catholic Action, had held firm to their religion. Cases of priests or laymen active in the sphere of Catholic Action going over to the Nazis were almost unheard of. The splendid example of the bishops had largely been instrumental in conserving this compact attitude against the doctrines of the Nazis. Where the church had lost heavily was in the weapons of defence and propaganda. All Catholic education, Catholic newspapers, the activities of Catholic organisations had been banned. It followed that there had been a great defection among the youth of the nation who were taught the Nazi ideals in the Nazi schools. An inquiry had been made, continued Monsignor Montini, in the prisoner of war camps on the extent to which prisoners practised their religions. Although in the case of English and Italian and, to a lesser degree, French, prisoners the results were found to be satisfactory, reports showed that in a number of German prisoner of war camps there was almost total irreligion.

In spite of this however, there was a very solid body of real Catholic opinion in Germany - he had been struck by the number of German catholics who had expressed anti-Nazi opinions to him - and these elements should provide good material for the reconstruction of Germany in the future.

14 Anti-Communist Sermons at Naples

It is reported from Naples that priests are using their pulpits in several churches there to preach against Communism. It would also appear that some priests have alluded in no uncertain terms to their dislike of the Soviet Union. In at least two churches, says this report, the clergy speak against the political, economic and religious policy of the Soviet Union. The well known orator Padre Pio Ciuti, of Florence, not only attacks communism in his sermons, but is said to speak indirectly in favour of fascism. This priest was always a great admirer of Fascism, from which he received decoration.

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

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An Italian collaborator with PWB in Naples reports that when questioned on the advisability of direct attack on the institutions of the Soviet Union from the pulpit, several priests replyed that they were authorized to do so by higher authorities.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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EPURATION

15 Epuration on the Army and in the Foreign Service.

The Italian press continues to devote much attention to the question of epuration. This week the communist daily "Unita" takes up the problem of epuration in the army and in the foreign office. In an article published the 25th July the writer comments ironically on a circular whereby all cases of epuration in the army must be brought before Marshal Messe. "We do not wish to discuss," says the article "the firmness of the Marshal's faith in democracy, a faith that is too recent to be tested or denied, but only to give as our opinion that the hands of the Marshal are not those most adapted to decide the faith of epuration in the army..... or that at least for this special job it would have been possible to find a name less discussed whether by officers or men or the country in general."

During the week the Italian Foreign Ministry published a list of names of diplomats and personnel of the ministry who had been struck off the roll for collaborating with the neo-fascists and the Germans. The "Unita" of the 25th July criticises this measure as inadequate and strongly deprecates the continued presence abroad of Italian diplomats who act and speak in the name of the new Italian democracy, but who are unworthy to represent her. Those mentioned by name are the Italian charge d'affaires at Lisbon, the Minister at Stockholm, the Ministers to Berne and the Holy See and the Ambassador at Madrid. The article then touches on the particular problem of epuration within the Italian Foreign Office itself.

PRESS

16 Plans for a Monarchist paper in Milan.

An Italian monarchist mentioned in a conversation with a PWB officer that the monarchists hoped to be able to publish a daily paper at Milan, as soon as that city was liberated. He said that the paper would be financed by three or four capitalists who had never been members of the fascist party, and who were today totally pure of party affiliations. The paper would be the best in Italy, as it would be the richest and therefore able to pay the best reporters and correspondents. It was hoped that an office would be opened as soon as possible in Paris and London. The paper would be openly monarchist in tone, but would concentrate on giving information on the model of the Paris "L'Intransigeant." As it would be backed by big business men, it would naturally concentrate largely on matters of comercial and economic interest.

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

The Italian press continues to devote much attention to the question of epuration. This week the communist daily "Unita" takes up the problem of epuration in the army and in the foreign office. In an article published the 25th July the writer comments ironically on a circular whereby all cases of epuration in the army must be brought before Marshal Messe, "we do not wish to discuss," says the article "the firmness of the Marshal's faith in democracy, a faith that is too recent to be tested or denied, but only to give as our opinion that the hands of the Marshal are not those most adapted to decide the faith of epuration in the army..... or that at least for this special job it would have been possible to find a name less discussed whether by officers or men or the country in general."

During the week the Italian Foreign Ministry published a list of names of diplomats and personnel of the ministry who had been struck off the roll for collaborating with the neo-fascists and the Germans. The "Unita" of the 25th July criticises this measure as inadequate and strongly deprecates the continued presence abroad of Italian diplomats who act and speak in the name of the new Italian democracy, but who are unworthy to represent her. Those mentioned by name are the Italian charge d'affaires at Lisbon, the Minister at Stockholm, the Ministers to Berne and the Holy See and the Ambassador at Madrid. The article then touches on the particular problem of epuration within the Italian Foreign Office itself.

PRESS

16 Plans for a Monarchist paper in Milan.

An Italian monarchist mentioned in a conversation with a PWB officer that the monarchists hoped to be able to publish a daily paper at Milan, as soon as that city was liberated. He said that the paper would be financed by three or four capitalists who had never been members of the fascist party, and who were today totally pure of party affiliations. The paper would be the best in Italy, as it would be the richest and therefore able to pay the best reporters and correspondents. It was hoped that an office would be opened as soon as possible in Paris and London. The paper would be openly monarchist in tone, but would concentrate on giving information on the model of the Paris "L'Intransigeant." As it would be backed by big business men, it would naturally concentrate largely on matters of comercial and economic interest.

The editor of this paper, or putative paper, would appear to be Pippo Naldi, though the Italian who talked about the plan admitted that Naldi was in bad odour with the Allied, though he couldn't see why, as Naldi had always been anti-fascist. He said he understood that Naldi had got into difficulties with the Allied authorities at Bari, but thought that if he were controlled and not working in a government job he would be the best man for the job as he was "one of the most able men in Italy."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

SECRET

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LABOUR

17 Interview With Achille Grandi

Interviewed by a PWB officer on July 22, immediately after his return from Naples, Signor Grandi, the Christian Democratic Secretary of the Rome Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro, said that he had brought over the Christian Democratic "Confederazione Italiana dei Lavoratori" to the united front represented by the CGIL, and that Gentili and his Confederazione Generale del Lavoro would either be coaxed or compelled to withdraw. He said that he had proposed a Labour Congress of Southern Italy, to take place in the middle of August. Delegates would be appointed by a neutral arbitrator to represent accurately and on a proportional basis the enrolled members - tesserati - of the rival organizations. Grandi said that he had proposed Rodino, the right wing Christian Democrat, as an impartial arbitrator. If Gentili accepted the challenge, so much the better; otherwise the Congress would be held without him, and the majority would decide against him.

Grandi added that Gentili's fruitless attempts to get a footing for himself in Rome were prompted by the realization that the trustees for the assets of the workers' Confederation, soon to be appointed, would almost certainly be members of the CGIL, whereupon his cause would be lost. Similar reasons, he suggested, were bringing round the Party of Action, which was openly supporting Gentili but was also making confidential approaches to the CGIL.

Grandi criticised Gentili as a man who was trying to cause dissension in the Labour movement. He recalled that in the Labour Congress held at Bari at the end of January, the Confederation of Labour had suggested Buozzi, Roveda and himself as leaders(see Consolidated Report). Gentili had set up a rival Confederation, which had absorbed that founded at Bari, with the exception of the Christian Democrats.

18 Interview with Di Vittorio

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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16 Interview with Di Vittorio

On July 25th Di Vittorio, the Communist General Secretary of the CGIL told a PWB officer that at the beginning of August, four representatives from Bari Labour (supporters of the CGIL in Rome) and four from the CGL of Naples, would meet under the chairmanship of a neutral to discuss the proposed Labour Congress of Southern Italy, to be held at the end of the month. If Gentili and the CGL did not accept the proposals, the Congress would be held without him on a Nation-wide basis, would proclaim complete syndical unity, and would expel all schismatics (Gentili, Russo, Iorio, etc.). In any case, Di Vittorio claimed the majority of workers would be against Gentili. He cited the recent congress of Neapolitan metal workers. Gentili, he said, had organized this congress in order to give proof of the support enjoyed by the Naples CGL, and it was intended that Enrico Russo, reputedly very popular with the metalworkers of Naples, should be acclaimed Secretary of the Metal Workers Union. Di Vittorio immediate-

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

ly called in his supporters, and told them to demand a New Committee at the Congress. As a result, Russo and the whole pro-Gentili Committee were thrown out and a new one elected supporting unity with the CGIL of Rome.

Di Vittorio confirmed Lizzadri's statements that the tramdrivers, railway workers, "Gente del Mare", firemen, post and telegraph workers, the Federterra and the elementary and secondary school teachers have all adhered to the CGIL. To illustrate the effectiveness of the new syndical unity, he produced various letters of support from labour groups already formed north of Rome, from Aquila, Viterbo, Terni, Perugia, Arezzo, and Siena. He had instructions read to send to Pisa as soon as it is entirely liberated and is ready to organize its own Confederation.

18 Interview with Secretary to Rome Labour Director

Samuel Corbin, Secretary to Dr. Togni, director of the Rome Provincial Labour Office, told a PWB officer that the office was now working to prepare the transition from AMG to ACC and the Italian government. The office plans to set up five employment exchanges in the city. It has also sent notices to all the big private firms in Rome, asking them to report on their present state of business regarding their production, equipment, need of labour, etc.

The most urgent problem is still the question of adjustments of pay. This is being studied and discussed with the Allied authorities.

20 The Funds of the CGIL

Rag. Gugl Pezzoli, who is now the financial administrator of the General Confederation of Labour, told a PWB officer that a Commissioner is soon to be appointed with Allied approval, to wind up the assets of the Fascist Confederations all over Italy. He explained that as communications are still bad and as the tracing and computing of these assets will be of itself a long and tricky task, he thought it would be best to appoint a responsible CGIL representative for this purpose in each province, who would clear matters up locally. This would help to remedy more speedily the Confederation's present helpless position of suspense without any funds. In Rome, he said, he was racking his brains to find some credit with which to pay the former employees of the Fascist workers' organizations their June

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

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The Confederation of State and Parastate Employees

In an interview with a PWB officer, Comm. Giovanni Wanderlingh, the General Secretary for the Confederation of State and Parastatal employees, disclosed that this union is not attached to the General Confederation of Labour (CGIL) as the confederation appeared to him

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

to be monopolised by the three parties, Communists, Socialists and Demochristians who are, he thought, only working to control labour and so to rope in all the votes possible for the general election. He argued that State employees cannot go on strike (as they might have to do if under the orders of the CGIL) or else they would paralyze the working of the government of the country. Consequently he had refused to adhere immediately to the CGIL as he had been asked, and the CGIL has set up its own rival confederation for State employees.

The one object of his organization, Comr Wanderlingh continued, was the reform of the government administration so as to cut out all the dead wood of the Fascist bureaucracy. Many young people had, he said, been uselessly employed through the influence of friends, whereas older people, in much greater need, had been sacked because they were not on the permanent staff. He therefore proposed that there should be fewer and more experienced workers who should receive better salaries.

Wanderlingh quoted some examples of the salaries of government employees. For example, a Capo Divisione, with the rank of a full colonel, gets only 2300 lire a month, with a monthly pension, when he retires, of 1500 lire.

Wanderlingh described the organization of the Confederation as follows: General Secretary: Comm Wanderlingh
Secretaries: Cav. Marchi (from the Treasury)
Dr. Gambelli (from the Ministry of Industry)
Ing. Barletta (from the electricity services)

A council of 42 members, with 2 or 3 representatives from each Ministry and other minor offices. It meets weekly.

Committee for propaganda to State employees; President, Comm; Montefusco (Capo Divisione in the Ministry of Agriculture)

Sub-committee for Propaganda to parastatal employees: President, Gr. Ufficiale Elia, Ispettore Generale in the Treasury.

Sub-Committee for Economic organization of food cooperatives, insurance: President, Gr.Uff.Pettorosi, Ispettore General in the

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

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So far the Confederation has between five and six thousand signatures in its support. Wanderlingh intends later on to issue membership cards with a monthly fee of five lire.

Speaking of himself, Wanderlingh, who is of Dutch origin, said that he had been in the Socialist party before the last war, and with Bissolati and Bonomi had been expelled in 1907 thanks to Mussolini, becoming a Socialist Reformist.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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In 1906 the Institute for Homes of State Employees was founded, with Guidi as president and Wanderlingh himself as director. It had since been developed on a national scale, and was financed by government loans. It has even built houses in Addis Abeba.

In 1922 Wanderlingh retires from the Ministry of Finance, as he refused to join the Fascist party and devoted himself to business, apparently with some success.

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

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

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ECONOMIC

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22 Food situation in Rome

It is reported that the food situation continues to be serious. Apart from marrows, aubergine, tomatoes and fruit it is impossible to find other food stuffs on the market. It is now reported that it is difficult to find meat, eggs, milk and butter even on the black market. Many people think that the food situation in Rome so far as meat, eggs, sugar and salt are concerned, is much worse since the arrival of the Allies. Whereas before it was possible to buy meat at 150 lire per kilo now it is difficult to find it even at 350 lire per kilo. Wheras before eggs could be bought at 15 lire each, now they cost between 40 and 50 lire when they can be found. Salt, butter, sugar and milk have also become difficult to find.

In Rome, there are probably between 20,000 and 30,000 families, who must live on between fifty and sixty lire per day. It is almost impossible for a family to live on this sum with the prices of food as they are. Once bread had been bought and a kilo of tomatoes there is hardly anything left. The poorer classes are suffering acutely from the high prices of food. It is this class too which in the past had most actively sabotaged the Germans. The other day in the via della Scrofa the following inscription was written on the wall,"Fino aquando iricchi calpesteranno i nostri stomaci vuoti."

The provisions has, of course, improved since the liberation

23 Charcoal and Electricity

It is reported that there is a great scarcity of charcoal in Rome, and that when it can be found it costs 32 lire a kilo. As a result of this scarcity a great many Romans have to content themselves with raw tomatoes and fruit. It is pointed out there is a great quantity of charcoal in the vicinity of Rome and that this could be imported into the city, There is a great demand for the restoration of gas. It is pointed out that the restoration of gas would facilitate a wider distribution of electricity.

The granting of electric light for 16 hours every four days has not met with much favour. It is pointed out that after eleven o'clock at night very few people will make use of this electricityand that therefore there are only 9 hours in which the light can be used.

Many people ask why the light can not be distributed to each house for 2 hours every day. It is suggested that explanations should be given of the reason for the distribution of electricity in this way.

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Many people ask why the light can not be distributed to each house for 2 hours every day. It is suggested that explanations should be given of the reason for the distribution of electricity in this way.

24 Potatoes scarce again in Naples

It is reported from Naples that potatoes, which for the last few weeks have been selling on the open market at prices lower than the official price of 11 lire a kilo, have again become difficult to find, and cost 15 lire a kilo. Public opinion regards this as due partly to the hoarding of a few unscrupulous speculators, and partly to the lack of transport, which has also caused a rise in the price of fruit and vegetables. Unfortunately, this rise in prices after the general drop which took place about the middle of June, has shaken public confidence and there is a general feeling that any improvement will only be temporary.

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

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25 Monthly cost of living for a Neapolitan family.

The following is regarded as an average monthly balance sheet of a middle class family in Naples. The family is taken to be composed of three people, of whom only one works:

Income	l 2,200
Expenditure	
Rent of apartment	400
Gas (500% increase)	510
Light (129% increase)	150
(Rationed Goods)	
Oil	18
Soup powder	37.50
Meat and vegetable stew	72
Tinned meat	144
Sugar	11
Salt	5
Dried Vegetables	36
Bread	64,80
Pasta	38.60
Soap	18
(Non Rationed Goods)	
Meat, 2 Kg	440
Oil, 3 litres	750
Flour, 2 kg.	400
Vegetables, 1.5 Kg.	270
Eggs, 30	450
Milk, Litres 15	225
Fresh Vegetables and fruit -daily average of 35 Lire	1,050
TOTAL --	5,089.90

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795021

The following is regarded as an average monthly balance sheet of a middle class family in Naples. The family is taken to be composed of three people, of whom only one works:

Income	l 2,208
Expenditure	
Rent of apartment	400
Gas (500% increase)	510
Light (129% increase)	150
(Rationed Goods)	
Oil	18
Soup powder	37.50
Meat and vegetable stew	72
Tinned meat	144
Sugar	11
Salt	5
Dried Vegetables	36
Bread	64,80
Pasta	38.80
Soap	18
(Non Rationed Goods)	
Meat, 2 Kg	440
Oil, 3 litres	750
Flour, 2 kg.	400
Vegetables, 1.5 Kg.	270
Eggs, 30	450
Milk, Litres 15	225
Fresh Vegetables and fruit -daily average of 35 lire	1,050
TOTAL --	5,089.90

It will be seen that this list does not include clothes, and that purchases on the Black Market are limited.

3799

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

SECRET

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REACTIONS TO PROPAGANDA

Rome

There is a growing demand for news concerning conditions in other liberated parts of Italy, either through the radio; the cinema or documentation. Stress should be placed upon the destruction, vandalism and general conduct of the Germans in order to drive into the consciousness of the Italians the fact that it was largely their political naivete and fundamental goodness which led them to this war.

Comments on American pictures.

The following comment is supplied by a PWB officer in touch with intellectual and artistic circles:

The American pictures which have suddenly invaded the Italian market cannot exactly be described as smash hits.

After six years in which the Hollywood productions have been banned from Italian theatres, the public was and still is very anxious to see the best of what has been missed during this time.

Naturally the public expect the best, which we cannot always succeed in supplying. Pictures like "Sgt. York", "You can't take it with you", "I married a witch", or "Tales of Manhattan" were received with enthusiasm. Others, like the "Golden Door", "It started with Eve", or the "Life of Irene and Vernon Castle" made the Italians wonder if the so long awaited American productions were not a little bit over-advertised.

"It started with Eve" was considered rather naive, while I heard many people call "Life of Irene and Vernon Castle" a "stupid" picture.

Another picture, this time a British one, which although generally regarded a little bit monotonous in certain scenes, was nevertheless considered a good one, is Noel Cowards "In which we Serve". "E troppo inglese, ma e buona" is the comment which was repeated to me several times by different persons.

It might be interesting to report a comment on this matter which appeared in the "Osservatore Romano" of July 23rd:

"We cannot conceal our surprise to see really artistic films neglected to give place to others which on the whole are praiseworthy, dignified, technically well executed, but not superior."

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3798

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

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AUTHORIZED PAPERS IN LIBERATED ITALY

Following is a list of newspapers and other periodic publications authorized, as of 15 July 44, in Liberated Italy.

ACC-CONTROLLED TERRITORY

Locality	Name	Periodic	Character	Circulation
Rome	CORRIERE DI ROMA	Daily	PWB-Controlled	180,000
	AVANTI	"	Socialist	42,000
	UNITA	"	Communist	40,000
	IL POPOLO	"	Chris. Democrat	23,000
	ITALIA LIBERA	"	Party of Action	28,000
	RICOSTRUZIONE	"	Demo. del Lavoro	23,000
	RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE	"	Liberal	23,000
	ITALIA NUOVA	"	Monarchist	10,000
	TEMPO	"	Independent	25,000
	VOCE REPUBBLICANA		Republican	20,000
	VOCE OPERAIA	Weekly	Catholic Communist	10,000
	PARTIGIANO	"	Partisans	10,000
	L'OPINIONE	"	Independant	5,000
	QUOTIDIANO	Daily	Catholic Action	13,000
	BOLLETTINO UFFICIALE	Monthly	" "	2,500
	IL MAESTRO	Alt. months	" "	4,000
	COLOMBO	Weekly	" "	5,000
	BOLL. DI PIAZZA CAVOUR	Monthly	Religious	500
	LA PAROLA DI DIO	Feast Day	Leaflets	80,000
	REGINA DELLE APOSTOLI	Monthly	Missionary Magazine	500
	IL MESSALA	Monthly	" "	10,500
	IL MONTE CARMELO	Monthly	" "	1,200
	THE PYLON	Quarterly	" "	5,000
	IL POLICLINICO	Weekly	Medical	6,000
	CUORE E CIRCOLAZIONE	Monthly	Medical	500
	LA CLINICA OSTETRICA	Monthly	Medical	1,000
	IL VALSALVA	Monthly	Medical	800

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

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	IL MAESTRO	Alt. months	" "	4,000
	COLOMBO	Weekly	" "	5,000
	BOLL. DI PIAZZA CAVOUR	Monthly	Religious	500
	LA PAROLA DI DIO	Feast Day	Leaflets	80,000
	REGINA DELLE APOSTOLI	Monthly	Missionary Magazine	500
	IL MESSAIA	Monthly	" "	10,500
	IL MONTE CARMELO	Monthly	" "	1,200
	THE PYLON	Quarterly	" "	5,000
	IL POLICLINICO	Weekly	Medical	6,000
	CUORE E CIRCOLAZIONE	Monthly	Medical	500
	LA CLINICA OSTETRICA	Monthly	Medical	1,000
	IL VALSALVA	Monthly	Medical	800
	IL NOTARO	Bi-Monthly	Legal	3,000
	CANTACHIARO	Weekly	Humorous	30,000
	RUGANTINO	Thrice-Weekly	Humorous	5,000
	CINEMODA	Weekly	Fashions	10,000
	CINENOVELLE	Weekly	Novellettes	3,000
	VOCI	Weekly	Radio	7,000
	L'AVVENTURA	Weekly	Boys' Magazine	10,000
	GIRAMONDO	Weekly	" "	7,000
	CORRIERE DELLO SPORT	Daily	Sport	2,000
	STAR	Weekly	Films	25,000
	POLITICA ESTERA	Bi-Mon.	Foreign Press Review	10,000
	GIORNALE DELL'AVIATORE	Weekly	Air Force Morale Sheet	10,000

3797

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

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Locality	Name	Periodic	Character	Circulation
Rome	IL PERIODICO DEGLI STATALI	Bi-Mon.	Civil Servants' Organ	2,000
	QUADERNI DI ARCHITETTURA	Bi-Mon.	Architectural	2,000
	RIVISTA ITALIANA DI RAGIONERIA	Quarterly	Accountants' Organ	2,000
	LA PREVIDENZA	Bi-Mon.	Insurance	1,000
	CHARITAS	Monthly	Religious	1,500
	ARA COELI	Monthly	Religious	800
	CUCINA ITALIANA	Monthly	Food Magazine	10,000
	MERCURIO	Monthly	Literary	10,000
	ATLANTE	Bi-Mon.	Geographical	10,000
	LA CACCIA	Monthly	Shooting	6,000
	PERSONE	Monthly	Literary	1,000
	L'AQUA	Monthly	Hydraulics	1,600
	COSMOPOLITA	Weekly	Literary	20,000
	DOMENICA	Weekly	Ill. Political, Literary	20,000

NOTE : Six Jesuit monthly publications, with limited circulation, also authorized.

Naples	RISORGIMENTO	Daily	PWB-Controlled	200,000
	L'UNITA	Weekly	Communist	50,000
	AVANTI	"	Socialist	50,000
	LIBERTA	"	Liberal	30,000
	IL LAVORO	"	Demo. del Lavoro	7,000
	AZIONE	"	Party of Action	35,000
	IL POPOLO	"	Christian Democrat	25,000
	IL GIORNO	"	Demo-Liberal	40,000
	BATTAGLIE SINDACALE	"	Confederazione Generale del Lavoro	20,000
	IL DOMANI SOCIALE	"	Confederazione Italiana di Lavoratori	20,000
	LAVORATORE DEL MARE	"	Seamen's Union	5,000
	CIRENEO	"	Art Review	10,000
	FOGLIO ANNUNZI LEGALI DELLA PREFETTURA	Bi-Mon.	Legal notices	1,000
	GIUSTIZIA	Weekly	Legal	5,000
	IL PROFUGO	Monthly	Literary Review	2,000
	ARETHUSA	Monthly	Literary Review	2,000
	BOLLETTINO DELL' INST. SANATORIALE	Monthly	Medical Review	500
	PRINCIPI DI PIEMONTE GIOVENTU	Monthly	School Paper	500
	LIBERA SCUOLA	Bi-Mon.	Teachers' Organ	[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787021

	RIVISTA ITALIANA DI RAGIONERIA	Quarterly	Accountants' Organ	2,000
	LA PREVIDENZA	Bi-Mon.	Insurance	
	CHARITAS	Monthly	Religious	1,000
	ARA COELI	Monthly	Religious	1,500
	CUCINA ITALIANA	Monthly	Food Magazine	800
	MERCURIO	Monthly	Literary	10,000
	ATLANTE	Bi-Mon.	Geographical	10,000
	LA CACCIA	Monthly	Shooting	10,000
	PERSONE	Monthly	Literary	6,000
	L'AQUA	Monthly	Hydraulics	1,000
	COSMOPOLITA	Weekly	Literary	1,800
	DOMENICA	Weekly	Ill. Political, Literary	20,000
				20,000

NOTE : Six Jesuit monthly publications, with limited circulation, also authorized.

Naples	RISORGIMENTO	Daily	PWB-Controlled	200,000
	L'UNITA	Weekly	Communist	50,000
	AVANTI	"	Socialist	50,000
	LIBERTA	"	Liberal	30,000
	IL LAVORO	"	Demo. del Lavoro	7,000
	AZIONE	"	Party of Action	35,000
	IL POPOLO	"	Christian Democrat	25,000
	IL GIORNO	"	Demo-Liberal	40,000
	BATTAGLIE SINDA* CALE	"	Confederazione Generale del Lavoro	20,000
	IL DOMANI SOCIALE	"	Confederazione Italiana di Lavoratori	20,000
	LAVORATORE DEL MARE	"	Seamen's Union	5,000
	CIMENTO	"	Art Review	10,000
	FOGLIO ANNUNZI LEGALI DELLA PREFETTURA	Bi-Mon.	Legal notices	1,000
	GIUSTIZIA	Weekly	Legal	
	IL PROFUGO	Monthly	Literary Review	5,000
	ARETHUSA	Monthly	Literary Review	2,000
	BOLLETTINO DELL' INST. SANATORIALE	Monthly	Medical Review	2,000
				500
	PRINCIPI DI PIEMONTE GIOVENTU	Monthly	School Paper	500
	LIBERA SCUOLA	Bi-Mon	Teachers' Organ	5,000
	LA FRUSTA	Weekly	High School Organ	3,000
	GIORNALE DEI RAGAZZI	Weekly	Children's Paper	15,000
	IL PROGRESSO MEDICO	Quart'ly	Official Medical Journal	2,000
	BOLLETTINO ECCLESIASTICO DELL'ARCHIDIOCESI DI NAPOLI	Monthly	Church notices	2,500
	NOI DONNE	Bi-Mon.	Women's Magazine	16,000
	[illegible] SOCIETA REALE	Yearly	Royal Society of Scientists	500 (800 Pages)
Fratta-Maggiore	IL PELLEGRINO	Monthly	San Rocco Parish Magazine	500

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795021

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Locality	Name	Periodic	Character	Circulation
Sorrento	LA RIVIERA	Weekly	Catholic	15,000
Lucera	AZIONE DEMOCRATICO	Weekly	Local News	2,000
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY			
Salerno	IL CORRIERE	Daily	Government Organ	35,000
	LA LIBERTA	Weekly	Com. di Liberazione	5,000
	IL LAVORO	Weekly	Socialist	7,000
	DEMO. DEL LAVORO	Weekly	Dem. del Lavoro	3,000
	L'ORA DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Christian Democrat	7,000
	L'AZIONE	Weekly	Partito d'Azione	5,000
	LA VERITA	Weekly	Religious	1,000
	DON CHISCIOTTE	Bi-Mon.	Humorous	12,000
	LA RINASCITA	Weekly	Communist	2,000
Bari	GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO	Daily	FWB-Controlled	70,000
	L'IDEA LIBERALE	Weekly	Demo-Liberal	15,000
	CIVILTA PROLETARIA	Weekly	Communist	35,000
	ITALIA DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Partito d'Azione	15,000
	IL RISVEGLIO	Weekly	Christian Democrat	12,000
	AVANTI	Weekly	Socialist	20,000
	LA RASSEGNA	Weekly	Impartial	12,000
	IL SECONDO RISORGIMENTO	Weekly	Youth Organ	5,000
	GIOCONDA	Weekly	Women's Magazine	
	RACCONTI	Bi-Mon.	Stories	
	LA TRIBUNA DEI FERROVIERI	Bi-Mon.	Railwaymen's Trade Union	
	L'ECO	Bi-Mon.	Foreign Press Review	8,000
	GRILLO PARLANTE	Bi-Mon.	Humorous	10,000
	FIAMMA	Monthly	Boy Scouts	6,000
	RADIO CANZONI	Monthly		5,000
	PENSIERO E VITA	Bi-Mon.	Religious	
	VITA CANDELITANA	Monthly	Religious	500
	L'OPERAIO	Weekly	Religious (Workers)	5,000
	EDUCARE	Monthly		1,500
	DOMENICA RELIGIOSA	Monthly		8,000
	LA FAMIGLIA	Bi-Mon.		10,000
	BOLLETTINO DIOCESANO	Monthly		

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

	[illegible]	Weekly	Local News	2,000

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY

Salerno	IL CORRIERE	Daily	Government Organ	35,000
	LA LIBERTA	Weekly	Com. di Liberazione	5,000
	IL LAVORO	Weekly	Socialist	7,000
	DEMO. DEL LAVORO	Weekly	Demo. del Lavoro	3,000
	L'ORA DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Christian Democrat	7,000
	L(AZIONE	Weekly	Partita d'Azione	5,000
	LA VERITA	Weekly	Religious	1,000
	DON CHISCIOTTE	Bi-Mon.	Humorous	12,000
	LA RINASCITA	Weekly	Communist	2,000
Bari	GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO	Daily	PWB-Controlled	70,000
	L'IDEA LIBERALE	Weekly	Demo-Liberal	15,000
	CIVILTA PROLETARIA	Weekly	Communist	35,000
	ITALIA DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Partito d'Azione	15,000
	IL RISVEGLIO	Weekly	Christian Democrat	12,000
	AVANTI	Weekly	Socialist	20,000
	LA RASSEGNA	Weekly	Impartial	12,000
	IL SECONDO RISORGIMENTO	Weekly	Youth Organ	5,000
	GIOCONDA	Weekly	Women's Magazine	
	RACCONTI	Bi-Mon.	Stories	
	LA TRIBUNA DEI FERROVIERI	Bi-Mon.	Railwaymen's Trade Union	
	L'ECO	Bi-Mon.	Foreign Press Review	8,000
	GRILLO PARLANTE	Bi-Mon.	Humorous	10,000
	ITALIA	Monthly	Boy Scouts	6,000
	RADIO CANZONI	Monthly		5,000
	PENSIERO E VITA	Bi-Mon.	Religious	
	VITA CANDELITANA	Monthly	Religious	
	L'OPERAIO	Weekly	Religious (Workers)	500
	EDUCARE	Monthly		5,000
	DOMENICA RELIGIOSA	Monthly		1,500
	LA FAMIGLIA	Bi-Mon.		8,000
	BOLLETTINO DIOCESANO	Monthly		10,000
Casmassi	LA CROCE	Bi-Mon.	Religious	700
Molfetta	MILES CHRISTI	Bi-Mon.	Seminar Perifical	1,500
Taranto	LA VOCE DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Monarchist	
	LA RINASCITA	Weekly	Unofficially Demo-Liberal	
	GIUSTIZIA SOCIALE	Weekly	Demo-Christian	5,000
	BUONA GARDIA	Weekly	Navy Morale Sheet	25,000
Lecco	LIBERA VOCE	Weekly	Party of Action	
	IL SALENTO	Weekly	Demo-Liberal	
	IL TRIBUNO SALENTINO	Weekly	Socialist	3,000

3796

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

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Locality	Name	Periodic	Character	Circulation
Lecce	DEMOCRAZIA DEL LAVORO	Weekly	Partito del Lavoro	4,000
	LA FIAMMA	Monthly	Religious	600
	LA SCUREA	Weekly	News Sheet	5,000
	ITALIA	Weekly	Army Morale Sheet	
Andria	L'IDEA DI ANDRIA	Monthly	Local News	
Ebeli	RINASCITA	Weekly	Local News	
Brindisi	L'UNIONE	Weekly	Monarchist	
Potenza	L'ORDINE	Tri-Mon.	Demo-Christian	2,000
	IL LAVORATORE	Monthly	Non-party	1,000
	AZIONE PROLETARIA	Weekly	Communist	2,000
	IL GAZZETTINO	Bi-Mon.	(Has local authority to publish)	
Muro Lucano	RINASCITA	Bi-Mon.	Non-party news sheet	4,000
Catanzaro	NUOVA CALABRIA	Daily	News Sheet	8,000
	LA VOCE DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Communist	6,500
	CALABRIA AVANTI	Weekly	Socialist	6,000
	L'IDEA CRISTIANA	Weekly	Christian-Democrat	8,000
	IL RINOVAMENTO	Weekly	Liberal-Democrat	4,000
	L'AMICO DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Republican	4,000
	LA VETRINA DELLA CULTURA	Monthly	Cultural	
	LA CALABRIA GIUDIZIARIA	Monthly	Legal	
Vibo Valentia	IL LAVORO	Bi-Mon.	Labor-Democrat	1,000
NICASTRO	IL PROLETARIO	Weekly	Communist	2,000
	LA CALABRIA	Weekly	Liberal-Democrat	2,000
Reggio Calabria	IL TEMPO	Daily	News Sheet	12,000
	IL LAVORATORE	Weekly	Communist	
	L'AZIONE	Weekly	Action Party	
	DEMOCRAZIA	Weekly	Labor-Democrat	
	VOCE DELLA CALABRIA	Weekly	Christian-Democrat	
	LA LUCE	Weekly	Socialist	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

	ITALIA	Weekly	Army Morale Sheet	
Andria	L(IDEA DI ANDRIA	Monthly	Local News	
Ebeli	RINASCITA	Weekly	Local News	
Brindisi	L'UNIONE	Weekly	Monarchist	
Potenza	L'ORDINE	Tri-Mon.	Demo-Christian	2,000
	IL LAVORATORE	Monthly	Non-party	1,000
	AZIONE PROLETARIA	Weekly	Communist	2,000
	IL GAZZETTINO	Bi-Mon.	(Has local authority to publish)	
Muro Lucano	RINASCITA	Bi-Mon.	Non-party news sheet	4,000
Catanzaro	NUOVA CALABRIA	Daily	News Sheet	8,000
	LA VOCE DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Communist	6,500
	CALABRIA AVANTI	Weekly	Socialist	6,000
	L'IDEA CRISTIANA	Weekly	Christian-Democrat	8,000
	IL RINOVAMENTO	Weekly	Liberal-Democrat	4,000
	L'AMICO DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Republican	4,000
	LA VETRINA DELLA CULTURA	Monthly	Cultural	
	LA CALABRIA GIUDIZIARIA	Monthly	Legal	
Vibo Valentia	IL LAVORO	Bi-Mon.	Labor-Democrat	1,000
NICASTRO	IL PROLETARIO	Weekly	Communist	2,000
	LA CALABRIA	Weekly	Liberal-Democrat	2,000
Reggio Calabria	IL TEMPO	Daily	News Sheet	12,000
	IL LAVORATORE	Weekly	Communist	
	L'AZIONE	Weekly	Action Party	
	DEMOCRAZIA	Weekly	Labor-Democrat	
	VOCE DELLA CALABRIA	Weekly	Christian-Democrat	
	LA LUCE	Weekly	Socialist	
	L'AMICO DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Gen. Confed. of Labor	
	IL COMMERCIO CALABRESE	Weekly	Commercial	
Cosenza	ITALIA NUOVA	Daily	News Sheet	5,000
	ORDINE PROLETARIO	Weekly	Communist	4,000
	LA PAROLA SOCIALISTA	Weekly	Socialist	5,000
	EMANCIPAZIONE	Weekly	Action Party	3,000
	DEMOCRAZIA CHRISTIANA	Weekly	Christian Democrat	2,500
	CALABRIA DEMOCRATICA	Weekly	Liberal	3,000
	CIVILTA	Bi-Mon.	Catholic Church	1,000
	CALABRIA MEDICA	Monthly	Medical Society	1,500
	SCUOLA CRISTINA	Monthly	Teachers Society	1,000
	L'AGRICOLTURA CALAB.	Bi-Mon.	Agric. Assoc.	1,000
	LA VESPA	Weekly	Humorous	500

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Locality	Name	Periodic	Character	Circulation
Castrovillari	LA VOCE LIBERALE	Weekly	Liberal	500
Palermo	GIORNALE DI SICILIA	Daily	FWB-Controlled	50,000
	L'AZIONE DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Partito d'Azione	3,000
	LA VOCE DEI COMUNISTI	Weekly	Communist	5,000
	POPOLO E LIBERTA	Weekly	Christian Democrat	5,000
	LIBERTA	Bi-Mon.	Liberal	6,000
	L'ORA NUOVA	Weekly	Demo-del Lavoro	3,000
	ROSALBA	Weekly	Humorous	6,000
	LA VOCE SOCIALISTA	Weekly	Socialist	5,000
	NOVELLA SETTIMANALE	Weekly	Light Reading	2,000
	IL BECCO GIALLO	Weekly	Satirical	10,000
	FORO SICILIANO	Monthly	Legal	
	AI NOSTRI AMICI	Monthly	Religious	
	GIORNALE DI MEDICINA	Monthly	Scientific	1,000
	LA RISATA	One no.	Humorous	8,000
	LIBERTA E PROLETARIATO MARINO TORRE	One no.	Juridicial	2,000
	LA RONDINE SPORTIVA	Weekly	Sports	1,000
Catania	CORRIERE DI SICILIA	Daily	FWB-Controlled	
Enna	LIBERTA	Bi-Mon.	Local News	
	IL SOLCO	Bi-Mon.	Local News	2,000
Caltanisetta	VITA SICILIANA	Bi-Mon.	Local News	2,000
Ragusa	LA GAZZETTA	Bi-Mon.	Local News	6,000
Messina	CORRIERE DI MESSINA	Daily	Local News	
Cagliari	L'UNIONE SARDA	Daily	News Sheet	30,000
Sassari	RINASCIMENTO	Bi-Mon.	Youth Periodical	10,000
	L'ISOLA	Daily	Non-Party	30,000
	LIBERTA	Weekly	Catholic	7,000

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

Castrovillari	LA VOCE DEMOCRATICA	Weekly	Liberal	3,000
Palermo	GIORNALE DI SICILIA	Daily	FWB-Controlled	50,000
	L'AZIONE DEL POPOLO	Weekly	Partito d'Azione	3,000
	LA VOCE DEI COMUNISTI	Weekly	Communist	5,000
	POPOLO E LIBERTA	Weekly	Christian Democrat	5,000
	LIBERTA	Bi-Mon.	Liberal	6,000
	L'ORA NUOVA	Weekly	Demo-del Lavoro	3,000
	ROSALBA	Weekly	Humorous	6,000
	LA VOCE SOCIALISTA	Weekly	Socialist	5,000
	NOVELLA SETTIMANALE	Weekly	Light Reading	2,000
	IL BECCO GIALLO	Weekly	Satirical	10,000
	FORO SICILIANO	Monthly	Legal	
	AI NOSTRI AMICI	Monthly	Religious	
	GIORNALE DI MEDICINA	Monthly	Scientific	1,000
	LA RISATA	One no.	Humorous	8,000
	LIBERTA E PROLETARIATO MARINO TORRE	One no.	Juridicial	2,000
	LA RONDINE SPORTIVA	Weekly	Sports	1,000
Catania	CORRIERE DI SICILIA	Daily	FWB-Controlled	
Enna	LIBERTA	Bi-Mon.	Local News	
	IL SOLCO	Bi-Mon.	Local News	2,000
Caltanisetta	VITA SICILIANA	Bi-Mon.	Local News	2,000
Ragusa	LA GAZZETTA	Bi-Mon.	Local News	6,000
Messina	CORRIERE DI MESSINA	Daily	Local News	
Cagliari	L'UNIONE SARDA	Daily	News Sheet	30,000
Sassari	RINASCIMENTO	Bi-Mon.	Youth Periodical	10,000
	L'ISOLA	Daily	Non-Party	30,000
	LIBERTA	Weekly	Catholic	7,000
Nuoro	L'ORTOBENE	Bi-Mon.	Catholic	9,000
Lanusei	LA VOCE DELL' OGLIASTRA	Bi-Mon.	Catholic	
Cristan C	LA SARDEGNA CATTOLICA	Bi-Mon.	Catholic	5,000
	ARBOREA	Monthly	Catholic	5,000

NOTE : Parties within the CNL have been authorized to publish weeklies in Sardinia. Names as yet unknown. Circulation 6,000 each.

3795

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

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APPENDIX III
Page 1

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THE GARIGLIANO DISTRICT TODAY

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The following report is supplied by a professional man living in the area:

This region is bounded by Mignano and Cassino on one side, Castelforte and Scauzi on the other, mountains on the north and on the south. In the valley within flows the Garigliano. The Germans chose it because it was a most suitable terrain for their defence lines. Allies and Germans fought here during five winter months.

The inhabitants were industrious, hard working, wresting their living from the soil which they love. About 70% have been killed or sent to Germany: the 30% who come back have started to work, clearing, rebuilding, cultivating, practically with their bare hands. They have no tools, no beasts of burden, no carts, mortar or material of any king. To add to the difficulties, mines are causing casualties.

They have cut the wheat and threshed it with a threshing machine belonging to Anastasio Marandola. The crop is only 25% that of normal times, and far from enough for the population. But they are willing to pool it in the grand.

S. Andrea is in much worse condition. The Germans stripped it and destroyed as much as they could of the cultivated land. They took away a threshing machine belonging to Filippo Tridino, so threshing was done by hand by women, old men and children. Most of the olive trees were ruined beyond repair, the remaining trees are loaded with blossoms and promise a good crop. They have no corn at all; they have no seed to sow. The dairy industry, which was the pride of the locality, has been looted completely. Still there is no black market except for mutton which sells at 130 lire a kilo. People have little or no clothing, and winter will be hard, There will be very little food even for people accustomed to go hungry. At present they have some oil, cheese, fruit and vegetables.

The people are hopefully expecting to begin again work on the land but first urgent work of a differ t nature must be done: (a) clear the fields of mines; (b) restore the damaged houses and build barracks, even wooden ones, for the homeless; (c) repair roads and bridges, the most important being the S. Ambrogio and the Acquadovandra bridges; (d) provide fertilizer, corn seed and implements (ploughs, scythes, picks, hoes, etc. ventilators, crushers all of which might be paid for); (e) Cattle, since the pasture is very good and cattle would thrive and serve to work, fertilize, yield milk, cheese, etc. and later meat; (f) protection of the products from theft. Sicurezza pubblica is necessary for this.

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The following report is supplied by a professional man living in the area:

This region is bounded by Minturno and Cassino on one side, Castelforte and Scauzi on the other, mountains on the north and on the south. In the valley within flows the Garigliano. The Germans chose it because it was a most suitable terrain for their defence lines. Allies and Germans fought here during five winter months.

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The morale of the people is low; only their love of the land drives them to heroic return to 20,000 hectars of scorched earth. People wander hopeless and homeless.

On the left shore of the Garigliano, the people who hid of fled from the Germans were strengthened by the hope of the arrival of the Allies, so they withstood bombings and privations of every sort. They were jubilant when Allied troops arrived; some spoke English, made friends and fared not too badly.

On the right shore the Germans remained; their treatment of the population was in bitter contrast to that of the Allies on the left shore.

3794

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At present there are no soldiers of any kind. This is bad. It means that there is no protection against local thieves and looters.

Parties:

The most popular is the Socialist party. The 1920 leaders are coming to the fore; in their present state of mind the people are fertile soil for socialist teachings. The Mayor of Cassino, Avv. Gaetano Di Biasio is a socialist; a party section is being organized at Frosinone; this section expects to publish a periodical to be named the IL GARIGLIANO. To say the least this is a geographic error: it is not the Garigliano but the Liri which flows through that region.

The Communist party is little known.

The Liberal party has a few followers of the professional class.

The Monarchy is considered responsible for fascism and for Italy's disasters

The Christian Democrat party has a good following. It reaches the peasants through the parish priests who, it must be said in all fairness, did much to alleviate the suffering of the people, themselves facing danger and privations to bring them help. However, on the whole, the peasants do not place confidence in the priests. These come from well-to-do families and are more apt to offer charity rather than understanding of the problems and actual conditions of the working people.

The Socialist and Christian Democrat parties are in the lead, the Socialist being slightly ahead.

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

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THE TUSCAN COAST

The following report is written by a well-known Italian socialist who has recently visited places on the Tuscan coast.

On our tour along the coast between Orbetello and San Vincenzo for the purpose of encouraging resumption of fishing, we also observed the political tendencies in important places as Orbetello, Grossuto, Follenica, Campiglia Marittima, Piombino, etc.

We collected information which is neither comforting nor encouraging. There is a general incomprehension of present duties and needs. Rarely do the local committees interpret the plan of the Committee of Liberation.

This is understandable. Barring few exceptions, the committees are composed of persons involved with the old fascist party, took no stand after July 25, or even flirted with the republican fascists and the Germans after 8 September. Some of these engaged in black market activities. Many of the committee members are outright fascists. The Piombino committee is composed of communists and fascists, a political marriage as unusual as it is grotesque.

Moreover, it is out of the question to expect from the committees in this zone, competence, responsibility or efficient collaboration. Rather than trying to find solutions for the innumerable problems which face them, they are concerned only with propaganda and proselytes for their particular political tendency.

Today everybody is an anti-fascist or a partisan. Those who cannot claim to be either, boast that they are playing the double game, helping armed bands, or protecting the persecuted. Also there are those concerned only with important posts to be secured. All these phenomena will inevitably bring forth grave consequences, both with respect to the internal situation and to relation with the Allies.

The negative aspects resulting from this situation are:

1. Justified distrust on the part of Allied authorities of the committees mentioned above.

2. Inadequate collaboration, or none at all, between Committees and Allies.

3. Discontent and ill feeling of the population, of which the majority is unquestionably sound.

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The negative aspects resulting from this situation are:

1. Justified distrust on the part of Allied authorities of the committees mentioned above.

2. Inadequate collaboration, erratic at all, between Committees and Allies.

3. Discontent and ill feeling of the population, of which the majority is unquestionably sound.

In the desire for complete, loyal collaboration with the Allies attention is drawn to some incidents that occurred in this zone, particularly in Piombino.

For military reasons the Allied authorities of Piombino ordered the population of a zone projecting into the sea to evacuate in a few hours. These people mostly workers, left without taking any of their belongings with them because there was neither time nor means to do so. But they were confidently relying on Allied authorities for the protection of their property. Instead, this zone prohibited to civilians, became the object of deliberate devastation on the part of colored North American troops. It is not unlikely that local looters took part in these acts.

3793

The fact remains that most of the dwellings were looted, furniture destroyed and everything not stationary removed, clothing linen and object of every sort.

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It is needless to describe the disillusionment and legitimate resentment of the population when they went back. The most common comments are: "We had withstood bombings, had taken every precaution at great risk to hide from the Germans the fruits of our labor, only to be stripped now by those we had long awaited as our liberators and friends.

Incidents of this sort are exceedingly harmful to the confidence and goodwill on the part of the sound Italian population towards the United Nations.

As regards Piombino itself, the people revealed their true feelings towards the fascists and the Germans with their deeds of 10 September last. They met the hard test, witnessed the destruction of their best industries, and did not deserve treatment of the sort described in the preceding paragraph, which the Allied authorities themselves surely deplore and condemn.

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

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APPENDIX V

Public Opinion

ROME

Price Control

The following comment was made by a young professional woman (middle of July):

Price control may have a good effect as regards foodstuffs only, but why was the price of milk raised the day after the decree was issued.

Some shopkeepers are too cunning to sell goods which are in short supply under a controlled price system. In the case of stockings, for example, they will withdraw all stockings from the open market and start a Black Market at the present prices, which will doubtless increase as the goods get scarcer. Considerable antipathy is felt to the high prices paid by Allied troops. To take again the case of stockings, these could be purchased under the German occupation at very little above a "fair" price (the equivalent of 200 to 250 AML) At present it is impossible to buy stockings under 500 and the general price level is 550 to 600. The Italians feel that this is due to reckless and uncritical buying by Allied troops who willingly pay these prices. Many ask: "what to American troops do with the stockings they buy?" If they send them to the USA the Italians, who have the idea that America is plentifully supplied with nylon stockings, resent this sending of coals to Newcastle. If, on the other hand, they are bought as presents for the ladies of home, the Italians resent the collaboration of the ladies in question in the creation of yet another artificial price scale

The Centivegna case

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The Bentivegna case

Although the official policy of the party was to defend Bentivegna as a hero, a young Communist said that opinion among party members was divided, and the entire question was whether Bentivegna acted in self-defence or not. Bentivegna had been living as an outlaw for a very long time, and it would be hard to bring such a man to normal discipline and make him a respectable member of the Community.

A Liberal told a PWB officer that Bentivegna used to brag about his previous killings. He is supposed to have killed several other people on Fascist tendencies.

3792

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Eugenio Lomigliano, editor of Ricostruzione, said that there was a growing feeling against Bentivegna. If he was the hero he pretends to be, he would have surrendered to the German police when they took the 320 hostages.

NAPLES

Reaction to the new government

From Naples it is reported that the present government is looked on with a certain lack of confidence, and regarded by some as half asleep. It is often heard that Bonomi is weak, and that men with drive are needed at the various Ministries.

Neither Croce's retirement, nor the appointment of Orlando as President of the Chamber, created much sensation. It is thought that Orlando's appointment may be the first step to the constitution of a Consultative Council. The appointment of Orlando, rather than De Nicola, is approved. (B3)

The Times article on Italy.

It is reported from Naples that the leading article in The Times of July 14th, which dealt with the Italian situation, was very favourably received, and is regarded as giving an accurate picture of the situation

The suggestion in the article that after the present harvest all supplied of food to Italy may stop has been the subject of deep thought. It is pointed out that while Southern Italy, and possibly also the recently liberated areas, may be able to look after themselves after the present harvest, this will not be the case in the North, where the harvest will have been requisitioned by the Germans, destroyed in operations, and the remainder only partly turned into the pools. The supplies from Southern Italy will not be sufficient to feed these regions. (B3)

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To INTERIOR

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
INFORMATION AND CENSORSHIP SECTION
Psychological Warfare Branch
Italian Theatre Headquarters
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section Liberated Italy July 22, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 27

Part I Summary

The government held its first cabinet meeting in Rome on Saturday, July 15. The symbolic significance of this was realised by many Romans who had been without a government since the Armistice, when the Badoglio government had moved south and the Fascist Republican Government had established itself in the north. A comparison favourable to the Allies has been drawn by politically minded Italians between the policies of the Allies and those of the Germans. Not only do we encourage, they argue, the formation of a really democratic government but we enable it to establish itself in the natural administrative centre at the earliest possible opportunity. The announcement that the city of Rome and the province will be restored to the Italian Government on August 15 has also created a most favourable impression in the same circles, and has been interpreted as the tangible proof of the earnestness of the Allied intentions as announced at the Conference of Moscow. The return of the province of Rome is however welcomed not only because of its moral significance but because it will bring to an end the confusion arising out of a division of authority in such matters as epuration. Above all, the prestige of the Italian government is considered to be enhanced by this transfer of authority.

The press has continued to discuss the importance of recognizing the part played by the resistance of the partisans in northern Italy. Both the press and democratically minded Italians make a plea that the partisans still fighting should be considered part of

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The press has continued to discuss the importance of recognizing the part played by the resistance of the partisans in northern Italy. Both the press and democratically minded Italians make a plea that the partisans still fighting should be considered part of the regular army and should receive the benefits and privileges arising from this membership; and they agree that those who want to continue fighting should be allowed to do so by entering the army as volunteers. For this purpose they would like the Allies to increase the number of troops allowed to fight at the front. On all sides, whether in conversation with members of the government, or members of the six parties, or members of the general public, the same unanimous desire for a more active participation in the war is expressed. It would be idle to deny that the more politically mature Italians realise that through an intensification of the Italian war effort lies the best way to the salvation of their country. Only by contributing more effectively to the common victory can they hope for an improvement in the armistice terms, and for the possibility of redeeming their honor in the rest of Europe. There is thus a political interest behind these appeals, but it is also fair to say that a com-

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siderable number of Italians are actuated mainly by the desire to see their country liberated from the Germans and the Fascists, and are impatient to contribute more directly towards this goal. And it is also true that there has been a widespread revulsion against Fascism and a revival of faith in democracy which makes many Italians anxious to show by their deeds on which side their sympathies lie. Therefore it was not strange that the Italian government's recall of trained men of the 1914 - 1924 classes should have received a good response. Enthusiasm among the men affected by the orders is tempered by the fear that when called to the colors they will be drafted to labour battalions or posted to guard lines of communications.

The government issued a communiqué after its cabinet meeting declaring that it considered the partisans an integral part of the Italian war effort. The statement also said that the government would encourage volunteers to enter the army, and would approach the Allies with the object of establishing an agreement whereby more assistance could be given to the partisans. New steps were also taken to accelerate the epuration of Fascists. There is still a volume of criticism at the slowness with which epuration is carried out. A first step has been taken by the announcement that the Ambassadors Bastianini and Alfieri have been placed on the retired list, and that Generals Ambrosio, Basso, Magli and Gamerra have also been retired, but the gravest aspect of epuration facing the government is the question of civil servants. The government must now decide how many of the former civil servants it wishes to continue employing. Certain ministries, like the Ministry of Popular Culture and the Ministry of Corporations were created by Fascism and presumably most of the employees were selected because they were Fascist. These ministries present a simpler problem in so far as it should be possible to remove the large number of employees. The bureaucratic machinery had swollen to fantastic proportions under Fascism, and the government is now faced with the hard task of reducing the number of superfluous employees and consequently swelling the ranks of the unemployed. Obviously a far smaller number of employees is required in the Service ministries as well as in the Foreign Office at the present moment, and it should be possible to

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The armistice terms continue to excite the interest of the public. Fantastic rumours are current as to the content of the unpublished clauses and no doubt these are partly spread by fifth column agents. It is hoped by democratic elements that these terms will be published.

The nomination of Vittorio Emanuele Orlando to the presidency of the Chamber, and of the Marchese Pietro della Torretta to the presidency of the Senate has aroused criticism in left-wing circles. The Communist, Socialist and Action party ministers abstained from voting on this issue not because they disapproved of Orlando or Della Torretta personally, but because they interpreted this as a reactionary move to provide the Lieutenant-General with Counsellors who represented non-existence institutions. There is no Chamber,

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and the Senate is largely fascist in character, they maintain. The Senate had been abolished both by the Badoglio government and the Republican Fascists, and they see no point in resurrecting an institution which has been largely discredited under Fascism. There are other signs of a division of opinion between the right and left wings in the government. The Socialist and Action party ministers refused to visit the Fosse Ardeatini with the other ministers on account of the fact that the Lieutenant-General was present. It seems illogical that they should abstain in this way after they have already accepted the principle of the Lieutenancy of the Realm, and have agreed not to raise the institutional question till after the war. With a greater sense of political realism, the other parties, including the Communits, did not make an issue of this question. It is also reported that the Left Wing members of the government are impatient at the slowness of epuration, while the right wing members are nervous that once epuration starts it may rush along madly to unpredictable ends. Finally the three right wing parties are in favour of a referendum to decide on the question of the monarchy after the war, whereas the left wing parties are in favour of a constitutional assembly which itself would decide the question.

It is reported that there are 220,000 unemployed in the Rome area, and although many of the factories are still intact, there is not sufficient electric power, nor are there sufficient raw materials to enable these factories to start operating in the immediate future. This is one of the gravest problems facing the Allies, but the recent call-up of the younger classes will do something to solve it, and some will find work in the many labour offices.

The food situation is reported to be improving in Rome, and fruit and vegetables are now more plentiful. From Bari and from Sicily, however, come reports that the progress of the Grandi del Popolo campaign has not been satisfactory in spite of energetic action by the authorities, especially in Sicily.

A parish priest at Naples declared that since the Allied occupation there had been a sharp fall in church attendance. He considered that indifference to religious ceremonies had begun long before the Allies arrived in Italy and connected it with the regimentation of people for religious services which the Fascist regime so [illegible] especially in the latter years.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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On the other hand anti-clericalism in Rome and other parts of Italy which have suffered from the German occupations seems to be a thing of the past. The left wing parties are the first to praise the attitude of the Pope and the patriotic and humanitarian acts of the clergy and religious orders. This is particularly so among the younger men, whether Communist, Socialist or Liberal, who all seem to maintain contacts of friendship and esteem with the Catholics.

A typical instance of the attitude of the church may be noticed in a letter of the Bishop of Cortona to his parochial clergy for transmission to the parishioners, written on the 24 June 1944, in which he instructs them to compile accurate records of all acts of

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moral and material violence to persons and property, and to take careful note of the causes and authors.

In an interview with a PWB Officer the Archivist of Monte Cassino talks of the evacuation of manuscripts from the Abbey last November.

Interviews are included this week with leading members of two parties, Alberto Tarchiani of the Action Party and Mario Alicata of the Communist Party. Both touched on a subject which is still uppermost in the minds of the majority of politically conscious Italians: the need for a greater Italian participation in the war. Tarchiani said that even as small a number as 60,000 fighting troops would contribute more towards enabling the Italian forces to regain their personal and national dignity than any modification or change in the armistice terms. At present many Italians were beginning to get the impression that co belligerency was just an empty phrase. He thought that the Allies were perhaps still inclined to confuse the Fascist government, which declared war on France and England, with the people of Italy. In 1940 conditions were such that it had been impossible for the people to revolt, but now they are able to express their own opinions and have shown ample proof of their desire and hope of proving themselves worthy allies on the battlefield.

Speaking of the armistice terms, he said they could hardly add to the phrase "unconditional surrender" which put the country at the mercy of the Allies.

Alicata is one of the most prominent of the young Roman Communist intellectuals and spoke passionately of the neglect of the patriots. He reiterated the danger that these young, enthusiastic volunteers, who are genuinely anxious to fight to liberate their country, will become disillusioned and embittered if they are forced to lay down their arms, and that this embitterment may well develop into a return of nationalism. He reverted to the argument, often used by Italians when discussing this subject with Allied officers, that employment of Italian patriots and volunteers will help save Allied lives. He also brought forward a new point: the fact that by allowing a certain number of men to volunteer for service at the

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

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The Party of Action has this week published its full programme of sixteen points, drawn up by the Party Executive. The programme does not differ in essentials from that published in the clandestine "Italia Libera" in 1943, on which the Party has been built up. The main points include: a republican constitution, based on democratic principles; nationalisation of large commercial and industrial concerns and real estate, leaving room however for private initiative

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in smaller concerns; complete freedom of religion, but the abolition of a state church in Italy; Italian collaboration in a world or European new order based on democratic principles.

In the field of organised labour, the controversy continues between the CGIL, formed in Rome by the Socialist, Communist and Christian Democrat parties, and Gentili's Neapolitan CGL. The three executive secretaries of the CGIL have launched an appeal to the Neapolitan workers to join the united front. The Party of Action, through its paper Italia Libera, has come out openly in support of Gentili and his thesis of a non-political syndical organisation. Interviews are included with the Director of the Rome Provincial Labour Office, with the Inspector of Labour for Rome and Latium and with one of the Secretaries of the Rome Camera del Lavoro, who explains some of the difficulties facing workers in the area today.

Reactions to propaganda received this week continue to stress the popularity of the Corriere di Roma; particularly among the non-political masses who buy it because they find its news reliable, although not all of them appear to realise that it is published under Allied control. Intellectuals, it is reported, prefer to buy one of the party papers, as the Corriere di Roma does not give political news.

Radio listening in Rome is hampered by lack of current, and reports indicate that during the few hours when current is available many listeners prefer to tune into the BBC rather than to Radio Rome, which is regarded as dull, particularly in view of the repeated transmission of the same news bulletins. The programme "the man in the street" has been favourably commented on, and Colonel Poletti's talks are popular.

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In the country districts, and particularly in Sicily, the grain campaign has occupied the first place in public opinion during recent weeks. The people, and especially the townspeople, realise that on its success depends their future ration. In Rome political circles, the trial of Bentivegna, the young Communist who on June 9 shot a Guardia di Finanza officer sho was trying to tear down a Communist poster, has aroused the greatest attention during the week.

3789

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Allied Force Headquarters
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Italian Theatre Headquarters
Unit No 12 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy July 23rd, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY -- No. 27

Part II - Annexes

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

		Page
1	Conversation with the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs	1
2	Further Conversation with Mario Palermo	1

PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

3	Interview with Alberto Tarchiani	2
4	Conversation with Mario Alicata	4
5	Programme of the Action Party	6
6	Trouble in Noci	7
7	The Bari Socialist Party	8
9	Democrazia del Lavoro meeting in Rome	8
10	Conversation with members of the Committee of Liberation in Perugia	9
11	Orlando in Palermo	10
12	Separatist Reaction to Orlando	10

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

13	Conversation with the Mayor of Catania	11

CHURCH

14	Interview with the Archivist of Monte Cassino	11
15	A Bishop instructs his clergy	12

ARMED FORCES

16	Reaction in Rome to call up	13
17	A new spirit among Italian Armed Forces in Apulia	13

LABOUR

14

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

Part II - Annexes

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		Page
1	Conversation with the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs	1
2	Further Conversation with Mario Palermo	1

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3	Interview with Alberto Tarchiani	2
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6	Trouble in Nocì	7
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16	Reaction in Rome to call up	13
17	A new spirit among Italian Armed Forces in Apulia	13

LABOUR

18	The Camera del Lavoro in Rome	14
19	Interview with Rome Inspector of Labour	14
20	The Provincial and Regional Labour Offices	15
21	Unemployed in Rome - Middle of July	16

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

22	Prime Control in Rome	17
23	Black Market Prices in Rome	17
24	Cost of living in Rome	18
25	Conditions in Siena	19

AGRICULTURE

26	Granai del Popolo	20

3788

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

Appendix I — Reactions to Propaganda
Appendix II — Public Opinion

Explanation of Reliability Rating.

Source - Reliability.		Report - Probability	
A	Always Reliable	1	- confirmed
B	Usually Reliable	2	- probable
C	Sometimes Reliable	3	- possible
D	Frequently Unreliable	4	- doubtful
E	A bad source	5	- improbable
0	Not possible to judge	6	- not possible to judge.

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

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July 22nd, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No 37

Part II - Annexes

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

1 Conversation with the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

A PWB officer visited the Marchese Visconti Venosta, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, at his office in the Palazzo Chigi on July 14th. The conversation was short and informal, as the Marchese had a number of visitors waiting. He is a rather frail looking elderly man.

After a reference to the very long period of political inactivity enforced upon him by the advent of the Fascist regime, the Marchese immediately turned to a subject upon which today all leading Italian politicians, as if by common accord, inevitably lay great stress in their conversations with Allied officials - the greater military participation of Italy in the war. The Army in particular, he urged, should be a much larger one. After all their insistence, which had been made in documentary form and not merely in propaganda, on a really active effort by Italy in the war against the common enemy, why were the Allies now so hesitant to allow the country to put more men in the fighting line?

As to the Italian Navy, everyone acknowledged that it was doing solid and useful, if unobtrusive work. But could it not be brought more into the limelight and take part in some of the more aggressive operations? The moral effect in this case would by advantageous to the Allied cause from various standpoints. A similar plea comes also from the Italian Air Force which also felt it was entitled at least of really good aircraft. It did not put forward a claim that the best and latest material should be placed in its hands.

One of his immediate tasks, continued the Marchese, had been to overhaul the personnel of the Italian Foreign Office. This task had now been completed and an announcement relative to it was imminent. Abroad Italy's diplomatic representatives were so few that the question of their revision was a minor one which would be examined later.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Visconti Venosta finally said it was his wish to keep in close touch with PWB, and the best way of arranging the liaison was now under consideration. The PWB officer was finally introduced to Dr. Palermo, known to many who used to frequent the old Ministry of Popular Culture in connection with Foreign Press matters. In his new sphere he is, among other things, acting as adviser to the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in Press developments and questions in general.

2 Further conversation with Mario Palermo.

3787

In a further conversation with PWB officers Mario Palermo, the Communist Under-Secretary of State for War, described the conditions of the Italian division fighting with Tito in Yugoslavia. Originally these were two divisions. Now their numbers had been reduced to 5000 by an outbreak of typhus.

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

SECRET
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sickness, the cold, and losses in fighting. They were at present undernourished, badly armed and lacking in clothing. The Italian government managed to drop by air a certain quantity of shoes, other clothing and food, but they could not send sufficient quantities. Palermo had seen two young Italians who had taken part in the anti-Fascist Congress held in Yugoslavia and had returned from the division. Their story was a tragic one. They felt abandoned by the Italian government and their relations with the Yugoslavs were sometimes strained. They knew little or nothing about what was happening in Italy. Palermo suggested it might be possible to broadcast a special transmission to them. He himself would like to visit the Italian soldiers there, to help restore their morale. He knew that there would be risks involved, but he was prepared to face them.

He mentioned that some of these soldiers had been wounded and repatriated in hospitals in Bari. He stated that as they had been fighting in Yugoslavia they were not considered by the Allies entitled to receive the rations and medical supplies granted to other wounded Italian soldiers. He had heard this from the Director General of the Sanitary Services of the Italian army but was making further inquiries to ascertain the truth. He also said that those Italian soldiers who were not actually wounded but were ill were only entitled to three months medical attention and rations. He was also making further enquiries about this.

PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

3 Interview with Alberto Tarchiani.

In conversation with a PWB officer Alberto Tarchiani, who was Minister of Public Works in the last Badoglio government, said that he and many others were doubtful if the Allies would ever permit the Italian army what it considered adequate representation on the battlefield. He pointed out that besides the 400,000 idle and demoralised soldiers lying about inside the barracks of Southern Italy, there are many young men eager to volunteer, but these refuse to swear allegiance to the monarchy.

Tarchiani thought that most Italians were convinced that only by fighting could Italian troops regain their personal and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Tarchiani thought that most Italians were convinced that only by fighting could Italian troops regain their personal and national dignity. To have the army engaged in actual fighting would contribute more towards this than any modification or change in the armistice terms. Even as small a number as 60,000 fighting troops would serve this purpose.

Asked how the Italians considered co-belligerance, Alberto Tarchiani replied that, with the passing of the weeks and the continued inertia of the army, the impression was gaining ground that co-belligerancy was an empty phrase. He thought that the Allies were perhaps still inclined to confuse the Fascist government that had declared war on France and England with the people of Italy. In 1940 conditions in Italy were such that the people had been unable to express their antipathy to the war by revolting, but now that they are able to express their own opinions they have shown ample proof of their desire of proving themselves worthy allies on the battlefield. Tarchiani expressed the

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

opinion that the Italian army might be useful in the event of a seige of the Reich, if and when the German army is forced to withdraw from the Western and Eastern fronts for the defence of German soil.

Passing on to the question of food supplies, Tarchiani thought that price control was effective for perishable goods, such as fresh fruit and vegetables. He said that for other commodities the Black Market still flourished, partly, he feared, because of the flood of flour, tinned goods, coffee, soap etc., sold to the Italians by Allied soldiers. Tarchiani suggested that large shipments of potatoes or other stables for sale on the open market at controlled prices would help break the Black Market more than theoretical price control, because hoarders would be scared into getting rid of their merchandise before prices went down still more.

Asked how he viewed the government's move to Rome Tarchiani replied quite briefly, that the "present position of the government at Rome is absurd." He said that as long as AMG is in control of the capital the government can have no sovereignty in the city or zone retained by that body. Tarchiani instanced epuration which, though it is an internal affair, is dealt with by the AMG. This puzzles the people, and causes the prestige and confidence in the government to suffer. Tarchiani said that it is a fact that anxious though the government was to come to Rome, it would have preferred to pospone its transfer until it had been accorded full authority over internal matters.

Talking about the armistice terms Tarchiani remarked that whatever the terms may be they can hardly add to the phrase "unconditional surrender". The people realise that unconditional surrender has inevitably placed the country at the mercy of the Allies. There are 44 articles in the armistice, and the 44th stipulates that the Allies may, whenever necessary, add to or change the other articles. Obviously, said Tarchiani, this tightens the knot around Italy. Italy's position is naturally that of a vanquished country; its government can only petition for lenience, thankful that in the meantime the terms are not applied to the letter.

People were naturally worried about the application of these articles and their effect on the country after the war. In the meantime, many more immediate problems were uppermost in people's minds as for example the currency question. What does all this paper money actually represent, who is backing it, and why are not dollars or sterling used

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3786

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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4. Conversation with Mario Alicata

(Mario Alicata is one of the most prominent of the younger leaders of the Communist Party in Rome. About twenty-six, he is Sicilian by origin but has lived in Rome since the age of fifteen. As an intellectual, his interests at first turned toward literature, but he wrote many essays on literary criticism. His cultural and intellectual preparation developed at first along liberal lines, but for the last four years he has been one of the most active Communists in Rome. He is typical of many of the younger Communist intellectuals in Rome, who have displayed a remarkable power of organization and considerable courage in action during the months of Nazi occupation. This group of young Italian intellectuals is particularly interesting in that they illustrate the natural intense reaction to Fascism which has developed among the younger generation. They have educated themselves in spite of the multifarious obstacles placed in their way by Fascism, such as the lack of books, the absence of free press and freedom of speech, the difficulty of contacting people in other countries and the enforced intellectual isolation of Italy during the past few years. They have fought Fascism actively and have suffered imprisonment as a result. They include many of the finer elements of the younger generation, and they have gained considerable political experience. They have turned to Communism which they regard as the salvation of Italy and Europe. They admire Russia, but they also appreciate many of the democratic principles of England and America. They are fired with a great curiosity to learn more of England and America. They form a group which no matter how it develops, will have a considerable influence on the future of Italy.)

In conversation with a PWB officer, Mario Alicata, who is one of the two Communist representatives of the municipal Giunta, discussed at length the contribution of the patriots to the war effort. He said he had seen many partisans belonging to his party who had come down from central Italy. From his talks with them he knew that they had increased in number and improved in organization the further one got north. A new army -- a people's army -- was slowly coming into being, and they were gaining their experience under fire. He believed that it was a tribute to the organizing ability and the anti-Fascist sentiments of the Italian people that active resistance had been organized so rapidly and on such a vast scale in northern and central Italy. It was, he pointed out, only ten months since the Armistice, and yet large numbers of Italians had shown by their deed that they were anti Fascist. He recalled the two general strikes staged by Italian workers in northern Italy: the first in the spring of 1943 and the second in March of 1944. And he remarked that it was difficult enough to organize a strike of this kind under Fascism during wartime but it was still more difficult to organize and stage such a strike in a country oppressed by Nazis and Republican Fascists. In no other country in Europe, he added, had strikes on such a scale been organized during this war. The partisans were made up partly of active members of the different

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Alicata made an impassioned plea for partisans, even a small number, to be allowed to fight for the Allies. Italians felt humiliated, he said, at seeing their country being liberated almost exclusively by the Allies. He realized perfectly that they could not hope to equip a large army, but it would be possible to aim at putting 10,000 Italian soldiers in the field. He brought forward the now familiar argument that many British and American lives would be saved this way. The Italians had a particular interest in liberating their own homes, they know the terrain well, and some of them had had useful experience in partisan groups. But in addition to the military argument he brought forth the political argument. The surface of Roman life, he said, for example appeared to be unruffled; but if we were to look beneath the surface we would find that there is unemployment and poverty. Food was scarce and prices had soared. He said that there were 300,000 unemployed in the Rome area. Although many of the factories were intact, they could not operate owing to a shortage of electric power and of raw materials. He understood that it would be difficult to supply the necessary raw materials in the near future owing to the demands on shipping, and it would be difficult to remedy the shortage of electric power immediately. During the last few months the working classes and the middle classes had called on their last reserves in order not to have to work for the Germans. They were forced to sell what they had in their homes. Their reserves were exhausted. How were they to live now, unless work were found for them? If the number of Italian soldiers permitted to go to the front were increased; a certain number could be called upon to volunteer, and the response would be favourable. In this way the unemployment problem would meet with a partial solution, and the morale of the Italians would be helped. The danger of Italy falling into disillusionment would be averted, and the task of creating a friendly democratic Italy greatly facilitated.

Alicata praised the work done by the Allies in the field of administation in Rome. He hoped the Italians would be given more and more responsibility in the running of their own administration. He believed there was still much to be done to purge the administration and the police of the Fascist elements.

He thought that the press had made great progress, and was glad that the Fascist newspapers like the Messagero had been suppressed. He believed that the owners of such papers had hoped to secure permission from the Allies to republish their papers on the basis that they were non-political. Later no doubt they would have tried to secure a monopoly and worked for the suppression of the party newspapers as dailies and have them published as weeklies. The press in Rome had been purged of Fascists by closing down these newspapers. He regretted however that the editor of the Corriere di Roma was Gino De Sanctis, who, he said, was the author of a series of articles exulting over the Fascist attack on Greece on 1940. These articles contained

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Alicata had been imprisoned in the Regina Coeli by the Fascists for his political activities and had been released in August 1943. Since the Armistice he had lived in hiding but had carried out his political work by day. He had a low opinion of General Bencivenga, whom he considered had become incapable through old age. He said that he had been responsible for the confusion created by the foundation of the "Fronte Clandestino" which had nothing to fight the Germans during the occupation.

He was interested in social and political developments in England during the last few years, and hoped that Italians might be able to learn something of the changes that had taken place. He believed that the Anglo-Russian Alliance would have a stabilizing influence in Europe after the war, and that co-operation between the workers of Italy and England would be the best means of building up a lasting peace. He thought that the working classes had compromised themselves less with Fascism than the other classes in Italy.

3785

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

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5 Programme of the Action Party.

Italia Libera of July 19th, publishes the full 15 point programme of the Action Party, drawn up by the Executive of the Party, as requested by the clandestine national Congress, held at Florence. The fifteen points can be summed up as follows:

1. The Party of Action is a new political movement inspired by the principle of the indissoluble unity between political liberty and social justice. It draws its origin from the most vital currents of the old Republicans, Socialists, Liberal Socialists, and Radical Socialists, which united in the movement of "Giustizia e Liberta".

2. The Action Party aspires to the foundation of a society of free men, in which the political and social equality of citizens shall mark the end of all oppression of man by man. The party thus represents the aspirations to justice and liberty of all categories of workers.

3. The Party of Action puts the problem of democracy and the realisation of socialism on to a new and concrete plane, involving the structural transformation of Italian life. This struggle will be characterised by the participation of the popular masses themselves, from whom will arise a new ruling class and new institutions of liberty which the people recognise and defend as their own.

4. The Party of Action fights the monarchy, considering it necessarily linked with reaction. It maintains that a democratic order cannot be founded in Italy without the elimination of the monarchial institution and of other institutions which are indissolubly bound up with the centralized State.

5. The Action Party proposes a Republican and Democratic constitution which will guarantee to citizens liberty of speech, of the press, of association and of religion; juridical equality of race, of religion and of sex; and the full exercise of political sovereignty through institutions based on universal suffrage. The Party of Action desires the reorganisation of the Italian State on the basis of local autonomy.

6. The Party of Action proposes a radical transformation of the bureaucracy and of the police; a renewal of the Officers' corps of the armed forces, and of the magistrature.

7. The Party of Action proposes the transformation of large private enterprises into State bodies.

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

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6. The Party of Action proposes a radical transformation of the bureaucracy and of the police; a renewal of the Officers' corps of the armed forces, and of the magistrature.

7. The Party of Action proposes the transformation of large private enterprises into State bodies.

8. The Party of Action proposes an economy organised in two co-existent sectors; one under public ownership of all large industrial, commercial, insurance and real estate concerns; one allowing free management - individual or co-operative - involving an element of personal initiative and of risk.

9. There will not be any difference of remuneration and of protection of labour between the various sectors of economy.

10. The Action Party reaffirms the postulate that the land should belong to the contadini. Agrarian reform should, however, differ from zone to zone. The Party of Action proposes an agrarian policy aiming at a) the progressive liquidation of landed property not cultivated by its owners, beginning with the immediate expropriation of the latifondi. b) the constitution of agricultural co-operatives varying according to zone. c) the assurance of State intervention in the development of backward regions, or regions with specially serious problems.

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

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11. The Party of Action proposes the immediate expropriation, without indemnity, of property necessary to liquidate the reactionary plutocracy, the accomplice of Fascism; and a fiscal policy which, without affecting the productivity of small and medium concerns and of the relative investments, shall reduce the enequality of income.

12. The plan of national economic reconstruction, which would be entrusted to the new state, should be co-ordinated with a plan of European and world economic reconstructions and a more rational distribution of raw materials, productive industries, trade and labour.

13. The Party of Action declares that educational reform is essential for the reconstruction of the country. Education must be based on the needs of preparation for life. The Party of Action also proposes the abolition of the economic privilege of the richer classes in the middle and higher schools.

14. The Party of Action maintains that any State religion or Church is incompatible with liberty of religion. The State must allow the Catholic church, like other Churches, independence of organisation and action within the limits of common law. The party hopes for the participation of al the spiritual forces of the country in the work of reconstruction, which should not be only economic and political, but also deeply moral.

15. The Party of Action maintains that the dissolution of the last centres of reaction and the entry into national life of the great working masses should lay the foundations for a European Democratic order. The Party demands the universal application of the principles of international justice and democratic reconstruction announced by the great Allied powers; the preparation of a world politico-economic system which would insure peace, international justice and the co-operation of all peoples; within the framework of this world organisation a more precise and more restricted European federation.

16. The Party of Action affirms that the success of Fascism in Italy and in other countries in Europe constitutes a warning which should serve as a perpetual example. In relation to this experience, the Party considers that both the worker and peasant proletariat, and the many other productive but not proletarian classes, are equally interested in the establishment and consolidation of democracy. But they also affirm that without the profound transformation in the social and political structure of the country, under which the working classes will participate directly in the life of the state, democracy would very soon be attacked and demolished by the resurgent reaction. The Party Of Action therefore favours the formation of a unity labour front, in which it reaffirms it occupies one of the foremost positions.

6 Trouble in Noci.

Trouble has arisen in the Commune of Noci (Bari), attributed by some to Avv. Siciliani, a Minister in Badoglio's post Armistice Cabinet. The immediate cause of the trouble is the Maresciallo of Carabinieri, Greco, who reported

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

12. The plan of national economic reconstruction, which would be entrusted to the new state, should be co-ordinated with a plan of European and world economic reconstructions and a more rational distribution of raw materials, productive industries, trade and labour.

13. The Party of Action declares that educational reform is essential for the reconstruction of the country. Education must be based on the needs of preparation for life. The Party of Action also proposes the abolition of the economic privilege of the richer classes in the middle and higher schools.

14. The Party of Action maintains that any State religion or Church is incompatible with liberty of religion. The State must allow the Catholic church, like other Churches, independence of organisation and action within the limits of common law. The party hopes for the participation of al the spiritual forces of the country in the work of reconstruction, which should not be only economic and political, but also deeply moral.

15. The Party of Action maintains that the dissolution of the last centres of reaction and the entry into national life of the great working masses should lay the foundations for a European Democratic order. The Party demands the universal application of the principles of international justice and democratic reconstruction announced by the great Allied powers; the preparation of a world politico-economic system which would insure peace, international justice and the co-operation of all peoples; within the framework of this world organisation a more precise and more restricted European federation.

16. The Party of Action affirms that the success of Fascism in Italy and in other countries in Europe constitutes a warning which should serve as a perpetual example. In relation to this experience, the Party considers that both the worker and peasant proletariat, and the many other productive but not proletarian classes, are equally interested in the establishment and consolidation of democracy. But they also affirm that without the profound transformation in the social and political structure of the country, under which the working classes will participate directly in the life of the state, democracy would very soon be attacked and demolished by the resurgent reaction. The Party Of Action therefore favours the formation of a unity labour front, in which it reaffirms it occupies one of the foremost positions.

6 Trouble in Noci.

Trouble has arisen in the Commune of Noci (Bari), attributed by some to Avv. Siciliani, a Minister in Badoglio's post Armistice Cabinet. The immediate cause of the trouble is the Maresciallo of Carabinieri, Greco, who reported to his superiors that Mario Fusillo, the Socialist President of the Noci Communal Committee of Liberation, was mad. Fusillo was warned by an agent of the Pubblica Sicurezza not to take part in any political activity. Fusillo therefore resigned from the Committee until the matter could be cleared up. His fellow members sent an angry letter to the Bari Socialist paper Avanti, demanding a full investigation and denouncing Greco as a Squadrista and pro-German. The letter stated that Fusillo was ready to submit himself to a psychiatrical examination. If he proved to be mad, he would go to an asylum. Otherwise he would demand the immediate arrest of Greco. No further developments have since been reported.

3784

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

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7 The Bari Socialist Party.

Reports from Bari show that the Socialist Party is making good progress in the Province, although, as is the case throughout the south, there is a shortage of politically experienced leaders. Relations with other parties are on the whole good. The Socialists accuse the Bari Christian Democrats of having made no progress since the "Rerum Novarum" of 1891, but in the syndical field there is complete agreement. There had been rumors of a fusion with the Action Party, but the Socialists maintain that it is for the Party of Action, as the younger party, to come forward and solicit the alliance. Some trepidation has been occasioned by Togliatti's statement that Communist allows not only small but medium property; Bela Kun, the Hungarian Communist, made a similar statement in 1919, but he at least fixed the limit of the property which could be retained at 300 acres. Togliatti was not so precise. If the present Communist policy is sincere, the Socialist cannot come to an agreement with them; and they seem themselves in danger of becoming more radical than the Communists.

The Liberal Party, which is now absorbing some of the reactionary and dubious elements which in Bari formerly adhered to the Democratic Liberal Party, is looked up with suspicion by the Socialists. Laterza is regarded as a man of integrity and a sincere anti-Fascist; but he has difficulty in freeing himself of these suspicious elements.

8 Bari Socialists and Masonry

On Sunday, July 9th the Bari section of the Socialist Party held a meeting presided over by the Provincial Secretary, Laricchiuta, who had just returned from a Congress at Salerno where Provincial Socialist Secretaries and the Directorate of the Party was dicussed, among other things, the question of freemasons belonging to the Party. It had been decided, in accordance with the decision of National Congress of the Socialist Party in 1914, that to be a freemason is incompatible with membership of the Socialist Party. The Bari Section, which included about twenty freemasons, disagreed with the decision the masons pointing out that one of the principle advocates of the 1914 decision was Mussolini, at that time a Socialist deputy.

9 Democrazia del Lavoro Meetings - 12th July

Prof. Palumbo spoke on "Moral and Educational Reconstruction". Starting off from the word "reconstruction", the speaker said that during the clandestine period this was merely the title of a paper; now it is the duty of everyone. It is especially important in the fields of building and banking, and above all as far as the schools are concerned. With regard to schools, Gentile's reforms, if not perfect, were at least satisfactory. With Bottai began the down-

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

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Prof. Palumbo in the course of his talk made one or two remarks criticising the Allies, because they had taken over several schools and had not allowed teachers to carry out their task.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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10 Conversation with members of the Committee of Liberation in Perugia (12th July)

The President of the Committee is Avv. Alfredo Abatini of the Republican Party and the Secretary Dr. Oreste Trotta.

From the above it will be noted that one party, namely the Republican not normally represented in the Committee of Liberation, is included in the Committee in Perugia, while the Democrazia del Lavoro, one of the six recognized parties does not exist at all as yet.

All members of the Committee present, including the Christian Democrat and Liberal, declared themselves not merely against the Casa di Savoia but against the Monarchy as an institution. They declared that both the king and the Crown Prince were too compromised, that the House of Savoia - Genoa would be unacceptable. The Christian Democrat member stated that the Princess of Piedmont was the only member of the Royal family who was not compromised and that after all she was a Belgian. This unanimity however was qualified in a private conversation afterwards by the Liberal member, who admitted that many Liberals were still Monarchists and that they accepted Croce's views on the Monarchy and Regency as their policy; he added that the Liberal Party in Perugia considered Croce as the national leader, with Casati as the deputy party leader; he stated that they did not consider De Nicola a Liberal but a Conservative.

The Republican member claimed a following of 300 in the city of Perugia alone and said that his party had a good cross section of all classes and an incipient youth movement.

The Communists seem to have been the most active during the period of German control and Fascist Republicism. They published a paper called "La Battaglia" and a weekly summary of events called "Le Sette Giorni". The news was obtained primarily from London and Moscow broadcasts. They also heard regularly Italia Combatte. B.B.C. broadcats were best heard and preferred to any others.

All members claimed that they wanted to see Italian troops play a more active part in the war.

The impression left by the Committee was that they were by no means a united body. Each statement made by one member would be treated as a pretension by the others, and consequently qualified by them.

When the President was introduced, the Communists hastened to add that the reason why he was President was because he was the most "anciano". Almost all murmured dissent when the Party of Action claimed a large and representative following. When the Liberals and Socialists said that they had been active in Fascist times, they were laughed at by the others.

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

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At the end of the meeting, both the Liberal and the Party of Action members approached the P.W.B. interviewing officer and said sotto voce that the Communists were quite intolerable.

The President of the Committee in conversation after the meeting stated that they were disappointed that the A.M.G. authorities in Perugia had not given them more recognition and that they as a Committee representing the anti-fascists in the area had not been allowed to help. As it was the lack of recognition on the part of the Allied authorities had made them lose face among the population of Perugia.

3783

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785621

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11 Orlando in Palermo

Much interest was aroused in Palermo by the visit to that city of Vittorio Emmanuele Orlando, the former Prime Minister, who is of Sicilian origin.

The main purpose of Orlando's visit was to combat Separatism. A secondary purpose was to encourage deliveries of wheat to the pools.

In the morning he addressed an audience of about 500 persons in the Salone di Maggio della Storia patria; the audience included Cardinal Lavitrano, the High Commissioner Musotto, the Prefect, the Sindaco, the Procurator General, the Questore, and representatives of the Committee of National Liberation.

Orlando referred first to the question of Sicilian Separatism. He said that he considered his present speech as a continuation of his message of August 18th, 1943. In that message he had said that never as at this moment had the safety and fortunes of Sicily been so indissolubly bound up with the safety and fortunes of Italy. After the last nine months, said Orlando, this feeling, in its repiprocal form, had grown; so that now he would say never as at this moment has the safety and fortune of Italy been so indissolubly bound up with the safety and fortunes of Sicily. "I am astounded when I hear people talk as if a Sicilian question could exist by itself and not under the form of an Italian question... Before arriving at the doubt whether Sicily can live without Italy, I am halted by the certainty that Italy cannot live without Sicily."

Orlando admitted that there had been mistakes on both sides. He said that there should shortly be an affirmation of autonomy, by entrging a body representing the island to discuss its just grievances. He spoke of the importance of the grain problem of grain. He thought it a sign of hope for the future that the new Cabinet was composed of representativws of the six parties, and said that in future when anyone asked him his party affiliation, he would reply with a single word: "Italy".

12 Separatist reaction to Orlando.

Finocchiaro Aprile, the Separatist leader, questioned by a PWB collaborator said that Orlando's speech does not appear to have satisfied public opinion. The reference to regional autonomies was too vague and imprecise. Nor was Orlando's suggestion that a representation of

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

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Finocchiaro Aprile was of the impression that the speech reinforces the Separatist movement. Orlando came to Sicily, he said, to develop activities in favour of the Monarchy. He obtained, in view of the reports he received in the island. He had failed to obtain a political success although, by his position and authority, he obtained an undeniable success as an orator.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Interview with the Mayor of Catania

The Mayor of Catania, Commendatore Carlo Ardizzoni, submitted the following written statement to a PWB officer at Catania:

"1) The new junta communale regularly constituted will meet during the first fifteen days of July. It contains representatives from all the parties. Once the difficulties of nomination were settled, all those appointed expressed their intention to work together for the common good of the community.

2) The food problem still has first place in the minds of all those who are responsible for the maintenance of public order. From the 1st July the bread ration was raised to 250 grams per head per day, and after the 10th July this should be augmented by 50 grams per day of pasta.

3) The population is highly appreciative of the help given by the Allies in sending 10,000 tons of grain.

4) The struggle against the black market and evasions of the law continues. The municipal guard is well on the job and licenses are withdrawn and goods and merchandise sequestrated every time that transgressions of the law are detected by the public authorities.

5) In view of the unemployment attendant on the withdrawal of the Allied troops; steps are being taken to hasten the execution of public works such as widening of roads, removal of bomb damage, systematisation of buildings and highways, in the endeavor to give employment to the maximum number and over a long period.

6) The sanitary condition of the population is satisfactory.

CHURCH

Interview with the Archivist of the Abbey of MONTE CASSINO

A PWB officer talked with the archivist of the Benedictine Monastery of Monte Cassino, Dom Mauro Inguanez, who is a British subject (Maltese). He said that early in November of last year an order came from the Commander of the Hermann Goering division that the monastery was to be evacuated at once, and that the German army would undertake to transport archives and other valuables to places of safety. Permission was given for the Abbot and nine other monks to remain. Dom Inguanez said that he could not bring himself to hand over his archives, and so with the Abbot's permission he left

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3782

SECRET

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

er valuables these cases accompanied the monks to Rome and on arrival were at once placed in the Vatican. Dom Inguanez says that the German officer in charge of the evacuation, Colonel Schlegel of the Hermann Goering division, was not from the German point of view very qualified for the job, as he knew nothing about manuscripts or antiquity; in fact "he was probably a hotel manager in peace time."

Of the monks who left Monte Cassino, in November, some were divided amongst the Benedictine houses of the Cassinese congregation in Rome (S. Paolo fuori le mura, S. Prassede and the international house of studies at Sant'Anselmo) and others went to a monastery near Bergamo. Of the ten who remained behind, one died from natural causes shortly before the bombardment, others went to Perugia early in March, two or three have returned to Cassino, where Vatican architects are already planning the reconstruction of the Abbey.

The abbot is at Sant'Anselmo on the Aventine. Dom Inguanez says that the abbot is over 81, and as he has been at Monte Cassino for over sixty years he is naturally very upset about the bombardment, and over the destruction of so many villages and towns of which he is also the diocesan bishop. It appears that the abbot will give no interviews and will make no further statement than that already printed in the Rome papers after the bombardment, in which he says that there were at no time German combattant troops in the abbey buildings, but only guards at the gates. Dom Inguanez thinks that if approached through Allied diplomatic representatives accredited to the Holy See, the abbot would consent to repeat this statement, with this signature.

Touching on the works of art that were sent from Naples to the Vatican, and which are now found to be incomplete, Dom Inguanez said that about the 5th or 6th of September the last consignment of cases from Pompeii and of pictures which had been loaned from state and private collections to the Mostra d'Oltremare at Naples, arrived at Monte Cassino. In November these works of art, packed in 185 cases, were taken away by the Hermann Goering division under the direction of Colonel Schlegel, and went to Spoleto. As the results of energetic representations by the Holy See these cases were brought to Rome; and on the 4th January handed over to the Amministratore Nazionale at the Palazzo Venezia. 172 cases only were consigned. The German officer in charge of the party said that

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

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15 A Bishop instructs his parish clergy

In a letter dated 24 June 1944, the Bishop of Cortona in Tuscany issued instructions to his parochial clergy to collect as complete information as possible on damage done in their parishes and all evidence of "moral and material violence," to persons, to religious edifices and sacred articles, to fields, houses, cattle and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

food stuffs, making careful note of the causes and authors.

The Bishop writes, "You will understand the importance that all this will have for history. Without doubt you will find that all are willing to collaborate with you in this undertaking; make good use of this, reserving for yourselves, or to people in whom you have confidence the orderly and truthful compilation of the reports of individual families."

This letter was written and distributed about three weeks before the hill town of Cortona itself was liberated.

ARMED FORCES

Reactions in Rome to the Call-Up.

All the Rome newspapers of the 19th July carry reports of the great crowd of young men who presented themselves at the Italian War Ministry for registration following Casati's order recalling certain classes to the colours. Reports agree that the number of youths who responded to the appeal was much greater than had been expected, and was in striking contrast to the tiny response that greeted similar appeals during the German occupation.

A newspaper man, member of the Party of Action, told a PWB officer earlier in the week that many people in Rome of his acquaintance were puzzled by the order. These people considered that the text of the order was not clear as to whether the men affected should present themselves forthwith to the recruiting offices or whether they whould merely hold themselves in readiness. Furthermore, people wanted to know whether the men would be called upon to fight on the battlefield, or if they would be employed in duties behind the lines.

On the other hand it appears that in the small towns around Rome the people, mostly peasants, received the news of the call-up with enthusiasm. Fathers tell their sons that "now is the time for them to go." These people have great faith in Allied support and are eager to contribute with arms to the liberation of Italy.

A New Spirit among the Italian Armed Forces in Apulia.

A usually reliable Italian collaborator with PWB in Bari re-

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A New Spirit among the Italian Armed Forces in Apulia.

A usually reliable Italian collaborator with PWB in Bari reports a change of tone in army circles there. Previously army circles were inclined to indulge in anti-Allied tones in conversation; now, as it is expressed by a member of the Italian government's Press Office, "Italian aviators have proved by their fighting qualities the right of Italy to march alongside the Allies, and this denotes the progress that Italy has achieved in her relations with the Allies." Our informant considers that continued elimination of fascist elements in the army will do much to waken that branch of the fighting forces of Italy from the torpor into which it has been sunk since the flight of the Government from Rome.

3761

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

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LABOUR

18 The Camera del Lavoro in Rome

In an interview with a PWB officer, Sig. Buschi, one of the secretaries of the Camera del Lavoro, a little quiet man, explained the various trade unions, which on a national scale are centered in the General Confederation of Labour, centre locally in the Rome Camera del Lavoro. He pointed out that whereas on a national scale there are only three main parties representing the workers, i.e. the Communist, Socialist and Demo-Christian parties, and hence there are only three general secretaries in Rome itself, With its large proportion of middle-class workers employed in government offices, the Party of Action is also representative of a large section of people and therefore the Roman Camera del Lavoro is directed by four secretaries - Buschi himself for the Socialists, Massini for the Communists, Cuzzaniti for the Demo-Christians and Bigazzi for the Party of Action. Each of the four secretaries deals with his share of the 35 odd unions formed which are now recruiting their respective workers. These unions, delegate their own committees to come and consult their secretary at the Camera. Buschi stressed that this system was provisional until the proper elections could be held.

It was clear from this interview with Buschi and Massini and from the succeeding one with Cuzzaniti that there is a complete and most sensible collaboration between them. There was no trace of political friction. All three people were too sincerely preoccupied with the two burning problems of the moment - unemployment (over 200,000 people) and low wages.

Dr. Cuzzaniti had three causes for complaint:-

1. The AMG order of June 5th ordered the 70% increase in pay for State employees byt only authorised private employers to do the same. He said that in many cases the latter had not. Moreover while the State employees get an increase according to their present pay, employees of private firms are allowed the increase only on the basis of their pay in September 1942. This takes no account of the raises in pay earned through sheer merit since that date.

2. The Allied liquidation of Fascist Corporations on July 14th automatically froze all the pay funds, so that many employees, whom the Fascists, forseeing the loss of Rome, had not even paid for May, have thus been left without a month and a half's salary.

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

the Camera del Lavoro, a little quiet man, explained the various trade unions, which on a national scale are centered in the General Confederation of Labour, centre locally in the Rome Camera del Lavoro. He pointed out that whereas on a national scale there are only three main parties representing the workers, i.e. the Communist, Socialist and Demo-Christian parties, and hence there are only three general secretaries in Rome itself. With its large proportion of middle-class workers employed in government offices, the Party of Action is also representative of a large section of people and therefore the Roman Camera del Lavoro is directed by four secretaries - Buschi himself for the Socialists, Massini for the Communists, Cuzzaniti for the Demo-Christians and Bigazzi for the Party of Action. Each of the four secretaries deals with his share of the 36 odd unions formed which are now recruiting their respective workers. These unions, delegate their own committees to come and consult their secretary at the Camera. Buschi stressed that this system was provisional until the proper elections could be held.

It was clear from this interview with Buschi and Massini and from the succeeding one with Cuzzaniti that there is a complete and most sensible collaboration between them. There was no trace of political friction. All three people were too sincerely preoccupied with the two burning problems of the moment - unemployment (over 200,000 people) and low wages.

Dr. Cuzzaniti had three causes for complaint:-

1. The AMG order of June 5th ordered the 70% increase in pay for State employees byt only authorised private employers to do the same. He said that in many cases the latter had not. Moreover while the State employees get an increase according to their present pay, employees of private firms are allowed the increase only on the basis of their pay in September 1942. This takes no account of the raises in pay earned through sheer merit since that date.

2. The Allied liquidation of Fascist Corporations on July 14th automatically froze all the pay funds, so that many employees, whom the Fascists, forseeing the loss of Rome, had not even paid for May, have thus been left without a month and a half's salary.

19 Interview with Ing. Girolamo Mascardi, Inspector of Labour for Rome and Latium.

Ing. Mascardi explained to a PWB officer that his main task according to the previous system still in force is to safeguard the interests of the workers on the following points:-

1. He sees that all the workers' insurances and allowances are paid in order. The subscriptions are paid by the employer. There are three insurance companies concerned.

(a) Istituto di Previdenza Sociale (Social Insurance Company)

for: Old age — Birth and Marriage
Unemployment — Family allowances
Tuberculosis

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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(b) Istituto Nazionale per Assicurazione contro Infortuni sul Lavoro.
(National Insurance against Accidents at Work)

(c) Ente Mutualita Malattie
(Mutual Insurance for Sickness)
This provides a daily allowance and medical attention after five days of illness.

2. He keeps an eye on the working premises, on the hours of work (48 hours weekly limit) and on the working conditions (children under 14 and women are not allowed to do heavy or night work.)

3. He sees that the labour contracts are kept. Unobservance is a penal offence for the employer. With regard to Roman industry, Mascardi said that all the big armaments factories around Rome are now stopped and have thrown 30,000 workers into the street (The Cellaforde explosive factory alone employed 20,000 workers).

All the big flour mills and many Fascist government offices now unoccupied help to swell the number of unemployed.

2. The Provincial and Regional Labour Offices

In an interview with a PWB officer, Dr. Togni, Director of the Provincial Labour Office, said that the office will come under Government control, but so far it is only in its infancy and has no funds to support it. It is intended to set up branch offices all over the province - at Civitavecchia, Velletri, Frascati, Ostia, and Nettuno-Anzio. He explained that when the office has as it were gathered in all the threads from the area which it controls - Rome and Lazio - it will exercise an executive function over labour, whereas the Regional Labour Office, which has a larger area to supervise, will eventually have a coordinating and controlling function and will therefore take longer to organize its work.

As distinct from the Camera del Lavoro, which is a workers' organization dependent on the workers' General Confederation of Labour, the Provincial Office, says Togni, sets itself above both worker and employee and seeks to bridge the gap between them and arbitrate in cases of dispute. Sig. Massaia, secretary to the Director of the Regional Labour Office, did however make the comment that as a reaction to the stranglehold of the Fascist regime, the workers' unions now tend to keep more to themselves.

At the present time the Provincial Labour Office is maintaining direct contact with the labour organisations and in fact its essential task will be the

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

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At the present time the Provincial Labour Office is maintaining direct contact with the labour organisations and in fact its essential task will be the distribution and apportioning of labour. It has opened an employment exchange at Via Cesare Balbo,18, but in practice the Allied authorities are for the present controlling it as it is they who are now contracting through local firms and providing all the work that is available.

Both Dr. Togni and Sig. Massara were especially preoccupied about the present unemployment. Sig. Massara pointed out that a great mass of the unemployed were unskilled workers and would accept a great variety of jobs, but would never go out of the city to do agricultural work.

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

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21 Unemployed in Rome — Middle of July

Signor Buschi of the Rome "Camera del Lavoro" gave a P.W.B. officer the following approximate figures for unemployment:

Building trades	40,000
Metallurgy	24,000
Clothing trades	10,000
Food concerns	1,900
Stationery and press	8,000
Carpentry	5,000
Chemical	20,000
Mining	2,000
Textiles	2,000
Entertainment	4,000
Glass and chinaware	1,000
Chauffeurs	1,500
General transport workers	4,000
Air Services Personnel	2,000
Commercial employees	30,000
State, Parastatal and public employees	50,000

An explanation of these high figures is supplied by an Italian collaborator, who points out that after the confusion following the 8th September, a great many workers released from military service found themselves unable to resume their usual activities for reasons of a political nature. They therefore lived by Black Market activities, and with the return to normal conditions there has been a great wave of unemployment. Those chiefly involved may be divided into working class and office workers.

With regard to the latter, many firms who employed manual workers and whose activities were carried on outside Rome have ceased to function. Others have greatly reduced their activities, on account of the restrictions, and have had to dismiss a large percentage of their employees. Only a small proportion of these are employed by Allied commands.

Clerical workers find themselves in a similar position. This class consisted largely of State and parastatal workers, and when

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

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Clerical workers find themselves in a similar position. This class consisted largely of State and parastatal workers, and when the majority of Government offices were transferred to the North, there was a great increase in unemployment. These people say that the system of providing employment in force at the office at 6 Via Lucullo gives them little hope of finding work either in the immediate or distant future. It is hoped that the authorities will revive as soon as possible some of the organisations which provided these people with work before the catastrophe. (C-2)

SECRET

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PRICES AND COST OF LIVING

22. Price Control in Rome

According to a newspaper man, the immediate reaction of the people to the food control prices is dissatisfaction and disappointment. They grumble that prices of certain commodities have gone up as much as 1000 percent while the highest increase in wages is only 70 percent. They reason that the biggest and most urgent problem is work and food, and this situation is aggravated with the new prices, instead of being solved, inasmuch asno parallel measure has been taken to raise purchasing power.

On the other hand, the bread ration; which from 100 grams of black bread has been brought up to 200 grams of white bread has fundamentally changed the diet for the better. The informant suggests that this point be stressed in every way possible in order to make the people realise that the measures taken are not one-sided.

This situation of food and work is very serious, and one that ought to be given consideration. The people clamor that if commerce between the liberated regions were resumed many problems would be automatically overcome (a) because there would be a normal exchange of product, (b) transportation would give many a chance to work. They are willing to start with ordinary carts, and whatever vehicle is available at present. Eventually too, communications should be resumed with North Africa, and for this traffic crafts of every sort (sail ships, rafts, barges, etc.) could be used.

The predominating feeling now is that the Allies have not kept their promises of food relief. Informant suggests that the importance of other Allied problems be stressed so that the people may be informed that we are trying to solve them all simultaneously, and convince themselves that the Allies are not the same as the Germans. Which is what they would like to believe but they need to be enlightened. (B-1)

The Rome Market, although improved, is still not very varied. Among the things which it is easy to buy are tomatoes at 31 lire a kilo, apricots at 22 lire a kilo, plums at 22 lire per kilo. Among things which are difficult to buy are beans at 8 lire a kilo. Potatoes which sell at 32 lire are very difficult to obtain and so are onions. Even for those things which are easy to find there are long queues.

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

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It is reported that there is a lack of charcoal for cooking. It is suggested that charcoal should be fetched from the neighborhood of Breccieno where it is plentiful. It is also reported that charcoal has become scarce since the price was fixed; before when the price found a natural level it was easier to obtain. (B-1)

5 Black Market Prices in Rome about the 16 July 3779

Flour (dark)	150 lire a kilo
(white)	220 " "
Butter	750/850 lire a kilo

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

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Bread	80/130	Lire a kilo	
Cheese (fresh)	280/300	" "	(hard to get)
(Parmesan)	500/800	" "	" "
Sugar	400/500	" "	
Eggs	30/ 40	" each	
Olive Oil	650	" litre	
Fats	500/700	" kilo	
Dried vegetables	160/260	" "	
Salt	350	" "	
Ham	500	" "	" "
Meat	300	" "	
Rice	220/300	" "	
Wine	70/120	" litre	
Milk	50	" "	(hard to get and watery)
Coffee	1000	" kilo	(hard to get)
Greenstuff	35	" "	(little to be had on open market)
Charcoal	28/ 35	" "	
Men's shoes	2500/3500	" pair	
Women's shoes	2000	" "	
		(C-1) (B-2)	
Bicycle	20,000	"	(formerly 300 lire)
Car	200,000	"	" 10,000 "
Bicycle tire	1,500	"	" 25 "
Tyre for "Topolino" car	25,000	"	" 150 "
		(B-2)	

24 Weekly Cost of Living for One Family

(See Report No. 26) Another estimate of the cost of living in Rome is provided by an Italian informant. He gives two versions, according to whether or not they have a certain reserve of food put by, as the majority of people are reported to have.

In the latter case the average expenditure for a family of three in order to eat reasonably well is as follows:

Family of professional men in comfortable circumstances	3000 lire
Clerical worker's family	2000 lire
Working man's family	1500 lire

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

Fats	500/700	"	kilo
Dried vegetables	160/260	"	"
Salt	350	"	"
Ham	500	"	" " "
Meat	300	"	"
Rice	220/300	"	"
Wine	70/120	"	litre
Milk	50	"	" (hard to get and watery)
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In the latter case the average expenditure for a family of three in order to eat reasonably well is as follows:

Family of professional men in comfortable circumstances	3000 lire
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Working man's family	1500 lire

In cases where people have no provision of food, and taking into consideration present day Black Market prices, the average expenditure of the same types of families would be:

5000 lire
3500 lire
2500 lire

In view of the fact that few families have any stores of food left, nor the financial possibility of buying much on the Black Market, the majority of people are living a life of privation.

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

25 Conditions in Siena - 13 7 44.

The Germans and Fascists are said to have committed few atrocities in this city; there was not even the usual round-up of young men to send to Germany. They did, however, loot all the shops in the few days before they left.

On July 13th the population was receiving only the bread ration of 200 gr. per day. The people were reported to be saying that Allied goods for distribution have already arrived, and will be given out to the population as soon as the French leave Siena.

Black Market prices. (it will be seen that these are much lower than those current further South.)

Bread	10	lire a kilo
Pasta (made from dark flour)	25	" " "
Pasta (made from white flour)	50	" " "
Oil	500	" " litre
Rice	35	" " Kilo
Flour	25	" " "
Meat	150	" " "
Beans	50	" " "
Butter	350	" " "
Sugar	70	" " "
Potatoes	50	" " "
Cheese	200	" " "
Wine	40	" " litre

The Black Market prices before the arrival of the Allies were 30% lower.

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

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Oil	500	" " litre
Rice	25	" " Kilo
Flour	25	" " "
Meat	160	" " "
Beans	50	" " "
Butter	350	" " "
Sugar	70	" " "
Potatoes	50	" " "
Cheese	200	" " "
Wine	40	" " litre

The Black Market prices before the arrival of the Allies were 50% lower.

3778

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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AGRICULTURE

28 The Granai del Popolo

Reports from Bari and from Sicily show that deliveries to the granai del popolo in these areas have so far proved unsatisfactory. In Sicily a large scale propaganda campaign is being waged in the official press and radio, supported by the authorised party papers, to encourage deliveries. The High Commissioner, Musotto, has also been taking administrative action, and through the Prefect of Caltanissetta has dismissed Cav. Luigi Liardi, Sindaco of Gela, for lack of energy and enthusiasm in supervising the granai campaign. For the same reason the Prefect of Catania has dismissed Avv. Fortunato Calcagno, Prefectorial Commissioner of Ramacca. Musotto has also sent the following circular to the Communal Agricultural Committees:

"The satisfactory development and the consequent success of the operations for the delivery of wheat to the Granai del Popolo depends largely on the scrupulous fulfilment of the tasks allotted to them by the Communal Agricultural Committees, complex tasks of a technical and also an administrative character. The members of the Committees must be perfectly aware of the importance of their mandate, which puts them in the front line of those on whose work depends the success of the government action to insure wheat for all Italians and at the same time first to check, and then defeat altogether, the vile manoeuvring of speculators who, devoid of sentiments of human solidarity and of patriotism, are trying by underhand means to increase prices artificially for their own personal profit.

These Committees have, therefore, both the honour and the burden of being entitled to the gratitude of the nation if, as I do not doubt, they can achieve these aims which the government and the people expect of them."

Finocchiaro Aprile, the Separatist leader, who at first appeared to be going to lead a campaign against the delivery to the pools, on the grounds that the price represented yet another example of peninsular exploitation of the island and that in any case grain delivered would be shipped away from the island to feed the people on the mainland, has now changed his views, and appears anxious to give his support. He has offered to broadcast, and his party prepared a manifesto urging delivery to the pools which, however, they were not authorised to publish. The rival separatist leader, De Martino (see paragraph

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

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SECRET

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

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and moral duty to turn the grain into the pools in the quantities established by law, without any evasion, so that the people do not go hungry because of speculators and can instead enjoy a sufficient daily ration of bread and pasta."

According to a Sicilian collaborator, De Martino has expressed the opinion that the blame for the failure to deliver grain lies less with the large landowners who can afford to suffer a reduction of profits on their big turnover, than with the small holders, who have to live for a year on the profits of the harvest, and are ready to run the risk of selling illegally at a higher price. De Martino is thus supporting his claim that the price offered for wheat is inadequate for the needs of the Sicilian farmer.

De Martino's views are well illustrated in the June 27th issue of the unauthorised paper "Sicilia e Libertà". The paper (of which De Martino is principal author) makes three fundamental claims:

1) Sicilian wheat must not be allowed to leave the island;
2) The flow of wheat to the pools should be facilitated by offering a just price to the farmers.
3) The burden of the high cost of wheat should be lifted from the poorer classes by government subsidy.

The "granai del popolo" says the paper, is just another version of the old name for Sicily, "granaio del popolo romano" — an example of peninsula exploitation.

The political aspect of the question has, however, probably very little influence on the success or failure of the campaign. Two reports on the situation, supplied to a collaborator in Catania, give some ideas of the difficulties to be met, apart from bad weather which in some areas has held up threshing.

The first report is supplied by the Inspectorate of Agriculture: "The farmers do not want to do their duty. The pooling of wheat and of barley have become two problems for the police. They have been completely sabotaged by farmers, who at first refused to declare their stocks, and later when forced to do so, made incomplete or inaccurate declarations. Although the control of officials of the Inspectorate, with one car in a very bad state of repair, is limited, in almost all cases examined severe measures should have been taken against the farmers concerned. Fear of the penalties of the law leads farmers to deliver what they inevitably have to deliver, while everything which can be hidden is immediately hidden, with the com-

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

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The second report is supplied by a farmer: "It is not possible to respect an impossible law. The present government is following Fascist methods of imposition and of hoarding without taking into consideration the cost of production, and the harm done by their policy. "It is unreasonable to take barley from animals who have nothing else to eat, in a country like Sicily where there is a shortage of other fodder to take the place of barley.

"Nor is it certain that, in spite of the sacrifices imposed by the pools, the ration of 250 grammes will be maintained. Next winter it may not be given and bread will rise to very high prices.

SECRET

3777

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

SECRET - APPENDIX I

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REACTIONS TO PROPAGANDA

A reply to the following questionnaire about the radio has been received:

Questionnaire

1) Which Allied radio stations could you pick up in Rome during the four months preceding the 4th June, 1944? (BBC, Bari, Naples, Palermo, Tunis, Algiers, United States?)

2) Which stations did you usually listen to?

3) What were the wavelengths of these stations?

4) What were their broadcasting hours?

5) Which programmes did you prefer?

6) Which "special commentaries" and commentators did you prefer AFTER THE FALL OF MUSSOLINI?

7) Did you pick up the "Italia Combatte" programme, and when?

8) From which stations or station did you pick up "Italia Combatte" and over what wavelengths?

9) What did you like best in the "Italian Combatte" programme?

10) What do you think of "La Voce dell'America"?

11) Which Axis stations did you usually listen to?

12) Were the various broadcasts much jammed? Which were most so?

Reply from a workman

1) BBC, Bari, Tunis, Palermo, United States. Never Naples.

2) BBC, Bari, United States (Voce dell'America).

3) a. BBC : 25.5 metres, 31.3 metres, 41 metres.
b. Bari : 310 metres
c. Voce dell'America : 365 metres, or over BBC wavelengths.

4) a. Every hour from 7:30 to 23:30
B. Every hour from 15.00 to 23.00 ("Italia Combatte" at 22.30)
c. From 13.30 to 21.30 (at varying intervals)

5) BBC, "Italia Combatte" and "Allied Radio to the Romans".

6) Commentaries of Mario Verdi (Voce dell'America), Colonel Stevens and "Italian Combatte

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

the four months preceding the 4th June, 1944? (BBC, Bari, Naples, Palermo, Tunis, Algiers, United States?)

2) Which stations did you usually listen to?

3) What were the wavelengths of these stations?

4) What were their broadcasting hours?

5) Which programmes did you prefer?

6) Which "special commentaries" and commentators did you prefer AFTER THE FALL OF MUSSOLINI?

7) Did you pick up the "Italia Combatte" programme, and when?

8) From which stations or station did you pick up "Italia Combatte" and over what wavelengths?

9) What did you like best in the "Italian Combatte" programme?

10) What do you think of "La Voce dell'America"?

11) Which Axis stations did you usually listen to?

12) Were the various broadcasts much jammed? Which were most so?

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7) Yes, at 22.30 hours

8) Bari, over 310 metres.

9) The appeal to the patriots, which has borne such good fruits in the prosecution of the war in Italy.

3776

10) The war news might be given with more details. On the whole a fairly good programme.

11) Usually Rome Radio and Florence Radio, in order to enjoy the

SECRET

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

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nonsensical Republican propaganda and the death sentences they pronounced on us.

12) Not very much, but more in the evenings.
Palermo, Naples, and sometimes "La Voce dell'America" (over Tunis Radio).

COMMENT ON ROME RADIO

According to one Italian source, few criticism are to be heard of Rome Radio; it is therefore to be deduced that people are generally satisfied with the programmes. The programme "The man in the street" is said to be favourably commented on. Some people think the same news bulletins are repeated too frequently, and that either they should be changed or else there should be less of them. Col. Poletti's talks are said to be very popular. (C-2)

It is reported that after the first few days following on the liberation of Rome, when everyone was carried away by enthusiasm at the possibility of having a friendly radio in Rome after nine months of German occupation, now very few people listen to this radio because the transmissions are considered dull and inexact. In the few hours in which there is electricity many people prefer to listen to BBC. On the other hand it is reported that Italia Combatte is listened to with great interest. Naples and Bari are hardly listened to at all. It is also reported that many people are now tuning in to listen to Fascist radios from the north. (C-2)

PUBLIC OPINION OF THE "CORRIERE DI ROMA"

The large circulation of the "Corriere di Roma" is proof of its general popularity, and it is regarded by all as the most reliable source of news. One report states that it is read more by the masses than by people of intellectual leanings, who prefer the party press as the "Corriere" devotes no space to the political struggle.

The appointment of Jacchia as chief sub-editor (redattore responsabile) is said to have been favourably received. (C-2)

Little unfavourable comment is heard. Non-politically minded people, especially, are very satisfied with it, in that it provides them with information without any political bias.

The high sales are due, in particular, to the fact that the lower middle classes who used to buy the "Messaggero" now buy the "Cor-

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

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The high sales are due, in particular, to the fact that the lower middle classes who used to buy the "Messaggero" now buy the "Corriere di Roma". Thus it would be detrimental to the success of the latter if the "Messaggero" started publication once more, as all, from habit, would ask for the "Messaggero".

Many people buy the "Corriere" without knowing that it is an Allied publication, in spite of the "A cura del P.W.B." on the front page. Others think that it is the "Messaggero" under another name -- probably because it is printed on the same premises and because the local news section is of the same type. (C-3)

The comment is made that the "Corriere" should take care to a-

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

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void such mistakes as comparing Molinari with Toscanini (alleged to have occurred about July 10th), and making statements such as that the Romans are complaining because they have no light, whereas in fact people willingly accept this sacrifice, and ask only to have something — current, gas or coal — with which to cook. (C-3)

WISH FOR AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE

The opinion has been expressed that, in spite of the popularity of the "Corriere di Roma", people would like to see the party press better supplied with war news and with photographs. There is also a widespread desire to have an illustrated weekly review (something like the German publication "Signal") not put out by the Allied authorities, but by independent Italians, who would assume the task of rendering the Italian public familiar with the Allied war effort, civilisation, history, etc. (C-2)

OPINION OF THE "CENTRO DI DOCUMENTAZIONE"

General opinion appears to be that the Allied system of propaganda is good and successful. One observer remarks on the psychological insight into Italian problems it displays. (C-2)

It is suggested that more publicity might be given to the "Centro" by means of the radio and of articles in the press. People who do know about it are said to be favourably impressed, and the various publications are eagerly read. There are not sufficient numbers of these, however; many people; for example, have heard of "Il Mese" and, wishing to read it, have searched for it in vain. (C-1)

Our propaganda is said frequently to be compared to that of the Germans, to the detriment of the latter. (C-2)

Some Italians have noticed that in the Center of Documentation there is a preponderance of photographs displaying scenes of American military life, American material, American generals, ships, etc. It is pointed out that there are very few photos with English subjects. The same criticism has been heard about the reviews.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PROPAGANDA

A cultured Italian belonging to no particular political party, but of conservative tendencies, suggested in conversation with an Allied officer that Allied propaganda to the Italians of the liber-

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

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SUGGESTIONS FOR PROPAGANDA

A cultured Italian belonging to no particular political party, but of conservative tendencies, suggested in conversation with an Allied officer that Allied propaganda to the Italians of the liberated areas should develop the "remembrance" theme. For instance the people of Rome should be reminded of the harshness of the German occupation, the search for men for the labour gangs, the shootings of hostages, imprisonment of so many innocent people; racial persecutions, the arrogance of police and fascist officials, the absence of any respect for law and individual freedom. They should also 8775 constantly reminded that the lack of water and light and the restricted diet of today are all due to the conditions which the Germans and the fascists left in Rome. He considers that by working silently the Allies miss the opportunity of bringing these truths

SECRET

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

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home to the population, who will easily forget the reasons why conditions do not return at once to easier and a more normal state.

This Italian considers that the best way to put over these ideas is by the wall poster, a means that is accessible to those many who have neither instruction nor the habit of reading the press, and who are without the radio owing to the electricity shortage. As an example for a poster, he quoted the recent raid against the shrine of the Madonna of Loretto carried out by the Germans a few days ago, and against which the Osservatore Romano has already protested.

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

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PUBLIC OPINION

Italian Government in Rome

Reactions according to a Rome Political observer and newspaper man:-

The people generallywelcome the government in Rome. A large percentage of them have been government employees for years, and it is their peculiarity to associate the government more with jobs than with the political life of the country. Consequently they do not look beyond their immediate personal needs. For the case in question they do not even understand that the city is still dependent on and under the control of the Allies.

The minority who watch political developments consider the present situation as transitory, and not one for serious preoccupation.

The Parties say it is a good thing for the government to be in Rome. The only group who view the situation with concern are the monarchists. (B2)

The Bentivegna Case

The following is supplied by an Italian collaborator:

The most talked of subject in Rome at the present time (middle of July) is the trial of Rosario Bentivegna, who was responsible for the death of eighty-four Germans alone, and is a symbol of the clandestine struggle carried on for nine months against the German enemy.

All that everybody asks is that justice be done. And it will certainly emerge clearly during the trial that Bentivegna acted in self defence.

What the population fears is that the court may consider Bentivegna, who at the moment in which he acted was in the service of the Committee of Liberation and therefore as a "volunteer for liberty" under the orders of General Alexander, as a common criminal to be judged in the light of this one action.

We must not forget the state of mind, with an exhuberant temperment like his, in which Bentivegna must have been on June 5th, and the need he must have felt to react against all he had put up with for twenty years, together with the provocation of the moment.

The whole Roman population is anxiously following its hero's fate and waiting for him to be restored to take part in the struggle which he is eager to join. C2

Armistice

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The whole Roman population is anxiously following its hero's fate and waiting for him to be restored to take part in the struggle which he is eager to join. C2

Armistice

The last few days many rumors have been circulating about the armistice clauses, the most common of which are as follows:-

1. All the ports and railways will be controlled for 99 years by the Allies.
2. All the interests having capital superior to one million lire will be controlled by the Allies.
3. The administrative personnel of these industries will be 90% Allied.
4. Emigration of unemployed will be encouraged.

It is said that such rumors have created considerable discontent.

(C2)

3774

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Reactions to Russia

It is reported that in certain cinemas recently an American documentary film on the landings in France was shown and that during the course of the film there was a brief glimpse of Stalin. Immediately the audience applauded. It is said that Stalin is commonly called "Baffone" on account of his large mustache and that he has become a very popular figure. When things go wrong people are reported to say "If only Baffone were here."

It is also reported there is great interest in Russia. There is a demand for photographs, newspapers, reviews and films which describe conditions in this unknown country. No doubt the interest in Russia is intensified by the fact that it is easier for the Italians to obtain information about England and America and therefore there is the desire for the unknown. But from all accounts the rapid Russian advances in the recent weeks have made a deep impression on Italians. Apart from the Communists who naturally look toward Russia, there are many Italians who admire the military successes of the Russians and are impressed by the moderation of the Italian Communists.

Epuration (C2)

It is reported that there is a certain amount of discontent among anti-Fascists on account of the failure to carry out epuration to the necessary extent. Spies are still walking about freely who had been described in the special transmission by Italia Combatte. It was reported that some even work for the Allies. C2

Fifth Column Rumours

The last few days in Rome, rumours have been current that elements of the X Battaglioni and Fascists in general, who are still reported to be numerous, are circulating freely. This group would be organized along the lines of battalions, that is one thousand persons in each group and each group would be given a particular quarter. Each group has its own commander and its own officers. It is reported that they assemble together from time to time. It is also reported that a clandestine printing works is at their disposal. For this reason it is suggested that some of the republican fascists who are still free should be immediately arrested so as to disrupt this organization.

It is reported that there is still in Rome a certain amount of discontent at the fact that Fascists are still employed in Allied offices. (C2)

Allied Troops in Rome

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Allied Troops in Rome

The Romans have remarked on the difference between the German troops who occupied Rome who were heavily armed, and those of the Allies who go without arms. This is particularly appreciated by the Romans who still remember vividly the Nazi-Fascist terror. (C2)

Recently many Italians it is reported have been arrested for buying tinned food or cigarettes from the Allies. It is felt that the Allied soldiers should be punished rather than the Italians who merely buy. In some cases people have been arrested who have been given sweets or cigarettes by the Allied soldiers. It is pointed out that it is illogical to expect Italians who are short of food to refuse the opportunity to buy in this way. It is also illogical to expect the Italians to refuse gifts from the Allied soldiers of

(C2)

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

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food or cigarettes. It is remarked that if Allied soldiers can sell such food stuffs there must be a surplus and would it not be better to distribute this under proper supervision? Or better still, would it not be better to exercise a more rigid control of the ration dumps. (S2)

Taxies in Rome

Owing to lack of transport the public is often compelled to take the few taxies that are left and it is reported that these drivers charge between two and three hundred lire for a drive of four or five kilometers in Rome. One of the reasons adduced for these high prices is that the chauffeurs work for employers who charge large sums for the hire of their machines. It is also reported that petrol is bought for these cars on the black market at two hundred and fifty lire per litre.

It is also reported that many of the owners of these taxies collaborated with the Germans and Fascists and that is why their taxies were not requisitioned. It has been suggested that the Allies should take over the complete control of the taxies in Rome. (C2)

The anniversary of the Allied landings remembered in Sicily.

An Italian collaborator with PWB at Catania writes that the people there were reminded that a year had passed since the Allies landed on the shores of the island by an article in the Corriere di Sicilia and by a wall poster stuck up by the Separatist party. People recalled the hasty flight of the fascist hierarchs, the readiness with which Italian troops layed down their arms, the sudden outburst of savagery on the part of the German troops. This collaborator writes that people in the island consider that Allied rule has been characterized above all by a humane spirit and that the obvious incidents inherent in military occupation were quite subordinate to the general systemitisation of life in Sicily.

Certain orders of AMG were deeply appreciated such as that which prohibited imprisonment without the presentation of a written document, another which reconstituted the provincial labour offices and the medical centres. Certain AMG officers also gained considerable popularity and names frequently mentioned are those of Colonel French and Major Guy Elwes. (B2)

Rumours from Bari

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799021

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Rumours from Bari

The following rumours have been circulating in Bari during the last week:

1. Hitler will destroy the world in July. As he cannot see the way to win any other way he will now employ a secret weapon against which there is no defense.
2. Bari will be bombed by pilotless planes. The rumour is current that Hitler has ordered the installations on the Apulian coast and especially Bari with these weapons.
3. Hitler is evacuating the Balkans. (This rumour is in contrast with No. 2)
4. In a few days AFHQ will be transferred From Algiers to Bari. 3773

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Needs, hopes and fears of the intellectual classes

An Italian collaborator supplies the following report:-

The feeling common to young and old intellectuals are: (a) fear that the Allies do not recognize and properly evaluate the cooperation of the leading constructive forces in Italy; (b) danger of Communism; (c) opposition to the monarchy.

The young intellectuals may be classified into two groups: those who are economically independent, and those who must work for their living. All are eager to cooperate with the Allies. The former in the belief that the Allies will remain in Italy many years after the war and therefore the reconstruction of Italy will depend largely on Allied help, are paving their way for their future; the latter analyze the situation more closely and from more varied standpoints. They suffer from all the evils of unemployment and are therefore more critical. They are thankful for their liberation; appreciate present difficulties, and offer suggestions. They say the most urgent need is the restoration of communications, especially to make possible the transport of food and other essential commodities. This would be one way to help break the black market, besides offering work and food to the needy. Their biggest complaint is that former German collaborationists still have everything they had before, plus the opportunity to continue their way of life. In this confusion, communism, the greatest danger, thrives. Some even fear that Italy may become a U.S.S.R. Republic unless wise and intelligent action is taken now. On the other hand much is expected of the people north of Rome who have clearer ideas and greater capacity for constrictive action than the people in the south.

Some of the old intellectuals fear for the future of their class. They say fascism had rendered it so poor materially that consequent spiritual impoverishment was inevitable. Reconstruction if Italy depends largely on the ability of the Allied to choose and support the right men who are to govern the country. But these men must be given a large measure of freedom to lead the people. Freedom of press, freedom of speech, freedom of religion are of greatest importance.

It is generally recognized that the material and spiritual reconstruction of Italy depends largely on the intellectuals with the help of the working classes who must be saved from Communist influence. The greatest hope is that the Allies may evaluate and accept their cooperation.

Their greatest aspiration is to make Italy, with their hard peaceful work, a healthy part of a free, peaceful Europe. (B2)

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

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General state of mind among students in Rome - By a law student.

The more thoughtful class of students are said to be very concerned about the present and future state of affairs in the country. The majority of them are anti-monarchial.

Apart from refugees who are a long way from their families, and a few poor students who cannot earn their living, their is not much enthusism for joining the army.

There are varying degrees of sympathy for the Allies, dependent largely on the social condition of the individual: the poorer ones are always ready to criticise, while those in more comfortable circumstances have a better understanding of Allied policy. There is much discussion as to whether British or American influence will be stronger in Italy after the war.

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

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The majority of young people are said to be tired of all the chatter on the part of the various parties, and a few of them (and these few are said to include many of the gerarchi of the GU F) are fanatical members of any group

There is a lot of worry about examinations, and much dissatisfaction because nothing has been settled about the re-opening of the university.

The epuration measures have been greeted with satisfaction and now it is time for regular study to begin ag ain. Only by means of examinations and regular attendance at lectures will it be possible to judge which are the real students and what are their ideas on reconstruction (B2)

The British Press

It is reported from Bari that considerable interest has been aroused among anti-Fascist Italians by the recent articles published in the English press which show a friendly understanding towards Italians. The hopes of many Italians have been raised. It is suggested that more of these articles should be translated and given circulation in the Italian press (B1)

The Monarchy and Foreign Influences

It is reported from Bari that people belonging to the parties are convinced that the monarchy in Italy is hpheld by the British who do not want to have a nation in the Mediterranean with Communistic sympathies

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

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The British Press

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The Monarchy and Foreign Influences

It is reported from Bari that people belonging to the parties are convinced that the monarchy in Italy is hpheld by the British who do not want to have a nation in the Mediterranean with Communistic sympathies

3772

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

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Allied Force Headquarters
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Italian Theatre Headquarters
Unit No 12 APO 512

PW Section Central July 15th 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 26

Part I Summary

The announcement of the transfer of the government to Rome has filled many Italians with the hope that the government will start working to recon struct the country, but in the meantime government officials have remained rather inactive.

Palmiro Togliatti, the leader of the Communist Party, spoke before a large and enthusiastic audience in Rome on Sunday. The speech was relayed through loud speakers in the square outside. The parger part of the speech was devoted to Italy's military contribution to the war effort. He declared in the name of the Communist party that he would do everything possible to avoid misunderstandings which might arise with the Allies. The whole speech was couched in the most friendly terms towards the Allies. He made an impassioned plea for Italy to be allowed to fight. He declared that he understood that by her declaration of war in 1940 Italy had alienated a great many people in England France and the Balkans. He believed that it was both in the military and political interests of the Allies that Italy should be allowed to increase her fighting contribution bec use the blood of British and American soldiers would be saved and because in this way the creation of a new democratic Italy would be ensured. He sent a special message to the Monarchist officers in the navy thanking them for the part they had played. He declared that all Italy should be welcomed in the common fight against the Germans. The speech has met with favourable response in many quarters although the Liberals and the Party of Action were reserved in their reactions. Some newspapers have criticised Togliatti's emphasis on the part played by the working classes in resistance; they feel that Italians of all classes have played an equally prominent part.

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

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Bonomi and the Italian government have welcomed the suggestion that the Armistice terms should be published. Many articles have appeared in the course of the week in favour of the publication of these terms. It appears however that the right wing is less anxious for these terms to be published. Naturally many rumours are circulating as to the content of these terms and no doubt some of them are inspired by Fascist agents.

An interesting article appeared on the armistice terms in the "Italia Libera" during the week. This was signed by Alberto Tarchiani. He raises the question of the juridical position of Italy. On the one hand Italy is a conquered country; on the other hand Italy is expected as a co-belligerent to contribute toward the common victory.

3771

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Although collaboration between Italian and Allied officers in Italy was on the whole good, he said, policy on the higher level had not changed. If a change could be brought about on that level then as a natural consequence collaboration would be even more complete and wholehearted. The juridical position of Italy is a problem which many Italians are conscious of and this article expresses the views of quite a number from different parties.

In conversation with a PWB officer, Mario Palermo, the Communist undersecretary of State for War, discussed the problem of the partisans. He explained that the Italian Government was deeply interested in the struggle being carried out by the partisans as they were providing Italy's most useful contribution to the war effort. He was preparing a project which would be submitted to his government for approval which would recognise the partisans as soldiers of the Italian army. It was important to give some official recognition on the part of the Italian Government to the partisans. In this project he had also put forward the proposal that an Italian general should be appointed to coordinate and direct all partisan activity. This General would, it appears, occupy something of the same position in relation to the Italian partisans that Gen. Koenig occupies in relation to the French resistance movement.

Palermo stressed the importance of the Italian government being responsible for the organization of resistance in occupied Italy both because this would enhance the moral prestige of the government and because the Italian government was more likely to know where arms should be dropped so that they would not fall into the hands of uncertain elements and thus pave the way for civil war when peace has been established. In particular he felt that Italy could best make her most effecting contribution to the Allied war effort by encouraging and developing the partisan movement. Many of these partisans, he hoped, would volunteer and enter the army thus creating the basis for a really modern popular efficient army.

In an interview with a PWB officer, Signor Spataro, undersecretary for Press and Information, was concerned as to when he would be allowed to take over the offices at the former ministry of Popular Culture in order that his department might have the facilities which would enable it to carry out seriously its tasks. He hoped that many of the handicaps under which the ministers had worked in Salerno, such as the lack of adequate offices, transportation and food, would be remedied now that they were in Rome. He explained that his department came under the direct control of Ponomi. He added that the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

serious dearth of news in some of the liberated provinces. In the Campobasso and Benevento areas, for example, little or nothing in the shape of allied or other printed publications reach the people. He was opposed to the republication of those papers, like the Messaggero, which had served fascist interests during the dictatorship and had discredited themselves in every sense. Referring to the radio, he said there was a widespread desire to hear more Italian commentators, men who could catch and please the public ear. He would like to see such men put to work immediately in Rome as they would meet a real need in radio programs. He proposed that electricity should be made available for at least one hour every evening so that the people could listen to the radio as throughout liberated Italy they were eager for news.

Like other ministers he was anxious that Italy should participate more actively in the war. He said that many Italians were distressed at the wholesale requisitioning by the Allies of Italian resources. He hoped that in the smaller centers where Italian motor vehicles and other reserves were scanty the present policy of wholesale requisitioning would be modified.

In an interview with PWB officers Signor Gronchi, minister of Industry and Commerce, declared that in southern Italy some 50 per cent of the electric power stations have been destroyed, while in Rome and north of Rome the figure is 70 per cent. He hoped that it would be possible to re-establish such industries as are necessary to the ecnonmic life of the country.

From reports received from Naples it appears that the government has not been very active during the last week, no doubt largely because it was about to leave for Rome. It is reported that even the epuration of positions in the public administration has come to a mysterious half. There has been no interest shown in the nomination of a new president to the Commission for Epuration, to fill the vacancy left by Omodeo.

In an interview with a PWB officer, the Socialist leader Oreste Lizzadri (formerly known by the pseudonym of Longobardi) said that he was very satisfied with the progress of the Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro of which he is joint General Secretary. In Lazio alone 23 syndicates had adhered to the Confederazione including the railway and tramway workers and a number of unions of professional workers, none of whom had ever previously belonged to any confederation. In the other provinces the Federterra with 130,000 members among agricultural workers, the elementary school teachers with 23,000 members,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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3770

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 782021

Referring to wages he was entirely pessimistic. Non-government workers i Rome, he said, had not received the full 70 per cent wage increase granted in other partsof the country. He did not think that such a risein wages would much improve the conditions of the workers. The only thing to be done for them under present conditions was to extend as far as possible the consumers cooperatives already started in other parts of the country and to found as many works and office canteens as possible. He believed that inflation could be checked if the allies permitted the launching of a loan by the Italian government. The loan, he said, should be 40 milliard Lire and should carry some such names as Prestito di Recostruzione. The only real hope for Italy after the war would come he felt from America. America could have no economic interest in helping Italy. The Chinese and South American markets were enough for her. On the other hand she would have a political interest from both the standpoint of internal and foreign politics. He said there were about 7 million Italian votes in America. Italy lay between a sphere of Russian influence stretching to the Balkan Adriatic coast and a sphere of American influence extending to France and Spain on the other side. Italy he said could become a barrier between the east and west. It was in America's interests that she should do so. Lizzadri did not want Italy to come under the Russian sphere of influence. He thought that a revolution in Italy now would be disastrous the country would break up and Sicily and Sardinia would declare their independence. On the other hand if he had to choose between Italy becoming a British colony or a Soviet republic, he would prefer the latter. England might consider it in her interest to keep Italy weak in the Mediterranean. He said that he could never have faith in a British conservative government. Anti-fascists like himself felt that British conservatives were partly responsible for the war. He had been appalled at the number of reactionary British officers he had met in Italy. On the other hand with a socialist government in power in England fruitful cooperation might be possible.

This suspicion of theBritish conservatives is frequently found among democratic elementsin Italy today. This week a rumor circulated to the effect that by the end of the year the Americans would withdraw completely from Italy so as to be able to concentrate on the Pacific. The rumor also stated that the Americans would draw out of the administration. Considerable alarm was felt in certain circles as a result of this rumor because on the whole democratic Italians have more faith in the objectivity and disinterested sympathy of Americans. They believe that the British are determined to avenge themselves for Fascist Italy's declaration of war in 1940, possibly bearing in mind

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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It is reported from Sardinia that there was a great interest in the possibility of a visit of the Sardinian leader, Emilio Lussu. It is also said that his popularity there is tremendous and that postcards with his photograph were recently sold in Sassari in aid of the patriots, an initiative that had a great success. Consequently his arrival in Sardinia early in July aroused great enthusiasm among

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

the populace and he was cheered in the streets of Cagliari and wherever he went there were demonstrations. He said that he would have liked to have been High Commissioner but that at the present moment he is helping and organizing patriot movements in occupied Italy.

It is also reported that Velio Spano, the Communist leader who was born in Sardinia, arrived there at the end of June and addressed meetings in Guspini, Carbonia, Iglesias, Oristano and Sassari. At Sassari General Garelli ordered the troops to be kept in barracks. A group representing thepolitical parties went to the commander of the garrison and asked for the order to be withdrawn but without result. Spano in his speech alluded to the absence of gray-green uniforms in the crowd and said that the refusal to allow members of the armed forces to take part in the political life of the country was a contravention of the orders of the government.

It is reported that members of the liberal party are trying to effect a fusion with the Demo-Liberals so that a strong center party may be formed. The Liberals would like to merge their party with the Delo-Christians into one single bloc but the Demo-Christians are opposed to this. It would appear that the Demo-Christian party is moving towards the left as they have agreed to have the single trade union in which only the Socialists, Communists and themselves are represented. Togliatti in his speech on Sunday in Rome went out of his way to flatter the sensibilities of the Catholics. He even stated that the Communists were prepared to discuss with the leaders of the Christian Democrat party the possibility of a pact of common action which would unite the communist and socialist forces and the Catholic masses in the struggle for the liberation of Italy and the democratic rebirth of the country.

Togliatti went on to declare thathe respected the Catholic faith which was the traditional faith of the majority of the Italian people and the only thing he asked the Catholics to do in return was to respect the faith, symbols and flags of the Communists. It is well known that in the Christian Democrat party there are two currents of opinion; one represents the landed proprietors and the upper clergy, and the other represents the peasants, workers and the paris priests. It is clear that Togliatti realizes the strength of this latter current and is doing all he can to attract the support of those Catholics for the formation of a bloc of the three popular parties, the Catholics, the Socialsts and the Communists. Presumably the three parties which attract intellectuals and the bourgeoisie, that is the Liberals, the Labor Democrats and the Action Party, would be excluded from this bloc. So far the official reaction on the part of the Democ-Christian daily newspaper in Rome has been reserved, even hostile to

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

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3769

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

In an interview with a PWB officer Giulio Rodino, the Catholic Leader in Naples, said that he was opposed to a fusion between the Demo-Christian and Liberal parties. He went on to say that he had no faith in the present government. He admires Badoglio and felt that Badoglio ought not to have retired. He himself had refused to enter the government because Bonomi was too much under Allied influence and cannot have any initiative. He did not resent Allied interference because as he pointed out Italy had lost the war and now the Allies were giving Italy her very means of existence.

In an interview with a PWB officer, Adolfo Omodeo, the former minister of Education and President of the Commission of Defascistization, spoke bitterly of his failures in both directions. He asserted that his educational project had been sabotaged by the Demo-Christians. He stated that De Ruggiero in abolishing his decrees had yielded to the most reactionary elements of the Demo-Christian party in Rome. It is reported that the students have greeted the new provisions made by De Ruggiero with satisfaction since in fact they practically constitute an abolition of examinations. On the other hand the more serious elementsin the people are reported to take a rather poor view of these measures because the studdnts had by this time reconciled themselves to the measures introduced by Omodeo and the schools are now being permitted to continue in the same old atmosphere of indolence and neglect.

In a conversation with a PWB officer, Nino Contino, former secretary to Omodeo, said that the Defascistization Commission under Omndeo's presidency had removed from 30 to 40 employees and suspended several hundred others. About 300 cases are pending. Contino said that this was a small fraction of what had been planned. He said that up to date most of the people removed or suspended had been employed in the lower grades. "The higher-ups" have too many protectors, he added.

Tito Zaniboni, the high commissioner for Refugees, described in an interview his work of relieving the sufferings of refugees which on the whole is proceeding smoothly. There is also a report from an Italian officer of conditions in the Allied camp at Cesano for refugees. The latter are treated well and in a good state of morale.

In a report from a right wing source in touch with Italian naval sources at Bari we learn that there is much discontent with the republican tendencies of the government. Many Italian naval officers are reported to regret the resignation of Badoglio.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789521

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According to a student the average weekly expenditure for a family of 5 in Rome at the present time is as follows:

Working class family	1200 lire
Family of clark	1400 - 1600 lire
Shopkeeper's family	4500 - 5000 lire
Well-to-do family	13000 - 15000 lire

Reactions have been received to BBC and Allied badios. One comment on BBC states that the Allies should accustom themselves not to talk about Fascism because polemics on fascism are useless. Some people have pointed out that the Germans lose about 5 minutes at the beginning of programs in fixing their jammers on the station, but

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

that these first minutes are used by the Allies to announce station wavelengths and hours of broadcasting which everyone already knows. This is a mistake because those five minutes are the best in which to listen. It is reported that people in Rome listen less to the radio now than they did during the German occupation and show less interest in the programs they can listen to openly than they did in those they were forced to listen to secretly. This being understood, one report says that people are generally satisfied with Rome Radio broadcasts. They like the musical introductions and news from the front. One person thought that news from the Italian front should have precedence over the rest because this is the station broadcasting in Italy. Many people are asking if it would be possible to establish here a service of commentators including the names most in the fore in present day political life as is done in the United States and in England. This would greatly benefit the formation of the political conscience of young people. Another report says that the reaction of the people to the Allied system of propaganda was one of wonder and admiration -- wonder at the extent of the means employed by the Allied thinking machine as well as their war production, admiration for the mediums employed. Reactions to publications are also included. Another report about Radio Rome says that after the first few days when Romans welcomed the possibility to listen to a friendly radio, they now find that the radio is dull and that during the few hours it is possible to listen in, owing to the shortage of electricity, people try to listen to BBC. Italia Combatte is however praised by all. It is reported that no one listens to Naples or Bari. It is also reported that many people still try to listen to the fascist radio stations.

In a conversation Mario Vinciguerra, the distinguished anti-fascist, told the interviewer that the only sphere in which co-belligerency was fully practised was in the field of the press. He had wholehearted praise for the Allied policy of handling the press. As for public opinion, several reports criticise the inactivity of the government. A PWB collaborator reports from Salerno an increase in public comments referring to the English as people who eat five meals. It is also reported that Churchill's speech on the flying bombs had made a strong impression on the Italian people; particularly in view of the fact that England is still subject to danger after so many

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Italian Theatre Headquarters
Unit No 12 APO 512

Central "D" Secti n, Liberated Italy July 15th, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY

Part II - Annexes

Contnets.

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with Mario Palermo	1
2	Conversation with the Minister of Industry	2
3	Interview with Spataro	4
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
4	Lussu in Sardinia	7
5	Spano in Sardinia	7
5a	Omodeo on the Action Party	8
	ARMED FORCES	
6	Military displays at Sassari	9
7	Repercussions on the Italian Navy of internal political events	9
8	The Italian Navy and the Allies	10
9	A Carabinieri officer on trial in Calabria	11
10	Interview with General Odone	12
	LABOUR	
11	Interview with Lizzadri	13
	RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY

Part II - Annexes

Contnets.

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with Mario Palermo	1
2	Conversation with the Minister of Industry	2
3	Interview with Spataro	4
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
4	Lussu in Sardinia	7
5	Spano in Sardinia	7
5a	Omodeo on the Action Party	8
	ARMED FORCES	
6	Military displays at Sassari	9
7	Repercussions on the Italian Navy of internal political events	9
8	The Italian Navy and the Allies	10
9	A Carabinieri officer on trial in Calabria	11
10	Interview with General Odone	12
	LABOUR	
11	Interview with Lizzadri	13
	RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION	
12	Interview with Tito Zaniboni	16
13	Refugee camp at Casano	17
14	War Damage near Rome	17
	HEALTH	
15	Demand for a Minister of Health	

3767

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

SECRET

Contents page 2

PRESS

16	The Press in Rome	19
17	General Garibaldi protests	20
18	Interview with Scl afabi	20

EPURATION

18a	Interview with Omodeo	22
19	Commission on Defascistisation	22

ECONOMICS

20	Statements of the cost of living	23
21	Cost of living for various Social classes	23
22	Black Market prices in Rome	23
23	Clothing prices in Rome	24
24	Black Market prices in Naples	24
25	Grain potatoes and oil	24
26	Transfer of current accounts in Naples banks	25
27	Granai del Popolo" in Calabria	25

Appendix I Recently Liberated areas
Appendix II Public Opinion
Appendix III Reactions to Propaganda

Explanation of Reliability Rating.

Source Reliability		Report probability	
A	Always Reliable	1	Confirmed
B	Usually reliable	2	probable
C	Sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	Usually Unreliable	4	doubtful
#	A bad source	5	improbable
0	Not possible to judge	0	Not possible to judge

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

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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No 26

Part II Annexes

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

In conversation with a PWB officer Mario Palermo, the Communist Under-Secretary of State for War, talked at length of the problem of the partisans. He said that he had been asked by his government to prepare a project for the solution of this problem. The project would be presented to the Cabbinet at its first meeting in Rome on Saturday. If the government approves the plan will be submitted to the Allies.

The project might be summarised as follows: the government would publicly recognise as soldiers of the Italian army all Italians fighting the Germans and Fascists in Occupied Italy. The government would appoint a general who would direct and co-ordinate the military efforts of the partisans from this side, He would of course have to be an efficient honest general, capable of inspiring confidence among the partisans. He would naturally be in close contact with the military leadors of resistance movements in occupied Italy. This general would be flanked by a political leader whose function would be to interest himself in the political aspects of the partisan movement and, in particular, to maintain liaison with his opposite numbers in occupied Italy. Under these two heads there would be a branch of military intelligence which would collect all material connected with the partisan movement, and a propaganda section. The latter would be responsible for collecting material useful for propaganda to the partisans. It would also collect material useful for propaganda in liberated Italy, so as to increase the interest among Italians in this part of Italy in the war, and particularly in the heroic struggle carried out by Italians in Occupied Italy.

The Italian government was, Palermo said, most anxious to increase Italy's contribution to the war effort, and there was no doubt that the most effective contribution so far carried out on land was being given by the Partisans in Occupied Italy. He felt therefore that it was the duty of the Italian government directly to encourage in every way possible Italian resistance in Central and Northern Italy. He was passionately interested in the resistance movement, and felt that this movement should be sponsored by the Italian government. He hoped the Allies would allow the Italian government to take a direct interest in the movement of resistance, though naturally the final control would rest with the Allies. Although he was a Communist, he did not look at this problem from a party point of view, but from a national point of view. He believed that at this moment everything should be subordinated to winning the war, and therefore those monarchists who were sincere

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

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He believed that the Italian government should be responsible for organising and directing the partisan movement in co-operation with the Allies. He.

3766

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

believed that when territory was liberated the partisans should be given the opportunity of volunteering to fight immediately against the Germans. He himself was ashamed of the small contribution given by Italy to the common fight against the Germans. The Allies had declared that Italy must redeem her past by her contribution to the common war effort. He agreed with this, as only in this way would the Allies be able to judge the good faith of the Italians. But the Italians needed arms in order to fight. Wherever he travelled he was besieged by requests from Italians anxious to fight, but in view of the restrictions placed by the Allies on the number of Italians permitted to be at the front it was impossible to satisfy these requests. It was sad to watch the enthusiasm of these volunteers being dampened. It was particularly sad to see the disillusion coming over the partisans who had actually fought and whose only desire was to continue the fight. If only the Allies would agree to provide a small quantity of arms, then a brigade or a division of volunteers could be formed. Gradually more and more of the partisans could be incorporated into the army and a really popular - even if small - army c created.

He felt also that the Italian government should be consulted as to how, when and where arms should be dropped in occupied Italy: otherwise there was a danger of civil war after the peace because many dangerous elements might come into possession of arms. The Italian government did not know where the arms were being dropped, and it was essential to avoid the possibility of civil war later.

There was little time to lose. The war appeared to be drawing to a close. Italy's contribution must therefore be intensified during the next few weeks. And it was through the partisans that Italy could most effectively aid the Allies.

Palermo talked with great enthusiasm about the partisans. He gave the impression that he was really anxious to improve the existing Italian army by introducing partisan elements and at the same time see that their fight had not been in vain.

He also expressed his desire to visit the Italian troops fighting in Yugoslavia on the side of Tito's army. He had received discouraging reports as to the relations between the Italian soldiers and the Yugoslavs. He had received an invitation from the Yugoslav Committee in Bari, and he hoped it would be possible for him to go there; as he believed his visit might do something for the morale of the Italian troops there. He was not afraid of the risks involved.

Palermo said he was returning to the South but hoped to be back in Rome towards the end of the week, when he would start work at the war ministry.

2. Conversation with the Minister of Industry.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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2. Conversation with the Minister of Industry.

Two PWB officers who met the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Signor Gronchi, at Vietri, were much impressed by his calm and striking personality and by his clear exposition of the problems of his department. Although he is a politician and one of the leaders of the Christian Democrat party, he seems to be entirely free from political bias and to have every intention to do constructive work.

His first task, he stated, was to assess the destruction brought about by the war on Italian industry, and to make an inventory of the means of production still in existence. He is trying to envisage the problem of reconstruction as a whole and not in detail, so as to coordinate all the work that has to be done.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

The fundamental problem was the production of electricity, since without it the civilian population must suffer and factories cannot function.

In Southern Italy some 80% of the electrical power stations have been destroyed, while in Rome and North of Rome the figure is 70%.

The reconstruction of these stations would be slow and costly.

Speaking of industry in general, Gronchi said he had appealed for the help of all the leaders concerned, so as to deal with individual problems by co-ordination, but of course every care would be taken to foster war production for the benefit of the Allies.

Whilst criticising the ACC, Gronchi expressed the hope that there should be closer collaboration in order to solve many problems. Frequently the Commission had, in the past, been forced to deal with individual cases without reference to his department.

At the present moment there are two points of view concerning the controlled price of bread. The price of 5 lire per kilo entails a government subsidy at a time when the national budget is strained, but is considered to be a precaution against inflation and the consequent rise in salaries.

He thought, however, that a control led price of 12 lire might cover production costs and at the same time would not materially affect the cost of living, since the price of other commodities had risen considerably more. For instance, with the recent increases many families were paying more for their gas than for their rent.

The Minister believes that a closer collaboration with the ACC might be feasible in the future. In the past the more important industrialists had found it necessary to deal directly with the ACC. Now, a closer collaboration with the Allies and the Minister would probably lead to better coordination of Italian production, and thus favour reconstruction. Quoting one specific case, he said that the Montecatini group sent a delegate to represent their particular production. This delegate had dealt directly with the ACC, without taking into consideration the needs of Italian industry as a whole.

Another hindrance to Italian production was the inevitable requisitioning of factories by the allies. This frequently meant that both plant and workers had to be transferred to other premises.

Wherever the circumstances permit, he hopes that it will be possible to re-establish such industries as are necessary to the economic life of the country. He also believes that in some cases production under Italian control would be more satisfactory and more economical, even where factories are engaged on

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795021

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In Southern Italy, he pointed out, all the basic industries are connected with agriculture: as for instance, fertilisers, olive oil and olive by-products.

Italian Industries, through the I R I (Industrie Riunite Italiane) come under the control of his department, but their capital is held by the State and administered by the Minister of Finance.

3765

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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3 Interview with Spataro

When visited by a PWB officer on July 11th at the Headquarters of the Christian Democrat Party in Rome, Signor Spataro, Under-Secretary for Press and Information, was found to be deeply concerned as to when he would be allowed to take over offices at the former Ministry of Popular Culture building, in order that his Department might have the facilities which would enable it to attack seriously its tasks. During the period they have spent at Salerno, the activities of all the Ministers and Under-Secretaries have been greatly handicapped by the difficulty of finding reasonably comfortable quarters, sufficient food and adequate transport. They could not settle down to work. Now they are in Rome they have, consequently, much leeway to make up. Spataro fully appreciates the necessity of certain security measures suggested by the Allies, but feels that at this stage, they should not be allowed to delay an immediate resumption of the activities of this department in its natural quarters.

Asked as to why no Minister was appointed to the head of his Department, Spataro first emphasised that it was under the direct control of Bonomi. He added that in any case an Under-Secretary is sufficient to deal with the present volume of work.

One of his first acts at Salerno had been to send a circular to the Prefects, containing instructions as to the treatment of the Italian Press. In this particular connection he wished to eradicate any traces that might still remain of that rigid attitude typical of the Fascist mentality. Meanwhile a draft bill concerning the Press was in preparation, and in its compilation the advice of leading members of the Italian Press Federation had been sought. By agreement with PWB there would be a censorship of political matters, but no particular procedure to govern books dealing with non-political and technical subjects. It has also been established that there should be no preventive political censorship, though this did not apply to military censorship.

Another urgent problem now being tackled by Spataro is the elimination from the Italian Press of those men who could justifiably be regarded as Fascists. Writers who had consistently adopted an anti-Allied attitude would be banned, but men who had seen the evil of their ways in good time and had turned against the Fascist regime and its accomplices would have their position carefully considered. The Press purge committee will be composed of journalists and, in fact, the Italian Press Federation has already nominated three journalists who had suffered under the Fascist regime. The Committee would be meeting very soon.

Spataro next spoke of the newsprint shortage. Much could be done to meet this by overhauling the paper-making facilities which existed in liberated Italy. He intended to have the various paper mills inspected and reorganised, as the Italians wished to relieve the Allies, as far as possible, of the burden of supplying them with paper.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Turning to the question of newspapers in general, Spataro pointed first to what he termed the "difficult situation" existing in Naples where there was only one daily, and that an official organ. This could not hope to deal with all problems "many of which can only be treated by writers who have no official connections."

Another problem was the granting of permits to the various political parties and currents to publish newspapers. It was, perhaps, only natural that all should claim equal treatment in this respect. Spataro intends to tackle this question too, and he hopes the difficulties connected with it can be overcome.

He then referred to the serious dearth of news in some of the liberated provinces. In the Campobasso and Benevento areas, for example

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

little or nothing in the shape of Allied or other printed publications reach the people, who are hungry for information on current events and developments.

Spataro then touched on the thorny problem of the reappearance of the leading dailies which were suspended when the Allies arrived. The view is widely held, he claims, that these big organs should not be allowed to resume publication under their former names which should be eliminated in every particular. The Committee of National Liberation itself had passed a resolution to this effect. For instance the reappearance of the "Messaggero" under a new title such as the "Nuovo Messaggero" would be bound to arouse a storm of criticism. The general feeling was that any publication which, willingly or unwillingly, had served Fascist interests during the dictatorship, had discredited itself in every sense. This point of view had received wide acceptance, and one man who wished to restart the Rome "Tribuna" was quite willing to change this paper's name. In short, the question was a moral one, and morality was needed above all in the fight, which was bound to develop, against big business interests. Spataro himself feels that where, in these matters, influence is being brought to bear in a sense which runs counter to the public wish, the pressure exerted must be very strong indeed and be coupled, he hinted, with attractive inducements.

The question of an official Italian news agency, to replace Stefani will also be examined soon. At least five people, Spataro stated, have expressed a wish to start a news agency. Before any official decision is reached the most careful investigation will be necessary.

Dealing with radio, Spataro said there was a widespread desire to hear more Italian commentators, -- men who could catch and please the public ear. He would like to see such men put to work immediately in Rome, as they would meet a real need in radio programmes. As to the shortage of electric current, Spataro emphasised the vital necessity of ensuring that what current was available should be distributed during the evening hours, when radio listening reached its peak. The public throughout liberated Italy was eager for news and the aim during the present difficult period, should be to provide electric current for all for at least an hour every evening.

In another sphere, that of the cinema and theatre, Spataro wishes to see dismantled without undue delay the cumbersome superstructure which under the Fascist regime had throttled these particular activities. One example was the Luce Institute. There existed, in fact, too many useless organisms (enti) and they should be eliminated.

I [illegible] tr

Questioned as to his opinion of Don Sturzo's declarations on the

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

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Questioned as to his opinion of Don Sturzo's declarations on the Italian situation, which appeared in Il Popolo of July6th, 1944, Spataro was obviously hesitant to comment on the views of his old chief, and would not go beyond remarking that Don Sturzo was, for one thing, today living at rather a long distance from the Italian scene.

3764

The scope of his interview satisfied, the PWB officer asked Spataro whether he had any other particular views he would like to make known. Spataro immediately turned to the subject of a greater Italian military participation in the war. This topic, it may be remarked, crops up so frequently in conversation with eminent Italians that one is led to conjecture that a tacit, if not official understanding, has been reached among them to din it into Allied ears at every opportunity. Spataro urged that to take a greater share in the actual fighting was a need which the Italians really felt. The majority of the people, he insisted, experienced a

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

a sense of humiliation because their troops were not being allowed to take up arms against the Germans on a much larger scale than at present. Sufficient officers and men, all well trained and imbued with a sincere spirit of patriotism, were available to form at least ten to twelve divisions. The Alpini, for instance, would be quite as successful in mountain warfare as the French Goums, and probably more so. Allied propaganda, Spataro recalled, had always emphasised that the Italians must first show that they were ready to fight the Nazi-Fascist oppressors and then prove their sincerity by deeds. The Italians had been awaiting an opportunity of accepting the offer that had always been held out to them, and yet the Allies continued to evade the issue.

Another sore point was the wholesale requisitioning by the Allies of Italian resources. To take the case of motor vehicles, was this really necessary in view of the wealth of their own material at the service of the Allies? At least in the smaller centres, where Italian motor vehicles and other reserves are scanty, the present policy of wholesale requisitioning should be modified.

Again, comment and uneasiness were being created by the presence of such large numbers of Allied troops in every corner of liberated Italy. Such forces, it was popularly considered, were out of all proportion to the size of the Italian battlefront. Why, it was being asked, were they there? Was their presence linked with a policy unconnected with the actual fighting?"

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

4 Lussu in Sardinia

A Sardinian collaborator from Sassari reports that members of the Sard Party of Action, at the end of June, were wondering why they had not yet received a message from their old leader, Lussu. Many Sardinians were expecting that, after his years of political experience, Lussu would have abandoned the old regional struggle. This appeared to be confirmed by his speech at Rome commemorating Matteotti. This collaborator hopes that, in view of his immense popularity on the island, Lussu may be able to bring about a fusion between the two parties of Action.

Lussu's popularity is illustrated by the fact that postcards with his photograph have recently been sold in Sassari in aid of the patriots. This initiative has had a great success.

His arrival in Sardinia early in July aroused the greatest enthusiasm among the population. He was cheered in the streets of Cagliari and wherever he went there were demonstrations. His broadcast, however was unfortunately inaudible.

Lussu was told that he was free to hold meetings whenever he liked, subject to the approval of the Italian High Commissioner, General Pinna. Lussu thought that Pinna, in spite of his Fascist past, would not hinder him, as the two men are old friends and both of them Sardinians.

A fellow passenger who was with him in the aeroplane was moved by Lussu's emotion when he saw his native island for the first time after 18 years of exile. Lussu said that he would have liked to have been High Commissioner, but that at the present moment he is helping and organising patriot movements in Occupied Italy. He added that he had refused to accept office in the Government because he did not want to be dictated to.

Lussu refused to accept police protection, stating that he had faced the Fascists alone under Mussolini and was certainly not afraid of reactionaries now.

All the mural inscriptions of welcome had been deleted by unknown hands prior to his arrival

5 Spano in Sardinia.

Velio Spano (Paolo Tedeschi) the Communist leader, who was also born in Sardinia, arrived there the week before Lussu. He addressed meetings at Guspini (his birthplace), Carbonia, Iglesias, Oristano and Sassari.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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His arrival in Sardinia early in July aroused the greatest enthusiasm among the population. He was cheered in the streets of Cagliari and wherever he went there were demonstrations. His broadcast, however was unfortunately inaudible.

Lussu was told that he was free to hold meetings whenever he liked, subject to the approval of the Italian High Commissioner, General Pinna. Lussu thought that Pinna, in spite of his Fascist past, would not hinder him, as the two men are old friends and both of them Sardinians.

A fellow passenger who was with him in the aeroplane was moved by Lussu's emotion when he saw his native island for the first time after 18 years of exile. Lussu said that he would have liked to have been High Commissioner, but that at the present moment he is helping and organising patriot movements in Occupied Italy. He added that he had refused to accept office in the Government because he did not want to be dictated to.

Lussu refused to accept police protection, stating that he had faced the Fascists alone under Mussolini and was certainly not afradd of reactionaries now.

All the mural inscriptions of welcome had been deleted by unknown hands prior to his arrival

5 Spano in Sardinia.

Velio Spano (Paolo Tedeschi) the Communist leader, who was also born in Sardinia, arrived there the week before Lussu. He addressed meetings at Guspini (his birthplace), Carbonia, Iglesias, Oristano and Sassari.

At Carbonia he spoke particularly to the miners, telling them that the oppression of the men who had risen through Fascism must cease. At Iglesias the crowd of about 5000 included a large number of Italian troops, but at Sassari General Garelli ordered the troops to be kept in barracks. A group representing the political parties went to the command of the garrison to ask for the order to be withdrawn, but without result. Spano in his speech alluded to the absence of grey-green uniforms in the crowd, saying that the refusal to allow members of the armed forces to take part in the political life of the country was a contravention of the orders of the government. There were still reactionary currents in the public administration. All this must end. The people must re-discover their political consciousness destroyed by Fascist tyranny.

2563

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

In his speech Spano developed the following points:

i) Fascism has presented the Communists as enemies of the country; actually they had only been enemies of the policy of autarchia, of imperialistic adventures, of cultural degradation and above all of demagogy directed at perverting the younger generations. Communism is not an enemy of the nation, because the conception of a nation is not static, but is integrated with the interests and life of the people.

ii) The Communists, in common with the other anti-Fascist parties, were wrong in that they allowed the rise of Fascism. It is for the new generation to reconstruct Italy. They must act in unity, otherwise they would fail again.

iii) Fascism must be destroyed, particularly because it was necessary to restore the faith of the Allies in Italy's word; secondly for international reasons, so that the principles of the Atlantic Charter could be applied; thirdly for reasons of internal politics. The people must see that the generals and leaders who had collaborated with Mussolini were changed. (Here there were hostile shouts against the generals and the Prefect of Sassari.)

iv) Everyone must collaborate to instal a sound and progressive democratic regime. Italy must not forget that she is a great people. Spano said that it had been painful for him to hear at Catania the statement that, in the present crisis, the only hope lay in Anglo-American protection. The Italian people must be able to look after itself.

v) Communism is not an enemy of religion and, as a democratic movement, it respects freedom of worship and is fully aware of the importance of the Catholic faith in the heart of Italians.

The Syndaco of Sassari, a Liberal, led the applause which followed the speech.

Comdec on the Action Party.

Speaking of the Party of Action, Comdec told a PWB officer that membership was constituted of widely different political elements. Since the capture of Rome the radical element has dominated the party. The leaders of this left wing are Lussu and Bauer. La Malfa and Folcollo are slightly more conservative. Comdec did not mention Cianca or Sforza.

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

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In conversation with a P.W.B. officer, Avv. Nino Contini, Omodeo's secretary, said that the former Minister was now very depressed over the fact that a great majority of his followers now favour Cianca. The cause of the conflict is the fact that when Omodeo joined the Government the headquarters of his party were in German-occupied Rome. Lussu sent a message to Omodeo prohibiting him from joining the Badoglio Government. Omodeo never received his order.

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

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ARMED FORCES

6 Military displays at Sassari (Sardinia)

On the occasion of the annual celebrations of the 40th Arty Regt, the Regt Commander, General Bosselli, spoke to the troops at Sassari, exalting the traditions of the Italian artillerymen, which he declared were indissolubly linked with the House of Savoy.

An Italian collaborator with PWB in Sardinia reports that on subsequent occasion General Bosselli spoke the men under his command at greater length and in the same vein. He likened the conditions of the Italian army today to those that existed in the darkest periods of his countries history, stating that then as now the fate of Italy was in the hands of the army under the orders of the Royal House of Savoy. The army, he said, represented the aristocracy of the nation. The general is reported to have said textually:- "We are proud of what we have done, and we are utterly indifferent to everything that today is written or spoken, outside the barracks, about the Italian officer. Our plighted word to the monarchy remains the guiding principle of our life, and only this fidelity can insure the revival of our land. Only when he into whose hands we have placed our sworn allegiance tells us that he has no further need of our service can we feel released from our oath." The general concluded by saying that he spoke not as a politician, and that this constituted his greatest pride.

Our Italian reporter emphasises that in the course of his speech Boselli made no reference to either the Allies or th the Italian patriots behing the lines. The tenor of his speech appears to be aimed at identifying the army with the House of Savoy, in contrast with the frequently declared intentions of the Italian government, and with the statements of individual ministers such as Togliatti, in his speech of 9th July 1944, which appealed for an army of National Unity, combining all the forces and tendencies that intend to expell the Germans from Italy.

According to our information General Boselli's speech provoked little interest at Sassari among the general population, especially as it added nothing to the already well-known opinions of military circles there.

ARMED FORCES (NAVY)

7 Repercussions on the Italian Navy of internal political events.

The following report was supplied to PWB by a right-wing source in touch with the Italian naval circles at Bari. It contains criticism of the new ministry which it considers to prone to assume

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787021

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ALLIED FORCES (NAVY)

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Repercussions on the Italian Navy of internal political events.

The following report was supplied to PWB by a right-wing source in touch with the Italian naval circles at Bari. It contains criticism of the new ministry which it considers to prone to assume the prerogatives of the crown. It is felt by these elements in the Navy that the crown represents a security against some new dictatorial regime, which they fear would be more dangerous than the previous one.

3762

The present psychological state of the Italian Navy can be characterised as one of continued disillusion. At the Armistice the Admirals and their staffs, crews and officers, abandoned their families and obedient to the King's orders sailed their vessels to Allied ports. The presence of the king removed any doubts about staining their honour, that previously had troubled the conscience of many officers and men.

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The subsequent position taken up by the parties, and especially at the time of the Bari congress, caused much anger in the navy, but the continued presence of Badoglio in the government and the firm intentions of the king were interpreted as a guarantee that the principles for which the fleet had obeyed orders would not be cast aside for reasons of political agitation.

Besides the above two considerations two other questions arose out of the blue, one that of the Italian war ships, the other the propaganda by Jugoslav partisans, tending to disrupt the work of the navy. The first question was overcome, at least in part, to the general satisfaction of all. In part only, because it was hoped that Italian war ships would sail with Italian crews to fight alongside the United Nations for the end. Many still hope that patience will be realised and that instead of gradually withering away in Allied ports Italian ships will be assigned an active part.

Jugoslav partisan propaganda has however increased without the Italian authorities being able to do anything about it. Senior Italian officers cannot understand the Allies' attitude in this connection. They consider that if the partisans limited their propaganda to words alone they would not be so dangerous, but it appears that they threaten reprisals against the individual ratings family. The effect on the common sailor may be imagined. Junior officers criticise their superiors for not taking up the matter with the Allies, and so stopping partisan propaganda once and for all. The ratings openly vow vengeance on the partisans.

Things were at this point when the King withdrew and the Bonomi government, without Badoglio was formed. Naval circles spoke about a coup d'etat by the political parties. The news of the form of oath to be sworn to the Lieutenant General added fuel to the fire.

Comments of superior officers, junior officers, NCO's and ratings may be summed up as follows:- We have risked our lives and our honour to obey the king's orders. Those who have forced the king to retire have insulted our honour, and have forgotten that were it not for the navy they would still be in exile or in prison. If they get rid of the monarchy at this moment then they dishonour us, and the only thing for us to do would be to resign. So far we have always obeyed the king and we will continue to obey him alone.

Many elements in the navy declare that they will not assist passively at the creation of a new dictatorship, and brand the politicians as the new fascists.

Until all Italy is liberated and the entire people can express its opinion on the institutional question the navy would prefer to see a strong, indeed military government, capable of controlling the internal situation, of preventing Jugoslav propaganda among

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Until all Italy is liberated and the entire people can express its opinion on the institutional question the navy would prefer to see a strong, indeed military government, capable of controlling the internal situation, of preventing Jugoslav propaganda among the members of the navy, and finally a government that would be able to settle the other urgent problems with the Allies.

5

The Italian Navy and the Allies.

It is reported from Naples (C-2) that elements of the Regia Marina are engaged in anti-Allied propaganda, especially members of the Naval command. Unlike the Italian army, the Regia Marina has not yet been touched by "epuration."

A current rumour is of the antagonism between the Minister, Admiral De Courten and Admiral Fioravanti, under whose command the Italian war ships sailed from La Spezia to Malta. Many sailors are

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said to be protesting against this state of affairs in letters to the Avanti and the Bandiera Rossa. There are also reports of clashes between Italian and British sailors.

Another source of information (B-2) reports that recently a fight took place between French sailors and Italian civilians, when the Frenchmen tore off the communist badges that the civilians displayed on their jackets. According tothis report the fight lasted for half an hour before the military police managed to break it up. It appears that the public was favourably impressed by the impartiality of the military police, who after enquiries arrested several of the French sailors.

The same source reports an incident on the 5th of July between Italian sailors and half drunken American sailors. The American sailors finished in the sea.

9 A carabinieri officer on trial in Calabria.

A trial that has been awaited with interest throughout the provinces of Reggio Calabria and Catanzaro was held at the latter city before a military tribunal, on the 27th June 1944. The accused officer was Captain Arturo Dominici, of the Royal Carabinieri, commanding officer of the carabinieri company at Reggio Calabria.

Dominici is a Palermitan by birth, a man of 28, well known throughout Calabria and according to all reports much sought after in the salons of Reggio and Catanzaro.

The charges against Captain Dominici were threefold; one, that he had appropriated to his personnel use 14 shot guns of the best make, from those weapons turned over to the police by orders of the Allied Military Government; two, with the theft of an automatic belonging to the American army, and three, that he had made a false statement in public by tampering with the record of the fire arms handed in by the public, so as to hide his own appropriation of some of these fire arms.

Dominici was defended by two barristers of the Catanzaro court, the Hon. Alessandro Turco, dean of the bar of Catanzaro, and Avvocato Casalinuovo, instructor in criminal law at the university of Rome. The public prosecutor requested the affirmation of the criminal responsibility of the accused and for all three charges and after two days lively debate demanded a sentence of seven years and two months imprisonment and a fine of 4,000 lire. The defense pleaded for exoneration.

The tribunal acquitted the accused of the charges of false

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

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The tribunal acquitted the accused of the charges of false statement and theft, but held him guilty of appropriating fire arms to his own use and of disobeying the orders of the Allied Military Government, and accordingly condemned him to two years and four months imprisonment, though allowing him the benefit of postponement of the sentence and ordering his immediate removal from the prison. 3761

The Military Prosecutor requested that the case be brought before the Supreme Military Court because of two violations of the law; one, the alleviation of a sentence because of a good military record, allowed by the ordinary penal code; two, the concession of postponement of the execution of sentence, forbidden by recent proclamation.

The people are said to contrast unfavourably the lightness of the sentence with the severity generally meted out to peasants.

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SECRET

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10 Interview with General Odone - 6-7-44

A PWB officer talked to General Odone who was Chief of Staff to General Bencivenga after the latter's appointment as military head of the resistance movements in Rome. In fact, while Bencivenga remained immured in the Lateran, maintaining contact exclusively with the dissident political groups, Odone went about Rome organising the resistance of the Committee of Liberation patriots and the groups who were drawn directly from the Carabinieri or the Army. Odone revealed that he never got on very well with General Bencivenga and spoke of him as a man who had outlived his usefulness.

General Odone himself was arrested on the Monday preceding the Allied entry into Rome. He was taken to Via Tasso and kept there in custody. They could hear the battle raging on the Alban hills and there was an intense feeling of expectancy amongst the prisoners in the cells. On the night of Friday-Saturday a large contingent of these were taken away in lorries to the north. The following evening two other groups were under orders for departure the political prisoners including Bruno Buozzi (who were taken away during the night and were all butchered the following day near the Via Cassia, some 10 kilometres from Rome) and a group of officers and others who had been active in the resistance movement. At seven on the Saturday evening these were all collected together ready to leave. But the lorry which was to have carried them off arrived at Via Tasso two hours late, without enough petrol and with some mechanical defect which had to be mended. The prisoners were therefore returned to their cells and General Odone, who speaks a little German, understood from various casual remarks of the guards that they were going to be taken out of town as soon as possible and be liquidated. He therefore counselled his cell-mates to try to get a few hours sleep so as to be ready for any chance of a break-way which might present itself during their journey. During the night the battle came nearer and nearer and a number of the SS staff of Via Tasso cleared off. The repairs to the lorry were not executed. In the early morning there was a great shouting in the street outside. It was the women from the surrounding houses crying out "Go to yourselves, save yourselves. There are only a few guards left." The prisoners were in a state of frantic excitement. In one of the cells they managed to break down their door. They immediately opened up the other cells and the whole lot, including some women prisoners, began to troop down the narrow stairs of the building. There coming up to stop them were a couple of SS guards

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

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The General pointed out that it was a pity that the great ferment of enthusiasm and patriotic fervor which undoubtedly existed in Rome in those early days of liberation could not have been harnessed by the Allies and made use of. It was now being replaced in many hearts by a great disillusion and a sense of hopelessness. He expressed the greatest desire that the Allied Command would somehow find a way to let these young patriots fight.

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

LABOUR

11 Interview with Lizzadri

In an interview with a PWB officer on July 12, 1944 the Socialist leader Oreste Lizzadri (formerly known by the pseudonym of Longobardi) said that he was very satisfied with the progress of the Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro, of which he is joint General Secretary, with Achille Grandi, (Christian Democrat) and Di Vittorio (Communist). In Lazio alone twenty three syndicates had adhered to the Confederation, including the railway and tramway workers, and a number of unions of professional workers, none of which had previously belonged to any Confederation. In the other provinces the Federterra, with 130,000 members among agricultural workers, the elementary school teachers with 25,000 members, the Postal Telegraph Workers Syndicate - to quote only a few examples - had given adhesion. All the Camere di Lavoro of Sicily, Sardinia and Calabria had joined. In Campania the Camera di Lavoro of Torre Annunziata (a commune which had been one of the first six in Italy to elect a Socialist deputy), of Castellammare di Stabia (where there are ship-building works), of Gragnano, Portici Torre del Greco and Santa Maria Capua Vetari, had adhered. Only in Naples itself was there still some opposition. He could confidently say that by the end of July this would be overcome.

Lizzadri dismissed Dino Gentili as a man who represents nothing but himself. In Naples he (Lizzadri) could have been Secretary of the CCL, but this would have meant accepting Gentili as Vice-Secretary.

Lizzadri felt that Italy had suffered too much from the lack of a united labour front to accept anything but the "Sindacato Unico" He foresaw for Italy a degree of syndical unity which would not only be unprecedented in the country itself, but would set an example for the whole of Europe.

Speaking of party control ofthe CGIL , Lizzadri pointed out that the former Confederations included 6,500,000 agricultural workers, 3,300,000 industrial workers and 600,000 commercial workers. In addition there were workers belonging to syndicates which had adhered to no Confederation - for example railway workers bringing the total to over 14,000,000 workers of whom a very high proportion would belong to the present three left parties. In the FIOM in Turin for example, (metal workers union) 97 percent were either Socialists or Communists. Against this could be set perhaps 50,000 "professionisti" (professional men) of whom say 10,000 might belong to one particular party, such as the Party of Action. Such a small minority could not expect direct representation on a directive council. Elections throughout the syndical structure

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The Confederation and the syndicates adhering to it, were being built up from below. The system would be for the workers in one concern - say a bank - to elect a representative, who would get into contact with representatives of other bank employees, and a syndicate or union would be formed. In large concerns, such as the Poligrafico dello Stato, the "Commissioni interni" or factory committees were formed first. Each group or section - usually about twenty workers - would elect three representatives. These commissions would then elect a Committee usually of about four members to represent the whole concern. The members of the small Commissioni Interni themselves did not have much to do with the

3760

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

political side of labour questions. They would act as shop stewards supervising the welfare of the workers in their section.

Lizzadri admitted that the interests of one of the three parties and the interests of the confederation might, he would not say conflict - since the three parties involved were all parties representing the working class - but not exactly coincide. In this case he and his fellow secretaries would act in the interests of the Confederation which, after all, when the workers families as well as the workers were taken into account, would represent very nearly the whole population of the country. A party, even a partito di massa, could only represent a proportion of the population. He and the other secretaries had to put the interests of their parties second to the interests of the Confederation. Otherwise they would have been tearing out each others hair within a week.

On the question of wages he was entirely pessimistic. Non-government workers in Rome, he said, had not yet received the full 70% wage increase granted in other parts of the country. He did not appear to think that, in any case, a 70% increase could make very much difference. "It would just about make it possible for a worker to buy the Rome papers." The only thing to be done for workers under present conditions was to extend as far as possible the consumers co-operatives, already started in Naples and in other parts of the country, and to found as many works and office canteens as possible. By doing this customers would be being taken from the Black Market and prices would fall accordingly.

The only way to check inflation now would be for the Allies to permit - not necessarily to guarantee - the launching of a loan by the Italian government. He suggested that such a loan should be for 40 milliard lire, carry 6% interest, and be given some such name as "Prestito di Ricostruzione". He thought that such a loan would be fully subscribed and would absorb part of the surplus paper money.

Simultaneously America should open a credit of about 1 milliard dollars to stabilise the lira. At the present time a stabilisation of the lira would not, as it had done under Mussolini, involve a loss of export trade and a consequent necessity for expensive government subsidies, because Italy's export trade did not exist. He could not suggest at what level the lira should be stabilised, since its present actual value was nil. Not only had Italy no gold to back her currency; she had no other tangible assets. Her railways and many of her industrial installations were destroyed. She could not use her merchant fleet.

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The only real hope for Italy after the war would come, he felt, from America. America could have no economic interest in helping Italy; the Chinese and South American markets were enough for her. On the other hand she did have a political interest, both from the standpoint of internal and of foreign politics. There were about 7 million Italian votes in America. Lizzadri sketched a rough diagram on his blotter showing Italy between a sphere of Russian influence stretching to the Balkan Adriatic coast and of American influence stretching to France and Spain on the other side. Italy he said could become a barrier between the East and the West. It was in the American interest that she should do so.

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

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Lizzadri did not want Italy to come under the Russian sphere of influence. He said there could be no illusions now as to what Russia wanted. He thought, too, that a revolution in Italy now would be disastrous. The country would break up, Sicily and Sardinia would declare their independence. On the other hand, if he had to choose between Italy's becoming an English colony or a Socialist Republic - his hand touched the Russian sphere of influence on his diagram - there could be no doubt which he would prefer. (The implication received by the P.W.B. officer being that he preferred the latter.)

England might think it in her interest to keep Italy weak in the Mediterranean. If Italy had been a little stronger in this war her forces would have reached Suez and cut Britain from India. He said he could never have faith in a British Conservative government. Anti-Fascists like himself felt that British Conservative were partly responsible for the war. He had been appalled at the number of reactionary British officers he had met in Italy. On the other hand, with a Socialist government in power in England, fruitful co-operation with Italy might be possible.

Lizzadri did not seem to know much of the social progress made in England during the war, though he had read, and been impressed by, a booklet of Morrison's speeches, and had corresponded with Greenwood, Atlee and Thomas. He expressed the hope that England would not concentrate so much on setting her own house in order that she would forget her neighbours, who were starving.

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

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RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION

12 Interview with Tito Zaniboni - High Commissioner for refugees.

Zaniboni gives himself up whole heartedly to his work relieving the sufferings of the refugees.

He was very pleased with the fact that he is to be given 10 days to accomplish his duties. Up to the present, most of the refugees have been transported in lorries lent by AMG.

Many of those people have now obtained permission to go forward, chiefly peasants who are anxious to till their land for next year. So far those who are returning are allowed as far as Ceccano and Cassino and a few to the Abbruzzi.

In Southern Italy there are about 7[illegible],000 refugees who have come from the district that lies between Rome and Naples, and prior to the landing of the Allies there were already 80,000 who had fled from the big industrial cities.

The problem of feeding these unfortunates is a very grave one since each adult receives only 12 lire a day maintenance allowance whilst children and dependents only 5 lire a day.

Zaniboni expressed his gratitude for the understanding and assistance given by the Allies and more especially by General Mason MacFarlane.

Without the ready assistance of the Allied authorities the organisation of relief would have been impossible. At the present moment, refugees are being assembled in temporary camps and fed on full rations for a month.

Some of these people who have been wandering about for months and months and literally feeding on grass, have suffered rather seriously because of their sudden increase of diet. The British, American and Polish soldiers have given all assistance and shared their ration with the population. The French, added Zaniboni, had not behaved so well; the Moroccan troops had plundered and slaughtered Italians and had raped women and children of both sexes.

13 Refugee camp at Cesano

The following report on the camp for refugees at Cesano is supplied by an Italian officer of the Civil Liaison, 8th Army.

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Most of the refugees are from Formia, Gaeta and Terentino, expelled from their homes last March by the Germans and herded like sheep in the conglomeration of workmens huts at Cesano, which formerly housed the workers of a laboratory for chemical warfare.

The refugees had gone through months of suffering, far from their homes and belongings, which they knew were open to sack and robbery, fed on a starvation diet, and terrified of the frequent hauls made in the camp among the men and young women, sent to labour service in the north. Every refugee that I spoke to told me that under the Germans they received one meal a day composed of shells of peas [illegible] and other refuse. They complained of no actual ill treatment [illegible], but only that they had been utterly ignored, and destitute of the most

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elementary sanitary arrangements as well as bereft of spiritual assistance. Things were so bad that the Germans brought two or three priests to the camp. This was done so that those who had heard of the conditions could be told that the camp was run by Italians.

The search for men for the labour gangs was carried out after dark. In the middle of Aprile many girls were also taken away for the same purpose.

As soon as the Allies took over the camp tinned milk and biscuits were distributed for breakfast, and for the midday meal white paste, made in the camp, vegetables and half a loaf each of white bread. The dormitories were cleared for several hours and disinfected; the refugees were also disinfected and given new clothing; the camp was provided with adequate sanitary arrangements; after four days running water returned. Several Red Cross nurses and another doctor also joined the camp. Little by little all received clean palliasses and woollen blankets. As a consequence of order and cleanliness the inmates are recovering their spirit and their health.

They are also encouraged by the thought that within a month or two they will be able to return home, or if their houses have been destroyed to some other village where they will find accomodation.

14 War Damage near Rome

Lido di Roma and its railway. A visit to the Rome - Lido di Roma 25 km long electric railway line, which normally enabled tens of thousands of Romans to reach the sea daily throughout the summer shows that, for all practical purposes, it has been destroyed, either by Allied bombing or by [illegible], will have to be entirely rebuilt. At the Rome terminus, the façade of the station still stands, but behind there is only a mass of twisted rails, smashed buildings and piled up rolling stock. The buildings and roads for a wide area west of the station have suffered severely by bombing.

At the Lido end, the Germans tore up the rails for several miles inland, while they carried off the entire length of the overhead copper electric cables. The terminal station facing the sea waspractically razed to the ground, although the neighbouring church appears to be intact. A number of other stations have likewise been destroyed. As part of their defensive measures, the Germans also flooded the country on either side of the line for a long distance [illegible]

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The sea-shore is a scene of desolation. Every bathing establishment, except one at the southern end of the long front, was blown to pieces by the Germans, and not a bathing hut remains, and the shore is heavily mined. The majority of the villas lining the front are undamaged except for broken window glass. Their furniture and fittings have, however, mostly disappeared, looted by the Germans. The town itself is dead, only a handful of civilians remaining. It is irrecognisable as the place where during the summer in peace time the sands and streets were literally packed with holiday makers.

3758

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Fregene. This favourite bathing resort due west of Rome is today almost completely deserted. The damage wrought by the Germans in the pine woods along the shore is extensive. Even greater destruction has occurred to the villas, which have suffered both at the hands of the Germans and of the people of Maccarese. The Germans occupied only part of the villas, but they broke into them all and carried off everything they could use.

Some of the pillaged furniture they sold in the neighbourhood. As soon as the Germans had abandoned Fregene, the people of Maccarese came in and carried off what the Germans had been compelled to leave behind owing to lack of transport. When the Allied troops arrived, they found the villas completely empty. No action, a local Italian laments, has yet been taken to recover from the people of Maccarese the articles which they arbitrarily acquired.

Health conditions in the area and in a large stretch of the coast down to Fiumicino are likely to be seriously prejudiced by the presence of stagnant water which is lying over the Maccarese and Porto farm lands. If the pumping plant is not restored to activity during the present summer, it is considered that malaria will again infest the areas which had been reclaimed.

According to one estimate, about half of the cattle which existed in the Maccarese region before the German invasion still remains.

HEALTH

15 Demand for a Minister of health.

According to an Italian observer, many doctors in Liberated Italy are complaining that no Minister of Health has been appointed in Italy. Under Fascism, public health was left to the Prefects who were not expert in the matter, whereas like most other up to date countries the Allied nations have always taken special care and interest in public health, as they have done in Italy since their arrival (B2)

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PRESS

1. The press in Rome.

In conformity with the press plan for Rome, as approved by APB, the ex-clandestine papers which did not belong to the six party Liberation Front, but nonetheless worked and suffered for the Allied cause, were granted permits this week as follows:

Dailies-

ITALIA NUOVA - Organ of the Partito Democratico Italiano (Monarchist). The Monarchist L'ITALIANO renounced its claim in the hope of being allowed to start its paper in Florence in due course. This paper does not represent a Monarchist party as such but represents an association of Monarchists drawn from various parties, including some of those within the National Front of Liberation.

LA VOCE REPUBBLICANA - This paper works for a republic on the model of the Risorgimento Mazzini Republican.

IL TEMPO - A centre paper which has been given its permit on the condition that it reserves two columns of "free forum" to allow the following supressed clandestine papers to voice their point of view; DEMOCRAZIA INTERNAZIONALE; ITALIA LABURISTA; L'AZIONE; L'AZIONE DEI LAVORATORI; L'UNIONE PROLETARIA; IL PROGESSO; STAMPA D'INFORMAZIONE.

Weeklies-

VOCE OPERAI - Catholic Communist

PARTIGIANO - Partisans

L'OPINIONE - Independent

The papers authorised in Rome now are as follows:

CHARACTER	NAME	PERIODIC
PWB-controlled	CORRIERE DI ROMA	Daily
Liberation Front		Daily
Socialist	AVANTI	"
Communist	UNITA	"
Christian Democrat	IL POPOLO	"
Party of Action	ITALIA LIBERA	"

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Democratico del Lavoro	RICOSTRUZIONE	"
Liberal	RISORGIMENTO LIBERALE	"
Other Ex-Clandestine		
Monarchist	ITALIA NUOVA	Daily
Independent	TEMPO	"
Republican	VOCE REPUBBLICANA	"
Catholic Communist	VOCE OPERAIA	Weekly
Partisans	PARTIGIANO	"
Independent	L'OPINIONE	"

3757

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

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CHARACTER	NAME	PERIODIC
Religious		
Catholic Action	QUOTIDIANO	Daily
" "	BOLLETTINO UFFICIALE	Monthly
" "	IL MAESTRO	Every two months
" "	COLOMBO	Weekly
Church Magazine	BOLLETTINO DI PZZA CAVOUR	Monthly
Feast Day Leaflet	LA PAROLA DI DIO	Occasional
Missionary Magazine	REGINA DEGLI APOSTOLI	Monthly
" "	IL MESSAIA	Monthly
" "	IL MONTE CARMELO	Monthly
" "	THE PYLON	Quarterly
Medical	IL POLICLINICO	Weekly
	CUORE E CIRCOLAZIONE	Monthly
	LA CLINICA OSTETRICA	Monthly
	IL VALSALVA	Monthly
Legal	IL NOTARO	Fortnightly
Escapist		
Humorous	CAMPANELLO	Weekly
Humorous	RUGANTINO	Twice-Weekly
Women's Fashions	CINEMODA	Weekly
Novellettes	ROMANZO SETTIMANALE	Weekly
Radio Programmes	VOCI	Weekly
Boys' Adventures	L'AVVENTURA	Weekly
Boys' Magazine	GIRAMONDO	Fortnightly

17. Garibaldi Protest

General Giuseppe Garibaldi, grandson of his name-sake, with two Garibaldi republicans, called as representatives of L'UNIONE PROLETARIA to protest against suppression of their paper in favour of a share in the columns of IL TEMPO. He pulled a passionate plea in which the virtues of L'UNIONE PROLETARIA far outshone the vices of IL TEMPO which he denounced as a Fascist publication.

18. Interview with Solafani editor of the "Becco Giallo" 5-7-44

During the first four years of the Fascist regime the most insistent and effective criticism of the new movement appeared in the "Becco Giallo" - satirical and comic paper which had a cir-

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Legal		IL NOTARO	Fortnightly
Escapist			
Humorous		CAMPANILINO	Weekly
Humorous		RUGANTINO	Tarice-Weekly
Women's Fashions		CINEMODA	Weekly
Novellettes		ROMANZO SETTIMANALE	Weekly
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18. Interview with Sclafani editor of the "Becco Giallo" 5-7-44

During the first four years of the Fascist regime the most insistent and effective criticism of the new movement appeared in the "Becco Giallo" a satyrical and comic paper which had a circulation of 1,200,000 copies a week. Even the Fascists read it eagerly and with amusement.

When the paper was suppressed Giannini, the editor in chief withdrew to Paris and continued publication.

Copies of the paper were smuggled into Italy and sold at black market prices. Giannini was eventually bought by the Fascists and launched the "Merlo" also in Paris. It was one of pro-German tendencies and its circulation was permitted in Italy.

Giannini who is often compared to the infamous Maldi, is at present in Rome, and moving about the city without let or hindrance.

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

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As for Sclafani he has published the "Becco Giallo" in Palermo for the last few weeks, claiming that he has over two hundred thousand potential readers and that he is anxious to transfer his office to Rome.

Ever since the suppression of the original "Becco Giallo" he has been persecuted and his movements restricted. In Rome, he stated many prominent ex-fascists have offered to subsidize him to almost any extent. Many of the more serious elements of Italian political life object to the levity of the "Becco Giallo" but Sclafani claims that its healthy criticism is of great value at the present time.

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EPURATION

18 Interview with Omodeo

In an interview with a PWB officer, the ex-Minister of Education indicated that since his resignation from the Presidency of the Commission on Defascistization, he has repeatedly urged Bonomi to appoint a successor, without success. Certain elements in Naples wish him to hand over the files of the Commission but this he will not do except to his legally appointed successor.

While President of the Commission, Omodeo said he had followed the plan of beginning defascistization at the top and working downward. He felt that by hitting the men at the top hard the whole problem would be vastly simplified.

Omodeo pointed out that while it is essential to keep the distinction between defascistization and epuration, there should be but one body charged with the responsibility for defascistization. At present there are three: 1) The Commission for Italian Controlled Territory; 2) the AMG Commission for Region III (Naples); and 3) the AMG Commission at Rome under Poletti's competence, but feels that he will be fooled by some of the people in Rome. Omodeo also raised the problem of what to do with Fascists in northern Italy who held highly technical positions by virtue of their specialized training and experience.

19 Commission on Defascistization

In an interview with a PWB officer, Nino Contino, secretary formerly to Omodeo, said that it appeared on July 4th that Omodeo resigned as presiding member of this Commission. This resignation was expected since the Royal Decrees provide that the position may only be held by a member of the cabinet.

Defascistization is achieved by either suspending or removing employees who are found guilty. This is a strictly dicipliinary action. If a case has a penal side, it is turned over to the Commission of Epuration, presided over by Sforza.

The Defascistization Commission has direct jurisdiction over all government employees under the 6th grade. It also conducts investigation of cases involving employees above the 6th grade, but these cases are dealt with by the Cabinet directly. Contino said that the Commissions work under Omodeo was unsatisfactory for the following reasons:

1. The decrees establishing the Commission are very unclear. Omodeo requested several explanatory regulations, but the government has not complied.

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1. The decrees establishing the Commission are very unclear. Omodeo requested several explanatory regulations, but the government has not complied.

2. The provincial commissions have been established on an inadequate basis. The law provides that officials such as the Prefect, Public Prosecutor, and others, must be members of the provincial commissions. Most of the members of these Commissions, however, are in the group subject to defascistization. Omodeo directed Contino to request the government to inform the Commission before Prefects are appointed, but no action was taken.

The Government is very uncooperative. Contino could not say whether or not this was intentional. The Commission needs agents, stationery, transportation means, etc. to make energetic investigations, but none of these things have been provided.

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4. The Commission has been given jurisdiction over the Army as well as over other government agencies, and all Ministries are bound by its decisions. Hence General Messe's statement that he reserves for himself the final word on the defascistization of the officers corps is entirely illegal.

The Commission under Omodeo's presidency, removed between 30 and 40 employees and suspended several hundred others. About 300 cases are pending. This is a small fraction of what has been planned. Contini's criticism of the Commission's work to date is that most of the people removed or suspended are employees of the lowest grades. The "higher ups" have too many protectors, both in the Italian Government and among the Allied forces.

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4. The Commission has been given jurisdiction over the Army as well as over other government agencies, and all Ministries are bound by its decisions. Hence General Messe's statement that he reserves for himself the final word on the defascistization of the officers corps is entirely illegal.

The Commission under Omodeo's presidency, removed between 30 and 40 employees and suspended several hundred others. About 300 cases are pending. This is a small fraction of what has been planned. Contini's criticism of the Commission's work to date is that most of the people removed of suspended are employees of the lowest grades. The "higher ups" have the many protectors, both in the Italian Government and among the Allied forces.

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

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ECONOMICS

Statement of the cost of living for one person for a week in Rome

Morning

Powdered milk has to take the place of fresh milk which is unobtainable.

	1 tin of milk		L 80	
	250 grammes sugar		75	
Day			155	155
Minestra:	Flour	3 kg.	600	
	Eggs	7	210	
	Oil	1/4 litre	150	
	Cheese	2 ect.	120	
	Tomatoes	2 kg.	60	
	Salt	150 gr.	30	(+ 50 grammes on ration)
		Total	L 1170	1170
Main dish	Meat	1.5 kg	450	
	Greenstuff		150	
	Oil	1/4 litre	150	
		Total	750	750
	Fruit	3 1/2 kg.	105	105
			GRAND TOTAL L	2180

[illegible] 2,1[illegible] [illegible]. (C-2)

Cost of Living in Various Social Classes

According to a student, the average weekly expenditure of a family of five in Rome at the present time is as follows. It is pointed out that the majority of people nowadays are spending almost all their money on food, and postponing to better times expenses on such things as clothes.

Working-class family	1000/1200 lire
Family of a clerk	1400/1600 "
Family of shopkeeper	4500/5000 "
Well-to-do family	13000/15000 "

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

	1 tin of milk		L 80		
	250 grammes sugar		75		
Day			155		155
Minestra:	Flour	3 kg.	600		
	Eggs	7	210		
	Oil	1/4 litre	150		
	Cheese	2 ect.	120		
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Main dish	Meat	1.5 kg	450		
	Greenstuff		150		
	Oil	1/4 litre	150		
		Total	750		750
	Fruit	3 1/2 kg.	105		105
			GRAND TOTAL	L	2180

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21 Cost of Living in Various Social Classes

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Working-class family	1000/1200 lire
Family of a clerk	1400/1600 "
Family of shopkeeper	4500/5000 "
Well-to-do family	13000/15000 "

(C-2)

22 Black Market prices about July 12 in Rome

Food			
Flour	140/200	lire a kilo	(Beginning of July: same)
Oil	550/600	" "	(Beginning of July: 650/700)
Bread	120	" "	
Salt	150/550	" "	(Beginning of July: 150/200)
Eggs	35/ 40	each	(Beginning of July: 28)
Sugar	300/350	" "	(Beginning of July: same)
Meat	280/400	" "	(Beginning of July: 300/350)

(C-1)

Pasta, dried vegetables and fish are said to be completely unobtainable, and meat to be almost impossible to find. (C-3)

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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23 Unconfirmed list of clothing prices in Rome

Wool	6,000 lire a kilo
Men's clothing material	2,000:3,000 lire a metre
Rayon	450 lire a metre (app.)
Silk	800 " " "
Silk stockings	450 " pair
men's socks	220 " "

(C-2)

24 Black Market Prices in Province of Naples

Flour	20	lire	per kilo
Pasta	70	"	"
Beans	120	"	"
Oil	170	"	"
Beef	200	"	"
Sugar	250	"	"

Bread
35-40 lire per kilo (in the vicinity of Afragola)
60-65 " " " (Cancello e Santa Maria a Vico)
50-55 " " " (in the Nola region)

Chocolate
Cadbury, 35 lire, for a bar of eight pieces
40 lire, for a bar of ten pieces

Cigarettes

English brand, package of 20, 40 lire
American brand, package of 20, 55-60 lire

Matches
Box of 50, 14-15 lire
Box of 100, 20-22 lire

Medicines
Thermometers, 200-250 lire
Sulfa tablets, 10 lire each
Aspirin, 5 lire per tablet

Articles of clothing

Military khaki blanket	500 lire
Socks	150/200 lire a pair
Shorts	180/200 lire
Light shoes	1500 lire a pair

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

men's socks 220 " "

24 Black Market Prices in Province of Naples

Flour	20	lire	per kilo
Pasta	70	"	"
Beans	120	"	"
Oil	170	"	"
Beef	200	"	"
Sugar	250	"	"

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35-40 lire per kilo (in the vicinity of Afragola)
60-65 " " " (Cancello e Santa Maria a Vico)
50-55 " " " (in the Nola region)

Chocolate

Cadbury, 35 lire, for a bar of eight pieces
40 lire, for a bar of ten pieces

Cigarettes

English brand, package of 20, 40 lire
American brand, package of 20, 55-60 lire

Matches

Box of 50, 14-15 lire
Box of 100, 20-22 lire

Medicines

Thermometers, 200-250 lire
Sulfa tablets, 10 lire each
Aspirin, 5 lire per tablet

Articles of clothing

Military khaki blanket	500 lire
Socks	150/200 lire a pair
Shorts	180/200 lire
Light shoes	1500 lire a pair

25 Grain, Potatoes and Oil

According to reports from Naples, the increase in the bread and pasta ration has resulted in a collapse of the black market prices. Black market wheat has fallen from 12-15000 lire the quintal to 1500:2000 lire the quintal. The free market price of potatoes is lower than the official price - 5-7 lire as against 9-11 lire.

It is reported from other sources that the extra high black market price of oil in Rome (1200 lire the litre), due to scarcity

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is now reacting on the prices in Naples. The great demand and high prices in Rome has resulted in the transport of much oil there from Naples.

Prices of fruit and wine have increased slightly because of Allied permission to import food-stuffs in recently liberated regions. (B-2)

Transfer of current accounts in Roman banks

According to an Italian informant, many transfers of current accounts have been effected by Fascist personalities and big industrialists in various Roman banks after the 5th June. An employee in the Bank of Novara explained to him that these transfers can be made without leaving any trace, by means of operations which must be carried out by common agreement between the Head Manager, the person in charge of current accounts and the clerk concerned.

Further details could be furnished if an enquiry were to be made. (C-3)

"Granai del Popolo" in Calabria

Reports collected by an Italian collaborator in Calabria show that the "Granai del Popolo" campaign is being carried on under difficulties. The organisation of the campaign is criticised on three grounds: 1) it was started too late; 2) there has been no really effective direct propaganda; 3) the organization has been intrusted to ex-Fascist elements, who havd no particular interest in proving that a democratic system is better than a Fascist one.

As a result, the wheat has begun to take the usual devious paths. Already there are many reports of invasion and fraud from the various provincial centers, particularly from Pizzo Calabro, where the local latifondisti - Marchesi Stilitani - is blamed.

On June 28th Sig. Caiazzo, director of the Livestock section of the Catanzaro Consorzio Agrario Provinciale was arrested for clandestine dealing in cattle.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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APPENDIX I

RECENTLY LIBERATED AREAS

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MONTEPULCIANO

1. General.

This town was occupied by troops of the 6 S. African Armd. Div. on the 1st July 1944. A PWB officer visited the town on the 3rd July. There was no apparent signs that the town had been in the front line, and life seemed to be proceeding quietly and peacefully. All the shops were open and doing business. The streets were clean and full of pleasant, well-dressed people. Actually there had been a small amount of damage done to the residential property by bombs and certain of the streets, which all seemed to be of the usual narrow type, were blocked by debris which had not yet been cleared away, nor had any attempt been made to do so. The main entrance to the town had received a direct hit, and workmen were busy clearing this. There was a remarkable absence of Allied troops in the town, and one noticed that the population gazed at one curiously. They were very friendly and chatty.

The PWB officer visited the A.M.G. officer, a Major L.E. Zervudachi, Major Zervudachi said that he had found the administration of the town proceeding quietly and efficiently. As the Germans did not fight in the town, life was not disrupted to any great extent. As usual, there was no light or water. There was a sufficiency of food, and local stocks of grain were adequate for present needs. A mill had been put into production my means of a tractor engine. There were also water mills which were in process of being put into running order.

The population of the town was in the neighbourhood of 3,000; and in the total area of the Comaune there were about 17,000 people

2. Political

The Comitato di Liberazione Nasionale was almost entirely Christian Socialist. It was formed only recently and the Podesta became the President of the Committee three weeks ago. This gentleman, Count Bracci has remained, with the consent of all, as the Sindaco under the new regime. He is anti-Fascist. There are eight members of the Committee, five are Christian Socialists, and three are non-political. The PWB officer did not have time to investigate the political situation in this town.

3. Press

There was a paper printed here called the "Arnaldo Poliziano", which has now stopped owing to printing facilities not being available. The paper has a religious flavour.

4. Economic

The Commune is a rich one, and the majority of the population are engaged in agriculture. Very fine furniture is made there.

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

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CORTONA (Province of AREZZO)

1. General

37533

Cortona was evacuated by German troops at about 0300 hrs on the 3rd July. The first British troops entered the town at about noon, and left later in the afternoon. They were given an enthusiastic and emotional welcome by some of the population who had been watching the battle in the plains with some anxiety. There was no fighting in the town, which remains intact except for the Post Office which was blown up by the retreating Germans. This has annoyed the population because this was a national monument. A PWB officer arrived here on the following day at about 0630 hours and found that there was already quite a number of people on the main Piazza which has remained crowded with people ever since.

SECRET

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

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The town was quiet and orderly and, as far as standards here go, clean. The electric light was off, and so was the water supply, but the latter is expected to be restored very shortly. There appears to be the possibility of a water shortage if the repairs are not carried through expeditiously.

2. Political

A PWB officer interviewed Dott. Baraldi, Segretario of the Commune. He gave some political information, but the best information came from Sig. Carlo Nibbi who was President of the Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale. He is 66 years of age but a vigorous type. He has always been a Democratic Socialist. He was a member of this party when he was the Sindaco of this town between the years 1914-1919. He has never been a member of the Partito Fascista and has always maintained an opposition to it, even though this has never, as is reasonable with a man of his years taken any active form. Ever since the formation of the Partisans in this area he has always been in contact with them. The C. of L.; was formed three months ago.

Besides himself, the other members of the Committee are as follows:

Dott. Pietro Pancrazi- Solicitor, Journalist and Literary Critic, Liberal.
Sig. Signorini, Elpidio, - Solicitor, Socialist.
Sig. Lamberto Voltroni - Communist
Don Giovanni Materasso.

There were about 180 active Fascists in the town. It is the opinion of this gentleman that the majority of the population in this commune never have been very attached to Fascism. This is in accord with the fact that this area is predominantly agricultural, and that the Tuscan land system of Mezzadria has rather tended to estrange the contadini from violent political feeling. Conversely it is also a guarantee that this area of Italy can never be truly Communistic in tendency, and it is a fact that the Communist element here is more noticeable in the town than in the countryside. As the contadini constitute about 60% of the population of the commune, it is not surprising that, allowing for a margin for safety on the upper limits, the estimate of Nibbi of 15-20% of the population to be Communist is not far out. Democrats are estimated at 65% and the rest are mixed. Thus not only are the majority of the people anti-Fascist but they are also anti-Communistic, especially the country-folk. They fear the successes of the Russians in the war because they feel that this will bring about an increase in the popularity of Communistic doctrine in Europe and they do not want this to spread to Italy. They are, however, willing to accept Communism if the only alternative is Fascism.

Opinion is delivered against the King. Since he served as King to a Fascist Government and acquiescedin its deeds they feel that he has gone for all time. People are however attached to the idea of the House of Savoy, as a root in Italian tradition and centralism in government. They do not have

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Opinion is delivered against the King. Since He served as King to a Fascist Government and acquiescedin its deeds they feel that he has gone for all time. People are however attached to the idea of the House of Savoy, as a root in Italian tradition and centralism in government. They do not have much respect for Prince Umberto, and can be said even to despise him. He is regarded as unintelligent and weak minded. It has been suggested that a good thing for Italy would be the ascension to the throne of the young Prince of Naples. No suggestion was forthcoming as to the choice of a Regent.

3. Press

There were two newspapers produced in the town. First, "L'ETRURIA" which was printed and edited by Sig. Raimondo Bistacci, who is said to be an 'honest man'. His livlihood is the paper.

It has been simply an organ for the dissemination of local notices and items of interest not having any political or news value outside this area. The newspaper has just celebrated its 50 anniversary, which is remarkable since the Fascists tried more than once to get this paper banned. Why is not clear. It is published monthly.

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The second paper is also published monthly, but it is an entirely religious publication.

4. Economic

The population of CORTONA is about 18,000, but including the Frazione this figure rises to about 35,000. The area is predominantly agricultural and the supplies of vegetables seem to be reasonably good. There is very little industry in the town except for individual entrepreneurs and only one large workshop which, for some reason, has been established here, and produces hats. There is a large amount of unemployment here, the figure given being 1,000. Consequently there is much poverty. There are about 500 refugees in the town from various places, and most of these appear to be housed and fed by the c Commune. The conditions under which these people live, are appalling. Fifteen to twenty people in a single room, and soup for breakfast and soup and bread for dinner. These are the only two meals served. There is the usual lack of salt, oil, soap and tobacco but there seems to be sufficient grain in the locality provided that it can be milled. There is a Black Market in this town and the prices are as follows:-

Flour	60 Lire per kg
Oil	1000 lire per litre
Eggs	8-10 lire each
Meat	100 lire per kg
Milk	12-15 lire per litre

Lunch in a restaurant costs 50-60 lire.
Clothes are practically non-existant.

5. Church

The Bishop here is a saintly man, and while the first of our troops were still in the town he delivered a sermon from the steps of the Municipio thanking God for the liberation of the town and calling on the population to look to the future and to resolve that all their efforts must be directed to rectifying the effects of the enemy's crimes and to the assurance that never again would the scourge of war destroy the country.

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

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3752

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

SECRET

Appendix I

SIENA

The Committee of Liberation in Siena is composed of the following party members:

Christian Democrats:	Gasparri, Avv Alberto Oreste, Rag. Giovanni
Liberals	Vallachi, Giuseppe Tozzi, Giuseppe
Party of Action	Montigiani, Alvaro Battalli, Giuseppe
Socialists	Musiani, Arigo Lolimi, Attilio
Communists	Doretti, Adolfo Gunstagli, Giovanni

There is no President or Vice-President of the Committee; the Secretary is Giuseppe Battalli (of the Party of Action). It will be noted from the above that the Democrazia del Lavoro Party does not exist in Siena at all. The members of the Committee received its directives from Rome until it was liberated by the Allies on June 4th. After that time the directives came from Florence. Written directives received by messenger were more effective than broadcast directives, as the radio programmes were not regularly listened to by the Committee of Liberation.

The impression left by the Committee of Liberation was that they were very young and without experience. It would be difficult without further investigation to know whether they really carried any weight in Siena, or whether they had assumed their functions and prerogatives without any degree of popular support. Nevertheless they seemed an intelligent and sincere group.

A General estimate of the strength of the various parties (according to the Party of Action, the Socialist and Communist members of the Committee of Liberation,) was as follows:

Christian Democrats. The second most important party. Like the Communists it has a "mass" following and a strong youth element. Together with all the other parties on the Siena Committee of Liberation, the Christian Democrat members are republican in sympathy; they do not declare themselves officially on this point, however, and are awaiting instructions from the Central Committee in Rome. The party has, through the Azione Cattolica, the support of the Church, although the clergy in particular and the Church in general abstain from taking a direct part in politics. There are no local party newspapers; copies of the clandestine paper "Il Popolo" were sent over

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

	Tozzi, Giuseppe
Party of Action	Montigiani, Alvaro Battalli, Giuseppe
Socialists	Musiani, Arigo Lolimi, Attilio
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Liberals. The Liberal Party only came into existance after the liberation of Siena by the Allies (about July 1st). The party had done very little during the Fascist era, and most of its members were old people who had retired from public life or kept unostentatiously in the background. It was not represented on the Committee of Liberation during the period of Fascist Republicanism.

Party of Action. The Party of Action had been working within the framework of the Giustizia e Liberta movement for some years, and took its lead from Guido Callegio (Calogero) now in Rome. It had contacts with Lussu and Bauer, and had sent representatives to Florence in September 1943 to meet them. There was no Party of Action paper in Siena, the party being supplied by the paper printed by the Action Party in Florence.

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

Socialists. The Socialists were few and old, and did not represent a weight of opinion. There was no pact between the Socialists and the Communists other than through the Committee of Liberation though more left-wing Socialists tended to group themselves increasingly with the Communists.

Communists. This party is probably the strongest and best organised party in both the town and province of Siena; they draw their support primarily from the working classes and include a vigorous youthful element. It is difficulty to estimate their following until membership cards are issued or elections held. According to Doretti ... the Communists received their directives from Togliatti even before he came to Italy. All Siena Communists are loyal to Stalin and Moscow and there is no evidence of a Trotskyist split. The directives are normally sent by a messenger from Rome, though they also get the Moscow broadcasts. There is no local Communist party newspaper, copies of the clandestine paper "L'Unita" being sent over from Florence.

All members of the Committee were agreed that the Church, through the Archbishop and clergy, had played an honourable part in giving cover to refugees, patriots and escaped prisoners of war. The Archbishop had never been a supporter of fascism.

There was no organised monarchist party as yet, although a number of officers, many landowners, and a part of the poor people were loyal monarchists. The Committee was unitedly anti-monarchical because the monarchy had failed to protect the constitution. The "Luogotenenza" was therefore considered a useful stepping stone towards the Republic.

All members of the Committee, except the Christian Democrats, said that Badoglio has lost all prestige after the 8th of September 1943. Signor Grosti (Christian Democrat) insisted however that Badoglio still had a very considerable following. The present Bonomi Government had the confidence and support of the Committee. As a whole it was considered a useful Ministero di passagio" till the end of the war.

Allied broadcasts. The radio stations most listened to had been the BBC and Algiers. The preferred times for the former were 1730 hours and 20 30 hours. Colonel Stevens and Candidus were particularly popular. "La Voce d'America" was not liked as being too crude propaganda. They did not appear to have listened to any stations as a regular habit and made no mention of "Italia Combatte".

The main complaints of the Committee since the Allied Liberation were.

a) That prominent Fascists were either left in their positions by the Allied authorities, or even appointed to fill new positions. The Questore

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All members of the Committee were agreed that the Church, through the Archbishop and clergy, had played an honourable part in giving cover to refugees, patriots and escaped prisoners of war. The Archbishop had never been a supporter of Fascism.

There was no organised monarchist party as yet, although a number of officers, many landowners, and a part of the poor people were loyal monarchists. The Committee was unitedly anti-monarchical because the monarchy had failed to protect the constitution. The "Luogotenenza" was therefore considered a useful stepping stone towards the Republic.

All members of the Committee, except the Christian Democrats, said that Badoglio has lost all prestige after the 8th of September 1943. Signor Grosti (Christian Democrat) insisted however that Badoglio still had a very considerable following. The present Bonomi Government had the confidence and support of the Committee. As a whole it was considered a useful "Ministero di passagio" till the end of the war.

Allied broadcasts. The radio stations most listened to had been the BBC and Algiers. The preferred times for the former were 1730 hours and 2030 hours. Colonel Stevens and Candidus were particularly popular. "La Voce d'America" was not liked as being too crude propaganda. They did not appear to have listened to any stations as a regular habit and made no mention of "Italia Combatte".

The main complaints of the Committee since the Allied Liberation were.

a) That prominent Fascists were either left in their positions by the Allied authorities, or even appointed to fill new positions. The Questore was a case in point. The man had been Questore in Fascist times, and was responsible for many of the brutalities committed in Siena.

The Committee of Liberation, on the other hand, was given no official status by the Allied command, had not been asked for an exchange of views, and was not permitted to hold meetings or to publish statements.

The result was that it would lose the prestige it had gained with the people and was already openly flouted by the fascist authorities still in power.

3751

b) patriot arms were being withdrawn.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

c) Much disappointment was felt, and many illusions shattered, by the behaviour of the French coloured troops (the Goums). The Committee of liberation has made a collection of reports of Goum atrocities. They include one unusual case, in which a Goum with a gold tooth and a little want, hypnotised a contadino when he was intent on harvesting and robbed him of 21,000 lire and a silver watch.

Press. There were no newspapers in Siena, but the Committee has been sticking up mimeographed sheets with monitored news about the town. The sheets were eagerly read by the local population.

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APPENDIX II

PUBLIC OPINION

The Punishment of grain hoarders

The law concerning the punishments to be imposed on peasants who withhold their quota from the Granai del Popolo is reported to have caused general relief in Naples. In Naples, as in other towns, there has been the greatest anxiety about the future of the bread ration, since no one believes that the peasants would part with their wheat. (B 1)

Shoes and Milk.

The decision to distribute 15,000 pairs of used shoes to harvest workers, and the prospective distribution of powdered vitaminised milk for nursing mothers and children, are b threported to have been enthusiastically received in Naples, and to have increased Allied popularity (B1)

Flying bombs.

Churchill's speech on the flying bombs has made a strong impression on the Italian public, particularly in view of the fact that England is still subjected to danger after so many victories. Admiration has been expressed for the energy with which the British government has dealt with the new situation. The speech reminded Italians that the English people are still very much in the war. (B2)

De Gaulle and mobilisation in Normany.

According to reports, Italians are contrasting the action of De Gaulle in mobilising Frenchmen in Normandy after only a week of liberation, and the failure of the Italian government to do anything of the sort for ten months. (C2)

Epuration

In Naples

/Colonel Poletti's epurati n measures in Rome are being greeted enthusiastically by the general public; the bureaucracy views it with some alarm Bonomi's announcement relative to Fascists employed in public administration has created an unfavourable impression. (C2)

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Increase in the cost of gas.

On July 4th there appeared in the Naples "Risorgimento" an article supporting the 500% increase in the cost of gas. Since this increase has affected the greatest part ofthe population, the reaction has been most unfavourable. Fascist minded individuals are suggesting that the present high prices are due to the fact that the coal comes from England and that the British are selling it at exhorbitant prices.

3750

It is suggested that it would be worth while to explain to the Italians that the price of coal is unduly high because of the submarine campaing, war insurance, and the losses suffered by the British Navy in the Mediterranean campaign

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APPENDIX III

Reactions to Propaganda

Comment on BBC

The following is supplied by an Italian collaborator:

"Many intellectuals agree on the following criticisms of London Radio broadcasts.

The Allies should accustom themselves not to talk about Fascism, because polemics with Fascism are useless. Now one in the territory under Nazi control listens to the Fascist radio. As far as they are concerned, Fascism finished on July 25th; anything Mussolini or Farinacci do now is of no interest to them. All these people hidden at home who listen to the BBC want to hear more news and less polemics. Some have pointed out that the Germans lose about five minutes fixing their jammer on the station broadcasting, but the first five minutes are used by Allied stations to announce wavelengths and hours of broadcasting, which everyone already knows. This is a mistake, because these five minutes are the best in which to listen in.

The "Voice of America" is not much listened to, because people say that it broadcasts less news and more chatter than the BBC. (R2)

Comment on Rome Radio

Naturally enough people in Rome listen to the radio less now than they did during the German occupation, and show less interest in the programmes they can listen to openly than they did in those they were forced to listen to secretly. A workman who never omitted to listen to the news over the BBC or other station during the occupation would not forego any of his other activities in order to do so today. People listen now from idle curiosity or because they are concerned with news from occupied territory.

This being understood, it may be said that people are generally satisfied with Rome Radio broadcasts, though naturally they have a few faults to find. They like the musical introductions and the news from the various fronts.

A patriotic partisan thought that news from the Italian

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A petri the artisan thought that news from the Italian front should have precedence over the rest because Rome is a station broadcasting in Italy.

A student has criticised the insufficiency of details regarding partisan bands operating over the lines, though he admitted that a certain amount of secrecy was inevitable in this connection.

Finally a great many people are asking if it would be possible to establish in Rome a service of commentators, including the names most to the fore in present day political life, as is done in the United States and in England. This would greatly benefit the formation of the political consciousness of the younger generation. (B2)

3749

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Comment on Naples Radio.

It is reported that technical defects in the Naples broadcasts, interruptions and undulations of voice pitch, are compelling listeners to turn off their sets in order avoid damage to their previous radio valves. According to this informant in the poor district north of the Via Roma, Naples, as many as 40% of the population (much enriched by Black Market practices, have a radio set of their own. (C2)

A complaint is reported that certain speakers on the radio are defective in elocution. They are not clear enough in pronouncing their word. Two of the announcers are considered excellent in every respect. (C2)

Other reports state that the public is pleased with Radio Naples. Other more distant stations cannot be heard with the small radios available. The programme "Italia Combatte" ism much liked because of its artistic and technical excellence. Most people think that the freq ent repeated transmission of official news is tedious and should be reduced. It is also reported that negro spirituals and music are somewhat resented by the Italian public

Radio Palermo and Radio Bari cannot, according to reports, be heard clearly in Campania. The public shows increasing interest in the broadcasts of Radio Verdi. There is less interest in Radio London, since it appears that Colonel Stevens has "talked himself dry" (C2)

German and Fascist propaganda.

It is reported from Naples that very few people listen to the German radio. There is still quite a number who listen to the Fascist broadcasts, chiefly to get news from occupied Italy, and to get a check on Allied military news. This is a hangover from the days when the public turned to Allied broadcasts to check up on Fascist propaganda. (C1)

From Capaccio a reliable observer reports that German propaganda by Radio is having some success owing to the attractiveness of the Nazi programmes. News items and bulletins no longer reach this town, which is now largely dependent for its information on German broadcasts. (.B)

Rome papers and "Centro di Documentazione"

The following is reported by a student from an intelligent working class family:

The reaction of the population to the Allied system of propaganda was one of wonder and admiration; wonder at the extent of the plans and

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From Capaccio a reliable observer reports that German propaganda by Radio is having some success owing to the attractiveness of the Nazi programmes. News items and bulletins no longer reach this town, which is now largely dependent for its information on German broadcasts. (C3)

Rome papers and "Centro di Documentazione"

The following is reported by a student from an intelligent working class family:

The reaction of the population to the Allied system of propaganda was one of wonder and admiration; wonder at the extent of the means employed by the allied 'thinking machine' as well as their war production; admiration for the methods employed.

The comment has been made that one can only feel admiration for people who can gain the sympathy of the population while promising much and not maintaining all they promised. For example, during the early days of the liberation when the food situation was at itsworst, the papers published an announcement of the distribution of various foodstuffs, and this was then denied by the "Corriere di Roma". (Note the publication of this information, which was based on rumours, entirely without foundation, took place in party papers without Allied authorisation)

The only modification that could be suggested for the Corriere di Rome would be that the political news might be reduced and the local news increased, since the paper is printed only for the Rome area. (C3)

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Interior

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
APO 764

SECRET

Central "D" Section, Liberated Italy

July 8th 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No 25

Part II - annexes

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Government policy: an observers report	1
2	Interview with Mario Costa	1
3	Conversation with Cianca	3
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
4	Interview with Soccimarra	4
5	Conversation with Lussu in Naples	6
6	Meeting in commemoration of Buozzi	6
7	Political meetings in Rome	6
8	The armata rossa	7
9	Political parties in Naples	7
10	The Revolutionary Socialist Party	9
11	Sicilian separatists move their headquarters	
	CHURCH	
12	Religious Charities	10
	ARMY	
13	Army morale in Rome	10
	SECURITY	
14	Enemy propaganda	11
15	Fascist activities in Sicily	13
	EPURATION	
16		

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Government policy: an observers report	1
2	Interview with Mario Costa	1
3	Conversation with Cianca	3
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
4	Interview with Soccoimarra	4
5	Conversation with Lussu in Naples	6
6	Meeting in commemoration of Buozzi	6
7	Political meetings in Rome	6
8	The Armata Rossa	7
9	Political parties in Naples	7
10	The Revolutionary Socialist Party	9
11	Sicilian separatists move their headquarters	
	CHURCH	
12	Religious Charities	10
	ARMY	
13	Army morale in Rome	10
	SECURITY	
14	Enemy propaganda	11
15	Fascist activities in Sicily	13
	EPURATION	
16	Views on Epuration	14
17	Reactions to the Epuration Laws	14
	RECONSTRUCTION	
18	Damage to historic monuments and works of art at Viterbo	14
	LABOUR	
19	The Rome agreement on the Sindacato Unico	16
20	Interview with Giovanni Monici	18
21	The CGL and the CGIL reaction in Naples -	19
22	- and in Sicily	19
23	Review of the Labour situation in Rome	20

3748

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

SECRET

Contents II

Paragraph		Page
	PRESS	
24	Monarchist daily paper planned in Rome	23
25	List of new newspapers in Naples	23
	ECONOMIC	
26	How to combat the Black Market: a Rome suggestion	23
27	Great improvement in Naples Economic Situation	24
28	The bakers put up a poster	25
29	Salt Shortage	25
30	Bank notes refused	26
31	Price of dollars	26
32	Food situation in Sicily	26
33	Interview with head of Catania Provincial Agricultural Inspectorate	27
34	Communal Committees in Catania Province	27
35	Price of gold and yellow seal dollars in Catania	27

- - - - - - - - - -

Explanation of Reliability Rating:

Source (Reliability)

A Always Reliable
B Usually Reliable
C Sometimes reliable
D Frequently Unreliable
E A Bad Source

O Impossible to judge

Report (probability)

1 Confirmed
2 Probable
3 Possible
4 Doubtful
5 Improbable

O Impossible to judge

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
APO 794

Central D Section Liberated Italy

July 8th
1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No 25

Part II Annexes

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

1. Government policy: an observers' report.

The following survey is supplied by an objective and reliable Italian collaborator. He holds right-centre views, but adheres to no political party.

"Everybody is following with interest the development and activity of the Italian government in Salerno. Most people believe that nothing effective can be done before the whole of Italy has been liberated, and then only after the Constituent Assembly has been duly elected. The Salerno government is therefore regarded as dealing mainly in political theories, its practical scope being limited.

Political activity is particularly intense in country districts, which are to a certain extent free from any control. The Communists are gaining numerous followers and in certain districts the Demo-Christians are gaining ground owing to the intelligent policy of the Vatican. Monarchist propaganda is strongest among the forces, among landowners and also among reactionary elements with a Fascist background.

The real political meetings take place in private houses, sometimes surreptiously fostered by members of the government. This agitation is likely to continue even after the transfer of the government to Rome. (D 2)

2 Interview with Mario Costa.

Mario Costa, Under-Secretary for Industry and Commerce, was

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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2 Interview with Mario Costa.

Mario Costa, Under-Secretary for Industry and Commerce, was interviewed after his arrival in Salerno by a PWB officer. The most pressing problem, he said, was that of salaries, which he is at present discussing with the ACC. It is difficult to create a scale of wages for particular categories, since the wages of all workmen require revision. With the approach of the harvest season, the agricultural workers had asked as much as 500 lire a day. The matter was brought before the Minister for arbitration and finally a compromise was reached at 250 lire daily. In view of the scarcity of workers, it is understandable that agricultural workers should make such extravagant demands. The Ministry of War has given its assistance in handling this matter, and has sent groups of picked soldiers to work with the peasants. More than 5000 will be sent to the region of Naples. The scarcity of workers is attributable to their employment by the Allies, who are paying 160 lire a day, plus half daily rations.

3747

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

The unskilled industrial worker not employed by the Allies and not familiar with agricultural work is paid 40 lire daily, without living rations; this rate of pay is based on the 1939 wage scale. Many employers who hire on the basis of this old scale give their employees supplementary pay which is envisaged as an advance on their earnings. (Note: the AMG rate of basic daily wage is now 80 lire)

Employees experiencing the greatest hardship are undoubtedly those who are on fixed salaries, especially those employed by State or para-State agencies. In order to give some idea of the salary status of this class, it is sufficient to state that the maximum salary - that earned by the President of the Court of Cassation, is 7500 lire a month.

Attempts have been made to solve the salary problem by diminishing the cost of items of prime necessity and by increasing the quantity of such articles available on the open market. Such a solution would be satisfactory if a sufficient range and abundance of such items could be realised.

On the other hand, an attempt to solve the salary problem by an increase in wages would place considerable strain on the financial structure of the country and lead to an increased cost of living. Nevertheless, he feels that the method of salary increase might be attempted. While the salaries of workers in the open market and of those working for the Allies are both very high, the wages of the latter group have no effect on production, while the wages of the former group have already had an enormous influence on production.

Costa admitted that the amount of wheat contributed to the Granai del Popolo to date was very small. Costa is himself a landowner on a medium scale, and he is of the opinion that while the price is adequate for medium or large landowners who cultivate the land through share-croppers and contracted labour, it is not so for the small proprietor or tenant farmer who cultivates the land personally and has to meet the expenses of fertiliser, work animals and other help. For such people the price of 1000 lire involves considerable loss. Costa believes that the price of wheat for this class of producer should be at least 2000 lire.

To speed up the delivery of wheat to the Granai it is important, first, to give the producer a fair price, and then

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

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To speed up the delivery of wheat to the Granai it is important, first, to give the producer a fair price, and then apply coercion. Such drastic methods as the death penalty and imprisonment would not be taken seriously. The most effective measure would probably be the same as that used in the collection of taxes: default in payment entails the sale at auction of the property in question.

Returning to the question of salaries, Dr. Scognamiglio, Costa's Chef du Cabinet, emphasised the fact that this problem is at the basis of such strikes and threats of strikes as occur. These phenomena have nothing to do with political questions, but reflect the existence of hungry people who demand a necessary increase in wages. There are often, however, irresponsible elements of various political parties who exploit the situation by stirring people up to strike, without consulting the official directives of their parties. They thus cause embarrassment for the Government, since they know that the Ministers in many instances are not in a position to deal effectively with the questions at issue.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

While there are only a few industrial centres in Liberated Italy, they are nevertheless persistent sources of trouble. Thus the shipbuilding yards, TOSI, of Taranto; here the Under-Secretary of the Navy, Ramirez, without previous consultation with other Ministers, recently addressed the workers, promising them an increase in salary.

Costa said that he was satisfied with the present Government, which, he feels, truly represents the various opinions, and even the different tendencies, of the various parties.

The Italian people as a whole, he thought, was very favourable in its attitude to the Allies. He thinks that the Italian people are still disorientated in certain respects. One explanation for certain attitudes adopted was that many Italians do not feel that they have lost a war which was none of their choosing. In Sicily, for instance, there was no real defence, and the Allies were everywhere greeted as liberators.

3. Conversation with Cianca.

In conversation with an Italian collaborator of PWB, ironically of the clutter of individuals who appear in the Ministers' offices in Salerno, intent on political deals and manoeuvres.

He did not feel that the government should move to Rome until it could be granted a certain minimum of sovereignty. He said that the Ministers will meet in Council once a week in the offices of the Presidency, and the meetings of the Cabinet take place at Sorrento in the house of Benedetto Croce.

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PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

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pleasant manner of speech. He talked freely and without reserve.

The conversation began with a question on the labour situation and the formation of the single union in Rome, in contradiction to the "red" and "white" unions which had been established in Naples. Scoccimaro declared that during the German occupation the situation in the south was not understood in Rome. Here the syndicalist leaders - Grandi for the Christian Democrats, Di Vittorio for the Communists and Lizzadri for the Socialists were all well known in the trades unions movement even before Fascism. In Naples, an unknown man, Dino Gentili, whom nobody in the workers' movement had ever heard of, had produced a peculiar situation. He had recently declared himself to be a member of the Partito d'Azione so that he presented the phenomenon of a workers' leader who belonged to a party which had virtually no following among the workers. He had been offered a position in the single union but had refused. On the other hand, Di Vittorio, who had risen from the position of a humble agricultural worker of the Puglie, to be Communist syndical leader, had made a tour of the south recently and had investigated the attitude of the workers there. He reported that in the Puglie the workers' representatives were unanimous in their wish for the single union, while even in the General Confederation of Labour in Naples - Gentili's own creation - 80% of the workers were in favour of syndical unity. In fact the impression had got around that Gentili was no more than an adventurer.

It was the intention of the mass parties in Rome to hold within the next few weeks a congress of representatives of all the Camere di Lavoro, in order to decide this question. Each representative would come to this congress as the envoy of a stated number of workers whose views who would express on the matter. As Italy continued to be liberated further, such congresses would be held to take decisions on the question of syndical unity and other urgent matters that might arise.

Questioned about the relations between the Communist and other parties in the Committee of Liberation, Scoccimaro declared that all were in agreement in supporting the Government and all wished to intensify Italy's part in the war. The Italian Government's idea was to enrol more young men to fight, but the Allied Command was not yet persuaded to go as far as the Italian Government wanted. Partisans, meanwhile, many of whom had families up north, who had fought and still wanted to go on fighting, were getting very discouraged. They expected a different treatment to what they had got.

With the Socialist Party relations were cordial, and it was hoped that complete fusion would be attained. But as yet the situation was not mature for this. There was a certain amount of confusion and several tendencies within the Socialist ranks. They had not the discipline nor the cohesion of the Communist Party.

Relations with the Action Party were getting less close. It's future was by no means clear. It was a party of too many tendencies and was too anxious to identify itself with different groups and classes. It would do better to stand as the representative of some distinct class or idea rather than have a finger in so many pies.

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The Christian Democrats were a strong party with which the Communists would seek a working arrangement. Two currents were discernible in this party. The first was favourable to the masses, founded on the peasants, of progressive tendencies. The other represented pietism and conservatism. If the latter got too powerful, there might occur a scission in the party. He thought that the Christian Socialists who represented the extreme elements of the Christian Democratic view (though as a party they were quite separate) had done themselves considerable harm by making common cause with the dissident parties which had been agitating against the Committee of Liberation. A more serious group was to be found in the Catholic Communists, who had a fair following, a real sense of responsiblity and whose leader was Modena, a very intelligent man.

Referring to the dissolution which took place on 3.7.44. of the Armata Rossa, Scoccimarro explained that this body had been formed to unite the Communist Party with the Bandiera Rossa or dissident Communist movement. Bandiera Rossa was composed of varying elements, not all very creditable. Some Fascists had made their way into the movement and the leader of it, one Pace, had during a period in confine been guilty of dishonest conduct. Of the Armata Rossa's executive of five members; three had voted for disbandment, and two of whom Pace was one, against it.

This was not the time for the Armata Rossa, said Scoccimarro, but for a national army comprising all the sound elements of the nation. Members of the Armata Rossa had committed acts of rapine and loot, which were then attributed to the Communists. The situation now was that the bulk of both of the Armata Rossa and the dissident Bandiera Rossa movement which is also breaking up was seeking admission into the Communist Party of Italy. These applications would be carefully considered and the antecedents of each applicant investigated. If he was found worthy he would be admitted into the Communist Party.

Bandiera Rossa was a movement financed by reactionary elements who wished to discredit the left parties in the eyes of the Allies. These people had been Fascists and unfortunately some of them were to be found in the entourage of General Roncivenga, who had given his support to the Armata Rossa and Bandiera Rossa. It had been General Roncivenga's ambition to unite all the parties within and outside the Committee of Liberation into a great anti-Fascist block of which he was to be head.

He was, however, misled by bad advisers into thinking that the dissident groups were really representative of the masses, and he financed them with the money put at his disposal by Badoglio. Among other groups which he supported (which had somehow gained a footing among the dissidents) were the D'Annunzio group of Fascists. But none of the dissident groups had any real influence. Moreover, Roncivenga had never taken an active part in the resistance movement. It was General Odone who had taken the risks and it had created a bad impression when General Roncivenga received the medaglia d'argento.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Asked about the attitude of the Communist Party to the Church, Scoccimarro said that relations on the whole were good. Communists were against anti-clericalism and on the side of the clergy there was a greater comprehension of Communism than before. Through numerous parish priests who were not unfriendly, it had been possible to establish good terms even with some prominent hierarchs in the Vatican, but there was still a hostile current there.

37-5

The policy of Communism in Italy was one of understanding with the Church and the Army, because both these forces will have to be used to help in the reconstruction of the country.

SECRET

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

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5. Conversation with Lussu in Naples - June 24th.

Lussu has spent a few days in Naples and during this time came into contact with Government circles representing all parties in Salerno and in Naples itself. He also attended political meetings, particularly those of the Action Party.

In conversation with an Italian collaborator Lussu gave the impression of being depressed. He deplores the destruction which war has brought to Italy chiefly in the industrial centres where so many people earned their living. In his opinion, at least two generations will be necessary for the reconstruction of Italy.

Lussu said that he cannot see among Italian any concrete determination for a national revival and re-organization. The thing which disturbs him most is that, after twenty years of oppression and tyranny, the Italians have not finally reacted, even violently, against those who enslaved and insulted them, and in the end, led them to war and ruin. Lussu is afraid that later, when the Italians have recovered a little from their present misery, their present placidity may result in violence. Meanwhile, their attitude hinders the real task of moral and material reconstruction.

Lussu admitted that he was not particularly enthusiastic about the parties and their activities, nor about the men who compose them.

6. Meeting in commemoration of Bruno Buozzi - 4.7.44.

This meeting was held at the Adriano Theatre, and there were a large number of people present, including the Hon. Canevari. It opened with Beethoven's Eroica Symphony, after which Pietro Nenni spoke. He briefly outlined the character and life of the martyr, recalling his appointment as secretary of the F.C.I.M. his arrest in Paris by the Gestapo and his condemnation to confino. He was freed on the occasion of the armistice. Nenni stated clearly in his talk that the monarchy had been the accomplice of Mussolini and had always obstructed the work of great Italians such as Buozzi. "The flight of the House of Savoy to Pescara", said Nenni, "is the historical equivalent, in changed conditions, to the flight to Varenne of the last of the Capet."

The speaker then went on to talk on epuration. It is not the ordinary employees who must be expelled, but those who have grown rich at the expense of the people, those who are perhaps responsible for Mussolini. The three goals which Buozzi would have indicated to the Italian people are: participation in the war, defence of the workers, the Constituent Assembly. Buozzi is still present among us in spirit. The people want all these things.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789702/

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The commemoration was an impressing occasion, and the words of Nenni were often loudly applauded, especially when he spoke against the monarchy and when he recalled incidents from the life of the martyr. (B-3).

7. Political meetings held in Rome during the period June 25th - July 4th, 1944.

Democrazia del Lavoro.

25.6.44. - Avv. Momigliano gave the first of a series of lectures for young people, illustrating the work of the party during the 20th century. His subject outlined the history of democracy from 1820 onwards, with reference in particular to Mazzini and Garibaldi, to the less successful period from 870 to 890, and to the first Democratic Congress held in Rome in 1896. He also spoke of Berbanio Sacchi and Cavalletti. There were about 50 persons present. The Democrazia del Lavoro also held a meeting under the chairmanship of Paresce.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Liberal Party.

1.7.44. - Prof. Antoni gave a talk on Liberalism and the social question. He spoke of the problem of human personality, of which Liberalism is the true defender. It also defends the bourgeoisie and the small proprietors, which are the representatives of the nation. The economic question is a difficult one for the Liberal Party; while accepting the postulates of a liberalistic economy, they must of necessity accept principles made essential by the progress of society, such as State control of gas, electricity, transport, etc. The comment is made that economic questions should be discussed in a less philosphical and more realistic tone, in view of those who are the most concerned with it: several workmen present applauded without appearing to have understood very much. There were about 100 persons present at the meeting.

Party of Action.

Held one meeting at which Manlio Rossi Doria spoke.

Socialist Party.

Held three meetings: one for Socialists from Calabria; a meeting for seconday school teachers; and a general meeting of Sicilian Socialists.

Christian Democrats.

Held three meetings: one at which Avv. Iannotta spoke; a meeting at which Lt. Col. Milanesi of the Italian Voluntary Expeditionary Corps addressed young members of the Party on the theme "Volontariato Cristiano"; a meeting of all journalists.

8. Armata Rossa.

At a meeting on the 3.7.44. the directive committee of the ArmataRossa decided to dissolve the Army. The members who are Communists remain in the fold of the Communist Party of Italy. The mass of the remainder belong to the dissident Communists headed by Pece.

The order dissolving the Red Army will not yet have reached the provinces as the provincial leaders only come to Rome from time to time to receive orders.

It is probable that the dissidents received funds from Gamberi, and some of these may have gone to the Armata Rossa.

Pece, who was against the official Communists, is said to be retiring from the political arena.

A dangerous element of the former Red Army was the dissident Avico who

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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A dangerous element of the former Red Army was the dissident Avico who commands a gang of thugs who usually go about armed. He seems now to be drawing close to the orthodox Communists. (3-3).

9. The Political parties in Naples.

3744

The following report supplied by an Italian collaborator in Naples covers the period up to June 28th.

Even in the provinces the new Government and its first declarations of policy have been fully approved by public opinion. It is worth noting that the

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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nature of the new government and its declarations sum up the political aims which the majority of the Italian people had already been consciously supporting for several months, a fact which is very clear to anyone who lives continously in contact with local political, social and economic developments.

In the political situation as it stands, the Monarchy has to all intents and purposes been deprived of all authority and prestige in the eyes of the people, and has been thrust in a corner.

The anti-Fascist parties on the other hand now feel themselves strengthened by the substantial successes which they have won, but the political game between the Left and Right tendencies is worth close study.

The three left parties have in the Committee of Liberation various advantages over the Right parties; a great influence with the masses, fewer political leaders compromised with Fascism, and a more popular anti-Fascist and Democratic programme. In fact since the Bari Congress, the Left Parties have succeeded in drawing over to their way of thinking also the Right parties which sometimes have had to follow them in order not to lose popularity (e.g. the Demb-Christian Party at the Bari Congress). Of course these parties have done everything to restrain the Left Parties (e.g. the Liberals' opposition to the law of Fascist crimes),

As for the parties outside the Committee of Liberation, their political influence is obviously much less, the extreme left (the "PSRI" (partito Socialista Rivoluzionario Italiano), the "LUDE" (Libera Unione degli Ugauali) the dissident Communists) have undoubtedly an ample field in which to criticise the work of the official parties, but their criticism will always be insignificant from the practical point of view, because they will never be able to offer any concrete programme as against that of the official parties. Public Opinion realized this.

The right wing (the Monarchists, Demo-Liberals, etc.) has for the same reason a difficult task in keeping up the opposition. As a result, both the extreme Left and the extreme Right parties have to criticize the government on identical lines with arguments which especially in political matters, are of little interest to the public. That is why the Demo-Liberals are glad to bolster up their own shaky position by joining with the Liberals. The fusion has already taken place in the Province of Foggia.

The Republican Party however has taken up an entirely different position from all the other outside parties. It is much respected in political circles for the high standing of it's policy, but it is known that it has lost strength, as most of its members have joined the Party of Action. It has now brought out its own paper, "La Voce Repubblicana" run by Prof. Dattilo. Dr. Capece continues to have great influence in this party but it seems that he too is about to leave.

The strongest outside party is the P.S.R.I. but it is also the most discredited in the political circles of Naples because of the scandal mongering of its newspaper "the Bandiera Rossa," because of the incoherence of its theories

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

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The strongest outside party is the P.S.R.I. but it is also the most discredited in the political circles of Naples because of the scandal mongering of its newspaper "the Bandiera Rossa," because of the incoherence of its theories and practical policy and also for the irresponsible way in which it accepts new members. In these last days various leaders of the party (D'Ambra, Maggiotta, Romano) have gone to Rome in order to establish the party there and to negotiate a fusion with strong Socialist and dissident Communist groups, which are now publishing in Rome a paper of the same name as that of the P.S.R.I. "BandieraRossa."

Another political group of the extreme Left has been formed which calls itself "Gruppi Libevari" (The Libertarians). It is of anarchist tendencies.

SECRET

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

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Its chief members are; Ing. Saccaria, the worker Zanetti, Signora Berneri, widow of a former anarchist, and the railway worker Abate, one of the leaders of the railways workers Union who is an old Anarchist-Syndicalist. The group meets in his house in Piazza Nazionale. It is preparing to publish a newspaper called "Rivoluzione Libertaria" which will probably come out on the 19th July the anniversary of the Spanish Revolution. All the above mentioned are established anti-Fascists of proven honesty and great integrity. (B-2).

10. The Revolutionary Socialist Party.

An Italian Collaborator reports in Salerno, the Revolutionary Socialist Party is considered to have a promising future. Its paper "BandieraRossa" is eagerly read, even by government officials for its vitriolic and indiscriminate attacks.

It has also opened various sections in Southern Italy but many of these are entirely independent and were opened through the iniation of local elements without even the approval of the direction in Naples, except casually and finally some have never had any relations with it at all.

At present some directors have left for Rome in order to set up a P.S.R.I. there also. They hope to be able to absorb a part of the dissident communists there, whose number, as it is well-known is large.

It is necessary to emphasise that this party although it has a certain number of members, is not seriously organized and absolutely lacks men of real political insight. (C-2).

Judging be a report supplied to P.W.B. by Avv. D'Ambra, one of the leaders of the PSR I who came to Rome to look for recruits or possible mergers, his current, at least will not join with the Movimento Communista Italiano, or with the remains of the Armata Rossa. He describes both movements as being composed of a large proportion of opportunists. On July 1st he forecast the dissolution of the Armata Rossa for lack of funds. The Movimento Communista may, he thinks survive, rather because of what he describes as the present decomposition of the official Communist Party, to which the PSRI is bitterly opposed, than because of the force of its doctrine or capacity of its leaders.

11. Sicilian Separatists move their headquarters.

A Sicilian collaborator reports that the Separatists have been forced by the continued watchfullness and suppression of the police and the hostility of other political parties, to transfer their headquarters from Palermo to Catania. His report gives the impression that the Separatists, by intense police supervision, have been driven to working rather more underground, particularly as regards their press. Separatist papers now tend to be single issues, printed with the names of non-existent printing presses. In spite of all these precautions, two presses which had been guilty of complicity in the clandestine publication of Separatist papers, were recently discovered in Palermo.

The same source reports that in Catania the Separatists are made up of

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

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The same source reports that in Catania the Separatists are made up of a more reputable element than in Palermo, where the movement was mainly composed of small minority involved in the Maffia. At Catania, the rank and file of the movement is more intellectual, including many students. In April of this year a woman's section was established, a novelty for a Sicilian political party. (B-3).

Another Separatist meeting, scheduled for June 18th in the Palazzo Palagonia, at Bagheria, has been banned by the police. The Separatists published an unauthorised manifesto giving the text of a letter of protest which they stated they had sent to the ACC. The letter complained that the meeting was banned because of Finocchiaro Aprile, at his Catania meeting, had used irreverant words

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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regarding the Head of the Government and the Minister of the Interior, and because of the unjust accusation that he, in criticising the government's grain policy, had incited the producers not to deliver their grain to the pools. He complained also that the Badoglio Government had denied him the right to a paper, though he could not think that the Bonomic Government would do the same. Thus two of the freedoms promised by the Allies - freedom of the press, and of public meeting - had been denied the separatists by the liberticide and uncivilised methods of the Prefect of Palermo.

Baron Cesare Druni di Belmonte, an ex-deputy and one of the leaders of the Separatist movement, gave an interview to a P.W.B. collaborator in which he repeated the Separatists usual historic and economic justification of their movement which he said is developing chiefly among the aristocratic and professional classes, but also among the bourgeoisie. It is a far sighted movement, and as such is greatly misunderstood. The Communists in particular oppose it, for they see in the sober and peaceful character of the Sicilians a natural obstacle to the spreading of their ideas. Catholics, taken individually view the movement with favour, but no word of encouragement has come from the Episcopate, perhaps because it is bound to the Italian State by an oath of fidelity, or perhaps because it is felt that the political action of the national Catholic parties promises better practical results.

CHURCH

12. Religious charities.

It is reported that in the last few days the Pope has donated the sum of one hundred thousand lire to the Secretaries of Charity institutions which have been founded in many Romen parishes to feed and cloth people rendered homeless or placed in straightened circumstances by the war. The Holy See continues to provide generously for the "Cucine Economiche" which provide meals at low prices, and has intervened to reserve some of these for professional men who have been ruined by the war.

Cardinal Ascalesi's secretary has provided a PWB officer with the following data on the Church's charitable work in the Archdiocese of Naples. The Church there continues to give aid through the established channels, the Dames de charite and Catholic Action, which have groups in each of the 200 parishes of the archdiocese. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul provides doctors and medicines to the very poor. Three war-time institutions have been set up to help the bombped out families, one to provide the necessaries for women in childbirth and for their babies. Religious orders also run a network of canteens in the diocese, providing a total of six to seven thousand meals daily. There is also a mess in the Archbishop palace at Naples which feeds priests whose presbyteries have been destroyed by bombing.

ARMY

13. Italian Army Morale in Rome

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

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ARMY

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An officer of the 2nd Regiment of Granatieri di Sardegna revealed that there had been great enthusiasm on the Allied entry into Rome and that 250 officers of the grenadier regiments who were in the city at the time immediately offered their services to fight against the Germans. As they heard nothing further they became very disheartened and demoralised.

The officer went on to say that about 90% of the troops of his regiment are in the North, in Lombardy, Veneto, Piedmont, Emilia and Liguria. Of the officers in Rome most would volunteer to serve as troopers.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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He suggested that it was a pity not to use such excellent material. These men, if supplied with decent rifles and automatics, working in small parties would be able to do much useful patrol work across the lines. They are well-trained in this type of warfare, have a good knowledge of the country and can live hard. The officer cited as an example the last forced march which he had carried out with his company. They had gone 119 km. in two days in full marching order. A daily average of 40 km. carrying 20 kilos per man would be normal.

The officer pointed out that his fellow reserve officers will not now have anything to do with the regular officers, most of whose records are doubtful even if they have not acted in outright collaboration with the Germans.

The officers of the regiment are on the whole a-political and want to belong to a purely military cadre. They would need arms and explosives and boots, but they all have their uniforms.

The officer stated that as far as he knew his remarks about the wish of Italian officers of his regiment in Rome to take active service to help drive out the Germans applied to [illegible]aming officers of all regiments. He felt likewise that the demoralisation due to inaction which was beginning to spread among his brother officers would be felt by all officers in Rome who were anxious to serve their country. (C-3).

SECURITY

14. Enemy Propaganda.

The following manifesto was found in the Corso Vittorio Emanuele near Piazza Argentina on 27.6.44.:

Front

NOW ARE YOUR CHILDREN TO LIVE?

(Picture of happy children playing with mother)

Like this?

Picture of sick ragged children begging)

Or like this?

Back

ITALIANS!

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795021

marching order. A daily average of 40 km. carrying 20 kilos per man would be normal.

The officer pointed out that his fellow reserve officers will not now have anything to do with the regular officers, most of whose records are doubtful even if they have not acted in outright collaboration with the Germans.

The officers of the regiment are on the whole a-political and want to belong to a purely military cadre. They would need arms and explosives and boots, but they all have their uniforms.

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Front

HOW ARE YOUR CHILDREN TO LIVE?

(Picture of happy children playing with mother)

Like this?

Picture of sick ragged children begging)

Or like this?

Back

ITALIANS!

The Bolshevik scourge, which the Anglo-Americans have brought to our country, is raging throughout Southern Italy.

THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN have already been carried away by the murderers, cruelly snatched from their mothers' lap and their father's arms. Weeping children are put on th ships without saying goodbye to their families and sent to the Soviet Union. Many ships with their human cargo have already left Southern Italy. Many others will follow.

3742

This means:

that you, unfortunate parents, will never see your beloved children again!

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This means:

that your children will die in the agonies of hunger!

ITALIANS !

Ask your soldiers, who have fought in Russia, in what state they found the wretched Spanish children who were deported there.

It will be the same for your children: these children, whose smile once brightened your homes, are now covered with rags and lice. Their little bare feet are almost frozen in the terrible Russian cold. They are weeping and begging in the streets. They are stretching our their cold, dirty little hands, asking charity of passers-by, poor little things without a country and without a bed when ill. These innocent little martyrs will die of hunger!

MOTHERS ! FATHERS !

Tomorrow it may be the turn of your beloved child!

Tomorrow the leering Bolshy may snatch your child from your arms.

ITALIENS ! Prevent this !

Fight for the happines and the safety of your children !

Unite together against the Bolshevik, British and American murderers!

PARENTS ! SAVE YOUR CHILDREN !

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

An Italian informant saw a man with a handful of these leaflets, and this man, who said he had found them in the Corso Vittorio Emanuele at midday, declared that he was about to hand them over to the police. Our informant asked if they had been dropped by air. The man replied, no, they were probably thrown from a car.

The leaflets were probably printed in January 1944 when a great propaganda drive was started to prove that the Allies were sending children to Russia.

15. The following manifesto, (a parody on a tribute to Allied troops which has been put out by one of the politiwal parties) was found in the railway station:

IN MEMORIUM

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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15. The following manifesto, (a parody on a tribute to Allied troops which has been put out by one of the political parties) was found in the railway station:

IN MEMORIUM

Disertarono le loro case ed il loro lavoro,
Si prostituirono sulla pubblica via.
Dissiparono in pochi giorni il patrimonio secolare di virtu'
Che la distingueva.
Minacciarono di soffocare la fiamma dell'onore, che i martiri
Alimentarono col proprio sangue.
Ricordiamole
Sono o saranno le nostre spose, le madri dei nostri figli.

SECRET

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

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15. Fascist Activities in Sicily.

There has been an increase in Fascist activities and no violent public reaction to a more blatant return of Fascism forms or practices.

The danger of slipping back into Fascism is made greater by the fact that many prominent ex-Fascists have returned to their positions and that many prominent Fascists still hold the key positions in a number of Communes. Thus the acting Prefect of Caltanissetta, Valdaina, was a Squadrista and sciorpa littorio and his brother was Federal Secretary for Catania. The Questore of Caltanissetta is the same today as during the Fascist era. The Sindaco Tumminelli waspodesta and the Inginieri Capo del Comune, Duccolo was a Fascist Gerarch.

During the last few weeks there has been an outburst of Fascist activities in Messina and Catanialeading to a number of arrests. In Palermo a young man was seen walking about in the sports jersey of the GIL unchallenged by either the police or by the public. In various quarters of the town "Viva Mussolini" and "Viva il Duce" are seen written up on the walls.

EPURATION

16. Views on Epuration.

This subject continues to be widely discussed by all classes. The left general has welcomed Poletti's decree, although it fears that it may be too sweeping to be adequately applied. The Catholic daily "Quotidiano" writes that from the extreme rifht to the extreme left all are agreed that those responsible for the downfall of Italy must be brought to justice, and to a justice that all are equally agreed shall not be a series of vendette. The Action paper "L'Italia Libera" sees in the Poletti decree primarily a police measure aiming at the restoration of the essential conditions for moral and political security. On the other hand there is a noticeable tendency among the leisured classes to decry these decrees as altogether too radical, and likely to endanger the structure of Italian society. An Italian professional man of right wing leanings, while admitting that the regulations for the prosecution of Fascists had been widely welcomed by the population, ventured the opinion that by giving the list of people regarded as Fascists, the principles regarding the administration of justice in the Anglo-Saxon countries has been reversed. The presumption is that such persons are regarded as culprits and that they must prove they have committed no crime; while according to the traditions of American and British democratic procedure, a citizen is considered innocent until he or she is proven guilty.

This Italian considers that the Badoglio decree against those who supported Fascism lends itself to a very wide interpretation, as it leaves the decision in the hands of the judge. As Fascism has destroyed the traditions of the Italian bench, he feared that this decree places too much power in the individual judge, especially at a moment when feelings of hatred and rancour are so aroused.

The Poletti decree includes among the presumed culprits certain kinds

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

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The Poletti decree includes among the presumed culprits certain kinds of fascists who were "bona fida" before 1922, and who gradually changed their opinions later. Our contact exstanced many statesmen abroad who believed in Mussolini when he was waging war against the "communists" and were only enlightened by the subsequent imperialism and ruthlessness of Fascist policy.

Among the professional classes there has been some complaint that no account has been allowed for those former members of the fascist party who helped the patriots after the 8th. September. The question of the squadristi is also

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795021

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much discussed, some saying that they should all be shot, others that out of the 100,000 squadristi only about 20,000 were responsible for the 1922 putsch, and that therefore each case must be considred separately. The "people" are in rather an angry mood. They feel that so many of yesterdays fascists are still at large, exploiting todays situation as ably as ever during the last twenty two years.

All classes seem to agree that the republican fascists, hated as spies and informers, should be dealt with mercilessly. They feel that both the Allies and the Italian military authorities have dealt too leniently with former members of the Republican Army, who they say should be considered prisoners of war, as in fact they have fought against the United Nations and the Italian Corps of Liberation. It is generally thought that the only punishment so far inflicted on these people is that of signing their name each morning at the War Ministry.

Certain instances strike the public as peculiar. One was the release, ten days before their apprehension, of the brothers Guido and Bruno Cassinelli, well known lawyers, in Rome. The Paper "Ricostruzione" secured documents proving that at least one of them was paid 15,000 lire a month by the OVRA as a spie and infoemr. There is also a vide spread rumour that the brothers Scalera are under contract for the Allies.

A fairly reliable report from Naples states that certain political parties there are attempting to diminish the effectiveness of the Epuration Law, with the ostensible purpose of reducing the possibilities of further division among the Italian people. This source considers that the motive of such parties is to get certain ex-Fascists onto their side.

17. Reactions to the Epuration Laws.

Some people think that the laws are too drastic and fear that they may not be applied. Even anti-Fascists believe that it would be dangerous to strike at so many people without individual trials. In such a way there would be several thousands unemployed who would be unable to reconstruct their lives and would consequently be united in their hatred. In particular it is hoped that those who have been most actively fascist will be punished and not those who merely joined the party or belonged to the Nationalist Party before the March on Rome. (D-2).

Alarm is steadily increasing in Neo-Fascist Circles at the effects of Poletti's epuration laws. (D-1).

RECONSTRUCTION

18. Damage to historic monuments and works of art at Viterbo.

The honorary Inspector of Monuments and fine arts of Viterbo submitted the following report to the Prefect of that Province, dated 21st June 1944:-

"As far as I can judge at the moment, no damage was done to artistic monuments of the city by the retreating Germans. Most of the damage was

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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"As far as I can judge at the moment, no damage was done to artistic monuments of the city by the retreating Germans. Most of the damage was caused by the bombings which began on the 25th May. Before this date the church of San Francesco was hit on the 17th January 1944, but with the help of the monks of the adjoining monastery I managed to place in safety the tome of Hadrian VI. attributed to Arnolfo di Cambio.

The following churches of only moderate artistic importance have been damaged:- the church of the Ellera, SS Giacomo and Martino, the XII century San Sisto, which received a direct hit; the XI century San Giovanni in Zoccoli, Sant' Ignazio, Santa Maria in Poggio and the impressive church of Santa Maria di Gradi, by the same architect as the Trevi fountain in Rome, the dome of which has fallen in..

SECRET

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

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Among the blitzed churches is the XI century Duomo, where bomb damage has been done to the vault and paving. The Roman collonade is untouched. The repairs to this building should not be difficult.

The XXII house of Valentino della Pagnotta, which adjoins the Papal Palace, has collapsed. By a miracle the church of Santa Maria Nuovo and the twelfth century palaces of Piazza San Pellegrino are intact. The town walls between Porta della Verita and Porta Romana have suffered.

The Verita Church, built by French Premonstratensians in the XII century has been hit in the nave. The bomb brought down the roof and the Lorenzi di Giacomo di Viterbo (XIV) frescoes in the Mazzatosa chapel have suffered badly. Many of the Etruscan sepulchres stored along the nave have also perished.

I had already managed to send many pictures from the Pinacoteca to the Capuchin convent at Palanzana, including the Flagellation of Sebastiano del Piombo, and the Nativity of Antonio del Massaro. The Superintendent of Galleries arranged for the Sebastiano del Piombo pictures to be sent to the Vatican last January. Other pictures were sent at the same time to Rome, including the Redempter and Saints attributed to Montaegna.

Among the buildings that have been entirely destroyed in the Palazzo Rocci which housed the Biblioteca Communale of the Aldenti. I do not yet know how much of the material of the library is salvageable. The chief treasures of the library were transferred to the State Archives in Rome last March.
I placed two cases containing the communal "reforms", dating from 1400 to 1870 in a cellar under the library, and there is every possibility that these will be found intact.

Signed: Royal Inspector of Monuments and Excavations

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3770

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LABOUR

19 The Rome Agreement for the sindacato unico.

The following report is supplied by a PWB officer who has been investigating the Labour position:

Before the liberation of Rome the heads of the union movement of the mass parties - that is to say the Communists, Christian Democrats and Socialists - met together on a number of occasions to discuss the problems of trades unionism in the part of Italy liberated from the Germans. They finally agreed that the "sindacato unico" was the most efficient instrument for the organisation of labour and, about June 10th, they issued the terms of an understanding which provided for a single Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro. This was to comprise a national Federation of Labour for every branch of production. While the further development of the particular syndical organisations was left over for further examination, agreement was reached on the following points.

i) Elections to all offices to be carried out democratically from below

ii) Maximum expression of opinion to be ensured and mutual respect for varying political or religious tendencies.

iii) Independence from all political parties with the choice, which may be exercised by the C.G.I.L., to associate itself with the action of the democratic parties which are the expression of the working masses, whether for the safeguarding and development of the freedom of the people or for the defence of the interests of labour and of the country.

The three syndical movements - Communist, Christian Democrat and Socialist - therefore constituted the Provisional Directive Council of the C G I L, composed of a Directive Committee of 15 members (5 from each party) and a Provisional General Secretariat of three members from each party. The Provisional Directive Council is to be enlarged by the inclusion of representatives of the syndical movement in the south and in other regions as they become freed from the Germans.

The first General Secretaries nominated were the Hon. Emilio Canevari (Socialist), now replaced by Lizzadri (Longobardi); The Hon. Giuseppe di Vittorio (Communist); the Hon. Achille Grandi (Christian Democrat).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The immediate programme of action of the Confederation was stated to be:

i) the reorganisation of the syndical movement.

ii) The intensification of the war effort.

iii) The maintenance of contact with the masses in the north, and supplying them with the means to fight.

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

iv) The initiating of measures for the economic restoration of the country

v) The elaboration of a plan for reconstituting the co-operative movement.

vi) The taking over of the real and personal estate of the disbanded Fascist organisation.

The announcement of this programme aroused a good deal of criticism in a number of different quarters. It was attacked by the Liberals, Labour Democrats and members of the Party of Action in Rome (see Risorgimento Liberale of June 24th, "Ricostruzione" of 25th) on the grounds that it arbitrarily excluded the participation of members of the Liberal and Action Parties. This apparently is not the case, but no provision seems to have been made for representatives of these parties from the syndicates. Another counterblast came from "Battaglie Sindacali", the organ of the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro of Naples headed by Dino Gentili and Enrico Russo. These claim that their Confederation was at least brought to birth democratically and the officers elected by acclamation in a public meeting of syndical representatives, whereas the Confederation of Rome was created by the agreement of union leaders of only three parties. "Battaglie Sindacali" criticised the Rome agreement on two grounds: that it violates the principle of "no politics" in the Confederation, and that it was anti-Democratic With these criticisms the leaders of the Confederazione Italiana dei Lavoratori, the Christian Confederation which was started in Salerno last March, seems to be in agreement. The newspaper "L'Ora del Popolo" (30.6.44) of Salerno edited by Carlo Petrone, one of the leaders of the Christian syndicalist movement in the South, contains these words: "Thus the news of the agreement arrived at in Rome has been received with great diffidence in our camp, and if our authoritative friends should persist in what is considered a blind optimism, the consequences could be very serious." The Directive Committee of the Christian confederation (Confederazione Italiana dei Lavoratori) decided on June 23rd that, in view of the Rome decisions, it must hold further consultations with its own organisations, and that meanwhile its work as a separate confederation must go on.

Meanwhile about the middle of June the Communist Secretary General of the Roman Confederation, Di Vittorio, made a tour of the South to review the situation there. In an interview published in the Rome "Unità" (2 7 44) he stated that the majority of workers in Puglie and many in Campania had already adhered to the Rome agreement. At Bari representatives of the Camere di Lavoro of Bari, Foggia, Lecce, Brindisi Taranto and Macerata, a representation of 160,000 workers inscribed in the southern

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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

said, contained at least 90% of trades unionists in the country, and to have permitted a representation on the Provisional Directive Council of all the minority groups of other parties which would have asked for it would have produced an alignment of delegates on this Council totally unrelated to reality. He pointed out that the single union was open to any worker of whatever political or religious creed, and that when a syndicate proceeds to constitute itself it proceeds to appoint its officials by way of democratic election, and that therefore all currents of political opinion can be represented. He cited Rome as an example where this had already happened, where the Party of Action, which had a following among certain classes of employees had its representatation on the Camera Confederale del Lavoro.

In Rome itself the initiative of the three mass parties has been well received among the workers because they felt that the presence on the directive council of representatives of other groups would be more of a hindrance than a help to the workers interests. It would appear also that a fusion may soon be achieved with the larger part of the two confederations existing in the south. Negotiations to this end are now on foot. It is likely, however, that Gentili will continue his efforts to organise labour without entering the Roman confederation, and it is probable that a number of trades union groups will continue to co-exist and some more will spring up at least for some time to come. An example of the unfortunate results which might follow from a policy of ignoring the interests of the minority currents in the trade union movement is furnished in a report ("Ricostruzione" of 25 6 44) of the action by of the internal syndical commission of the National Institute of Insurance, composed of representatives of the Communist, Socialist, Christian Democrat and Party of Action members, which denied the right of representation to members of the other parties. It is stated that these were in considerable number and that they were forced to nominate an autonomous commission which, while desiring to collaborate with the 'orthodox' commission, would also safeguard the rights of the excluded minority.

In conclusion, it appears that the ideal of the single a-political syndicate is shared by all parties alike. Arguments in favour of this conception are stressed in the interview which follows with the On. Giovanni Monici, the newly appointed Director of Labour in the Rome Region. The trouble is that the labour leaders, in particular those who formed the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro in the South, are party politicians who accept readily that their party

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

and that when a syndicate proceeds to constitute itself it proceeds to appoint its officials by way of democratic election, and that therefore all currents of political opinion can be represented. He cited Rome as an example where this had already heppened, where the Party of Action, which had a following among certain classes of employees had its representatation on the Camera Confederale del Lavoro.

In Rome itself the initiative of the three mass parties has been well received among the workers because they felt that the presence on the directive council of representatives of other groups would be more of a hindrance than a help to the workers interests. It would appear also that a fusion may soon be achieved with the larger part of the two confederations existing in the south. Negotiations to this end are now on foot. It is likely, however, that Gentili will continue his efforts to organise labour without entering the Roman confederation, and it is probable that a number of trades union groups will continue to co-exist and some more will spring up at least for some time to come. An example of the unfortunate results which might follow from a policy of ignoring the interests of the minority currents in the trade union movement is furnished in a report ("Ricostruzione" of 25 6 44) of the action by of the internal syndical commission of the National Institute of Insurance, composed of representatives of the Communist, Socialist, Christian Democrat and Party of Action members, which denied the right of representation to members of the other parties. It is stated that these were in considerable number and that they were forced to nominate an autonomous commission which, while desiring to collaborate with the 'orthodox' commission, would also safeguard the rights of the excluded minority.

In conclusion, it appears that the ideal of the single a-political syndicate is shared by all parties alike. Arguments in favour of this conception are stressed in the interview which follows with the On. Giovanni Monici, the newly appointed Director of Labour in the Rome Region. The trouble is that the labour leaders, in particular those who formed the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro in the South, are party politicians who cannot easily shed their sectarian zeal, and that the unity which was achieved in Rome - and this was certainly a substantial achievement - unfortunately gave the impression that it was accomplished at the expense of the less numerous groups in the syndical field.

20 Interview with the On. Giovanni Monici.

A PWB officer on July 6th interviewed the On. Giovanni Monici, who has recently appointed Regional Director of Labour for the Rome area.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Monici, who is a man of about 55, expressed the opinion that syndical unity was necessary and in fact indispensable, for two reasons:

i) Only by syndical unity would it be possible to take full advantage of the liberation of Italy by the Allies, and to start to build up a satisfied and prosperous working class without the continual threat of long periods of unemployment. Only syndical unity would eliminate the petty squabbling that used to occur between different unions regarding the "rights" of their members. Unity would have the effect of canalising all the great potential forces of the working class and thus ensuring future prosperity.

ii) Monici considered that the working classes in Italy could be held at least partially responsible for the successful dictatorship of the Fascist government. Instead of organising themselves into a united front, the large and small left groups had resisted individually, each bearing in mind its own particular political credo, which was often narrow and regional

Asked what would happen in the case of a worker who belonged to a party other than those represented in the Confederation, Monici dismissed the idea as being so unlikely that the question was purely academic. He said it was just the sort of point his opponents would raise to try and confuse the issue

With regard to Gentili and the Naples confederation, Monici said that he had not yet really had an opportunity of getting first hand information about it, and that he preferred to reserve his judgement until he had been able to go to Naples and investigate the situation.

21 The CGIL and CGL: Reaction in Naples.

A Neapolitan collaborator reports that more and more labour unions leave the CGL (General Confederation of Labour) in order to join the CGIL (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro) and even the Naples Camera del Lavoro has decided to negotiate with the C G I L, thus deviating in no uncertain manner from the line of policy adopted by G C L. [illegible] The Christian labour Unions of Southern Italy continue to disregard the directives of their own party, largely owing to the influence of Rodino who represents the extreme right of the Demo-Christian party.

As in so many other fields, so in the field of labour the extreme right and extreme left wings have reached an agreement not to join the C G I L and have concluded a hasty Pact of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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As in so many other fields, so in the field of labour the extreme right and extreme left wings have reached an agreement not to join the G G I L and have concluded a hasty "Pact of Understanding" (B2)

22 Sicily

No very full reports have been received on the reactions in Sicily to recent labour developments. A PWB collaborator at Catania points out that syndical organisation was never very strong in Sicily, which has no large industries. He reports that the local Camera di Lavoro, controlled by the Socialists and Communists welcome the fusion in Rome and hope that it will be applied to Catania. The Christian Democrats are reported to have received orders from Salerno to pass orders of the day protesting against the fusion which, it is felt, would put them into the power of the extreme left.

3738

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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23. Review of the Labour Situation in Rome.

The following survey of the Labour situation as on July 1st was prepared by a former political exile in close touch with Italian Labour circles.

Origin.

The Roman workers were organized for resistance against the Germans by the underground political parties and by the Roman "Committee of Liberation" formed by the representatives of the Liberal, Labour Democrat, Action, Christian Democrat, Socialist and Communist parties.

There was no underground trade union organization worth of mention, though in particular cases the workers of certain enterprises worked together either in order to sabotage the Nazis or to prevent them to carry out destructions and looting at the time of the German evacuation of Rome.

The resistance of the workers was particularly effective against the labour call up and it compelled the SS to resort to indiscriminate street hunting, with the effect that, during the later period of the German occupation the populace avoided going out of doors. When the Germans begun to evacuate the town, armed squads of railway workers guarded the stations stores, the railway yards and the bridges against any German attempt at sabotage.

The lack of underground trade union movement made it almost unavoidable that, when freedom returned, the work of reconstruction of the trade unions should be undertaken by the same political parties which directed the workers during the period of the resistance.

Confederazione Generale Italiana dei Lavoratori.

Three political parties who had a strong tradition in the organization of Italian Labour, the Socialist, Communist and Christian Democrats, have decided to collaborate in the work of reconstruction of free and democratic trade unions and to maintain unity in the labour organization. In pre-fascist time the Christian Democrats had their own unions confederated into the "confederazione Italiana dei Lavoratori", while the unions controlled by Socialists or Communists were leagued together into the "Confederazione Generale del Lavoro".

To conciliate the two organizations, now fused into one, a new name has been given to the newly created organization of the Italian labour movement, i.e. "Confederazione Generale Italiana dei Lavoratori".

Each of the three parties has appointed one of his men to form a provisional managing committee of the C.G.I.L. (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro) and similar committees, with the addition of a member of the party of Action, have been appointed to organize the Roman Labour Council (Camera del Lavoro) and the local trade unions.

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

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The members of the managing committee of the C.G.I.L. are three outstanding personalities of the pre-Fascist labour organization.

Achille Grandi, a former member of the Italian parliament is a Christian Democrat of Don Sturzo's school.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789502

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Lizzadri, Socialist, takes the place which should have been of Bruno Buozzi former secretary of the metal workers assassinated by the Germans before the evacuation of Rome. During the clandestine period, Lizzadri, under the assumed name of Oreste Longobardi, directed the Socialist party in southern Italy and was one of the members of the "Junta". Di Vittorio, Communist, former member of parliament, was the leader of theworkers of the Bari region up to 1924 and political commissar in Spain during the civil war. After the coup d'etat of July 25th, Grandi, Di Vittorio, and Buozzi were appointed Commissioners for the liquidation of the Fascist Labour organization by the Badoglio government.

Party criticism.

The parties who are not represented in the managing committee of the C.G.I.L. have objected to their exclusion. They argue that if there is to be a single labour union and this is going to be shaped by the political parties, they have the right to participate in this work. To this claim it is countered that the reconstruction of the trade unions cannot be entrusted to political parties who represent mainly the interest of the employers. Moreover the appointment of trade union leaders by the left wing parties is only an expedient which will be abandoned as soon as possible. Free elections will have to take place and the workers will be free to select the trade union officials without consideration of party affiliations.

Bari agrees.

On June 27th, a congress was held in Bari of the Labour Councils of Calabria, Lucania and Apulia, representing about 150,000 organised workers. This congress endorsed the decisions taken by the Roman committee of the C.G.I.L. and requested that a national labour congress should be called as soon as possible in order to proceed to democratic elections of the leaders and to fix the policy of the new Italian labour movement for the near future.

Naples disagrees.

Only the Neapolitan labour leaders have disagreed with the policy of the Roman committee of the C.G.I.L.

Mr. Gentili, who claims to represent a so called Neapolitan General Confederation of Labour objected to the appointment of the Roman leaders by the political parties (though he himself owes his place to party nomination) and declared that his organization will carry on independently and that he did not approve of the unification of the Christian Democratic unions with the others.

However, Mr. Gentili and his followers of the Neapolitan Labour Council have no influence outside a very limited number of Neapolitan organizations and appears to have very few chances of playing an important part in the work of the reconstruction or even holding their present positions.

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

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Activity of the C.G.I.L.

Only a few weeks have passed since the Roman workers were restored their freedom of association, and the various committees who have the task of laying the foundations of a democratic and independent trade union movement have just begun their work.

3737

The C.G.I.L. have directed the Roman Labour Council and the committees for the organization of the trade unions to accept application for membership.

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

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An entrance fee of 15 lire and a monthly due of 5 lire have been fixed.

Once a sufficient number of members have been accepted (those compromised with the fascist regime will be excluded) free elections will be held for the nomination of trade union officials. These elections wil be run on a pure trade union platform, and , as far as possible without interference from political parties.

At present the greatest emphasis is put on unity, and if the above procedure if properly applied, the result should be the creation of an independent trade union movement embodying the totality of the Italian organized labour.

On June 30th the C.G.I.L. sent to AMG and to the Italian Government a resultion in which it requested:

1) that the C.G.I.L. should be officially recognised as the representative of the Italian labour movement.

2) that the patrimony of the dissolved Fascist unions should be handed over to the C.G.I.L.

The Italian minister for labour, Gronchi (Christian Democrat) has promised that he will recommend these requested to the cabinet, but they are likely to be resisted by the right wing ministers. On the other hand Colonel Lane of the Labour Division of AMG praised the Roman Labour Council and expressed the hope that the different organizations now existing in Bari, Naples, and Rome would be fused.

One of the first acts of the AMG in Rome was the dissolution of the Fascist labour organizations.

Trade Union Activities.

The Roman Labour Council and the Roman trade unions have insisted upon the following points:

1) elimination from leading positions in public life of all those who played an important part in the past regime.

A recent ordinance of Colonel Poletti on this subject, if properly applied should give full satisfaction to this request.

2) a substantial increase of wages to meet the tremendous rise of the cost of living.

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

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2) a substantial increase of wages to meet the tremendous rise of the cost of living.

There is no doubt that Roma has been the most starved town in Italy. Allied occupation of Southern Italy and Allied bombardment of communications between Rome and the north isolated the city from the less near sources of supplies and developed in it a siege economy which has lasted for several months.

All articles of prime necessity became extremely scarce and prices went up between ten and twenty times their prewar level. Wages could not be increased legally.

The situation will now improve; meanwhile AMG has increased the wages of state employees by 70% and allowed private employers to do the same.

It is rightly argued, however, that, if prices are not drastically cut the stated amount of increase in wages will prove insufficient. Moreover, private employers are reluctant to conceed any increase at all. (B-1).

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The habit is therefore deeply ingrained in the people, and will not be easily eradicated, unless by gradual measures.

The Fascists and the Germans fought the Black Market, at least so they proclaimed; and their reaction, though sporadic and dishonest, was at times very severe, almost savage, and a few even paid with the death penalty their dealings on the black market. Yet the evil was not eradicated, but grew steadily worse. Certain temporary respites were experienced when certain restrictions were temporarily removed, and people were given a free hand in introducing foodstuff of various kinds, within certain narrow limits, for private consumption into the city.

It may pay to adopt, at least for some time, the same policy which is said to have succeeded in Spain, a country much resembling Italy in the character of her inhabitants. In Spain a minimum quota of foodstuff, at low prices, is assured to every citizen in possession of a food card; the surplus, and certain kinds of commodities, are freely sold on the open market.

The individual amount strictly necessary - to be distributed on the card system - might be fixed as follows: 200 gr. of bread a day; 2½ or 3 kilos of macaroni or rice; 600 gr. of fat, 400 of canned meat or its equivalent, 400 of dried beans of peas (or an equivalent amount of potatoes), say 500 grm of sugar, some cheese, jam, eggs, etc. per month; milk for children, old people and invalids.

The necessary staples to ensure the distribution of the abovequantities should be procured by means of the usual procedure: i.e., by compulsory contribution to 'the people's granaries' or similar institutions, of a sufficient proportion of the output from all producers, excluding the smallest of the; the Government should make good, if necessary - as they have done so far - the difference between the very low sale prices and the cost of purchases.

The remaining output - percentage of staples above Government requirements, and various products - should be allowed to compete freely on the market. Transport facilities should be granted: there are trucks actioned by gas-generating plants, using charcoal, a fuel easily found around Rome; they are to be found in large numbers in Rome and vicinity, and they are of little use for regular transportation, even less for war purposes; small owners are capable of operating them cheaply and with great ingenuity, when they are personally interested. The issue of licences should be made simple and easy for such vehicles; they would help towards relieving the pressure on transportation.

It is evident that goods on the free market would cost more than those bought with a card, but they would certainly be much cheaper than at present. (3-3).

27. Great improvement in Naples Economic situation.

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

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It is evident that goods on the free market would cost more than those bought with a card, but they would certainly be much cheaper than at present. (3-5).

27. Great improvement in Naples Economic situation.

During the last few weks the Economic Situation in Naples has improved to an astonishing extent. For instance the price of potatoes is now 8 lire a kilo instead of 40 lire ten days ago. The Black Market price of bread has fallen from 160 lire a kg. to 60 lire a kg, and flour from the countryside from 340 lire a Kg. to 40 lire a Kg. Fruit which cost from 30 to 40 lire last week now costs from 10 to 15 lire a kg. The price of fish has fallen from 100 to 150 lire a kg to from 100 to 40 lire a kg. So far the Black Market price of meat remains the same, but since the Allies are now distributing canned meat, such as tinned sausages and the army type of meat and vegetable, it can be predicted that there will soon be a reduction of price. One noteworthy fact is that the price of potatoes is now lower than the controlled price fixed by the Allied authorities.

This fall in the cost of living will ease the situation of those who earn fixed salaries, as for instance the State employees whose earning vary from 5496 lire a month for an official of equal status to a Major General, to 3065 for one status is that of major to the men of the lowest grade who receive 344 lire a month. These salaries include all war bonuses but do not include the family allowance which amounts to 297 lire for one child, and to 494 for four

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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PRESS

24. Monarchist daily paper planned in Rome.

A member of the Monarchist Union told a PWB officer that the Union hoped shortly to publish a daily paper in Rome. The paper would contain news and information, while the leaders and commentaries would naturally have a monarchist slant. According to the member who gave this information the Monarchist Union welcomes people from all or any political party. He said that he could lay hands at once on the capital to publish the paper, but that the difficulty was to find a good editor.

The name of Nino Bolla, former head of the Italian Government's Press Office, had been proposed. A more generally favoured candidate was Bergamini, Manager of the former Giornale d'Italia, who was understood to stand well with the Allies. Bergamini, however, was still hoping that the Allies would permit him to bring out the Giornale d'Italia.

25. List of new newspapers in Naples published in the last fortnight

La Voce Repubblicana.	Unauthorised		22.6.44
Organ of the Italian Republican Party			
L'ora del Popolo.	Unauthorised	No. 24	21.6.44.
Demo-Christian Weekly			
Il Pensiero	Unauthorised		23.6.44.
Periodical of Science, Art and Literature			
La Voce del Popolo	Unauthorised		19.6.44.
Indpendent Political weekly			
L'Orizzonte	Unauthorised	Numero di saggio	3.6.44.
Literary weekly			
Crepuscolo	Unauthorised	No. 2	9.6.44.
Artistic and Literary periodical			
Cimento	Unauthorised		4.6.44.
(Monarchist tendencies)			
Weekly review of Art and Culture			
Il Nuovo Risorgimento	Authorised		25.5.44.
Political weekly - Editor: Vittorio Fiore			
L'Indipendenza	Unauthorised		8.6.44.
Political-Religious weekly (Movement of Italian Democratic Renovation)			
Pensiero e Vita	Unauthorised		10.6.44.
Religious-Social Weekly			
Il Paese	Unauthorised		22.5.44.
Organ of the Italian Democratic Party			
Gioventu'	Authorised		15.5.44.
University Students Fortnightly			

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

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Gioventu'	Authorised		15.5.44.
University Students Fortnightly			
Alba Repubblicana	Authorised		24.6.44.
Weekly (Italia Libera)			
Il Ferroviere	Unauthorised		15.6.44.
Publication for Railroad workers.			

3736

ECONOMIC

26. How to combat the Black Market: a Rome suggestion

An Italian informant, an expert in economics, submits the following suggestions for combating Black Market activities in Rome.

The Black Market in Rome has, as in other parts of liberated Italy, been a source of income for thousands of people -especially among the poorer classes - chiefly after the collapse of the Badoglio Government, when nobody wanted to earn a living by working for the Republican Fascists or the Germans.

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children. Another supplement is that for air bombardment damage which is set at 20 lire a day. Taking into consideration these rates of pay which represent the earnings of a considerable part of the population, it will readily be understood what difficulties the housewives have had to face in Naples. In the surrounding districts wages are even lower, a village postman for instance earns about 450 lire a month, and the cost of living may be even higher if supplies are short and means of transport non existent, Naples however can consider itself very favoured now especially in comparison with recently devastated districts where the shortage of food is so great that money ceases to have any value.

In one of these districts a PWB observer found that eggs were at thirty lire each, oil at 450 a litre (i.e. about five pounds ten in prewar values) fats at 300 lire and potatoes at 50 lire (i.e. three dollars pre war value.)

Already the falling price of food has reacted favourably on the price of other commodities especially on the price of textiles. Silk until recently cost 1500 lire a yard to give one instance. The fall in this direction is due not only to the lower cost of living but also to the fact that the Black Market is now getting supplies from Rome which is better stocked in everything except food.

The present improvement is mainly due to the increased supplies of food, since the cost of most commodities is based on the price of bread, in fact the bread standard has now replaced the gold standard. To give two examples: Neapolitan boatmen fix their charges on the amount of bread required to feed their families, plus the increased replacement cost of their craft; another is the price of a safety razor, an article which has no scarcity value, and costs exactly the same in terms of food as in London, where flour costs about one tenth of the price on the Black Market in Naples, that is 600 lire here and 4/- (one dollar) in England. This means that four shillings buys as many loaves as 600 lire on the Black Market.

To sum up the improvements due to increased rations and increased supplies are due also to the decreased number of troops in this region. The recent victories of the Allies have also contributed to create confidence in the future stability of the lira among people who were half inclined to believe the German propaganda about the success of the war. Previously everyone was anxious to get rid of money in exchange for goods, now it is to be hoped that the reverse course will be followed.

225. The bakers put up a poster - 28th June.

The Neapolitan Free Union of bakers is reported to have printed a poster on the 28th June protesting at their present condition. The poster claims that the flour is of bad quality and dirty and that the cost of bread is 5,60 lire and not 3,60 lire. It indirectly threatens to go on strike, if nothing is done. This Union has its headquarters in the Via Roma, Naples, and its president is one [illegible] unscrupulous man. In fact the

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

In one of these districts a PWB observer found that eggs were at thirty lire each, oil at 450 a litre (i.e. about five pounds ten in prewar values) fats at 300 lire and potatoes at 50 lire (i.e. three dollars pre war value.)

Already the falling price of food has reacted favourably on the price of other commodities especially on the price of textiles. Silk until recently cost 1500 lire a yard to give one instance. The fall in this direction is due not only to the lower cost of living but also to the fact that the Black Market is now getting supplies from Rome which is better stocked in everything except food.

The present improvement is mainly due to the increased supplies of food, since the cost of most commodities is based on the price of bread, in fact the bread standard has now replaced the gold standard. To give two examples: Neapolitan boatmen fix their charges on the amount of bread required to feed their families, plus the increased replacement cost of their craft; another is the price of a safety razor, an article which has no scarcity value, and costs exactly the same in terms of food as in London, where flour costs about one tenth of the price on the Black Market in Naples, that is 600 lire here and 4/- (one dollar) in England. This means that four shillings buys as many loaves as 600 lire on the Black Market.

To sum up the improvements due to increased rations and increased supplies are due also to the decreased number of troops in this region. The recent victories of the Allies have also contributed to create confidence in the future stability of the lira among people who were half inclined to believe the German propaganda about the success of the war. Previously everyone was anxious to get rid of money in exchange for goods, now it is to be hoped that the reverse course will be followed.

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3735

The danger of Naples being without bread is a serious one, especially under present economic conditions. Besides public opinion is said to be furious against the bakers because it considers that they have already made huge profits on the Black Market. They are reported to be calling for the official sale of bread at various shops run by the authorities. (B-2).

23. Salt Shortage.

The difficulty which the people of Naples encounter in their efforts to obtain the indispensable minimum of salt represents according to a local doctor's a very serious problem for the community. This shortage will affect the health of the individual. The population hopes that all possible steps will be taken to remedy this deficiency. (C-2).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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29. Bank notes refused.

It is reported from Naples that Italian bank notes printed after August 1943, with the letters B.I. or the red stamp are not accepted by many people. It is rumoured that they are printed by the Germans and therefore worthless..(C-2)

31. Price of dollars.

The improvement of the food situation has brought down the Black Market price of blue-stamped dollars to 150-160 lire. (C-2).

32. Food situation in Sicily.

At the end of June the most important feature of the Market was the effect of the announcement by the Allied authorities that the bread ration would be increased to 300 grams. This notice was received with a great feeling of relief and of pleasure as Sicilians believe that this will eventually lead to the overthrow of the Black Market and an obvious moral and material advantage to the working classes and to those persons who have fixed incomes, such as government workers and those living on pensions. In fact the evidences of these hopes were plain immediately on the black market as well as on the free market. The population hopes now for another order to accompany the first, that is the increase of the ration of pasta which for the islanders, and especially for the noon meal, is still insufficient for the needs of families in the categories mentioned above.

One lack which is greatly felt by Sicilians is that of olive oil, since in general they do not use butter or animal fats to make their minestra. The oil is a primary need and everyone regrets the fact that it can only be found on the black market at the price of 160 lire aliiter, while it is completely missing from the free market.

Cheeses have suddenly become plentiful but with a contradiction prices for them have increased. The cause for this is not known officially, but probably it arises from the increased prices asked by the wholesale dealers. It is hoped that the authorities will take some action since nothing occurred during this period to make this rise in prices necessary.

As far as vegetables are concerned, the recent furnishing of a quantity by the Allied authorities has been approved, by everyone both for the quality of the food and the price of it; particularly since in hot weather the frequent use of dried vegetables is not advisable from a health standpoint. There should be

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

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As far as vegetables are concerned, the recent furnishing of a quantity by the Allied authorities has been approved, by everyone both for the quality of the food and the price of it; particularly since in hot weather the frequent use of dried vegetables is not advisable from a health standpoint. There should be a greater use of green vegetables but these are very high in price and therefore the poorer classes cannot afford them.

A more careful watch over the sale of meat is really necessary. Because of the scarcity the stores do not use the prices established by the regulations but sell at much higher prices without paying any attention to the quality of the meat on sale to the public which in general is very poor. The special cuts are sold clandestinely at special prices for the best customers or for the restaurants.

Fish from 50 to 100 lire according to the kind.

Eggs are now stabilized at a minimum of 8.50 lire to a maximum of 10 lire, although it is really necessary to pay the greater price since the cheaper eggs cannot be eaten directly but only used in cooking.

Fruit, although it is abundant, is high in price considering this is the season for it.

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

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Agricultural producers are reported to be reluctant to hand in their grain to the people's granaries. They are trying to blackmail the authorities to raise the price offered for grain. It is also reported that the Separatists are fanning the flames of this discontent and encouraging the producers not to hand in their grain, arguing that the grain should be kept for the Sicilians.

33. Interview with Head of Catania Provincial Agricultural Inspectorate.

In an interview with an Italian collaborator Professor Arnaldo Caruso, head of the Catania Ispettorato Provinciale della Agricultura said that this year the average production is about 900 kilos of wheat for every hectare cultivated. With about 75 thousand hectares under cultivation production should reach about 670,000 quintals, which he regards as highly satisfactory.

On the other hand, Dr. Caruso agrees with the Sicilian agriculturists that the price of 10 lire per kg. is not remunerative. Fifteen or sixteen lire the kilo would be a fair price. Dr. Caruso seems to be under the impression that supplements were to be issued which would raise the price to that sum. He said, however, that some producers who are used to the easy profits of the black market, where they can sell their wheat at prices as high as 120 lire the kilo when the demand is greatest, having stood out for 80 lire a kilo for the produce of the present harvest, and are trying to evade deliveries. Consequently the success of the harvest has become a problem for the police.

From June 21st, there has been a stricter control, and if this is continued it should yield good results. There have been few denunciations, but carabinieri are to be seen touring the threshing floors, asking to see threshing licences and inviting denunciations. Where grain has been found being threshed without authorisation, a part at least has been confiscated. At strategic crossroads Carabinieri and guardie di finanze stop carts carrying illicit grain. When a carter is discovered, the grain, his cart and the animal drawing it are all confiscated.

34. Communal Committees in Catania province.

An Italian collaborator reports from Catania that the agricultural committees which have been set up in each commune are regarded with scepticism. Most of their members have their personal grievances, either as regards the price of wheat or on the problem of feeding their own families.

It had been hoped that the ration of 300 grammes was for bread alone, and that in addition there would have been the former rations of pasta or flour. When it was found that the 300 grammes included all three, the people complained that it was not enough. Moreover, since the increase was not guaranteed by the Allied authorities, it is feared that the government will reduce it.

35. Price of gold and yellow deal dollars in Catania.

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

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35. Price of gold and yellow seal dollars in Catania.

It is reported from Catania that the price of gold dropped from 555 lire per gramme to 540 lire the day the liberation of Rome was announced. Gold 3734 currency is still greatly sought after, a gold sovereign now costs 5,200 lire.

Yellow seal dollars, which some Sicilians confuse with the much prized money sent from relations in America, are very much in demand, the Black Market price raising as high as 120 lire in other currency.

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

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APPENDIX I

MISCELLANEOUS INTERVIEWS

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July 25th and September 8th - - - - General Cerica speaks.

On June 28th 1944 the "Corriere di Roma" announced that among a long list of prominent Fascists arrested by the Allies, there figured General Cerica of the Carabinieri. The same day the General himself called at the P.W.B. offices to prove that this statement was erroneous and that he was a free man. On June 29th the "Corriere di Roma" announced that the inclusion of the General's name had been a mistake.

General Cerica took advantage of the visit to recount to a P.W.B. officer his personal part of the coup of July 25th, 1943, which led to Mussolini's arrest, and his own subsequent activity. The General's object was to show that, far from being a Fascist who should be removed from public life, he had showed himself a good patriot and anti-Fascist. He mentioned that he had taken steps with the Allied authorities to clarify his position officially.

Cerica, who although getting on in years impressed the P.W.B. officer by his intelligence and clarity of thought, began by saying that he took over command of the Rome carabinieri just before the July 25th, 1943 coup. He added that he was chosen by General Ambrosio, Chief of General Staff, at the suggestion of the Prince of Piedmont "as the only man to cope with the situation that might follow the anti-Fascist coup, which envisaged not only the arrest of Mussolini, but also the immobilization of the police and of certain armed detachments."

After the stormy Grand Council meeting of the night of July 24th, Mussolini notified King Victor Emanuel that he would call upon him at 4.30 p.m. on July 25th, and he actually went to the Villa Savoia, accompanied by twelve powerful motor-cars, packed with a personal escort. They did not enter the villa, but remained parked along the Via Salaria. Mussolini was arrested at the conclusion of his audience with the King, those effecting the arrest being Lt. Col. Frignani (brother of the Bank of Naples Frignani), Captain Vigneri and Captain Aversa. Mussolini was taken to a motor-ambulance waiting at an exit distant from those where his bodyguard were parked, and conducted to the Podgora carabinieri barracks which had been previously fortified. Simultaneously strategical points in Rome, including certain Ministries, were occupied by 8000 carabinieri under the General's command, after the police had been immobilised together with their armoured cars. The carabinieri garrisoned Rome till 11 p.m. when they were replaced by proper troops.

General Cerica at the time also changed the Chief of Police, General Chierici, and called back Senise, to replace him. Chierici did not resist the order to quit. Meanwhile the Duce's escort had been removed

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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General Cerica at the time also changed the Chief of Police, General Chierici, and called back Senise, to replace him. Chierici did not resist the order to quit. Meanwhile the Duce's escort had been removed from Villa Savoia. They were under the command of Shiacca, a Prefect. They protested, threatened to resist, but finally gave in.

At 7 p.m. while General Cerica was in his office, Carlo Scorza, Secretary of the Party presented himself in full uniform. The General thought he had come to protest, but Scorza merely said his purpose was to return the official visit the General had made to him on taking over the carabinieri command, and when told, professed ignorance of what had happened to Mussolini. Scorza was immediately put under arrest. He appeared very puzzled and upset, and said: "Excellency, allow me to say that my arrest may signify civil war in Italy, because if orders are not given not to resist, there will certainly be reactions. And this moment, before being Secretary of the Party, I feel myself an Italian and a soldier, and I do not want my name to be linked with the phenomenon of a civil war. If I am allowed freedom, I pledge myself to give orders to the Fascists throughout Italy not to resist.

3723

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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General Cerica himself in turn was rather puzzled how to act, but replied: "I want to accept your word in good faith, and am ready, in doing so to risk my career, and perhaps, also my life." He then took the responsibility of letting him go free, providing Scorza gave immediate orders to the Fascists not to resist, which Scorza did. The General went straight to Badoglio, who said he had done the right thing.

During the 45 days that followed, from July 25th to September 8th, Rome was continuously under the danger that the representative authorities of the Badoglio Government and of the high military command might be seized by the men of the Gestapo, the SS, Dolmann and company, Von Bock, etc. These people were held in checkmate solely by the carabinieri because the police force was rotten to the core.

The General held secret funds, and he had devoted some of the money to subsidize a German nobleman who frequented Kesselrings company. This German more than once brought to the General interesting accounts of the ideas and intentions of Kesselring. The original reports of these were taken by the General to the King, Badoglio, and General Ambrosio and several ministers of the Royal household. About the middle of August, from this German source, and also from other indications and informants. The General established that Lt. Col. Ettore Muti, who had been taken by Badoglio, rather ingeniously, into his confidence, was just a thug of Kesselring, who was hatching a plot aiming at seizing the command of the carabinieri, shooting its leaders and setting up Mussolini in power again. General Cerica arranged for Muti's arrest, ordering him to be taken dead or alive. Muti was staying at Bregano, and left his villa without resisting. At the edge of the pine forest, he broke away from his guard, and dashed through the trees toward a German camp nearby which had probably been set up there either to protect him or to facilitate his ultimate escape. Two German sentinels fired on the carabinieri who replied with tommy-guns and Muti was shot in the head and killed.

On September 6th, while the General was conferring with Prince Humbert at the Quirinal, a carabinieri colonel felt compelled to interrupt the audience to bring the news that it had been learned from a German Lt. Colonel that Rommel and Farinacci had decided upon the military occupation of Rome, by means of the fifth column organization as well as German troops, within 48 hours at the utmost. The General immediately warned the Prince so that he could make preparations to resist.

On September 8th the General learned of the Armistice at 6.30 p.m. and at 7 p.m. was informed of Badoglio's programme of armed resistance. "As I had been informed that that night the members of the Royal Family and the high military authorities would be concentrated at the Ministry of War, I considered it my duty although I was not, for technical reasons, the military

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At 2 a.m. on the 9th a Lt. Colonel of an Army Corps telephoned urgently, asking if the General had a force to place at his disposal because German parachute troops had captured two posts controlling the Porta San Paolo. The General sent 800 men with anti-tank guns and two posts were recaptured. "At 7 a.m. I went to the Ministry of War and found the place empty/ I was surprised to see that a few hundred Germans had already arrived in its vicinity. They were Germans who had already been in Rome and had donned uniform. Incidentally, I know that for a long time previously,, thousands of Germans had entered Rome as civilians but had carried revolvers, tommy guns, ammunition ..... and so on in their suitcases."

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

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The General gave orders to disperse the Germans, and this was done. He remained at his post of command till 9 p.m. of the 9th of September.

"At 1800 I had learned from a colonel in command of the carabinieri in Lazio that on the Via Casilina, in the Frosinone area, there was a big German motorised column marching on Rome. I telephoned to the Air Force immediately to send planes to bomb it, and spoke to General Urbani."

"On the morning of the 10th I was called to the Ministry of War by a carabinieri marshal. I was still in uniform and went there to find Marshal De Bono, the Minister of War, General Carboni and Marshal Caviglia, who said that there had been negotiated a truce with the German command, with the object of making Rome a "free, open city," with a pledge from the Germans that they would march outside the strong points of the city on their way north. As the German sub-commanders did not want to respect this truce, Caviglia asked me to go to Piazza San Giovanni with a few hundred carabinieri and force them to do so. My reply was that it seemed that the Germans had only two courses to follow: peace or war. Having chosen war, because they had refused all respect on agreement and shown bad faith, the only thing was to employ all reserves and retake any points lost, because it was evident that the Germans wanted to enter Rome by employing Trojan Horse tactics". The General does not know what Caviglia ultimately did.

The General then left the Ministry of War and gathered together his Divisional General, his Chief of Staff and a few high officers, and arranged for the dissolution of the General Command of the Carabinieri (the General can give the technico-politico-military reasons for his action). After a discussion also of the international aspects of such a step, the General pointed out that it was not possible to offer to the Germans the easy excuse for a new sacking of Rome, an excuse they would have made had there been trouble with the Romans after the city had been officially handed over.

On the 10th the General spent some time getting his wife to a place of safety. On the 11th he obtained false documents.

On the evening of the 12th just before the curfew, he attempted to leave Rome in a car provided by the Ministry of the Interior. The car was seized by violence from him by Germans at the crossing between the Via Nomentana and the Viale Regina Margherita. He then went to the railway station. As he was prevented from going south, he boarded the first available train going elsewhere and eventually reached Terni and Antrodoco, whence on foot he ultimately reached the high mountains of the Abruzzi. The Germans later placed a price of 600,000 lire on his head. He lived an uncomfortable and dangerous

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

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3732

Speaking of his life in the mountains, the General said he had to take refuge in zones frequented by Communists. Sometimes he had to declare that he was a General. There were thousands of men in hiding there, and two Russian parachutists also were dropped. All the Communists were in uniform, armed and with the red star as a badge. These communists did as the Germans did, i.e. lived on the country, not hesitating to force people to hand over all their money and goods.

SECRET

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

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The General is perturbed as to the future action of such people. How, he asks, will they ever be able to return to decent civilised living?

He added that during the period of July 25th to September 8th, many threatening letters reached him, some menacing him with death, and sometimes signed as from Fascists, or M battalion men or Duce Musketeers. Some said: "You have broken us. You will see us again one day, and we shall be in Communist garb."

The General professed anxiety as to how this danger could be faced and met. He pointed out that the country has no proper police force, as the old organism is rotten. He emphasised that a strong carabinieri force should be recruited and organized. He felt that no time should be lost. The right type of officer and man should be got back, before they are dispersed. Such a man was Captain Vigneri, the only survivor of the trio who arrested Mussolini. He could suggest other names.

He said finally that was submitting to Bonomi a report of the state of things in the north, especially among the police forces, based on all the information he had received while in the mountains.

The P.W.B. officer who listened to the General formed the impression that he is a loyal monarchist, who is afraid that the country will be swung swiftly to the Left. Hence, he would like to promote anything that will act as a check on this, and, as a de carriere police expert, he feels that his old carabinieri can meet the threat and incidentially keep the monarchy afloat.

f. Interview with Cesare Rossi at the Questura, Naples 28th of June.

Having heard that Cesare Rossi had been arrested by the Italian authorities, two PWB officers obtained permission from the Questore to interview the prisoner in his private office in order to obtain any secret information he might have about Mussolini.

The officers explained to Rossi that they were powerless in so far as he was concerned but, should he give valuable information some steps might be taken to alleviate the conditions of his wife.

On being introduced, Rossi immediately asked why he had been arrested since he had committed no crime. If he was arrested because of his participation in the March on Rome he would like to point out that Gronchi, Casat and Tupini who are members of the present Cabinet were also in Mussolini's first Cabinet. In any case, the March on Rome had been approved by the majority of members of the

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

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He also declated that since he had served a sentence of 18 months for his participation in the Matteotti trial, and twelve years as an anti-Fascist he had some right to consider that he had expiated his crimes.

Moreover he could not understand why he had been arrested on political grounds in AMG territory by the Italian authorities. Since the Allied occupation of Italy he was put in a concentration camp at Padula and released on the grounds that there was nothing against him.

He then got in touch with CIC being interviewed by Allied Intelligence Officers.

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Questioned as to whether he had any unrevealed knowledge concerning Mussolini he replied that his articles in the "Mondo" in October 1924 about the memorial explained everything that there was to be known about it, later also in Paris he had written many articles for the "Corriere Italiano" and even for the American Press.

With references to the Matteotti murder he claims that this crime was the cause of a scission between himself and Mussolini. As to Mussolini like Henry the II of England he had said of Matteotti: "Who shal rid me of this postilent fellow?"

This was probably a general and rhethorical exclamation which Marinelli took as an order. The Matteotti murder hastened Mussolini's decision establish a totalitarian regime although he certainly would have done so eventually.

Rossi claimed that he tried to bring Mussolini to moderation, stating that after the reform of the Constitution the Fascists were inevitably in power and that the totalitarian method was an error of judgement as well as a crime.

Referring to his stay in Paris, Rossi said he was in friendly contact with anti-Fascists, not only because of his difference with Mussolini, but also because he had known many of them in his Socialist days. He was also on amicable terms with Salvemini whom he esteems highly, stating that the account of the Matteotti murder in the "Italiani di Domani" is absolutely accurate as also his own (Rossi's) conduct as Chief of Press.

He says however that he does not believe that Mussolini sold himself to France at the beginning of the last war. Naldi who in his opinion is a desperado played an active part in the deal. It is suggested that San Giuliano followed Naldi's tip that Mussolini should be used to split the Socialists in order to facilitate the declaration of war against Austria.

Mussolini, who did not want to be under the domination of the "Consulta" therefore accepted money from the French socialists, but not through the intermediary of Cachin. At the beginning of the last war, Mussolini had been a rabid Germanophile, but he became a Francophile after the battle of the Marne when he decided that the Allies would win.

Rossi believes that Mussolini would have supported the Allies in this war, if he had not been certain that the Germans would be victorious.

Another point to be noted is that he believes that the Communists often supported Mussolini during the course of his career.

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With regard to Badoglio, he said rather contemptously that the Marshall was merely lucky. It was because of this luck that Mussolini had always estemmed him. As for Bonomi he had never compromised himself openly with Fascism and Rossi beli ves that he is an honest man.

Harking back to the Communists, he said that they had helped Mussolini to power by walking out of the Aventino. 3721

Referring to Croce, Rossi said that he had a profound contempt for him since he had supported Mussolini until 1925 when he was offended because Mussolini declared in public that he had never read any of the philospher's books.

As late as 1935 or 1936, however, at the time when Mussolini was coming to terms with Hitler, Croce is reported to have praised Mussolini, as a socialist in a book by a Hungarian Rene Fullo entitled "Santi e Guerrieri". Quite recently, declared Rossi, Achille Lauro from his concentration camp allotted 50% of the shares of the "Mattino" to Croce and the Liberal Party and Rossi infers that

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APPENDIX II

RECENTLY LIBERATED AREAS

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A. Perugia.

Population 40,000-85000 in the Communs, about 7,000 refugees. The only damage was done by the Germansin their retreat, when they blew up a couple of buildings to block a road. Although Perugia was said to be a big Fascist centre, the "Marcia su Roma" was started from Perugia, there had apperently been a regrowth of anti-Fascist feeling during the last few years. This was due to the big number of intellectuals. /Was an important University for foreign students. Perugia

ECONOMIC

The land is very fertile and the region provided food for a great part of Southern Italy. The situation deteriorated, when the Germans took over and is said to be critical now, because the Germans requisitioned all the food-stocks before their departure. There is no water or eletricity in the town, the Germans having blown up the installations before their retreat!

RESISTANCE

When our first troops entered the town on June 20th, Hundreds of armed partisans were marching up and down the streets. A Giunta had been appointed and had taken over the administration of the town. They were contacted immediately and told about AMG organization and administration. They have been very cooperative since. All arms are believed to have been handed in immediately after orders to do so had been issued. The Comitato has not been appointed yet, and no Mayor has been appointed.

Resistance movement started early in January, when the Comitato was formed. Its composition was as follows;-

Avv. Abratini	Partito Repubblicano
Avv. Aponi	Partito d Aziono
Comparezzi	Communist
Bonucci	Liberal
Spagniesi	Socialist
?	Demo-Christian

(Several citizens said that they did not represent the majority of the population)

A Giunta d'Aziono was appointed to organise partisans activities under the leadership of General Gigliarelli and Colonel Guerrizio. (The latter

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A Giunta d'Azione was appointed to organise partisans activities under the leadership of General Gigliarelli and Colonel Guerrizio. (The latter left shortly after for Florence and joined the partisan movement there. He is in Perugia now and will be contacted as soon aspossible.) But later anti-monarchists and anti-Badoglion elements of the Giunta did not accept military leadership, and Avv. Monteneri took over.

3750

The partisans numbered about 3000 in the province, were divided in several "Bande" and included a large number of escaped Yugoslav internees. (A Yugoslav partisan Zuvanovic Stinkr was killed on June 20th by an Italian partisan Modesti Orazio; investigations have not yet revealed the motive.) All partisans were generally young men trying to escape from the forced labour conscription. They claim several acts of sabotage and apparently raided several places to get food and arms. In March they had two big battles in Bettona and Pietraluga, when the Germans sent a force to comb the hills. Several of them were captured and executed. Casualties were also inflicted on the Germans

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Much resistance is reported as taking place in the area of Bologna. Important resistence movements are reported there where apparently daily isolated attacks on Fascists and Germans are carried out.

POLITICS

Although the Comitato di Liberazione has unofficially started its activities no real political movement has got going, the population being rather passive and uninterested. The different parties are only represented by one or two personalities and do not yet have active members. General feelings however in all parties are anti-monarchist. The actual government is accepted as a temporary solution.

PRESS

Copies of the following newspapers have already been submitted to AMG by the Comitato and the Church for approval:

"Liberazione" organ Committee of Liberation
"Risorgimento" Partito Liberale
"Il Segno" Ecclesiastic monthly

The Comitato was very upset when AMG did not give immediate approval. Prof. Capitini, (very clever man persecuted by the fascists,) editor of the "Liberazione" interviewed by a PWB officer said this would create a very bad impression on the local population because they all expected that the Army of Liberation would bring freedom and not impose the fascist system again. PWB Eighth Army is contacting AMG officials to see what the possibilities are. All that would appear to be necessary is one weekly paper. The "Corriere Alleato" is being circulated in the town.

CHURCH

Everybody agreed that since the German occupation the Church has been very active looking for the welfare of the population.

PERSONALITIES

Fascist prefect Armando Rocchi who fled with the Germans is described by everybody as a war criminal of the worst type. Under his orders a reign of terror was carried out throughout the province.

Reliable and anti-fascist personalities:

Avv. Galluzzi Gallastri

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Avv. Sallusti Sallustio
Avv. Giglierelli Riccardo
Dott. Ferace Agostino
Dott. Peano Luigi
Del Buontromboni Alberto

GERMAN MORALE

Changed suddenly after the fall of Cassino. According to the opinion of Mr. Lester Maynard, retired American consul, interned by the Italians first and by the Germans later, not a single officer or private believed in a German victory, but they all agreed that they had to fight to the end.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

BBC was as usual the favourite station. Dott. Apponi said that Stevens contributed more than a whole army to the Allied victory in Italy. Radio Rome cannot be heard in Umbria. The partisans complained that pro-monarchist and pro-

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Badoglian leaflets were dropped in February by the RAF instead of food and arms. They all found that the "Italia Combatte" programme very good.

MISCELLANEOUS

Several people interned by the Germans were found in Perugia. A retired American consul Mr. Leslie Maynard with his wife and two daughters brought there from Monte Carlo, after the Italian occupation of the Riviera. He was not badly treated in the whole, but bitterly complained on the organisation of the Swiss Red Cross. Before the Germans retreated, he was able to hide in the town. Thanks to the help of Mr. Paradisi, a hotel manager who always had been pro-Allied and assisted several British prisoners of War.

Two British subjects were found in Perugia. A Lady Hope Aline Alerton interned by the Italians and released later by the Germans. She has an illegitimate child, 4 years old, of a German father and had a good time with German Officers in the Hotel Buchhaus until the last days. A Col. Rocca believed to be Fascist appeared [illegible] to the first Allied troops dressed with a British uniform. [illegible]. It is understood that he has now been detained.

B. The Fermo District.

FERMO and the adjacent small towns of Pedaso, Monterubbiano, Monte-Urano, S. Elpidio, Grottazzolina and Montegranaro. All in Marche province, spread over about 400 sq. km. and with a total population of about 60,000.

Terrain: gently rolling slopes rising from the Adriatic to an average 200 metres. The land is fertile, well wooded, highly cultivated. Most of the land is arable farmed: there is some fruit but very few vines.

People: small and dark, southern in appearance, but much above the southern level in intelligence and education. This is remarked upon by almost every Allied officer who is in contact with them. It is said that whole most of the men are small and dark there is a very high percentage of tall fair women.

Towns: nearly every town, even the smallest, is of historical and cultural interest. They are all intact for the Germans confined their destruction to bridges and power stations.

Politics: While every party is represented, there is an overwhelming Christian Democrat majority which is explained locally by the long tradition in this area of Catholic influence and power. Fermo has for centuries been a Bishoprie and a bishop is still in residence. Communists are unpopular and most people hasten to assure one that the local communist movement is made of hot-headed youths who do not even understand the meaning of communism. In S. Elpidio two red flags displayed after

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The small towns are very much dominated by Fermo and after the Germans withdrew two committees were formed there, one to govern Fermo and another to control the surrounding countryside. Both committees represented all parties, were called "Committee of Liberation" and were headed by Christian Democrat Giannarco, onetime professor at Rome University dismissed years ago by the Fascists. Several days elapsed between the departure of the Germans and the arrival of the Allies and during this period the Committees took firm control of the region, published decrees, and arrested Fascists and traitors. AMG on arrival disbanded the committees and informed the members that while AMG officers would be grateful for advice and help AMG intended to run things themselves. Giannarco has been appointed Mayor and seems to be a popular choice. No resentment has been expressed at the disbandment of the committees and AMG in this area seem respected and admired.

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Food: the inhabitants all say that food is scarce but actually there seems to be a fair amount available. Certainly very much more than in areas further south. In Monte-Urano the Germans left 130 tons of grain untouched in a silo. In Monterubbiano a silo of grain was emptied by the inhabitants before the Germans left, each person taking away as much as could be carried, in fear that the Germans would steal it. The grain has been recalled by the Sindaco and most has been returned by the raiders. There is no wine in the district but very little was ever produced here.

The present harvest is one of the most abundant for years, but some difficulty is being experienced in harvesting, [illegible]

C. Pocinno.

There exists in this apathetic town a Commissione Comunale, which seems to be a local branch of the C.L.N., but yet does not so style itself. It consists of four professional gentlemen:

ROSSINI, Dott. Dario
GRAZI, Giuseppe
LOMBRONI, Firavanti
DELLADINELLI, Lorenzo

who were elected by the Partisans. The same sindaco who was in office under the Germans, remains, with the concurrence of all and sundry. The Partisans were formed about ten days ago, and their total strength is about 20. All seem to be very young and largely irresponsible. The leader is one SERAFINI Sergente Aldo, who is about 22 years of age. They have done nothing.

Il Sergente talks of a man named GATTI who is said to have ordered them to take the town, on 6th September.

D. Panicale.

General

This town is a small one with a population of about 4000, including the outlying settlements. It has not suffered at all from bombardment of any kind, that is to say, until our arrival, when the German heavies opened up on it the other night and did a small amount of material damage.

Economic

The food situation here is quite good. There seems to be enough of most things, including meat. The things in short supply, or non-existent, are soap, salt, illuminating oil and drugs.

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APPENDIX III

CONDITIONS IN FROSINONE

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Political Situation in Frosinone and the Province...

During the German occupation there was no real patriotic movement in Frosinone and the adjoining province. A few groups of stragglers did indeed try to act independently without any contact with each other nor with the Central Committee.

When Forsinone was liberated, a few patriots assisted the advance of the Allied Forces by some acts of sabotage and by killing a small number of Germans.

In the city of Frosinone, after the arrival of the troops, a Committee of Liberation was formed of which the president is Avvocato Emilio Marzi, Socialist, now Sindaco of the town. Many youths claiming to be patriots, offered their services to the Allies, and were formed into a National Guard, with the authority to wear an Arm Band with the Italian colours. The local population has little respect for them since they are young men of doubtful antecedents, or careerists.

It is to be noted that in the District of Frosinone, there was no real anti-fascist movement. During the German occupation owing the difficulties of the circumstances 80% of the population collaborated with the enemy.

It is true that in the last few months it was no longer necessary to make forced lavies as the people presented themselves voluntarily for forced labour.

This fact has been corroborated by the Town Major Louis Stunin who states that the local inhabitatns are very unreliable.

The anti-Fascist political party which has the most adherents in this district is the Demo-Christian party. Among the members there is a secular priest whose name is Padre Minotti. In the town of Frosinone there has been no real epuration since only a few names have been submitted to the authorities for action. For instance Col. Gigliotti the former Military Commander is a man who since last September handed over arms and supplies to the Germans he was placed under arrest for a few days after the arrival of the Allies. He was set free and entrusted with the task of reorganising the Italian Forces in the district, many Fascist Republican Guards are still at large in the city as well as "Squadristi" and other fervid supporters of the former regime.

Dottore Ronaldi of Frosinone a former member of the OVRA is still circulating freely through the town.

Many officers, N.C.O.'s soldiers, and carabinieri who were in the service of the Nazis are continuing their ordinary functions.

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The Food and Housing Situation in Frosinone.

Frosinone has been bombarded 47 times by allied airplanes. In the city 3728 only 18 palaces are left standing and the remainder are just a heap of rubble.

At Frosinone there is neither water nor light. Not a single shop is open. There is a complete dearth of medicaments in Frosinone and districts.

The Town Major has given assurance that within a month a great many of the ruins will be cleared so as to assist the return of the population in the town. He has also promised to reestablish as soon as possible the water supply. The lack of medicaments is extremely serious and it is hoped that the Allies will

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try to send essential drugs. With regard to the question of food, the rations are only 150 gr. of bread per capita.

In some districts where the Fascist Podestas continue in office the population is starving. (B-2).

German Prisoners in the Province of Frosinone.

In the course of operations of the Allied troops many Germans were captured some of whom were in civilian clothes others dressed as peasants.

These prisoners are transported to the cages very frequently by American coloured troops. On the 24th of June last a detachment of prisoners under the guard of some negro soldiers was proceeding along the Via Casilina, Via Frosinone. The Germans succeeded in bribing the driver, and their guards to stop the lorry at ANAGNI, at 7 Km. from Frosinone, where most of the Nazi troops had been stationed. Having arrived there some of the Germans got out of the lorry and had a conversation with some women who offered them bread and drinks.

Such incidents arouse the anger of patriotic Italians, especially those who did not sell themselves to the Fascists or the Germans. (B-2).

Behaviour of the Moroccan Troops in the Province of Frosinone.

On the 21st of May 1944 the French and Moroccan troops occupied Lenola, which is 12 Km. from Fondi, and 13 K, south of Frosinone. The population tired and disillusioned by the German methods of occupation awaited the arrival of the Allied troops with anxiety. In fact the Italians received them with the greatest cordiality. The Moroccans however proceeded to assault women and raped a woman of 80 years of age. Italians then remonstrated, with French officers and ask them to protect their women. The Moroccans however continued just as before both in the town and country. In the town of Lenola along there were 50 cases of rape, in some cases wives were violated in the presence of their own husbands who were tied down and therefore were forced to be present while their own wives were outraged.

When they could not find women, the Moroccans outraged children and old men with the result that there has been a great epidemic of venereal diseases. (B-2).

Pastina.

On the 25th of May 1944 the French colonial troops occupied Pastina with the same methods which they had used at Lenola. In the former town the

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

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Pastina.

On the 25th of May 1944 the French colonial troops occupied Pastina with the same methods which they had used at Lenola. In the former town the Moroccans only outraged men and women; at Pastina instead they behaved with violence, many houses were forced and plundered and in some cases they beat up the inmates. The son of a certain Laura Bartolomeo was stabbed in 16 places and killed, because he would not give up his wallet.

Giuseppina Fenaccia raped by Morrocan troops is dangerously ill as a result of their assault. A youth named Bartolmeo was killed whilst trying to protect his sister.

Jalongo Francesco Saverio was robbed of 40,000 liras, his gold watch, gold glasses under threat of assault.

Andrea Breve was roused from his sleep by the Moroccans when they plundered his house, raped his daughter, and took away ten thousand liras.

Carlo Pietrosanti was robbed of 90,000 liras whilst in his house and manhandled. (D-2).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Castro Dei Volsci.

The parish doctor inspected 300 women who had been raped by the Moroccans. The Doctor's name is: Stirpi. An engaged couple were attacked on the high way by three Moroccan soldiers and both of them were outraged in an empty house. (B-2).

Sangiovanni Incarico

Professor Francesco Battaglini was robbed of household linen and objects to the value of 20,000 lire. (B-2).

Patrica.

About 60 women raped; 6 moroccans killed by the Italians. Many women are forced to dress as men in order to protect themselves from sexual assaults. About 100 women have been in hiding in a cave for some time past, under the guard of Italian civilians. (B-2).

Pofi - Ceprano - Isoletta - Supino - Morolo.

Many women raped and several cases of attacks of violence and robbery. (B-2)

Ceccano.

English authorities have formed a concentration camp to protect the women from assaults of the Moroccans.

Moroccan Deserters.

In the district of Pastena in the Province of Frosinone Moroccan deserters are at large, the local inhabitants have already warned the carabinieri of this fact, but the latter declare that they cannot take any action.

On the 22nd of June, 6 of these deserters were to be found in the district of San Cataldo-Cavatello, some of whom slept in a hut belonging to Attanasio di Domenico.

These deserters are living with his daughters.

During the day they remain hidden, They come out at sunset fully armed and break into houses of the surrounding districts, and if they are hungry they go into town, but the civilians remain in their houses and refuse to give them shelter. (B-2).

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

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About 69 women raped; 6 moroccans killed by the Italians. Many women are forced to dress as men in order to protect themselves from sexual assaults. About 100 women have been in hiding in a cave for some time past, under the guard of Italian civilians. (B-2).

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Behaviour of the British troops in the district of Frosinone.

3727

Whilst the Moroccan troops are detested and sometimes attacked because of their acts of aggression, the British soldiers of the 8th Army are very popular. American troops have only passed in the town in very small detachments. Local opinion is that since there is no wine to be obtained, the English are behaving like gentlemen and are considered as friends. Indeed the population is exchanging local produce for cigarettes and food with the Allies troops.

Up to date (25th of June) no incidents of an unpleasant nature have occured between Italian civilians and the soldiers of the 8th Army. British prisoners are harboured by Italians in the Frosinone district near Pastena two British officers who had escaped from German hands spent a month in hiding. One of these officers was fed and led by a certain Grossi of Pastena. Other British soldiers spent about ten days in a farm at Arnara. Some Allied agents were also sheltered by an Italian family at Patrica,

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Dangers of Malaria in the District.

In the district of Cassino near the Via Casilina there is a highly malarial stretch of country. Not only this, since the heavy fighting which has taken place there recently, there is a stretch of drainage, decayed vegetation and possibly, even of unburied corpses. Allied soldiers stop their cars in order to visit the battlefields and to take photographs. (D-2).

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

SECRET

APPENDIX IV

Reactions to Propaganda

Press

The Corriere di Roma has been criticised for occasionally giving headings to articles which are different from what the contents of the articles say. It is reported that one article bore the title that water would be restored entirely within a few days. Toward the end of the article however it said that this was subordinate to the availability of electric current.

Publication.

From various sources in Rome it is reported that Allied publications are popular in the following order:

1. La Prova de Fuoco
2. Victory
3. Lo Strumento della Vittoria Finale
4. La Battaglia d'Africa
5. Mondo Libero
6. Colonel Stevens' talks.
7. Il Mese
8. Messaggi di Roosevelt
9. USA
10. Bread and Wine
11. The Beveridge plan
12. Horizons of Peace
13. How the Government of the United States Functions
14. American Labor.

La Strumento della Vittoria Finale was sold to a certain extent in French, owing to a lack of copies in Italian. Its success was thus due to a large extent to the exterior appearance, the photos, and the cover. It is reported that the production is most important for the success of publications. For this reason Victory is one of the most popular. In particular the number of Victory which had on the cover the photo of an American fighter was very popular. The Mondo Libero on the other hand is criticised for the bad printing and production. La Prova del Fuoco has met with great favour and is considered one of the best publications yet introduced into Italy. From a propaganda point of view it exercised a great effect. The portrayal of so much destruction caused by the Nazis in London has done much to counter German propaganda that the Allies are destructive in Air raids.

Col. Stevens' Talks have also met with great favour. People would like to have the complete series.

It is reported that there is a considerable demand for American and English reviews in the original language.

Cinema.

After a long absence the reappearance of American films has been

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Cinema.

After a long absence the reappearance of American films has been welcomed enthusiastically. A film that has had the greatest success is undoubtedly "Sergeant York", "The Dictator" is expected with great interest, and it is hoped that it will shortly arrive.

It has been pointed out that PWB should censor closely those American films which were in circulation in Italy in the beginning of the war in 1940 to 1942 because frequently the sound dubbing on these films was done in Italy as a result the character of films was falsified so that they could help fascist propaganda. Also many important passages were frequently cut. It is

3726

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reported for example that the film "Passione" which was recently shown at the Delle Vittoria in Piazza Manzini contains a passage which in the dubbing was distorted so as to make the actors say that in America there is neither freedom of presser speech. Another report says that in a talk on the life of Italian prisoners in America, these prisoners at the end of a recital saluted the audience with the Fascist Salute.

There is great interest in documentary films and a desire to see Russian films.

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APPENDIX V

PUBLIC OPINION

Reactions to the Landings in France.

News of the landings in France which came at the same time as the news of the liberation of Rome was received with enthusiasm.

Italian Opinion on Russia.....

It is reported that the Romans look upon the Russians with great admiration and sympathy. The Russian soldier is greatly admired. During the German occupation the enthusiasm for the advances of the Red Army let Romans draw unfavourable comparisons with the slowness of the Anglo-Americns. The people however are profoundly ignorant about everything that concerns Russia. There is a great eagerness to learn more. Many are already asking themselves why after 20 years of fascist ignorance it is not possible to have more information about this country. A publication on Russia would be greatly welcomed. (B-2).

.....And on Tito.

It is reported that in many circles there is a great sympathy for the army of Tito even during the German occupation. In fact particularly during this period the activities of Tito's army exercised an enormous fascination among the population who joined to their enthusiasm for Tito's Army admiration for the Russians. Such admiration is found not only in communistic circles. There is however a great ignorance as to the grievous internal problems which are affecting Yugoslavia. It is hoped that some publication will be produced illustrating some of the activities of this army and conditions in Yugoslavia. (B-2).

Allied troops in Rome.

It is reported that the situation in Rome has recently improved. It is emphasized with satisfaction that there are now less troops in the city. In spite of this however, there are several reports that there are many instances of drunkeness. The military police are criticised for not intervening more

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

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Reaction to the entry of the Allies.

The Allies were expected with great excitement during the last nine months and when the war began to become unpopular on account of its slowness the Allies arrived suddenly and were welcomed enthusiastically by the people. From several reports it is clear that the promise of 20 days food would be

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provided by the Allies raised the expectations of some. Many people did not realize the difficultires in bringing food into the city and it is poihted out that these difficulties should be constantly emphasized in our propaganda.

It is reported that the American soldiers are without doubt the most popular on account of their openess of manner. The English are considered more reserved and are less popular as a result of this. The French with whmm the Italians feel they have the most in common are considered the best soldiers among the Allies on account of their dignity, education and pride. American negro troops are regarded with a certain sympathy. All reports say that the Moroccans troops are very unpopular and their arrival has considerably disillusioned the people who were awaiting the liberators for so long.

The drunkness of the troops; the presence of a large number of trhops the first few days, the savage conduct of the Moroccan troops, have provided fruitful subjects for propaganda for those elements of clandestine fascism that still exist. (B-1).

The Attitude of the Romans to the Italian Government.

It is reported that the Roman's attitude toward the Italian Government has been one of sceptisism rising out of ignorance. Little is heard of the activities of the government and it is felt that until the government moves to Rome little interest in the activities of the government will be taken. (B-1).

Public Reaction to the failure of De Curten, Croce and Ciance to take the Oath to the Crown Prince.

A right wing source says that public opinion believes that Cianca and Croce's refusal to take the oath th the Crown Prince was because they believed that the government was too closely tied to the monarchy. According to this source a crisis arose as a result of this and a meeting was held at Croce's villa at which the right wing was triumphhnt. The result was a communique announcing the government intends to seek the advice of Orlando. (B-3).

Monarchist Posters.

The appearance of monarchist posters on the walls of Rome aroused sentiments of disgust among large sections of the populace. Many of them were torn or covered with insulting inscriptions. (B-2).

The Monarchy.

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The Monarchy.

It is reported that the posters which were put up by the monarchists aroused great discontent. Many people believed that the monarchy is upheld by imposed by the Allied governments and espetially the English. (B-2).

3725

The House of Savoy - in Messina after the declaration of the Government about the institutional problem popular opinion considered that the question may now be considered closed for the moment. (B-1).

The discredit into which the House of Savoy has fallen has increased as a result of an appeal from the Prince of Piedmont to the Italian Armed Forces. The criticism centered on the declaration of the capability of reviving of the people after a war which is not felt and not wanted, while he himself at that time was in command of the armies of the south and directly dependent on Mussolini. Moreover the fact that the ministers did not take their oath to the Crown confirmed the hopes of a probability of a republic.

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Gigli.

The news that Gigli was not allowed to sing was unfavourably received by the public as he had been photographed in the company of General Melzer the day after the massacre of the 320 hostages.

Public Opinion in Messina.

A certain amount of apprehension is to be found in public opinion among the poorer classes on account of the employment by the Germans of the so called pilotless planes. Undoubtedly Fascist propaganda has seized the opportunity to increase this fear.

In Messina also for some days toward the end of June the rumor was circulated that 300 grams of bread per person would not be distributed from the first of July onwards.

Popular opinion in Messina is mainly concentrated on the successes which the Allies are having on all fronts. Never have comments been so favourable and optimistic. The prestige and fame of the Allies increases every day.

The announcement that from July 1st the daily ration of bread will be increased to 300 gramsn has been welcomed with enthusiasm in Messina. It is hoped that such an increase will improve conditions in other spheres of economic life and gradually the black market will be eliminated.

The Hitler-Mussolini talks at Feltre.

It is reported that the conversations held between Hitler and Mussolini at Feltre in July 1943 were recorded and it is believed that such records could be traced.

Sermon hostile to the Allies in the Church of Christ the King.

On Sunday, June 18th, at 12 noon it is reported that a priest who for many years preached at this church, expressed himself in a hostile manner toward the Allies. Among other things he said. "I ask you mothers to pay particular attention to your children who act as guides to the foreigners from whom they learn many vices." The rest of the sermon was devoted to cricitism of the activities of the parties; "Power," he said, "must come from above. It is necessary to command by the grace of God;" The same priest it is reported was a fervent Fascist during the war and incited his flock to fight against the Anglo-American barbarians. (E-3).

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

Interior

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
APO 794 U.S. Army

Central "D" Section, Italy (Liberated) 8th July 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY - NO. 23.

Part I - - Summary

- -

The difference between the political atmosphere of Rome and that of Southern Italy becomes more obvious week by week. There is a far greater political maturity among the educated classes, and for the first time it is possible to detect the pattern of the new democratic Italy which the younger political forces are anxious to shape. Unlike southern Italy, there is a reserve of ability on which the government can draw in Rome. There are numbers of men and women who have suffered under Fascism and have fought at first passively, and later actively, against the regime. Some of them are old or middle-aged and have suffered imprisonment. Others are younger and represent the revolutionary forces which have turned against the tyrannical; ractionary atmosphere in which they were brought up. In addition, these two groups are reinforced by a handful of exiles who have returned after carrying on the struggle against Fascism from abroad. These groups which are now united in the Committee of Liberation represent a notable democratic political force in Rome.

During the last four weeks the parties have been reorganising themselves, establishing offices and running their newspaper. They have now reached the stage when in their newspaper they are examining openly problems which are exercising the minds of a great many politically educated Italians. Whereas the party newspapers in Southern Italy often devoted most of their space to personal wrangles or to flogging the dying horse of the monarchy or to issues not directly connected with the war, in Rome the parties seem primarily interested in problems directly affecting the war and the Italian contribution to the war effort.

The problem that looms largest in the minds of these Italians at the moment is the treatment of the partisans once the Allies liberated the territory where they have been fighting. At first the problem was raised in discussion by the Italians who were responsible for the organization of resistance in occupied Italy. Then the partisans who had fought the Germans in various zones near Rome came to the city expecting to be able to continue to fight. They arrived the first few days after the liberation of Rome in small numbers, but as the days passed more and more arrived. Many of them; acting on the instructions of the Allied High Command broadcast by Radio and Leaflet, had performed feats of great valour, directly fighting the Germans, capturing prisoners and war material and sabotaging German communications. South of Rome partisans activity was on a small scale; but what was a small trickle there has become a stream in central Italy, and the indications are that the stream will become a torrent in Northern Italy where the resistance movement is organised on a vaster scale. These partisans arrived in Rome in the expectation that they

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3724

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are now being openly voiced and supported by an increasing number of Italians both in conversation and in the press.. The six parties are united in their desire to see the partisans taking an active part in the fighting. This represents the Italian point of view. It should however be added that the whole problem of the partisans is being closely studied by the Allies, and Bonomi has been asked to speak to the partisans, giving them instructions what to do when their territory is liberated. Above all they are in need of precise instructions.

The second problem which is exercising the minds of responsible politically minded Italians is the economic condition of the country. They believe that inflation is encouraged by the rate of exchange established by the Allies at the Armistice and they believe that it is hastened by the purchasing power of Allied troops. As inflation would not be in the ultimate interest of the Allies, they argue that we should lower the rate of exchange and restrict the purchasing power of Allied soldiers.

The third problem that is exercising the minds of responsible Italians is that of unemployment in Rome. They argue that unemployment exists on a large scale in Rome, and they suggest that labour should be mobilised for the war effort and for reconstruction. The proposal has been made that many of the workers in Rome could be used to rebuild the roads, clear the debris, and reconstruct the houses in the villages and towns devastated by the war south of Rome. Bridges, railways, hydro-electric plants all need repairing, they argue, and they believe that the workmen in Rome could find employment in this way.

The fourth problem which has been raised both in the Osservatore Romano and the Avanti, and preoccupied many people is the behaviour of the Moroccan troops. It is reported that in the forward area they indulged in looting, rape and even murder. It is hoped that the French Command will take the necessary measures to stop this, and also that a statement allaying the fears of many Italians may be issued.

These are the problems which politically minded Italians have raised in the last week in a series of articles animated by a constructively critical spirit. On their solution will depend to a large extent the prestige of the Allies and the shape of the new Italy. Italians tend to judge the Allies by their deeds, and if we implement many of our promises -- as we have done -- then our prestige will rise. These problems are regarded as typical of the problems which will confront the whole of Europe once it has been liberated, and the solution reached here, Italians think, will serve as a precedent for the rest of Europe.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer in Naples, Emilio Lussu, the Sardinian political leader, said he thought that as a result of the destruction caused by war at least two generations would be necessary for the reconstruction of Italy. He was disappointed that Italians had not reacted more violently against those who had enslaved them and led them to war.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer, Scoccimara, one of the leading members of the Communist Party, talked freely about the labour situation. It was, he said, the wish of the workers themselves that there

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the purchasing power of [illegible]

The third problem that is exercising the minds of responsible Italians is that of unemployment in Rome. They argue that unemployment exists on a large scale in Rome, and they suggest that labour should be mobilised for the war effort and for reconstruction. The proposal has been made that many of the workers in Rome could be used to rebuild the roads, clear the debris, and reconstruct the houses in the villages and towns devastated by the war south of Rome. Bridges, railways, hydro-electric plants all need repairing, they argue, and they believe that the workmen in Rome could find employment in this way.

The fourth problem which has been raised both in the Osservatore Romano and the Avanti, and preoccupied many people is the behaviour of the Moroccan troops. It is reported that in the forward area they indulged in looting, rape and even murder. It is hoped that the French Command will take the necessary measures to stop this, and also that a statement allaying the fears of many Italians may be issued.

These are the problems which politically minded Italians have raised in the last week in a series of articles animated by a constructively critical spirit. On their solution will depend to a large extent the prestige of the Allies and the shape of the new Italy. Italians tend to judge the Allies by their deeds, and if we implement many of our promises -- as we have done -- then our prestige will rise. These problems are regarded as typical of the problems which will confront the whole of Europe once it has been liberated, and the solution reached here, Italians think, will serve as a precedent for the rest of Europe.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer in Naples, Emilio Lussu, the Sardinian political leader, said he thought that as a result of the destruction caused by war at least two generations would be necessary for the reconstruction of Italy. He was disappointed that Italians had not reacted more violently against those who had enslaved them and led them to war.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer, Scoccimara, one of the leading members of the Communist Party, talked freely about the labour situation. It was, he said, the wish of the workers themselves that there should be a single union hence the Communists and Socialists had come to an agreement with the Catholics to form one union, in contrast to Naples where there are still the 'white' and 'red' (Socialist and Communist) unions. Grandi, the Christian Democrat representative, Di Vittorio and Lizzodri the Communist and Socialist representatives, were all well known in the Trades Unions movement even before Fascism, Scoccimara said; whereas Gentili was unknown and no more than an adventurer. The three mass parties; he said: intended to hold within the next few weeks in Rome a congress of representatives of all the Camere di Lavoro to decide the question of the single union. As Italy continued to be liberated further, such congresses would be held to take decisions on the question of a syndical unity. Scoccimara said the Italian government wanted to intensify Italy's part in the war and wanted to enroll more young men, in particular, partisans, but he did not think that the Allied Command was yet

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

persuaded to go as far as the Italian government wanted.

Talking of relations with the other parties, he said that relations were closest with the Socialist Party. Ultimately he hoped there would be a fusion of the two parties: although the time was not quite ripe for this. Relations were not so close with the Action Party, and Scoccimara thought the future of this party was obscure, as it was a party of too many tendencies and was too anxious to identify itself with different groups and classes. The Communists got on well; he added, with the Christian Democrats. Two currents were discernible in this party; the first was favourable to the masses, the second represented the proprietors and conservatism. He thought the Catholic Communists were a serious party and had a fair following. The policy of Communism in Italy, he said, was one of understanding with the Church and the Army, because both of these forces will have to be used in the reconstruction of the country.

Scoccimara's remarks illustrate the cautious, almost conservative policy of the Communist Party in Italy. The Socialist and Action Parties are present pursue a more extremist, demagogic policy than the Communists. In Rome; from reports received so far the impression is that the Socialist Party is the strongest and best organised and that the Christian Democrats follow closely. The Communists on the other hand have attracted to their ranks many of the younger more idealistic elements. In particular young intellectuals, who have displayed great courage in action during the last few months, have gravitated towards the Communist Party. The attack on SS soldiers in Via Rasella in March was planned by the Communist party, and the bomb thrown by a young Communist intellectual, Calamandrei, who was arrested by the Germans, but succeeded in making a dramatic escape almost as soon as he was brought to prison.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer, General Cerica, who took over command of the Rome Carabinieri just before the 'coup d'etat' of July 25th, 1943, recounted the story of the arrest of Mussolini. The latter was arrested after his audience with the King and taken in an ambulance to the Podgera Carabinieri barracks; Simultaneously strategical points in Rome were occupied by 8000 carabinieri under the General's command. General Cerica also changed the head of the police, General Chievitti, and called back S nise to replace him. Ettore Muti, he said, in agreement with Kesselring, was hatching a plot aimed at seizing the command of the carabinieri. As a result General Cerica had him arrested at his villa at Fregene. At the edge of the pine forest he tried to break away and reach a German camp nearby. The German sentinels fired on the carabinieri who replied with tommy guns, and Muti was shot in the head and killed. In a most interesting interview the General continues with a first hand account of the events in Rome leading up to the armistice, and during the days following September 8th. Referring to the future of his country; he emphasised that there was no efficient police force, as the existing one was corrupt. He believed that it was urgent to create a strong carabinieri force, and that no time should be lost. A loyal Monarchist, he was afraid that the country might swing swiftly to the left, and the most

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An interview with Cesare Rossi; who was involved in the Matteotti murder, is included in the report. An account of the recently liberated areas is included as an appendix. The old port of Perugia has hardly been damaged. Partisans were active in this area, and anti-fascism is described as being strong.

3723

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Epuration continues to be widely discussed by all classes in Rome. The leisured conservative classes are critical of Colonel Poletti's measures, but they have won a great measure of favour with the left. Some anti-Fascists are afraid that the laws are so drastic they they may not be applied. The popularity of Colonel Poletti, among the working classes and democratic elements, has risen to heights attained by no other Allied officer. His broadcasts are reported as being most effective, and simple, democratic Italians detect in him that sympathy for the down-trodden and that understanding of the new forces at work in Europe which they had come to expect from the Allies as a result of our propaganda. His handling of the food situation continues to receive high praise.

A long report on the labour situation and the formation of a single union is included. The three mass parties, the Communists the Socialists, and the Christian Democrats, agreed that a single union was desirable as being the most efficient instrument for the organisation of labour and they issued the terms of an understanding which provided for a single Confederazione Generab Italiano del Lavoro. This was to comprise a national Federation of Labour for every branch of production. Elections to all offices would be carried out democratically from below. Maximum expression of opinion would be insured and mutual respect for varying political or religious tendencies. There would be independence from all political parties with the choice, which may be exercised by C.G.I.L. to associate itself with the action of the democratic parties which are the expression of the working masses; whether for the safeguarding and development of the freedom of the people or for the defense of the interests of labour and of country.

During the last few weeks the economic situation in Naples has made a remarkable improvement. The prices of potatoes has dropped from 40 L.; per Kilo to 8 L. The black market price of bread from 160 L. to 60L.; and flour from 300 L. to 40 L. per kilo. Fruit has drppped from between 30 and 40 L. per kilo to between 10 and 15 L. per kilo. The price of fish from 100 to 150 L. to 100 to 140 L. per kilo. The present improvement is greatly due to the increased supplies of food since the cost of most commodities is based on the price of bread. The fall in prices is also due to the decrease in the number of troops in Naples.

In Sicily the announcement of the increase of the bread ration to 300 grams was received with great relief. It is also reported that food is more plentiful there now, although many producers are reported to be reluctant to hand in their grain to the people's granaries.

Allied publications have been favourably received in Rome. In particular La Frcna del Popolo and Victory are appreciated. It is reported that a publication

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
A.P.O. 794 U.S. Army

Central "D" Section, Italy (Liberated), 1 July 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY - - NO. 24

Two measures have excited considerable interest in Rome during the last week, and they have been regarded as a sign that the Allies are in earnest. In a series of interviews to the press, and in a talk on the radio, Colonel Poletti outlined the food position in Rome. The frankness with which he faced the problem met with widespread approval, and the energetic swiftness with which the bread ration was raised to 200 grams a day as from July 1, astonished even those Italians who are normally loud in their praise of the Allies. The Roman people are primarily interested at the moment in the food problem; and the energy with which the Allied administration is handling the problem, particularly during the last week, has met with general approval. The claims of other liberated territories, and the priority of military operations, are fully realised, and the Romans seem to appreciate the particular efforts that are being made on their behalf.

The other measure which has pleased the Italian democratic elements is the degree introduced to bring about the removal of Fascists from public office. The measure has attracted attention by its severity. It strikes hard at those who were principally responsible for Fascism, and many who have profited handsomely from the regime in the past will now find themselves without work. The measure has met with qualified approval from the Liberals and the Christian Democrats, but with wholehearted approval from the members of the Action, Socialist and Communist parties. It is realised that if the decree is applied, then the governing class (which was, after all, responsible for Fascism) will have to be radically renewed. That is what anti-Fascists have been clamouring for during the last few months; now they begin to understand that the Allies are in earnest when they proclaim that they are fighting for democracy and against Fascism and Nazism. On the other hand, it would be idle to deny that those who represent the vested interests of Fascists are alarmed, and already the right-wing Italian journalists are hoping that the severity of some of the decrees may be extenuated. The neo-Fascist elements were as alarmed as the democratic elements were pleased by Colonel Poletti's statement that he would consult the Committee of Liberation for information.

The first few days after the liberation of Rome had witnessed a frantic, last minute effort on the part of the most fervent collaborators with the Germans to get in with the Allies. Many Italians who have resisted, the Germans were astonished when they saw such pro-German elements who they felt, should be arrested, associating with the Allies. Now that the epuration measures have been announced, and many of the more pro-German and Fascist elements arrested, the people

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The Italian government's announcement that it has initiated a series of trials against prominent Fascists, including Dino Grandi, has met with a favourable response, as most people want these Fascists who were really responsible for the regime to be punished. 3722

Speculation continues as to when the Italian government will move to Rome. Politically minded Italians hope that the transfer will not be long delayed, as they fear that it is impossible for any government to operate efficiently from Salerno where there is the alternative of an administrative

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center like Rome. Many government officials are anxiously awaiting the return of the government so as to learn their fate.

Two interesting articles appeared during the week in the Rome newspapers, Avanti and Italia Libera, which gave a picture of the problems facing responsible Italians today. Pietro Nenni in a frank, objective article examined the position of Italians after twenty years of Fascism. After describing the favourable military situation on all fronts and drawing the conclusion that this year may see the victorious conslusion of the war, Nenni goes on to say that together with the feelings of joy which Italians will feel at this prospect there is a certain re-occupation, because twenty years of Fascism and three years at war at the side of Hitler have given Italy the moral, material and physical characteristics of a conquered nation. Italy, he says, is distrusted, despised and often hated by other countries who have suffered at the hands of Fascism. It will take years to recover from this position of moral inferiority into which Italy has fallen, but Nenni questions whether the Italian people are fully aware of the level to which Italy has sunk in the eyes of the world. The government has not yet come to Rome, municipal administration is ignorant of its effective power, and the Allies navigate in the enormous sea of laws which follow one another and often contradict one another. Two important problems emerge, that of epuration, and that of the contribution of Italian volunteers to the fighting. Much remains to be done with regard to the former, and those who want to fight don't yet know whether they can volunteer. There is a danger, Nenni concludes, of moral confusion and disintegration unless epuration is started at once and an outlet for the volunteers instituted. Nenni appeals to the government, the people and the Allies to unite and help Italy to combat the forces of disintegration. Otherwise there is a danger of Italy collapsing into a state of demoralisation. This article is significant as because it represents the point of view of many educated Italian who are definitely anxious to rebuild democracy in Italy but at the same time feel the need of moral and material support from the Allies. They fear that without much support, in view of the heritage of Fascism which has fallen on their shoulders, it may be impossible to construct a sound democratic system.

The other problem raised by Ugo La Malfa in Italia Libera is one that interests many Italians. Italy, the writer says, is in a curious half-way position one the one hhnd she is at war, and her economy should therefore be wholly subordinated to the war effort, but although she can contribute manpower to the war effort, her war production can never be great. In some ways Italy has pptentially entered a peace economy, because it is impossible, the writer says, to employ all her manpower in the war effort. On the other hand for much of the work of reconstruction raw material which would have to be imported would be necessary. An in view of the demands on shipping it will not be possible to import the necessary raw materials. The writer concludes however by appealing to the government to employ all the forces of labour on national soil, giving priority to the reconstruction of means of communication. In this article, too, the appeal to the Allies is to help is implicit just as the desire to avoid chaos is implicit. In both articles it is possible to detect the point of view of many Italians who are pre-occupied about the future of Italy and are afraid

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The government has not given many signs of activity during the last week. In an interview with a PWB officer, Avv. Ramirez, the Under Secretary of State for the Navy and ammember of the Party of Action outlined his ideas of an International order made up of continents or empires, such as China, Russia, Europe, Great Britain, North American, and South America. Within this general framework he thought of Europe as a Federation of equal sovereign states, each having one vote at the Council table. All questions arising between the States would be settled by the Federal body, The various states of Europe should not be allowed to build up armaments beyond what was needed for national internal security. The Party of Action, Ramirezsaid, was created to fight Fascism and when this had been accomplished to establish Mazzinian Republicanism.. The distribution of land, he said would take.

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two forms. Land which was easily cultivable by the individual would be made available to the peasant who cultivates it, while land such as the latifondo would be cultivated by co-operatives of peasants.

In an interview with a PWB officer Avv. Mattarella, the Christian Democratic Under-Secretary of State for Education, said that the three principal problemsn affecting Sicily were: the break of the latifondo, the establishment of Sicilian industries, and education. He believed that it was most important to establish a merchant navy for Sicily. The Montecatini private chemical industries which had been closed in Sicily should be reopened again.

Education was, Mattarella thought, the greatest social problem. At present, the only compulsory education was elementary education, which lasted five years, from seven to twelve. It was essential to increase the length of the elementary period. The basis of good education must be a Chsitaian teaching founded on the love of one another and the love of God. A period of post elementary educated was contemplated for those who would not be going on to secondayy schools, whereby the children would learn some particular craft.

In the International sphere, the Christian Democrat Party favoured an alliance with Great Britain, and the United States. The party was in favour of Free trade.

In an interview with a OWB officer Pietro Nenni, the leader of the Socialist party and editor of the Avanti (which the party newspaper with the largest circulation in Rome) outlined the ultimate aims of the party as 1) the Republic, 2) the Socialisation of heavy industry, 3) the conversion of the constituent assembly into a special High Court of Justice, to try Mussolini, King Victor Emmanuel and all the heads and promoters of Fascism. Nenni said that there had been agreement as to common action between the Socialist and Communist party leaders of Italy since 1934.

One difference between the Socialists and the Communists, was he said, that whereas the latter were prepared to take their orders from Moscow, the former was not. Relations with other parties were on the whole good, especially with the Action Party. Relations were good too, with the Christian Democrat Party. If this party freed itself from the influence of the Vatican, then the parties could go a long way together, as anti-clericalism was, he thought, now a thing of the past. The lower clergy had been almost entirely hostile to Fascism. He believed that it was essential to purge the police, and that this force together with the corporations and the general staff of the army, should be dissolved and reconstituted anew. He thought the Allied had handled the food situation well. Paris, he said, was much worse off under German occupation than Rome had ever been. As to the army, he felt that there ought to be voluntary enlistment under young anti-Fascist officers. The country could no longer have faith in an army based on the old cadres.

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A PWB officer who interviewed General Roberto Bencivenga, the Chief of the Italian military administration in Rome, reports that he was left with the impression that Bencivenga is perhaps too far advanced in years to be capable of grappling with any complicated post which would entail quick thinking and immediate decision. General Bencivenga had lived in hiding during the German occupation but had been in contact with the Allies. He hoped ultimately to return to politics. He was critical of the present government. He declared that he was in favour of a republic, though he did not think that this was a suitable moment to change over. He hoped that Italians would be allowed to play a more active part in the fighting.

Most reports emphasise that the Italians continue to be friendly towards the Allies. The opening of the second front, and the initial success of the Allies has aroused enthusiasm Many reports mention that too many people who were notorious.y friendly with the Germans are now on the best of terms with the Allies. Colonel Poletti's direct approach to the population through his press conferences and talks has had a good response. He is generally

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3721

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spoken of as the defender of peace and liberty and the friend of the Italian people.

The appointment of General Biscontini to the position of Air Minister, has been favourably received among pilots.

Reports on the reception of Allied radios, in Rome are included. BBC was heard most easily and was most popular, with the exception of the special transmissions of Italia Combatte broadcast from Anzio. An Italian collaborator with PWB at Catania reports that the recently inaugurated transmissions of Radio Catania have met with great favour and satisfied an important need.

Oggi Mese continues to be read with great interest. Articles on Russia and on Italian prisoners of war have been commented on particularly favourably. "Victory" is also very popular with the less intellectual people

In Naples, there is general satisfaction at the increase of rations, and many people believe that the Black Market prices will tend to fall and that the shortage of food will be considerably lessened. On the other hand, from the country round Naples come reports that there is great scepticism about the success of the campaign for the people's granaries. Farmers in Sperl are reported to regard the increased ration as a ruse to induce them to bring in their grain.

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 24

PART II - - - ANNEXES

CONTENTS

Paragraph		Page
1	Rome after four weeks	1
	POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT	
2	Sicilian Reaction to the new government	3
3	Conversation with Ramirez	5
4	Conversation with Matterella	
6	Departure of Mario Costa for Salerno	5
7	Guarino' Amella's trip to Salerno	6
8	Interview with Mattioli, (Action Party)	7
9	Conference with the Naples Communist Party	8
10	The Movimento Communista in Rome	9
11	The Poster War (Monarchists and the Left)	10
12	Interview with Pietro Nenni	11
13	Interview with Bencivenga	12
14	Conversation with Monsignor Pietro Barbierei, Ing. Eugenio Gualdi and Colonel Giorgio Liuzzi	15
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
15	Meeting of Sicilian Sindaci	16
	ROYAL FAMILY	
16	The Italian Royal Family at Ravello	16
	CHURCH	
17	Interview with Father Tacchi-Venturi	17

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

Paragraph		Page
1	Rome after four weeks	1
	POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT	
2	Sicilian Reaction to the new government	3
3	Conversation with Ramirez	5
4	Conversation with Matterella	
6	Departure of Mario Costa for Salerno	5
7	Guarino' Amella's trip to Salerno	6
8	Interview with Mattioli, (Action Party)	7
9	Conference with the Naples Communist Party	8
10	The Movimento Communista in Rome	9
11	The Poster War (Monarchists and the Left)	10
12	Interview with Pietro Nenni	11
13	Interview with Bencivenga	12
14	Conversation with Monsignor Pietro Barbierei, Ing. Eugenio Gualdi and Colonel Giorgio Liuzzi	15
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
15	Meeting of Sicilian Sindaci	16
	ROYAL FAMILY	
16	The Italian Royal Family at Ravello	16
	CHURCH	
17	Interview with Father Tacchi-Venturi	17
	ARMED FORCES	
18	An alleged order from Prince Umberto	18
19	Impressions of a former P.W.	18
20	Private talk by De Courten	19
21	Commission to investigate Naval officers in Rome	19
	LABOUR	
	Interview with Dino Gentili	19
	ECONOMIC	
22	Increase in bread rations: Reactions in Sicily.	20

3720

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

23 Bread Rations: Reactions in Catania 20
24 Bread Rations: Reactions in Bari 20

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I A survey of Economic Conditions
APPENDIX II The Process of Liberation at Orvieto
APPENDIX III Reactions to propaganda
APPENDIX IV Reports on Public Opinion
APPENDIX V The Royal Treasure

Explanation of Reliability Rating:

Source (Reliability)

A Always Reliable
B Usually Reliable
C Sometimes Reliable
D Frequently Unreliable
E A Bad Source

O Impossible to judge

Report (probability)

1 Confirmed
2 Probable
3 Possible
4 Doubtful
5 Improbable

0 Impossible to judge

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

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
APO 794 U.S. Army

PART II Annexes

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1. Rome after four weeks.

The following is a P.W.B. officer's survey of public opinion in Rome after nearly four weeks after the Allied occupation of the city:-

The same situation has resulted as was observed six months ago in Naples and other liberated towns in Southern Italy. The first people to show disappointment in the Allies are the intelligent anti-Fascists, the people who have waited for us with the most impatience and greeted us with the greatest expectations. They are the people who by virtue of their culture, their anti-Fascist record, their unflagging trust in democratic ideals and their intelligence and character, had hoped with our arrival to be able to commence at once some constructive activity in the service of their country. Instead of receiving their presails gratefully and welcoming their assistance as they welcome ours, we are treating these people with reserve and caution and a great deal of their enthusiasm is being lost in a wave of depression. The class of people were frankly bewildered by the non-acceptance of the Bonomi Government by our authorities. They are now in a happier frame of mind but still disappointed at not being able to co-operate more fully with the Allies.

Another fairly influential set in Rome, made up for the most part of the cultured and pro-Allied elements of the aristocracy who are predominantly conservative, and have not risked so much as the people previously mentioned, have lost faith in Italian institutions to such an extent that they hope that some form of Allied control will be maintained in their country for at least two years until the Italians have shaken down and are able to conduct their own affairs.

The great mass of people are politically apathetic and as far as the Allies are concerned will always expect more than they receive. The feeling of freedom, the good nature of Allied troops, particularly the Americans, does however, do a good deal to compensate for the disillusion which has resulted from the lack of food. It was the opinion of many people of all classes that the food situation was worse than they themselves anticipated, but the rapid increase of the bread ration to 200 gr. has given universal staisfaction.

Black Market prices which dropped sharply on our entry into the city have now risen. The people most severely hit by these exorbitant prices are said to be the lower middle classes or small employees, whose salaries have never been high and who depend entirely on a cheap and stable food market for good living. They are now digging into reserves which may last a few days more and after that will be lucky if they can scrape together one good meal per day. The upper class many of whom have English supplies from country estates seem to be fairly well

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

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3719

On the whole, in spite of the disappointment produced by the Allies' failure to bring in as much food was was expected, people are still friendly. This attitude could change as a result of wholesale and inconsiderate requisitioning of premises in a town already filled to overflowing or because of an excess of drunkeness and misbehaviour by our troops in surroundings where a certain dignity and deportment are to be expected. The requisitioning of the Teatro Reale (the Opera House) for the showing of an Army review has made a bad impression on cultured Romans. Besides throwing out of work some 400 employees it has deprived

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many artists who wished to appear before the Allies of the opportunity for displaying their talents and has disappointed all those who had hoped that we should consent to be entertained by one of the best opera companies in one of the finest theatres of opera in the world. The lack of cinemas and theatres was also causing some unfavourable comment, though this has now ceased with the opening of a certain number of these places of entertainment. Another cause of complaint which has been widely heard is that Allied officers are now consorting with exactly the same people with whom the Germans were familiar a month ago, and Allied organizations are employing the same firms as were employed by the German Army authorities. The new Mayor of Rome Prince Doria complained to a PWB officer that Italians who like himself had been anti-German had become so impoverished that it was not possible for them to entertain Allied officers on the lavish scale with which the ex-fascists and the ex-collaborators with the Germans were now doing so.

In spite of disappointment in some particulars and certain criticisms, there is, however, on the whole, great confidence and in the Allies due, especially, to the speed up in the Italian campaign and the successful opening of the second front in Normandy. All reports concur in saying that the people's interest in the unfolding of these historical events is enormous. Newspapers are widely purchased and read and the military implications of each day's communique are eagerly discussed among the more intelligent people. Our prestige at the moment is undoubtedly high, so high, indeed, that the volatile Italians are already speculating upon a German collapse in the autumn.

On the political side, the new government has evoked some enthusiasm among the party followers. Among the quite considerable body of political opinion outside the six parties there is qualified approval without enthusiasm. Among the mass of the people there is apathy or the attitude of wait and see. The fact of the matter is that the people are at present more interested in what the Anglo-American-Russian Allies will do than in what the Italian Government will do. People are conservative tendencies almost invariably say that unless the Western Allies are prepared to support Italy economically her fate will inevitably be bound to that of the Eastern ally. Those of more liberal and radical views, what might be called the central bloc, have more faith in their own efforts but still look to England and the United States for support, while the Socialists and Communists are, naturally, confident of support if not from one quarter then from another.

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

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POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

B. Sicilian Reactions to the New Italian Government.

The new Italian Government, announced on Sunday 11th June, was received with mixed feelings. Satisfaction was expressed that a government had been formed so quickly, and that it represented all six parties. Yet a certain amount of disappointment was felt that local Sicilian interests were not more adequately represented, and considerable surprise and some criticism levelled at the fact that Bonomi was Prime Minister.

Only three Sicilians are represented in the new ministry, and hold undersecretaryships. These are Avv. Bernardo Mattarella, Vice-President of the Christian Democrat Party in Sicily, who becomes undersecretary of State for Education, Avv. Antonio Ramirez, Vice-President of the Party of Action, who becomes Undersecretary of State for the Navy, and Avv. Mariano Costa, Undersecretary of State for Labour. Alisio has not been confirmed in his office as Minister of the Interior, and that fact that there is no Sicilian of cabinet rank has caused genuine disappointment. The Separatists were quick to take advantage of this local sentiment of injured pride to argue that Sicily will always be neglected by every Italian Government.

No enthusiasm is shown for Bonomi. He is generally considered a weak man, typical of the older and discredited school of pre-fascist Giolitian politics. He has no party following in Sicily to back him up as the Democrazia del Lavoro hardly exists.

The Communists have gone so far as to level against him a direct attack through their newspaper, the 'Voce Communista' of the 17th June 1944. They accuse Bonomi of having favoured the armed intervention of Fascism in 1920-21. and advise him to retire from public life at the earliest occasion possible.

Both the Communists in the 'Voce Communista' of the 17th June and the Party of Action in 'Azione del Popolo' of the 17th June, 1944, express the deepest resentment that Avv. Mariano Costa, ex-deputy for Trapani, should have been chosen as undersecretary of State for Labour. This man, so they say, is a declared Separatist and has crept into the government under the guise of a Socialist.

3. Conversation with Ramirez.

Avv. Antonio Ramirez - who is Vice President of the Partito d'Azione in Sicily and Undersecretary of State for the Navy, said that he conceived an International order made of of continents, or empires, China, Russia, Europe, Great Britain, North America, South America. Within this general frame-

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

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3. Conversation with Ramirez.

Avv. Antonio Ramirez - who is Vice President of the Partito d'Azione in Sicily and Undersecretary of State for the Navy, said that he conceived an International order made of of continents, or empires, China, Russia, Europe, Great Britain, North America, South America. Within this general frame-work, he thought of Europe as a federation of equal sovereign states, each having one vote at the council table. All questions arising between the states would be settled by the Federal Body. To make it effective and logical, the United States and Russia would have to be excluded, and Great Britain would exercise the dominating police power for a period of time, primarily by superiority of air power. The various states of Europe would not be allowed to build up armaments beyond what is needed for national internal security. The idea of European blocs did not appeal, as this would have a politically weakening influence inasmuch, as 87 - 8 bloc might eventually come to be considered as having a single vote only, and consequently be at a disadvantage as regards lesser powers, at the council table, and not strong enough against the continental or imperial powers de facto. Political combinations would undoubtedly occur within the framework of the European Federal System, but not based necessarily on Treaties, but on political exigencies of the moment. While the sovereignty of European states would be limited by the single vote at the Council Table, and by a strict limitation of armaments, nationswould not be allowed to protect their industrial and agricultural interests by a form of limited protection, so as to ensure their internal markets and economic stability.

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Russian grain for instance would not be allowed into Italy, so as to undercut Italian and Sicilian wheat production, nor would the industries of the North be left at the mercy of the American production. (The examples given by Avv. Ramirez both referred to continental non-European competition). Any disputes arising within the European Federation about trade tariffs would be settled by the Federal Council, taking into consideration national and regional interests.

On the national plane Avv. Ramirez, said the Partito d'Azione, was born of a duel concept, as a party of action to fight Fascism, and when this was accomplished to establish Mazzinian Republicanism. In fact the Party founded in 1940 was a rebirth of Mazzini's Partito d'Azione. The party did not believe in the monarchy, not because the King had failed to do his duty, but because the institution of the monarchy was incapable of protecting the country from the very disaster against which it was intended to act as an insurance. Since the institution of monarchy had failed, another form of institution namely republicanism should replace it.

Parliament would be elected on a national basis, elections being made by Communes. Only the Senate would undergo a change from the earlier parliamentary system, inasmuch as it would no longer be made to represent landed interests and big business, but would be a body composed of specialists and technicians for every branch of national activity. Thus the two bodies, the Parliament and the Senate, and all laws passed by them, would come under the influence of popular and expert sanction.

The Partito d'Azione believed in promoting the increased material welfare of the people, but it disassociated itself from Marxism or Socilist materialism, which tended towards centralisation and the Capitalist state. The Partito d'Azione desired to see a great difusion of wealth and property, and not have the state own all the land, and rent it out.

The distribution of land would take two forms. Land which was easily cultivable by the individual would be made available to the contadino or peasant who cultivates it, while land such as the latifondia which often cannot be broken up, would be cultivated by cooperatives of peasants. The reason why some latifondi cannot be parcelled up, is that they contain a kernel of good farming land, surrounded by vast tracts of poor pasture country. The pasture land can only be grazed satisfactorily, if attached to agricultural land.

The land wouldn't be expropiated, and steps would be taken to preserve or create the medium size estates as well as small estates. But landlords, who did not personally cultivate their properties, would be compelled to subject them "enfiteosi" or long lease. The peasant would have the option of paying the fixed rent in money or kind. And if at

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The idea of townships and municipalities holding land is not encouraged, as this has meant in the past that the municipal officials rented out such lands to the "gabelletto", thus encouraging a system of nepotism, corruption and bad land management.

The break up of the "latifondi" is intimately connected with three other considerations which must precede or accompany it:

1. The building of lateral roads
2. The establishment of security
3. The freeing of country districts of disease, particularly of malaria.

SECRET.

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

The three most immediate local problems are:

1. The diffusion of property
2. Public security
3. Moral rehabilitation (Risanamento Morale).

E. Conversation with Matterella.

In conversation with a PWB officer Bernardo Matterella, who is Vice-President of the Partito Democratico Cristiano in Sicily, and Undersecretary of State for Education, said that the three principal problems affecting Sicily were: the break-up of the Latifundia; the establishment of Sicilian industries; and education.

Referring to the work of the Partito Popolare and Don Sturzo (a native of Caltagirone, Sicily), Matterella said that cooperatives founded by the Partito Popolare had succeeded in certain places (Gela) in putting the peasants on the land. The land was usually rented long-term from the landlord, and did not become peasant property. The policy was now to place taxes of increasing magnitude on estates the larger they were, thus compelling the landlord to sell his land, at a point where it no longer became profitable for him to keep it. He could sell it in the free market and get his price for it. Death duties were also envisaged, and possibly townships, etc., would have powers to purchase land within ten kilometres, for development into suburbs and garden cities, allotments and small holdings. This land would be held by co-operatives, who would rent it out for a small rent to the peasant or smallholder, on long lease. Thus the peasant would be taught slowly to live on the land, first by living near the town and then further afield. He would then turn poor land into rich market gardening, as was the case in the Provincesof Messina and at Trapani, especially around Marsala. This diffusion of property would destroy a most vicious system, that of the Gabelletto, which encouraged the Mafia. The gabelletto was a middle-man, who rented an entire Latifundia from some absentee landlord, paying him a fixed annual rent. The landlord could thus rely on a fixed income, and have absolutely no worries. The gabelletto on the other hand if he was successful, made more money than the landlord, by sub-renting the estates; as he had to be a pretty hard-fisted type and domineering, he was probably Maffioso.

Connected with the breaking of the Latifundi was also the question of afforestation for soil and water conservation, and the building of dams, not so much for hydraulic power, as to collect water for irrigation. The small holdings were hardly possible unless water was available. There was plenty of hydraulic energy in the top of Italy, which could be imported into Sicily.

All the barren lands, particularly the slopes of hills, should be planted with trees.

Foremost among Sicilian industries to establish was a merchant navy. Certain building yards existed at Palermo, Trapani etc. which could be exploited, and a small fleet should be built up to serve Sicilian trade in the Mediterranean area. A considerable fleet had been owned by Florio, but this was bought up by Cosa.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The Montecatini private chemical industries had four plants in Sicily, but these were all closed in favour of the factories in Northern Italy. They should be opened again, because Sicilian agriculture needed North African phosphates and it should be unnecessary to send them to North Italy first for processing. Likewise asphalt and sulphur industries should be established, which would give greater scope to the Sicilian working-class population.

In general the Partito Democratico Cristiano was against monopolies and trusts, believing in local industries. Moreover one part of the profits should be turned back to the workers in the form of shares, so that they would have a part ownership in the industry they were engaged in. This ownership would not, however, be decisive.

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3717

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Education was the greatest social problem. At present the only compulsory education was elementary education, which lasted five years, from seven to twelve. Many children did not attend this regularly, or last it out, as the parents withdrew them. It was essential to increase the length of the elementary period, so as to remove children from the dirt and squalor of the homes, and not merely teach them the elements of education, but put them into clean artistic surroundings. The basis of good education must be a Christian teaching founded on the love of one another and the love of God. A period of post elementary education was contemplated for those who would not be going on to secondary schools, whereby children would learn some particular craft, especially such as were of greatest use in the district. (Thus ceramics at Caltagirone and Piazza Armerina, or fishing at Castellammare.)

Talking of national politics, Avv. Mattarella said the Partito Democratico Cristiano believed in complete unity with Italy, not merely a federation. The whole world trend was towards greater units and not in splitting up into smaller ones. The Italian governamental structure should preferably be based on the English model, which was empirical and Christian, rather than on the French, which was revolutionary, rational and agnostic.

Italy would be sub-divided into only 9 major regions and autonomy would be allowed for certain matters such as agriculture, industry and possibly education inasmuch as it served local needs. This was necessary because Italy was very long and narrow, and consequently there were very dissimilar climatic conditions, social conditions, etc. (between Piedmont and Sicily, etc.). The revenues would be collected by the state, and disbursements made to the regions, who would be left in certain respects freedom to spend it in their own best interests.

In the international sphere, a western alliance with Great Britain and the U.S. was envisaged, incorporating all latin and western Europe. The Partito Democratico Cristiano was in favour of free trade for Italy, even if the tarrifs were set up elsewhere.

6. Departure of Avv. Mario Costa for Salerno.

On June 20th, Avv. Mariano Costa was due to leave for Salerno, accompanied by Signor Giovanni Lupis of Ragusa, Signor Camminata of Caltanissetta, and other representatives of the Sicilian Socialist Party. Palermo, however, is not represented.

Costa is leaving to take up his appointment as undersecretary of Labour in the new government, but he chose to be accompanied by these other gentlemen so as to impress upon the Salerno Government that he has a substantial following in the Socialist Party in Sicily, despite the furious attacks levelled at him by the Communists and the Party of Action on the grounds that he is a Separatist.

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

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When the Allies landed in Sicily in July, 1943, Costa declared himself to be a Separatist and signed a Separatist Manifesto which was published at the time. Since then he has taken up a more cautious attitude, and has dropped out-and-out Separatism in favour of autnomy.

The provinces in which Socialism is strongest in Sicily are Ragusa, Agrigento, and Trapani.

7. On. Guarino Amella's trip to Salerno

On. Guarino Amella left Sicily on June 18th, in the company of Guido Napoli, Vice-Sindaco of Palermo, to go to Salerno. The purpose of his journey is ostensibly to obtain recognition for the Social-Democrats of which he is leader. His party has a considerable following in certain provinces of the Island, namely Caltanissetta, Agrigento, Catania and Messina.

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

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Another reason for the journey is that Guarino Amella intends to offer himself as candidate for the High Commissionership of Sicily. It is rumored that Musotto, a Separatist, may have to resign the office owing to the increasing opposition to him on the part of the six parties and of the Giunta Consultiva. Considerable friction developed between the High Commissioner and the Giunta Consultiva in the course of last week when Enrico La Loggia and Avv. Tosmino, both Socialists, expressed their lack of confidence in the High Commissioner.

Guarino Amella, sensing that Musotto may not be kept on by the new government, has postponed to Salerno so as to be on the spot if a change does occur. His appointment would leave conditions much as they are, or even exasperate them further, as Amella is regarded by the six parties and by the Giunta with utmost suspicion as being a "separatista camufatto", or a camouflaged Separatist.

8. Interview with Raffaele Mattioli, Managing Director of the Banca Commerciale Italiana and Prominent Member of the Party of Action.

When interviewed on 28.6.44. by a P.W.B. officer, Mattioli complained of a certain confusion among Italians as to the methods of Allied administration. He thought that the attitude of most people are present is that the Allied administration officers must have more time to settle down. He then developed the idea that the multiplicity of sub-commissions each dealing with a ministry led to a certain degree of disintegration and lack of co-ordination in the control of affairs. Ministers felt that they were closely scrutinized in everything they did and as this responsibility rested with the sub-commission they tended to rely more upon it than upon their own government. This resulted in lack of direction by the government and lack of initiative in the Ministers. Italians were already inclined to look to the Allies for a lead rather than to their own government and this system reinforced a regrettable tendency.

He suggested that a remedy would be for the Ministries to deal with their opposite numbers of the Control Commission through the Italian Foreign Office. This would induce a spirit of greater initiative among the ministers and also procure a greater degree of centralisation and co-ordination of government departments.

9. Conference of the Naples Communist Party.

An important conference of the Communist Party was held on the 17th and 18th June to discuss the internal problems and organisation of the party.

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

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Besides the leaders of the Naples Communist Federation and delegates from each section of the Naples province and from the other provincial federations (Roma, Salerno, Benevento, Avellino, Foggia, Bari, etc.), the following personalties are also reported to have taken part: Togliatti, Scoccimarro, Di Vittorio, Reale, Teleschi, and Marrone of the Central Committee, Palermo, undersecretary for war and Molinelli, undersecretary for Industry, and Commerce. In all it is estimated that there were between 150 and 200 people present.

The conference wasopened by Secretary of the Naples Federation, Cacciapuoti, who spoke on the organisation of the Party. He stressed the rapid increase in membership from 12,000 members at the end of February to 25,000 at the present time, now divided into 165 sections, of which 21 were in the city of Naples.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787021

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He declared that the basis of the Communist Party's organisation was the cells, which had also to direct the work of the workers' committees in each factory, and he proposed that, just as had been done at the headquarters, so in each section the committees for common action between communists and socialists should be formed and similar conferences for organising purposes be held.

Tedeschi next spoke, calling for intensified activity in the Labour Unions, as the party had not there the influence which it had with the working class as a whole.

Eugenio Reale spoke about the Committees of Liberation. He said that in these committees there had been a rush for posts and that the party had done wrong to abstain. For at the present time out of 150 mayors appointed, only 30 were communists. In conclusion he said that at the present moment the party must try to maintain good relations with all the other parties.

Nadia Spano from the central committee, wife of Velio Spano (Tedeschi) discussed the problem of the women. She announced that in this field the Communist Party was somewhat behind hand: at the end of April there were only 160 women members in the whole province. It was then decided to start special activities for the women, in order better to solve the particular problems involved in Southern Italy. This schemo was in fact giving fruitful return, for in a month and a half the women members increased from 160 to 800. The importance of this women's scheme was shown by the fact that half of the population are women and that in Tunisia the Communist party was able to keep going during the reactionary Petainist period and during the German occupation just because of the activities and numbers of the women members. The speaker finally called on all members of the party to do propaganda amongst the women and to persuade the women in their own families to join the party.

Di Vittorio, one of the three leaders of the Rome Labour Confederation recently set up talked on the negotiations which had been undertaken to bring unity to the Labour movement. He stressed the fact that for the first time in history a single Labour organisation for the whole country has been successfully achieved - a development which would give the working class great power. He revealed however that the present leaders of the General Confederation of Labour in Naples had not wanted - for personal reasons - to join the new organisation and that he had had a long discussion with them, which had ended in a complete breaking off of relations. It was therefore necessary to throw out the present Neapolitan leaders so as to enable the working class to achieve complete unity.

Already all the Apulian Labour Organisations had broken away from the CGL and had joined the General Confederation of Italian workers (CGIL). Action must be taken to obtain that also the Neapolitan organisation follow this example of their own accord.

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

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Fissore, leader of the Federterra, a farm workers' organisation, then supported Di Vittorio's views and announced that the Socialist Labour office and the Federterra Association of Salerno had also joined the CGIL, that for certainly also the Federterra of Naples with its 50,000 members would soon follow suit.

Greeting from all the comrades in Rome had occupied Italy were brought by Scoccimarro, who is considered the most important party leader after Togliatti. He asserted that the Communist Party as being the working class party must have the roots of its organisation in the factory cell. This system has made possible the very strong clandestine organisation in Northern Italy, which had put 16 brigades of militant communist patriots in the field and had organised the great strikes of last March - the first example of a general strike in all German occupied Europe. Scoccimarro said it was essential that the Communist Party in all Italy should as soon as possible organise itself on the North Italian model and so be able successfully to face any test that might present itself. It was up to every worker therefore, to work for the party in his own factory cell; the cell of his street was only a mustering unit.

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

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Paolo Tedeschi then read out a plan of internal organisation drawn up in accordance with the opinions so far expressed in the conference. It was discussed and criticised at length. Tedeschi was followed by Bagliette from the Naples federation of the party. He dealth with the youth problem and suggested that instead of a separate organisation, an extensive youth movement should be instituted, with varied activities (instructional work, sport, etc.) which would be more attractive to the young.

The editor-in-chief of L'Unita, Gallico, next reported on the press and propaganda of the party. L'Unita had developed magnificently: 63:000 copies were now being printed and a further 20,0000 copies were in demand, but there was not enough paper. He proposed that in each section special men be charged with the job of sending all the news possible to the paper and of dealing with its distribution not through news agents but internally through the party.

Note: The Communist paper of Palermo, "La Voce Comunista" claims to have a demand of 20,000 copies.

Togliatti himself closed the conference, expressing complete approval of what Scoccimarro had said and congratulating the Naples federation, which for many months had in a sense directed the whole party in Liberated Italy and which was today the most important organisation in the Italian Communist party. He called on all members to intensify their activities within the party in support of the party line which had been so rightly followed and so make each member feel his obligation to be militant propagandist and organiser, using practical and rational methods on the American model.

One of the most important decisions of the conference was to convoke - in conjuntion with the Socialist Party - a provincial congress of the factory committees so as to unseat by that means the present leaders of the Neapolitan Confederation. These have not as is known, joined the CGIL and have formed a group - Arminio and Gentili (of the Party of Action), Enrico Russo and Gallo (Dissident Communists) and with them the Socialists Sciucca and Dossa, all of whom have thus turned against their parties' official policy.

It is interesting to note that the fusion of the CGL represented in the Rome CGIL has not been well received even by the Naples Demo-Christians, who under Grandi represent the right wing of the party, whereas, the Rome representatives who formed the Labour pact (Grandi, Miglioli etcA) represent the left wing.

One Italian informant expressed the opinion that in the struggle which will inevitably ensue, the so-called free Labour unions of Liberal tendencies will most likely support the SGL. (B-T).

10. The Movimento Comunista in Rome.

In view of the arrest of their leader Poce and of the hostile

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

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It is interesting to note that the fusion of the CGL represented in the Rome U.G.I.L. has not been well received even by the Naples Demo-Christians, who under Rodino represent the right wing of the party, whereas, the Rome representatives who formed the Labour pact (Grandi, Miglioli etc) represent the left wing.

One Italian informant expressed the opinion that in the struggle which will inevitably ensue, the so-called free Labour unions of Liberal tendencies will most likely support the SGL. (B-2).

10. The Movimento Communista in Rome.

In view of the arrest of their leader Poce and of the hostile attitude of the real Communists, the "Movimento Communista" has decided to dissolve itself and its better elements will join the Communist Party.

3715

Poce was arrested about the 20th of June by the American police for offences against public order - carrying arms and enrolling men without authorization. He is soon to be tried. (B-3).

11. The Poster War.

On June 24th a series of Monarchist posters appeared in the streets of Rome. It should be noted that the text of them is identical with certain rough drafts brought to the Police by a woman on 7th or 8th of June

SECRET

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

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with a request that she be authorised to have them printed and displayed. She stated that while approving all parties' she represented a small group of pro-monarchists who wanted to keep before the people what the House of Savoy meant to Italy and had done for the country. As all the regular parties were displaying posters she considered that the Monarchists should also be allowed to put up theirs.

The reaction to the posters was immediate and heated. "AVANTI" for June 25th carried an editorial by Nenni which listed the past history of the dealings of the present king with FNF and concluded by suggesting that the best propaganda for the House of Savoy would be to keep silent about its past.

"UNITA" of the same date strongly denounces both the authors of the manifesto and the police, who instead of attempting to take action against the latter, arrested several members of the public who were demonstrating against the manifesto.

The same day, also, the monarchist posters were over-pasted with comments, and further posters issued by the Left parties. So far the monarchists have not shown fight.

TEXT:-

1. "La Bandiera che sventola in questo strado e' ancora la vecchia Bandiera con la Croce Sabuda, sotto la quale e' sorta l'Italia, con la quale la rivificheremo.

VIVA CASA SAVOIA! "

2. "Giuro di essere fidele al re e ai suoi reali successori, di osservare lealmente le statute e le altre leggi dello Stato, di adempire a tutti i d vere del mio stato il solo del bene inseparabile del re e della patria.

Sono stati gli uomini politici a provocare il crolle del fascism?

NO! E STATO IL RE.....RICORDA!

I soldati d'Italia hanno fatto un giuramento con le labbre e col cuore. Per esso hanno sofferto per lunghi mesi. Ad essi si manterranno sempre fedeli.

VIVA LA MONARCHIA!

NOTE: The word RICORDA in red is printed in large letters across this manifesto.

3. "Ricordate la notte del 25 Luglio?
La monarchia il 25 Luglio con (illegible) ha preso l'initiative che sola era un re e solo allora potero essere presa.

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

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RICORDATE COME CORRESS.....al QUIRINALE?

LEFT PARTIES REPLIED:-

1. "Chi ha consegnato l'Italia ai Fascisti rifutando nel 1922 la firma dei decreti per lo stato d'assedio?.....IL RE FASCISTA!

2. Chi ha nominato i giudici sguzzini del Tribunale Speziale che in nome di lui hanno assassinato e condannato centinaia di uomini liberi?.....
.....IL RE FASCISTA!

These two manifestini were stuck over the pro-Monarchist ones.

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

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12. Interview with Pietro Nenni - 23.6.44.

A PWB officer visited Nenni in the newly acquired offices of the Socialist paper "Avanti" at 41 Via Gregoriana. The Socialist leader declared that the immediate political aims of his party were to secure the most intensive participation by his country in the war, and to achieve the restoration of democracy in Italy, for , he added, you can't properly wage a war for democracy until you are yourself [illegible] yourself democratic. For the time being, until the holding of the Constituent Assembly, his party had accepted the solution which was found in the government of the six parties. When the time to form the Constitutent Assembly arrived the Party would seek to achieve three definite aims:

1) the Republic.

2) The Socialistation of heavy industry, e.g. the Montecatini group. He explained that Italy was not yet ready for the complete socialisation of the means of production.

3) The conversion of the Constituent Assembly into a special High Court of Justice to try Mussolini, King Victor Emmanuel and all the heads and promoters of Fascism.

Referring to the understanding with the Communists, Nenni explained that there had been agreement as to common action of the two parties since 1934, when the Socialist and Communist Party leaders of Italy signed a pact in Paris. This agreement had been strained at times as, for example, in August 1939 when Germany and Russia drew close together, an action which Italian Socialists opposed. But when Russia had been attacked, and entered the war as an ally of Great Britain, full collaboration between the two parties was re-established and next week the directive councils of each party would meet to decide upon common policy and lines of action.

There was, however, one fundamental difference between the Socialists and Communists. The latter were prepared to take orders from Moscow, the former were not. An article in "Isvestia" was enough to give a new direction to the Italian Communists' policy, but Socialists maintained their independence of action. He had the impression, however, that the dissolution of the 3rd International had to some extent freed the hands of the national Communist parties.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Relations with other parties are on the whole good, especially with the Action Party with which the Socialists had, at times, found themselves more in agreement with the Communists. With the Christian Democrats there was also a large measure of agreement at present, as was indicated by the pact on syndical unity which both parties had subscribed to (soon after the Allied entry into Rome) and which he hoped would be adopted all over Italy. The problem of the Christian Democrat Party was this - is it a democrat party or is it a clerical party? If the Christian Democrats freed theselves from the political influence of the Vatican, then they and the Socialists could go a long way together, for today anti-clericalism is more or less dead. Nenni admitted that as a young man he had been very anti-clerical, but conditions had changed. Under Mussolini, he stated, the lower clergy had been almost entirely hostile to the regime, and, while the upper strata of the hierarchy had formerly helped Fascism, during the lat nine months many personalities in the Vatican had sustained the fight both against Nazism and Fascism

3714

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Asked what elements in Rome he considered it most necessary to purge first, in embarking upon the cleaning up of the administration, he replied "In Roma bisogna cominciare con la polizia a far la pulizia". (clean up the police first). Then there were the big parastatal corporations and the large firms of building contractors. He agreed heartily with Lt. Colonel Poletti's declaration that efficienty in a job should not be considered an excuse for holding on to it, if the incumbent was a Fascist. In Nenni's opinion these Fascist-ridden institutions, the police, the corporations, the general staff, of the army should all be dissolved and reconstituted anew. His remedy for the renewal of industry (described in an article in "Avanti", 21.6.44.) would be to sequestrate immediately all industrial stock, placing the control of each industry in the hands of the State, which would run the concern through control commissions acting jointly with councils of workers, technicians, and clerks.

Turning to the relations between the Romans and the Allied troops in the city, Nenni declared that the welcome they had received was sufficient testimony of the genuineness of the feelings which were inspired by their arrival. Rome under the Germans was a dead city. The streets were deserted. Now it was teeming with life. Perhaps there might even be a justified criticism that there were too many troops in the town as this created a shortage of food and a dearth of goods in the shops. The population was beginning to find the drunkeness of Allied troops annoying, but he had not heard any complaints about requisitioning and only a few about the taking over of private cars. What had made a particularly good impression was the fact that the soldiers so soon after their arrival were walking about without arms.

He thought that the Allies had handled the food situation well. Luckily most Romans had had the foresight to buy a reserve store which came in handy in the first week or so of Allied occupation, and the Vatican had helped a great deal. Although the small employees and the workers had suffered some hardship, there had been no starvation. Paris was much worse off under German occupation than Rome had ever been.

The new Bonomi Government should, according to Nenni, be able to carry on until the Constituent Assembly was formed. He thought it a bit top-heavy with so many Ministers without Portfolio, and would have preferred a government of no more than seven ministers. On the other hand, he was convinced that in present circumstances the political formula of a coalition was the only thing possible.

As to the army, he felt that there ought to be voluntary enlistment under young anti-Fascist officers. The country could no longer have faith in an army based on the old cadres.

13. Interview with General Bencivenga.

General Roberto Bencivenga, who at present occupies the post of "Chief of the Italian Military Administration in Rome", and uses the letter "Capo della Militare Italiana in Roma (C.M.I.R.)" received a

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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He stated that he belongs to no political party at present, but that his politics can be summed up in the word "Democracy".

Since September 8th Bencivenga has been leading the dangerous life of the well-known anti-Fascist figures who were working underground. For part of this period he has been in communication (the working of which he, naturally, did not divulge, nor was he asked to do so) with the Allies. On March 24, 1944 he received through this channel orders to take over the civil and military powers in Rome until the Allied forces reached the capital, and to coordinate the activities of those who were resisting the Nazi-Fascist oppression. Another important and difficult job of his was to bring together and coordinate the various political parties, since the political parties were not only divided, but felt considerable antagonism towards the Army. At one time, said Bencivenga, he feated that civil war might break out even among the anti-Fascists.

Bencivenga's powers lapsed with the entry of the Allied forces. For instance there are in the Rome area (at least 10,000 Army officers who are more or less impatiently kicking their heels, quite apart from a much larger number of equally restless troops.

Bencivenga expressed his intention to return ultimately to politics. He would like to become the driving force behind an important newspaper propagating democratic ideals. After twenty years the people need a long period of political re-education and he wishes to take part in this work. At this point Bencivenga showed himself to be very disgruntled over the present Government, the formation of which he compared to "a coup of the Fascist type". Liberty was still lacking. Some of the parties had no means of expressing themselves, the Republicans for instance. "How can these men in the Government truthfully say they are representative of the country? We do not know whether they have the confidence of the people or of their Party supporters. Some of them are individuals without any preparation for their posts, and find little sympathy or favour anywhere. Some people are alluding to the formation of the latest Government as "a second March on Rome" ".

After a reference to his work many years ago as a deputy representing Naples (as a Democrat of the current led by Amendola,) Bencivenga added that his intention was "to work for the country and not for parties of any kind." He had already had an exchange of views with men who had intentions similar to his own, the On. Molè among them. The P.W.B. officer found it difficult to draw him on the subject of the names of his immediate collaborators.

Speaking again of the present Government, Bencivenga said he thought it was already discredited, chiefly because of the manner in which it was brought into power. "It will last as long as the Allies want it to last" he affirmed.

No officer, he considers, should belong to a political party. "Let him think as he likes, but he must not be subject to any party discipline. The latter system had been one of the reasons for the ruin of Italy's life, hence in future politics must not be introduced into the military machinery or the State administration."

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

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As to future political developments, Bencivenga envisaged a time when elections could be held for the formation of a Constituent Assembly. He is meantime in favour of some sort of Consultative Assembly which should consist of the survivors of the 1924 chamber, a number of Senators, and representatives nominated by certain syndicates such as those of the lawyers, doctors and other professional men.

3713

Questioned as to his attitude towards King Victor Emanuel and the monarchy in general, Bencivenga made the frank assertion that "the right form of government for democracy is a republic. But to-day there are certain things to

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

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be borne in mind. A real democracy must be achieved gradually. The right sort of men must come to the fore before we take what might easily be a leap into the dar. This is why we must wait and meanwhile re-educate ourselves. To-day, it would, of course, be a simple thing to nominate a President of the Italian State, but such a man would have no real mandate."

When the Prince of Piedmont was mentioned, Benciveng a answered that he considered him quite a decent man, but he admitted that some of the statements made by the Prince during the famous interview with the The Times must be labelled as "very stupid".

Benciveng a believes that there is a considerable Monarchist current in Rome but he added that "they are very prudent to-day. Hostility towards them is very great as a result of the events of September 8th, when, it is widely felt, the monarchy and the Army leaders let the people down badly by fleeing from Rome. At that time there were only one or two German divisions in the vicinity, whereas the strength of the Italians was seven to eight divisions. But the truth probably is that at the core everything was pretty rotten. The flight gave the coup de grace to any esteem that Romans had for the monarchy and the Army leaders, especially Badoglio. At present the monarchists are working, but very unobtrusively because the people's reaction to any open activity would be violent."

The Communists are not strong in the Rome area because there are no organised masses of people. The Socialists have a tradition and a certain following, but they are not strong. Neither the Party of Action nor the Democrazia del Lavoro has any large following, but the Christian Democrats are undoubtedly strong and receive support through the parents.

Referring to his impressions of the A.M.G. administration in Rome, Benciveng a began by saying that he thought there had been a too rapid changeover from his own administration to the Allied one. "I was surprised when my activities were so sharply curtailed after the talk I had with General Clark" Benciveng a had expected, and thinks that it would have been preferable to have allowed, a period of collaboration between the two administrations, his and A.M.G. In that case certain activities which were already being pursued could have been more fully developed, for example, investigation of the ministerial staffs, reorganization of the Italian Army, the reopening of certain enti (bodies and associations), and a more strict control of the Fifth Column. "We had the threads of all these things in our hands, but the ten days break that has elapsed has already upset things. Perhaps there were misunderstandings. Everything that had been studied and prepared fell to the ground. Yet at the moment when the Allies arrived, the city had been organised down to the last detail. To take one item, the case of enemy agents, Italian and German, we were ready to put our hands on them all. I would like to take this particular point up with the Allies. The danger to the Allied cause is great and may show itself in unexpected forms. In this connection some persons who had ostensibly been colla-

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

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Turning to the purification of Italian public life of Fascist elements, Bencivenga said immediately that no exaggerated or over-zealous action should be taken. "After twenty years of one regime, you cannot pretend to achieve a 100 per cent purge of those who held public posts in Italian life."

As to the major problems which face the Rome area administration to-day, Bencivenga states that an early reduction of the numbers at those now living in the area is of prime importance. The country districts must be re-populated. In this connection it is a mistake to requisition Italian farms, which should be turned over to the Romans themselves so that they may re-organise a return to normal life. This could be done without any crowding of the raids such as

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might impede military traffic.

Bencivenga concluded by asserting that the revival of Italy would be more rapid were her sons to be allowed to play a greater part in the actual fighting. The lack of this possiblity might very well be used as a pretext for making trouble by those who are working against the Allies. While admitting that some time would be needed before the men and officers for a really large army could be rehabilitated morally, clothed and re-trained, Bencivenga claimed that there would be no difficulty in quickly assembling at least ten divisions of first class Italian troops. As for the officers, thousands of these were clamouring to fight and were sincerely desirous of re-establishing the honour of Italy.

14. Conversation with Monsignor Pietro Barbieri, Ing. Eugenio Gualdi and Col. Giorgio Liuzzi - 17.6.44.

Monsignor Barbieri is a learned priest, the editor of an Italian Catholic Encyclopedia of 12 volumes, who has lived in the U.S.A., for six years, is a friend of Don Sturzo's, an anti-Fascist of long standing whose house was used a meeting place for members of the Rome Committee of Liberation.

Ing. Eugenio Gualdi is an able and wealthy business man who runs a large construction company. Herrefused to work for the Germans and was the chief financial backer of the Rome Committee of Liberation.

Colonel Giorgio Liuzzi is a regular army officer of the Staff who was removed in 1938 under racial laws. He also took part in the resistance movement.

P.W.B. officers were able to discuss with these three men, who are representative of the Liberal currents of opinion in the Committee, the present situation in Rome.

The point which they repeatedly stressed was that it was most dangerous for Italy to be without a government at the present time when all political problems were particularly acute. The engineer pointed out that the Allied authorities had dissolved all the existing Fascist employers' associations and had invited them to reform themselves, but that until they knew what dispositions the new government would take with regard to this question they could not very well do anything. Meanwhile all association and cooperation between the employers was being held up.

He complained of the restriction on movement which prevented a free flow of goods into the city. The food situation had definitely deteriorated since the Allies entered Rome because they brought in a certain supply of food, the free traffic of foodstuffs into the city had stopped.

He laid stress on the importance of Italy being assisted economically

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

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He laid stress on the importance of Italy being assisted economically by Great Britain and the U.S.A. All three men agreed that in certain conditions of economic instability communism might get the upper ahdn in Italy, and that it was essential in order to avoid this that a sound economic position should be maintained in the country with Allied help.

3712

Our propaganda had led the population of Rome (and our agents had led the Committee) to expect far greater from Allied sources than appeared to be forthcoming. It was an awkward moment for those who had always upheld the Allies when those who were less friendly could say: "You see - now that they're here we are worse off then we were before". They also insisted on the importance of the Allies making use of the best of the country rather than taking on persons who were heavily compromised with Fascist like Scalese in Naples.

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

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

15. Meeting of Sindaci and Presidenti della Deputazioni Provinciali, in Sicily.

The second joint Assembly of Sindaci and of Presidenti delle Deputazioni Provinciali took place in Palermo on Sunday, 4th June, under the chairmanship of Cav. Lucio Tasca, problems of general interest to all the Communes of the Island.

On a motion proposed by On. Guarino Ammelia (of Caltanissetta) an order of the day was passed by the Assembly with regard to Public Safety. It recommended among other things that Reservists in the Police Force should be withdrawn from the police force proper, that policemen carry out their duties in districts away from their homes, and away from those stations where they served in Fascist times; that pay and transport facilities by increased; and that private organizations giving assistance to the police force be recognized and favoured. Police restrictions to prevent crime, such as existed in pre-fascist times, should also be allowed.

An important motion waspassed at the instance of the Sindaco of Catania, Ardizzone, favouring the untrammelled exchange of goods between province and province, and regions and region.

Avv. Rocco Gullo proposed the rehabilitation of the 1915 law with regard to communes and provinces, so as to give them a measure of self-government until such a time as the whole problem of decentralisation and communal autarchy could be properly reviewed.

Left-wing elements accuse Cav. Lucio Tasca, of creating thr ugh this meeting of Sindaci a new instrument of local government, which at any opportune moment could be converted into an independent 'Sicilian Constituent Assembly'. The Separatist professions of the Mayor of Palermo inevitably lead the Communistw, the Party of Action and the Socialists, to regard with suspicion all steps which Tasca may take, whether they happen to be constructive and in the public interest or not.

ROYAL FAMILY

16. The Italian royal family at Ravello.

The following report is from a source in Sicily, who is a friend of the Marchese and Marchesa Romeo delle Torerazze, Aide de camp and lady in waiting to King Victor Emmanuel III and Queen Elena. Marchese Romeo and his [illegible] returned to Sicily after a visit to the royal family at

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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ROYAL FAMILY

26. The Italian royal family at Ravello.

The following report is from a source in Sicily, who is a friend of the Marchese and Marchesa Romeo delle Torrazze, aide de camp and lady in waiting to King Victor Emmanuel III and Queen Elena. Marchese Romeo and his wife have recently returned to Sicily after a visit to the royal family at Ravello.

"After a short talk with Marchese Romeo and his wife I had the impression that their visit to the royal family at Ravello had filled them with pain and grief. With grief, for the state in which they found the royal family, who apparently left Rome without the necessary clothing for a prolonged journey away from himme, with pain for the dispersal of daughters and relatives, of whom the king and queen are without news. The queen, who is the object of wide-spread veneration, is the image of many mothers of Italy, whose sons are dispersed throughout the world, and of whom there is no news. It seems that Princess Mafalda of Hess is a prisoner in Germany, and separated from her children, and the fate of the queen of Bulgaria is equally sad."

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"The king is very serene, as he is convinced that he has always acted loyally, and that he has consistently and conscientiously interpreted his role as a constitutional monarch by always being ready to fulfill the people's will. Thus he explains that he supported Giolitti, Nitti, Mussolini, and Badoglio, substituting them only when he was convinced that the people wanted them to be removed.

The people in the villages around Salerno have an almost fanatical devotion and admiration for the queen.

There was no mention of Prince Umberto.

Court circles judge Marshal Badoglio rather unfavourably, as they expected from him a more vigorous and efficacious defense of the person of the king."

CHURCH

17, Interview with Father Tacchi-Venturi S.J. - 28.6.44.

Father Tacchi-Venturi is now an old man of about 83, somewhat bent, but still lively in discussion. He is a man of great learning, a historian of the Church and was one of the principal architects of the Conciliation between the Vatican and the Italian state embodied in the Lateran Pact of 1929. He was said at that time to have great influence at the Vatican and also with Mussolini and was considered one of the outstanding figures of the Jesuit Order.

He gave his views on the behaviour of the Germans in Rome and their relations with the Church. They were, he said, on the whole very well behaved and respected Church property. They broke in once or twice on Vatican property to apprehend persons who were hiding from them and they shot one priest Don Borosini whom it was hoped they reprieve. Otherwise while in Rome they had shown respect towards religion. He did not believe they denied the comforts of religion to those whom they were about to execute.

Father Tacchi Venturi was outspoken in his condemnation of AMG measures in Rome to clean out the Fascists. He described the terms of the ordinance as being too wide and undiscriminating and the measures taken as oppressive.

Although no defending Italy's entry into the war, and though he showed a clear-cut anti-German feeling he made an apologia for much of the activity of the Fascist government which sounded strange to an Englishmen's ears. He was particularly impressed by the achievement of Fascism in concluding the Lateral. Treaty and permitting religious instructions in the schools. He condemned Fascist corruption especially among the local fascisti but did not think a National Councillor should ipso facto be made the subject of rescrip-

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

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He thought the Communists were very strong in Italy and believed that their hostility towards religion would increase with their power.

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ARMED FORCES

18. An alleged order from Prince Umberto.

The following instructions, said to have been issued under the signature of the Prince of Piedmont on August 1943, are now being circulated by the Party of Action in Apulia:-

H.Q., IX Corpo d'armata: Information Office.
F.M. 67 19 Aug. 1943, N. 02/4981 di prot.

SUBJECT: Relations with the German troops.

"From various sources I have heard of unfortunate episodes with German troops, such as stone throwing, insults and so, all perpetrated by Italian soldiers. The German headquarters have protested vigorously against these insults and state than in future they will be forced to react with arms. Though any such comment should be totally unnecessary I must remind you that - as is well known - the war continues at the side of our ally Germany. It is therefore inadmissable that any Italian soldier should fail in his comradely duty towards an ally who with perfect loyalty is fighting side by side with us to defend the sacred soil of our fatherland.

It is therefore of urgent necessity that you intervene with constant attention and from high to low to see that there are no exceptions, however sporadic to this rule. Those who break this rule must be given an examplary punishment.

I trust in the speedy and energetic action of Commanding officers of whatever rank.

The Marshal of Italy commanding the armies of the South:

Signed - Umberto of Savoy.

19. Impression of an Italian ex-prisoner of war on the mentality of some officers in the Italian air force.

An Italian who was formerly a prisoner of war in East Africa, and who had recently been repatriated, spoke with an Italian collaborator with FWB at Bari of the hostility of certain Italian officers to their compatriots who have or are actively collaborating with the Allies.

This former prisoner, as an anti-Fascist, was allowed in East Africa to wear the Malta on his uniform and to live and work with Allied troops

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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This former prisoner, as an anti-Fascist, was allowed in East Africa to wear the Malta on his uniform and to live and work with Allied troops as a radio telegraphist. After the armistice, along with other Italians who had been working with the Allies, he was sent to a camp in Egypt where there were a lot of Italian troops from the Dodecanese. He returned to Italy at the end of May.

He finds the atmosphere of the barracks anti-allied, with officers openly saying that they will not fight for the Allies as they have relatives fighting on the other side of the lines, or because their equipment is outworn. This Italian is frequently questioned by officers on the scope extent of his cooperation with the Allies in Ethiopia. A few days ago an officer told him that those Italians who persisted in collaborating with the Allies should consider what their position will be when the Allies leave Italy and they are faced with judgement by other Italians.

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

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20. Private talk given by Admiral De Courten to Italian Naval Officers at the Ministry for the Navy - 21.6.44.

"I have fully appreciated the spirit of the officers who have shown their strength of character by remaining consistently loyal the the Royal Navy. (Regia Marina).

"I know that these Officers have borne material privations and spiritual sufferings in order to escape from Nazi-Fascist persecutions and to make their contribution to the clandestine front.

"But it has been a general cause of satisfaction that the structure of the Regia Marina has always remained intact, overcoming the difficult trial of September 8th.

"On that occasion the Navy showed discipline and solidarity: it rendered possible the practical realisation of the armistice, of which it constituted the basis.

"Today the Navy is escorting Allied convoys and in the accomplishment of its task has gained the full approval of the Allied Command."

NOT FOR PUBLICATION - Source: Italian Naval Officer.

Another report states that De Courten ended his speech with a "Viva il Re" echoed by anumber of officers. However, while he was leaving the room an officer shouted "Viva l'Italia". The Minister stopped, obviously annoyed, and repeated the cry.

21. Commission to investigate Naval Officers who remained in Rome.

A commission of high ranking Italian officers has arrived at the Ministry of the Navy to examine the personal status of the officers of the Ministry who remained in Rome under the Fascist Republic. Most of them did not accept the new regime, and quite a number of them joined the clandestine organisations.

It is reported that among the officers who remained in Rome there is some resentment because close collaborators of De Courten's had said scornfully that these Roman officers had been on a nine months holiday.

LEGHORN

22. Interview with Dino Gentili.

...leaders of the Confederazione

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

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LABOUR

22. Interview with Dino Gentili.

On June 27th Dino Gentili, one of the leaders of the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro, told a PWB officer that he intends to establish the Confederazione in Rome, although there already exists in Rome a Confederazione General del Lavoro, sponsored by the Socialist, Communist and Christian Democratic parties and therefore combining the "Red" and the "White" unions. Gentili explained that his Confederation is non-political, whereas the Rome Confederation is under party control; that the Rome Confederation favours the "Sindacato Unico" and wishes to enforce unity from above, a method which he regards as Fascist; and that his Confederation already has contacts with the big foreign labour unions - the CIO, the AF of L and the British TUC.

3710

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787021

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22. Increase in bread ration reactions in Sicily.

The increase of the ration of bread to 300 grams daily as from the 1st July has given a very widespread satisfaction. No problem affects or interests the Sicilian people more intimately than their daily ration of 'pane e pasta'. The increased ration is expected to do more than anything to kill the black market, as no incentive will exist to buy bread on the black market to supplement rations if 300 grams are available. Producers moreover will have to bring their grain to the Granai, as they will be unable to sell elsewhere.

The increase in the ration of bread will cause poorer people to eat less of other foods (fish, meat, eggs, etc.) and the smaller demand for such foodstuffs will tend to depress prices all round.

This is the hope; but much scepticism is expressed as to whether it will be realised. Many people say the announcement is a piece of bluff on the part of the authorities, so as to bring about a drop in prices and compel producers to hand over their grain. Consequently while the general public takes up an attitude of hopeful wait-and-see the Separatists have intensified their campaign against bringing the grain to the Granai del Popolo. A separate manifesto circulating in the Province of Catania says; "Peasants, the grain for which you have given your sweat throughout the whole year, must not be stolen stolen from you; the grain is yours; and Sicily's which has produced it..... .....What is required of you is a compact union, determined to break in every way the thefts of the Italian rulers."

23. Reactions in Catania.

It is reported from Catania that the harvest is proceeding regularly there as regards soft grain, wheat and beans. The harvesting of hard wheat is expected to begin soon. There appears to be a wide spread tendency to shrug shoulders over the Granai del Popolo law.

It is reported that the Italian governments announcement that the bread ration would be increased at the beginning of July did not have a great success, principally because people feared that as it was announced by the Italian government it was not backed by the Allies, and secondarily because it is feared it may be a trick to make the people sell to the granai father than to the Black Market. The peasants are doing their best to hide their grain. Consumers are inclined to agree that the government statement is a bluff and that it is therefore preferable to buy their years provision on the black market. At the moment the price of grain is fairly low; also that of black market bread, which is on sale in the public bakories.

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

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24. Reactions at Bari.

An Italian collaborator from Bari reports that the announcement of the increased bread ration has created a very favourable impression, and it is felt that a severe blow has been dealt to the black market. (B 2).

Another Bari collaborator, however, says that the favourable reaction wore off after about four hours. He did not know the exact reason for this, but believed that the agriculturists regarded the increase as a trick to make them consign their wheat to the Granai del Popolo, while that townspeople, used to disappointments, mistrust everything. (B-2).

SECRET

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

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APPENDIX I

A brief survey of the economic conditions in Rome and its hinterland.

The following report is supplied by an Italian collaborator:

For the sake of convenience in collection data and figures, we shall consider as the hinterland of Rome the region known as Latium, i.e. the Provinces of Rome, Viterbo, Rieti, Frosinone and Littoria, which in fact constitute an economic unit: closely linked to them are however the two neighbouring Regions of Umbria and Abruzzi, which supply the Capital with foodstuff, hydro-electric power, and other products, and, in turn, absorb a fair share of the industrial production of Rome.

Latium covers some 6,000 square miles, and its population, before the temporary and exceptional migrations which took place during the last 12 months, was estimated at about 3 million; according to official data, 42.6% of the population was engaged in some activity, and of the latter percentage, 41.8% was registered as farmers and farm hands, 29.2% as working in the industries, 8.9% in the commercial field. The [illegible] figures for the city of Rome are 42.2%, and 21.2, 37.9, and 21.8%.

Such figures are to be taken with a grain of salt, for they were swollen and distorted to suit the convenience of Mussolini, and of his henchmen in reporting to him according to his whim and not to truth. Thus, the industrial population includes not only the various arts and crafts, down to and including dressmaking, milliners, also hotel, education institutes, etc. but also branch offices and agents of [illegible] which almost any important concern in Italy had to keep in Rome for dealing with the red tape, intricacies and squeeze of the various ministries, public bodies, Corporations, Syndicates, etc. which swarmed into Rome. Even sale offices of the various industrial companies are noted as industrial activities, instead of as commercial.

It must in fact be stated that Rome suffered from the evils which befell the whole country under the Fascist rule, plus a few of her own.

The common ones were chiefly: 1) autarchy - i.e. the mania for economic self-sufficienty (with an eye on the various wars to be waged by Italy). This mania caused an anti-economic policy, by which all resources, foul or supposed, of the Peninsula and Islands, must be exploited to the last inch, irrespective of the cost and results: e.g.; tin "mines" rediscovered, in Tuscany, with a ridiculous percentage of ore (01%) and operated at enormous expenses, as an eye-wash for Mussolini and the people at large to believe that Italy produced her own tin; cellulose out of furze (broom) or reed, etc. to show that the problem of cellulose was solved - actually meaning a tremendous waste of plants, power, etc.; "Lanital", a substitute for wool, very costly and of doubtful use, and anyhow extracted from milk, a staple of which Italy is sorely short. etc.

2. Fascist frame of mind and habits, which may be summarized in the words: no initiative except from high quarters; relying exclusively on official support and subsidies for nearly all enterprises; promoting useless enterprises - ; window [illegible] of the spectacular and showy; graft and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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2. Fascist frame of mind and habits, which may be summarized in the words: no initiative except from high quarters; relying exclusively on official support and subsidies for nearly all enterprises; promoting useless enterprises - ; window dressing to please Mussolini's love of the spectacular and showy; graft and speculation on a large scale. Such frame of mind and habits are to be eradicated, if sound and strong initiatives in all fields are to be encouraged.

The evils which were peculiar to Rome may be both attributed to Mussolini's pet hobbies: 1) having a large, swollen capital to compete with other Capitals in Europe; 2) showing the Italians - as expressed by Mussolini himself in a speech before the Senate on 16th March, 1932 - that Rome "is no longer a city of bureaucrats and of consumers, but also a metroplis of production and work."

The first policy caused Rome to swell to some 1,500,000 million inhabitants (increased to about two million by the refugees who poured in during the last 10 or 12 months); the squandering of tremendous sums in Public Works; some of which of very doubtful usefulness; the preparation of a "Colossal" International Exhibition, slated for the year 1942, when Mussolini himself knew that he was heading for war. The second point was responsible for the establish-

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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ment of several industries and concerns either completely devoid of a solid foundation, or out of proportion to the resources available, or to the demand of the market. This carnival culminated in the creation of an "Industrial Zone", based on nothing else but the theoretical demonstration that Rome had all the elements for developing on an industrial centre, and on the personal profit of the Director General and Secretary of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (Unione Industriale del Lazio) who became President of the new Organization rigged up for the purpose: the Organization, settled in luxurious premises and with a number employees and Office boys, did not even possess one year ago a detailed plan of the "zone" to be transformed into an industrial centrer, and was unable to give the slightest practical information concerning even the purchase of land, etc.

Yet, a town grown into the 1½ million souls has to this day only one gas generating plant, which in Europe there is an average of one to every 800,000 inhabitants, the supply of electric power was below the demand, water was insufficient.

In fact, Rome is not fitted to become a big industrial center, because of the lack, in or around the city, or raw materials in any quantity, chiefly fuel, or cheap communications, of traditions in workmanship or in skilled labour. The main interest in Rome centers in the fact that it is the residence of the Pope, its historic past, art monuments and present activities, in the fact that it is favourably located as a centre for air lines, both national and international.

The industries now represented in Rome and its hinterland may be roughly classified under the following headings:

A) Industries enjoying particularly favourable conditions

B) Industries serving the needs of an increasing population

C) Traditional Industries.

D) Totally or partially uneconomic enterprises.

A) Chiefly among these are the plants utilising certain natural waterfalls. Tivoli, Isola del Liri, Atina, Ceprano, etc. all boast of Paper Mills of various size and variously equipped, but nearly all self supporting: The most important are Cartiere Meridionale in Isola del Liri, (partly dismantled by the Germans), Cartiere di Ceprano e Atina (Visecchi and Narata), the machinery of which is said to have been transferred to Northern Italy; Cartiere Tiburtine, of Tivoli, with their plants practically intact, Cartiere di Subiaco, which however, is reported almost totally wrecked by bombardments; Boimond Brothers, with mills at Frosinone and Sora (present conditions unknown); Cartiera Anione, in Rome, lately taken over by the Government Printing Office (Poligrafico dello Stato) with a small but efficient plant Cartiera Sibilla (Tivoli) in running order.

Under the same heading may be classified the various hydroelectric

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

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Under the same heading may be classified the various hydroelectric Stations existing within the zone, most of which however were blown up (Tivoli, Liri, probably Terni in Umbria) or flooded (Ceprano) by the retreating Germans.

A plentiful supply of water also backs such chemical industries as a rubber manufacturing plant in Tivoli (Pirelli Co.) (machinery intact, offices badly damaged by bombardments) and Polverificio Stacchini (Powder Factory) also near Tivoli; raw material in good quantity and quality is the reason for various cement works, prominent among whom "Calci e Cementi di Segni" in Segni, Fratelli Cormano, with works in Civitavecchia and Santa Marinella, and the Terni Co. (which also manufactures iron, steel, explosives, etc.) Good quality bentonite and fine caolin used to be extracted by the SAMIP Co. in the island of Ponza (off the Littoria coast) and refined in Gaeta. Asphalt was extracted by the Miniere di Solenizza Co. Ltd. in the Frosinone District; Alum, Sulphate of alum, etc. was produced by an

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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industrial company in Civitavecchia and neighbourhood.

Quarries are to be found, and are operated in many mountaneous districts of Intium, and aluminum plant based on the working of leucite was rigged up in Aurelia (near Civitavecchia with the participation of American Capital in the management, but it never proved very successful, and this Factory may beally be classed rather in (B) than in (A) category.

Certain iron ore smelting works around Bracciano, Tivoli, Viterbo date back to 1870 and gave employment altogether to some 2000 workmen, but the sources of ore have lost all their importance in recent times.

Among industries standing on their legs and based on local resources are the makers of cheese from sheep milk (Pecorino), which was largely exported not only to various regions of Italy and Europe, but to the U.S.A.; to manufacturers worked through an Exporters Union, well organised and equipped. Yet another of such industries is the manufacture of Felts for Paper Mills, under the firm of Messrs. Ippolito and Fiseni in Isola del Liri, where they own one of the finest and most up-to-date factories of its kind in Europe (most of their machinery is believed to be saved from destruction), they rely both on the wool produced from sheep in the Rome hinterland, and on a plentiful supply of water, they also have a number of customers handy within Latium. Another industry of the same category is the manufacture of barrel staves from local chestnut wood, a Union of producers on cooperative bases was and is efficiently handling the sale and export of the produce.

B) Among industries catering to local needs should be rated:

1) The Fishing Industry, which is not developed to any large extent, except in Anzio and Civitavecchia; motor fishing vessels and other facilities should be provided to encourage and develop this activity, while is to be kept in mind that the Adriatic waters are much richer in fishes of several descriptions than the Tirrenian ones.

2) Flour Mills, which, in Rome have a capacity for an output of 21,000 tons a month, among the most efficient plants (including macaroni factories) we may mention MOLINI E PASTIFICIO PANTANELLA, MOLINI ANTONIO BIONDI, CERERE, and BUITONI (Pasta and Macaroni).

3) Hotels and tourist industries. The Fascist Government lavished subsidies on this trade (which for the above mentioned reasons is classified as an industry in Italy) and touristic activities had a special section of the Propaganda Ministry (Min. della Cultura Popolare) in addition to a Tourist Organization (E.N.I.T.) and Tourist Office (C.I.T.) all as inefficient as they were expensive, all manned by proteges of the Fascist authorities. It is a sad fact that the hotel equipment of this city is far behind modern requirements, and inadequate to the tourist movement in normal times.

4) Oil Mills and refineries [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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4) Oil Mills and refineries, from olives produced within the region, or imported from Southern Italy; several hundred such mills and a few refineries are scattered all over Latium, and none of them deserves a special mention.

5) Dressmakers and milliners; also tailors, who come up to quite a good standard.

3708

6) Graphic industries, which have a traditions dating back to one century ago; some of them equipped for printing jobs in practically all languages. Here are the Poligrafico dello Stato (Government printing enterprise) is to be mentioned as rather well equipped, but extremely uneconomical, and only capable of competing with other firms because a Government concern under the Fascist administration could not become bankrupt, but was supported with the taxpayers contributions,

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

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and by forced purchases athigh prices by other Government or semi-official organs.

7) Preserves and canned food industries, thriving south of Rome, down to Naples. Some are doing fairly well under the protection of high Customs tariffs. They may still do some work, provided their machinery is intact, but for some time at least, being unable to import tin in sheets, they will have to replace their tins with wooden or cardboard (or glass) containers, and of course they can only sell them on the home market.

8) Auxiliary industries of the railway, motor and air traffic, and of the public utilities: gas, water, gas, electric power and light, telephones etc. A number of small mechanical, and other workshops are fairly well equipped the workmen are fairly well trained and skilled, but many lack punctuality, honesty and good will.

9) Building materials of all kind; bricks and tiles, lime, (besides cement, already mentioned) all using local raw materials, but only in part relying on local fuel (charcoal). The same may be said of glass factories.

C) Group. Certain Chemical Factories may be mentioned among the industries that have a long established tradition in Rome: e.g. Consorzio Nazionale Serasini, Istituto Serono, etc. Certain publishers date back to the middle of the 19th century; other thrives well, due to the cultural movements in the capital. Minor traditionalindustries are represented by goldsmiths, samer work-shops, etc.

D) GROUP. Includes most of the big industries, developed in this part of Italy for either strategical, or "Autarchic" reasons, or following the usual policy of window dressing.

1) Explosive factories in Colleferro were in a very favourable location insofar as air raids were concerned; whether they are permanently paying proposition remains to be seen.

In the same group are to be classified the Terni iron and steel works, which, is taking advantage of the large supply of hydroelectric power at their disposal (although it is yet unknown to what extent the plants have been damaged by the Germans) and, for some of their by-products, of good quality lignite locally quarried (Morgnano, etc.).

The redemption of the Pontine Marshes has been a very costly operation, one of the by-products of it is the Sugar Factory at Littoria, which was rather modern and efficient although erected with undue hurry. It is not certain that the soil is the best for the cultivation of the beet-root, but since the most costly and unsatisfactory period has been tided over, thanks to the Fascists "finance" the Sugar Factory may probably go on operating (if it is still in order), although fuel has to be imported, because Rome and the South have no other sugar producing centre if importance.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The most urgent measures needed to put Rome and neighbourhood on their legs again, may be roughly divided into permanent ones and temporary ones.

Among the former, we should mention a) Transport facilities.
Rome are a big railway centre, but railway fates and tarriffs are high for the poor economy of Italy and this region in particular. Besides, communications with its hinterland is very unsatisfactory in Rome. There are very old and inefficient tramlines - mostly one-track lines - running to Castelli and as far as Fiuggi. They ought to be entirely relaid and supplemented with other vital lines; a general plan based of course of electric traction, was prepared by the late Eng. Lello Ponencoro, a Jewish engineer with wide international experience and name, who however, died two years ago under the humiliation of racial discrimination. His studies may perhaps be still in the hands of his heirs.

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

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Most important would be communications with Anzio and Civitavecchia by rail, they ought to be quick and cheap. The Port of Civitavecchia, fairly large for their purposes, should be so equipped and managed as to give cheap handling facilities, while so far it has been noted as very expensive.

Navigation on the Tiber has been much talked of in recent years, but the too-bombastic plans proposed by many (including an uncle of the late Count Ciano) always distracted attention from the more humble possibilities of this river as a means of conveying to Rome goods from the Mediterranean (chiefly coal from Sardinia): steamers gauging as much as 300 tons used to moor southeast of the city, until recently. Moderately expensive jetties at the mouth of the river, and some dredging at times, may be sufficient to keep the traffic road open; towboats could operate even north-east of Rome, carrying cargo to and from Umbria and Sabina.

b) Sufficient electric power should be supplied; the power plants at Ceprano, some minor ones at Tivoli and neighbourhood have suffered only minor damages, and they may be connected to Rome; the large Tivoli plant known as Acquaria seems less damaged that at first feared; the same is reported of one of the plants on the river Liri. A big system of artificial lakes was being constructed at the sources of the Peschiera stream, south of Terni, the central electric plant to be installed there was expected to produce some 110,000 KW.

c) the supply of fuel is also an urgent requirement, and will always remain such: most of the needs however may be met from the Sardinia coal fields: the quality is not to be compared with any steam-coal produced in Europe, but for most of the industries it is sufficiently good, in spite of the high contents of sulphur.

d) Motor transportation as auxiliary to rail transport should be reorganized and made cheaper, by abolishing the burdensome and slow government monopolies on gasoline and other liquid fuel, and the protective policy on the production of motor cars and trucks (an effect of the war and autarchic policies). Even now, there are in Rome a number of motor vehicles which are hidden, or purposely crippled, to avoid German seizure; this necessary defensive measure has now become a habit with most owners but if all the available cars and trucks be called to contribution, transport of goods with experience a considerable improvement. The workshops catering to the motor trade are many, and their outfit has been largely saved from requisition or seizure. Of course, gasolini or heavy oils have to be imported.

Abreast with the granting of the above facilities, a revival of activity in most fields is to be expected. As roughly outlined above, many activities are sound and may be resumed with a minimum help, some may even start on a small scale without any more support than the granting of licences for a few trucks and cars; e.g. some paper mills at Tivoli, which, as reported to the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

coal from Sardinia); steamers gauging as much as 300 tons used to moor southeast of the city, until recently. Moderately expensive jetties at the mouth of the river, and some dredging at times, may be sufficient to keep the traffic road open; towboats could operate even north-east of Rome, carrying cargo to and from Umbria and Sabina.

b) Sufficient electric power should be supplied; the power plants at Cepranc, some minor ones at Tivoli and neighbourhood have suffered only minor damages, and they may be connected to Rome; the large Tivoli plant known as Acquoria seems less damaged that at first feared; the same is reported of one of the plants on the river Liri. A big system of artificial lakes was being constructed at the sources of the Peschiera stream, south of Terni, the central electric plant to be installed there was expected to produce some 110,000 KW.

c) the supply of fuel is also an urgent requirement, and will always remain such: most of the needs however may be met from the Sardinia coal fields: the quality is not to be compared with any steam-coal produced in Europe, but for most of the industries it is sufficiently good, in spite of the high contents of sulphur.

d) Motor transportation as auxiliary to rail transport should be reorganized and made cheaper, by abolishing the burdensome and slow government monopolies on gasoline and other liquid fuel, and the protective policy on the production of motor cars and trucks (an effect of the war and autarchic policies). Even now, there are in Rome a number of motor vehicles which are hidden, or purposely crippled, to avoid German seizure; this necessary defensive measure has now become a habit with most owners but if all the available cars and trucks be called to contribution, transport of goods with experience a considerable improvement. The workshops catering to the motor trade are many, and their outfit has been largely saved from requisition or seizure. Of course, gasoline or heavy oils have to be imported.

Abreast with the granting of the above facilities, a revival of activity in most fields is to be expected. As roughly outlined above, many activities are sound and may be resumed with a minimum help, some may even start on a small scale without any more support than the granting of licences for a few trucks and cars; e.g. some paper mills at Tivoli, which, as reported to the Economic and Supply Division of the Allied Headquarters, and to the P.W.B., draw their raw material (waste paper as a substitute for cellulose or chemical woodpulp) from Rome, or from the neighbourhood of the Mills. The same applies to many minor activities, such as quarrying, oil mills, agricultural trades, etc. A sufficient supply of coal would set most of the activities in motion. Some concerns which have outgrown their usefulness, will either reduce or wind up.

3707

Rome is never expected to be entirely self-supporting; this town must always, to a large extent, rely on the other regions of Italy to contribute to the upkeep of the Capital; the tourist industry alone, if well developed and left to private initiative, may be highly remunerative.

Another considerable asset would be the use of Rome as a centre for national and international air routes, unferred by political or other non-economic considerations. Of course, it is impossible to lay down here any direction concerning the general policy which the Allied powers and the Italian Government may decide upon.

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In spite of all measures, Rome will be faced with the problem of an excess of population. It is obvious that the temporary population represented by the refugees from the neighbourhood and from the South, should be encouraged to go back to their homes as soon as possible, and that would dispose of some half million persons who are now to be fed and housed in Rome.

A good many workmen may find employment in the work of reconstruction of the devastated areas: Rome boasts of many large building contractors with good equipment. But the major ones should be looked at with much distrust, because they have fattened and grown in hypertrophic bodies, owing to Fascist methods. Public works, it is a well know fact, were decided more for reasons of political prestige than for considerations of pratical usefulness; they were often allotted without a previous elaboration of careful plans; they were to be ready on such and such a day, just according to Mussolini's own judgement. The contractors became used to resort to corruption in order to obtain their contracts, and to e supplying the worst kind of workmanship, provided the appearance was saved. Their bids provided huge margins of profit which were shared with many officials, bigger firms came to terms, and agreed never to undercut one another, they rather apportion the work among themselves in an amiable way, so that there never was competition. Luckily, there are still honest and capable contractors in Rome: just to quote a few, Ferroboton Co., Astaldi Co., Soc. Edilizia Laziale, D. Adriani, Giobannetti Bros., Ing. A. De Pablis, Arganini and Co., and many others are quite reliable. Some of these may have done some work for the Germans but on the whole they are well organised and honest companies. Leventosi is a firm who refused to work for the Germans.

Material for reconstruction will be lacking, this is especially the case of iron and steel, and timber, possibly however the Terni Co. may turn out structural steel instead of armaments, a simple type of construction based on locally available materials, such as various kinds and stone and lava (tufo) lime, cement pozzolana, etc., may be encouraged. Even the arched vault may be restored to, when rafters and other timber are too scanty.

The surplus labour may be directed towards reconstruction work even in other parts of Europe, where labour is scanty; e.g. in France. The Italians are good builders and contractors, especially when properly directed. The rebuilding and repairing of roads however will be hampered in this region by the scarcity of asphalt and tar, which may only be found, and in small quantities, in Sicily and Albania.

Yet another part of the population should be encouraged to leave Rome and settle in the country, frmm which many of them flocked to Rome in recent years; if sufficient power were available for the purpose of irrigation, much land around Rome may be transformed into vegetable and fruit gardens, thus contributing to the supply of food to the town, and to the settlement of a number of families outside the limits of the congested town.

As for trade, proper, there is hardly any prospect of exports [illegible] exported minor articles, like pecorino cheese, clothing

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

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As for trade, proper, there is hardly any prospect of exports abroad from this region, excepted minor articles, like pecorino cheese, clothing and other apparel, and such characteristic products of the small local crafts as may appeal to foreign taste. With other parts of Italy, Latium may carry on a lively traffic: imports of all kinds should flock to Rome, as before from foodstuff to piece goods, from medicines to leather goods, but Rome may also export certain products of the surrounding territory, such as felts, special woven materials (tapestries and brocades) paper of certain description, certain chemicals, etc. But on the whole there is little scope for trade, except with the immediate surrounding of the town and the neighbouring provinces.

The author of this survey says that it is a rough sketch which does not pretend to cover such a wide field; it only aims at submitting a few facts and suggestions. (Reliability - B-2 - none of the statements have been checked.)

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

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APPENDIX II

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THE PROCESS OF LIBERATION AT ORVIETO

The following account of the liberation of Orviete is supplied by an Allied officer with the 8th Army:-

"We ourselves arrived in the town barely 24 hours after the forward troops had passed through, and we were some of the first troops to be actually stationed in the city itself. The atmosphere we found was quite unlike that of any other place we had previously been in. Instead of the usual apathy and dull despair there was an air of activity, efficiency and a desire to get life organised again as quickly and efficiently as possible. Admittedly this was a great deal easier in Orviete than in say Viterbo, as the former had suffered no damage at all from the bombing or shelling, the water supply was functioning normally, the electric light was on by 2230 hours that night and as Orviete is an agricultural centre, at the moment without any means of exporting its products, the food situation was not so desperate as usual. On the other hand the Committee of National Liberation had taken energetic action. Guides had been provided for the advancing Allied forces. Within the town a large number of local Fascist notables, including the MO of the local hospital, who had incurred odium for his lack of care for the Allied PWs wounded in the bombing of Allerona station earlier in the year, had been arrested and were at once handed over to the Allied authorities. Patriot patrols, armed and wearing arms bands with the national colors, were much in evidence in the streets and judging by all accounts, order had been well maintained. Any request for assistance was promptly met with practical advice or action, unaccompanied by the empty rhetoric, which has been so much in evidence in the past.

"Only much later, that evening did the Orvietani see their liberators in large quantities at close quarters. During the next two days I myself saw the following episodes. At 1630 hours my billet was invaded by a drunken soldier, brandishing a tommy gun, and driving before him two petrified civilians bawling out that they were spies. In point of the fact that he had been making unwelcome overtures to their womenfolk and his rebuff had driven him a little mad. An inoffensive civilian was seized by the neck in the main street and ordered to produce "vino". A party of about 8 officers and NCOs came into our hotel and after running up a bill of about 230 lire, walked out without paying. An AMG officer told me of a house, which had been burnt down. Colonel Barletani also saw a cosmetic shop which had been looted.

"Against all this must be set the other side of the picture. All this time the town was full of troops, who could not have behaved better. The Cathedral was constantly full of them, and there were several parties of them having their meals at our hotel, whose behaviour was exemplary.

"Official reaction was prompt and thorough. On the third day the town [illegible] curfew at 1800 hours imposed on

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stationed in the city itself. The atmosphere we found was quite unlike that of any other place we had previously been in. Instead of the usual apathy and dull despair there was an air of activity, efficiency and a desire to get life organised again as quickly and efficiently as possible. Admittedly this was a great deal easier in Orvieto than in say Viterbo, as the former had suffered no damage at all from the bombing or shelling, the water supply was functioning normally, the electric light was on by 2230 hours that night and as Orvieto is an agricultural centre, at the moment without any means of exporting its products, the food situation was not so desperate as usual. On the other hand the Committee of National Liberation had taken energetic action. Guides had been provided for the advancing Allied forces. Within the town a large number of local fascist notables, including the MO of the local hospital, who had incurred odium for his lack of care for the Allied PWs wounded in the bombing of Allerona station earlier in the year, had been arrested and were at once handed over to the Allied authorities. Patriot patrols, armed and wearing arms bands with the national colors, were much in evidence in the streets and judging by all accounts, order had been well maintained. Any request for assistance was promptly met with practical advice or action, unaccompanied by the empty rhetoric, which has been so much in evidence in the past.

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"Official reaction was prompt and thorough. On the third day the town was out of bounds to all "sight-seers" and a curfew at 1800 hours imposed on all troops stationed in the town.

"At the same time the damage had already been done. Although we ourselves got the same good service from our collaborators, the spontaneous desire to help of two days before had gone, to be replaced by a general coldness, which could not be attributed to the inevitable descent from the emotional level. Several people said openly that it all corresponded in principle to the main themes of German propaganda, though not as regards quantity. It was also noticeable to what an extent German propaganda was about our coloured troops in general and the Goums in particular had taken root in the people's mind.

"Individual civilian reaction is rather what might be expected. There is justifiable indignation that all should have to pay for the shortcomings of the few. But at the same time it is clear that our past propaganda and attitude to the Italians is running counter to our present official policy. Two infantry officers from the 78th Division told me in the course of conversation,

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that they thought of it of no importance what the Italians thought of us, as we were now bound to come out top-dog in Western Europe, and could thus afford to ignore other people's views and feelings. This attitude has had some concrete expression. For example, an Italian who, as it happened spent some time in the "macchia" offered some wine to some troops, who had already had one over the eight. The police came along just then, swept away the soldiers, but accused the Italian of having got them drunk, so as to rob them, and paid him several other similar compliments. In this case, luckily there was no harm done as we knew the Italian in question and think that if he were half the patriot he claims to be, he would not be forced to talk too much about it. An FSS corporal on the other hand, an intelligent and well informed man was genuinely surprised to hear that Italian patriot activities ever consisted of more than strewing tacks on the road after the Germans had gone. After that I made a point of talking casually to several troops strolling around the town, and I found them all to have the same outlook. We seem in fact to resemble the Bourbons in that we have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing.

"The civilian is not guiltless, however. At Orvieto, as elsewhere there are many whose voices are suspiciously clamourous in our praises. They too, are remarkable for the fact that they have so much spare time for talking. Again the result is that the majority are having to pay for the shortcomings of the few. Then the fact remains that often Italian hospitality takes no account of the English capacity for drinking wine.

"Whoever is to blame and to what extent, the clear fact emerges that three days later the town had slipped dangerously towards the usual apathy of the South in the past. These elements, who are not entirely pro-Allied are left thinking that there may be something in German propaganda after all, while the genuine patriots are left a bit discouraged at finding the relationship between the Italians and the Allies not exactly what they had hped for and expected.

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

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APPENDIX III

REACTIONS TO PROPAGANDA

Radio Listening in Rome.

The following report on radio listening habits before the liberation of Rome has been applied by Roman collaborators.

SEC. Listened to on the following short waves: 50, 41, 32, and 26 metres; medium waves: 260, 350 metres. The hours of best reception were 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 in the morning and 22.30 and 23.30 in the evening. Best reception was at 22.30.

Radio Bari. Medium wave on 290 metres. Reception was very disturbed. There was a Rome transmission apparently on the same wavelength. The best hours for reception were those at night. Radio Bari was much listened to during the period before the Bari Congress. L'Italia Combatte was listened to a great deal and liked.

Radio Algiers and Radio Tunis were not much listened to. Radio Anzio was, during the period immediately before the liberation of Rome, the station most listened to, especially for the news on spies and the advice to patriots.

The most appreciated commentators were Candidus and Colonel Stevens. Public opinion regarded the first as more competent politically and as a propagandist, while the second had greater technical knowled e in dealing with the military situation.
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The "Commentatore Londinese" of the "Voce di Londra" was popular, as was the "Uomo Qualunque".

Reactions to radio and press in Catania.

An Italian collaborator with PWB at Catania reports that the recently inaugurated transmissions of Radio Catania have met with great favour among the people there, especially the news programmes, which fill out the news given in the local paper, generally regarded as a very mediocre.

People are hoping that Catania Radio will transmit messages [illegible] other parts of Italy,

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

liberation of Rome has been [illegible]

BBC. Listened to on the following short waves: 50, 41, 32, and 26 metres; medium waves: 260, 350 metres. The hours of best reception were 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 in the morning and 22.30 and 23.30 in the evening. Best reception was at 22.30.

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People are hoping that Catania Radio will transmit messages to the citizens of Catania who are in other parts of Italy, and with whom there has been no contact since the state of emergency was declared in June 1943.

Some people, presumably Catholics, commented that in the periodical feature dedicated to Social Fraternity, in which passages from Rousseau have been broadcast, passages from the papal social encyclicals might also be included.

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The local paper is considered inadequate, as the news is restricted and much of the paper is devoted to advertisements. It is also felt that the paper might have published the story of the Catania transmitter, how the Allies found it and erected it, and the Damage the Germans had inflicted on it.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Il Ponte.

The Rome University Student collaborator who collects reactions to Allied propaganda reports that public opinion has not changed as regards the monthly review "Il Ponte" which is still regarded as excellent by intellectual circles. Articles on Russia, and in particular the article by Alexander Werth, have aroused the most favourable comment. The "Letter from a prisoner" is regarded as artificial in style, but evidently represents the views of a large section of the young generation.

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

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PUBLIC OPINION

Public Opinion in Rome.

The following report on public opinion in Rome was supplied by a usually reliable Italian woman collaborator, who holds right-wing political views outside the Committee of Liberation.

Reactions to the Second Front. These are very favourable. The fact that the Allies have now opened up the second front on such a scale, has aroused a renewed enthusiasm for them among the population. Democratic circles express great satisfaction that Russia will not be the only country to win the actual fighting war, while the Socialists and Communists are satisfied with, and grateful for, the support given to the Russian war effort. It is generally believed that the opening of the second front will shorten the duration of the war.

Reactions to the new Italian government. It is generally felt that the new government has no actual governing powers, except administrative powers in those provinces where Italian authority has been restored. The general public is inclined to "wait and see" what the new government will be capable of doing, before passing judgement on it. The chief expectation from it is that it should obtain the substitution of co-belligerency with actual alliance with the Allies, on the grounds that the great mass of the Italian people have been sincere and wholehearted in their collaboration with the Allies, whom they regard as liberators and friends.

The fact that so many political parties are represented in the government leads public opinion to believe that it can only be shortlived, a temporary expedient to allow time for the stabilisation of more definite political currents.

The public has the impression that the political situation is chaotic, and that the big left parties, the Socialists, Communists and Christian Democrats, are not representative. About 70% of the population adheres to no political current, and is interested only in the preservation of law and order.

Many quarters believe that when a plebisicite is held this agnostic mass will vote for the monarchy, which they consider the only element capable of ensuring unity. The political situation appears, to the general public, very similar to that existing immediately after the last world war, and it is felt that unless a conservative party, of some form or other, comes into being with the support of the Allies, a reaction will set in, engendering something similar to Fascism. Italians being hypercritical, it is felt that a certain amount of discipline in political life is necessary, and the various parties should not be given their head for too long a time.

Requisitioning. Requisitioning of private cars is on the whole

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

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Requisitioning. Requisitioning of private cars is on the whole resented, since it is felt that the Allies, with the wealth of transport at their disposal, should not require the few remaining private cars to be found in Rome, most of which have been saved at the cost of great risks and difficulties from the Germans and Fascists, and which in many cases represent a vital part of the equipment necessary to renew business activities from which the population as a whole will benefit.

Requisitioning of hotels is considered natural enough under the present circumstances. Requisitioning of private houses appears for the present to be limited, though some anxiety is caused by rumours from Naples. It is felt that hospitality would be willingly and joyfully extended to Allied Officers if asked for. In particular, people are anxious about payment for requisitioned buildings or apartments. The prevalent belief is that the Allies do not intend

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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paying, or expect the Italian government to pay later on. This would place many people in a very critical financial position, practically depriving them of their means of livlihood.

Taking over of theatres, especially the Teatro Reale. The requisitioning of theatres has not affected the general public much, but in theatrical circles the reaction has been strong. A large number of theatrical workers and artists refused to go north, and it has been a great disappointment to these people, especially for the vast numbers of technicians and specialised workers in the theatrical field, to find themselves cut off from any possibility of work. In many cases this spells sheer starvation, as in the case of the 3000 odd specialised workers of Cine Citta. These people would be only too glad to work for the Allies in any capacity, or to help entertain the troops. It should be possible to produce immediately, in Rome, four or five films, from equipment saved from the Germans. Italian actors hope that all the theatres will not be taken over by the Allies, as this would leave them entirely destitute.

that As far as the Teatro Reale is concerned, there is some resentment over the fact/reviews are staged in what the music living Romans consider a "sacred temple of lyric art". It is also reported that Allied troops have caused some damage in the pit and the boxes.

Lack of discipline and drunks among Allied troops. There is much criticism of this, particularly of the behaviour of the French coloured troops, who are feared and detested. In areas around Rome, where they are stationed, the majority of the young women are in hiding. This is particularly unfortunate because, before the arrival of the Allies, the Germans and Fascists had put up propaganda pictures on the walls, depicting the rape of women and other atrocities reported to have been committed by the Allied troops and especially the coloured troops. At the time, such posters were looked at with irony, but now it is felt that perhaps they were not entirely without foundation.

General conditions of life. Living conditions in Rome today are extremely difficult, and a general sense of depression and disillusion are rampant, because in many fields, at the moment, there seems to be no possibility of picking up threads and starting life anew. Difficulties were of course, expected, but there seems to be an invading sense of frustration of all efforts. This causes depression, especially among many patriots, partisans and army officers.

Friendship with people who were previously pro-German. The general impression in all walks of life is that far too many people who were notoriously friels with the Germans are now on the best of terms with the Allies.

Attitude to Allies as a whole. This is, on broad lines, entirely favourable, and there is among a large majority of the people a sincere desire

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

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Attitude to Allies as a whole. This is, on broad lines, entirely favourable, and there is among a large majority of the people a sincere desire to collaborate whole-heartedly and with every possible means. The Allies should take the trouble to prevent incidents due to psychological errors, which will undoubtedly be avoided when things have had time to settle down.

(Reliability rating, B-2. The generalisations included in this summary are, for the most part, confirmed in other reports. The passages between square brackets is, however, included as representative of a certain touch of right wing-wing opinion. There is no confirmation of the existence of latent monarchist or conservative sentiments among the a-political majority).

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not raise a rumpus, the day the S. troops attacked the D'Annunzian Fiume Regency, he, Giolitti, would shut his eyes concerning the formation of the fascist action squadrons. Mussolini accepted, partly because he recognized D'Annunzio as his strongest opponent in the nationalist current. D'Annunzio never forgave Mussolini, and once out of Fiume, he shut himself up in his villa at Gardone never to go out again. His silence was later paid for with millions and with the title of prince.

However, although it was not Bonomi who armed the fascist armed squadrons, he tolerated and allowed them to grow and multiply. Bonomi was the exponent of social bourgeoisie, vaguely nationalist. He left the official Socialist party in 1911 when the socialists (with Mussolini at the head) opposed the war in Libya while Bonomi favoured it. He favoured the war in Libya, and to his credit, he favoured Italy's joining the Allies in 1915. After the war he was minister, and later, as we have seen, head of the Government in 1921 and 1922. We must not forget that fascism came into power in 1922 through an act of violence, but was accepted by vote of the Chamber and the Senate. At that time there was 35 Fascist deputies, nevertheless Mussolini won full power from a Chamber more bewildered than enthusiastic, by a majority vote.

Bonomi belongs to the anti-fascist opposition since 1924, namely, since the Matteotti crime. On that occasion the parliamentary opposition to fascism, instead of accepting the challenge, completely abandoned Parliament into the hands of fascism. Some members of this opposition, Nitti, Amendola, Sforza, Turati, Treves, Modigliani, Sturzo, Lussu, together with others who had no parliamentary powers, such as Alberto Cianca, Pietro Nenni, Salvemini, and later Borgese, preferred to take up the fight in exile. Bonomi was not among these. For twenty years, and until July 25, he retired to private life. The fact remains that Bonomi was at the head of the Committee of National Liberation, and this is to his credit.

What, exactly, is the Committee of National Liberation? It should have operated as a committee for Public Welfare, especially in the event that the Germans decided to defend Rome at any cost. Since this did not happen (thanks to the intelligent diplomatic action of the Vatican, and mostly to the fact that the nerve of the German Army had been broken at the gates of Rome, by the Allied armies,) the Committee of Liberation quickly became a platform for the political parties, for the purpose of getting into power. This Committee imposed itself upon the King and Badoglio. When the Bonomi Cabinet was formed, the Committee of Liberation did not rely on the support of other strong or small parties. The great mass of Italian live in a state of political vacuum. The large majority of the conservative circles, who in their hearts pathetically cling to the Crown, do not dare even defend openly that [illegible] aimed the political acts of

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The people are almost totally uneducated and lacking in political responsibility. It is a good people, industrious, and fundamentally intelligent catholic, but not bigoted, poor. Vanquished and humiliated, starved and ragged, struck in its work, in the homes in its self respect, deprived of every national ideal, it is willing to undergo any experiment in the hope of bettering his conditions. However, it may be said, that the people will go whorever the intellectual bourgeoisie will lead it. The Italian people yield above all to intelligence and personality. It is in the search of ideals. The Italian bourgeoisie has largely overcome the socialist concepts of class conflicts, and of positivist doctrines. Actually the principal error of the political

3703

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Report by a right-wing Roman on the Bonomi Cabinet.

It is difficult to say what the Italian people think of the Bonomi cabinet. It would be easier to say that they do not think about it, but that would be inaccurate. We shall say, then, that the people are withholding their opinion of the Bonomi Gabinetti, until it is put to the test. It is obvious that this is a cabinet, not a Government. A government must govern; Italy can only be governed from Rome. Certainly, there are in Italy other cities and regions which have specific significance, but no other city has the same political maturity as Rome. Rome is the only non-regional city. It is undoubtedly important to know what Valle Padana thinks about Italian questions, but what that Valle Padana thinks we shall know only when it can express itself in Rome through its representatives.

The Bonomi Cabinet is the result of a political compromise ripened in Rome during the nine months of nazi-fascist and pseudorepublican oppression. A political compromise conceived with the Committee of National Liberation. This Committee has great merits. It represents the six anti-fascist parties which in Rome the clandestine opposition to Germans and neo-fascists. However the Committee does not represent the forces which opposed Germans and neo-fascists more actively and more concretely. Namely, the Clandestine Military Resistance Front, and the mass of patriots not included in the six parties of the Committee. It may be observed, that the Military Front was not motivated by specific political ideologies, that its members could belong to any party. But this would not be true. The Military Front was formulated almost entirely by regular army officers, and obeyed directly orders by Badoglio and the Supreme Allied Command. Therefore it was a conservative front, with monarchical tendencies. It is a force, or a traditional nucleus which today the extremist parties, i.e., those who have in mind class conflicts and proletarian dictatorship, try to devaluate and demobilize in every way possible. It was above all, a force which had fought and kept together around a name, Badoglio. The Committee of National Liberation and the parties which compose it and inspire it, today seem to want to forget that in Italy Badoglio alone had prestige and authority sufficient to order Mussolini's arrest last July, not to say anything more. The writer has never envisaged the future of Italy in the hands of the old Marshal, who is not a political man. But the Roman solution, the Bonomi solution is perhaps worse than the solution of July 25.

What exactly is the Bonomi solution? A new transitional cabinet. The danger which transitory men represent is this: it is impossible to predict what will succeed them. In this instance, does transition lead to

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

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What exactly is the Bonomi solution? A new transitional cabinet. The danger which transitory men represent is this: it is impossible to predict what will succeed them. In this instance, does transition lead to a democratic, constitutional government or to a leftist dictatorship? Bonomi as a representative up to a certain point. He is honest, equipped with merits and intelligence, but he is also mediocre. Bonomi was President of the Consiglio in 1921 and 1922, and constituted then the Italian transition which preceded the advent of Fascism. Which indicated that 22 years ago Bonomi was a weakling. It has been said these days that Bonomi is the man who permitted Mussolini to arm the action squadrons in 1921 and 1922. This is not exactly true. The Action Squadrons were in existence before the 1921 Bonomi Cabinet. The Action Squadrons brought to Parliament 35 Fascist deputies, and this occurred before Bonomi was called to the government. It is said, and it seems likely, though we cannot affirm it, that the formation of the Action Squadrons was the result of a compromise between Mussolini and Giolitti. When Giolitti was in power, in 1920, he had committed himself to the Allies to drive D'Annunzio out of Fiume. Mussolini supported D'Annunzio. Giolitti found a way to let Mussolini know that if Fascism did

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

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class to reappear in the limelight today, and to suppose they can once more think live, discuss, write, play politics, exactly as they did 22 years ago. The best among the ex-émigrés don't seem to realize that in the last 20 years Italy has not lived because of fascism, but in spite of it. They have been 20 years of life, not of limbo. 20 years of tragedy, during which Italy has taken her place in the modern world. This concept ought to be treated in detail on another occasion.

If the Bonomi Cabinet does not represent the opinion of the Italian political mass, does it at least represent the opinion of the Committee of Liberation? Up to a certain point. It is apparent, judging from its composition, that its best members have mental reservations. There are too many ministers without portfolio much greater than the President in political intellectual, doctrinary stature. For example, both of Croce, Sforza, Togliatti. Pietro Nenni is not in the government, rightly of his own accord. He is head of Italian socialism, a man of far higher stature than average. There are too many people in this transitory cabinet who do not commit themselves, and will not do so, until the right occasion arises. Bonomi and his cabinet could certainly win merit and trust if they succeeded in obtaining active participation of the Italian in the war against the Germans. Mass participation not representative. But this is a problem which an Italian Cabinet or Government can solve by itself alone. This is an allied problem, not an Italian one, as the Allies well know.

ROMAN DINNER PARTY

A PWB officer dined recently in the apartment of some Italians who may be described as belonging to the professional classes - the father was a physician well known among the foreign colony in Rome before the war - . The dinner was on pre-war scale, with excellent white spaghetti, abundance of fresh vegetables, and the only war-time note was a large dish of corned beef twice served.

After dinner a number of people arrived to talk, drink and dance a little on the terrace. They were all young, all spoke excellent English, or at the worst passable English. One of these was a twenty three year old pilot in the Regia Aeronautica, who had lost his left arm as the result of a crash. He was an intelligent, lively, obviously courageous person, yet his conversation was reminiscent of so many conversations heard in Italy, from the same type of persons before the war. He refered to Italy always as "Poor Italy" and to his countrymen as "cretini" and expressed complete disbelief in the honesty and reliability of the political parties. He professed to see no difference between the parties of the National Committee and those outside the Committee of Liberation. Others present agreed with him when he said that the only resistance against the Germans in Rome had come from the

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

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Another young man declared that the monarchy was the only bond and guarantee of order that was left in Italy. He deplored the unpopularity of the King and his son, but admitted it to the extent of saying that he did not know who would be able to form a regency for the Prince of Naples. The monarchy must remain, he said, otherwise Italy will have some little modentity as President every six months.

3702

The brother of the pilot lamented the destruction of the industries in Italy and feared that they would never be rebuilt to the scale Mussolini had brought them in 1940. He and his companions were obviously surprised when told that Italy was almost the only country in Europe where war industries and others were being rebuilt, as in the few industries of Southern Italy and where the process of reconstruction of national, political and economic life could be begun.

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To these young Italians on the threshold of their life, Italy appears to be sliding rapidly down the precipice which twenty years of fascist propaganda has held them almost overlook their country in 1922. They profess scorn for all the parties, except the Communist, whose organization they profess to admire, and declare that the only hope lies in the honest, non-political people with the monarchy as the centre of order.

Prince Doria and the Fascists.

The new mayor of Rome, Prince Doria, complained to a PWB officer that Itqlians who like himself had been anti-German had become so impoverished that it was not possible for them to entertain Allied officers on the lavish scale with which the ex-Fascists and ex-collaborators with the Germans were now doing.

American Sportsmanship.

A story is going round Rome with the speed and impetus which only the renewed Roman "voices" are able to impart.

It tells of an American policeman who was watching an Italian Metropoliten controlling traffic at a point on the outskirts of the city. The American decided to take over/a US lorry full of doughboys hove into sight. He walked over to the Italian policeman and tapped him on the shoulder from behind. The Italian, concerned with his handling of the traffic problem, and resenting the unexpected interference let his US colleague have one on the point of the chin. The American fell prostrate and the Italian was horrified to see what he had done and terrified to seethe American troops pouring out of the truck and coming towards him. He awaited his destiny with the utmost apprehension, but the crowd of troops, much to his surprise began counting out the still prostrate policeman: "One, two.....eight, nine, ten. K.O." they shouted absolutely delighted, then shook the Italian by the hand and chaired him on their shoulders round the square.

The people around who had feared the most violent developments were in transports of joy, "Bravo, bravo!" they cried, "This would have been a shooting match if the Germans had been here."

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

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APPENDIX V

THE ROYAL TREASURE

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On the 5th June, 1944 the following statement was received:-

"On the 9th September, 1943, His Majesty the King of Italy, on leaving Rome, took with him 50 lorries in which he carried personal belongings, gold silver, as well as documents of the State, and reached Chieti on the 10th. Arrangements had been made to have him transferred to Brindisi by sea, but on account of there not being many ships available, part of the treasure and documents were hidden in and around Chieti.

"The Military HQ of the King stayed in Chieti, but the King took over a villa at Crecchio, where he waited for the ship which was to take him over to Brindisi.

"Only five persons know the exact location of the hidden treasure, one of whom is the Italian officer who made this statement at this office to-day. (5th June, 1944).

"Among the things hidden, there are seven beautiful cars and quite a few trucks. The cars are hidden in the city and the trucks in the caves in the mountains.

"At the same time information was given concerning a munition dump where the following were believed to have been hidden.

6000 rifles
50 machine guns
100 tommy guns
4 machine guns
4 guns

The weapons were hidden by the Italian authorities before the Germans arrived in Chieti.

The following is a PWE officer's account of the attempt to locate these two objectives:-

I left Bari on the evening of the 12th June 1944, accompanied by Major Carlo Barbero, and Lt. Isaia Carmela.

Major Barbero has has been leader of the patriots working in the Chieti region, and in co-operation with our forces, he has been sending American and British Prisoners of War across the lines. Lt. Carmela was stationed in Chieti for a year with the local carabinieri.

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

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We stayed that night in Foggia and were on our way early next morning. We found very good roads up to Termeli, and from then on the roads were quite bad.

We reached Chieti on Tuesday evening. The city itself is untouched by war, as a matter of fact not a single building has been hit, and the sight in Chieti with what we had seen before, almost led us to believe that we were dreaming. We called right away on the 68th FSS, the only organised office working at the time in Chieti, headed by Captain Gold. Having explained the reason for our visit, namely first the location of the King's property and documents, secondly the location of the munition dump and thirdly the archives of the local fascio, we were quite disappointed at his answer that he had heard about the King's property, but that nothing was left behind and no archives were available and that we would have to go the next day to the local munition dump.

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3701

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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"We went back to our hotel and we had a meeting among ourselves to decide what to do. We succeeded in getting hold of the Committee of the patriots in Chieti and three Italian carabinieri who were present when the King was in Chieti.

"During our conversation with the patriot leaders, we learned that Lt. Col. Boselli, Commander in Chief of the local carabinieri during the German occupation, was held under arrest by the British authorities. Lt. Col. Boselli was a key man needed to assist us in our search, because he was the man who had in his possession the King's documents, and properties. As a matter of fact we learned that he made six trips to Rome during the German occupation, carrying with him some of the King's property. His address in Rome is Via Alfredo Oregni, 45, and he delivered the remaining cars of the King to the Germans and Italian authorities before the arrival of the Allies. It appears that he was planning to leave himself in one of the King's cars, but one of the carabinieri explained that he had put some nails in the differential, breaking down the car, and therefore, making it impossible for Boselli to leave. Before the Allies occupied the city.

Early next morning one of the patriots came rushing to the hotel and told us that Lt. Col. Boselli had left for Cava dei Tirreni, Province of Salerno, with another Italian colonel named Geri. We were quite startled at the news for the fact that freeing a colonel after only three days of Allied occupation was undoubtedly an unwise thing to do. We rushed back to the FSS, and informed Captain Gold, who denied emphatically that the Colonel had been released. We insisted on having a check up at the local prison because we felt that our information was quite reliable. Captain Gold sent one of his men over to the prison, who after fifteen minutes returned with the news that the colonel had left the day before at 2 o'clock, without any authorisation from the local FSS. We then asked Capt. Gold's permission to search Col. Boselli's house. Permission was granted, but nothing found. During the search I questioned Signora Boselli on the activities of her husband and at my question, "How many trips has your husband made to Rome in the last few months?" she answered "Only three". She was undoubtedly lying because from the previous statement made by the carabinieri the colonel made six trips to Rome. After further questioning Mrs. Boselli told me that a few cases of the King's property were hidden in a neighbour's house. We went over to the house and searched it, and we found a large case as well as a small one filled with gold and silverwear. We delivered the two cases to Captain Gold and we advised him to make an inventory, to have the cases sealed and to write to the A.C.C., in Naples. On further questioning concerning the King's property, it was learned that the rest of the belongings were hidden in some villa and some in a church near Orecchio, where the King had stayed

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

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Political situation in Chieti.

The change of administration between the time when the Germans left the city and the Allied occupation was done in Chieti without bloodshed. The local patriots formed a committee and arrested all the leading fascists left in the town with very little violence, a thing that surprised me very much on account of the brutal reprisals of the German and Fascist officials against every patriot during the German occupation. Nevertheless, Capt. Gold was quite worried and upset about the illegal arrests and searches made by the patriots and he was trying to limit their authority and to keep all the police power in his own hands. He asked Major Barbero to call a meeting of all the patriots of Chieti, a meeting at which he himself intended to speak. Major Barbero succeeded in having the meeting in the afternoon of the same day, and it is now the job of Major Barbero to keep the patriots under control.

The strongest political parties in Chieti are the socialists, and the Christian Democrats. Communists are very few and Liberals also. The Mayor of the town is a socialist.

The food situation in Chieti is very bad. Very little is to be found in the open market. Stores are supplied with goods at a very low price compared with Bari ones.

The first troops to enter Chieti were Italian parachutists of the Nembo division, and certainly they were very proud of it. The Germans were retreating at the rate of 15 to 20 kilometres a day, destroying all the bridges and mining all the roads.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 8 APO 512

Report on Condition in Liberated Italy No. 22

June 9, 1944.

PART I SUMMARY

The liberation of Rome by the Fifth Army, followed so quickly by the announcement of the landings in Northern France, has created intense enthusiasm amongst all classes of Italians. Interest is so great in military events that the King's implementation of his promise to retire on the entry of the Allied troops into Rome, Marshal Badoglio's resignation, and the composition of the new government take second place in public interest.

The tribute paid to the Italian troops in General Alexander's telegram to Marshal Badoglio has created a most favourable impression as with the development of the Allied offensive, Italians' anxiety that their own troops should make a greater contribution becomes more pronounced. When PWB officers entered Rome they were frequently asked, "But where are the Italian troops?" and when the Carabinieri arrived they were given as enthusiastic a welcome as the Allied soldiers.

The occupation of Rome was apparently so sudden that the Germans were taken by surprise. The Romans attribute the lack of demolition to the action of the Pope, who they believe persuaded the German commander not to fight in Rome. The Pope is generally regarded as the saviour of the city and large crowds gollected on the Square of St. Peter's early on the morning of the 6th June and repeatedly acclaimed him.

PWB officers who had taken part in the occupation of Naples, Catania, Tripoli, and other cities were struck by the cleanliness and normalcy of the Italian capital, the well-dressed people, indifferent to the guns still firing at the retreating Germans from the Borghese Gardens, and the absence of all signs of destruction except in the outer periphery of the city. They soon saw however that beneath this appearance there was a good deal of poverty and want, and that conditions were not entirely rosy. The bread ration is 100 grams per day, and of poor quality. The population is dras-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

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The Rome Committee of Liberation, under the presidency of Ivanoe Bonomi, a former Italian Prime Minister, met with Allied officials on the Capitol early on Monday morning 6th June. All six parties are represented on this committee, which contains several well-known names such as Bonomi himself, the Christian-Democrat De Gasperi, the Socialist Pietro Nenni, and the Sardinian Emilio Lussu, of the Party of Action.

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On Monday the 5th of June King Victor Emmanuel, implementing the undertaking he gave on April 12th, and which was to come into effect with the liberation of Rome, announced the nomination of Prince Umberto as Lieutenant General of the Realm, with all royal powers including that of signing royal decrees.

On June 6th the Coalition Government formed on April 21st handed in its resignation, though announcing that it intended continuing its functions until a new government was formed. This resignation was in accordance with constitutional procedure under which since the head of the state was changed the government was obliged to resign.

On June 8th Prince Umberto flew to Rome. On the same day Marshal Badoglio accompanied by the ministers without portfolio Croce, Sforza, Togliatti and Rodinò, by Minister of Communications Cerabona (who is head of the Democrazia del Lavoro), by the Action Party leader Bianco, and by Orosco Longobardi, Socialist, also went to the capital. In Rome Marshal Badoglio attempted to form a new and more broadly based government. Members of the Rome Committee of National Liberation, however, were unwilling to serve under him. The strongest opposition to the Marshal appears to have come from the Action Party, but De Gasperi, the Christian Democratic leader, probably interpreted the feelings of the Committee as a whole when he told a PWB officer that "a pitiful impression" had been made on the people of Rome by the Marshal's sudden flight last September. People also consider that Badoglio proved himself a political "gaffeur". The Liberal paper "Risorgimento Liberale" put the feeling against the Marshal even more clearly when it described the Badoglio Brindisi government as a government of defeat which could not hope to enjoy the full confidence of the Allies.

On June 9th Marshal Badoglio announced that he had failed to form a more broadly based government, and that Prince Umberto intrusted the task to Ivanoe Bonomi.

Bonomi, although he is associated with the relatively unimportant Democrazia del Lavoro party, is one of the most prominent pre-Fascist politicians still alive. He was president of the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government of 1921-22, and before that had held Cabinet posts under Boselli, Nitti, Orlando, and Giolitti. In the last years of Fascism Bonomi was associated with the underground anti-Fascist movement and when the Allies arrived he was President of the Rome Committee of National Liberation.

In an interview with a PWB officer, Bonomi said that, in the

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In an interview with a PWB officer, Bonomi said that, in the view of the Committee, the first task of an Italian government was to secure a maximum Italian war effort.

Also included are interview with De Gasperi, Christian Democratic leader, with Gonella, Chief political commentator of the "Osservatore Romano", and with Ugo Lamalfa, of the Action Party. De Gasperi's statement brings out, in particular, the help given to the patriots by religious organizations in Rome.

The Socialist Party has supplied details of the murder of Bruno Buozzi, the Socialist leader, who with thirteen others was taken from prison by the Germans on June 4th and shot by the roadside 14 km. outside of Rome. His body has been recovered.

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On 6th June a PWB officer had a conversation with the Communist undersecretary of Finance, Antonio Pesenti. The great events of the last few hours lent a certain unreality to the discussion of the normal matters connected with the Finance Ministry and Pesenti admitted that he did not attach much importance to the Council of Ministers then in session. Pesenti said that he was almost unaided to deal with a great amount of work, which included the administration of what remained of Italian heavy industry. Several industries in the Naples area that had not been irreparably damaged by air raids would soon be working again.

Pesenti deprecated strongly the allusion in Benedetto Croce's speech of the 5th June to a possible fusion between the liberal and the Democratic Liberal parties, as he considered the latter body a refuge for ex-Fascists and as such quite unsuitable to form part of a coalition government of anti-Fascist parties.

Another minister interviewed by PWB was the Christian Democrat leader, Giulio Rodino, who expressed the opinion that the Allied advance through the length of Italy would be continually raising new problems and that therefore no radical solutions to internal Italian affairs could be attempted at the present moment. Rodino counted on his party receiving clear directives from the Vatican after the liberation of Rome.

The transmission to the Prince of Piedmont of his father's powers and prerogatives has aroused little comment in view of King Victor Emmanuel's decision at the time of the formation of the last Badoglio government. The Liberal Monarchist Association for Reconstruction distributed a pamphlet in Naples at the beginning of the week which praised the King's gesture of self-sacrifice in the interests of national unity and hoped the parties would benefit from this example.

A high ranking officer of the Comando Supremo explained that he considered the monarchy was the only guarantee of Italian unity which had always been endangered by the tendency to split into a number of small regional republics. The same officer expressed the hope that after the fall of Rome, Italian troops would be called upon to take a larger part in the liberation of their country.

The demonstrations against the Minister of Education's decision to re-introduce the school examinations have largely defeated their own purpose. The Minister Omodeo has not given way, while opinion has hardened against the irresponsible state of mind of the recalcitrant students. Several posters signed by Student groups have appeared, which condemn these demonstrations and recall

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

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A serious distrubance occurred at the end of May near Enna, in Sicily, when a Separatist meeting was broken up by Communists. The Separatists continue to show considerable activity, though the anti-Fascist parties in Sicily, and particularly the left parties are decidedly anti-separatist. The question of the harvest is being used by the Separatists as the Sicilians are hostile to the idea of their grain leaving the island.

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The Catholic Boy Scouts Association is active in Sicily, especially in Palermo where it is actively encouraged by Cardinal Lavitrano, the Archbishop. Thirteen diocesan committees have been created, which have reconstituted former scout troops and founded new ones. The Regional Committee for Sicily has sent a request to Scout Headquarters in London for readmission to the Boy Scout International Bureau.

Attached to this report are accounts of the work of the Sub-Commission of Fine Arts in Sicily; Appendix III gives an account of the mortality rate in Naples from 1939 to 1944; and Appendix IV some reactions to Allied propaganda reviews, books, and pamphlets in Sicily.

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MAY-JULY 19
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PWB, REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY
MAY - JULY 1944
(2 OF 2)

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 8 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Italy, (Lib) June 9, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 22

PART III ANNEXES SOUTHERN ITALY

Contents

Paragraph		Page
1	Conversation with Antonio Pesenti	1
2	Interview with H.E. Giulio Modinò	1
3	Translation of Manifesto Distributed in Naples on June 6th	2
4	Party Activities in Sicily	4
5	Conversation with General Infante	7
6	Two Posters against the Student Demonstrations	7
7	Palermo University Students Demonstration	8
8	Seconday School Students Demonstration in Palermo	8
9	Criticisms of Epuration	8
	DISTURBANCES	
10	Disturbances	9
	ECONOMICS	
11	Economic problems	9

Appendix I The Catholic Boy Scout Movement

Appendix II The Work of the Fine Arts Commission in Sicily

Appendix III The Mortality Rate in Naples

Appendix IV Reactions to Propaganda

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Contents

Paragraph		Page
1	Conversation with Antonio Pesenti	1
2	Interview with H.E. Giulio Modinò	1
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4	Party Activities in Sicily	4
5	Conversation with General Infante	7
6	Two Posters against the Student Demonstrations	7
7	Palermo University Students Demonstration	8
8	Secondary School Students Demonstration in Palermo	8
9	Criticisms of Epuration	8
	DISTURBANCES	
10	Disturbances	9
	ECONOMICS	
11	Economic problems	9

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

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PART III ARMIES SOUTHERN ITALY

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

1 Conversation with Antonio Pesenti, Undersecretary for Finance
5/6/44

The whole town of Salerno was interested in the results of the extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers following the occupation of Rome by Allied troops.

Pesenti did not attach great importance to the meeting, at which the following subjects were discussed: The King's retirement, the handing over of royal powers to the Prince of Piedmont, the formal resignation of the whole Cabinet, probably discussions on the possibility of the Government going to Rome, conditions under which the Italian Government will have to operate in Rome, whether or not Rome will have a military government of occupation.

Pesenti foresaw a change of Ministers, soon if not immediately, and thought that the Ministers who would eventually leave the Cabinet would include Morelli, Cerabona and some others. Pesenti expressed himself favourable to Quintieri from a technical point of view, saying that he had a thorough knowledge of banking, and wide views as he had traveled a lot and was familiar with foreign banking systems.

With regard to epuration in the Ministries, Pesenti was sceptical, saying that up to present nothing had been done, and the Ministries were full of ex-Fascists.

Regarding the work of the Ministry of Finance, Pesenti said that he had a lot of work, being by himself. The Ministry of Finance has under its control the remains of the I.R.I. (Italian Institute of Reconstruction) i.e., the administration of all Italian heavy industry, including the factories of Northern Italy. Arrangements are being made to set working local industries that have not been too much damaged in raids, e.g. the shipping yards at Castellamare.

Speaking about the political situation and Benedetto Croce's speech, Pesenti said he considered the possible fusion of the Liberal and Demo-Liberal parties a great danger. He did not think it would be opportune at present to enlarge the composition of the Cabinet, and that only the anti-Fascist parties should form the Government, especially during the period of defascistisation; whereas the fusion of the two parties, would mean the entrance into the Government of the Demo-Liberals, which party he considers the refuge of all former Fascists, and in fact a seriously reactionary group.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785502/

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2 INTERVIEW with H.E. Giulio Rodinò, Minister and Christian Democrat Leader.

3696

In a most friendly conversation with a member of PWB, he expressed the opinion that with regard to the activity of the Ministers, they are not in a position to do anything positive, as they have not the means. On the other hand, he considers that even if they had the means it would in some ways be inadvisable to find definite solutions to the different problems, apart from the purely local ones. His opinion is that all the problems will continually change, and many new problems and situations will arise when the Government is able to go to Rome. The same thing will happen as the Allies advance through Italy. Only after the entire nation is lib-

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erated will it be possible to study all the problems thoroughly, and find a more or less stable settlement for the country, which will depend on the general settlement of things in Europe.

As for the Demo-Christian Party, all that can be done at present, according to Rodinò, is to keep its members - a small active crowd -- united. The fall of Rome will certainly give a strong impulse to the party which will have directives from the Vatican. The Christian Democratic Party relies entirely on the strength and unity of the Azione Cattolica, which is and has to be apolitical, but represents the mass of the Christian Democratic Party electors.

Rodinò therefore believes that any specific activity at this particular moment is absolutely inopportune. (E-2).

PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

3 TRANSLATION OF LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED IN NAPLES ON JUNE 6TH.

LIBERAL CHRIST ASSOCIATION FOR RECONSTRUCTION

ROYAL PATRIOTISM

His Majesty the King has decided to retire from public life.

The object of this decision is to facilitate national unity, as His Majesty realizes that his August Person might be the cause of disputes and of strife harmful to national unity and therefore to the safety of the country.

We accept the decision of the Sovreign with a sense of respectful discipline, which means today more than ever unchanged and unchangeable devotion to the King and His House.

Certainly the fighting men, who on the Grappa and on the sacred banks of the Piave saw rise the shining dawn of Victory, will think in these sad days of the August Person in grey-green uniform who untiringly carried everywhere his words of faith and encouragement: it was enough for the news of his arrival to spread among the troops, or for him to pass by in his car, for a wave of enthusiasm to go through everyone and the hope of victory become a certainty.

Today, more than thirty years later, the Italian people sees its sovreign on a new and more bitter battleground, that of the salvation and rebirth of our martyred, exhausted country, and sees him make a gesture which impresses itself on the conscience of all Ital-

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

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Today, more than thirty years later, the Italian people sees its sovreign on a new and more bitter battleground, that of the salvation and rebirth of our martyred, exhausted country, and sees him make a gesture which impresses itself on the conscience of all Italians, but which is above all a warning and example to those who declare themselves to be concerned with the good of the Nation.

But how many of these good people have been or would be capable not of saying, but of conceiving such a gesture, a gesture which is an expression above all of one great, immense desire: to serve his country?

How many of them have asked themselves if their person is really necessary to the safety or the well-being of the country more than that of an obscure hero in the trenches?

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We could line them all up, without exception, and ask each of them for this loyal declaration; but it is certain that we would receive nothing from them but words.

The strength of will to retire into obscurity in the supreme interest of the Nation, the strength to assume alone the role and the value of a simple citizen, the strength to want to feel anybody and not somebody, this strength can be drawn only from a profound love of one's country and a greatness of heart which surpasses and overcomes individual pride. And this, only a KING, an authentic Sovreign, can conceive and put into practice!

Our King has left it to History to judge his action.

But we cannot do less than point out the profound significance of his gesture and set it up as a touchstone, and we do not know which men nor how many, immersed in the mists of the past, will be able to stand up to a comparison with him.

A mass of parties, symptom, alas, of petty political ambitions, lead us to realize that the reasons for which so many people are full of concern have their roots elsewhere than in the interest of their country: it is the race for the top places. And we shall finally see them satisfied.

But the people, the real people, is not deceived.

It may be misled by a mirage for a short time; but the momentary hallucination is followed by an exact perception of reality.

The people understands and has understood the King's gesture and is waiting for the leaders of the various parties to act, if possible, with equal patriotism.

The people knows what are its interests; which are those of the country, not those of men of this or that party.

The people knows that the only real party, that should be in existence today is the party of all Italians, the party of the Salvation of Italy.

The people knows that true liberty demands: independence, work and bread!

The people knows that this is not the time for politics, but the hour for technical ability, the technique of fighting a war that we must win, the technique for providing work for the factory work-

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

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The people knows that this is not the time for politics, but the hour for technical ability, the technique of fighting a war that we must win, the technique for providing work for the factory workers, the technique for ensuring that there is food for all.

Whether they be Communists or Demo-Christians, monarchist or republicans, the people today is asking of its Government: independence, work and bread, and therefore does not want the Government to be the expression of a compromise between this or that party, but the expression of its needs, which are the necessity of the country.

His Majesty the KING has set a shining example which all the bandleaders of politics should imitate.

Will there be among them a single person who will be capable of renouncing his personal pride, and following the royal example,

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sacrifice on the alter of his country his personal interests and opinions, so that the country may be saved?

In this hour there can be but one policy, to stand unconditionally at the side of the Allies in the fight against the Germans. Tomorrow the Italian people will start politics at the election booths.

May it be God's wish that the example of high patriotism set by the King in the gravest hour of our history may awaken a response at least in the good sense and the good will of the men who profess faith in the immortal destiny of our country.

LONG LIVE ITALY

LONG LIVE THE MONARCHY

From the headquarters: Via Cavallerizza a Chaia, 37, Naples.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

4 Party Activities in Sicily

On Sunday, May 28th, about 800 to 1000 people met in the Teatro Biondo at Palermo for the first Regional Convention of the Party of Action. The opening session passed off without incident, the speeches were interspersed with patriotic hymns played by an orchestra sitting in the gallery, and the perorations of the leading speakers were warmly applauded. Some disappointment was felt at the absence of the promised "leaders" from Naples and Salerno, but Dino Gentile succeeded in raising the highest expectations by saying that Cianca and others could not leave as they were waiting at any moment to go to Rome.

Avv. Purpura, leader of the Party of Action in Sicily, became thus the principal speaker. In the closed sessions which followed a number of orders of the day were voted, which are given in the Party of Action newspaper "L'Azione del Popolo" of the 3rd June 1944.

The official account of the Social Democrat party meeting at Taormina held on the 21st and 22nd of May has been published in the unauthorized newspaper "La Fiaccola" issued at Canicatti on the 28th of May, 1944. (Canicatti is the commune of which Guarino Amella is Sindaco).

Rumours, probably put out by the Social Democrats, say that Guarino Amella was offered the High Commissionership for Sicily before Bussotto, and later during the government reshuffle was invited to join the Cabinet

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profess faith in the immortal destiny of our country.

LONG LIVE ITALY

LONG LIVE THE MONARCHY

From the headquarters: Via Cavallerizza a Chiaia, 37, Naples.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

4 Party Activities in Sicily

On Sunday, May 28th, about 800 to 1000 people met in the Teatro Biondo at Palermo for the first Regional Convention of the Party of Action. The opening session passed off without incident, the speeches were interspersed with patriotic hymns played by an orchestra sitting in the gallery, and the perorations of the leading speakers were warmly applauded. Some disappointment was felt at the absence of the promised "leaders" from Naples and Salerno, but Dino Gentile succeeded in raising the highest expectations by saying that Cianca and others could not leave as they were waiting at any moment to go to Rome.

Avv. Purpura, leader of the Party of Action in Sicily, became thus the principal speaker. In the closed sessions which followed a number of orders of the day were voted, which are given in the Party of Action newspaper "L'Azione del Popolo" of the 3rd June 1944.

The official account of the Social Democrat party meeting at Taormina held on the 21st and 22nd of May has been published in the unauthorized newspaper "La Fiaccola" issued at Canicatti on the 28th of May, 1944. (Canicatti is the commune of which Guarino Ammelia is Sindaco).

Rumours, probably put out by the Social Democrats, say that Guarino Ammelia was offered the High Commissionership for Sicily before Bussotto, and later during the government reshuffle was invited to join the Cabinet either as Minister of the Interior or Minister of Communications. He is supposed to have refused all these high appointments on the ground that he was a Republican.

A provincial meeting of the leading exponents of Social Democracy was held in Caltanissetta on the 27th May under the Presidency of Comm. Avv. Rosario Pasqualino Vassalo. Guarino Ammelia spoke. An order of the Day was passed stating that the Social Democratic party had the biggest following in the province, and the hope was expressed that a Regional Congress would soon be held at Palermo, to engage in the struggle for a final victory of true democracy.

The Lega Italica was founded on the 15th of February, 1944. The founder, president, and principal financial contributor is Prince Mirto. He is reputed to be a wealthy personage, courtly or rather

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pompous in his manner, and suffering from a fondness for drink. At one time he wore the Fascist divisa.

The secretary of the movement is a certain Leone Tommaso Marchesano, of Palermo, who until the Allied landings was an active fascist propagandist and went about wearing the black fez.

The Communists declare the Lega to be a Fascist organization. Up to the present it has tended to be an amorphous body with a considerable membership, run by opportunists who have not declared their hand. People of all parties are known to belong to it because of its social activities. Some of the younger and more ardent members recently broke away and joined the Partito di Azione, which has a distinct nationalist and monarchist emphasis.

Avv. Marchesano, who is quite a friend of the Separatist clicque in Palermo, has no issued an order of the day giving the Lega Italica a clearer direction. He expresses a preference for an Italy divided into three self-governing regions, and approximates somewhat the decentralisation and autonomy sponsored by Guarino Amnella and the Social Democrats.

The Communist party in Sicity has three overt divisions, which are unimportant, and one covert split which may become decisive. The overt divisions are made up by a group in Palermo led by Avv. Marino Torre, a cranky and uninspiring leader, who at one time claimed and almost achieved a momentary leadership of the Sicilian Communist Party. He is likely before long to be officially discarded. There are also the Communist separatists under Milimaggio. These are an anomaly more akin to anarchists than communists.

A covert split, however, seems to exist in the main body, led by Professor Montalbano, Dr. Minco and Professor Grasso (editor of the'Voce Communista'); if it materialises it may affect the allegiance of some 30,000 inscribed members (the figure was that of Dr. Minco).

Professor Montalbano is an elderly, steady and reserved man, a good and well-disciplined party member, with a sour countenance that expresses a distrust of most things.

Dr. Minco and Professor Grasso, on the other hand, are younger and more impetuous; like true Communists they have a fervour that borders on fanaticism.

Dr. Minco spent six years as a political prisoner under Fascism, but succeeded in 1940 in getting to Switzerland where he joined the Swiss Communist party. In the course of the war he has visited

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 780021

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He was sent to Palermo to organize the Party of Action during the period of German occupation. On this occasion he broached Conte Piazza of Caltanissetta, a Separatist leader, to see what support the separatists were prepared to give during the Allied landings. He established that no help was forthcoming from that side.

3694

For some time Minco was not accepted by the local Communist party in Palermo who refused to recognize his credentials. He therefore temporarily joined the Socialist party until the matter was cleared up.

Minco seems to belong to a brand of Communism, not Russian but Continental. He has hinted that Togliatti would not be the leader of

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the Communists in Italy as he had compromised himself too much with Russia. Italian Communists, he has said, are not interested in either Britain, America or Russia, but in the Communism that would arise in Continental Europe. Their links would be with Switzerland, Germany, France and Spain.

It is sometimes difficult to judge the extent to which Communist party discipline is genuine or the result of personal rivalries. Dr. Finco maintains that Dr. Graffeo (Palermitan Communist leader now acting as Togliatti's chef de cabinet) will hold no further high post in the Communist party in Italy and may be even summarily recalled to Palermo, because it is known that after four years of 'confino' he asked for grace from the Fascists. This may be a sign of an internal struggle existing between the followers of Togliatti, and the extreme younger irredentist element as represented by Finco.

An example of Communist party discipline, however, can be found in the case of Enrico La Loggia, perhaps the most experienced and ablest organizer of sindicalist movements in Sicily, who was evicted from the Communist party because in 1932, after much pressure, he took the Fascist Tessera.

Magioniere Mandisi, a member of the Communist Party who works in the Bank of Sicily, has been awaiting orders from his party in Naples, as to whether he should accept the High Commissioner's offer to be superintendent of the Granai del Popolo in Sicily.

The leader of the Christian Democrat party in Sicily, Avv. Bernardo Mattarella, believes that the Communist Party is increasing its membership and strengthening its organization. Stalin is enjoying a certain degree of personal popularity, and is affectionately called Pepe Stalin, or Zio Pepe among the working classes.

Mattarella claims not to see in Communism a menace for Sicily or Italy as long as the central administration functions. The Communist party membership in certain parts of Italy would be undoubtedly greater than that of any other party (in Piedmont for instance) and the leaders would be able to rely implicitly on the votes of the inscribed members; yet the great mass of people who were not members of the Communist party would probably never vote Communist in an election. So if one knows the extent of Communist membership one can also judge the extent of Communist electoral support. This however was not the case with other parties, perhaps the Liberal

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ARMED FORCES

5 Conversation with General Infante (Adjutant to General Lesse)

A few days before the entry of the Fifth Army into Rome, an Italian Collaborator with PWB had a short conversation with General Infante of the Italian Comando Supremo. Our collaborator reports that the General, and indeed the whole staff, were enthusiastic over the favourable turn of military events. General Infante declared that both officers and men on the battle field are in high spirits and are very keen to fight; inspite of their poor equipment, Infante said, morale will rise still higher after the capture of Rome. The low morale of the Italian Army was largely due to the enforced idleness in which the troops had been left for many months.

Speaking about the recent interview of the Prince of Piedmont with The Times' Correspondent, General Infante said that in his opinion it was a bad mistake on the part of the Prince to have given the interview and that he should certainly have been more discreet about his statements. On the other hand he did not consider that it was fair to make such political speculation out of the interview, and he understood that this opinion was shared by the same Times' correspondent in an article which appeared in The Times in the middle of May.

General Infante said that in his opinion it was essential to keep the monarchical institution in Italy no matter who is the King. The monarchy is the only guarantee of Italian unity and without it he was afraid that Italy would split into a number of small republics as regionalism and separatism were in the spirit of the country. Italian unity was still of recent date. The process of disorganization and division between Italians has increased during this last year in which Italy has been divided into two parts, and while communications within these two parts and often between one province and another, had been difficult and sometimes non-existent.

General Infante declared that after the fall of Rome it was to be hoped that the Italian Army would be called upon to collaborate more closely with the Allied Armies. (B-2)

EDUCATION

6 Two Posters against the Student Demonstrations

Two posters signed "The Students in Arms" appeared in Naples at the beginning of June, condemning the recent student demonstrations. One of them says that all these protests are useless and unworthy of the memory of these students who have sacrificed them-

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The other poster is a poem:

Agli Studenti Partenopei 3693

Più non voglion fare l'esame
Bene, tardi vi siete decisi,
Fate esaudire le vostre brame
Senza timore d'esser derisi.

Ma vé, non prendete sul serio la rima
Ché asini diverrete più di prima

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O voi, studenti napoletani,
Se foste savi e più umani,
Certe cosette le capireste
E gli spavaldi più non fareste.

Perchè invoire contro la scuola,
Aprite i libri, studiate ancora.
I giorni passan, il tempo vola,
Non siete bimbi più, come allora.

Ai loro simili, tale marmagida
Dovrebbe pensare con stimaed amore,
Lasciarono tutto andando in battaglia
Spezzando di mamma il purissimo core.

Partiron lo stesso, scacciaron dolori,
Vedevan dinanto un bel tricolore.
Felici moriron col grido nei cuori
"Viva l'Italia, lo Studio e l'Onore."

Siate più seri un po' più posati...
...pensate ai guai che abbiamo passati.

7 Palermo University Students Demonstration

On the 13th May several hundred University students at Palermo assembled in front of the University to demonstrate against the increase of scholastic fees, and the heavy cost of books. The Rector promised to put the matter before the competent authoritics and the demonstration dispersed.

8. Secondary School Students Demonstration in Palermo.

On the 22nd May, Secondary school students of Palermo assembled in front of the office of the Provveditore degli Studi in order to stage a demonstration of protest against the decision of the Ministry of Education to keep schools open until July 15th, and then to hold examinations.

Faced by the police, the students decided to send delegates to the Provveditore. He promised to submit their request to the Ministry and also told them that no definite instructions had yet been received as regards examinations..

Secondary School students assembled again on the 23rd and 24th of May to demonstrate as before. Certain groups of students went to schools where classes continued to be held regularly and attempted to break up these classes by force. The police intervened

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EPURATION

9. Criticisms of Epuration

The public is reported to consider this law fundamentally good, but the opinion has been expressed that several details and deficiencies might permit certain responsible people to make a clean political record for themselves, with support from the Monarchy, the armed forces or the various parties.

The criticism is made that the law contains no mention of "illegal enrichment" by means of exploiting privileges enjoyed for

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Fascist merits, and people recall the measures put out by the first Badoglio government between July 25th and September, 1943.

The very indefinite clause punishing acts not included in the penal code as crimes is thought to be very dangerous, as it might constitute a powerful arm in the hands of the Government parties for getting rid of unwanted persons or groups. No country (except, of course, Germany) has ever had a law containing quite such indefinite clauses. It may be observed that an action which is not considered a crime under the present or past legal code cannot be regarded as punishable, and the law might lend itself to many abuses.

An Italian observer reports that criticisms of the recent epurations take the following three lines: firstly, that Omodeo is unsuitable for the job of defascistization because of his sectarian spirit and bias; secondly that most of the victims are from the North and not from the South (like many members of the government) and here the absence from the list of Prof. Tesauro of Naples University is noted with especial surprise; and finally that some men of great worth, [redacted] have been indiscriminately sacked.

DISTURBANCES

10. DISTURBANCES

Among several disturbances reported, two seem to have been of a more serious nature. The first occurred in Licata on Sunday, May 26th, when a crowd of people got control of the Municipio and burnt records. The Carabinieri used their firearms and several casualties were reported. The incident was believed to have begun by Communists insisting on the release of two destitute men who had been imprisoned for stealing a small quantity of beans.

The other serious disturbance occurred also on Sunday, May 26th, at Regalbuto in the province of Enna. Here, a Separatist meeting was distrubed by a group of Communists from Enna. Serious fighting broke out between the two rival factions, one Communist was killed, and the Secretary of the Communist party in Enna, died supposedly of heart failure.

ECONOMICS

11. Economic Problems

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ECONOMICS

11. Economic Problems

The price of grain and the collection into the Granai is still the most important problem in Sicily. The prevalent feeling is that unless action is taken quickly, the situation may become very serious. All classes of the population are agreed that the price offered by the Italian Government (1000 lire per quintal for hard corn and 800 lire for soft) is not such as to induce big Landlord, gabelloto, mezzadro, or contadino to hand his grain over to the Granai. Indeed there is every reason to believe that any attempt to compel the producer to do so would meet with a determined resistance on their part.

3692

The harvest, on the other hand, is already being brought in in certain districts, and the Allied allotments of flour for the nine provinces are sufficient to last only up to the 15th of July, 1944.

In the meantime, on the 25th May, the Minister of Agricult-

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ure dismissed Signor Arcangelo Cammarata, Chief Inspector for Food in Sicily. There is reason to suspect that Signor Cammarata has been far from loyal in carrying out the instructions of his government. He has linked himself closely with a group of Separatists and opportunists (such as Lo Verde) and succeeded by a subterfuge in getting his 'grain plan' published in the Catani Corriere di Sicilia, when as chief administrative officer for food, he should have withheld publication of a plan which was contrary to government policy.

The urgency of the grain problem compels the adoption of a quick and simple solution, and such a solution has been submitted by the Lega Fra Gli Agricoltori della Provincia di Palermo. The essence of their plan is for each producer to hand over to the Granai a quantity of corn equivalent to the land he has under cultivation.

This quantity, which on an average would only be one fourth of his total production, would be requisitioned by the government at a loss to the producer because the latter would still be assured of three quarters of his crop either for his own needs and that of his family or to sell on the open (or black market).

Land tenure and the amount of land under cultivation can be assessed from the Libro di Catastro. The amount to be handed over would therefore be brought into relation with the amount of land owned or cultivated in hectars, which is a determinable factor, and not on the size of a crop, which under present administrative conditions is impossible to assess.

The Lega estimates that approximately 6,000,000 quintals of grain will be harvested this year. Of this 1,000,000 must be kept for seed, 2,000,000 should go to the producers (approximately 1/4 of the population or 1,000,000 people) and the remaining 3,000,000 to those people who have been issued ration cards (approximately 3,200,000. It is said however that at least 600,000 unauthorised ration cards are in existence.)

The Government plan of a total collection and a total distribution of grain (which in this respect was identical with the Fascist system of the Ammassi) would inevitably lead to great corruption so as to get round the controls and endless denunciations, each of which would have to be verified by the courts of law. Last year only 700,000 quintals were collected into the Ammassi, as the result of the centralized system, and this year the amount handed over would probably be even less.

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What every producer feared under present conditions, was that if he handed over his total production, he would have to carry this at a ruinous loss, in contrast to his neighbors who would be making fantastic profits on the Black Market. The honest man would thus go out of business.

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

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Part III Appendix I

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CATHOLIC BOY SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF ITALY

In August, 1943, shortly after the fall of Mussolini and even before the armistice was signed the Badoglio Government authorized Professor Gedda, President of the Central Youth Organization of the Azione Cattolica, to reconstitute in Italy the Catholic Boy Scout Association of Italy (Associazione Scautistica Cattolica Italiana or A.S.C.I.).

The A.S.C.I. was founded in 1916 and adhered to the Boy Scouts International Bureau. It sent its representatives to several meetings convened in London by the founder of scouting, Robert Baden Powell. In 1928 it was dissolved by the Fascist Government, having at the time several thousand troops throughout the country.

As soon as liberty of association was permitted again in Sicily, a number of scout troops reconstituted themselves. In January, 1944 under the patronage of Cardinal Lavitrano, President of the Governing Council of the Azione Cattolica, a Regional Committee for Sicily of the A.S.C.I. was formed in Palermo.

Up to now thirteen diocesan scouting committees have been formed out of the total of eighteen dioceses in Sicily, namely at: Palermo, Catania, Messina, Siracusa, Agrigento, Caltanissetta, Caltagirone, Ragusa, Noto, Patti, Nicosia, Mazara, Nicosia, and Piazza Armerina.

These Committees have been active in reconstituting former scout troops and a number of new ones have also come into existence.

The Regional Committee has already taken steps:

1) to publish:

   a) a monthly bulletin called A.S.C.I.
   b) a pamphlet called "La Traccia" which is an introduction to scouting.
   c) a serial Manual of instructions for scouts called "Le Prove" (the tests).
   d) scout membership cards and personal record cards

2) To distribute membership cards to the following categories of scouts:

   a) scout leaders
   b) scouts (junior subs)
   c) honorary members

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   a) a monthly bulletin called A.S.C.I.
   b) A pamphlet called "La Traccia" which is an introduction to scouting.
   c) A Serial Manual of instructions for scouts called "Le Prove" (the tests).
   d) scout membership cards and personal record cards

2) To distribute membership cards to the following categories of scouts:

   a) scout leaders
   b) Scouts (junior, cubs)
   c) Honorary members

3) To produce the badge of the Association in metal. In the absence of a uniform this is the only distinctive sign for the scouts at present.

4) To create associations of ex-scouts and committees of patrons.

3691

SECRET

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

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The Regional Committee for Sicily has also contacted the other Regional Committees formed in Liberated Italy and has sent a letter to London requestion admission again to the Boy Scouts International Bureau.

A first course of instruction for scout leaders was held in Palermo at which some 20 took part.

On the 23rd of April, 1944, the first great festival took place in Palermo to commemorate the anniversary of the the universal patron of Boy Scouts, St. George.

After mass in the Cathedral at which both Allied and Italian military and civil authorities took part, Cardinal Lavitrano handed back to the representatives of the troops of Palermo the identical "fiamme" or troops banners left there in 1928 when the troops were suppressed.

In the afternoon a program was transmitted over Radio Palermo specially dedicated to the scouts of the world. A message was read from Cardinal Lavitrano to Pope Pius XII followed by a greeting of the scouts of Palermo to the scouts of all the world. The program continued with an historical anecdote in scouting; several investitures were made and finally scout songs were sung.

The Palermo Scout Committee has recognized ten Scout troops with more than 300 inscribed Scouts. Only about 100 Scouts have uniforms however.

While in other parts of the island the committees are busy starting scout troops, in Palermo the work of instruction is going ahead in spite of the fact that material for camping and for instruction is lacking.

The Scouts come together for scout meetings twice a week; once at Headquarters and once in the open country.

Several excursions and displays have already been made by the different troops.

The Regional Committee has fixed its program for the immediate future, as follows:

a) Propaganda by means of discussions, radio talks, leaflets, etc.

b) The publication of a scout journal "La scolta" (The Sentinel);

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 795021

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b) The publication of a Scout journal "La Scolta" (The Sentinel);

c) The establishment of healthy Scout centers.

d) Special courses for pioneering, fire fighting, first aid, signalling, and topography.

SECRET

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

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e) Correspondence courses during June and July for scout leaders, with a final examination in a scout training camp.

f) Scout Day (Jamboree) with competitions for the different troops and individual scouts on August 15, 1944.

g) Interdiocesan camps and provincial camps for instructors and leaders in August and September.

h) Regional Scout meetings.

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

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

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Resume of work done in Sicily by the Advisers on Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives.

1) Office and Staff.

The Office of Advisors on Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives was first established in July 1943 in Syracuse and in August 1943 was transferred to Palermo, where it remained until the 24th March 1944, when the Adviser was removed to Naples to be assigned other duties. In all three Allied Officers served as advisers in Sicily. Early in 1944 a division took place, one Advisor remaining at Palermo to look after the four provinces of Western Sicily, the other going to Catania for the five provinces of Eastern Sicily.

2) Object.

There were two immediate tasks. Firstly, the advisers had to reactivate the financial machinery, which had been cut off from Rome. All the superintendents and heads of cultural institutions, with their staffs, were kept on their posts. The normal system of salary and maintenance expenses was reestablished and later the A.M.G.O.T. policy allowed rises in salaries and certain increases in maintenance expenses. In this matter of reactivation of the administration, the superintendents had the novel advantage of direct personal appeal to the Advisers on their difficulties, in place of the former cumbrous machinery of correspondence with an aloof central administration in Rome. The second task of the advisers was to apply the necessary first aid to damaged monuments. They also had the responsibility of supervising the libraries and preserving the state archives.

3) Collaboration.

The Advisers were extremely fortunate in their collaborators. All the superintendents and heads of libraries and archives were inspired by a spirit of devotion to their work. Not one of them or their supporters was tinged with any political color. Politics and the fact that they and the Adviser had once been in opposite camps formed no barrier to the common task of resuscitating as far as possible the cultural institutions.

4) Palermo.

Of all the towns in Sicily, the worst damaged was Palermo so far as monuments were concerned. The progress done in repair work can be summarized as follows:

a) Churches and Monuments. More than 60 churches in Palermo were damaged or destroyed. Out of these, over 40 have been repaired and most

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

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3689

SECRET

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

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the Chiesa della Magione is a ruin. Also must be included amongst the ruined churches, the gothic-renaissance church of San Francesco d'Assisi and the baroque churches of the Casa Professa, San Giuseppe dei Teatini and the Chiesa del l'Olivella. Even with these however, Dr. Guiotto's initiative has accomplished much, but many important frescoes and much marble and stucco decoration are irretrievably lost. In the case of the Olivella, the nave has been separated from the ruined choir, so that it can be used for worship. San Giuseppe dei Teatini has had its roof completely repaired, the doors restored and all the side cupolas readjusted. These threatened to fall into the nave. The large hole in the floor has been filled up, and the Cappella della Immacolata and the North and South naves have been repaired. The damage done to the marble intarsia of the Cappella dell Immacolata has revealed two Roma, sarcophagi, whilst that to the ugly Bourbon decoration of the last century has discovered the bases and columns of the former gothic church. The most notable feature in Dr. Guiotto's work has been the repairs effected in the famous 15th century Chiesa di Santa Maria della Catena. The North Nave with the Gaginesquere relief on the doorway has been completely restored with the old stonework. The dividing wall between the second and third chapels of the North Nave and the arcades over these chapels have been rebuilt, whilst the damaged vaults and roofs of the Nave and N. Transept have been repaired. The extensive damage done to the Church is hardly noticeable. Nor must be forgotten the repairs effected on the Oratories of Santa Rita and San Lorenzo (both famous for the 18th century stucco sculptures of Giacomo Serpotta), the oratorio del Rosario di San Domenico with its Van Dyck and pictures by Pietro Novelli all stored at the monastery of San Martino della Scala and the beautiful Renaissance Church of San Giorgo dei Genovesi. All these latter churches have been restored to the cult and in the case of nearly all the churches in Palermo the ruble has been cleared or tidyed up. Lack of materials and particularly of glass work has prevented repair to windows.

b) Galleries.

On arrival at Palermo the Advisors were able to help in providing facilities for the removal of certain valuable pictures; which had not been removed to safety prior to the occupation, to the storehouse at the Monastery of San Martino della Scala. Also under the inspiration of Professore Di Pietro, the indefatigable superintendent of Galleries, and his able expert, Professore Violante, the restoration of several important paintings initiated by the Italian Government, was completed. The famous "Quattro- cento" fresco "Trionfo della morte" was carefully removed from the badly damaged Palazzo Sclafani, where it was exposed to damp and it will be placed in one of the large rooms of the Municipio.

c) Archives.

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

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c) Archives.

Both the Monastero della Catena and the Monastero della Ganeta the home of the Royal State Archives, were badly damaged and many archives were buried under the buble. The forbearance and patience of Professor Gentile, Director of the Reale Archivi di Stato, were severly put to test in the restoblization of the archives, much of which has been accomplished under great difficulties.

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d) Bibliocteca Nazionale.

No present history of Palermo is complete without a paragraph on the Biblicteca Nazionale, a historical Palazzao of the 18th Century in the Corso Vittorio Emanuele, which possessed one of the best reading rooms in Europe. Four severe air raids in April, May and June 1943 completely destroyed the reading room and the loggia of the courtyard and damaged otherrooms. The important manuscripts have been sent elsewhere, whilst after the first bombardments the books of the reading room were saved from the rubble by Director Dr. Giraldi and placed in a room of the neighbouring Liceo. Only a few books were lost. After the occupation, the first Advisor of Monuments and Fine Arts managed to get the first floor of the Palazzo Mazzarino in the Via Macqueda requesitioned for a new reference and reading room, and a cab was secured which made daily journeys beinging books from the old library to the Palazzo Mazzarino where new furniture and shelves were arranged. All this was done on the request of and organized by Signorina Tamajo, who was in charge during the temorary absence of Signora Daneu, the appointed Acting Directress when Dr. Giraldi, at the end of May 1943 had gone to see the Ministry at Rome and had not been able to return owing to the Allied occupation. Then Signora Daneu came back to Palermo and took matters in hand. The transport and rearrangement of the books at the Palazzo Mazzarino continued and its rooms were made ready for the opening to the public, whilst the books of the old Biblioteca Nazionale were also rearranged in order to make them available for reading. On the 20th of March the Palazzo Mazzarino was opened to the public as a new reading room and is today being well patronized. With the money allowed by the Allies for extraordinary expenditure, Signora Daneu had so organized the old Biblioteca Nazionale that a temporary reading rooms has been foreseen should it become necessary to leave the Palazzo Mazzarino, and new shelves made out of the wood separated from the rubble, have been built in rooms of the former Licero, where the books will be arranged, which were formerly in the now destroyed reading room. Finally the old wooden beans of the old reading room, as well as the architectural feagments of the loggia have been preserved for the future reconstruction. This initiative displayed by the Directress and all concerned in the Biblioteca Nazionale is highly commendable and has initiated not only the continuance of the National Library as a going concern in the present difficult times, but a future policy for the opening of the old Biblioteca Nazionale before its reconstrcution.

5. Western Sicily.

Repairs have been executed on the Duomo at Caltanissetta, famous for the frescoes by Borremans, a few of which are destroyed

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Repairs have been executed on the Duomo at Caltanissetta, famous for the frescoes by Borremans, a few of which are destroyed, and at Agrigento the much damaged Gothic Monastero di Sanot Spirito is being repaired, whilst the wooden painted vault of the Cathedral has been restored. Also at Agrigento the Museo Comunale has been made ready for a future reopening.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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G) Eastern Sicily.

Although Palermo as a town suffered the worst damage to monuments, eastern Sicily suffered more damage as an area by war and the passage of troops. The methodical organization of Dr. Dillon, Superintendent of Monuments for eastern Sicily and the local initiative shown by the bishops and clergy, did much to solve the problem. This was especially the case in the province of Catania. In Catania 30 monumental churches were damaged and nearly all of them have been restored or repaired at local expense with contributions from A.M.G.O.T. In Modena 8 churches have been similarly reconditioned, and these include S. Maria della Catena where the zeal of the priest has contributed to the good restoration of the roofs and vaults at local expense and to the protection of the marble Madonna and Child by Antonello da Gagini. In Ragusa the 3 churches: San Sebastiano, the Chiesa del Suffragio and the Duomo, all well known for the frescoes by Paolo Vasta, were repaired in the same way. In Randazzo Santa Maria has a new roof and the Apse is being repaired. In the ruined church of San Nicolo, the Chapel containing the famous statue of the Saint by Antonello da Gagini has been saved and covered and the Gothic Front has been repaired. In the province of Messina, the city of Messina, the town of Mession was the worst damaged town in the Island, but owing to the earthquake of 1908 had few monuments. The Cathedral is still in ruins, but the enterprise and enthusiasm of Professor Faraglia, who has lived to see both disasters in his native town, have taken charge of the patient and minute classification of architectural pieces, all of which have been scrupulously collected in their respective chapels. Local specialist are assembling the pieces together and all the mosaics are being classified according to colours. Recently Gothic church of the city, S. Annunziata has had the roof in the south apse blocked and scaffolding is up for repairing the Dome. After completion of repairs of S. Tommaso il Vecchio will be restored to the Cult.

In Taormina the Duomo was reconditioned at the local expense and initiative of the Arciprete with a contribution from the Allied Governments. San Domenico is a complete wreck, but Dev. Vacca worked laboriously and collected out of the rubble all the bits of the wooden 16th. Century Choir-stalls, which are now carefully arranged in the sacristy ready to be placed together. The former Municipio was destroyed, but the money advanced for its restoration will be spent on the medieval Palazzo Corvaja, which will become the new Municipio and the future cener of tourism. The exterior which has been spoilt by local tenants, will have its medieval aspect restored. Again all this work is under the direction of Dr. Dillon, skillfully aided by the local Ispettore Onorario, Signor Jeneu. Both these gentlemen initiated repairs on the medieval Palazzo del Duca di Santo Stefano, which was badly shaken by the earthquake and only just saved from collapse. The little Gothic church of San Antonio has been restored

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

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In Siracusa, Dr. Dillon with local support also organised repairs on the famous Cathedral, the Collegio and the Palazzo Bosco. In the Province of Noto, the Chiesa Matrice at Assoro has the North

SECRET

3687

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

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Transept, the Central Arch of the Nave and the roof and windows all badly damaged. This is a Norman-Gothic church with a wooden Renaissance roof and Baroque decorations. It is also famous for a fine marble Reredos by Antonello da Gagini and the same artist carved the marble tombs of the 16th century Bishop of Malta and his brother, the Principe di Valguarnera. All urgent repairs have been done to preserve the church and local expense and initiative secured the services of specialized labour to restore the interior as it was prior to the war. During one of his visits to Assoro, the Provincial Commissioner found two statues, one of the Madonna and the other an angel (both school of Gagini) abandoned in an unoccupied damaged villa outside the town. They were found on the ground as though thrown by the troops or by the explosion of the bombs. They can now be seen in the Chiesa Matrice.

7) Antiquities.

Fortunately the centres of Greek civilization, for which Sicily is famous, suffered little or no damage, but the Museums which house the collections were badly hit. The collections had been removed to safety. In Palermo the Museo Nazionale underwent several repairs and in Almera a protective barbed wire fence was constructed. All this was done under the able management of Signora Marconi, the Superintendent of Antiquities for Palermo and Trapani. In Agrigento our friend Dr. Griffo, Superintendent of Antiquities for Agrigento and Caltanissetta has initiated work on the temple of Hercules and in Syracuse the energetic Superintendent Dr. Bernardo Bree, has resuscitated the Museo Archelogico, which was badly damaged. Dr. Bernado Bree has also transofrmed the temple of Apollo in Syracuse into a beautiful garden and aided by the Municipio has organized the construction of a protective wall. To must be forgotten the cleaning of the catacombs of Syracuse which had been used by the populace as air raid shelters and certain important construction work in Palazzolo Acreide. Work of Repair is now being done in the Ginnasio Romano, which had been much damaged and exposed to vandalism. The custodian's house will be repaired and the damaged Roman wall will be restored with the old stone work.

8) Committees.

Friendly, weekly or fortnightly committee meetings of the Superintendents and Heads of Archives and Libraries of Palermo, took place in Palermo, during which administrative matters were discussed. At one finely meeting all the Superintendents of the Island appeared. These meetings helped greatly to smooth the task of the Advisors and contributed to the excellent collaboration already referred to.

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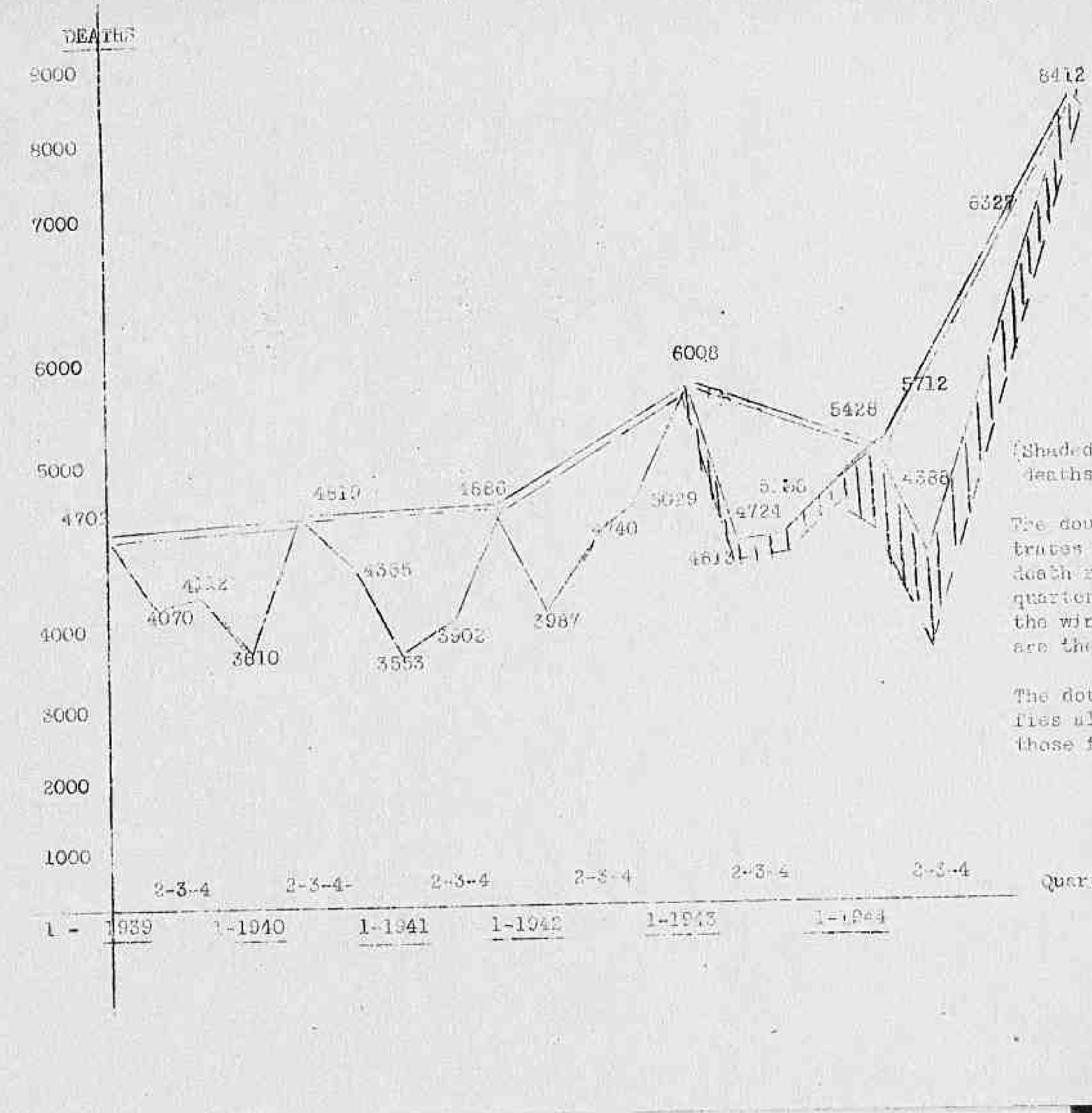
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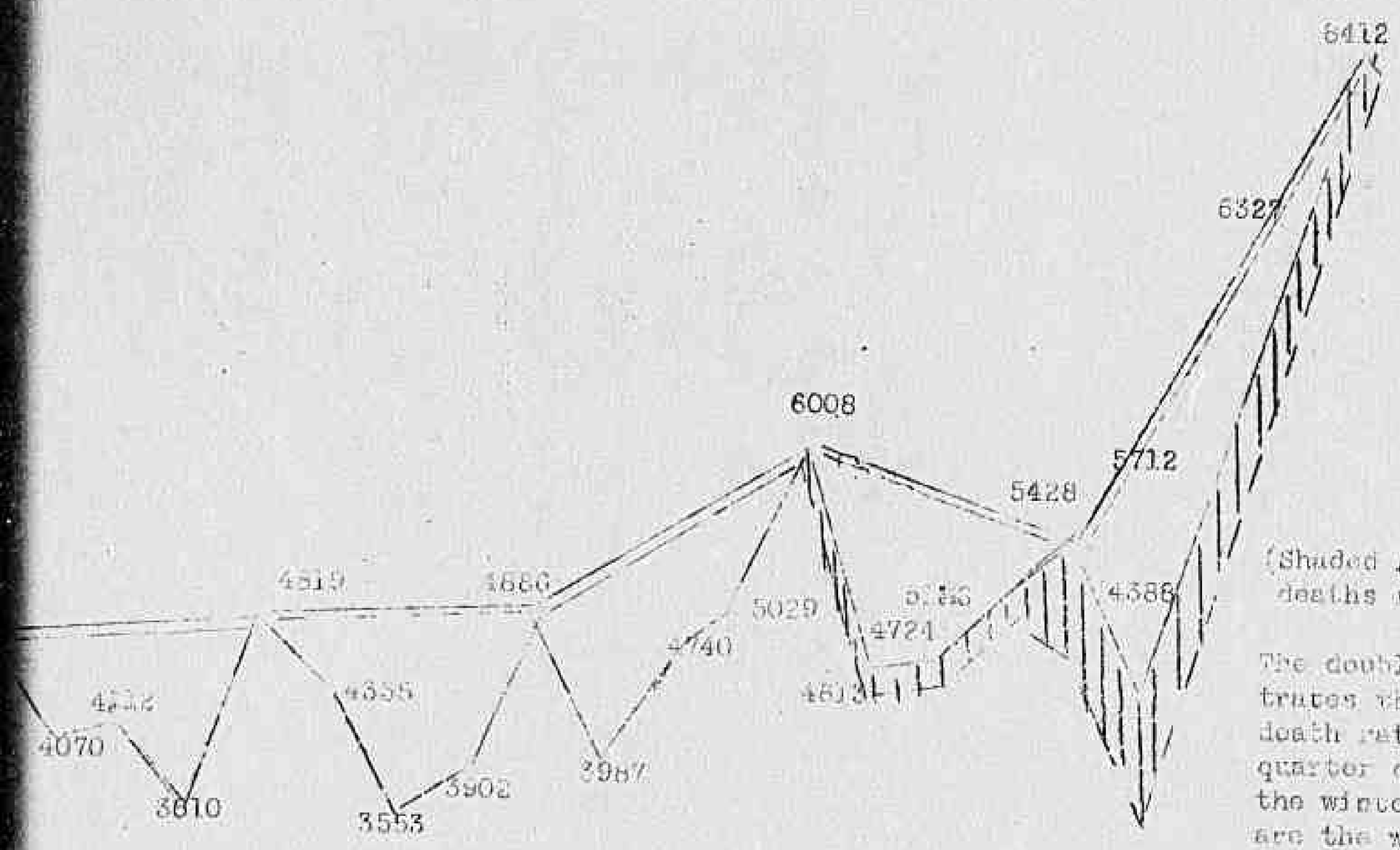
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Mortality in Naples from 1939 to 1944.

The graph seen on the preceding page illustrates the great increase in the mortality rate since 1939, particularly in the last three months, as compared to the previous three months. This is not due to war causes (see graph), but to infectuous diseases, not to first year deaths. The middle and old age groups provide the greatest number of deaths.

The cause of this general increase is to be found in circumstances effecting the whole population;- the food shortage, the fewer medical services, and supplies, the general hardships of the population, of which the chief are the lack of soap, clothes, transport and accomodation. It is calculated that about 100,000 people now live in the public shelters because they have lost their homes. At such a time of need, most doctors, it is reported, still have no telephone or means of transport.

The general weakening of the populations physical resistance is shown by the great increase in cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (from 933 in 1939 to 1434 in 1944). Moreover, the deaths have increased from 16, 455 in 1939 to 22,488 in 1943, but the live births have decreased from 24,554 in 1939 to 16,866 in 1943.

General mortality rate in Naples.

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
January:	1662	1733	1922	2427	1979	3251
June :	1356	1262	1587	1590	1289	----

(including deaths from war causes).

(B-2). All the figures are taken from the official city registers.

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APPENDIX IV

REACTIONS TO PROPAGANDA

1 Publications in Sicily.

The following report on reactions to P.W.B publications was supplied by the Messaggerie Italiane, the distributing agency which distributes P.W.B publications in the island.

When the first batch of publications was handed over to the Agency on October 15th last year, the demand for everything available was so great that it was not possible to drew conclusions on reaction. The penguin book "Italia di Lomani", however elicited particularly favourable comments. It told Italians of episodes in their own history of which they had been kept in ignorance.

Fontamara was also extremely popular, and was regarded by many as true and not a novel. The copies available were quickly sold out, and the Agency takes this opportunity of asking for more.

Victory is bought by every social class; by the ordinary Sicilian because he finds illustrated reports of events in the war, which so greatly interests him. The Professional man finds reports of technical processes; the businessman commercial information. Even the artist finds news in this review which concerns him. The Italian public regards "Victory" as taking the place of the former "Illustrazione Italiania" which, however, did not have at its disposal the same service as "Victory" and typographically could not in any way compare with it.

"Il Mondo Libero" is bought by another category of reader; the white collar worker, the father of a family who wantes to bring home an illustrated news review and cannot afford to spend much. "Mondo Libero " is of interest because it not only reportes on war news, but gives information on what is happening in Liberated Italy

"La Guardia Civica", "I Messaggi di guerra di Roosevelt" "Il Mese", "Orizzonte di Pace", "Il Piano Beveridge", "E al microfono il Colonello Stevens" are also mentioned as having had a favourable impression

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The agency refers to the unusual demand in small country districts for reviews dealing with international politics. This is attributed to the number of evacuees living in these districts.

Bari report on "Victory".

Reports from Bari stress the popularity of the review "Victory". Great interest was aroused among readers with a technical knowledge, by the article "Bacini di prova". 3685

It is suggested that a number could be devoted to the school in America, as there is a wide curiosity on the subject of education in the U.S.A.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 8 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Italy, (Lib) June 9, 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 22

PART II ANNEXES ROME

Contents

Paragraph		Page
1	The Fall of Rome to the Allies	1
2	The Committee of National Liberation	5
3	Interview with Senator Bonomi	5
4	Interview with Ugo LaMalfa of the Action Party	6
5	Interview with Alcide De Gaspari	7
6	Preliminary Interview with Guido Conella	8
7	Impressions of Party Activity	10
8	Clandestine Papers in Rome	11
9	Fascist Headquarters at Palazzo Braschi	11
10	Death of Buozzi	12
11	Information from the Socialists	12
12	Interview with De Gaspari, 6/7/44	13
13	Biographical Notes on Prominent Political Personalities	15

Appendix I The Press in Rome

Appendix II The Approach to Rome

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

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Contents

Paragraph		Page
1	The Fall of Rome to the Allies	1
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5	Interview with Alcide De Gaspari	7
6	Preliminary Interview with Guido Gonella	8
7	Impressions of Party Activity	10
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12	Interview with De Gaspari, 6/7/44	13
13	Biographical Notes on Prominent Political Personalities	15

Appendix I The Press in Rome

Appendix II The Approach to Rome

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

SECRET 9 June 1944.

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Part II Annexes

* * * \

The historical events which took place on the night of June 4 when American troops first entered the Capital of Italy and on the following day when the whole population came out into the streets to welcome the Allies, cannot yet be told with anything like the fullness which such a dramatic and important story deserves. The impression, however, of those who formed part of the first forces to enter the town must remain to their dying days, amongst the most vivid of their lives.

The first important fact to report is that the Germans left the city almost entirely intact. They pulled out in a great hurry (for they were apparently expecting to hold the line of the Alban hills for another week at least) on the evening of June 4. A few minor clashes of no military importance occurred within the city between the American advance guard and German rear guards, but practically when the American 3rd Division pushed its reconnaissance forces into Rome during the night of June 4, the city had been evacuated by the enemy.

P.B officers arrived in Rome at first light on the morning of June 5th after a long dramatic moolit drive from Velletri. Our column passed through one after another of Alban hill towns, Velletri, Genzano, Albano, to find scenes of destruction and death which seemed accentuated by the stillness of the night and the gleaming moonbeams. The ruined towns were completely abandoned except for a few army units who had found a bivouac in the remnant of some building more solid than the rest. Along the road was all the litter and confusion which war leaves in its wake, the tattered strands of telephone cable, the broken-down walls, the trees stripped of their leaves, fox-holes and gaping shell-holes. Looking further away the countryside was still and peaceful and tremendously beautiful and there was neither sight nor sound of warfare. The warm air brought with pungency a baffling succession of odours along the route -- the scent of thyme and jasmine and oleander alternating with the stench of corrupting flesh.

As we approached Rome we saw a few fires -- one at an aerodrome and another blazing away in a factory building near the racecourse. This aroused some misgivings as to the likelihood of demolitions in the city itself and as we drew near we anxiously watched the buildings for traces of damage. There was none. In the extramural quarter of Appio Latino beyond the Piazza dei Re di Roma we drove past a succession of modern flats and dwellings, many built since the beginning of the war and all of them untouched.

On the outskirts of the town we saw a few flashes and heard the crack of firearms but no bullets seemed to come our way.. The convoy put out all front and rear lights so as not to attract attention and we proceeded quietly towards the Porta San Giovanni. It was soon after 4 a.m. that we were driving through the suburbs but we did not pass unnoticed. Many people were looking out of their windows, some were on balconies and small groups were scattered here and there throughout the streets. As we passed these people they began clapping with their hands and the sound started at one end of the street and travled along much faster than our column of vehicles to the far end. There was very little shouting

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-- an occasional "Viva gli Alleati" of "Viva gli Americani" was heard but the clapping greeted us in nearly every street as if it had been arranged as the chosen method of welcome. Many people had their lights shining from their windows (so we realised with some relief that the electricity had not been cut off) and some set lighted candles on their balconies to welcome us.

We passed a convoy of American 3 tonners and anti-aircraft guns going into the city by the same route and there was a slight traffic jam at the gate of St. John. On the whole, however, we saw very few Allied soldiers in the early hours -- a troop of tanks ~~tucked away~~ down a side-street near the Piazza dei Re di Roma and an occasional armoured car on patrol. We halted just short of the Colosseum as dawn broke and the moon was shining down behind the ruin of the Temple of Claudius. Soon afterwards, following first the Via dell'Impero we proceeded to our destination in the Piazza Navona.

As soon as possible after checking in, P.B officers obtained permission to make a tour of the streets of Rome so as to observe the reaction of the population to the arrival of the Allies. It was still early and not many people were in the streets but all those who were greeted us with cries of joy and much clapping of hands. There was no sign anywhere of demolitions, there were mines where reports had led us to expect them, the streets were spotlessly clean. Officers who had spent months in Naples and who had vivid memories of other war-scarred cities, observed with delight the exquisite shape of the buildings and the cleanliness and freshness of the town. There seemed to be plenty of water in fountains and some hydrants were overflowing. Incredibly enough it seemed as though the Germans had made no effort to deny the comforts of existence. All the big hotels and public buildings were in perfect order. No bridges were blown. On the western side of the Tiber, St. Peter and the Vatican stood quietly in all its traditional magnificence with the fountains playing but the square quite deserted. Two Swiss guards welcomed us at the side entrance when we asked for De Gasperi. There were no troops visible except for the guards on the Ponte Margherita.

From 7 o'clock onwards the streets began to fill with people ~~and now we witnessed~~ scenes of enthusiasm which were unforgettable. There was more restraint perhaps than in Naples where the fighting had been more bitter and where the population as a whole had suffered more. Not so often were officers pounced upon and kissed by ecstatic women, but everywhere men, women and children showed us a welcome which was obviously heartfelt. In Piazza Venezia, Piazza Colonna, in the Corso and in Via Nazionale large crowds were gathered to clap and cheer any Allied officers or soldiers who drove past. On at least three occasions we had bunches of expensive car-

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The Rome Committee of Liberation was active from the early hours. It seemed to have made its headquarters in the Piazza Colonna with other headquarters in the Messagero building in the Via del Tritone. Patrols of "patriots" were out in the streets armed with a curious assortment of firearms and with a red, white and green armband. They seemed to be fairly busy arresting Fascists and we saw

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them bring in an NCO of the PAI organisation while we were outside the Messagero building. They have arrested a number of spies. It is worth recording that the current term for Fascists here among the patriots is "spy".

Round about 7 a.m. at the Campidoglio there was a meeting of General Allen, commander of the 3rd Division which occupied Rome, and Mr. Caccia and Mr. Reber of the ACC and the Italian general Bencivenga who was in command of the troops loyal to the King. The General drove up in a large black limousine escorted by about a dozen motor-cyclists, with goggles, crash helmets and breeches on, wearing the armband of the Committee of Liberation. Several people remarked that they had only changed their clothes and that they were last seen as Fascists. The bell of the Campidoglio tolled throughtout the ceremony. The party was then joined by members of the National Committee of Liberation who conducted it into the Campidoglio. One regrettable feature of this day of great enthusiasm and genuine emotion has been a display of exhibitionism on the part of Italian youth which reminded a correspondent who has known Italy for long, of the spirit prevailing at the time of the March on Rome.

As many young men as possible have crowded into vehicles of all kinds, including those curious motor-cycle lorries, and waving Allied and Italian flags, with rifles and tommy-guns prominently and dangerously brandished aloft, have paraded the streets for the edification of the public. The public's respons was not altogether unstinted. Most of these young men wore the patriot's armband, but a few small size processions were carried out by Communists wearing red armbands.

Although many people complained about the scarcity of food (the bread ration has for some time been only 100 grammes per day) the general impression is that the population has not suffered starvation. Certainly as a whole the people look better fed than those of Naples. Bread is, however, of the poorest quality and paste consists of a number of gritty components, and beefsteak is apt to be horsesteak. There are a number of restaurants open where bad food is cooked as well as possible. One restaurant, the "Figaro", serves an excellent lunch. Food prices are high and there is a flourishing black market.

The shops are full of luxury goods and so far prices are far below those of Naples. Leather goods are however very scarce. Public services are working in part. Water is obtainable in the fountains and hydrants throughout the town, but not in the houses in certain districts. The electric light seems to be working everywhere, but there are currentless periods during the day; the telephone service except for a few districts has ceased to function.

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Two aspects of the occupation of Rome are particularly striking: The suddenness with which the Germans left and the lack of demolitions left behind them. The general opinion seems to be that this was due to the action of the Pope who persuaded the German commander not to fight in Rome and not to commit acts of violence in the city. People here say that the Germans when they went away were in a state of utter demoralization and felt the loss of Rome as a great blow to their prestige.

On 6 June in Piazza Venezia a PWB public address van broadcast the news that the long awaited second front had been opened

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and also that the 5th Army in Italy had followed the Germans more than 20 kilometres from Rome without being able to make contact with them. Both items of news aroused intense excitement in a large crowd which cheered widely. The announcement that 4,000 ships and 11,000 planes had taken part in the invasion of the French coast caused exclamations of approval and amazement, and the announcements that Hitler had put himself at the head of the German armed forces brought forth a hail of hoots and whistles.

It is evident that the Allies enjoy at the moment an immense prestige something close to affection. We have been told that no Roman girl would like to be seen with a German, but the number of Roman girls seen riding around in jeeps with G.I.'s surpasses all counting. People ask only to serve the Allies in any way possible and will go to any trouble to help our soldiers. Even after the first wave of joy had slackened, a woman came to a P.B officer and with intense emotion said, "The women of Italy thank you."

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2 ROME - The Committee of National Liberation

The Committee consists of 18 members under the presidency of Senator Ivanoe Bonomi, plus a Secretary. Below is an incomplete list of the members:

President	Senator Ivanoe Bonomi (Labour)
Christian Democrat	De Gaspari (Party Chairman)
	Dott. Groncni
Liberal	Senator Casati (Party Chairman
	Dott. Nicolo Carandini
	Avv. Brosio
Action Party	Ugo La Malfa
	Bauer
	Lussu
Labour	(Senator Ivanoe Bonomi - see above)
	Ruini
Socialist	On. Pietro Nenni
	Romita
	Vernocci
Communist	Scuccimarra
	Ferri

On June 6 the Committee held the first meeting where all members were united together in a proper session.

3 INTERVIEW WITH SENATOR BONOMI

PWB officers made the first contact with the President of the Rome Committee of Liberation, Senator Ivanoe Bonomi, after the entry of the Allies into Rome.

He was found at the Lateran and appeared to be in good health and spirits. After a brief introduction he had to go to keep an appointment with the Committee of Liberation who were meeting at 9 o'clock with Allied officials at the Campidoglio. An arrangement was made to meet him later to discuss the political situation. This meeting took place at the house of an anti-Fascist Liberal, Count Carandini.

Bonomi asked eagerly for information about the new Badoglio government. He was anxious to know the conditions under which it was formed and the activities which it had carried on.

He said that the new Badoglio government would have to be en-

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Liberal	Senator Casati (Party Chairman
	Dott. Nicolo Carandini
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He said that the new Badoglio government would have to be enlarged by the admission of members of the Rome Committee; perhaps it would also be necessary to drop certain members of the present government who had no more than local importance. For instance, his opinion of Cerabona was that he was a man of mediocre calibre. He did not favor a system of having two groups of ministers -- one with portfolios, one without. Ministers without portfolios might in theory frame government policy but in practice they usually did very little.

He said that the formation of the new government was approved by all parties of the Rome Committee except the Action Party which maintained a prejudice against Badoglio and had even voted the temporary suspension from the party of two members -- Omodeo, the Minister of Education, and Caracciolo, the Under Secretary for Interior. It did not seem to be certain what they proposed to do about Tarchiani.

Bonomi gave it as his opinion that the Action Party would not outlast the settlement of the monarchical question. It even now practically lost its raison d'etre. Of its leaders in Rome, Bauer,

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who was of Bohemian extraction, was a most upright man who was never compromised with Fascism, was in gaol for 15 years, and retained today the same attitude of intransigeance as of old. Lussu was a brave man of fiery temperament, a convinced republican who would not on any account compromise with the King. LaMalfa was the most accommodating of the three and more of a negotiator, but he was led by the others.

The general attitude of the Committee was that the first task of the government was to secure the maximum effort of Italians in prosecuting the war. It was only by taking their full share of the burden of the war effort that Italy would be entitled to the respect and fair treatment she desired from other nations.

Bonomi was asked about the now famous resolution of the Rome committee of October. He said that it was an equivocal resolution inasmuch as the three extreme parties in Rome (Action, Socialist and Communist) interpreted it as meaning the complete shelving of the King, and the assumption of all his powers by the government, whereas the other parties considered this an unreasonable interpretation as it was not possible for a government to exercise in toto the powers of the Crown.

Discussing the Socialist leader Nenni, Bonomi described him as a man of extreme views who was working closely with the Communists. The latter were acting in the most disciplined fashion under orders of Togliatti. They changed their whole policy overnight when the news of Togliatti's new directions came through.

The Communists were well provided with funds and the Committees as a whole was in a good financial position. Bonomi himself received several million lire from industrialists and others.

4 Interview with Ugo LaMalfa of the Action Party on 6.4.44

A P.W.B officer interviews Ugo LaMalfa at the headquarters of the Rome Committee of Liberation just prior to the third free meeting of the Committee at 9:30 a.m., in the former office of the Fascist Republican Party in the Palazzo at the end of the Piazza Colonna which faces onto the Corso Umberto. The place shows signs of hasty evacuation by the previous occupants, broken glass, litter, private papers and letters scattered about, but the room chosen for the Committee's meeting had been cleared and made fitting for the occasion. P.W.B officers were introduced to many members of the Committee, and found an atmosphere of the utmost cordiality among the leaders of the various parties towards each other. LaMalfa began to talk quite spontaneously of the political situation. He is a young man of very lively appearance. He is obviously intelligent.

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It was up to these parties to wean public opinion from the Communists by going out some of the way to meet the public feeling for radical reform. Asked what, in detail, this policy would consist of, and whether it meant specifically the change over from monarchy to republic, he replied that it was really a more complete matter than that. It was a policy of destroying the influences in Italian political life which had hitherto been paramount. The structure of Italian society differed widely from that in England where the differences between the working classes and the rich owners of industrial or landed property were minimized by a graduated series of intervening classes. In Italy you had a powerful clique of rich people on the one hand, who ran the country, and a mass of workers on the other. The only hope of saving Italy from Communism was to destroy the influence of this powerful governing class. He cited as an example of a part of this class the Italian General Staff, which he said was never so technically efficient in military matters as in political intrigue.

Because of their realization of the necessity of removing the remnants of the old governing caste, the Party of Action could not look with favour upon Badoglio's new government in which there still existed too many exponents of the old ways and ideas.

5 Interview with Alcide De Gasperi.

A P.B officer talked with Alcide De Gasperi, Rome leader of the Party of Christian Democrats.

Among other things, De Gasperi stated that he had been compelled to change his address 17 times during a few months to escape persecution or arrest by the Nazi-Fascists. De Gasperi added that the Church had aided nearly all the leading members of the opposition, by hiding them in various ways.

He next made the highly interesting and significant statement that General Bencivenga and the patriot "military command" had all found refuge on Vatican territory. The procedure for access to the latter was that members went into the Basilica of San Giovanni in Laterano, ostensibly (and probably actually!) to pray. After a time they would be approached by a priest, who would whisper to them to follow him unobtrusively. They would then be led into the Lateran Palace where, naturally, they were relatively safe, the ground being extra-territorial.

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

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De Gasperi, like other leading politicians, bitterly criticized the issue of the Messaggero and Giornale d'Italia, on the second day of the liberation, under their old titles. This act was described as monstrous and almost an insult to the patricts.

It is clear also, that the various parties will be intensely disappointed if they do not receive permission to publish dailies. Again, there will be a trong criticism if only one official daily is published in Rome.

3680

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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6 Preliminary Interview with Guido Gonella, Chief Political Commentator of the "Osservatore Romano"

Gonella appeared very fit and cheerful. He said that having been interfered with by the Nazi-Fascists, he had finally decided to live inside the Vatican.

Asked as to the attitude of the Christian Democrats towards Badoglio, and whether they were in agreement with the politicians in Naples, Gonella replied that there was no common agreement. The parties were, on the contrary, not in agreement. The Socialists and Party of Action are hostile to the monarchy, while the Christian Democrats and the Democrazia del Lavoro are for collaboration with the King and Badoglio. The Communists were formerly hostile to these two; then Togliatti arrived, their attitude changed, and they are now willing to collaborate.

There are, however, internal dissensions within the Communist Party, between what may loosely be termed the Trotskists and the Stalinists. This does not mean that real Trotsky followers exist, since the real meaning of Trotskyism is not understood by such men, but the term is used to indicate dissent from to-day's standard Communist policy.

Togliatti's declaration regarding collaboration made a bad impression. People said that what Russia wishes now goes in Italy.

The Christian Democrats' wish, in general, is to postpone any decision as to the institutional question, the dominant feeling being that every effort should be bent towards winning the war. The Communist attitude, as represented by the Togliatti policy, is not trusted by a good many people. The Christian Democrat line, on the contrary, receives more genuine support. People hold the view that the Communists do not make their real intentions clear, and that in any case they take their orders from Stalin, and the Italians do not like this. But all agree that the war effort must come first. Many men are ready to take a direct and active part in the war. Their spirit has changed during the last few months, and for the better. They are growing keener. They realize that it will work to their advantage at the peace table.

There will certainly be changes in the Government when it is transferred to Rome. As to whether the Rome Committee of National Liberation will wish to exclude some of the Naples politicians now in the government, the impression in Rome was that the Naples Government is a mediocre lot on the whole. In fact, very few people in Rome know anything about them, and learned of their past from the BBC broadcasts. Only two ministers without portfolio were known.

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

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A pro-Jewish feeling can be said to exist in Rome. Many thousands of Jews found shelter in the Vatican at various times, and in Vatican buildings. "Sometimes one hardly knew whether certain Vatican palaces were synagogues of Christian buildings!" It is to be hoped however, that the Jews will not take advantage of this revulsion of attitude, and begin to push in too hard everywhere.

While Bonomi is linked with the Democrazia del Lavoro, he may not have given his OFFICIAL adhesion to the Party. This Party is a bourgeous party, containing intellectuals, some free masons, and some Jews. It has no following among the masses.

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

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There are only three really popular mass parties. These are the Christian Democrats, the Communists and the Socialists. The Liberal Party is one of elites, while the Democrazia del Lavoro has no or few followers.

As to the strength of the parties in the Rome area (Note: to which the whole of Gonella's remarks apply, unless otherwise indicated) the Liberals are strong, the Communists weak, as also are the Socialists. The Christian Democrats are very strong in Rome. The State employees are either Christian Democrats or Socialists. As to the Party of Action, it has a following of the liberal-minded bourgeoisie, of intellectuals, but no mass following.

The workers are divided out among the Communists, the Socialists, and the Christian Democrats.

In Rome the Party of Action is hostile to the Republican Party, a representative of which is the former deputy Chiesa, who edited the Voce Repubblicana.

Regarding the so-called "Catholic Communists", they cannot be called a party. They consist of a handful of young students who belong to Catholic associations and have left leanings. The Communist Party took advantage of this fact, and roped them in. They must be regarded as a section of the Communist Party. They have a small following, it is understood, in Veneto.

Then there are the Christian Socialists, i.e., Catholics with socialist leanings, but they are an insignificant minority, perhaps one in 1000 in Rome.

Asked whether the Pope has personal sympathies towards the Allies, Gonella replied that the atmosphere is wholly, one hundred percent favourable. Highly placed Catholics naturally show a reserved forma mentis, and do not take sides, and must appear as objective as possible. Privately a cardinal, say, would be in agreement with the Allies, and in their favour. Publicly, he would make no professions of his sympathies.

There are no really anti-democratic currents in the Church. They accepted Fascism, but only under violence. Asked whether many ecclesiastics did not support Fascism, Gonella replied that where they did so, they were mostly small figures. To take the case of Ascalesi, "Well, Naples is not important in this sense." In any case, such men are few in number; there are 300 Bishops in Italy.

In any case again, it must always be remembered that the Vatican is always very slow to show its attitude towards big and vi-

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

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In any case again, it must always be remembered that the Vatican is always very slow to show its attitude towards big and vital problems which arise.

The Germans were guilty of many violations of the terms of the Italo-Vatican Lateran Treaty. They forcibly entered a basilica and other Vatican buildings, using their military units.

To return to the violations, the Vatican is of course a neutral state as regards territory; the churches are extra-territorial; the colleges, however, are not so, but permission under the Lateran Treaty must first be obtained before they can be entered by outsiders. Rovedo, when enjoying protection in a Catholic institution, foolishly admitted his identity [illegible]

3679

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

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In Northern Italy, many Socialists and Communists are working with the Christian Democrats. There has been a big change. Most of the Parties were formerly anti-clerical, but a big difference has taken place. The result has been that the parties are trying to get Churchmen into their ranks.

Speaking of his arrest in 1939 (September 1st), Gonella said he was arrested by members of the Gestapo who were attached to the Italian "Ufficio Razza."

Caruso, Questore of Rome, was an exponent of the Ovra.

A certain Koch, an Italian from Florence, was a leading Ovra member, who did not trust the Rome Ovra.

Turning to the question of a Constituent Assembly, Gonella said all were agreed that the Constitution must be changed. Balanced minds however believe that there was no need for haste in this connection.

Asked about Prince Humbert's famous interview with The Times, some people even thought it was not true! Yet the Prince has many sympathisers in Rome. Many would like to see him take an active part in the fighting (but not, Gonella jokingly remarked, that he might get killed!)

Croce and Sforza have discredited themselves greatly by their vacillating policy. Sforza particularly has fallen in public opinion.

As to the names of possible new Ministers, when the Government is reshuffled in Rome, Gonella indicated the members of the Committee of Liberation in Rome. What was needed was a blend of young and old men. Labolfa was not a man of many clear ideas. Moreover, he was extremely intransigent, which represented a weakness.

7 Impressions of Party Activity

The liberation of Rome has naturally given an extraordinary impetus to the life of the political parties, which have emerged from their underground life with the pent-up vitality of forces which have been for long violently compressed.

Within twelve hours of the appearance of the Allied troops in the capital, some of the parties were already organizing with amazing activity their new open and free life. The Socialist Party headquarters set up in the spacious offices of a former Fascist organization. From the balcony hung a large red banner with the party name writ large. The same applied to the Communist Party. Bands of Communists,

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

Italian "Officio Razza."

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Socialist Party (Via Lucullo) Secretary, Pietro Nenni. The Directorate consists of: Olindo Vernocci (Dr.), of Viale Gorizia, 43. Pietro Nenni (see above for other post). Ing. Giuseppe Romita, Via Levico, 12. Ing. Andrea Mglinari. Avv. Carmine Mancinelli. Dr. Giuseppe Saragat. Dott. Nicola Perrotti, Surgeon, Corso Trieste, 146

Nenni made a good impression, calm, intelligent, active. After having all the information asked for, [illegible], he rushed off

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

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to a printing office to produce, with half-a-dozen of his men, a snap issue of what the party hopes will become the regular local "Avanti."

Incidentally, Nenni stated that Rovede was in prison at Padua, and that the Germans had opened the prison in Via Tasso, Rome, and taken away 75 political prisoners, including BRUNO BUOZZI, Secretary-General of the Confederation of Labour. The Germans had, however, allowed many political prisoners to go free.

Bonomi told PWB that in addition to the six parties in Rome there were also the following:

Catholic Communist
Christian Socialist
Republicans
Socialist revolutionary party
Trotsky Communist

8 Clandestine papers in Rome.

Bonomi told PWB that the following papers have been published clandestinely in Rome by the various parties.

Christian Democrats	"Il Popolo"
Liberals	"Risorgimento"
Action Party	"Italia Libera"
Democratic Labour	"Ricostruzione"
Socialist	"Avanti"
Communist	"Unita"
Republican Party	"Voce Republicana"

9 Fascist headquarters at Palazzo Braschi

The Fascist party offices off the Corso Vittorio Emanuele were entirely evacuated in January of this year after the Anzio landings. The whole building is now used as flats for workers. The porter said that the cellars had been used by the Fascists as a prison for political suspects and that they were interrogated there. He did not know whether there had been any torturing there. The cellars were damp and dark, and it was not possible to carry out a full investigation on the spot.

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

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

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10 Death of Buozzi

The death of Bruno Buozzi was communicated to P.W.B on June 7th by two offical representatives of the Socialist Party who have been appointed by the party to "liaise" with "D" Section. They are Prof. Mario Zagari of Corso Trieste 199, and Dott. Franco Malfatti of Via V. Veneto 108. Their story which is fully covered in the newspapers, is that at 0100 hours on the morning of the 4th of June Buozzi was taken from the German Intelligence Offices in Via Tasso with his hands tied behind his back. He was put in a German truck together with 13 other prisoners who were all destined for the Special Tribunal at Verona. The truck proceeded along the Via Cassia to the 14 km. stone where it stopped and the prisoners were made to get out. They were then murdered at the roadside and their bodies left on the spot. Buozzi was beaten behind the neck with some heavy object and then shot dead. Three other members of the Socialist party were also murdered at the same time. They were LIBERO Deangeli, TONELLI, Salvatore, and BARTH Frederick, a Pole who was better known in Rome as Raffaele. The 14 bodies were brought back to the Santo Spirito Hospital in Rome.

11. Information from the Socialists

Zagari and Malfatti informed a P.W.B officer that the Socialist Party in Rome has a Patto d'Azione with the Communist Party for collaboration and discussion on points concerning the two parties on (a) Political Action, (b) Trade Unions, and (c) Anti-cultural Organisation. They stated that the same thing had happened between the Socialists and Communists in France after the 7th Moscow Congress which took place in 1936. They considered that the Partie Popolaire had grown from this event.

They said that the BBC and Radio Tunis were the best heard allied Stations in Rome and that Bari was too badly jammed to be well heard.

They considered that the denunciation of fascists in the "Italia Combatte" programme was not always a good ting as inevitably within 24 hours the Italian police arrest them to protect them and prevent them falling into the hands of anti-fascists. They are then sent to Northern Italy for safety

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

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12. Interview with De Gaspari 7.6.44.

A P.W.B. officer visited On. De Gaspari the Christian Democrat Leader at the headquarters of the party, 46 Piazza del Gesu. The place seemed very busy. There were several large reception rooms where secretaries received the visitor. He was ushered into an inner apartment bearing a large notice "COMANDO MILITARE" into the presence of General Rodriguez who is the Commander of the Christian Democrat military formations. De Gasperi is a middle aged man who gives the impression of concealing a great deal of vitality beneath a calm exterior. He disclosed that nearly all political leaders had at one time or another sought refuge in the religious houses which are so numerous in the city of Rome. On one occasion when he and Nenni were crouching in an underground cellar below one of these institutions, hiding away from a search of the premises which had been threatened Nenni remarked "It may be what I call destiny or what De Gasperi calls Providence, but it comes out to the same thing if we're caught tonight." Ruini who as a politician had been decidedly anti-clerical said jokingly "The trouble is that this sort of thing will put back anti-clericalism for another 30 years." It was true that amongst the members of the Rome committee nearly everyone of whom had been harboured by the clergy and whose work had been made possible only by a network of communi- which was constituted for the most part by clerical messengers, the old spirit of anti-clericalism had disappeared.

Asked what was the attitude of the Committee to the new Badoglio government, De Gasperi replied that the policy of reconciliation and moderation announced by Togliatti was one for which the Liberals and Christian Democrats had long contended and it met with their approval. There was, however, a stronger prejudice against Badoglio amont the members of the Rome Committee than appeared to be the case further south. He explained this by describing the pitiful impression made by Badoglio's sudden flight from Rome in September. It was perhaps reasonable for the king to go, but a general should stay to fight, and to leave everything in the hands of the aged marshal Caviglia without issuing proper instructions was a reprehensible dereliction of duty which the Romans who stayed behind could not forget. There was also the fact that Badoglio had shown himself to be politically a "gaffeur" of the first order and hence his removal from office would be welcomed.

Questioned about the possibility of the Christian Democrats, the Labour Democrats and the Party of Action forming a central block he said that it was possible and desirable, but that, so

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Questioned about the possibility of the Christian Democrats, the Labour Democrats and the Party of Action forming a central block he said that it was possible and desirable, but that, so far, the Action Party had always sided with the Communists and Socialists. They were also the most anti-clerical of the parties. There had been clashes between the leaders of both parties but so far no agreement had been reached.

De Gaspari expressed some anxiety as to the lack of clarity of Anglo-American policy in Italy. He fully understood that a 3677 intervention in Italian internal affairs was not desirable but he considered that some indication might be given of a policy which would assist the forces of democracy vis-a-vis the Russian influence in the country.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Turning to the activities of General Bencivenga, De Gasperi told the following story:-

Some time in March the news came through to the Committee of National Liberation that Badoglio had appointed General Armellini head of the armed forces of the Crown in Rome. Many members of the committee objected to this appointment as Armellini had been an outstanding Fascist. They therefore proposed General Bencivenga whose record as regards Fascism was pure. At the same time Bencivenga was put forward by a friend of his, a rich Italo-Americano who was in touch with an American secret organization. Marshal Badoglio's approval of the nomination of Bencivenga was notified to the Committee through the secret military authority in Rome.

Bencevenga is an ambitious man and it was his desire to fuse the aims of all the parties of the Committee in a single movement - the Unione Democratica of which he was to be the head. In fact, however, as his pretensions increased so his prestige with the Committee diminished. Moreover, he surrounded himself with the somewhat doubtful characters of the "Green Shirt" movement whose antecedents were decidedly fascost.

It was learned with great surprise that after the Allies arrival in the city Bencivenga was issuing proclamations in his own name.

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Biographical Notes on Prominent Political Personalities in Rome

Pietro Nenni, Socialist Party. Born Faenza, 53 years ago. He began his career as a journalist, and first joined the Italian Republican Party with which he stayed for many years, and became one of its foremost exponents, especially as the Editor of the Party organs. When the Libyan war began in 1911, he, like the members of the Socialist Party, displayed opposition to it and took part in counter-manifestations against it, in company with Mussolini. Both men were arrested, tried and sentenced to one year's imprisonment. Between 1920 and 1921, Nenni's sympathies turned towards the Socialist party, which he joined. Soon after the Great War, he became Editor of the daily Giornale del Mattino of Bologna and he also collaborated with Il Secolo of Milan. He went to the Avanti in 1921, first as its Paris Correspondent. He was recalled to be Chief News Editor under Serrati. As a result of the crisis which developed when Serrati passed to the Communist Party in 1923, Nenni, together with Vernocchi and Pomigliano, was called to direct the Avanti; he also entered the Directorate of the Socialist Party. He is the author of several books, including the volume "Due Anni di lotta civile in Italia," and of many propaganda pamphlets. He was always in the front line in the fight against Fascism.

When in 1926, the Avanti was suppressed and the Socialist Party dissolved in Italy, Nenni emigrated to France. Here, particularly in Paris, he took part in journalistic activity with newspapers of the Left, including LeSoir, and edited the Avanti, which was then the organ of the Maximilists. He led a campaign for the unification of the various Socialist currents. In 1930 this unity was achieved and he became Secretary of the Socialist Party and Editor of the Party newspaper. He was also connected with the international Socialist movement. His policy is essentially linked with unity of action of the working classes, and he was, therefore, always favourable to the most ample agreement with the Communists, while maintaining his Socialist line.

During the Spanish Civil War, he went to Spain to fight with the Republicans against Franco and was among the organisers and inspirers of the Garibaldi brigade with which he fought in the line. He was a close councillor of the leading Spanish republicans. The Spanish war ended, he returned to France. When Paris was occupied by the Germans in 1940, Nenni took refuge in the south of France, where he was arbitrarily arrested by the Gestapo in Vichy territory, taken first to Paris and then to Germany, and later handed over to the Italian government. Confined on the Island of Ponza, he was liberated when Mussolini fell, and came to Rome. Here he immediate-

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DR. Alcide De Gasperi, Christian Democrat. Born at Trento in 1882. Doctor in letters. He early entered the journalistic and political world; he became editor of the Catholic nespaper in Trento, the Nuovo Trentino. Later he was a deputy in the Dieta of Innsbruck and in the Austrian parliament. On account of his irredentistic activity, De Gasperi was tried and sentenced by the Austrian Government.

3676

SECRET

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DR GIOVANNI GRONCHI, Christian Democrat, born 1887 at Pontadera, Tuscany. Doctor in letters, he was a professor in various cities. During the Great War he was decorated for gallantry. After the war he entered political life, and in the period 1922-1923, was Under Secretary for National Economy. After the advent of Fascism he retired to private life, and devoted some of his actifity to industry. He was several times threatened by the Fascists during the recent war years and was compelled to hid. After July 25, 1943, he came to home from Milan and participated in meetings of the Committee for National Liberation. He is an accomplished writer, and his articles have appeared in all the organs of the Christian Democrat Party. He was one of the directors of the clandestine press of the Party.

--------SARAGAT, Socialist Party. Born Torini, 1898. Doctor of Economic Sciences. He first entered banking, and at the age of 22 entered political life as a member of the Socialist Party, working at both Turin and Milan. He is now a member of the Socialist Party directorate. From 1926 to 1930 he was compelled to take refuge in Austria from Fascist persecution, but continued to occupy himself in politics, and social studies. In 1930 he went to France, where he pursued his anti-Fascist activities as a member of the Directorate of the Italian Socialist Party. Saragat was joint-editor of the Libertà, printed in Paris. His literary activity has included books, L'Umanisme Marxiste and the Democrazia Marxista, as well as many pamphlets. His life for the past 20 years has been one of constant struggle against Fascism. He left France in August, 1943, and reached home where he joined the central directorate of his Party which was working underground. In October, 1943, he was arrested by the Fascists in Rome. Handed over to the Germans, he spent three months in the prison Regina Coeli, but in January, 1944, succeeded in escaping together with six of his fellow-Socialists; he continued as co-editor of the clandestine Avanti, and during this period had often to change his residence to escape Nazi-Fascist persecution. His policy is of the Socialist-Democratic trend.

[redacted] MIETTA, Socialist Party. Born Tortona (Alessandria) 1887. Took his degree in engineering at Torino; he became interested in political life and eventually was elected as a Turin deputy of the Communal Legislative Council and of the Provincial body for Alessandria (1914 - 1923). He was sent to confine in 1926 and again in 1931, and in fact passed his life between 1926 and 1934 either in prison or under close Fascist supervision. On account of his anti-Fascist activities, he was struck off the National Roll of Engineers, and hence was unable to exercise his profession at which he had at one time worked with distinction.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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NOVARO ROMITA, Socialist Party. Born Tortona (Alessandria) 1887. Took his degree in engineering at Torino; he became interested in political life and eventually was elected as a Turin deputy of the Communal Legislative Council and of the Provincial body for Alessandria (1914 - 1923). He was sent to confino in 1926 and again in 1931, and in fact passed his life between 1926 and 1934 either in prison or under close Fascist supervision. On account of his anti-Fascist activities, he was struck off the National Roll of Engineers, and hence was unable to exercise his profession at which he had at one time worked with distinction.

From 1920 to 1926 he was a member of the Directorate of the Socialist Party. In 1942, together with other members, Romita reformed the Italian Socialist Party, while the Fascist regime was still in power, for which he had always worked underground during the regime. From 1914 to 1926 he was also Editor of the newspaper Grido del Popolo of Turn. Romita is at present a member of the Directorate of the Socialist Party.

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

APPENDIX I

THE PRESS IN LIBERATED ROME.

Of the newspap ers which have been appearing in Rome since June 5th the Messaggere, Giornale d'Italia and the Libera Stampa are not reflecting any party tendency. In addition the following party papers have been appearing (the list may not be complete):

Risorgimento Liberale	- Liberal Party
Ricostruzione	- Democrazia del Lavoro
Italia Libera	- Action Party
L'Unita	- Communist Party
Voce Operaia	- Catholic Communists

The Osservatore Romano has continued publication normally.

So far, none of these papers has taken up a clear attitude to the Italian political situation. They speak in a general way of a national, democratic government, on the lines of the solution reached in Southern Italy. They devote their greatest attention, however, to the liberation of Rome and the Allied landings in France.

There follow some translations of extracts from the Rome papers:

Messaggere, June 6th. A leading article entitled "Civilta" observed:

"The period of nazi-Fascist oppression of Rome is over. The enthusiasm with which the people has saluted the arrival of Allied troops expresses with a profound and immediate eloquence the sentiments of the city which in these soldiers greeted the reprdsentatives of nations to which they are drawn by common principles of liberty and the same deeply and truly civilised centiments of life. Civilisation means respect for the individual and for his ideas, faith in spiritual values, and not blind obedience to brute force."

Risorgimento Liberale. June 6th. in a leading article entitled "L'Ora dell'Italia" writes: "The Germans are in flight from the gates of Rome. Along the roads which lead to the Abruzzi and Tuscany long lines of armoured cars, mechanised transport, guns and batches of disordered and worn infantrymen are moving towards their dark destiny. They are accompanied by the execrations of a whole people The men who yesterday passed through the streets of Rome, pale, exhausted, with the marks of lost confidence on their faces, are the men who used to devastate peaceful countries, attack unarmed populations, destroy with inextinguishable ferocity cities and villages....

"It will not be we Liberals to recall the traditions of solidarity which linked the Italian people with the Anglo-Saxon countries throughout modern

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

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"It will not be we Liberals to recall the traditions of solidarity which linked the Italian people with the Anglo-Saxon countries throughout modern history. Today we will welcome them with the dignified calm of those who have nothing with which to reproach themselves. At the same time we cannot hide within ourselves a feeling of sadness. We are the first not to conceal the fact that the sorrow and distruction which our country has suffered, are the just expiation of a past which was stronger than ourselves."

Risorgimento Liberale, June 6th reports in large headlines the news of the landing in France by Allied troops. An article entitled "The Allies and ourselves", signed by the initials M.L. says among other things:

3675

"The government of July 25th, if it could scornfully reject, on its own behalf and that of Italy, the accusation of treachery, could not however, have the moral authority which derives from a freely chosen and generously followed line of political conduct. This explains the

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

the diffidence of the Allies, th e reserve which, to a certain point, they showed. The Bari government was the defeated government, the signatory of an Armistice of defeat. Its war against Germany was legitimate defence against an agressor, but had nothing to do with the motives for which the United Nations state that they are fighting.

"These, however, are internal Italian questions, while..what the United Nations should take as a basis for their evaluation of the Italian the fact that today in Rome they are in contact with the Italian people. To doubt him is impossible in a city where for nine months, daring the best organised and most cruel police force in the world, the leaders of the democratic parties, the officials, soldiers, patriots, strong in the solidarity of all citizens, have plotted and struggled without respite, even when the period of waiting seemed to stretch into infinity. To give the Italian people, from Rome, the recognition of the place which is due to them in a war for civilisation and for the survival of human values is now not only a duty of justice, but an act of political skill. Only this will put an end to the ambiguities, the last hesitations, and will gather round the Allied armies the army of 1915 and 1918. This will be the way to show that in this war it is ideologies and barbarities that will be defeated, but not peoples."

Giornale d'Italia (June 6th) The director of the paper is Armando Zanetti, editor Roberto Trombetti. A paragraph in the paper announces that Alberto Bergamini has transferred the direction of the paper to Armando Zanetti and adds: "The tradition set by Alberto Bergamini and continued by Vittorio Vettori, to whose memory we salute, is taken up again after eighteen years of Fascist bilgewater. It is the tradition of a profoundly liberal, but not a party newspaper; of a newspaper which desires to reflect national and international life in all its manifestations. In these last few days it has been proposed that all except the party newspapers should change their names. We accepted this change to show that, in moments of crisis, firmness of character does not exclude reasonable compromise. But we are glad that at the last moment all decisions on this subject were postponed. If we have to change the name of everything which the last eighteen years of totalitarian regime has profaned and poisoned, we would have to change the name of Italy herself and of all her institutions. But it is the property of great peoples to survive the worst illnesses."

Like the organ of the Democrazia del Lavoro, Ricostruzione, the paper carries the message of Ivanoe Bonomi, President of the Committee of National Liberation spoken at Piazza Colonna. "

"People of Rome, I salute you in this hour of exultation. Rome is freed. The German army is in flight and with it in its flight are the last remains of the tragic Fascist domination. In these long months

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

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"People of Rome, I salute you in this hour of exultation. Rome is freed. The German army is in flight and with it in its flight are the last remains of the tragic Fascist domination. In these long months of waiting you will have learnt that the pretended ally was nothing but the traditional enemy of Italy, and that Fascism was nothing but its servant ready, in order to live again, to betray the country.

"Today one stage has been passed: Rome is freed. But, citizens of Rome, we must think of a higher aim: the liberation of Italy. Our brothers who are still in the occupied areas are living with their blood the epic pages of the new Italian risorgiment. The people of Rome must go towards these brothers to free them, the Italian armed forces must take up their march again and fight this new war to cancel the shame of the war which was imposed on them.

"Citizens of Rome, draw in your ranks, temper your hearts for the new battle, and we will go towards our brothers who are waiting to free them, thefree Italy who will certainly be more just and more fair to her sons."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

The paper declares that at Bonomi's words many young men replied with the enthusiastic shout of "We want to fight!"

In the editorial entitled "Liberation" we read: "Liberty today means concord. Not the passive concord of those who are accustomed to obey authority no matter what it may be; but that active concord that never gives up its rights to speak but knows through action how to accept the just compromise. The work of the Committee of Liberation in which all collaborate and all appreciate one another from Liberals to Communists but in which all maintain their own opinion, should be an example for all. The guarantee of all liberties especially in this period of war in which so many great and small liberties have to be taken away by force majour is the freedom of the press. Here alone absolute intransigence is essential. The great free peoples such as the English and the Americans are an example that war discipline is compatible with the widest liberty to criticise and with the most perfect freedom of the press."

L'Italia Libera (5th June) Party of Action.

In the editorial called "Four Years After", readers are reminded that four years have passed since that afternoon on the tenth of June, 1940, when a raucous and repugnant voice announced that a period had opened in which civilization would be wiped out. And indeed this was the only promise effectively maintained by the Fascist government. Elsewhere is told how the joy of liberation is clouded by the presence of many people without a roof scattered throughout the city and in those concentration camps where for many months entire populations of formerly flourishing towns and villages now destroyed by total war, have been left to languish by the German High Command.

L'Unità (6th of June) Communist.

The editorial entitled "Rome" says: "For months the Romans have fought the Germans and their wretched Fascist accomplices. Another war is about to begin, a war in the open and with equal arms in the ranks of the Italian corps of liberation. The old battle cry of the Italian people 'O Roma O Morte' now becomes for every Roman another cry of recovery and victory, or 'O Italia O Morte'. Rome's liberation will give a new meaning to our national war which will be felt from the Tiber to the Alps."

In the same number of the paper readers are warned that the Italian Communist Party has no responsibility for the activities, publications and demonstrations of a so-called Italian Communist Movement installed in Via Di Pietro. (It is unlikely that this move-

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

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Voce Operaia (5th June) Catholic Communist Movement; editor Fedele D'Amico.

An announcement in heavy type warns the members of the Council that they are to meet at five o'clock in the old clandestine headquarters of the movement in the Vicolo Santa Maria in Cappella in Trastevere. A long front page article called "The Catholic Communists in the War of Liberation" deals briefly with the movement's activity during the months of occupation. It says that the Voce Operaia was published fourteen times and secretly distributed in northern Italy. The movement also claims to have organized the strike on the 3rd May in Rome. "Alone among all the others our movement fulfilled to the

SECRET

3674

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

letter and with complete success all the tasks assigned to it by the Committee of Liberation; our members demobilised tramways, shut down shops and succeeded in causing a complete strike among the distributing agents of the Messaggero, the only fact that the Fascist press was forced to recognize." In another part of the paper it is claimed that today the Party becomes a legal entity, conscious of its duties to collaborate in national reconstruction to which it will direct Catholic working masses. Members of the Party, writes the paper, have known Fascist prisons, persecution and torture chambers. Several of their best men have been killed. The names of Romualdo Chiesa, student, and of Guerrino Sbardella, worker, must be recorded at the head of the list of their martyrs.

Libera Stampa (7th June) The Paper of the People.

The subtitle of this paper declares that it represents the views of a group of anti-fascist journalists, without adhering to any precise political doctrine. "This paper wishes to reflect the views of a group of men whose past is itself the guarantee of professional experience an political honesty. They wish today to reaffirm the right to freedom of the press not only as a means for expressing opinions but also as a truthful instrument of a nation." The Director of the paper is Ermete Santucci.

N.B. Il Messaggero was directed during German occupation by the Fascist Bruno Spampanato. On the fifth of June it appeared under the direction of Tommaso Smith. A passage in italics declares that Smith "after twenty years of involuntary absence returned to journalism on the 25th of July, 1943. Arrested, he managed to escape from deportation by the Germans and has now taken over direction of the paper."

LIST OF NEUTRAL PRESS CORRESPONDENTS IN ROME

SWITZERLAND

Antonio Scanzini	Agenzia Telegrafica Svizzera	Bern
Robert Rodel	Neue Zuricer Zeitung	Zurich
	Journal de Geneve	Geneva
Alfred Keppler	BUND	Bern
	Tagenanzeiger	Zurich
Otto Schmidt	Gazette de Lausanne	Lausanne
	Stockholm Tidningen	Stockholm
George Popoff	Basler Nachrichten	Basle
	Die Tat	Zurich

SWEDEN

Gunhild Bergh	Goteborgs Handels	Goteborg

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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	Stockholm Tidningen	Stockholm
George Popoff	Basler Nachrichten	Basle
	Die Tat	Zurich
SWEDEN		
Gunhild Bergh	Goteborgs Handels	Goteborg
	Och Sjofartstidning	Goteborg
Arvig Johanneson	Svenka Dagbladet	Stockholm
SPAIN		
Luis Gonzales Alonso	Ja	Madrid
	El Pueblo	Madrid
Julio Loriones Casas	Agenzia E.F.E.	Madrid
	Diario	Madrid

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

APPENDIX I

The approaches to Rome.

Survey on the town of Arpino.

Arpino is the first town of some importance met so far on the 8th Army front since the offensive started which has not been fought for or destroyed by German or Allied air activities. The town is undamaged, only a couple of buildings blown up by the Germans to blick the road.

The pop lation of 11,000 plus 6 to 9,000 refugees led a normal life throughout the battle. Arpino was a kind of rest camp for German troops, and several German units were always stationed in the town and vicinities. Their morale was rather good. There was a big force of guardie repubblicani. The population was always passive, made money with the German troops and lived an easy life.

The country is fairly rich, lands are good. No big land owners, but several small propietors. A large percentage of the population is composef of emigrees, who returned to the country with money, bought lands and lived happily. No movements of ressistance or organized committees of Liberation have been registered.

The Mayor, a certain Gustavo d'Emilio and the Secretary Giuriolo were both arrested by the F.S.S. Giuriolo was hated by the population.

The Black Market was very flourishing owing to thenumerous troops. Prices:

Flour	150 lire per kilo
Salt	400 lire per kilo
Bread	150 lire per kilo
Wine	50 to 70 lire per litre.

The German troops were rather popular in the town until they started looting before their retreat. Fortunately the withdrawal was very hasty and not much harm could be done.

Most of the Guardie repubblicani were hated. Attached is a list of them given by a Lt. of the Carabinieri Palisic Vincenzo.

There were very few wireless sets and the Allied broadcasts are listened at very secretly and only for the news bulletin.

Following were interviews:

Avv. REA. - He is the most popular man in the town belonging

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

The pop lation of 11,000 plus 6 to 9,000 refugees led a normal life throughout the battle. Arpino was a kind of rest camp for German troops, and several German units were always stationed in the town and vicinities. Their morale was rather good. There was a big force of guardie repubblicani. The population was always passive, made money with the German troops and lived an easy life.

The country is fairly rich, lands are good. No big land owners, but several small propietors. A large percentage of the population is composef of emigrees, who returned to the country with money, bought lands and lived happily. No movements of ressistance or organized committees of Liberation have been registered.

The Mayor, a certain Gustavo d'Emilio and the Secretary Giuriolo were both arrested by the F.S.S. Giuriolo was hated by the population.

The Black Market was very flourishing owing to thenumerous troops. Prices:

Flour	150 lire per kilo
Salt	400 lire per kilo
Bread	150 lire per kilo
Wine	60 to 70 lire per litre.

The German troops were rather popular in the town until they started looting before their retreat. Fortunately the withdrawal was very hasty and not much harm could be done.

Most of the Guardie repubblicani were hated. Attached is a list of them given by a Lt. of the Carebinieri Palisic Vincenzo.

There were very few wireless sets and the Allied broadcasts are listened at very secretly and only for the news bulletin.

Following were interviews:

Avv. REA. - He is the most popular man in the town belongig to an old respected family.

The A.M.G. wanted to appoint him new mayor. Pretends to be a Monarchist and Democrat. He said the population is very good and passive, and no political troubles are to be expected. He does not believe in a Communist danger in Italy.

He thinks that the town should be purged of a few dangerous elements, but he would not like to do it.

3673

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Report on Fontana Liri.

Fontana Liri is a village distant a few miles from Arpino. Population 5 to 6000 peasants and workers. There was an ammunition factory in the vicinity.

The only factor of some interest is the political situation raised after the armistice which led to the appointment of the new mayor. Following are the facts found out after several interrogations.

After the armistice, there were several British and South Africans escaped prisoners in the surroundings of Fontana Liri. They were helped and assisted by the population and a small armed group was found under the leadership of D'Innocenzo and proposed and association to form a Comitato di Liberazione. This was accepted. Several prisoners were assisted and helped.

Later on, for reasons not ascertained, but probably political dissensions, a dispute led to a division of the Comitato at the beginning of January. La Via and Giannette formed a new Comitato with a Col. Martinelli.

Martinelli worked in the ammunition factory. He contacted a secret Badoglio organization in Rome and got funds to help prisoners. (The leader of this organization is presumed to be Maresciallo Bastico and the secretary Lt. Col. Bertoni Nino; viela dell' Universita, Roma, Telef. 491645.)

D'Innocenzo carried on with his gang. Both groups helped a few prisoners. Just before the Allied troops arrived, D'Innocenzo arrested Gianetti and Col. Martinelli and took over the administration of Fontana. D'Innocenzo is apperently a convinced Communist. He is popular in Fontana. With his strong political sentiments, he is inclined to be dictatorial. Might create political trouble later on.

Report on Frosinone

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

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Report on Frosinone.

The following information was obtained from Ten. Marzi Arnaldo, Frosinone, by a P.W.B officer.

a) Every town in Italy has an organized Comitato de Liberazione included the various parties. For action various groups are organized called G.A.P. (Gruppo Azione Patriotica.)

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The Comitato of Frosinone was composed by:

Avv. Merzi, Domenico, father of Ten. Merzi
Speziani, Antonio, Liberal
Don Minetto, Luigi, Demo-Christian
Antonini, Vittorio, Azione
Serafino, Spilabocca, Communist
Angelilli, Giuseppe, Demo-Christian
Maschiotti, Cesare, Liberal

They were hidden in the country and met when possible. They could not deploy great activity owing to the number of German troops in the area. In the whole province there are about 20 Gruppi di Azione.

Major activity is deployed in the regions away from the front line. Not much information could be given because organizations and names are kept very secret.

Following towns were under Frosinone's comitato:

Anegni	- leader of resistance movements				Ten. Quatrocci.
Vercli	- leader of resistance movements				Ing. Carossi
Guareino	-	"	"	"	Maj. Volpicelli, Dante
Guareino		"	"	"	Brothers Bertoli
Alteri		"	"	"	Maestro Baroni
Sgurgola		"	"	"	Pallone

Paliano is one of the regions of greatest activities and better organized resistance; the leader is a man named Rigetto.

b) In Frosinone the movement started immediately after the armistice and got rather wll organized. Then owing to the formation of the fascist republican government, had a long crisis and began to be reorganized in January. Contacts were made with Rome. Several Clandestine newspapers were sent from Rome. The Avanti, Bandiera Rossa, Italia Libera, Only one wireless set was available, and all Allied broadcasts listened to.

Activities of the Comitato: Several telephone wires cut. Mines neutralised. Small individual attacks on German soldiers. They took over administration as soon as the Allied troops entered the town.

c) In the Marche and Umbria the G.A.P. are very well organised and operate with great success on a large scale.

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

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In Umbria for a long time the village of Umbertide was occupied by the Partisns.

The Germans refused to give transport to deliver food to the populstion of Umbria, because all trucks were attacked. 3672

d) B.B.C. was listened to as well as Bari- Naples, which were being colsely followed for instructions on what to do. A grave difficu,ty was that the electric power plants were destroyed by the Germans and battery sets are scarce. It is strogngly urged by Marzi that more copies of Italia Combatte should be drooped from the air.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No. 8 APO 512

1375

"D" Section, Italy (Lib.) June 2nd 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 21

Part I Summary

* *

During the week the attention of most Italians has been centred on the Allied advance, and in particular, on Rome. Mercurial by character, Italians have grown optimistic and actively interested in the war since the offensive started. They have become acutely conscious of the part being played by their countrymen who are fighting in Occupied Italy, and they are curious to know more of the contribution of the Italian armed forces in Liberated Italy.

Mr. Churchill's speech created a most favourable impression. For some time the belief had gradually gained ground among many Italians that British policy towards Italy was hard and was largely responsible for the severity of the Armistice terms. Many reports during the last weeks have shown that Italians believe that the Americans show a greater sympathy for Italy's plight than the British, who are often considered to be rather contemptuous towards Italians. Some Italian are firmly convinced that Allied policy in Italy is principally initiated and directed by Great Britain, and, though they may regret this, they watch carefully for any sign of a clarification of policy from Great Britain. Italiansnoted that the tone of Mr. Churchill's speech was particularly friendly in the references he made to Italy. The speech could not have come at a more opportune moment, as it did much to encourage those Italians who are taking an active part in the war effort. The praise given to the Italian Air Force, and the promise that the Prime Minister would do everything possible to supply the Air Force with British aircraft, was noted with particular pleasure. The praise given to the Italian navy and the Italian army were also appreciated. The statement that he found it difficult to nourish any feeling of animosity against the Italian people (and the fact that these words were greeted with applause in the House of Commons) was particularly welcome to Italian who are at present suffering from an inferiority complex and a feeling of isolation. The Prime Minister's assurance that the Allies would not permit the establishment of any form of Fascist government, and his expression of confidence in the present democratic government were also favourably received.

After the divergency of views between the Minister of Education and the Rector and students of Bari University has been set-

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strations should have broken out spontaneously in Naples, and it is reported that Catholic and Monarchist, and neo-Fascist elements were the instigators. Omodeo takes a serious, long-term view of the educational problem, and believes that the whole system must be reorganized. Hence, in the desire to increase the seriousness of studies in Italian schools, he re-introduced the principle of compulsory examinations. Otherwise the students could get diplomas without having to pass examinations, probably through personal influence. Omodeo has stated that he will not give way on this issue.

In conversation with a P.W.B. officer, Count Sforza said that he was collecting evidence about the activities of those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans. As soon as he received such evidence he would bring to punishment those who had been responsible for the crimes of Fascism. He noted how many senior Italian officers were now putting their faith in the Communists, as in this way they thought they could show their dislike of the British and Americans. Moreover, it was easier for them to adapt their minds to Communism than to Democracy, as they were accustomed to an authoritarian regime.

Various reactions to Allied Propaganda have been received. "Il Mese" continues to be commented on favourably. More recent numbers are reported to have improved in quality. The P.W.B. propaganda shop in Naples has met with a favourable response. The shop is generally crowded and it is said that it brings the Allied war effort home to the Neapolitans. On the other hand the P.W.B. posters have evoked unfavourable comment. In particular the poster telling Italians not to buy today at exaggerated prices in order to be able to buy tomorrow at lower prices has been criticised because it is felt that Italians cannot live on their bare rations and must therefore have recourse to the Black Market. The fear of inflation also acts as an incentive for Neapolitans to buy now. It is felt that propaganda cannot at this stage help to prevent Italians buying, until the fear of inflation is banished and there are more goods on the market. It is suggested that the Allies should open cooperative stores where a sufficient quantity of goods should be on sale at reasonable prices.

Radio Bari and Radio Naples were listened to in the area round Terracina during the German occupation. "Italia Combatte" was much liked.

The first reports from the territory most recently liberated speak of German looting and terroristic behaviour. Public utilities are not working, and Terracina, Formia and Littoria have been badly damaged.

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

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In Sicily the fixing if the price of grain at 1000 lire per quintal for hard corn and 900 lire for soft corn has been unfavourably received. It is pointed ut that these prices are below these of the actual cost of production in Sicily.

The Christian Democratic Party held a meeting on May 28th in Naples, at which Giulio Rodino, Minister without portfolio, spoke. He made a plea for closer cooperation between the anti-Fascist parties for the better prosecution of the war. He proposed regional and administrative autonomy and the vote for women.

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He suggested the expropriation of large estates and a greater degree of collaboration between capital and labour. Togliatti also addressed a few words on the necessity of a common understanding between Communist workers and Catholic peasants in a democratic and progressive Italy.

The Allied Sub-Commission of Fine Arts and Monuments is supervising the restoration of a number of Churches and other monuments in Sicily. The policy of the Sub-Commission is to patch up the damaged buildings by strengthening walls, and roofs to that these may resist until full restoration can be carried out in more peaceful times. Glass is unprocurable and therefore damaged windows cannot be replaced.

The Archbishop of Palermo has received through the Vatican a large number of messages from Italians in Germany to their relatives in Liberated Italy.

High ranking officers of the Italian Comando Supremo were offended at the Prime Minister's omission to mention that Italian troops were fighting in the present offensive. The recent announcement from General Alexander's headquarters that Italian troops had been at the front for the last two months and that they have taken part in the present advance will have done much to soothe ruffled feelings. It is to be noted that the Comando Supremo blames Badoglio for the lack of publicity given to the Italian fighting troops. The Comando Supremo has issued an order that all members of the Armed Forces at present working in other than the Service Ministries are to return to their units. Apparently this order has not been obeyed with alacrity as army and other officers are still to be seen in the government offices at Salerno.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer, Francesco Cerabona, the Minister of Communications stated that the telegraph and mail services were improving in spite of the present difficulties. It was more difficult, he said to improve the railway communications owing to the lack of rolling stock, but many measures have been taken to improve the administration. He suggested that the problem of clothing and feeding railway workers would be tackled and thought that special restaurants should be reopened using the "dopolavoro" premises, and the co-operative shops should be re-organized using the "Provvida" chain of stores.

The appointment of Mario Berlinguer to be Assistant High Commissioner for epuration has been well received in Sardinia, both because of the high regard in which he is held on the island and because of the appointment is regarded as rectifying the omission of a Sardinian member in the government.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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An interview with a rich Neapolitan industrialist is included. His views are interesting in so far as they probably reflect the views of other of his class.

An appendix containing reports on the activities of the Separatist movement in Sicily is attached.

SECRET.

3670

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Paragraph		Page
	EPURATION	
24	A.M.G. and A.C.C. Action with regard to Epuration	13
25	Reports from Catania	14
26	Removal of Celantani	14
	EDUCATION	
27	Translation of Poster stuck up on walls of Naples on May 30th	14
28	The Students on Strike	15
29	Elementary School Textbooks in Sicily	15
30	Elementary School Attendance in Sicily	15
31	A.C.C. Basic Recommendations for Education in Sicily	16
	HEALTH	
32	Effects of the Honesty Crusade	16
	ECONOMIC	
33	Sicilian reactions to fixing of grain price	17
34	Sicilian food prices	17
35	Distribution of oil in Sicily	18
36	Mixed cereals for bread making	18
37	Interview with Signor Pesenti	18
	PRESS	
38	"Sicilia Liberata" controversy	20
39	Suspension of "L'Idea"	21
	PUBLIC OPINION	
40	Naples reaction to Churchill's speech	22
41	Reaction to Commonwealth Prime Ministers	22
42	May 24th celebrations	22
43	Opinion of government	23
44	Attitude to France	23
45	Public opinion and the patriots	23

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

26	Removal of Commissari	
	EDUCATION	
27	Translation of Poster stuck up on walls of Naples on May 30th	14
28	The Students on Strike	15
29	Elementary School Textbooks in Sicily	15
30	Elementary School Attendance in Sicily	15
31	A.C.C. Basic Recommendations for Education in Sicily	16
	HEALTH	
32	Effects of the Honesty Crusade	16
	ECONOMIC	
33	Sicilian reactions to fixing of grain price	17
34	Sicilian food prices	17
35	Distribution of oil in Sicily	18
36	Mixed cereals for bread making	18
37	Interview with Signor Pesenti	18
	PRESS	
38	"Sicilia Liberata" controversy	20
39	Suspension of "L'Idea"	21
	PUBLIC OPINION	
40	Naples reaction to Churchill's speech	22
41	Reaction to Commonwealth Prime Ministers	22
42	May 24th celebrations	22
43	Opinion of Government	23
44	Attitude to France	23
45	Public opinion and the patriots	23

APPENDIX I Reactions to Propaganda
APPENDIX II Information from recently Liberated Areas.
APPENDIX III Sicilian Separatist developments
APPENDIX IV Miscellaneous interviews.

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

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 6 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Italy, (Lib). June 2, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO 21

Part II Annexes

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with Count Sforza	1
2	Interview with Omodeo	2
3	Difference of Opinion between Musotto and Aldisio	3
4	Sardinian Reaction to Berlinguer's Appointment	3
5	Ministry of the Interior - The New Press Bureau	4
6	Interview with H.E.Cerabona, Minister for Communications	4
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
7	New Prefect of Palermo	5
	ARMED FORCES	
8	Reaction to German and Fascist Prisoners	5
9	Interviews with General Infanti and General Rossi	6
10	Officers of the Armed Forces in the Ministries	6
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
11	Demo-Christian Meeting of the 28th May	7
12	The Monarchist Liberal Association	8
13	Interview with Manlio D'Ambrosio	8
14	Marxist movement at Torre Annunziata	9
15	Socialists in Sicily	9

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

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with Count Sforza	1
2	Interview with Omodeo	2
3	Difference of Opinion between Lusotto and Aldisio	3
4	Sardinian Reaction to Berlinguer's Appointment	3
5	Ministry of the Interior - The New Press Bureau	4
6	Interview with H.E.Corabona, Minister for Communications	4
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
7	New Prefect of Palermo	5
	ARMED FORCES	
8	Reaction to German and Fascist Prisoners	5
9	Interviews with General Infanti and General Rossi	6
10	Officers of the Armed Forces in the Ministries	6
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
11	Demo-Christian Meeting of the 28th May	7
12	The Monarchist Liberal Association	8
13	Interview with Manlio D'Ambrosio	8
14	Marxist movement at Torre Annunziata	9
15	Togliatti in Sicily	9
16	Political parties at Messina	9
17	Sicilian Christian-Democrat Party	10
18	Political Situation in Ragusa and Siracusa Province, Sicily	10
19	Democrazia Sociale	10
20	Party of Union in Sicily	10
	RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION	
21	Restoration of Churches and Monuments in Sicily	12
22	Messages from Occupied Territory	12
23	The Refugee Problem: Interview with Zaniboni	12

3669

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785621

SECRET

CONTENTS Page 2

Paragraph		Page
	EPURATION	
24	A.M.G. and A.C.C. Action with regard to Epuration	13
25	Reports from Catania	14
26	Removal of Celantani	14
	EDUCATION	
27	Translation of Poster stuck up on walls of Naples on May 30th	14
28	The Students on Strike	15
29	Elementary School Textbooks in Sicily	15
30	Elementary School Attendance in Sicily	15
31	A.C.C. Basic Recommendations for Education in Sicily	16
	HEALTH	
32	Effects of the Honesty Crusade	16
	ECONOMIC	
33	Sicilian reactions to fixing of grain price	17
34	Sicilian food prices	17
35	Distribution of oil in Sicily	18
36	Mixed cereals for bread making	18
37	Interview with Signor Pecenti	18
	PRESS	
38	"Sicilia Liberata" controversy	20
39	Suspension of "L'Idea"	21
	PUBLIC OPINION	
40	Naples Reaction to Churchill's speech	22
41	Reaction to Commonwealth Prime Ministers	22
42	May 24th celebrations	22
43	Opinion of Government	23
44	Attitude to France	23
45	Public opinion and the patriots	23

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

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	PRESS	
38	"Sicilia Liberata" controversy	20
39	Suspension of "L'Idea"	21
	PUBLIC OPINION	
40	Naples reaction to Churchill's speech	22
41	Reaction to Commonwealth Prime Ministers	22
42	May 24th celebrations	22
43	Opinion of government	23
44	Attitude to France	23
45	Public opinion and the patriots	23

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APPENDIX II Information from recently Liberated Areas.
APPENDIX III Sicilian Separatist developments
APPENDIX IV Miscellaneous interviews.

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

RELIABILITY AND EVALUATION

For the purpose of psychological warfare intelligence, this report includes expressions of public opinion, rumours, and statements of fact which it has not been possible to verify.

Unless a report is taken from official sources, or is known by a PWB officer to be true, it will carry one of the following reliability ratings:

Source	(reliability)	Report	(probability)
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable
0	not possible to judge	0	not possible to judge

Rumours which are of interest only as such, and are unlikely to have any foundation in fact, will be reported under a heading or in such a context as to make it plain that they are rumours, and will not carry reliability ratings.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS REPORT IS CLASSIFIED "SECRET".

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0	not possible to judge	0	not possible to judge

Rumours which are of interest only as such, and are unlikely to have any foundation in fact, will be reported under a heading or in such a content as to make it plain that they are rumours, and will not carry reliability ratings.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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2 June 1944

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PART II Annexes

1. Interview with Count Sforza.

In conversation with a PWB officer Count Sforza spoke of his work in punishing Fascists for their crimes. He believes that it is essential to strike at those prominent Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans or who had committed atrocities. His committee was collecting material and information on the activities of various prominent Fascists in liberated Italy. As soon as he had evidence he would act. He had been given a completely free hand by the Italian government. His only difficulty was in regard to officers of the Italian army as Badoglio seems anxious to defend all members of the army. For example, the other day he asked the three Service ministers in the presence of Badoglio to give him the names of leading Italian officers who had betrayed the country after the Armistice. Complete silence followed this question and so he said that if they would not give him the names he would have to find them himself as he was determined to do. As this provoked no reply he then said, "Well, what about General Pirzio-Biroli, who had committed a series of atrocities in the Balkans?" Badoglio immediately defended Pirzio-Biroli. Notwithstanding this he was determined to make examples of certain leading Generals as soon as he has sufficient evidence to prove their complicity with the Germans. According to the new law he could only punish those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans since the Armistice.

Sforza was disturbed by the fact that the Carabinieri were going into Rome accompanied by members of the S.I.M. He believed that the S.I.M. was a highly dangerous organization as most of its leaders had collaborated closely with the Germans right up to the Armistice and it was difficult to imagine that they could altogether forget this association. Most of them were reactionary and Fascist by nature and he was afraid that if they went into Rome they would instruct or advise the Carabinieri to arrest many of the Italians who had been helping us in Rome during the last few months. So preoccupied was he by the fact that the S.I.M. were going into Rome that he had decided to bring this question up personally with Badoglio.

He believed that there were certain advantages in Badoglio being Prime Minister. He himself liked Badoglio and he felt that many measures could be carried out in the name of Badoglio that it would be more difficult to carry out if he were Prime Minister. Badoglio obviously had a greater following among the Armed Forces than he had. Moreover he felt that Badoglio was more persona grata to the British Government than he was.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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He felt that the demonstrations against Croce's measures had been organized by the Catholics and he could not help feeling that Tervolino, the Catholic Undersecretary of State for Education was partly responsible for these demonstrations.

He could not say whether a provisional government might be set up in Rome before the Allies entered although he did not think so. He thought it might be possible.

He further said that the Communists and the Generals were working very closely together in Italy at present. Senior Italian officers were anxious to retain their posts and believedthat the Communists were the strongest force in the government. They were therefore determined to cooperate closely together. Moreover it

3667

SECRET

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

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was easier for Fascists to move from Fascism to Communism, than from Fascism to Democracy as the two authoritarian systems were more similar. Also the Senior Italian officers found that by moving towards Communism they could vent their profound dislike of England and America. They were less hostile to Russia than they were toward Democratic powers.

2. An Interview with Omodeo

In conversation with a PWB officer Adolfo Omodeo, the Minister of Education, spoke of the recent protests raised by his measures desiring to suppress the additional Faculties established at Bari University, and the Magistero at Salerno. Omodeo believed that it was necessary to reform and recreate the whole structure of Italian education which had been corrupted by Fascism. One of the most serious problems which would confront any democratic government would be the education of youth. There may be a few young men here and there who had reacted against Fascism and who had remained uncorrupted but the mass of students had unfortunately been consciously or unconsciously influenced by Fascism. This work of reconstruction would only be completed in a great many years. In universities and schools many professors and teachers had been appointed solely through their Fascist merits and through intrigue. Many scholarly serious teachers and professors had been excluded from universities and schools because they would not compromise with Fascism. Particularly in Southern Italy there was a paucity of qualified teachers. The standard of Education had been gradually lowered during the last 20 years. The seriousness of studies had been undermined. Omodeo thought that it was essential to take a long term view of education in Italy and it was therefore imperative to strike at the roots of the problem now. With the present scarcity of teachers and professors he thought it unwise to create new faculties in a university like Bari or to found a magistero at Salerno. However it had never been his intention to suppress the faculty at Bari or the Magistero in Salerno immediately. He had envisaged a gradual process. Traccacreta, the rector of the University of Bari, had acted precipitately by resigning without consulting Omodeo; as soon as he had heard of Traccacreta's resignation, he asked him to come to Salerno so that he could explain his measures in detail. As a result of this conversation they were in agreement but unfortunately when the Bari rector returned to Bari he published a communique stating that Omodeo had retreated from his position. This was not the case.

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Omodeo drew a distinction between the protests aroused in Bari and the demonstrations now going on in the various schools against his measures to re-introduce examinations into the schools. These demonstrations he believed were organized by Catholics and Monarchists and were only too reminiscent of the demonstrations arranged and organized by the Fascists in 1940 when young boys were given a day's holiday in the schools to make demonstrations in favor of entering the war. The Minister was determined to stand firm on this question as he believed that it is essential for students to pass examinations if they are to receive diplomas or degrees. Otherwise the whole seriousness of studies in Italy would be undermined. A fundamental principle was raised by this issue and he would take the necessary action to see that these examinations were enforced. As more of Italy is liberated he hoped there would be a greater supply of qualified professors and teachers as the better ones were mostly in Northern Italy.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The Minister then went on to speak of his other post of defascistization. He was setting up a small office to deal with this problem. He believed it was essential to remove Fascists from office not only in liberated Italy but in German-Occupied Italy so that there would be one standard by which all these men could be judged. It would certainly be easier to remove Fascist elements in Northern Italy because there would be a greater volume of evidence testifying to their collaboration with the Germans.

Omodeo then went on to speak of relations between Democratic Italy and the Allies. He hoped that the Allies would gradually have more confidence in the intentions of the new Italy. He welcomed Mr. Churchill's speech as indicative of the greater confidence the New Italian Government had acquired in England. He hoped that the Allies would treat Italy less as a conquered power than as a country which was anxious to collaborate with the war effort. Otherwise we would be repeating the same mistake we had made with Democratic Germany after the last war. It is essential to build up the prestige of Democracy in Italy so that the democratic leaders would gain the confidence and support of the Italian people.

3. Difference of Opinion between Musotto and Aldisio

Serious divergences of opinion have occurred between H.E. Aldisio, Minister of the Interior, in the course of his visit to Palermo, and the High Commissioner for Sicily, Musotto.

It was noted that Musotto was not present at the dinner offered in honour of Aldiso by the Committee of Liberation at the Massimo Restaurant on the 5th of May, but dined in another restaurant with the Minister of Public Works, Albert Tarchiani.

The cause for the divergences was believed primarily to be Aldisio's decided stand against Separatism. He expressed his determination to do all in his power to eradicate it in Sicily. Musotto, while not belonging officially to any party, is known on the other hand for his Separatist leanings.

Aldisio himself told a PWB officer that he mistrusts Musotto as having been connected with the Separatists.

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

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Italian collaborators in Cagliari and Sassari report that the appointment of Mario Berlinguer to be Assistant High Commissioner for Epuration has been very well received in Sardinia, both because of the high regard in which Berlinguer is held in the island, and because the appointment is regarded as to some extent rectifying the omission of a Sardinian member in the new government.

SECRET

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

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5. Ministry of the Interior - The New Press Bureau

In an interview with a PWB officer, Signor Sansonetti complained that like many other Government officials, he had no car, a fact which added greatly to his difficulties. He stated that it was proposed to found a Government Press Bureau in order to disseminate information concerning the work of the Cabinet and Italian affairs in general. He hoped that this would facilitate matters for Allied officers and journalists and reduce the number of interviews required of busy officials.

Among other subjects discussed was the lack of outside news in Italy. In some villages newspapers were scarce and there was a demand for wall newspapers such as are now being exhibited in the towns. As for himself, he wished that he could see more American and British newspapers and periodicals as he was uninformed about public opinion and trend of ideas abroad, and he knew he was not alone in this matter. He felt that this was a matter not only for official press and propaganda bureaus, but also for Allied officers and officials throughout the whole of liberated Italy.

6. Interview with H.E. Cerabona, Minister for Communications, Salerno, 28.5.44.

Sig. Cerabona belongs to the Labour Democracy Party.

Sig. Cerabona states that telegraph and mail are improving every day in spite of the present difficulties. Naturally on the main roads it certainly will be very difficult if . . . to provide proper communications for small centres.

The same improvements are to be noted for motor coach connections from town to town. Private firms were asked in a rather compulsory way to provide motor coaches, appealing to their patriotism and threatening to take away licenses. Time-tables have been reasonably revised so as to be more convenient to the usual customers.

Direct connections between Potenza and Salerno, Bari and Naples are planned.

With regard to railway lines, big improvements cannot be expected for lack of rolling stock, but a number of measures have been taken for a better running of the administration. For example there is much speculation on the sale of railway tickets. Increasing the number of ticket offices should prevent the speculation.

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

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6. Interview with E.T. Cerabona, Minister for Communications, Salerno, 26.5.44.

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The whole Matera Province has not a single station functioning. The Minister suggests that the solution can be found only with the help of the Allies.

Another urgent problem to solve is the housing and the feeding of railway workers. Special restaurants should be reopened using the "Dopolavoro" premises, cooperative shops should be re-organized using the "Provvida" chain of stores.

Another scandalous matter should be settled immediately;

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

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robbery of goods from railway trucks. A special "guard" should be organized, being careful not to include personnel of the old Fascist Militia, which was very dishonest.

These are small matters, but it is urgent to stop all these abuses. Minister Cerabona hopes for a closer collaboration of railway men's unions.

The main objective certainly is to find a sufficient number of railway trucks to transport goods from one province to another, which would mean a partial solution of the Italian alimentary problem, but this matter is out of the Minister's competence as organization of railway trucks is under ACC control.

The Minister counts on the willing collaboration of the Italian people. (B-2).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

7. New Prefect of Palermo

H. E. Paolo d'Antona, formerly Prefect of Trapani, has been appointed the new Prefect of Palermo by the Minister of the Interior.

ARMED FORCES

8 Reaction to German and Fascist Prisoners

On May 30th a party of German and Fascist prisoners were landed at Pozzuoli (Naples) and drove through the streets on lorries. Many of the Italians were wearing the black shirt, and one of them shouted to the crowd, "Who commands here?" A Carabiniere answered, "The Carabinieri and His Majesty the King." Another voice from the lorry, in purest Italian, asked for fruit, as they passed a cart loaded with oranges and lemons. A small group of people threw about ten pieces of fruit in all, and the M.P.'s intervened.

The crowd as a whole appeared indifferent both to the German and Italian prisoners, though one or two of them were heard

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The crowd as a whole appeared indifferent both to the German and Italian prisoners, though one or two of them were heard to murmur in low voices that "they were also brothers" (presumably referring to the Italians).

The Lieutenant of Carabinieri, who supplied this report to an Italian collaborator of P.W.B., expressed the profoundest contempt for the population of Pozzuoli, who, he said, were ready to accept any regime, but he strenuously denied the report, current in Naples, that there had been a demonstration of enthusiasm for the prisoners. He thought that the people who threw the fruit did so only out of pity for the tired prisoners. The Carabinieri find this often happens when they are escorting a prisoner in handcuffs. (B2)

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

9. Interviews with General Infanti and General Rossi.

An Italian collaborator with P.W.B. visited General Infanti of the Italian Comando Supremo at Cava dei Tirreni on 25/5/44.

General Infanti was formerly military attaché at London and Washington and during the war he commanded a division in Greece. He returned to his country from Greece in the early part of this year.

General Infanti expressed considerable satisfaction that Italian combattant troops, equipped with Italian material, are fighting alongside the Allies. He was disappointed that more material had not been assigned to the Italians considering the amount captured by the Allies in Sicily. The General mentioned that there were 30,000 Italian fighting troops and 10,000 other Italian soldiers in the line, and that 300 Italian soldiers had been wounded during the first days of the new offensive.

Touching on the destruction the German soldiers may do during their retreat General Infanti remarked that the Comando Supremo was in contact with the Fascist Republican Army to avoid as much destruction as possible, or at the least to restrict it.

General Rossi, of S.I.M., was very indignant that in his recent speech during the debate in the House of Commons on Foreign Policy, Churchill had omitted to mention that Italian troops were playing an active part in the operations, when according to Rossi, these troops are taking part in the actual battle. In connection with the same subject General Rossi launched into a tirade against the Italian Government's Press Office, and in particular against Marshal Badoglio, whom he accused of not knowing how to defend Italy's interests. (B 3)

10. Officers of the Armed Forces in the Ministries.

The Salerno public is reported to disapprove of the sight of army officers in the Ministries (no reference to the three military ones) for two reasons: firstly, because it is thought that the place for Army officers is in the zone of operations, in view of Government declarations about the maximum war effort; and secondly, because suspicions are aroused that these officers are instruments of the reactionary monarchy and the High Command, who want to keep a watch on civilian organisations. Certainly the order put out by the High Command to the effect that all members of the Armed Forces serving in the Ministries were to return to their units has not been put into effect. (B 5)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

11 The Demo-Christian meeting of the 28th May.

There were about 300 people in the theatre, mostly middle-class people, shopkeepers, farmers and lawyers. There were practically no workers and only one priest. A large percentage of the audience consisted of elderly people

A lot of personalities were present: Aldisio, Jervolino, Togliatti for the Communists, Altavilla for the Liberals, Fermariello for the Combetants Association.

The main speaker was Giulio Rodino, Minister without Portfolio. The main point of his carefully prepared speech was to plead for cooperation between the anti-Fascist parties for the better prosecution of the war. He sketched the general programme and (highly moral) principles of the Demo- Christian party: the delicate institutional question was to be postponed till the liberation of Italy. It is to be noted that the present Demo-Christian leaders, who still nourish slightly philo-monarchical sentiments, are in fact soft pedalling the subject and wisely, as it is reported that the audience at this meeting gave a cold recepetion to all references to the monarchy.

Rodino further proposed regional and administrative autonomy and the vote for women (very much influenced by the Church), and stressed the importance of the peter-families in the life of the commune. He also suggested the expropriation of big property and a greater degree of collaboration between capital and labour, to the point of introducing co-responsibility for the workers.

When he mentioned the Government's work to improve the economic situation, the audience showed the most lively interest, and when he stressed the words "with the necessary approval of the Allies", voices retorted with such phrases as "hurry up or it will be too late". However, all references to the war were loudly approved with shouts of "Long live Churchill" and "Long live Russia".

On the whole the atmosphere of the meeting seemed most dignified and confident, but there was one black spot in the proceedings: a motion read out by Avv. Riccio attacking Omodeo's educational decrees. The rather embarassing atmosphere was not relieved by a student's enthusiastic shout of "Eia Eia for Rodino", because the next speaker, Jervolino, Demo-Christian Under Secretary for Education under Omodeo, hinted at the friction existing between

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

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The Minister Aldisio next spoke a few words of moderation to calm down the audience. He was followed by Lt. Col. Milanesi and by Togliatti who, continually pressed by the Demo-Christians; spoke briefly on the common understanding that must be found between Communist workers and Catholic peasants in a democratic and progressive Italy. These most accomodating (and shrewd) words were received with trust and pleasure by the audience. (E-2).

SECRET

3663

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

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12 The Monarchist Liberal Association.

In an interview with [redacted] officer, the young but cautious Umberto Zerilo, former secretary of the party, gave the information that a new national committee had been formed on 15th May, composed of older and more experienced men:-

Prince Colonna (president as before)
Avv. Crispo
Gen. Falange (not serving)
Avv. Cogliolo
Prof. Severi
Avv. Camile Cianca
Avv. Carlotto-Ferrari

He pointed out that the organization was not strictly a party. It had not adhered to the Democratic Front. Members of all parties could join as long as they were Monarchist. Many had. Avv. Crispo, for instance, was a member of the Demo-Christian party (an interesting link). There were also about 200 Communist peasants, who, he alleged, had been forced to join the Communist party and had now come to reaffirm their loyalty to the monarchy. Altogether the secretary said, there were about 20,000 adherents, mostly professional men, students, and farmers.

In a talk with a collaborator, Gen. Falange was also very courteous but even more cautious, denying any connection with any political party. (C-2).

13 Interview with Manlio D'Ambrosio.

On the 23rd May, Manlio D'Ambrosio, former deputy and president of the Social Democratic Party, in an interview with a P.W.B officer explained that he had been elected deputy in 1922, 1924 and also in 1925, when he was the only anti-Fascist in Italy elected. He had studied and written much on social problems and was very interested in the Beveridge plan. He said that in the eventful days of last autumn he had lost his brother and his wife and so had not felt like joining the Liberation Committees at that time. On the advice of Croce he had retired to Sorrento for a rest. But the Social Democratic party was very ancient, and to prove this he pulled out a 1924 election poster of himself as candidate for the Social Democratic Party. He therefore did not see why his party had not been included in the Liberation Committees. He declared that he was opposed to Socialism, which he had studied at length, but also advocated economic development, the reform of social insurance and living conditions, and a sound middle class political

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

Prince Colonna (president as before)
Avv. D'Ajuto
Gen. Palatucci (not serving)
Avv. Pogliano
Prof. Stefani
Avv. Camelo Cosa
Avv. Ceriotta-Ferrari

He pointed out that the organization was not strictly a party. It had not adhered to the Democratic Front. Members of all parties could join as long as they were Monarchist. Many had. Avv. Crispo, for instance, was a member of the Demo-Christian party (an interesting link). There were also about 200 Communist peasants, who, he alleged, had been forced to join the Communist party and had now come to reaffirm their loyalty to the monarchy. Altogether the secretary said, there were about 20,000 adherents, mostly professional men, students, and farmers.

In a talk with a collaborator, Gen. Palange was also very courteous but even more cautious, denying any connection with any political party. (C-2).

13 Interview with Manlio D'Ambrosio.

On the 23rd May, Manlio D'Ambrosio, former deputy and president of the Social Democratic Party, in an interview with a P.W.B officer explained that he had been elected deputy in 1922, 1924 and also in 1925, when he was the only anti-fascist in Italy elected. He had studied and written much on social problems and was very interested in the Beveridge plan. He said that in the eventful days of last autumn he had lost his brother and his wife and so had not felt like joining the Liberation Committees at that time. On the advice of Croce he had retired to Sorrento for a rest. But the Social Democratic party was very ancient, and to prove this he pulled out a 1924 election poster of himself as candidate for the Social Democratic Party. He therefore did not see why his party had not been included in the Liberation Committees. He declared that he was opposed to Socialism, which he had studied at length, but also advocated economic development, the reform of social insurance and living conditions, and a sound middle class political programme.

He assured the writer, that the common ground on which the new Democratic Front had met was a fundamential belief in the democratic rights of the people For this reason the Monarchist Association and the Demo-Liberal Party had withdrawn. His own party had no prejudices for the monarchy. The provisional Lieutenancy of the Realm seemed to him quite satisfactory. He added that only a week ago he had been summoned to see the Prince, who felt the need to give certain explanations for his statement in the Times interview. D'Ambrosio admitted that certain remarks

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

about the Italian people were unfortunate but he said that the Prince had allowed him to give the official explanation to his party that the journalists had only come on an informal chat and that when on being asked over the telephone for permission to publish what he had asked to see the text that was to be sent, the journalist had informed him that the article had already been released for publication. (S-3).

(A member of the Italian Foreign Office who has arranged the interview between the Crown Prince and the Times Correspondent told a P.W.B. officer that the Times correspondent had shown his message to him before sending it to London. He immediately got in touch with the A.D.C. of the Crown Prince and suggested that certain passages should be deleted. He was told that those were the views of the Prince and that the latter wished the message to go out as it stood.)

14 Marxist movement at Torre Annunziata.

It is reported that on the 13th May a newspaper was circulating in Torre Annunziata called "Il Pensiero Marxista" (this paper has also appeared in Naples), supposed to be printed in Bari. The fact that the majority of articles were signed by people living in Torre Annunziata, however, raises some doubts as to its origin. The aim of the paper seems to be to popularise Marxist-Communist theories, but they differ from the official Communist Party in their refusal to collaborate with other parties. The editors, who are said to be people expelled from the official party, accuse the Communist Party leaders of having betrayed the working class by collaborating with the "bourgeois" parties, and claim that it is a contradiction to fight against fascism, collaborating with the very classes which brought it about. It is because the bourgeois classes are responsible for the rise of Fascism that the class struggle is essential.

The publication of this newspaper, is considered, by a local Italian observer to be the first public action of the Communists who have split from the party, and all these dissident elements, at present unorganised, may well join together and form a new party. (C-3).

15 Togliatti in Sicily.

Palmiro Togliatti, head if the Italian Communist Party, was in Palermo on the 7th of May, for an extremely short visit. He left again the same evening. Togliatti has chosen as his

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

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16 Political parties at Messina.

The following political parties are at the moment represented in Messina Province:

1. Partito Repubblicano
2. Partito Repubblicano-socialista
3. Partito Socialista-Italiana
4. Partito Communista
5. Partito del Lavoro
6. Partito Democratico-Cristiano
7. Partito Democratico-Siciliano (Separatista)
8. Partito Democratico Sociale
9. Partito Liberale (Lega Italiana)

3662

SECRET.

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

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17 Sicilian Christian-Democrat Party.

The leader of the Sicilian Christian Democrat Party, Avv. Bernardo Mattarella, concluded on Wednesday 17th May, a four day visit to the Province of Trapani where he headed a drive to strengthen the organization and increase the members of his party.

18 Political situation in Ragusa and Siracuse Province, Sicily.

The political situation continues to be rather agitated, and the activity especially of the Separatist (Free Sicily) party has noticeably increased. The Separatists, finding themselves unpopular with all other anti-Fascist parties, are now resorting to more violent methods of propaganda, such as issuing public threats to their opponents, and even creating street-brawls. With the opening of the new Allied Offensive in Italy, there has been, among the civil population, a revival of interest in the outcome of the war, and capture of Rome is awaited in most quarters with interest. Petty theiving and black-marketeering are still rife, but less noticeable, owing to repressive measures by the Italian police authorities.

19 Democrazia Sociale.

The first regional meeting of the Partito Democratico Sociale in Sicily was held in Taormina on the 21st and 22nd May 1944. Present were On. Guarino Amella, leader of the Party, On. Saitta of Messina, On. Faranda of Catania, Ardizzone Sindaco of Catania, Stanchanelli Prefect of Messina, and some two hundred delegates. Approximately two hundred telegrams were received from others who were not able to attend. All the provinces with the exception of Palermo and Trapani were represented.

The Assembly expressed itself in favor of regional autonomy conceived in terms of three regions for Italy. It emphaiszied at the same time the necessity of maintaining Italian national unity. The claim was made that the Democrazia Sociale was more closely aligned with the Partito Democrazia del Lavoro and more representative of it than On. La Loggia's party, the Partito Laburiste Riformista (which has now been officially recognized as representing the Democrazia del Lavoro in Sicily). A commission was set up to re-examine and establish the definitive programme of the party.

An order of the day was passed recommending that the price of grain be fixed at 2000 lire per quintal for hard wheat and 1800 lira per quintal for soft.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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2o Party of Union in Sicily.

The Partito di Unione, which already exists in Brindisi and Catania, announced the formation of a local committee in Palermo on the 24th May, 1944 (anniversary of Italy's entry into the last Great War on the side of the Allies.)

The Governing Committees of the Palermo branch is composed of well-to-do gentlemen, with strong monarchist leanings and a vague liberal tradition.

SECRET.

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

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The founder of the party is Marchese Ammiraglio Aslan Granafei at Brindisi, its leader in Catania is Prince Borghese, Duca di Carcaci (of Naples), and of the governing committee in Palermo is as follows:

Prince Vincenzo Vanni di San Vincenzo
Ettore Cianciolo
Antonio Migliozzi
Marchese Giuseppe Spadafora
Maria Tonelli
Gabriele Martinez
Giuseppi Coppola
Prince Filiberto Castelcicala
Giovanni Airale

The Party of Union in Palermo considers itself attached to the regular constituted Liberal Party, but accepts the leadership of De Nicola, who is a monarchist, rather than of Croce.

The Party has already had a considerable adherence of young members, owing to the fact that some 500 persons belonging to the Sezione Giovanile of the Lega Italica recently seceded from this body and formed the Unione Giovanile Italia. This body is said to have been organised rather on fascist lines.

During the conversation which preceded the formation of the Partito di Unione, Prince Mirto of the Lega Italica opposed its foundation and then tried to put himself at the head of it; he claimed to have a following of 200,000 persons (presumably in the Lega Italia) and therefore to have the right to incorporate the new monarchist party under his leadership. No one else, he quite rightly said, had any following at all. He was however, discarded from the Governing Committee of the Partito di Unione, and suffered a further reverse when Prince Borghese arrived in Catania from Naples ostensibly to be at the head of the Lega Italia, but instead joined the Partito di Unione. The programme was drawn up and the Governing Committee formed on the 10th May, 1944.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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3660

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION

21 Restoration of Churches and Monuments in Sicily.

Fifty-five churches and thirty-one monuments are under reparation in Palermo. The policy of the Allied Sub-Commission for Arts and Monuments has been where possible to preserve the structure of ancient monuments and buildings until such time as they can be fully restored. With this in mind, walls have been strengthened, roofs mended, and precious art treasures removed to places of safety. Owing to the shortage of glass, however, windows cannot be replaced.

All churches, except those destroyed beyond reparation, have now been sufficiently restored to be used again for Divine Worship.

22 Messages from Occupied Territory

Cardinal Lavitrano, Archbishop of Palermo, has received from the Vatican 80,000 messages from Italians in German-occupied territory to relatives in liberated territory and elsewhere. About 65,000 are directed to families in Sicily.

23 The Refugee Problem: Interview with Zaniboni.

Interviews by a PWB officer on the 26th May, Signor Zaniboni explained the refugee problem in the following manner:

1. Employment - It is necessary to know what are the needs of employment in the various provinces, but great care must be taken to avoid the dispersal of families and even of groups. Linked up with this question is the problem of housing, since accommodation in Southern Italy is already overcrowded in peacetime. In Calabria the problem would be simplified as there was plenty of wood and huts could be erected. In other districts empty houses would have to be requisitioned.

2. Transport - At the present moment Signor Zaniboni has at his disposal only one broken down car that can barely do the trip from Salerno to Naples and is constantly out of order. The refugee

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

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2. Transport - At the present moment Signor Zaniboni has at his disposal only one broken down car that can barely do the trip from Salerno to Naples and is constantly out of order. The refugee organization requires a minimum of eighteen cars at least which would mean one for each provincial representative, and this requirement does not take into account the transportation of the refugees and their possessions.

3. Supplies - For the first month of their reception, the refugees are very well fed according to standards prevailing in Italy today, since they have 300 gr. of bread and 200 gr. of pasta per diem at the Allied reception centres. Indeed since many of them have been living on grass and wandering about the mountains, they are in danger of suffering from surfeit. One vital difficulty for them when they are launched into normal life is that they have no reserves of food or money, and that the bare rations as now issued are insufficient. Similarly most of them have only the clothes they are wearing and neither bedding or blankets. Some help has

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

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been given by the Allies in this respect, including clothing from the States and blankets from Army stores, but not sufficient to cover past or present needs which are growing from day to day. Special rations, too, are required for babies and expectant mothers, besides clothing and medical supplies.

4. Subsidies and allowances - The present rate is 12 lire a day for individuals, 10 lire a day for heads of families and 8 lire a day for children. This sum is clearly less than insufficient and will have to be increased.

Signor Cresta, Zaniboni's secretary, commented on the disillusionment which seized the refugees when they passed the lines and were treated roughly by the "Goums." Usually they were impressed by their reception by the British or American troops, but occasionally even these behaved as if they were in enemy territory. As the refugees have frequently risked their lives and possessions to cross the lines, it would seem advisable to do everything to keep their esteem as they consider the Allied troops to be their deliverers.

EPURATION

24 A.M.G. and A.C.C. action with regard to Epuration.

Prior to February 11th, 1944, when the Italian Government took over the administration of Sicily, 78 dismissals were made in schools and universities by A.M.G. and A.C.C. Only one dismissal has occurred after February 11th although A.C.C. has recommended the dismissal of 482 educational authorities. The following table shows the number of cases examined, the recommendation for dismissal and dismissals actually effected, in each of the nine provinces.

EPURATION OF EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN REGION ONE
As of April 30, 1944.

PROVINCE	CASES EXAMINED	DISMISSALS PRIOR TO 11TH FEB.	1 NAMES SENT TO ITALIAN MIN. OF ED.	DISMISSALS AFTER 11TH FEB.	2 TOTAL
Agrigento	23	10	6	-	16
Caltanissetta	34	6	29	1	36
Catania	356	20	16	-	36
			101	-	108

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

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PROVINCE	CASES EXAMINED	DISMISSALS PRIOR TO 11TH FEB.	NAMES SENT TO ITALIAN MIN. OF ED. [1]	DISMISSALS AFTER 11TH FEB.	TOTAL [2]
Agrigento	25	10	6	-	16
Caltanissetta	34	6	29	1	36
Catania	356	20	16	-	36
Enna	792	7	101	-	108
Messina	225	8	2	-	10
Palermo	366	13	164	-	177
Ragusa	654	1	87	-	88
Siracusa	5	6	58	-	64
Trapani	142	6	19	-	25

Note 1 Dismissal recommended by A.C.C. educational authorities.

Note 2 Represents total of dismissals and recommendations for dismissal

3659

SECRET

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

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25 Reports from Catania

Reports from Catania stress the lack of activity in epuration there and the prevalent discontent among the people when they find the same officials in government and business offices today as were there before the Allied landings. This is reported to be particularly the case in those offices which deal with the distribution of petrol, lubricating oils and those that issue travel permits. The same criticism is made of the officials of the prefecture, that they fail to realise that they live in new times.

It appears that the good intentions of the Commissioner and sub-commissioners for the liquidation of fascist firms and enterprises are frequently obstructed by other organisations and more particularly by officials of the Ministry of Finance. Recently the salaries of employees in these concerns, which had been set at a certain rate by A.C.C., have suffered what amounts to a 10 per cent reduction.

26 Removal of Celentan.

Ing. Celentan., Ungaro - Administrative Director of the Apulian Water Company.

It will be remembered that Engineer Celentan.'s case was not brought before the Bari provincial council of epuration. On 22/5, Celentan. was removed from his post on the order of Signor Tarchiani, Minister of Public Works in the Italian Government.

EDUCATION

27 Translation of Poster stuck up on walls of Naples on May 30th.

STUDENTS!

Our colleagues in all the towns of liberated Italy, from every class and every sort of school, inspired by moving sentiments of solidarity, and animated by an invincible sense of wounded dignity, are continuing their protests by staying out of school.

We in Naples will do no less! The decision of thousands of students is united and unchangeable: not to return to school unless the measure is cancelled!

An attempt to oppress the free will of the student youth by forcing it to accept untimely and irrational measures, with a dictatorial intransigence which is positively Fascist, is clearly

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

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An attempt to oppress the free will of the student youth by forcing it to accept untimely and irrational measures, with a dictatorial intransigeance which is positively Fascist, is clearly sabotage of the rebirth of the Italian conscience.

Do not let us be overcome by threats and by that cowardice which kept us slaves of Fascism for over twenty years, but let us abstain from noisy, disorderly demonstrations, avoiding dangerous disorder which interferes with Allied traffic: the best demonstration of our strength is to stay out of school.

The whole people must take part in our initiative, encouraging their children to persevere and dare everything in order to bring about the victory of right and justice.

If the Minister Omodeo wants to save the dignity and serious character of study:

LET HIM RESIGN

THE STUDENTS

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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2s The Students on Strike

The fact that in Salerno as in Naples high-spirited high school boys demonstrated and scribbled on walls is not in itself important. What is significant is the scientific organization of the demonstrations. It is estimated that about 4000 students took part in Naples. It is reported that at Naples, Salerno, Nocera and Avellino, there were pickets of boys blocking the entrances of the schools. Printed leaflets attacking the Minister were distributed in the Naples and Salerno districts. But leaflets cost money. In fact two boys, who were distributing them near Salerno, on being asked by an informant, admitted that "others" printed them and handed them out for distribution. The Demo-Christians and the Monarchists are those most interested to fan the flames. The former see their religious institutes and certain points of the concordat imperilled by the rather impetuous Minister of Education; the latter are glad of the opportunity to embarrass one of their greatest opponents.

In the political sphere, the observer remarks that the other parties realize that this criticism of Gmodeo reflects on the whole government but have evidently not been too eager to come out wholeheartedly in his defense. Indeed, though L'Azione, organ of his own party, came out in defense of the Minister in its May 27th number, it is reported that Gmodeo has come in for considerable inside criticism. (C-2 & B-2)

In the meantime there has been a slight lull. It is reported that on 31st May most of the boys had gone back regularly to work. (Questura report.)

2g Elementary School Textbooks in Sicily

Expurgated and revised reprints of the standard elementary school textbooks have now been published or are in the course of preparation for all except the First Class. All elementary schools are thus being serviced with regular state school textbooks.

In order to accelerate the production of elementary school textbooks one important change has however been made. This year, owing to the lack of paper and the short time available, only the urban series of elementary school textbooks has been published. Rural schools will therefore have to base their elementary school education on urban textbooks. (B-2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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30 Elementary School Attendance in Sicily

Approximately 85,600 children, or 20% of those inscribed in the elementary schools are not attending school at the present time. It is estimated that slightly more than one-half these, or 12%, are not attending school because of poverty, i.e., lacking of clothing such as shoes, etc.

There appears to be no great variation as to provinces as the percentage of absences estimated due to poverty ranged from 13% in Palermo and Messina provinces to 9% in Trapani and Enna.

Nor does there appear to be great variation between rural and urban centers.

SECRET

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

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The percent of absences due to poverty in Palermo was 2,649 or 13% of the total enrollment while in the province 8,605 absences were recorded due to poverty, which was 15% of the total enrollment.

31 A.C.C. Basic Recommendations for Education in Sicily

Certain basic changes have been recommended by the A.C.C. educational authorities in Palermo for Sicily. They are:

1. Add one year to the elementary school.
2. Establish 4 year common secondary schools providing for general education only.
3. Establish 3 year superior secondary schools providing for general and special education.
4. Establish magistero schools (for the function of teacher education) in enough universities so that the needs for elementary and secondary school teachers will be cared for.

HEALTH

32 Effects of the Honesty Crusade

The ecclesiastical authorities are continuing to encourage young women in Naples to take part in the Honesty Crusade, and the effects of this, according to a local observer, are already noticeable. He reports that evening classes are being held in many churches, in which the immoral behaviour of many women is strongly condemned and deprecated. Prostitution is said to be showing a tendency to decrease. This is largely because less Allied troops are stationed in Naples, but there has been an improvement independently of this, and the population is sure that the Honesty Crusade will be wholly successful. (C-3)

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

ECONOMIC

2. Sicilian reactions to the fixing of the price of grain.

The most debated matter in Sicily, since the government announcement, has been the fixing of the price of grain for producers at 1000 lire per quintal for hard corn and 900 for soft corn.

When this price was published on May 17th, there was an immediate and almost unanimous reaction against it, both on the part of consumers and producers. The political parties and other groups, as well as people in all walks of life are reported by the P.B officer in Palermo to take a decidedly unfavourable attitude.

It would seem that all classes of the Sicilian population fear that the new Granai del Popolo will attempt to collect grain in Sicily to ship to the mainland of Italy. Everyone is therefore determined to force the Italian government to recognise the maximum claims of consumers (as regards the amounts of bread and pasta needed by each person) and of producers (as regards the price to be paid for the grain)

FSP reports state that discontent is felt among the farmers in Catania, Ragusa and Siracusa provinces, as farmers find ... they cannot meet costs of production and sell at the price offered. In Catania local agriculturalists had been heartened by an article in the "Corriere" which propounded prices ranging from 1600 to 1800 a quintal for local grain have been seriously disheartened by the official prices of 900 to 1000 a quintal. It may be expected that this dissatisfaction will find a ready outlet by disregard of the Ammasso del Popolo and consigning of crops to the more profitable Black Market. Unless local conditions of labour and production it is likely that while the Ammasso may work in Italy, it certainly will not do so in Sicily.

3. Sicilian food prices.

There has been a marked rise in the price of essential foodstuff on the Black Market during the last few months. The table below shows the comparative scale of Black Market prices for three commodities in September 1942 before the Allied landing, in November 1943, after four months of Allied occupation, and in May 1944 after ten months of Allied occupation.

(In lire per kilo or litre)

	September 1942	November 1943	May 1944
Bread	23	60	90

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

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	September 1942	November 1943	May 1944
Bread	23	60	90
Sugar	-	129	250
Oil	28	114	180

Flour of peas, widely used as a useful and nourishing foodstuff by poor people, rose about the middle of April from approximately 60 lire the kilo to 80 lire.

Butter class meat priced some six months ago at 100 lire the kilo has now reached the new high point of 300 lire.

Two commodities, however, are selling on the market at less exorbitant rates. One is fish and the other is fresh beans. The price of fish has recently declined, sardines for instance selling at 30 lire per kilo, whereas at the turn of the year they cost 70 to 80. The drop in the price of fish can be explained firstly by the withdrawal of Allied fishing restrictions

3657

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

then by the seasonal catches of alalunga, tunny, and swordfish (alalunga for instance cost 150 lire per kilo in April, and only cost 90 lire per kilo now); and finally by the absence of oil on the market which has restricted both the canning industry and the purchase of fish for domestic use as the ordinary person likes to eat fish cooked in oil. (E2)

E2 The distribution of oil in Sicily.

Beginning May 22nd oil will be distributed in Sicily The price of oil is 77 lire a litre.

E3 Mixed cereals for bread making.

The suggestion has been made that the bread ration may be increased by means of using a mixture of wheat, barley, bean and chickpea flour.

A former president of the Palermo Province bread consortium makes the following comment on this suggestion:

One of the chief objections to the Fascist regime in Italy during recent years was the fact that the bread ration of 150 gr. was totally inadequate, and was moreover made with a mixture of wheat flour and various coarse kinds of flour. The Italian people would rather have a small quantity of bread which is well made and can be safely given to children, than a larger be unwise and bad policy to repeat the mistakemade by the fascists. It would be much better to distribute flour made from barley, beans, chickpeas etc., separately, in addition to the bread and pasta ration. "The distribution of bread made with a mixture of different kinds of flour would certainly cause general discontent among the population and would give rise to comparisons with the Fascist regime and the justification of many of its actions."

FINANCE

An Interview with Signor Pesenti.

In the course of a conversation with a PWB officer, Signor Pesenti, Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Finance, dealt with some of the Monetary problems of the moment. Inflation, he said, was due to two causes, the first to under-production, and the second to the amount of money put into circulation by the Allies. It was therefore most urgent, for the sake of financial stability, if for no other reason, that production should be increased, and this could only be done if raw materials were

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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PRESS

36

a. The "Sicilia Liberata" Controversy.

"Sicilia Liberata", the P.W.B. Palermo daily newspaper, has consistently maintained a high standard of production and has been well supplied with Allied news through the United Nations New Service. Nevertheless, discontent grew among responsible people and members of the different parties because of its alleged Separatist tendency and the political manoeuvring of its editorial staff. Many small incidents occurred in the past, which did not go unnoticed by the party leaders, nor always by their newspapers. Two events, however, brought the whole matter to a head, and precipitated a local crisis.

The first of these was the report published in "Sicilia Liberata" on Thursday, 11th May, 1944, of a meeting of "Presidenti delle Deputazioni Provinciali" and of the "Sindaci dell' Isola". The meeting was called together on the 10th of May and presided over by Cav. Lucio Tasca, Sindaco of Palermo, a leading Separatist, and it voted an order of the day which was a clear expression of the Separatist political programme.

There was some doubt as to whether Tasca had the constitutional right to convene a meeting to discuss matters which were not purely administrative; surprise was also expressed at the fact that a P.W.B. controlled paper published with every prominence a resolution voted by Sicilian administrative officers which was in direct conflict with the policy of the Central Italian Government. The situation became more awkward when it was discovered that certain Christian-Democrat and Left-wing administrators refused to identify themselves with the motion, whereas "Sicilia Liberata" gave the impression that the resolution had the unanimous support of all important administrative officers throughout the Island.

The Regional Committee of Liberation for Sicily representing the six parties met on the 10th May, and passed an order of the day which was published in the four party papers on the 14th May. This order of the day expressed the urgent necessity for a daily newspaper in Palermo which could reflect the thought and sentiments of the 'unitarian' political parties on the Island in contrast to "the other daily which has another function."

The second event, was of a more personal nature and involved the past history of Sebastiano Lo Verde, the principal editor and

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

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The second event, was of a more personal nature and involved the past history of Sebastiano Lo Verde, the principal editor and manager of the "Sicilia Liberata."

On the 24th May PWB discovered that the leaders of the Communist party in Palermo were in possession of a letter written by Lo Verde in January, 1938, to the Fascist Federal Secretary.

The document expressed Lo Verde's entire devotion to the Fascist regime, claimed that Fascism fulfilled the ambitions and dreams of his youth, and gave a detailed account of his intimate and signal services in favour of that government. One paragraph suggested that he was engaged in espionage work on behalf of the Fascist administration. In contrast to this, when the Allies came to Sicily Lo Verde constituted himself the mouthpiece of Allied expression through the "Sicilia Liberata," and made the newspaper headquarters a centre of political and Separatist activity.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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One of the factors that brought about a scarcity of goods and a rise in prices in goods of all categories was the amount of money spent by the Allied soldiers, who bought food in large quantities, as well as articles of clothing and everyday utility. The restrictions imposed up to the present have not been sufficiently effective, and he hoped that the authorities concerned would give the question further consideration.

Another feature of the present situation is that with the increasing scarcity of some goods, money is losing its intrinsic value and workers prefer to be paid in kind. Speaking frankly, he said that conditions prevailing now were beginning to react unfavourably on the Allies, not only from the political and propaganda point of view, but also materially since it affected every aspect of human activity in Italy.

With regard to future problems, Signor Pesenti did not believe that they would be radically affected by the liberation of Northern Italy, since he did not believe that the Germans had circulated as many notes as was generally rumoured, and the Republican Fascists had only made one issue since last October. In actual fact, prices in many parts of the occupied territory were considerably lower than in the south. In any case, as far as currency was concerned, he thought that no sweeping reforms could be made until the Germans were driven out beyond the border. Possibly, since the north was richer industrially and otherwise, production could be increased. In any case it should be noted that the circulation in Southern Italy was only one seventh of the whole country.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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SECRET

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

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The letter discovered by the Communists, if it is genuine, shows him up to be a complete opportunist. It is also sufficiently incriminating to bring about his fall, and compromise the paper with which unfortunately he has been so intimately connected.

Lo Verde's letter was published in all four party papers on Saturday, 27th May.

An attempt was made at the last minute to use the offical status of a PCB paper to silence Lo Verde's opponents by publishing an editorial in double type on the front page of "Sicilia Liberata" of the 25th May, headlined "Tregua" or Truce. The article appealed to the political parties to concentrate on the war effort, to make a truce "between ourselves," not to engage in polemics, nor to "demolish persons uselessly, as today persons do not count."

On May 25th however, on telephone conversation with Palermo, it was considered necessary PCB disassociate "Sicilia Liberata" from Lo Verde completely, and it will be moved June 4th to the plant of the "Giornale di Sicilia."

30

Suspension of "L'Idea"

FSP at Messina reports that the Liberal weekly "L'Idea" of Reggio Calabria, has been suspended by the Prefect, Avv. Antonio Priolo, a former Socialist deputy, for a period of three months. The reason of the suspension was an article which appeared in the issue of the 25th March and which offended the dignity of the Archbishop of Reggio Calabria. The edition in question was a special one in which the articles were written by members of the Student association, "Corda Fratres." The association took the responsibility for the offending article as a group and would not incriminate the actual author.

The FSP also reports that the Socialist Daily paper at Reggio, "La Luce" is likely to be suspended for an article which appeared against Badoglio.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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3655

SECRET

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PUBLIC OPINION

Naples Reaction to Churchill's Speech

On the whole reactions appear to be very much in favour of the Allies, especially England.

A specialized worker expresses satisfaction that Churchill declared himself indifferent to the "form" of government: monarchy or republic, and everyone is satisfied that the Italians will be free to choose their own government. Till now the majority of workers were dissatisfied with the British policy towards Italy, as no hope was left of removing the "Fascist King." Today they look to the future, confident in the line of policy stated by Mr. Churchill.

.. northern Italian anti-Fascist intellectual states. "We feel today that the Allies are following the right line. Churchill's last speech makes us hope that after the war Italy will be free to choose her own government. This clarification was necessary and has been accepted almost enthusiastically by anti-Fascist circles. It came at the right time when many people were demoralised. The speech gave the impression that England has understood that backing the monarchy is no way of achieving an equilibrium in the Mediterranean. The necessary balance of power has to be extended from a single nation to a group of nations." (C-2)

Another collaborator writes that though the mass of people appear to be, as usual, indifferent, all varieties of political opinion (except perhaps a few monarchists) are said to be very gratified with Churchill's latest speech; military circles are said to be positively jubilant. An Italian observer reports that the following constructions are put on it: his recognition of the Italians' war effort, his promise of help, and his relinquishing all animosity towards the Italians for all that Fascism has done and his stress on the word democratic, are taken as an indication that the Italian people as a whole will not be penalised, as a guarantee of a democratic future, a free choice by the people. He expressed confidence in the present government and his desire to see it broadened to include the north of Italy is taken to recognize anti-fascism as the main spring and also the securest base of Italian politics.

A most interesting deduction is drawn from his words in this passage, 'especially when we reach the North.' They are taken to mean that the present government may be broadened hardly at all at home but only later, when the North is reached. (B-2)

41

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers

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

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The Commonwealth Prime Ministers

The meeting of Commonwealth Prime Ministers, and in particular the references to the future liberty of peoples to decide for themselves the grave problem of their own government, which are regarded as favourable to Italy, is reported to have been very well received in Bari. (C-1)

May 24th Celebrations

The celebrations which took place at Torre Annunziata on the occasion of the anniversary of Italy's entry into the Great War is said to have aroused no enthusiasm among the population. The ceremony opened with the placing of wreaths on the tombs of men who fell in the last war, and a company of Italian soldiers was present.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The population is reported to have remained indifferent to these proceedings, as to other political ceremonies, such as that of the 1st of May. (c-2)

3. Opinion of Government

According to a Salerno informant, the public has the impression that the Government is continuing to create new posts, e.g., the appointment of Berlinguer as assistant commissioner for epuration, and of Zaniboni as commissioner for refugees, which, as under the old Fascist system, are not really necessary, but provide salaries for a larger number of people. The alleged system of splitting one post into several to this end is said to be much criticised. People are disappointed to see anti-Fascists, who, for twenty years took no part in public life, trying to make up for lost time and money. (C-3)

4. Attitude to France

The following report on the attitude towards France in intellectual middle-class Italian circles, is supplied by a Bari university student.

"The firm bonds of culture which link our people and the French, and the large number of Italian citizens who have had dealings with France (particularly Ligurians and Piedmontese) has led to the problems of the other Latin nation being closely followed in all its vicissitudes.

"One current, mostly among the anti-Fascists, likes to praise the readiness of the French to liquidate their undesirable politicians. Certainly this action calls for uncommon courage. A large section of public opinion speaks with enthusiasm of General de Gaulle and enumerates his excellent military and political qualities, 'recalling his constancy in ' overcoming the difficulties set up by those English gentlemen.'

"The most recent political events, the struggle of the patriots, the participation of General Juin's Expeditionary Corps, demonstrate the growing importance of the new France. The latin bloc advocated by Count Sforza, can be a first step towards the pacification of Europe. It is to be hoped that the secret agents sent to the Balkans to stir up the anti-Italian feelings of these peoples will disappear, together with the blockade on the entry of Italian labour which at other times has given so much assistance to French industry and commerce.

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"The firm bonds of culture which link our people and the French, and the large number of Italian citizens who have had dealings with France (particularly Ligurians and Piedmontese) has led to the problems of the other Latin nation being closely followed in all its vicissitudes.

"One current, mostly among the anti-Fascists, likes to praise the readiness of the French to liquidate their undesirable politicians. Certainly this action calls for uncommon courage. A large section of public opinion speaks with enthusiasm of General de Gaulle and enumerates his excellent military and political qualities, 'recalling his constancy in overcoming the difficulties set up by those English gentlemen.'

"The most recent political events, the struggle of the patriots, the participation of General Juin's Expeditionary Corps, demonstrate the growing importance of the new France. The Latin bloc advocated by Count Sforza, can be a first step towards the pacification of Europe. It is to be hoped that the secret agents sent to the Balkans to stir up the anti-Italian feelings of these peoples will disappear, together with the blockade on the entry of Italian labour which at other times has given so much assistance to French industry and commerce.

"From a lasting agreement, and from free exchanges, can arise that long period of peace which Europe needs...because only the Latin peoples have the capacity of directing the nations towards better days."

5. Public Opinion and the Patriots.

According to a reliable informant, Italian opinion is following the patriots' activity with great interest and with a certain feeling of pride, but it is anxiously expecting the Italian government to give full recognition to the patriot bands, just as the French government has recently done. It is also alleged that the Committee for aid to the patriots is being run in a bureaucratic and unsympathetic manner. (B-2)

3654

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

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APPENDIX I

REACTIONS TO PROPAGANDA

"Basse Marea"

The play "Basse Marea" broadcast over Bari Radio, has been well received. The critical Bari University student, who keeps in touch with reactions to radio, says that, while the interpretation and diction were poor, the quality of the play was nevertheless apparent.

"Il Mese"

The Bari University student propaganda critic, reviewing the 1944 number of "Il Mese" says that this publication is always eagerly awaited and judged to be of the first importance. The most recent numbers have been particularly good. Carlo Rosselli is known only in anti-Fascist circles, and the great mass of young Italians, used only to Fascist propaganda, know nothing of him. Even today there is no shortage of fantastic stories on the political refugees in England and America, and the "fuga in quattro tempi" published in Il Mese, fills many of these gaps.

The article "War and Peace", on the Teheran Conference, also gets a favourable mention from this student.

P.W.B. propaganda in Naples.

The P.W.B. propaganda shop in Piazza S. Ferdinando, Naples, is reported to have been excellently well received. It is always crowded. It is central and the material is presented in an interesting way. A typical comment is: "The Allies certainly know now to make propaganda after all!"

In fact it brings home the Allied war effort to the Neapolitans. It is suggested that more such centres should be opened. (B-2).

Report on the poster "Rifiutarsi di comprare Oggi a prezzi maggiorati significa poter comprare Domani a prezzi piu bassi".

The following report is supplied by an Italian (Women) collaborator

The present distrustful and confused state of mind of the population, due partly to its nature and partly to the difficulties of its life today, makes a very difficult ground for propaganda.

As far as the common people are concerned, the necessity

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The following report is supplied by an Italian (Roman) collaborator

The present distrustful and confused state of mind of the population, due partly to its nature and partly to the difficulties of its life today, makes a very difficult ground for propaganda.

As far as the common people are concerned, the necessity in which they find themselves of cutting down all essential expenditure limits their contribution to the support of the Black Market to the buying of food. And since the distribution of ration goods is not enough to live on, they are obliged to buy some products at high prices. To this must be added the fact that the progressive rise in prices engenders in people a state of mind where they feel that to have bought something even at a high price is good business, in that one has avoided the even higher prices of the next day.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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An enquiry into the reactions of three people belonging to very different social classes gave the following results:

An elderly concierge, a little better educated than the majority of such people, and living reasonably comfortably, says that the poster cannot possibly have any influence on people who are obliged to have recourse to the Black Market in order to live, and that the only way to deal with the question would be for the Allied authorities to open big cooperative stores where a sufficient quantity of goods was sold at reasonable prices.

An accountant's clerk maintains that an attempt at influencing people psychologically, without at the same time taking measures of repression and organisation, will have no practical effect. The problem can probably be solved only in close connection with that of transport and finding some means of bringing into the big centres the produce of the surrounding countryside, which would then be sold, together with goods supplied by the Allies, in controlled shops, at prices somewhere between the fixed ones and those of the Black Market.

A University lecturer who is a specialist in literature and a civil servant, is of the opinion that propaganda cannot have any considerable effect over an economic phenomenon, unless reinforced by severe measures of repression to constitute an example to profiteers, and by the normal measures to increase the flow of goods on the market, thus decreasing the demand.

The general opinion would therefore seem to be that it is a difficult and delicate matter to try andimprove the situation by means of propaganda, since the population is convinced that wiser to procure by any means the essential goods which they have no guarantee will be regularly supplied to them in the future. (C-2).

Another report says that the general reaction to the Allied poster, is reported to be that the slogan applies very well for non-essential goods, but not for food. People must buy food or starve. Anonymous remarks have been written under the posters, such as "When we have starved to death", etc. (B-2).

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

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APPENDIX II

Information in recently liberated territory.

A PWB officer, who took part in the Sicilian campaign and has since toured Apulia, Sardinia and Campania, describes Gaeta as the worst sacked town of any he had seen in Italy. Every house has been completely ransacked, broken up and robbed. The Germans entered the town immediately after the Armistice and collected all arms and sacked the town.

Some six months ago, they demolished the section of the town lying next to the beaches, and planted mines in the rubble piles. At the very beginning a group of young boys escaped to the mountains and were hunted down by the Germans and killed. After that, there were no reports of partisan activity in the region around Gaeta.

The remaining inhabitants of the town were ordered out when the Americans were due to arrive. The Germans completed a final sacking and left.

No food was ever distributed by the Germans the ration of the Germans themselves were bad. One family told this PWB officer that the Germans used to forage for food individually, and several times a German soldier had actually helped himself to a pot of grass and beans which the family was boiling on the fire for its supper.

The Germans did not have time to destroy the little town of San Felice Circeo, on the slopes of Mount Circeo. They did, however, loot it pretty thoroughly. Most of the 12,000 inhabitants have returned and did not seem too unhappy.

A CIC officer reported that a German sergeant called Gries had had the job of evacuating civilians from the nearby village of Borgo Montenera. He had found 25 civilians there without permits and had shot five out of hand.

Hardly a house in Littoria is intact, and only 3,500 of its 25,000 inhabitants have returned.

Formia is now practically flat, with no utilities working and water supply at present being drawn from wells.

Since the Armistice the Communal authorities of Terracina have issued no political orders of any kind, but have concentrated

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

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The most active propaganda of the political parties under the occupation was that of the "Mazzinian Republican Party" (presumably the Action Party) which brought in leaflets from Rome. The Socialist party is numerous and strong, and led by the ex-deputy De Angelis. It is expected that the Christian Democrats will have many adherents. (C-3).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Radio Bari and Radio Naples have been heard by the population. The statements issued by the parties had been warmly received, and it was hoped that they would now be put into effect. (C-3).

The Communist Mayor of Fondi, Savona, who was appointed by AMG, told a PWB officer that the only political parties existing in the town were the Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats. The people are too much concerned with their economic distress to be greatly interested in politics.

A shoe merchant of Sabaudia told a PWB officer that, as this area was settled by the Fascists, through the Opera Nazionale Combattenti, with unemployed ex-servicemen, most of the inhabitants would have belonged either to the Socialist or Popolari parties before Fascism. The public followed with sympathy the constitution of the new representative government.

Prices on the Black Market are:

Wheat	5000 to	12,000	per quintal
Flour	10000 to	20,000	per quintal
Oil	300 to	500	per litre
Sugar	200 to	300	per kg.
Wine	60 to	80	per litre
Meat	60 to	80	the kg.

The contadini showed themselves sympathetic with the difficulties of the people in the town, and helped by handing out part of the grain reserved for themselves.

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

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APPENDIX III

SICILIAN SEPARATIST DEVELOPMENTS.

On May 14th Finocchiaro Aprile addressed a meeting of his supporters in their headquarters in Catania. Arrangements had been made for the meeting to be held in the Teatro Massimo Bellini, but permission for this was withdrawn - according to the Seperatists, through the subtle meanoeuvres of Aldisio. The text of the speech was published next day in the unauthorised seperatist paper "Sicilia", with an introduction in the best seperatist style.

"The Communists are allowed, even encouraged to wear the uniform of the most passionate nationalists, to bolshevise the ex-Italy, with a gun cocked ready to free her from the Germans, in the shadow of a tottering crown propped up - without serious intentions-by Republicans, Socialists, Demo-Christians and Liberals in a confused rabble. The Demo-Christians are allowed to abandon themselves to a union with the Communists and worse, to deceive Catholics and Italians, making everything subservient to their egoistic purposes.

"People whose voices, loud in the praise of Fascism, are still echoing down the streets of Catania...are today allowed to commemorate the landing of the Thousand at Marsala."

The Corriere di Sicilia, which on March 15th had published an article referring favourably to an autonomist meeting in praise of Aldisio , and those who feel that the first task is the remaking of Italy.

"A Prefect, in the name of the renewed liberty of the Press, is allowed to censor certain lines of a manifesto prepared for May 1st by the supporters of Sicilian independence, which contained the statement that only the outward signs of Fascism have been removed.

"But those who sincerely believe in the necessity for the sovereign independence of our island,,,,are not allowed to explain to their fellow citizens, in the most correct and constitutional form, at a public meeting, the reasons for the Sicilian independence movement, which can be summed up in the legal request for a plebiscite in order to profit by the promised right of self-determination of people in their own future..... To this they add by failing to fulfil their clear engagement of allowing the Massimo Bellini theatre to be used for this purpose. Let those who are responsible reflect, while there is

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Finocchiaro Aprile's speech begins with a tribute to the city of Catania and works up, through a history of Sicily, to his contention that Sicily has always been exploited in her union with Italy. "The sound of threats, of impotent threats, reaches us from Palermo. We do not care. From a certain point of view, indeed, we are delighted, because we realise that we could have wanted no better Ally for our cause than this miserable Badoglio government, a government without prestige and without authority.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

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A few evenings ago the new Minister of the Interior, in a banquet at Palermo, announced that he, a former Seperatist, would eradicate the movement for independence to its last roots."

The statement, current in the island, that the movement for Sicilian independence is illegal, arpused Finocchiaro's indignation. He regarded it as an insult to the Allies, who had treated the movement as legal and respected it.

His hearers should not be surprised, he said, at the attitude of the head of the Democratic Christian party in Sicily (Alcisio), "this party although it calls itself democratic, is the absolute negation of democracy and liberty. It is only the disguise concealing clericalism, conservatism, reaction. The Sicilian people can only be hostile to this trinity, and shows it by avoiding the Democratic Christian party which, in Sicily, represents nothing or almost nothing... In Sicily the religious sentiment is the heritage of the whole people. We are all Catholics and we need no one, on the political field, to defend us as such. But we have all felt the monstrosity of the repugnant marriage between Democratic Christians and Communists.... Sicilian Catholics know that Sicily will gain her redemption only through independence.

Speaking of the structure of the independent Sicilian State, Finocchiaro Aprile said that it would be truly democratic, all power being in the hands of the people. The different administrations would have their headquarters in different towns, and the national assembly would not always sit in Palermo but, with the Capo di Stato, would move from time to time through the various towns.

After explaining in detail how the economic situation of Italy would be improved by independence, Finocchiaro Aprile went on to deny the accusation that the Seperatists were a party of latifondisti. The latifondisti, he said, were opposed to the separatists. He did not, however, favour the splitting up of the big estates among the peasants, which would only substitute one uninspired class of propietors for another. The latifondi should be transformed into industries, with state subsidies under the direct management of peasants co-operatives.

Speaking of the price of wheat, he said that the food crisis was not the fault only of the latifondisti, but also and especially of the government.

"When you think that the Italian government had fixed the price of wheat at 11 lire when for months it had been stated that the price would be at least 18 lire (sic) it must be admitted that we are moving headlong towards the starvation of the people. This ... will lead to a refusal on the part of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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"When you think that the Italian government had fixed the price of wheat at 11 lire when for months it had been stated that the price would be at least 18 lire (sic) it must be admitted that we are moving headlong towards the starvation of the people. This price is inadequate and will lead to a refusal on the part of producers to deliver their grain to the pools. The best policy would be complete liberty of trade in wheat. The ration in Sicily should not be inferior to 300 grammes of bread and 100 grammes of pasta, with the requisite increase for workers. If there is a surplus in Sicily, it will be possible to export to the mainland but to demand, as Badoglio did in a recent circular, that the present low ration be further diminished in the future, hoping to carry off a considerable quantity of wheat, is madness. We will prevent it. We will defend our bread and our liberty."

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

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Finocchiaro Aprile concluded by referring, with favour, to the appeal for administrative elections signed by the Sicilian Sindaci (see report) an idea which, he claimed, originated with him.

The meeting was interrupted, reportedly by Christian Democrats, who were forcibly ejected, some people being hurt.

The Separatist view.

In conversation with a P.W.B. officer a leading Separatist expounded his views as follows:

The present political situation in Sicily has a background very different to that of the continent of Italy. Committees of liberation never existed in Sicily and are even today quite an anomaly. The only force that united all parties in Sicily during the period of Fascism and during the time of the Allied invasion was that of Sicilian Independence. In fact those who worked most closely with the Allies under Fascism were Separatists such as Finocchiaro Aprile in Rome and Avv. di Martino (leader of the Partito Siciliano del Lavoro) in Sicily. It is to the Separatists that the Allies owe the psychological preparation of the Sicilian people which made them sabotage Italian attempts at resistance, and which thus facilitated the Allied invasion.

The Separatists today are the greatest force in the island, but they are not officially recognized. All political parties are represented in the Separatist movement. There are Christian Democrats such as La Rosa at Catania and Termini at Palermo, and Socialists such as Cartia and Lupis at Ragusa.

There are districts in Sicily which were mainly Socialist and at the same time wholeheartedly Separatist (such as Catania). The Social Democrats under the Guarino Amella were also Separatist and counted in their ranks besides Amella many other leading Sicilian personalities such as Ferenca, Rinalci (?) and Arcizzono of Catania and Ernesto Anzon of Palermo. Many of these leaders as well as their followers ostensibly supported a programme of autonomy rather than separatism, but they were Separatists at heart, and considered autonomy a first step in their programe towards Separatism. Their attitude was in fact that of a political manoeuvre, similar to the supprt which republicans, might give to a Lt. General of the Realm, who desired the total abolition of monarchy.

Certain areas were so strongly separatist that nothing could be done there without Finocchiaro Aprile's approval. This

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Yet in spite of the strength of the Separatist movement (and every Sicilian was a Separatist at heart) a completely artificial structure was being imposed throughout the island, which had no relation to the actual political conditions. Committees of Liberation were being formed at the instance of the Central Government, to advise on local matters, when their members were utterly unrepresentative. The Partito d'Azione for instance counted 600 members in the entire island. Yet they had been called in to advise and govern. Nobody had heard of the Democrazia

3650

SECRET

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

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del Lavoro but nevertheless it was one of the recognized parties. Moreover, that part of the Socialist movement which was really powerful in Sicily, namely the Separatist Federazione Socialista Italiana, was excluded from Committees of Liberation.

The Separatists therefore demanded that local elections be held for administrative posts in all the communes, so that these posts might everywhere be held by persons really representative of local interests.

The Separatists were idealists who saw no reason why the Atlantic Charter should not apply to themselves. The Autonomists, on the other hand were prepared to accept a form of regional republicanism under two conditions. The first was that Italy should not have a Communist government, the second that Italy should not be Monarchist. Sicily as a whole would never tolerate being governed by a Communist Italy. It had been subjected to one autocracy and would not now submit to another. On the other hand the Separatists and Autonomists would never accept a Monarchical Italy either. They therefore had developed the concept of dividing Italy into three autonomous republics - North, Centre and South, each having its own parliament, but agreeing on a joint policy on certain matters such as foreign affairs.

According to the Separatists the position of Sicily within the complex of international affairs is approximately as follows: Italy was part of Europe and invariably fell under the influence of the strongest European power. In the past it has been either France or Germany. In the future it might be Russia. Sicily, on the other hand, was essentially a Mediterranean country -- the navel of the Mediterranean in fact. It was wrong to think that the Mediterranean would become an inland lake of decreasing importance. On the contrary the Mediterranean might greatly increase in importance as the problems of the future lay in that direction. For example, the development and control of Africa, the penetration of Russia into the near-East and the Mediterranean and the Far East, were the biggest problems facing the west.

The Separatists wished Italy to be free, but also to maintain the closest collaboration with the strongest Mediterranean power which is England. They did not wish through Italy to be subject to the strongest continental power which might be Russia, or Germany or France.

British and American propaganda had done much to enhance Russian prestige, and not a little to diminish its own, but the opening of the second front would redress this balance as the

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

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British and American propaganda had done much to enhance Russian prestige, and not a little to diminish its own, but the opening of the second front would redress this balance as the Russians would be halted on the Carpathians and the final victory would go to England and America.

The Separatists feared economic penetration of Sicily. Several firms had already been bought up by American capital, and quite recently contract had been signed for Automecanica works at Palermo (?).

The pricing of wheat at 1000 lire per quintal made Sicilians realise how little any Italian government understood their own problems. The present price of production of wheat amounted to 1500 per quintal, and the announcement of the new price would have the result of putting up the cost of bread right away and

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determining producers not to hand an ear of wheat to the Ammassi. The production of wheat in Southern Italy was cheaper, and the relative amount produced per hectare greater than in Sicily and it was therefore impossible to fix a single price for these two areas.

Partito Siciliano del Lavoro holds meeting.

On Sunday, 14th May, a meeting was held at the Teatro Bellini by the Partito Siciliano del Lavoro (Separatist). The speaker was Avv. di Martino who spoke on the political parties of the present time. There were 600 to 800 people present, including the following personalities: Professor Michelangelo Cipolla, Avv. Vincenzo Petrigni, Cav. Allesandro Tasca, and Avv. Silvio Rossi.

The meeting was extremely rowdy, and the speaker was often interrupted. It ended in a free fight between a handful of youthful Communists and Separatists.

Avv. di Martino attacked the Demo-Christian party, declaring that the Partito Popolare had been primarily responsible for the advent of fascism. When, after having given their support, the popolari were not included in the fascist ministry, they defaulted a second time on democracy by going into retirement on the Aventine. Today every Fascist rejected by other parties was accepted by the Demo-Christians with open arms. Avv. di Martino then made a strong personal attack on Aldisio for having joined the Badoglio Government, calling him an ex-fascist and traitor to the masses. It was Aldisio who had chosen as his chief of the cabinet Senatore Sonise, a former Squadrista, responsible for sending so may anti- fascists to the "Gallera".

Avv. di Martino then went on to speak of Socialists and Communists, saying how at heart he was with them, and how in the past he had known them and worked with them; but now they had been betrayed by their leaders.

He then made a plea that Separatists should be allowed freedom of the press because they were as representative as any other party.

He called for a plebiscite to be held three months after the war to decide the issue of Sicilian Separatism, and said that the opponents of Separatism were against this because they feared the results.

The Young Separatist League.

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

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The Young Separatist League.

The Lega Giovanile Separatista, or Young Separatists, had intended to hold a meeting on Sunday, May 21st, in the Teatro Bellini at Palermo, at which Finocchiaro Aprile was to speak. Shortly before the day fixed for the meeting, the proprietor of the theatre cancelled the arrangement. The Young Separatists have not been able to book a hall in Palermo, even for some future date. While no direct evidence exists that a ban has been put on the Separatist meetings, the Minister of the Interior, Aldisio, may have advised the Questura to put every obstacle in the way of granting licenses for them for public meetings.

3649

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

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This surmise is borne out by the circular on the duties of the Police Force issued from Salerno on the 27th May by the Minister of the Interior, Aldisio. In this circular Aldisio says among other things: "The activity of the parties will be followed but not hindered; every peripheral manifestation of irresponsible elements over and above this, should be prevented, etc."

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Appendix IV

MISCELLANEOUS INTERVIEWS

Interview with Michele Cifarelli

In an interview with a F.B.I. officer, Cifarelli had some interesting things to say today (May 28) regarding Italy's future. He was decidedly optomistic in his confidence that, in spite of all the disasters caused by Fascism and the war there were signs of a resurgence of national sanity, and a reawakening of true values, (clouded for more than twenty years by faulty thinking, by faulty education) that would make its influence felt in general rehabilitation and progress.

He was in Bari for the past week and during that time, was called upon to make an address at a neighboring town (Molfetta, 40,000 inhabitants) on May 24th, anniversary of Italy's entry into the last war. The town was a fairly representative one of the province -- not too poor, not too affluent, of average well-being -- but, best of all, having a citizenry of intelligent and honest people. He made a speech which, warning to his task, he confessed was altogether too long. Perhaps the concentration of his listeners tempted him to make that mistake. Anyway, he said, it did no harm. On the contrary (although he dislikes and condemns long speeches) he was glad to have made it for the following reasons: after having briefly mentioned the significance of the date, he went on to explain the intricate reasons why all the succeeding events and tragedies had come about. It was, he said, a taxing speech to listen to. But his reward lay in the close and absorbed attention with which it was heard, and the genuine and affirmative reaction it evoked.

This, he declared was real reason for optimism. I asked him what he thought of the youth? Was it not somewhat disturbing to observe the recent and violent reactions of the University students to Gnodeo's decree? And did it not show an unawareness, especially deplorable in the youth of today for their country, as well as for tomorrow?

Cifarelli agreed that this was an unhappy sign and he deplored it. He thought however, that the government decree was issued in a somewhat unfortunate form, that it was ridiculous to suppose that students could go hither and yon, as they wished, to take their examinations far from the seats of their own colleges, sometimes, indeed, altogether impossible! But he had no excuse or tolerance to offer for the students' threatened strike.

Cifarelli then recalled his dismay, and that of other Italians present at the Congress of Bari, who had counted so greatly on

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

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Cifarelli then recalled his dismay, and that of other Italians supporting the Congress of Bari, who had counted so greatly on youth's enthusiasm, on that ferment and ardor which should have been there and which they had a right to expect, but which was almost non-existent. He said that the Congress of Bari, had it not been for the loyal and intelligent support of democratic, forward looking Allies, to whom he could never express enough gratitude, probably could not have taken place at all; or, at best would have resulted in a kind of fiasco.

Returning to the youth, he attributed their utter inertia, their almost cynical indifference, at this time to the deplorable lack of real education which for twenty years had stifled the intellectual life and mental growth of the nation. But even admitting all this, Cifarelli still clung, with optimism, to the belief that with the resumption of real education, this mental and moral inertia would disappear.

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Report of a Conversation between an Italian Industrialist and a PWB Representative.

Signor Adolfo Curcio is a rich industrialist. He has large plants making marmalade and tomato preserves in the vicinity of Naples. These plants suffered great damage from Allied bombardments and from German depredations, to the extent, so Curcio states, of 13,000,000 lire. The Curcios live in a luxurious villa on one of the hills overlooking Naples. His wife is a Brazilian by birth; his son and daughter-in-law live with the elder Curcios. There are two daughters, one a professional pianist in Holland, and one in Venetia. The atmosphere of the house is one of affluence and culture.

Curcio was outspoken in his criticism of the measures being taken by the Allied Authorities against the Black Market. Without the Black Market, he contended, Southern Italy, and particularly the Naples area, would have starved. With the present inflation caused by an absurdly excessive devaluation of the lire (100 to the dollar) there was still hope for subsistence with recourse to the Black Market as long as the Black Market was not disturbed, not threatened. But now with the arrests, with the threats, with the greater danger to the traffic, the prices would go out of all control. It was intolerable.

The PWB representative asked Curcio whether this was a personal reaction, or a reaction representing a limited class, or representing a majority of the Neapolitan population? Curcio was a bit excited with his theme and declared that it represented all three. He repeated his argument that Col. Poletti, in trying to suppress the Black Market, would not only fail in doing so, but would only make matters worse and worse for the population. He cited rising prices as support for his argument. By this time Curcio had become quite emotionally excited and one would have gathered that the most important thing for the welfare of liberated Italy was the promotion, or at least the toleration by the authorities, of the Black Market.

Curcio was then asked the following questions:

Q: "Is it then true, that conditions, especially as regards food, are not better than they were three months ago?"

A: "Without any shadow of doubt, they are worse."

Q: "You mean that people -- and when I say people, I mean the majority; and the majority is the underprivileged class, the poor [illegible] three months ago?"

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

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A: "Without any shadow of doubt, they are worse."

Q: "You mean that people -- and when I say people, I mean the majority; and the majority is the underprivileged class, the poor -- eat less today than they did three months ago?"

A: "Of course. Prices are higher. Therefore the poorer can least of all afford these higher prices."

Q: "Let me repeat the question, and let's leave out the matter of prices for the moment, especially Black Market prices. Is there more or less food available to the population, particularly the poorer population, than could be obtained three months ago?"

Here Curcio's son intervened -- and before he could stop himself or could be stopped -- admitted that unquestionably there was more food available today. He had no sooner finished speaking than he suddenly recognized his imprudence. His father's face

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was a study in frowns. Young Curci then began to hedge, to qualify what he had said, but the first impulsive admission carried more conviction than his following explanations and retreats.

Dinner was announced at that moment, and being joined by the ladies of the household, there was no continuation of the subject which evidently had its thorny sides. The dinner was not only good, it was far more opulent than this SOE representative had eaten in several months. There were heaping plates of Pasta, excellent veal and fried artichokes with potatoes, and wild strawberries served in wine and sugar, far more than even the privileged class in England has dreamed of eating in years. The host was careful to explain that not one of these excellent items emanated from the Black Market; they were all homegrown, homemade.

Opinions of Prof. Gaeta and His Family on the Present Conditions in Italy 28.5.44

Prof. Gaeta belongs to a family of medium land owners who are at the same time running small industries in Salerno.

This family owns quite an important estate at Olevano sul Tusciano, a small village near Battipaglia.

The Village of Olevano sul Tusciano is composed of three hamlets at a distance of nearly two miles from one another. There is no political life in the place, as there are practically no connections with the nearby town, Battipaglia, which is completely destroyed and deserted by the inhabitants. No news gets to Olevano, no newspapers, posters, booklets, etc... in the area there are only three or four radios.

No distribution of rationed food has been made since 1943, but the area is rich, the main production is olive oil, wheat, oats, maize, apples, almonds, peaches, etc.

In a way the place is quite independent. This particular area has not been damaged by bombings, but the Germans blew up almost all the bridges.

As above said the Gaeta family represents a whole class of people, independent middle class, so their opinion can be representative of quite a large number of individuals, especially because this particular middle class is in permanent contact with country labourers, and in town with artisans, who are in a sense the backbone of these small centers in southern Italy.

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Prof. Gaeta and his brothers frankly admitted having been Fascist, not only out of opportunity but because of a real belief in Fascist doctrine. So they cannot forgive Mussolini for having betrayed the nation, knowing that the country was not fit for a war. They admit that nobody particularly wanted a war and everybody tried to escape from military duties.

36497

Prof. Gaeta, intending to represent the general feeling of the people of the region, says that everybody is rather against the actual government, not so much on account of political opinions but for lack of confidence, and because it represents neither the people directly nor its interests.

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

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The government is considered a gathering of politicians who have nothing to do with the country.

Prof. Gaeta bitterly complains against SFORZA, who preferred a comfortable exile, running no risks; Omodeo who implicitly accepted Fascism, made speeches in favour of Fascism, and in these last years applied for the "tessera"; and also Rodino and Bellicola who in 1924 accepted Mussolini's insults and did not leave the parliament, etc....

These people, Prof. Gaeta says, are those really responsible for Fascist dictatorship, as they did not know, when they had the opportunity in Giolitti's Ministry, how to rule the country or how to defent democratic libertics afterwards.

Today all the Italians have lost faith, they believe in none of the rulers of the country, their only interest is the ordinary daily problems of getting food and supplies, they are scared about political propaganda, they certainly hope that in some indefinite future there will be an Italian government but ruled entirely by new men.

For the moment they only hope that the Allies will control the country as long as possible. They believe that the rehabilitation of the country can come only through the Allies.

This is a very strange fact because on the whole the people are rather hostile to the Allies, but if tomorrow the Allies would leave the country one would see the whole Italian people begging them to remain.

As a land owner, Prof. Gaeta declares he knows the feelings of wheat producers. He does not believe that the "Granai del popolo" will have any success as country people are actually too accustomed to selling their wheat for 10,000 lire the quintal and so they will hide their wheat instead of bringing it to the pool.

The speculators are not afraid of prison. They might be afraid of the death sentence, but the punishment seems too severe. So Prof. Gaeta suggests the confiscation of the land. This measure will certainly scare the speculators. (B-2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 8 APO 512

"D" Section, Italy (Lib.) May 26th, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 20

Part I Summary

The launching of the Allied offensive in Italy has roused Italians out of the apathy into which they had fallen during the past few weeks. There was a danger that the apathy might degenerate first into scepticism and then into hostility towards the Allies. In fact many reports had been received stating that the warmth with which the Italians had greeted the liberating armies had been chilled, and that the population was giving vent to more and more criticism of the slowness of the campaign and were complaining of the hardships which inevitably follow in the wake of war - the bad behaviour of troops, the requisitioning of houses and apartments, the Black Market, the rise in the cost of living, and the economic distress. Italians seemed to feel they had no part to play in hastening the end of the war. They feared the apparent stalemate on the military front might be protracted, and they began to doubt the opening of a second front. They were afraid the war might be unduly prolonged, and they saw no hope for Italy. They were defeated by the Allies and yet at war with Germany. They were hated by their former Allies, and yet could not find consolation in being treated as Allies by Great Britain or America. Wherever they looked they could find no friendly country. As the war was fought out slowly in Italy, they saw their villages and cities being ruthlessly destroyed by the German armies. More and more they gave themselves up to internal squabbles, and their attention was diverted from the main goal - that of winning the war.

The formation of the first democratic government Italy had known for more than twenty years did much to restore the self-confidence of Italians. Slowly a new meaning was given to the war. The people were represented in the government by the ablest men who could be found in Liberated Italy. The Ministers were honest and many of them had consistently opposed Fascism for twenty years, and some of them had suffered

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Ministers have turned their attention to re-educating the Italian people and to leading them out of the helpless bewilderment to which they had succumbed. The Allied

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

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offensive came at an opportune moment. Most Italians are now looking towards their compatriots in the North and particularly in Rome. Once more their interest in the war has been revived, and they look with pride on the valiant struggle put up by Italian patriots against the Germans. They watch with interest any news released of Italian co-operation in the war. Through the presence of Italian troops at the front they feel they have a stake in the war of liberation. They look at Italian workers and patriots in the North with a sense of pride, and feel that Italy has an important part to play.

The government has continued its activity. Togliatti, Parenti and other Ministers have visited factories and encouraged workers to intensify their efforts and, despite difficult economic and material conditions, they work with renewed zest. The Cabinet has publicly disassociated itself from the foreign policy of Fascism and has denounced the policy which brought Italy into armed conflict with the democratic powers. It denounced the Fascist aggressions against France, Greece, Jugoslavia, Russia and Albania and proclaimed that it hoped to see Albanian independence restored as soon as possible. Most important of all, the Cabinet has stated that it aims at creating a new international law which will assure liberty and prosperity to all peoples, according to the principles of the Atlantic Charter. The passionate faith in democracy of the new Italian government is one of the most encouraging signs, more particularly as this faith is gradually being communicated to the Italian people themselves.

Although the Ministers are drawn from different parties, they seldom display signs of partisanship. For instance Aldisio, the Minister of the Interior, this week issued a circular to the Prefects warning them against the practice which has grown up among certain mayors of giving favourable treatment in the distribution of rations to members of their own parties. This practice must cease, the Minister concludes, because it is reminiscent of Fascism.

Then there are the different circulars of Omodeo, the Minister of Education, which testify to a far-sighted understanding of the necessity of re-organising the whole system of Italian education. It is clear that Omodeo takes a rather rigid, long-term view, and consequently is inclined to act hastily, as when he tried to suppress certain supplementary courses which had been set up in Bari university. The decree aroused considerable opposition among the professors and students at Bari university. The Rector resigned, and

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

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

in Apulia were enabled to continue their studies by the institution of these new courses. The students were supported in their view by the local Committee of Liberation as well as by the local branch of the Party of Action (Omodeo's party). The Rector of the University came to see Omodeo, and after discussion the Minister agreed to allow the courses to continue, at any rate for the rest of the academic year. Meanwhile Omodeo had also issued a decree suppressing the Magistero of Salerno which aroused opposition among students and professors in that town for more or less similar reasons. It is not yet known whether Omodeo is prepared to revoke this decree. The result of all this is that Omodeo has lost prestige, even in his own party, and it is felt that as a result of his lack of political judgment he has prejudiced his chances of remaining in the government after the fall of Rome.

It is the general conviction of most Ministers that once Rome is reached the Cabinet will resign to make way for a more broadly based government, containing representatives from central and northern Italy. Senator De Nicola told a PWB officer that he would be prepared to enter the cabinet when Rome is reached.

Palmiro Togliatti, the leader of the Italian Communist party, outlined to PWB officers a campaign for the organisation and intensification of resistance among Italian patriots in occupied Italy. He felt that plans should be co-ordinated between the Allied High Command, the Italian government, the Committee of National Liberation in Occupied Italy, and PWB, so that Italians in the North could be instructed now to prepare and organise themselves to strike at the moment which would be most useful to the Allies. He believed that for this purpose it would be necessary to divide Italy up into zones, so that different instructions could be issued to the various zones at each stage of the military operations. He envisaged the Italians helping the Allies both by organised guerilla warfare and by large-scale strikes. We would find Italians in the North, he said, in a completely different state of mind from those in the South. Italians who had suffered during the last few months from the Germans and the Fascists would revenge themselves on those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans. They would be tempted to take the law into their own hands, and there was always a danger that such steps might lead to disorder. We must convince Italians that we were determined to punish those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans.

In an interview with a PWB officer Senator De Nicola

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

among students and professors in that town for more or less similar reasons. It is not yet known whether Omodeo is prepared to revoke this decree. The result of all this is that Omodeo has lost prestige, even in his own party, and it is felt that as a result of his lack of political judgment he has prejudiced his chances of remaining in the government after the fall of Rome.

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Palmiro Togliatti, the leader of the Italian Communist party, outlined to PWB officers a campaign for the organisation and intensification of resistance among Italian patriots in occupied Italy. He felt that plans should be co-ordinated between the Allied High Command, the Italian government, the Committee of National Liberation in Occupied Italy, and PWB, so that Italians in the North could be instructed now to prepare and organise themselves to strike at the moment which would be most useful to the Allies. He believed that for this purpose it would be necessary to divide Italy up into zones, so that different instructions could be issued to the various zones at each stage of the military operations. He envisaged the Italians helping the Allies both by organised guerilla warfare and by large-scale strikes. We would find Italians in the North, he said, in a completely different state of mind from those in the South. Italians who had suffered during the last few months from the Germans and the Fascists would revenge themselves on those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans. They would be tempted to take the law into their own hands, and there was always a danger that such steps might lead to disorder. We must convince Italians that we were determined to punish those Fascists who had collaborated with the Germans.

In an interview with a PWB officer Senator De Nicola said that he and Croce were aiming at an early alliance or fusion of the Demo-Liberal and Liberal parties.

In conversation with PWB officers Count Sforza said that he aimed at punishing only those Fascists who had been really responsible for the policy pursued during the last twenty years. While there would be no hope for men like Grandi and Federsoni, the little man who had worn the party badge out of weakness or a lack of understanding, he hoped, would not 3645 the light and would in most cases not be punished.

Both Sforza and Togliatti deplored the interview given by the Crown Prince to the "Times" correspondent.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

Pesenti, the Under-Secretary of State for Finance, thought the price fixed for wheat was too low, but hoped that the prestige of the new government would make the "granaries of the people" campaign a success.

The Party of Action continues to be divided. Cianca is leading the opposition to collaboration with the government.

A detailed report has been received from Benevento of the political situation in that town. The Democratic Liberal Party is reported as being the strongest, and it is said that the people are inclined to vote for personalities rather than for parties. Thus De Caro, the former Minister of Public Works, and member of the Democratic Liberal Party, has gained great ascendency among the people who, in any election would probably be returned as member of Parliament. He said that he proposed to collaborate with the existing government for the moment. He thought that American troops were more popular than the British because of the many ties of the local population with the United States. Many reports from other parts of Italy have been received showing the greater popularity of American soldiers, who are considered less reserved, less suspicious and more friendly than British soldiers.

The Sicilian Prefects have protested against the composition of the Giunta Consultativa appointed by the former Council of Ministers.

In an interview with a PWB officer Gullo, the Minister of Agriculture, was optimistic about the chances of the "granary of the people" campaign. He believed that the price fixed for wheat was, however, too low. In Sicily it is reported that the price fixed will be considered too low, but reactions have not yet been received. In Sardinia, however, the prices have been received with satisfaction, since production costs are lower there. Both the press and the radio in Sardinia are carrying out an intense propaganda campaign in favour of the People's granaries, and prominent landowners are co-operating to make the peasants have faith in the new government. From Bari and Benevento there are complaints that the price fixed for grain is too low. Many other reactions to the "granary of the people" campaign have been received. Generally speaking, the price is regarded as too low to attract wheat to the pools, and in some areas too low to cover production costs, in view of the increased cost of living and the decreased yield per hecter resulting from lack of fertilisers and other factors.

Reactions to PWB publications have been received from Bari. "Victory" is already praised. "Fontamara" has offended

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Reactions to PWB publications have been received from Bari. "Victory" is highly praised. "Fontamara" has offended the sensibilities of many readers, as it is considered anti-national. Some Italians consider that it gives an exaggerated picture of Italian life. Reactions to Radio Bari have also been received. An article from the Neapolitan newspaper "La Squilla" praising L'Italia Combatte, is also included as well as a Roman's views on what form occupational propaganda should take when we reach Rome.

In an interview with PWB officers the Archbishop of Benevento expressed the hope that, in view of the overcrowded living conditions in Benevento, requisitioning should be limited to the barest minimum. Poor families were living, he said

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

several in a room; hygienic conditions were appalling and incest rampant. Clothing was also very scarce following the bombardments and subsequent looting. The Archbishop considered that the parties continued to be a dividing factor in the national life, predicted an alignment of the parties of order, the Liberal Democrats and Christian Democrats, and expressed distrust of the Communist policy of general appeasement to parties and monarchy alike.

A report from Aoulia stresses the popularity of President Roosevelt among the local clergy of that region.

It is reported that Italian naval circles were much gratified by the friendly reception accorded to Italian crews at Gibraltar. The crews of the Italian ships of the line at Malta and Alexandria are said to be discontented at the enforced inactivity of their ships, for which they blame their own government, and are ready to serve with the Allies even in the Pacific.

In an interview with PWB officers Alberto Tarchiani, Minister of Public Works, said that one of his chief difficulties was the different scale of pay which existed between employees of the Italian state and those employed directly by the Allies. The rate the former category were payed was decreed by ACC. Allied employees, as well as receiving a slightly higher rate, were also given Allied rations, which in the present situation was obviously more useful than money.

The dismissal of fascists from public and private concerns proceeds slowly in the provinces. Sforza's declaration of future policy is reported to have been well received. It is hoped that the methods employed will be severer than in the past, but that the criteria for punishment will be fairer.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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

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

Reliability and Evaluation

For the purpose of psychological warfare intelligence, this report includes expressions of public opinion, rumours, and statements of fact which it has not been possible to verify.

Unless a report is taken from official sources, or is known by a P/W officer to be true, it will carry one of the following reliability ratings:

Source	(reliability)	Report	(probability)
A	Always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable
0	not possible to judge	0	not possible to judge

Rumours which are of interest only as such, and are unlikely to have any foundation in fact, will be reported under a heading or in such a context as to make it plain that they are rumours, and will not carry reliability rating.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No 8 APO 512

Central "D" Section, Italy (Lib). May 26th, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No 20

Part II Annexes

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Conversation with Palmiro Togliatti	1
2	Interview with Sforza	2
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
3	Demand for local government elections in Sicily	3
4	Sicilian Prefect's protest against High Commissioner's Council	4
5	Interview with the Prefect of Benevento	4
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
6	Action Party crisis -	5
7	- Cianca -	5
8	- Caracciolo.	6
9	Interview with De Nicola	6
10	The Liberals and the Government	7
11	The left wing of the Socialist Party	7
12	Political parties in Benevento	8
13	Interview with the On. De Caro.	8
14	Interview with Professor Giacapo Abiesis	9
	CHURCH	
15	Interview with the Archbishop of Benevento	11
16	Attitude of the Apulian clergy.	

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

Part II Annexes

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Conversation with Palmiro Togliatti	1
2	Interview with Sforza	2
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
3	Demand for local government elections in Sicily	3
4	Sicilian Prefect's protest against High Commissioner's Council	4
5	Interview with the Prefect of Benevento	4
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
6	Action Party crisis -	5
7	- Cianca -	5
8	- Caracciolo.	6
9	Interview with De Nicola	6
10	The Liberals and the Government	7
11	The left wing of the Socialist Party	7
12	Political parties in Benevento	8
13	Interview with the Cn. De Caro.	8
14	Interview with Professor Giacapo Abiosis	9
	CHURCH	
15	Interview with the Archbishop of Benevento	11
16	Attitude of the Apulian clergy.	
	ALLIED FORCES	
17	Talk with Marshal Messe	12
18	Italian troops in Calabria	13
19	Fascist activities among the Italian troops in Calabria	14
20	Italian Navy personnel and the Allies	15
21	Dissatisfaction of Italian crews at Malta and Alexandria	15
	RELIEF	
22	The problem of refugees: Zaniboni.	15

3642

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Paragraph		Page
	EDUCATION	
23	Omodeo and Bari University	16
24	Schools in Benevento	19
25	Salerno students and Omodeo	19
	PUBLIC WORKS	
26	Interview with Tarchiani	19
	EPURATION	
27	Sforza, the new Solomon of Epuration	20
28	Cosenza Defascistisation Committee	20
29	Cagliari anti-Fascist Committee demands Epuration	21
	PRESS	
30	Paper suppressed at Cosenza	22
	LABOUR	
31	Region Director of Labour and the two Labour organisations	23
32	Salaries of State and parastatal employees	23
33	Salary increase for State employees	23
34	General Confederation of Labour meeting	24
35	Communists in the CGL	24
36	"Free Union of Equals" and the CGL	24
37	Sassari Industrial Workers attack anti-Fascist committee	25
38	Naples May 15th celebrations	25
	ECONOMIC	
39	Interview with the Minister of Agriculture	26
40	Grain prices	26
41	The countryman's point of view	31
42	Sale of green wheat	31
43	Interview with Antonio Pesenti	31
43a	Naples Black Market prices	32
44	Continuation of the Black Market	33
45	Restrictions on the sale of wine	

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

26	Interview with Tarchiani	19
	EPURATION	
27	Sforza, the new Solomon of Epuration	20
28	Cosenza Defascistisation Committee	20
29	Cagliari anti-Fascist Committee demands Epuration	21
	PRESS	
30	Paper suppressed at Cosenza	22
	LABOUR	
31	Region Director of Labour and the two Labour organisations	23
32	Salaries of State and parastatal employees	23
33	Salary increase for State employees	23
34	General Confederation of Labour meeting	24
35	Communists in the CGL	24
36	"Free Union of Equals" and the CGL	24
37	Sassari Industrial Workers attack anti-Fascist committee	25
38	Naples May 15th celebrations	25
	ECONOMIC	
39	Interview with the Minister of Agriculture	26
40	Grain prices	26
41	The countryman's point of view	31
42	Sale of green wheat	31
43	Interview with Antonio Pesenti	31
43a	Naples Black Market prices	32
44	Continuation of the Black Market	33
45	Restrictions on the sale of wine and Confectionary	33
46	Economic conditions in Benevento	33
47	Reported return of confidence in paper money	34
48	Yellow seal dollars	34
	PUBLIC OPINION	
49	Reaction to Field Marshal Smuts	34
50	Opinion of Allied policy	50

APPENDIX I Reactions to propaganda
APPENDIX II Italian Press on the granai del popolo

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

CONFIDENTIAL 26 May 1944

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Part II Annexes

* *

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

1. Conversation with Palmiro Togliatti.

In conversation with PWB officers Togliatti outlined a campaign for organization and intensification of resistance among Italian patriots in the north. He said that it was essential for the committees of liberation (in the north) in which the Communist party played a leading role, the Allied High Command and PWB to coordinate their plans with the object of encouraging and building up resistance so that, at a given moment, it could be of the utmost value. For his part, he was prepared to write a plan of propaganda containing suggestions of the lines along which this co-ordination could be carried out. He would write such a plan as a member of the Italian government and leader of the Communist Party.

He felt that resistance in Northern Italy should be divided up into zones. The problems concerning the area immediately behind the front lines differ from those of the area in front of Rome, which in turn differ from those concerning Central and Northern Italy. Different instructions should be given to these different zones, at each stage of the military operations.

In Northern Italy, resistance could take two forms. That of the patriots who were actually fighting and that organised by the workers in the factories. He considered it important to instruct the workers to prepare for strikes when the order was given, since strikes could not be organized overnight, and much preparation was necessary. Workers must be told now to organise and prepare themselves for the final moment of action.

As for actual organisation of patriots, he felt that the area between Bologna and Florence was the most suitable, as there would be sufficient means to enable guerilla warfare to be carried out.

He thought that if it was possible it would be best to tell patriots something of what Yugoslav and Russian partisans had been doing. These accounts would serve as examples to encourage further resistance.

Instructions should now be given to the inhabitants

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

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Instructions should now be given to the inhabitants of Rome as to what to do to prepare for the final moment. If each plans could be achieved, the contribution made by Italy to the winning of the war would be immensely strengthened.

He thought that it would be a good thing for the Italian programme broadcast to the patriots in the north to be re-broadcast from Moscow, and he also thought that it would be a good thing for Moscow to transmit one or two broadcasts weekly for liberated Italy, and for the programmes so be relaid by PWB.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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He regarded the winning of the war as the supreme object and felt that everything else should be subordinated to this. Secondary problems like that of the monarchy could wait until after the war. He did not for one moment imagine that the monarchy stood and chance of survival, but the Italian people should decide. When asked what he felt about the Prince of Piedmont's interview, he said that he felt neither more nor less than what had been expressed in the government communique. He had, however, felt that the Prince's remarks were foolish from his own point of view, as the Italians might have been persuaded by a more enlightened interview that the monarchy was set on a new democratic course. He believed that the King was probably the only person who was really satisfied by the Prince's interview, as he could now say to the people, "you see, I always told you so, my successor is much more stupid and less democratic than I am".

He believed that the Communist Party should co-operate with the democratic parties, and that at the present time it was essential that all changes should be brought about democratically. For this reason he deplored the titles of some of the Communist newspapers in Italy. He thought that Civilta Proletaria was not a suitable title for a Communist newspaper. Civilta Democratica would be better. He would prefer one daily newspaper to take the place of the various weekly Communist newspapers, and was prepared to approach the Socialists and suggest that they fuse their newspapers into one daily published in Naples.

Giving his impressions on Russia, he said that theres was great interest in America among the Russians. They admired the technical achievements of the Americans, and Russians were very curious to know more about America. As far as England was concerned, cultural ties between England and Russia were close. When a play by Shakespeare was printed, it had an enormous circulation, and last December, when he was in Moscow, the most successful play, which ran for several months was Sheriden's "School for Scandal".

The Russians were mainly interested in winning the war, and there was much less interest in post-war problems than in England and America. The Russians feel they can pay attention to these when the war has been won.

Togliatti thought that when we reach Rome we will be faced with a totally different problem from that which had confronted us in Naples. There would be many more anti-Fascists as a result of their experiences during the last few months. There would be a definite danger of the people administering their own justice, and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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

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2. Interview with Sforza.

In conversations with PWB officers Count Sforza said that he was not vindictive towards the petty Fascists in the North, who had worn the badge out of weakness or lack of understanding. He believed that the Italians in the north would, for the most part

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settle their own problem of epuration, and would liquidate many of the outstanding Fascists, particularly those who had collaborated with the Germans. The new epuration laws were designed to strike at the big Fascists, who had been involved in the policy followed for the last twenty years. There would be no chance for men like Grandi or Federzoni to escape the punishment that was their due.

He thought that the government would resign when Rome was reached as to make way for the new forces in Rome.

Talking of the Prince of Piedmont's interview, he put forward the interesting hypothesis, which he said was purely hypothesis that the interview had possibly been inspired by the king whom he described as "il piccolo mostro". In this way the King no doubt hoped to discredit the chances of his son.

Sforza himself regarded the interview as jeopardising the chances of the monarchy. He and other ministers had hoped that the monarchy would now start on more democratic lines.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

3. Demand for local government elections in Sicily.

On May 11th, under the Presidency of Cav. Lucio Tasca, Sindaco of Palermo, was held a meeting of Presidents of Provincial Deputations, and of Sindaci of the Sicilian provincial capitals andof other Sicilian towns. An order of the day was passed in which, after expressing greetings to their compatriots in Northern Italy, it was proposed to ask the High Commissioner to intercede with the government to allow preperations to be made to hold local government elections, which should be possible after ten months of liberation.

The order of the day continued:

The appointment of the (High Commissioner's) Consultative Council, which should have represented the Sicilian population, does not correspond to the desires and designation of the people, having been selected with the pre-conceived idea of eliminating the representatives of those currents which consider that the well-being of the nation can only be reached through the administrative and economic autonomy of the region.

"That this mistaken choice of representatives was made without prior consultation of the High Commissioner, thus diminishing the powers of an Institution which the Sicilian people intends resolutely to defend, as an administrative conquest

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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"That this mistaken choice of representatives was made without prior consultation of the High Commissioner, thus diminishing the powers of an Institution which the Sicilian people intends resolutely to defend, as an administrative conquest and also without consulting the representatives of the Provincial and Communal administration of the island.

"It is therefore necessary to revise the appointments in such a way as to establish a Consultative assembly which should respect, and which should be the true expression of, the will of the people it is called upon to represent.

"The Meeting therefore votes that a new Consultative Assembley be set up, in conformity with the will of the Sicilian people, in which the various Sicilian provinces should be represented." 3640

The rest of the resolution concerned the price of grain. (see paragraph 0.

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

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4. Sicilian Prefect's protest against High Commissioner's Council

At a secret session held in Palermo at the beginning of May, the Sicilian Prefects passed the following resolution, to be submitted to Colonel Hancock:

"In view of the Communication from the High Commissioner regarding the composition of the Giunta Consultative appointed by the former Council of Ministers.

"Recalling the votes of the Prefects in the previous meetings of the administrative autonomy of Sicily, within the framework of Italian unity, and on the institution of the High Commissionership

"We draw attention to the fact that the High Commissioner was not consulted in the choice of members of the Giunta Consultative and that no account was taken of a fair and effective representation of political currents in the differernt provinces.

5. Interview with the Prefect of Benevento.

Talking of relations between civilians and Allied troops the Prefect of Benevento referred to three causes for complaint: firstly the drunkeness which sometimes resulted in the molesting of women; the methods of requisition, and thirdly of the damage done to property. All these things, he said had helped to depreciate the populations first enthusiasm towards the liberators. Of course, the first outburst of joy had worn off and in fact the situation had since deteriorated. He said that the same number of people as before had now to be housed in a third of the space, because of the destruction the bombings had created in the town. Then the Allies came and wanted to requisition whole blocks of flats. Already as many as 10 people were living in one room. In such conditions an epidemic would be dangerous. He then complained of the wanton destruction of fruit trees and the looting of valuables as souveneirs. When questioned on the new "People's granaries" (granai del popolo) he said that the name and the idea had made a good impression. He too had tried to abolish all the old Fascist terminology. But he still thought the official price of 1000 lire was too low. So was the peasants' ration. It should be four quintals instead of two.

With regard to propaganda, he said that Bari could be heard better than Naples but asserted that for entertainment part of the programme Radio Rome was still the best produced, though its news broadcasts were received with amusement by the people now that they knew the true facts. As for the press, he said that

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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"We draw attention to the fact that the High Commissioner was not consulted in the choice of members of the Giunta Consultative and that no account was taken of a fair and effective representation of political currents in the differernt provinces.

5. Interview with the Prefect of Benevento.

Talking of relations between civilians and Allied troops the Prefect of Benevento referred to three causes for complaint: firstly the drunkeness which sometimes resulted in the molesting of women; the methods of requisition, and thirdly of the damage done to property. All these things, he said had helped to depreciate the populations first enthusiasm towards the liberators. Of course, the first outburst of joy had worn off and in fact the situation had since deteriorated. He said that the same number of people as before had now to be housed in a third of the space, because of the destruction the bombings had created in the town. Then the Allies came and wanted to requisition whole blocks of flats. Already as many as 10 people were living in one room. In such conditions an epidemic would be dangerous. He then complained of the wanton destruction of fruit trees and the looting of valuables as souveneirs. When questioned on the new "People's granaries" (granai del popolo) he said that the name and the idea had made a good impression. He too had tried to abolish all the old Fascist terminology. But he still thought the official price of 1000 lire was too low. So was the peasants' ration. It should be four quintals instead of two.

With regard to propaganda, he said that Bari could be heard better than Naples but asserted that for entertainment part of the programme Radio Rome was still the best produced, though its news broadcasts were received with amusement by the people now that they knew the true facts. As for the press, he said that there were no clandestine papers in Benevento but that the parties had asked permission for a fortnightly paper each. A few posters and pamphlets had been put up, particularly on Mayday.

Finally the Prefect spoke on the local administrative reforms being introduced. He was himself supervising the election of the various provincial, municipal and local councils and committees, to see that they were fully representative of local opinion. The Demo-Liberals were collaborating in a most disciplined manner but had tried to "get a monopoly of posts" and corner more than their fair share. He had opposed this and aimed at complete impartiality and a proper equilibrium between the parties.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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6. Action party crisis...

The split between the groups headed by Schiano and Omodeo and the rest of the Action Party is reported to be widening. Omodeo is accused of being a reactionary and always wanting his own way. The question of the suppression of the Bari University courses has aggravated the situation because the party has repeatedly advised Omodeo not to insist on this point, but he apparently did not want to give way. There is no doubt, according to the Italian informant who makes these observations, that Omodeo, in spite of being a republican, is a conservative and disagrees with many points in the social-democratic programme of the Action Party. (B-8).

7. ...Cianca...

In the course of an interview with a PWB officer on 17.5.44., Cianca expressed his views about the crisis in the Action Party. He declared that his followers were unwilling to continue collaborating with the present government, and that the two chief executive committeess in Occupied Italy had voted against active support of Badoglio. The question is to be discussed at a party congress which is to be held on the 1st June, and it seems likely that a decision will be taken to go into opposition as soon as Rome is occupied by the Allies. Cianca also suggested that the present members of the party who are now in the government will be outvoted and cease to take part in its direction, that is to say in the direction of the movement. When asked why the party of Action had collaborated up to the present, he declared that had only done so under great pressure from within and without, and that many of the anti-Fascists had allowed their hand to be forced by the machinations of the Communists when Togliatti had made his appeal for collaboration with the monarchy.. Cianca added that he could not bear the idea of working with Badoglio, not so much because of his work under Fascism, but because he had muddled the military situation since the 25th July and even continued the war against the Allies for a short time.

The present crisis had been accentuated by Prince Umberto's interview published in the "Times", which made it quite obvious that the latter was quite unfit to be Lieutenant-General of the Kingdom. Apparently Badoglio had called on the King to protest against the statements made by the Crown Prince, and the King had promised that such incidents would never occur again. This had satisfied the Right Wing of the Cabinet, and it was only under strong pressure from the Part of Action that the Government issued its recent public statement concerning the interview.

In a party meeting held in Naples on May 16th, Cianca

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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In a party meeting held in Naples on May 16th, Cianca stated that he had attacked the Ministers who represent the movement, pressing for a more determined attitude against collaboration. For his part he believed that if his party went into opposition it would contribute more than be playing its present subservient role, especially if its criticism were constructive and free from bias and prejudice.

When asked whether he thought that national unity should be sacrificed at the present moment, he replied that Italy's greatest danger was Communism. The Communists were using Parthian tactics

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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to get into power, and their moderation was only simulated in order to allay the fears of the people. He believed that Stalin had recognized the Badoglio Government in order to further Russian aspirations in the Mediterranean, and also in order to assist Communist activities. Democracy, he declared, was now threatened by the Communists, and many Fascists were joining in their ranks.

Within the Government the Communist influence was being used to discredit Britain and the United States by placing the onus of present and future weaknesses in the administration on the ACC. For instance, the People's Granaries were doomed to failure because the price fixed for a quintal of wheat (1,000 lire) is insufficient. Ciancа claimed that the ACC had suggested 1,500 lire, which would have been sufficient to make the sale of grain profitable, but the competent authorities had lowered the price and then declared that it had been fixed by the ACC. If manoeuvring of this kind continued, the Allies would be blamed for all the incompetence and inefficiency of the present administration.

8. ...Carracciolo.

When asked to state his opinion about the crisis in the Action Party, Carracciolo seemed to take a far less pessimistic view than Ciancа. He said the the difficulties which had arisen were due more to questions of tactics than fundamental policy, that there had been no personal vendettas and that relationship between the various members of the Committee were still very cordial and even friendly. Certainly the majority of their supporters in Liberated Italy were in favour of collaboration with the present government, whilst in Occupied Italy an adverse view was held. For his part he did believe that as soon as Rome was free the policy of the Party of Action would have to be radically revised. A friend of Carracciolo's reports that he expressed much graver views concerning the crisis when talking with his Italian colleagues.

9. Interview with De Nicola.

In conversation with PWB officers, Senator De Nicola said he would be prepared to join the government when Rome was reached. He felt now that it would not be very long before this happened, and rather wondered whether his compromise plan, which had enabled the new government to be formed, had really been of much value, as he considered that a change of government was inevitable when Rome was reached.

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

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He also said that Croce and himself were trying to arrange either for an alliance or a fusion of the liberal and demo-liberal parties. The liberal party was holding a congress from May 30th to June 4th, when Croce was making the final speech. It was hoped to hold this congress in the San Carlo theatre. Such a fusion would result in the formation of a strong liberal party. The Demo-liberals were perhaps the strongest party in Southern Italy, although he added that the people were not politically conscious, and their votes were largely a matter of persons, that is to say the leading popular personality in a district, no matter what his party, was almost sure to be elected.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789521

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The Demo-Liberal party, he said, represented the left wing of the Liberal party. He believed that one of the difficulties of the Italian party system had been the existence of two many parties. It was essential to try to arrive at a situation where there are three or four parties, and he hoped that this fusion would represent a move in the right direction.

10. The Liberals and the government.

In an interview with a PWB officer, on May 16th, Avv. Russo, Secretary of the Naples Liberal Party said that the party was keeping in close touch with the Liberal members of the government. In fact, the weekly party meetings were now held over the week-end so that the Ministers were able to come to Naples and take part. This last Saturday (May 14th) Morelli had been to the meeting. Avv. Russo stressed the importance of Morelli's post as Under-Secretary to the Presidency. He was acting as liaison between the ministers and helping to co-ordinate the cabinet's work. At this point a certain De Maria an ardent liberal who was also present, spoke enthusiastically or Morelli's past work for the liberals and volunteered the information that in the last period of Fascism, the Liberals had met in Morelli's house, then thanks to him in the Bank of Naples, and finally after the fall of Fascism had established themselves in No. 5 Via Medina, again thanks to Morelli and his relatives.

In answer to a question, Russo then remarked that Gino Bergami, the Under-Secretary for Agriculture, was working well with the Communist ministers, Gullo, as the problem of food was technical, not ideological.

Russo also announced that a three day national congress of the liberal party would be held on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th of June to discuss the organization, the political programme and future orientation of the party. It would culminate in a public meeting which was to be addressed by Croce. He would be making an important political speech and it was hoped that for such a solemn occasion a large theatre could be obtained. Russo thereupon suggested the San Carlo.

11. The left wing of the Socialist Party.

An Italian observer reports that there is a small group in the Socialist Party, headed by Gaeta, Tarsia, etc., who are clamouring for union with the Communist Party. The Socialist Party has for the most past outgrown the old reformist and syndicalist ideas and today proclaims itself a Marxist-Leninist Party. This is a frequent subject of discussion in Socialist and Communist

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

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3638

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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12.Political parties in Benevento.

The alignment of political forces in the province is unlike that in Naples and is determined to a great extent by the personalism which is such a distinct feature of Southern Italian politics.

The largest party is the Democratic Liberal (estimated by a well-informed and detached observer as being 60% of the whole provincial population of about 350,000 people; next comes the Christian Democrat Party (about 20%); next the combined Communists and Socialists; then the Party of Action, and lastly the Croce Liberal Party; who activities are only just beginning. The strength of the Democratic Liberal Party depends upon the attachment of the peasants for Avv. De Caro, who has built up for himself a position of great ascendancy in the province. An astute man, and a very able lawyer, he has always been an anti-Fascist but was protected, under Fascism, through his good relationship with the police chief, General Bocchini. On November 16th, 1943, he became Under-Secretary for Public Works and on February 17th became Minister, where it is reported that he did not hesitate to indulge in (spoils politics' finding office for a number of his followers.

The Christian Democrats find a great measure of support from the Church and the Archbishop of Benevento, Agostino Mancinelli, a cultured and open-minded prelate. He admitted quite frankly to a PWB officer that he was giving full backing to the Christian Democratic Party. There is, however, a lack of lay leaders for this party in the province. The titular head is the On. Bosco-Lucarelli, a much respected figure whose honesty nobody questioned, but who was now over sixty years of age and of a retiring disposition.

The Socialists and Communists, though without outstanding leaders, number several able men in their ranks. In particular the head of the Communist Party in Benevento, Umberto Musco, was well spoken of.

On the whole all parties, even the Democratic Liberal Party under De Caro's orders, are ready to collaborate with the present government. It would, however, be too much to say that there was a feeling of political unity among the parties. The Communist, Musco spoke with antipathy of the activities of the Christian Democrats and Liberal Democrats. The Archbishop spoke of the Communists with suspicion. De Caro alluded to the number of ex-Fascists within their ranks as if to rebut, by some secret intuition, a similar accusation [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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13. Interview with On. De Caro 16.5.44.

A PWB Officer called on the ex-Minister of Public Works in his house in a small side street off the main square of Benevento.

De Caro is a powerfully built man, with large rugged features, thick white hair embrosse and a depp voice. At once he gives the impression of a strong and willful personality, a man who knows how to get his way. He talked in a friendly manner and needed little prompting.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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asked what was the present policy of his party, he declared that he intended to collaborate with the existing government. If there were criticisms to be made, these would be made in private and his party had been instructed accordingly. He was very confident as to the strength of his party. The small leaders of the province he said were sound at heart and would not tolerate Communism. Even some of the parish priests were among his followers. He recalled going to the village of Ginestra for whose population he had secured some special benefits. He was welcomed by the priest and the villagers and feared that the reverend gentlemen had come forth to engage in a political fight with him. On the contrary, however, he said he had come out to make a public declaration of adherence to De Caro, notwithstanding the Bishop's instructions that he should support the Christian Democrats.

Turning to the situation of the people De Caro said that recent Allied advances had raised morale tremendously. The peasants had been very disappointed by the lethargy of the front line. They remembered fighting among the Alps in the last war and the Cassino seemed to them a small obstacle by comparison. They failed to appreciate the difference in method and weapons then and now.

There was among the population of Benevento at the present time a feeling of dissatisfaction (situazione di disagio). The town had suffered heavy losses from aerial bombardment. He had had an investigation made and computed the damages at one milliard eight hundred million lire. In addition there was the requisition of buildings which had caused some heartburning. He proceeded to quote examples which on checking proved to be quite correct. The behaviour of the troops was not exemplary but armies were much the same the world over, what did surprise the Italians was that, whereas in the Italian army a soldier who gets drunk is submitted to disciplinary action, in the Allied armies drunkeness seems to be accepted by the authorities as a matter of course. He said that on the whole the American troops were preferred to the British because of the many ties of the local population with the United States.

When asked about the influence of Fascism in the province De Caro said that there had been troubles and persecutions in the early days, when he himself had also been made to suffer, but that in 1927 a kind of modus vivendi became established between the Fascist and the anti-Fascists and after that time the Federale did not pursue the non-Fascists any more. He thought that Fascism had never taken on to any great extent in the province and was now practically extinct.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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14. Interview with Professor Giuseppe Ambesis.

Prof. Ambesis is an astute but genial and prosperous looking lawyer with a wide knowledge of local conditions and a keen insight into local personalities. He is a native of Rome but lived in Tunis and was banished by the Fascist regime to Benevento during the war. He is now legal advisor to AMG in the province. He is a British subject.

3637

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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The general political picture he gave to P.W.B. officers was found on further investigation to be on the whole correct and impartial. He first of all asserted that local politics was run by the chief personalities and their followings. He said that a distinction should be drawn between town and country. The most influential party were the Demo-Liberals, led by the ex-Minister De Caro. They had 30% of the town, mostly professional people and 70% of the country, all the many small property owners and thus commanded 60% of the province. Next came the Demo-Christians, strongly supported by the Church. They had a majority nowhere but good members everywhere, and commanded an ove-all support of 20% of the province. Socialists and Communists had no support in the country but a 60% majority in the town, thanks to the industrial workers and particularly the railway workers. There were no other parties of importance in Benevento. In an election the Demo-Liberals and Demo-Christians, who were the less reactionary of the two in fact if not in theory, would most probably combine against the Left parties.

The new government had not much changed the political situation, except that it encouraged the Socialists and Communists a bit, as they were now in the government. On the whole it had been favourably received at first, but now the population was afraid of a new call-up.

The man who commanded the greatest respect for his high moral rather than political qualities and impeccable honesty was Avv. Bosco-Lucarelli, former Minister and deputy. He was less able than De Caro and was already in his sixties but he was respected even by his adversaries for his almost ascetic anti-Fascism and his principled behaviour. He was strongly Catholic, the leader of the Demo-Christians, but did not publicize himself enough.

Of the Socialists, Avv. Enrico Rossi, an able but not ambitious man had now been appointed Regional Director of Labour. The former leader, Luigi Basile was still with the Socialists but was now keeping very much to himself, on account of his known admiration for the Germans in the past. The present leader, Avv. Mario Pellegrino, of a less left tendency, than Rossi, (he was collaborationist) was a most honest man, unlike the very active secretary of the party, Avv. Roberto Tibaldi. The Socialists, had a leader among the tobacco workers, by name Lejuene and one at the post office, Scognamillo. The Communists including all the railwaymen, had a most moderate and respectable leader, Umberto Musco, but there were less honest elements amongst them as well.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Prof. Abiosis then gave shrews descriptions of the Archbishop and the Prefect, Italo Armaile. He characterized the latter as an intelligent man and a good servant who did his job well. He had left a good name in Catanzaro and was sent to the Home Office where he was chief of a department (Capo Servizio). He joined the P.N.F. in 1932 (obligatory for his career) and in 1940 was appointed Prefect of Benevento.

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

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15. Interview with the Archbishop of Benevento 16.5.44.

P.W.B. officers found the Archbishop in a restored portion of one of the seminaries which had been partially bombed. He is a tall thin man of 61 years of age and has always been severely anti-German. He has been friendly towards Allied officials, though reserved, and at the present time is somewhat disturbed by the threatened requisitioning of the papal seminary. He did not, however, allude to this in the conversation. Archbishop Agostino Mancelli was born in Padua but has for many years been in the ecclesiastical administration in the south.

The Archbishop said that the moral condition of the people of Benevento was low and this he attributed largely to a great lack of material means. Clothing were very scarce; a constant stream of people came to him asking for shoes, coats and other articles. Many people had lost everything in the bombardments, others in the looting which followed. Distributions of clothing had been made by the American Red Cross, and the smaller towns of the province were making a contribution to relieve the needs of Benevento, but it was all like pouring water into a sieve.

Another ill which affected the moral condition of the people adversely was overcrowding. Poor families were living together, several in a room. Hygienic conditions were appalling and incest was rampant. The Archbishop made a special plea that requisition should be restricted in Benevento to a bare minimum.

Referring to the conduct of the troops, he said that it had been excellent to begin with, so much so, that he had had occasion to remark upon it in his sermons. He considered, however, that the early standard had not been maintained. There was a good deal of drunkenness and he himself had witnessed some rather disgusting scenes.

The Archbishop didnot speak very highly of the political parties. He thought, that, even since the formation of the new government, they continued to be a dividing factor in national life. They were still working actively to procure divisions among the people.

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

portion of one of the seminaries which had been partially bombed. He is a tall thin man of 61 years of age and has always been severely anti-German. He has been friendly towards Allied officials, though reserved, and at the present time is somewhat disturbed by the threatened requisitioning of the papal seminary. He did not, however, allude to this in the conversation. Archbishop Agostino Bernardi was born in Padua but has for many years been in the ecclesiastical administration in the south.

The Archbishop said that the moral condition of the people of Benevento was low and this he attributed largely to a great lack of material means. Clothing were very scarce; a constant stream of people came to him asking for shoes, coats and other articles. Many people had lost everything in the bombardments, others in the looting which followed. Distributions of clothing had been made by the American Red Cross, and the smaller towns of the province were making a contribution to relieve the needs of Benevento, but it was all like pouring water into a sieve.

Another ill which affected the moral condition of the people adversely was overcrowding. Poor families were living together, several in a room. Hygienic conditions were appalling and incest was rampant. The Archbishop made a special plea that requisition should be restricted in Benevento to a bare minimum.

Referring to the conduct of the troops, he said that it had been excellent to begin with, so much so, that he had had occasion to remark upon it in his sermons. He considered, however, that the early standard had not been maintained. There was a good deal of drunkeness and he himself had witnessed some rather disgusting scenes.

The Archbishop didnot speak very highly of the political parties. He thought, that, even since the formation of the new government, they continued to be a dividing factor in national life. They were still working actively to procure divisions among the people.

In the town of Benevento, the important parties were the De Caro Liberals and the Socialists. In the Province the Christian Democrats were strong but not in the town. The church was helping the Christian Democrats. This was not done so much from the alter as outside, by advice and guidance. He predicted a linking up of the parties of order (Liberal Democrats and Christian Democrats) in Benevento Province against the revolutionary parties. He did not trust the Communist policy of giving a helping hand. The Communists were good psychologists and would appeal to what the people liked but when they had power they would reveal their true colours. He thought the Communists had plenty of funds.

CONFIDENTIAL

3686

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789521

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Asked whether he approved of priests denouncing Communism or Socialism from the pulpit he said it was necessary to make clear to congregations that the principles of these political creeds (which also contained a philosophy of life and were fundamentally anti-Christian) were incompatible with Catholicism. To an educated congregation it would be enough to preach Christian principles and leave them to infer the conclusion. But to a congregation of peasants it was necessary to specify so that there should be no doubt about the matter. Although it was not a pleasant thing to have to speak so bluntly, it was a question of moral truths and the Church would fail in her teaching mission if her priests did not make these matters clear.

16. Attitude of the clergy.

An Italian collaborator of PWB Bari reports that a great majority of both the higher and lower clergy in Apulia is much concerned over the future of the monarchy, which it still regards as the bulwark against internal disorders. Only a small section of the clergy, with an intimate knowledge of the sufferings and low cultural level of the mass of the population, dare to advocate the social policy of the former Partito Popolari, tenets associated with the name of Don Luigi Sturzo, radical in character and including the division of the large estates among the peasants.

Though the majority of the clergy is politically agnostic they subscribe favourably to the ideas expressed by President Roosevelt, whose name is revered in the most remote country presbytery.

The lower clergy have been much surprised at the correct behaviour during religious services, and by the courtesy of Allied officers and men, for they had been led to believe by Fascist propaganda that as regards religion the Anglo-Saxons were worse than the Russians.

ARMED FORCES

17. Talk with Marshal Messe.

While making a recording for Radio Naples, Marshal Messe talked to a PWB officer. As the text had to be changed to fit in with Allied directives, the PWB officer asked the Marshal whether he would object to making certain changes. Messe replied ironically that the whole text could be changed as far as he was concerned because it was we who co-ordinat[illegible]

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

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He was anxious that the same publicity should be given to his speech as had been given to the other political leaders. He was also anxious for the BBC to relay his speech, as he felt that it would have considerable effect among the patriots in northern Italy. He would also like prisoners in Great Britain and America to hear this speech.

[illegible] as he handed the text of his speech to the PWB officer, he asked whether it was necessary to enclose it in an envelope. The PWB officer said that this would not be necessary, and Messe replied, "This, I suppose, is democracy economising" (questa, mi immagino e la democrazia che risparmio .)

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

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18. Report on Italian troops in Calabria.

The following report was made by an Italian officer, stationed in Calabria, to a P.W.B. officer.

Attitude towards Allied troops. Italian troops naturally feel a sense of inferiority as regards the Allied soldiers who are well-payed, well-dressed and furnished with abundant transport that spares them long marches on exhausting physical effort.

Fascism in the army. There is considerable nostalgia among the Armed Force for the late regime and many would like to see it restored to power. Fascism still operates among the troops through the dissolved party organizations now agglomerated into the army, such as the anti-aircraft defence, the road militia, port militia, and finance guards.

The officers who are particularly depressed by the present conditions tend to remain convinced Fascists.

This officer suggestes that the following considerations should govern the re-forming of the Italian army:

i) volunteers should be encouraged for the front, with proportionately high pay.

ii) Non-volunteers drawn from the 1916 class onwards, should be well equipped and payed, not much less than the volunteers.

iii) The troops must be commanded by professionally competent officers, young if possible.

iv) Where possible officers, especially junior officers, should not command troops who were under their orders before the Allied landings.

v) Officers should live under the same conditions as the soldiers, especially as regards to food and uniform.

vi) Both officers and men should be better payed so that they have the security that they can help alleviate the economic plight of their families after the war. (B-3).

Politics.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795021

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Politics.

The troops. No particular reaction to the constitution of the parties. The individual and social education of the soldiers is very low and number of illiterates is most noticeable. The political and moral conceptions of the average soldier are very limited; he does not look beyond his own family, his house and the land he must cultivate; the rest does not interest him because he does not understand it. But even the ignorant soldier is amazed at the spectacle offered him today by his superiors who preach the same things today as they preached yesterday.

3635

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The soldier listens, reflects, and supinely accepts every act. Most soldiers have no faith in the re-birth of their country; they are exasperated by words.

The troops feel that their officers have only one aim - their own political and economic convenience. Political papers circulate rarely among the troops. In the barracks there are a few privately owned radios round which the men group to hear the "news from home" programme.

Officers. Many of the above observations on the soldiers are valid also for the officers. Their higher standard of education however renders them more resentful of the lack of professional knowledge and incapacity of the generals of the army staff. A frequently repeated question is why at the Armistice, with three days and three nights to dispose of, something drastic was not done to rid Italy of the comparatively few Germans then in the country. About 7% of the officers are actively interested in political matters. The Communists have the most numerous following.

Apart from a few exceptions among regular army officers neither men nor officers retain any sense of devotion to the king.

Superior officers appear indifferent whether their officers occupy themselves with political questions or not.

19. Fascist activities among the Italian troops in Calabria.

An Italian Army Officer told a PWB Officer at Cosenza that an organization has been started among the Italian troops in Calabria, especially at Reggio di Calabria, whose aim is to keep alive the fascist party in the expectation that the Germans will comeback to Southern Italy. Membership cards marked "Anno XXII" have been issued and distributed to members of the movement. These cards carry only a membership number and a signature. Rumours of the existence of these cards at Rossano have also come to the ears of this PWB officer. The members of the movement are chosen from the best and most courageous elements . Former fascist gerarchs and squadristi are excluded. The bulk of the members are drawn from the regular soldiers, only a few members of the former fascist militia have been accepted. Large stocks of weapons are hidden somewhere in the province of Reggio. The officer further stated that seven out of the fourteen officers in his regiment, the 16th Inf. Regt. have joined this movement. (B-3).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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

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20. The Italian Navy personnel and the Allies.

An Italian officer of the military Information service informed a PWB officer of the excellent effect made on the morale of Italian crews by their reception at Gibraltar.

This officer cited the case of the cruiser "Garibaldi". As the ship entered the harbour the French vessels anchored there made various hostile signals and one ship despatched a sloop which tried to tear down the Italian flag, flying at the cruiser's poop. The Italian commander reported this incident to the naval commander of Gibraltar, who gave an order that the French ships should anchor in the Gibraltar roads. The Italian sailors were allowed to land, and were given a comradely reception in the cafes and streets of Gibraltar by the British sailors.

21. Dissatisfaction of Italian crews at Malta and Alexandria.

The same source reports that Italian crews actively employed are very satisfied with their treatment by the Allies, and especially with the quite equal treatment given Italian vessels in convoys. On the other hand, Italian crews on ships of the line at Malta and Alexandria are said to be very dissatisfied at their many months inactivity on board their ships in those harbours. The crews are not allowed on land at either of these ports. It is considered that after their wait in these waters these ships of the line would need six months repair before they would again be fit for service. The crews on these ships are reported to be most anxious to cooperate with the Allies, even in the Pacific, and they blame the Italian government and the Italian Admiralty for preventing their active employment for motives of prestige. If this is unfeasible, then they consider the ships should be disarmed and the crews taken ashore for other employment.

RELIEF

22. The problem of the refugees.

In the course of a conversation with a PWB officer, Signor Zaniboni declared that as he has just assumed office it was too early for him to explain the scope of his work fully, as he was still examining the problems which he had to face. Quite apart from the question of feeding the refugees as soon as they were liberated, the most important point to be considered was where they were to be sent and how they were to be employed. It was obvious that workmen should be sent to towns and peasants to country districts, but transport should not be forced to make [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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CONFIDENTIAL

3634

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

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EDUCATION

23. Omodeo and Bari University.

The RDL approved by the Council of Ministers on May 13th and published on the 14th, which suppressed certain supplementary courses which had been established at Bari University for the current academic year by a previous RDL of January, under which students living in Apulia or Lucania with their normally taught at Bari, created an academic storm. Apart from the fact that 1,500 students were deprived of their studies, the wording of the decree law, which said that the courses were suppressed in the interests of the seriousness of studies, was taken as an insult to Bari University.

The faculty of the University issued a first statement in which it was explained that the courses suppresses had been limited to the departments of letters and philosophy, pedagogy, engineering, natural sciences, mathematics, physics and chemistry, were given regularly during the whole academic year and were attended by students for whom it was impossible, owing to their adverse economic circumstances, to enter other universities. To take these courses were appointed professors in charge of related subjects in other departments, fellows, among whom one who came third in a competitive university examination, old professors and members of the teaching staff of the Lycees well-known for their knowledge of their subjects.

In view of the situation it was observed that:

i) the measure is illegal because it is contrary to another legislative measure of an exceptional character, although the conditions determined by the measure have remained the same; because it prejudices the rights of the students who are suddenly deprived of the courses in which they were registered and are forced to take examinations in places difficult to reach, contrary to the legitimate expectation created in them by the measure setting up these courses, because the students would have to take examinations unlawfully, in subjects which they did not follow throughout the whole obligatory course, since the suppression measure obstructs the regular continuation of the course and lessens the juridical value of the teaching that has been imparted.

ii) The measure seriously prejudices the interests of the students since the means of communication with the other university centres are not all re-established, and the students' residence in those centres is so difficult and expensive as to dissuade those interested, especially the women, from taking

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 780021

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ii) The measure seriously prejudices the interests of the students since the means of communication with the other university centres are not all re-established, and the students' residence in those centres is so difficult and expensive as to dissuade those interested, especially the women, from taking the examination.

iii) The measure seriously prejudices the prestige of the University of Bari, not only by its content but also by the harsh and unjust formulation of the reasons for wishing to re-establish the "seriouness of the studies".

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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iv) The measure is undemocratic because it prejudices the autonomy of the universities, just beginning to be restored, as the academic authorities of the University of Bari have not been requested to make any reports, to produce any justification, or to give their opinions, but have learned the news only from the newspapers.

v) The measure is politically inopportune because it will arouse resentment and pre-occupation throught Apulia, especially in the student class, which has been affected more directly with eventual disturbance or the public order, and this too in such a delicate and serious moment when all forces must be directed toward the war effort and when harmony of purpose is imperative.

As a result of the measure and especially because of the offensive formulation of the reasons for its issuance, the Rector Magnificus, Professor Angelo Fraccacreta, has tendered his resignation.

The Academic body has been called together for deliberation.

On the 16th the professors of the authorized faculties met again and passed a resolution expressing these views rather formally and forcibly, referring with sorrow to the resignation of the Rector, reconfirming confidence in him. The resolution concluded with a request that the new order should not be put into effect.

On May 15th, the students at Bari University held an Assembly at which over 1000 were present. It had been agreed that the Corde Fratres should draft a memorial to be send to Croce and to Benedetto Croce. This memorial was read out, and approved unanimously. The memorial also explained the effect of the new measure on the 1500 students involved, and made the following requests:

i) That the supplementary courses at the University of Bari are maintained and that the new provisions is suspended until the situation is clarified.

ii) That, at least until good communications and possible conditions of life away from home are established, the examinations for these supplementary courses are held at Bari University.

iii) That, in order to guarantee the seriousness of the studies, which is as much in the interests of the students as of the Ministers, the Ministry should send to Bari qualified depos-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 789021

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iv) That, if the Minister thinks it is necessary, he send to Bari for the examinations, a complete corps of professors holding regular university chairs. The students point out that it is better to move ten or twenty professors than about 1500 students.

3633

v) That if measures of this king have to be taken they should not, as in the past, proceed from above, and that the voice of the students should be listened to, at any rate until there exists a free and technically prepared parliament.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

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..t the same meeting, the students decided to suspend attendance until the matter was cleared up. The President of the University ..ssociation of Palermo, Gino Traino, who was present at the ..ssembly , expressed to students of Bari the solidarity of the students of the Southern Universities, and undertook to telegraph to the Sicilian Universities asking them to proclaim a strike until the measure was revoked.

The meeting also drew up a telegram to be sent to Omodeo asking that the Rector, who had resigned, be kept at his post.

.. PWB collaborator at Bari, a University student, reflects in anangry report the resentment of his fellow students, both against Omodeo and the Council of Ministers. He reports that "The usual well-wishers are recalling the 'clear objective orders given by the Fascists, never in contrast with the interests of the people' ".

The fact that Omodeo, besides being Minister of Education is Rector of Naples University, has given rise to widespread accusations that Naples is reviving its dictatorial tendencies with regard to other Southern Universities. A PWB officer points out that the student body, which has in the past often been a rowdy element in Italian life, has been very well-disciplined and calm since the Armistice and that it would be a pity to stir it up now.

Omodeo on May 18th published a statement justifying his actions in the interests of Italian culture. However, following a meeting between Omodeo and Fraccacreta, the Minister agreed that the supplementary courses should be continued. The Rector and the Senate withdrew their resignations, and work isnow proceeding normally.

It is understood that Omodeo has not given way on the question of the Salerno Magistero.

An Italian collaborator, a close frienf of Omodeo's told a PWB officer that Omodeo's standpoint is that in view of the great shortage of qualified teaching staff and the virtual non-existence of material for scientific courses, teaching should be concentrated in order to make the best use of such resources as there are. He is also opposed to what he terms academic inflation. He adopted this attitude as Rector of Naples University when the courses were authorised first, and felt he could not change.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Sec. 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Another collaborator, in close touch with the Italian government, confirmed that Omodeo has yielded as regards Bari University. According to this collaborator, the Minister has, by his obstinacy on this point, seriously prejudiced his chances of remaining in the government after Rome falls. Omodeo's attitude has certainly affected his position in his own party, the Action Party, which at Bari supported the student's revolt. It is also probable that he, as a collaborationist member of the party, has strengthened the Ciancs faction which is opposed to collaboration.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

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24. Schools in Benevento.

In Benevento town, all schools have re-opened in the sense that the scholars are attending lessons -- not all, however, in their customary schoolrooms, for some of the schools have been requisitioned or destroyed. Lessons are carried on in private homes and other temporary locations, and where accomodation is lacking the children take lessons in turns for 3-hour periods. Masters complain, here as elsewhere, of a lack of books, but say there is great goodwill among their pupils in adapting themselves to the difficult conditions. The teachers do not complain about these conditions because they drew larger fees giving private lessons than was the case when they received their salary entirely from the State.

25. Salerno students and Omodeo.

Considerable feeling has been aroused among students in Salerno at the news that Omodeo intends to abolish the new university treining college. It is reported that small mimeographed pamphlets have recently appeared on the walls of Salerno, accusing the Minister for Education of showing little regard for the feelings of the students. The authors of this pamphlet are probably High School boys, as it is rumoured in Salerno that the Minister intends to reintroduce a final examingtion at the end of the scholastic course andreduce it to one sitting for September. (C-2).

PUBLIC WORKS

26. Interview with Tarchiani; Minister of Public works - 22.5.44.

Interviewed by a PWB officer, Signor Tarchiani explained that all public works in Italy were subordinated to war needs and in consequence present activities were devoted towards the reconstruction of roads and bridges and the cleansing of stagnant water to prevent the spread of malaria. One of his greatest difficulties was the different scales of pay which prevailed. Employees of the State were paid 50 lire a day as decreed by the CCC. The Allies, on the other hand, paid 75 lire a day, plus rations, and contractors paid as much as 200 lire a day; but since food was of more importance than money, the men who received Allied rations were in the most fortunate position. Clearly there must be some adjustment, otherwise there would be friction and jealousy. In any case, 50 lire a day was an insufficient wage for a single man; and for a married man it meant starvation.

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

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One great hindrance to progress was the lack of good technicians most of whom were in Rome or Northern Italy. Good engineers and administrators would greatly facilitate progress, and these should be available when the Allies advanced. One thing he feared, and that was that when the North was liberated there would be considerable monetary difficulties, as both the Fascists and the Germans had flooded the whole country with paper, and there could be no adjustment of the currency until most of Italy was freed.

3632

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27. Sforza, the New Solomon of "Epuration".

The news of Sforza's appointment was according to reports been well received, particularly as Zaniboni, though highly esteemed as an anti-Fascist, was not considered politically suitable nor sufficiently energetic to deal with this pressing problem of the moment.

Sforza's declaration of future policy was, it is reported, received with still more satisfaction by the people, who see in it a hope of severer methods and at the same time of fairer discrimination. In fact, they consider this a complete change from the policy hitherto followed. It appears that about 800 people, mostly clerks and teachers, have been summarily dismissed for having Fascist decorations, and it was not considered how much youthful exuberence had gone to earn them, instead of calculated opportunism and serious Fascist activity.

Meanwhile, the naval commander at Naples, the police chief, Lauricella, the Naples Finance Commissioner, all those who were really responsibles, were still at their posts. (C-2).

28. Cosenza committee for "defascistizzazione".

The Cosenza daily newspaper reports the formation of a provincial committee for for defascistizzazione. The commission will deal only with the so-called anti parastatali; that is offices of public interest that are not state agencies. Up to the 20.5.44. the commission had examined eight cases, six of which were settled by the removal of the employees. The chairman of the committee is the chief justice of the Cosenza tribunal. No commission has yet been set up in Cosenza for the purging of government agencies, though a very thorough epuration has been carried out among the teaching staffs of schools, on the instructions of the Ministry of Public Instruction at Salerno.

A "commissione per i provvedimenti di polizia" a replica of the former confino commission, has also been reconstituted. All parties are said to be hostile to the re-appearance of this court, as the punishment to the confino, so much practised by the fascists on their political opponents, is felt to be inconsistent with with the principles of democracy.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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. Cagliari anti-Fascist Committee demands Epuration.

The Cagliari Provincial Committee of anti-Fascist concentration held a special meeting on May 11th to discuss the political and economic situation "which is not in conformity with the changed situation of the country". Representatives of the Socialists, Christian Democrat, Partito Italiano d'Azione, Liberal Party, and Republican Party were present.

The Provincial Secretary, the Avv. Cesare Pintus, announced that on May 9th the On. Angelo Corsi had been forced to send in his resignation from the Consiglio Provinciale dell'Economica, to which he had been appointed by the Provincial Committee of anti-Fascist Concentration. The On. Corsi was called upon to explain the reasons which had led to his resignation.. He explained that he had frequently felt himself to be useless, since every initiative he advocated was opposed or put aside by the boycotting of other members, and particularly the Prefect, ex-officio president of the Consiglio dell'Economia. The actual occasion for his resignation was the Prefect's order to distribute 800 metres of cloth, recently collected from retailers who had who had evacuated to the country, among the Prefect's own relations.

The Committee unanimously deplored the uncontrolled system of distribution in the province, especially as regards food and clothing and the continuation of Fascist rule.

The committee also lamented the fact that there had been no epuration in the army, and that officers of all ranks, well-known Fascists, continue to spread Fascist sentiments.

The Committee finally passed an order of the day, embodying the following points:

i) that any appointment to the administration of public bodies must take place exclusively on designation of the Committee of anti-Fascist concentration, and that dismissals and replacements should be submitted to their approval.

ii) that individuals eliminated from office in the process of de-Fascistisation, should not be taken on in other jobs, and in particular in the army.

iii) that dangerous Fascists should be banished from Cagliari, and not allowed to return there.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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iii) that dangerous Fascists should be banished from Cagliari, and not allowed to return there.

iv) that it is the duty of the heads of all public administrations to set an example of the most scrupulous correctness and impartial justice.

v) that the judicial authorities should carry out a complete inquiry into the activity of these administrations. The Secretary of the committee was charged to explain these needs to the competent local authorities, and to inform the Central government.

3631

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PRESS

30. Paper suppressed at Cosenza.

The issue of the weekly paper "SUD" of the 12.5.44. was suppressed by the Censorship commission of Cosenza. The reasons advanced by the commission were that the paper though well written and inspired by a sense of patriotism shows little understanding of the present situation. It appears that the requisition of this paper could not have been very thorough, as this number was seen in the hands of many young men in Cosenza several days after the event.

SUD is printed at Castrovillari, bears a Cosenza dateline and is produced by a group of young men who live for the most part at Cassano da Ionio on the Sila. The leader writer is Francesco Selvaggi.

A PWB officer who has recently visited Cassano reports that the inspirer of the paper SUD and of the movement "Southern Patrols" is a school teacher, Domenico Minervini, older than Selvaggi, and his friends and is more definite and agressive in his aims and ideals. Minervini told this offier: "We are pure worshippers of the fatherland: pure because we belong to a race which has remained untainted throughout the centuries by foreign blood. We are worshippers because we adore the soil on which our race had developed its genius: we love and worship this land that is now invaded by foreigners. We lost the war but this does not mean that we are going to remain for ever in the position of shame and humiliation. There will be another war soon. Italy, which is the most civilised country in the world, will become a strong nation or pure worshippers of the fatherland."

The leader in the suppressed issue of the 12th ay reads as follows: "The title of our paper arouses curiosity. It is purely geographical, If we wanted to make a joke we could say that as all the parties lack cardinal points we have chosen one -romantic and personal; to serve as a lasting lode*ster.

This cris-de-coeur indicates - to both victors and vanquished the frontiers and the pain of Italy: for to the south is the Mediterranean, and to the South is Africa. On that sea that is our life-line and our tomb we today count as nothing; from Africa where lay out hope, and where we suffered the tortures of Tantalus, we have returned defeated. SUD wishes to record and to remember this defeat; a total but not eternal defeat. SUD wishes to indicate our frontiers; out lost but eternal frontiers, beyond the Sahara. Only those who remember will be able to meet the future.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Let those who deny these tenets continue to bray in chorus before the odious philosopher in his retreat at Sorrento - 'Beautiful is the downfall of Italy and to us is the glory; for today we are the victors because we have won, and behold we live.'

But SUD says:- "We are defeated because our country is defeated.' To the present bastard conception of life - poor little Italy, bleating and bent in the most maudlin repentance - the Mediterranean individual, still Aryan, rebels and swears that though she acknowledges the defeat she will not stay in the abyss. SUD wants to be the paper of the defeated, but also of those who rebel.

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

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31. Region Director of Labour and the two Labour Organizations. L.BCW.

Michele Ciferelli, the Regional Director of Labour has most impartially - and most ably - sent two seperate messages, one to th CGL on the occasion of its Mayday celebrations, andone to the Christian Confederation on the occasion of its 15th May celebration.

In the first he stressed his own impartiality and expressed joy at every sign of democratic development and vitality in the workers' organizations; in the second, he called for collaboration in the war effort and twice stressed the importance of free and democratic workers' organizations.

The first appeared briefly in a corner of the second page of "Battaglie Sindecali", the CGL organ, in its Mayday number; the second took half a column on the front page of "Il Domani Sociale", the Christian workers' organ, in its May 15th number.

As for his personal views, Michele Ciferelli is a staunch member of the Party of Action.

32. Salaries of State and Parastatal Employees.

Large numbers of State and Semi-State employees are said to be waiting since the formation of the new Government for a rumoured increase in salary of between 105% and 300%, or for special allowances to cover the high cost of living. As yet, however, the Government does not appear to have come to any concrete decision, and this is said to be giving rise to depression and discontent, in view of the difficult conditions in which the above*mentioned category of people find themselves. They are said, in consequence, to be veering more and more towards the extremist parties. (C-2).

33. Salary increase for State employees.

An Italian informant points out that up to the eve of the Cabinet meeting of the 11th May, the press and radio were saying that this question of salaries was to be discussed by the Cabinet. Since then, however, the Cabinet has met twice, but there has been no accouncement on this subject. Consequently there is a great disappointment and criticism among this class of employees, who consider themselves neglected by the present government. It is in fact impossible for them to live decently on the wretched salary which they at present receive, e.g. civil servants with forty years' service and three children receive 3,4000 lire per

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Some of them say that the Allies are opposing an increase in salary, because this would further upset the cost of living. Perhaps they are right, but it is essential to remember that tens of thousands of these families are living in squalor, especially as they are generally honest people.

3630

It is reported that there is to be a syndic list meeting of State employees this week in order to send a motion of protest to the Italian Government and to the Allies authorities. (C-2).

CONFIDENTIAL

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

34 General Confederation of Labour meeting.

The Directive Council of the GCL is reported to have held a meeting on May 20th, at which were present three representatives from Puglia, three from Campania, Togliatti Longobardi and Cianca. There was a very heated discussion, on account of the disagreement which still exists between the Apulian and Campanian organisations. Pastore proposed that a secretariat be formed consisting of three secretaries: one for Campania, one for Apulia and one for Calabria. The secretary for Campania was to have been Dino Gentili, but he refused, realising that his position would be impossible, since the only really popular person among the working classes of the Naples and Salerno provinces is Enrico Russo. The latter is said to have had a discussion with Togliatti on May 22nd. The G C L is still in a state of disorganisation, and the General Congress is not expected to take place before September. It is thought that the situation can only be expected to improve if the disagreement between the Communist party and Russo's dissident group is cleared up. This would mean the elimination of the regional disagreements, larger funds, etc. (32)

35 Communists in the General Confederation of Labour.

It is reported from a reliable source that Vincenzo Iorio, the C C L leader, has been expelled from the Communist Party. According to this Italian observer, he previously represented the more left tendency in the directorate of the G C L, in contrast to Enrico Russo, but he now seems to have veered away from the Communists. His expulsion only helps to increase the friction existing between the Communist party and the G C L. (B 2)

36. The "Free Union of Equals" and the CGL

The organ of the LUDE, Spartaco, in its number of May 15th, highly praises the efforts of Enrico Russo and Dino Gentili, the CGL leaders, on behalf of the workers. It further mentions that the small labour organisations of LUDE, numbering - according to Spartaco - some 2000 members, all adhere in complete solidarity to the CGL. According to Gentili himself, the main cause of these close relations is to be found in Antonio Del Giudice, one of the editors of Spartaco, and also the very active secretary of the workers' committee of the SICI Acqueduct company (Società [illegible]
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

37. Sassari Industrial Workers attack local anti-Fascist committ

A provincial Congress of Industrial Workers held recently in Sassari attacked the local Committee of anti-Fascist concentration, which had not been sufficiently impartial in allotting syndical wage increases.

The Congress also elected a Secretary whose work will be to establish factory committees and obtain salary increases where these have not been granted.

38 The May 15th celebration. at Naples.

A commemorative meeting to celebrate the 53rd anniversary of the encyclical "Rerum Novarum" was held on May 15th after Mass in the Cathedral. According to Professor Papa, one of the leaders of the Christian Workers' Confederation, Ing. Colasanto, the Secretary General of the Confederation, spoke first and was followed by the representatives of the various parties, who brought a cordial message of greeting and a pledge of wholehearted effort towards the common end. Russo spoke for the CGL, Cortese for the Liberals, Nossi for the Socialists and Communists, and Laureati for the Social Democrats.

They were followed by Colonel Milanesi, who had come over the lines. He spoke of the work of the patriots and was followed in turn by Father Paicchio, who spoke on the encyclical itself and by Giulio Sansonetti, Under-Secretary for Labour, who announced that the Government had approved double pay for the workers on May 15th and said that many projects were in hand for reconstruction, for labour legislation and for the general dignity of the worker. Giulio Rodino, Minister without portfolio, spoke next for the Demo-Christian party, reminding the audience of the sufferings caused by the war in scattered homes, and calling for concord and unity in the fight against the enemy. Cardinal Ascalesi spoke last, [illegible].

Similar celebrations were held in all the Provincial centres.

Salvatore Aldisio, the Minister of the Interior, addressed a similar gathering at Palermo.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 782021

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

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ECONOMIC

39 Interview with the Minister of Agriculture.

Interviewed by a PWB officer on May 18th (Ascension Day) Signor Fullo (Communist) seemed to be the only Minister who was not taking a holiday. He stated that he was confident that he could carry his scheme through. Obviously one of his chief difficulties was the devaluation of the lira which was largely due to the flood of paper money in circulation owing to the presence of troops. If the peasants felt confidence in the purchasing value of the lira in the future, they would be more disposed to sell their wheat, and incidentally there would be a greater stability in the prices of commodities, in spite of the shortage of goods, for people would save their money in the hope of better times to come. He said that he knew that the price he had fixed for wheat (1,000 lire per quintal) was rather low considering the cost of production in some districts, but there were compensations. The labourers would get more wheat under the government scheme than they would have got from the landlords, as they would get two quintals per head of family, and therefore they would be better off andmight even be in a position to sell off some of their allocation in case of need. In any case, the Minister declared that both he and his Under-Secretary, Signor Bergami, would tour the provinces continually to supervise the carrying out of his scheme, and as the harvest is spread out over three months in Southern Italy, he hoped to be able to contribute personally to its success. The prospects for the harvest are still good, but he did not believe that the people of liberated Italy could be adequately fed without considerable contributions of food from the Allies.

40 Grain prices: Sicily -

Before the announcement of the official price for grain, the subject had been widely discussed on the island. Reactions to the price fixed are not yet available, but it is evident from the tentative prices in the schemes outlined below, that the price will be regarded as much too low.

The Regional Food Inspector (Sovraintendente Regionale), the On. Camerata, submitted to the High Commissioner on April 27th his plan for bringing in the harvest. He proposed that a decree be issued requisitioning the whole harvest, including wheat, barley, beans and vegetables. Penalties for producers who attempt to evade the regulations shall include confiscation of the produce and property, and in serious cases imprisonment.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

interviewed by a P.B officer on May 18th (Ascension Day) Signor Pullo (Communist) seemed to be the only Minister who was not taking a holiday. He stated that he w s confident that he could carry his scheme through. Obviously one of his chief difficulties was the devaluation of the lira which was largely due to the flood of paper money in circul tion owing to the presence of troops. If the peasants felt confidence in the purchasing value of the lira in the future, they would be more disposed to sell their wheat, and incidentally there would be a greater stability in the prices of commodities, in spite of the shortage of goods, for people would save their money in the hope of better times to come. He said that he knew that the price he had fixed for wheat (1,000 lire per quintal) was rather low considering the cost of production in some districts, but there were compensations. The labourers would get more wheat under the government scheme than they would have got from the landlords, as they would get two quintals per head of family, and therefore they would be better off andmight even be in a position to sell off some of their allocation in case of need. In any case, the Minister declared that both he and his Under-Secretary, Signor Bergami, would tour the provinces continually to supervise the carrying out of his scheme, and as the harvest is spread out over three months in Southern Italy, he hoped to be able to contribute personally to its success. The prospects for the harvest re still good, but he did not believe that the people of liberated Italy could be adequately fed without considerable contributions of food from the Allies.

40 Grain prices: Sicily -

Before the announcement of the official price for grain, the subject had been widely discussed on the island. Reactions to the price fixed are not yet available, but it is evident from the tentative prices in the schemes outlined below, that the price will be regarded as much too low.

The Regional Food Inspector (Sovraintendente Regionale), the Cn. Camarata, submitted to the High Commissioner on April 27th his plan for bringing in the harvest. He proposed that a decree be issued requisitioning the whole harvest, including wheat, barley, beans and vegetables. Penalties for producers who attempt to evade the regulations shall include confiscation of the produce and property, and in serious cases imprisonment. The bread ration must be raised to 300 grammes and the ration of pasta to between 50 and 100 grammes a day.

After consult tion with the Prefects, with technicians and representatives of producers, the Sovraintendente proposed that producers should be paid 1,800 lire a quintal for wheat, 1,500 for barley, 1,400 for beans, 1,600 for "ceci" and 1,700 for lentils.

Because many small tenant farmers find that, due to lack of fertilisers, their land is not producing as much as was expected, rents should be adjusted where necessary, so that they are not producing at a loss.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780621

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The Order of the Day passed by the Sicilian Sindaci (see para 3) concluded by a resolution that the price of wheat must be sufficiently high to cover the cost of production, and that the difference between a remunerative price for wheat, and a price for bread within the reach of consumers, must be born by the community as a whole. No price was suggested, but the resolution stated that the daily ration must not be inferior to a minimum of 300 grammes of bread and 100 grammes of pasta

The Lega fra gli Agricoltori of Palermo also submitted a scheme in which they pointed out that an attempt to collect the whole harvest would inevitably be doomed to failure. Producers who, in the last campaign, delivered their grain to the pools, will have learnt a lesson from the fabulous profits earned by those who dealt in contraband with absolute impunity. Nor would it be any use trying to coerce them by force, since the means of doing so are not available, and in any case the Allies, with machine-guns and mechanised transport at their disposal, failed last year.

The Lega considers that it should be possible to collect, from the resources of Sicily alone, enough grain to give the Sicilian population, without help from the Allies, a daily ration of 200 grammes of bread and 80 grammes of pasta. To do this it is suggested that the authorities should:

(a) fix a fair price and give a guarantee that the wheat brought in will be used exclusively for feeding the Sicilians.

(b) fix an average rent in kind (terraggio) for all arable land on the island, at a rate of 200 kg. the hectar.

(c) fix in each province the amount of wheat which each Commune will be expected to provide, in relation to the area under seed and the average productivitiy of the soil.

(d) make it obligatory for all who hold land on payment of a rent in kind to turn over their whole rent to the pool, giving the proprietor a certificate of delivery.

(e) pay a premium for all wheat delivered to the pools in excess of the obligatory amount

(f) give the sindaci, in conjunction with the producers of the area, the responsibility of collecting the requisite

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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(e) pay a premium for all wheat delivered to the pools in excess of the obligatory amount

(f) give the sindaci, in conjunction with the producers of the area, the responsibility of collecting the requisite quantity of wheat

(g) give the sindaci the power of confiscating the produce of all farmers who fail to comply with the regulations

(h) leave the trade in non-pooled wheat completely free, abolishing the control offices

(i) give the producers who have handed over their quota a card authorising them to mill their remaining wheat.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787021

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The Fronte del Lavoro (the Sicilian left-wing anti-Separatist coalition) has also drawn up a plan for the collection of the harvest, which represents the interests of the consumer rather than of the producer. They consider that the ration should be 350 grammes of bread and 100 grammes of pasta a day. Agricultural workers and producers should received 250 kg. of wheat each, and 180 kg. for each member of their families.

Prices fixed for wheat should vary from region to region according to the local cost of production, which in Sicily must not be less than 1,500 lire a quintal, to be reduced to 1,200 a quintal when harvesting and threshing are carried out by military labour. The price of bread must not be more than 12 lire a kg.

Methods of controlling production should vary according to the size of the farm

Up to four hectars, the harvesting and threshing could be done by the farmer himself, under the control of a Committee to be composed only of consumers.

In farms of from 4 to 20 hectars, the work of harvesting and threshing can also be carried out by the producers themselves, under constant supervision by the military authorities. If fraud is suspected, the military authorities must call in military labour to finish the harvest.

In large farms, over 20 hectars, the harvesting must be carried out directly by military or militarised labour. If necessary, the classes shortly to be called up must be mobilised. In these cases, since the government will be supplying the labour, the price should be 1,200 the quintal.

Punishment for various forms of evasion will be, at the minimum, imprisonment for ten years, with penal servitude and the death penalty in serious cases. Economic sanctions will include confiscation of the entire property or annullation of the lease.

The Palermo Camera di Commercio has set up a "Fronte Economico" which includes representatives of the main non-separatist parties. At a meeting held on May 4th at which Orlando, the President of the Camera di Commercio, were present, the question of the harvest was dicussed. Among the suggestions put forward were a strict control over all transport of wheat duri[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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The Leghe fra gli Affittuari di Terre, of the Frazioni of Paceco, Dattilo, Nubio, Xitta, Fontanasalsa, Guarrato, Milaevo, Locogrande, Marausa and Pietrataglati (which represents the interests of the contadini in that area, and can be said to express a view typical of the contadini throughout Sicily) on April 30th voted an order of the day asking for 400 grammes of bread and 150 grammes of pasta for heavy workers and their families, 250 grammes of bread and 100 grammes of pasta for other consumers, and asked that the total price of wheat should be 2000 lire a quintal for wheat delivered up to the end of August, and reduced by 200 lire in each successive month.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

- Sardinia -

The new granai prices have been received with the greatest satisfaction in Sardinia, where production costs are lower (and where the currency devaluation is not so great, A Sardinian collaborator reports that there is complete accord among all producers that these prices guarantee a margin of profit which encourages everyone to bring their products to the granai. It is generally felt that the Black Market will receive a severe blow.

Sard peasants, however, are suspicious after twenty years of exploitation by Fascism, and it is thought probable that some will evade consigning their grain. If the system is well applied by the Provincial and Communal Committees, the result obtained will be far superior to that in preceeding years.

An intense propaganda campaign is being carried out by the Press and by Radio Sardinia; prominent landowners are co-operating to make the peasants have faith in the new government.

- Salerno -

A Salerno informant, repeating the fact that farmers had expected a much higher price for their wheat than the price which has officially been established, and complaining that it did not cover the cost of production, comments that, in his opinion, the truth is otherwise; namely, that farmers have grown accustomed to getting 10,000 lire per quintal for their grain and cannot conceive the idea of receiving merely a tenth of that sum. Farmers and peasant proprietors having spiritually repared themselves to become millionaires, find it hard to renounce their plans. The opinion is expressed by this informant that unless the government adopts very strict measures in this connection, the grain harvest will be a complete failure.

The same informant reports that local Communists are spreading propaganda to the effect that Gullo had wanted to fix the official price of wheat at 1,800 lire, but the ACC had reduced it to 1,000. (C 3 - probably exaggerated)

- Benevento -

In Benevento province, PWB officers interrogated a number of individuals about the new price of grain. Everyone, from De Caro to a peasant in a field by the roadside, agreed

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

among all producers that these prices guarantee a margin of profit which encourages everyone to bring their products to the granai. It is generally felt that the Black Market will receive a severe blow.

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- Benevento -

In Benevento province, PWB officers interrogated a number of individuals about the new price of grain. Everyone, from De Caro to a peasant in a field by the roadside, agreed that the price of 1000 lire per quintal was too low for the province of Benevento and would not cover the cost of production. It was realised, however, both by officials and political leaders, that the campaign was of the utmost importance.

In an interview with a PWB officer Raffaele De Caro, former Badoglio Minister of Public Works and leading citizen of Benevento, spoke about the government measures to secure grain for the granaries of the people. The price fixed of 1000 lire per quintal, he said was too low. In the province of Benevento it was not an economic price.

3627

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

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It was a mistake to have fixed one price for the whole of liberated Italy since the cost of production varied considerably. In Apulia, for instance, the crop was more profitable because the ears of corn were bigger, and because the grass did not come up with the corn as it did in Basilicata, Calabria and Campania. In his own province it was necessary to employ labour, usually women at from 90 to 150 lire per day, to weed out this grass when it had grown to a certain height. In Apulia the price of 1000 lire a quintal might yield a profit; in Benevento it would not do so. The farmers had asked for 2000 lire a quintal, but when he had resigned from the government he had held a series of meetings among the farmers of the province to persuade them that 1,200 lire would be a fair price

He said that there were only two ways of exterminating the Black Market. The first was to increase the price of grain and the second to increase the bread ration to 350 gr. He suggested that it would be far better for the government to increase the price of bread from the standard price of 360 lire to say, 15 lire a kilo, which everyone could afford to pay and, by this means, give an extra profit to the producer who would thereby procure more bread, than to give the people a small bread ration at a very low price, and to pay the producers a derisory figure, which forced them to sell on theBlack Market and the consumer to buy bread on the Black Market at 150 lire a kilo.

- Ischia -

The director of the newspaper 'Ischia Nuova', Vincenzo Telese, speaking to a PWB officer, was enthusiastic over the possibilities of the granai del popolo and - before the announcement of the price was made - suggested that 1000 lire a quintal was not too high a price to pay for the flour which could then be sold on the market at 20 lire the kilo, a handsome profit which people would willingly, gladly pay in order to have their pasta. Foreigners, said Telese, do not sufficiently realise the enormous importance of pasta in Italian life. It is a symbol of life itself traditionaly, and to go without it was a form of unindurable punishment.

- Bari -

From Bari it is reported that, while the granai del popolo scheme as a whole has been well received, there are complaints from producers, even in this area, that the

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

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He said that there were only two ways of exterminating the Black Market. The first was to increase the price of grain and the second to increase the bread ration to 350 gr. He suggested that it would be far wider for the government to increase the price of bread from the standard price of 360 lire to say, 15 lire a kilo, which everyone could afford to pay and, by this means, give an extra profit to the producer who would thereby procure more bread, than to give the people a small bread ration at a very low price, and to pay the producers a derisory figure, which forced them to sell on theBlack Market and the consumer to buy bread on the Black Market at 150 lire a kilo.

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- Bari -

From Bari it is reported that, while the granai del popolo scheme as a whole has been well received, there are complaints from producers, even in this area, that the price of grain is too low. The price of bread is regarded as satifactory.

Consumers in the town appear to regard the price of grain as adequate. One comment (a commercial traveller suspected by our informant of black market activities) was that "the government had recognised the devaluation of the currency, but that all the same salaries and wages remain far below the present cost of living. In fact, the Allies have fixed the price and not the Italian government, which issued a communique by radio half an hour after the ACC. In fact, we must convince ourselves, once and for all, that we do not give orders any longer. Itis the English who command us."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

An Italian collaborator in Bari went to the Post Office and the Railway station and discussed the new measures with the people he met. The general impression was scepticism as to the discipline of farmers. One comment was that, taking account of the progressive devaluation of the currency, the Fascist government used to give a higher price

41. The Countryman's point of view.

It is reported that the news that regional Committees are to be formed for the control of the People's Granaries has been well received by the great majority of the peasants; this is due mainly to the fact that they welcome the democratic form of these Committees and they are pleased that the peasants are to be represented. On the other hand the controlled prices have been received with considerable dismay, because they do not cover the cost of production, the cost of machines and tools bought on the Black Market, the high wages demanded by agricultural labourers, etc. The peasants also know that from past experience they can sell their produce at much higher rates on the Black Market (from six to fifteen times the controlled price). Lastly, the peasants, like the rest of the population, have no faith in the present currency, and prefer to keep their products rather than exchange them for paper money. It is for these reasons that the intentions of the peasants with regard to the People's Granaries are generally mistrusted, and it is considered that the severest penalties will have to be imposed on those who withhold grain from the pool. It is also considered that the peasants must be made to understand the full force of these enactments before the harvest begins. It is hoped that the local Committees will be able to control and enforce the surrender of wheat to the granaries, and that steps will be taken to take over the land of those who do not comply with the regulations. Lastly, it is hoped that if the grain campaign is a success there will be similar measures to ensure the nationalisation of all agricultural produce on similar lines (B-2 from Naples)

42 Sale of green wheat.

A Salerno informant reports that many people in the provinces of Salerno and Naples are very much afraid of being without bread, since the Allies have announced that consignments of wheat are to be stopped, and they are convinced that the farmers will not hand in their wheat to the pools. As a result, many people are trying to make some provision for themselves, and in the province of Naples

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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42 Interview with Antonio Pesenti, Under-Secretary of State for Finance.

In conversation with a P.B officer Antonio Pesenti, the Communist Under-Secretary of State for Finance, said that he was afraid that the price fixed for wheat was too low to cover the cost of production and to attract wheat to the Pools. He did not think that, if the price had been raised to 1500 lire, there would have been a danger of

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

inflation. The lira had been devalued from 80 to 400 to the pound and it was natural that wages and prices should rise to that level. Nothing could prevent this. It was true that if the price of wheat was raised the cost of living would go up. Wages were still very low. He himself had recently been to the tobacco factory at Scafati where there was a strike, and although he had succeeded in calming the workers he felt that the wages, ranging between 30 and 60 lira a day, were too low in view of the increased cost of living. He felt that it was essential to raise wages to the minimum level where workers could be enabled to live.

It was true that the price of wheat here was higher then the price of wheat in world markets, but it must be remembered that there was no shipping to bring wheat into the country and therefore it was essential to encourage the cultivation and distribution of wheat in Italy, so that the necessity of imports could be eliminated. The circumstances were therefore peculiar and comparisons of prices really did not apply. He was not, however, pessimistic as to the ultimate result of the Granai del Popolo campaign, because he felt that the economic disadvantages of the low price fixed would be offset by the political advantage of the new government. The government should be able to bring in the wheat, though the price fixed would make their task very much harder.

BLACK MARKET

43. Black Market prices in Naples at the end of May.

	End of May	End of April
Oil	200/250	230/260 per litre
Rice	300/350	280/350 per kilo
Pasta	250/350	260/400 " "
Fats	300/400	420 " "
Potatoes	40/60	42/60 " "
Meat	220/320	300/350 " "
Eggs	17/20	15 each
Bread	140/180	120/160 per kilo
Wine	30/42	40/50 per litre
Fish	80/300	[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Wine	30/42	40/50 per litre
Fish	80/300	150/400 per kilo
Sugar	250	220/400 " "
Beans	180/230	175/250 " "
Ceci	140/180	150/240 " "
Flour	200/250	180/200 " "
Salt	45	15/50 " "
Coffee	450 *	600/1500 " "
Cheese	200/400	200/300 " "

* best quality coffee difficult to find.

(B 2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

44. Continuance of Black Market.

It is stated by one Italian informant that the measures taken against the Black Market in Naples have had the results which were to be expected, i.e. essential goods have disappeared off the market, contraband goods are still being sold in private houses to people known to the seller at tripled prices, and it is still the consumer who foots the bill. In restaurants, Allied troops and civilians who are known to the proprietor (and who are not officially members of the police) are served with rationed goods at astronomic prices, and in as large quantities as they wish. The population is said to be indignant at this state of affairs, and to be demanding measures to put an end to it. (C2)

45. Restrictions on the sale of wine and confectionary.

Since May 15th, the sale of sweets and sweet pastries has been forbidden by an order of the ACC. This restriction has been welcomed by a large majority of the population who could not afford the high prices demanded for these luxuries. The tradesmen affected complain that they will be deprived of their means of living, but the general opinion is that they have profiteered so much in the past that no real hardship is involved.

Similarly, the price and sale of wine is to be controlled. Here, also there has been much profiteering and selling of "hooch" The bulk of Neapolitans welcome these regulations and sincerely hope that they will see less drunkenness among Allied troops. (C2)

46. Economic situation at Benevento.

The economic and moral condition of the people of Benevento is to all appearances much better than that of Naples. Although the town has been hard hit by the war, there seems to be a general air of activity among the people, most of whom are at work. The Camera del Lavoro is a busy centre where workmen are formed into leagues and syndicates.

The food situation, which was acute in winter owing

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

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46. Economic situation at Benevento.

The economic and moral condition of the people of Benevento is to all appearances much better than that of Naples. Although the town has been hard hit by the war, there seems to be a general air of activity among the people, most of whom are at work. The Camera del Lavoro is a busy centre where workmen are formed into leagues and syndicates.

The food situation, which was acute in winter owing to bad communications, is now much improved and there is far less apparent hunger among the people than in Naples. Even so, the existence of a Black Market, with prices higher than those in Naples, proves that there is not yet a sufficiency of food among the people. There is a co-operative food shop open where a limited amount of foodstuffs is sold at reasonable prices. Members who can buy there are about 2000 and are increasing. In the town of Benevento 50 gr. of pasta in lieu of bread are obtainable if desired, but the cost of transporting and warehousing the four has made it impossible, in other provincial centres of distribution to obtain the required margin of profit on the sale of pasta at the price fixed by AMG. In the province, therefore, only the daily ration of 200 gr. of bread is available.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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FINANCE

47 Partial return of confidence in paper money.

According to a report from Salerno, there has recently been an increase in post office and bank savings, and people are showing less anxiety to rid themselves of paper money. A proof of this is said to be that suburban post offices have put in a request for a further supply of savings books.

48 Yellow seal dollars.

It is reported that a rumour has spread that yellow seal dollars are authentic money and regarded by the United States as money for use abroad. So people have at once begun to search for this newly printed money, whose exchange value now varies between 110 120 lire. (C2)

PUBLIC OPINION

49 Reactions to Marshal Smuts' ideas on the future of Italy.

A recent number of "Politica Estera" contains the full text of a talk by Marshal Smuts on post-war problems. Speaking about Italy and the balance of power after the war, he says that it might be in the interests of Italy to join the British Commonwealth.

This idea of bringing Italy into the British Empire is reported from an Italian source in Salerno to have had a considerable effect in many Italian intellectual circles among liberal and democratic (anti-Communist) elements. It is apparently discussed with great interest and the conclusion is reached that Italy might have a long period of peace, work and prosperity by uniting her fate with that of England and the group of nations forming part of the British Empire.

It is reported likewise that these ideas have found a favourable response in many country districts, among farmers, peasants and landowners, who may be heard to say: "The only solution for us is to join with England and America."

50 Opinion of Allied policy.

An Italian informant reports a theory said to be held by

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

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An Italian informant reports a theory said to be held by many intellectual and politically minded Italians on Anglo-American aims in Italy.

"The Anglo-Americans are helping the Italian Government with words rather than deeds. In reality they are putting many spokes in the wheel of the government and are keeping the Italian Government under more and more strict Allied control. By means of this control, the Anglo-Americans think they can prevent the spread of Communism in Italy. (C2)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Appendix I

REACTIONS TO PROPAGANDA

1. Victory

A Bari University student, reviewing the publication "Victory" gives it high praise both as regards its typographical production and contents. He is of the opinion that a wider distribution of the review, especially in country districts, would be very welcome and would effectively counter enemy propaganda. The great value of Victory he says, is that it can be given to a professional man or to a worker, without any fear that the latter will find it too difficult. Even the most convinced Fascist would be persuaded by the photographs of the efficiency of the U.S.A. The ridiculous stories of dissension between the various racial groups in the United States are contradicted by the feature Americans of Spanish origin.

2. Fontamara

According to the same University student, Silone's novel "Fontamara" has offended the sensibilities of many readers. "It was judged anti-national, and many think it was put into circulation expressly to demonstrate still more the moral decadence of our people."

3. Radio Bari.

The University student at Bari, who is collecting comments on Allied propaganda, this week sends in the following:

"We do not ask for great humourists, nor front rank comics to present a couple of songs over Radio Bari, but a few announcers with some slight spirit of observation who could find amusement in the ordinary events of life." (An official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

"Perhaps Fascism has also deprived us of the gift of irony." (a railway worker in a crowded carriage.)

A peasant, in the same carriage, who had been in America, praised at length the brilliant transmissions of American radio stations, which have something for all tastes. He was astounded at the stupidity of Italian announcers who, he felt, were showing the Italian people in a bad light to the Anglo-Americans.

The conversation turned to radio, and everybody in the carriage started criticising Radio Bari, the gist of the complaint being:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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2. Tontamara

According to the same University student, Silone's novel "Tontamara" has offended the sensibilities of many readers. "It was judged anti-national, and many think it was put into circulation expressly to demonstrate still more the moral decadence of our people."

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The conversation turned to radio, and everybody in the carriage started criticising Radio Bari, the gist of the complaint being: "We want to hear what is being done in the war; we want to hear our own music, we want to hear clear comments on the political situation."

The student explains that, although he has been conducting an enquiry into the radio for some time past, he has rarely questioned workers, thinking that they were not greatly interested. After listening to this conversation, however, he talked to some workers, and found that they mostly criticised Radio Bari, but spoke with enthusiasm of programmes which gave encouragement for the war against the Germans, for some musical programmes and for humorous reviews.

3624

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Speaking on his own account of Allied propaganda in general, he says that the volume of news in the press and on the radio regarding the clandestine movement in the occupied zones has finally come up to the public demand, and is countering the rumours which had been circulating that there was complete calm and tranquillity in the north.

More news is still wanted from correspondents in the front line. Even in Fascist times, the Italian people had a high opinion of the Anglo-Saxon news services, and all they ask is an Italian version of some of the material sent by correspondents to their agencies or newspapers. They are anxious to hear descriptions of the activity of the armies in the battle area, and particularly details of the life of the soldiers in the line.

The student adds this observation:

"When the Italian people are praised, they become conceited and commit endless errors. There is only one way to put them on the right path. Tell them the whole truth, without reservations or cuts. The method adopted by Radio Naples in the quarter of an hour "Comments and curiositics" is excellent and satisfied the needs of many listeners. In one broadcast Clorinda explained well and simply what is meant by civilisation. For twenty years we have heard of centuries old civilisation, of the civilising tradition. This was excellent but, like everything done by the late regime, it was done without the public having the most elementary knowledge of civilisation in its significance for the individual and for the society in which he lives."

4. "L'Italia Combatte".

The following comment on "L'Italia Combatte" appeared in "La Squilla", the unauthorised weekly newspaper of the Italian Socialist Youth.

"The immense importance, the decisive weight which propaganda can bring to bear even in a universal war like that which we are today fighting, is already recognised by all. Propaganda is a weapon of war. But there are cases in which propaganda, although not renouncing its immediate and practical aim, can, by its content, raise itself to a plane of ideal where it almost loses its partisan values, and instead expresses those universal values which are to be found at all times and in all places.

"This is the case of "L'Italia Combatte" the transmission dedicated to the patriots, to our brothers over the lines who

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

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"This is the case of "L'Italia Combatte" the transmission dedicated to the patriots, to our brothers over the lines who are defending, arms in hand, the past, present and future of our country. We have heard with emotion and with pride, the voice of these intrepid comrades: the voice of the Sicilian "Celestino" who, to carry out his mission, slept for four nights on the snow, covering himself with a white sheet to hide himself in the landscape from the vigilence of the Germans; the voice of "Furor" who, to establish liaison with the French resistance movement, went as far as Grenoble, accompanied in his dangerous mission by a girl, a young patriot of twenty years old."

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

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"La Squilla" goes on to proclaim that these broadcasts must be an inspiration to greater effort, to stir the lazy and uninterested. "Remember, Italians, much has been said to you, much will still be said; but there is one thing you must always remember, when you think of the heroism, abnegation, the spirit of sacrifice of our partisans, whatever you do, it will never be enough."

5. Occupational propaganda in Rome.

An Italian collaborator of PWB, himself a native of Rome, has submitted the following considerations in regard to Allied propaganda in the capital.

i) Appeals to the "ancient glories" and republican traditions of Rome, and to the Risorgimento motive, should be avoided here, as indeed all over Italy. Instead appeals should be made to the sense of dignity, to courtesy and humour. The great mass of the population of Rome is composed of small employees, government workers and the large office class, which have a certain standard of culture. There are also the wealthy old families and the intellectuals and artists. All these classes and categories would immediately co-operate in preserving the good name of Rome from contamination by Black Market speculations, theft of Allied military property on a large scale, etc. Rome is an orderly town, and such illegal activities are not regarded as normal. The special position of the Church in Rome should not be forgotten.

ii) Many of the publications which have been favourably received in Naples will not be appreciated in Rome, e.g. nearly all the booklets and pamphlets and also "Il Mondo Libero". "Tontamara" and "Morte di Italiani" and certainly "Dal Fascismo alla Rivoluzione" by Paolo Vittorelli should get a good reception. There will be a great demand for English and American and French books in the original languages. These publications should be made available in very large quantities. Blatant and obvious propaganda will not be effective, but the re-orientation of ideas by restoring contact with Anglo-Saxon and French thought would produce far better the results at which we are aiming.

iii) For the same reasons as those given in paragraph (i) posters of the Garibaldi and "Ecco i vostri Amici" type should be avoided. The Romans have a centuries' old tradition of cynical humour, and therefore prominence should be given to posters that caricature the Germans and neo-Fascists and their types and leaders. It would be useful to form an art committee

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

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Several refugees from Rome, questioned on the subject of propaganda in the capital, have expressed views similar to that above: that the Romans will be a more sophisticated and critical audience for our propaganda than the Neapolitans or other Italians of the South, and will at the same time be more sensitive to anything derogatory to their intelligence or integrity. These refugees suggest that our propaganda - and particularly local propaganda, such as press, posters and publications - should be adapted to this audience.

3623

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

APPENDIX II

THE ITALIAN PRESS ON THE "GRANAI DEL POPOLO"

1. Il Giorno, of May 12th carried an article by Paolo Scarfoglio in which he notes with satisfaction that Colonel Poletti, in his broadcast, had discarded the undemocratic idea of the "amasso" which had been too much exploited by Fascism. In general, the paper adds, the left parties are incompetent in their handling of the grain problem. For example Battaglie Sindacali has stated that Southern Italy was always self-sufficient in food. In fact, the South has always imported cereals, for which it paid in high-grade wine. The consumption of grain in Southern Italy in normal times amounted to 25 million quintals, very much more than the Minister Gullo hopes to obtain from the harvest.

Scarfoglio addresses the following warnings to Gullo:

i) a political price for bread would be suicidal, whatever the price fixed for wheat. The only result would be inflation

ii) a pooling system is only conceivable when it serves as a basis for the purchase of other goods at prices proportionate to the price of wheat. It is useless to pay the peasants well for wheat if the prices of the goods they need are much higher than they can afford.

iii) there must be no more of the policy of growing wheat ad a political crop. Italy must change to richer crops or perish. It is better to cultivate rye, oats, barley and potatoes Today this may not be possible; but the future prosperity of Italy lies in the abandonment of the wheat policy

. . . .

(Note. Paolo Scarfoglio has for some time past been conducting a private campaign for the more intensive cultivation of potatoes, as an immediate way of solving the food problem in Italy.)

2. Ora del Popolo (democrazia cristiana, of Salerno) May 17th, publishes an article written before the wheat prices were announced, suggesting that the price should not be paid in money in order to avoid an increase of paper circulation, but in State bonds, specially issued for a term of 20-30 years, which would produce interest, be eligible for lotter prizes, and be re-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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3. La Rassegna, Bari, March 18th In an article written before the publication of the price of wheat, the paper writes that "it is natural that if the granai begin to function while the Black Market is flourishing, it will only achieve modest results. It is also true that only the granai del popolo can exercise a discouraging effect on the black market; but it is also true that the Black Market can kill its natural enemy at birth. Therefore the repressive action against the Black Market must be reinforced without mercy

3622

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

4 Unione Sarda, May 20th. the paper, like the Naples and Bari dailies, compares the price of grain favourably with that current in the United States and the British Commonwealth.

The same paper carried a letter from an Ing. Alessandro Brenci, directed to the High Commissioner for Sardinia. Brenci explains that he is the manager of an estate of 60 hectars, which he used to cultivate with a tractor and a pair of oxen. The tractor is inefficient and it is impossible to repair it because iron costs 70 lire the kilo. Instead of 12 quintals of seed wheat asked for, he had been allowed two, and these had not yet been given to him. Of eleven adult cows he had been forced to hand over 3 for the civil population, receiving in all 4608 lire; another one was later handed over for a price of 1140, and the carabinieri are asking for still another. "To work 60 hectars of land I have only one pair of dwarf oxen, and the tractor is not working. The calves of the Sard-Swiss breed, which would in time have made a good pair of oxen, have been claimed for the pool; it is impossible to buy a pair of oxen at 40 - 50 thousand lire and then see them taken off to the pool for a few thousand lire. How does Your Excellency believe that in these conditions one can produce. They take away our animals at ridiculous prices, they refuse us seed, they make it impossible for us to work our land. In this way we can only cultivate idleness to reap hunger."

5 Civilta Proletaria May 21st, writes, on the granai del popolo, that the plan should be modified as regards the composition of the provincial and communal committees, which should be formed of elements nominated by the economic organisations most directly concerned."

6. Domani Sociale (organ of the Catholic Confederazione Italiana dei lavoratori) writes that it would have been better to fix a fair price, to encourage the producers to deliver all their wheat to the granaries. The paper also refers to the proposal made by the meeting of Christian Trades Unionists on May 14th, that it would be possible to pay a part of the price of wheat with special state bonds (see two). The paper concludes "We still trust ... and even in the concession

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795021

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in a re-examination of the question, and even in the concession
of bonuses to certain zones.

7. La Verità (independent newspaper, published at Salerno)
May 21/22 observes that the price of wheat is a fair recompense
for the farmers hard work, and that they will not fail to
deliver their full crop to the granaries."

8. Corriere finanziario, May 21st. In an article entitled
"the price of wheat more than doubled" it is reported that
the Vice Secretary of the Bari Provincial Federation of
agriculture has approved the basic price of 1000 lire, stating
that it is just, taking into account the cost of production.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

9. Avanti, May 21st In an unsigned leading article entitled "Criticism on the price of wheat "observes that "apparantly the government measure does not completely come up to expectations. Account should have been taken of the difference in the costs of production in the various zones, in relation to the nature of the land and its suitability for cereal cultivation, and especially in relation to the difference in the degree of destruction in different regions, as regards agricultural machinery. This should have led to the establishment of a regional greduation of prices.

In Campania, if labour cost the same as last year (actually it is much higher' wheat would cost 2000 lire the quintal. In Sicily and Apulia, the cost would be less, but the lack of means of transport would have a considerable influence. "In view of these facts, the price fixed by the government must be judged artificial and unsuitable to assure the necessary food supplies. It is only necessary to make a comparison with the other fixed prices. For example 20 kilos of vegetable powder cost exactly the same as the fixed price for a quintal of wheat, to say nothing of milk products, fish, meat and other foods. It is, according to Avanti, wrong to make comparisons with the prices fixed in other countries, because the price of wheat abroad has always been lower and the difference made up by protective tariffs and bonuses to agriculture.. In January 1930 the quotations for wheat in Milan was lire 140,47 a quintal; in Chicago the price was 124,575 cents a bushel, equals 86 lire a quintal.

The paper, however, approved of maintaining a political price for bread. "Whoever says that the political price of bread means inflation, forgets that it is inflation which determines the price of wheat. If the harvest corresponds to 15 million quintals and the price remains fixed, the government will spend about 14 milliards and the political price will entail a deficit of about 9 milliards. How is this to be faced? By the issue of paper money or by taxes; care must be exerwised in deciding on what commodities these taxes are to be levelled. Any remedies must be temporary. To settle the matter definitely, it would be necessary to put an end to the use of actual money, with all the evils which that entails."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No 8 APO 512

"D" Section, Italy (Lib) May 16th, 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No 19

Part I Summary

The new government continues to restore democratic practices and banish the ugly remains of twenty years of Fascism. It is fascinating to watch the slow, material rebirth of democracy in Italy, and it is interesting to note that the immediate result is a lessening of the apathy which had overwhelmed Italians during the last few months. The Italians in the South were always more apathetic and less politically conscious than those in the north, but this apathy and lack of initiative had been increased by Fascism. Now the Italians seem to be recovering from the bewilderment and sense of helplessness which prevailed in Southern Italy after the Armistice.

The Cabinet however devoted most of its meeting on Thursday to the relatively unimportant question of the Crown Prince's interview to the Times correspondent. As a result the far more pressing question of fixing the price of wheat was neglected and not discussed on Thursday's meeting. This was put off for four days as a result of the attention of the Cabinet being diverted to the Crown Prince's interview, and the price was only fixed on Monday May 15th at 1,000 lire a ~~kilo~~ quintal for hard wheat and 900 lire a ~~kilo~~ quintal for soft wheat.

There is great activity in most Ministries. In particular, the Communist Ministers are dedicating their whole energies to the reconstruction and liberation of Italy. The declaration of the Communist Minister of Agriculture, Gullo, was everywhere welcomed as constructive and realistic. Italians noted the absence of rhetoric in his speech and the insistence on practical points which are of immediate concern to workers. The impression received is that for the first time the success of the grain pools may be assured by the co-operation of workers and farmers.

In an interview with PWB officers both the Minister and the Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture stressed the importance of a just price for wheat which would be at the same time high enough to persuade farmers to send in their

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

The new government continues to restore democratic practices and banish the ugly remains of twenty years of Fascism. It is fascinating to watch the slow, material rebirth of democracy in Italy, and it is interesting to note that the immediate result is a lessening of the apathy which had overwhelmed Italians during the last few months. The Italians in the South were always more apathetic and less politically conscious than those in the north, but this apathy and lack of initiative had been increased by Fascism. Now the Italians seem to be recovering from the bewilderment and sense of helplessness which prevailed in Southern Italy after the armistice.

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In an interview with PWB officers both the Minister and the Under-Secretary of State for Agriculture stressed the importance of a just price for wheat which would be at the same time high enough to persuade farmers to send in their grain to the pools and not so high as to produce inflation. Signor Bergami also explained that agricultural labourers would receive more wheat for their personal needs than the urban worker.

Mario Palermo, the Communist Under-Secretary of State for War, has just returned from a visit to Italian troops at the front. A PWB officer saw him at the front and was able to notice the effect of this visit on the troops. For the first time for many years Italian troops were visited by a civilian Minister who made it his object to establish direct contact with the ordinary soldier.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

The Minister stopped and talked to large numbers of individual soldiers, questioned them and noted their complaints. The soldiers must have been struck by the contrast between the simplicity of this visit and the pomp and rhetoric of previous visits by Fascist generals and Ministers. Palermo was genuinely impressed by the high morale of the Italian troops at the front. They were well clothed and reasonably well equipped. Relations with British troops (they are now fighting alongside the British) were excellent. On the other hand their morale contrasted sadly with that of the troops behind the lines. He believed that it was essential to restore the dignity of the Italian soldier, and this could only be done by seeing that they were well fed and well clothed, and knew what they were fighting for. He had spoken to soldiers and officers in Cosenza, and he noticed that as soon as he explained to them that they were fighting a war of liberation, many of them showed a greater interest in the war. Palermo believed that the most important task forItalians today was to concentrate on winning the war, and that everything else should be subordinated to this goal.

At present he is concerned with the morale of the troops, but later he hopes to interest himself in the partisan movements in German occupied Italy. In that case we might expect an intensification of resistance in the north, as in Yugoslavia.

Togliatti has been visiting factories and encouraging workers to intensify their industrial effort.

The Cabinet met twice during the week. A political storm had been aroused in anti-Fascist circles by the interview granted by the Prince of Piedmont to the correspondent of The Times. In this interview the Prince had spoken without much sense of responsibility, and in an attempt to defend the conduct of his father had said that the Italian people had shown no sign of opposition to Mussolini's declaration of war in 1940. He thus implied that the Italian people were equally responsible with the King for the declaration of war. He went on to say that he would have preferred the Allies to have left an Allied Military government in Italy for some time. Finally he asked that the Carabinieri be released from the prison camps in England to maintain order in Italy. The Party of Action and the Liberal Parties, in particular, resented this interview and a campaign against the Crown Prince was launched in the press of the Party of Action. Croce gave an interview in which he rebutted the charges made against the Italian people by the Prince. As a monarchist, he spoke more out of sorrow than anger, as he no doubt thought that the Prince was dealing the death blow to the monarchy,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The Cabinet met on Thursday and issued a short statement pointing out that it was unconstitutional in a democracy for a representative of the Crown to make political declarations which had not been previously agreed upon by the government. As a result the Cabinet unanimously rejected the charge brought against the Italian people that they were responsible for the Fascist war. For the moment the storm had been calmed by this statement, which met with general approval in anti-Fascist circles. The Monarchists are, however, reported to be alarmed as they fear that it will be impossible for the Crown Prince to assume the Lieutenancy of the Realm in Rome after this sharp rebuke. They foresee a republic or a regency. The Communists appear to attach less importance to such questions as these, and with a greater sense of realism prefer to concentrate on the tremendous administrative tasks with which they are confronted.

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

The title of the "Head of the Government" which was introduced by Mussolini, has been abolished, and the old title of "Presidency of the Council" restored. The President of the Council will also retain the title of Prime Minister. These changes are small in themselves but have a profound significance in that they mark the return of democracy.

As predicted in last week's summary, Count Sforza has been nominated High Commissioner for the punishment of crimes of Fascism or, in other words, High Commissioner for Epuration, in place of Zanboni who becomes High Commissioner for refugees. The government, however, assumes the direct responsibility for carrying out the measures approved in the decree of epuration agreed on last Thursday. Now that Omodeo is in charge of de-Fascistisation and Sforza in charge of epuration, those responsible for Fascist abuses should be eliminated from public office and duly punished in the near future.

The State education book introduced by Fascism has been abolished in Italian schools by the Minister of Education. Subscriptions in schools have also been abolished. No propaganda activities must be carried on during school hours, concerts must not be allowed to disturb lessons. Teachers must no longer be ordered to indulge in commemorations or celebrations. Bit by bit too, in the educational field, the debris of Fascism is being cleared.

The Minister of Justice explained to a PWB officer the difference between defascistisation and epuration and outlined some of the punishments proposed for Fascists.

The full text of Finocchiario Aprile's speech to the Separatist Youth League in Sicily has now been received. It is clear from the speech that the Separatists receive their main support from the rich landlords in the island who exploit their ill-educated labourers. Finocchiaro Aprile makes an obvious attempt to drive a wedge between the British and Americans on the one hand and the Russians on the other hand. He dwells at length on his fear of Communism.

In an interview with a PWB officer the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, di Napoli, said that most of the industries which would be reactivated would serve the Allies in this campaign by reducing the amount of war material which would have to be imported. He also hoped to re-establish the textile and leather industries to provide the clothing and

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In an interview with a PWB officer the editor of the right-wing newspaper "Unione" reiterated his strong monarchist views and said that the people are not content with the new government because it does not represent all the political parties of the country. The Editor of the weekly "Voce del Popolo", Taranto, a Conservative newspaper, declared to a PWB officer that he thought Russia was following the most consistent and realistic foreign policy. Italians found it difficult, he said, to understand the implications of Anglo-American policy towards Italy.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The text of a letter issued by the Italian General Staff on March 27th to subordinate commands concerning the attitude Italian troops should adopt towards possible provocations by Allied soldiers is included. Italian troops are instructed to defend themselves against aggression on the part of Allied troops and, if necessary, make use of arms. Togliatti has written an article in 'Unita' in which he says the army must be national, democratic and anti-Fascist, and no longer reactionary, imperialist or hostile to the people.

The sentences passed by an Allied military tribunal on the three directors of the Cotoniere Meridionali is reported to have been received with satisfaction by the public in Naples, but there have been complaints that the sentences passed were too light, and it is feared that the accused may get off on appeal.

A clash has occurred at a village in Nuoro Province, Sardinia, between the local authorities and villagers who tried to reclaim some land which formerly belonged to the Commune, but which for some years has been in the hands of private individuals. The villagers drove their cattle onto the land and refused to drive them away again. After two days attempt to settle the question by peaceful discussion, fighting broke out in which one villager was killed and several severely wounded. The Nuoro Provincial Committee of Concentration has issued a communique condemning the action of the villagers as prejudicial to the public peace. A similar attempt by peasants to take over land on the Communist principle was reported from Apulia (see Report No. 16 para 41)

Five cases of smallpox have been reported from Taranto, but the epidemic appears to have been checked by the timely arrival of ample supplies of vaccine.

The Carabinieri have arrested members of a Fascist organisation operating in the provinces of Catanzaro and Cosenza. It is reported that a clandestine radio has been discovered, but there is no confirmation of this.

There has not yet been time to collect reactions to the new wheat prices, and Italians questioned on the chances of success of the "granai del popolo were inclined to hold over their verdict until the announcement of the prices. An informant in Naples criticised the new decree on the grounds that it made no official mention of severe measures of compulsion for the farmers.

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

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Reactions to propaganda obtained this week include high praise for the pamphlet explaining the constitution of the United States, but there is criticism of documentary films which show Italian troops surrendering to the Allies

A P.B officer who recently visited the island of Ischia reviews the effect of the war on the fishing and agricultural community there. His report is included as an Appendix.

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

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No 8 APO 512

"D" Section Italy (Lib) 9th May 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 18.

Part II - Annexes.

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with Count Sforza	1
2	Interview with the Minister of the Interior	2
3	Notes on the Ufficio Stampa	2
4	Interview with the Minister of Finance	3
5	Interview with Signor Montanari	3
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
5a	Meetings of Socialist and Communist Ministers	4
6	Communist meeting in Salerno	4
7	Communist opinions on the intellectuals	4
8	The Apulian clergy and the Communists	5
9	A biassed Bishop	
10	Interview with a monarchist	6
11	Meeting of monarchist groups	6
12	Origins of the Centro di Ricostruzione	6
13	The Bari Democratic Liberal Party	
	ARMED FORCES	
14	Italian troops in the line	7
15	Reactions of an Italian officer at the front	8
16	Incidents in the army	9
17	Fascist officers	9
18	Italian troops in the rear areas	10
19	Civilian reactions to the army	10
20	Italian civilians in Allied Military	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Part II - Annexes.

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Interview with Count Sforza	1
2	Interview with the Minister of the Interior	2
3	Notes on the Ufficio Stampa	2
4	Interview with the Minister of Finance	3
5	Interview with Signor Montanari	3
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
5a	Meetings of Socialist and Communist Ministers	4
6	Communist meeting in Salerno	4
7	Communist opinions on the intellectuals	4
8	The Apulian clergy and the Communists	5
9	A biassed Bishop	
10	Interview with a monarchist	6
11	Meeting of monarchist groups	6
12	Origins of the Centro di Ricostruzione	6
13	The Bari Democratic Liberal Party	
	ARMED FORCES	
14	Italian troops in the line	7
15	Reactions of an Italian officer at the front	8
16	Incidents in the army	9
17	Fascist officers	9
18	Italian troops in the rear areas	10
19	Civilian reactions to the army	10
20	Italian civilians in Allied Military clothing	10
	LABOUR	
21	May Day meeting in Bari	11
22	May Day meeting at Sassari	13
23	Minister of War attends May Day meeting at Lecce	13
24	Political "strike" in Lecce Province	14
25	Sassari Christian Democrats re-establish White Unions	14

3618

18
part 2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

Paragraph		Page
	ECONOMIC	
26	Black Market in Allied goods reported decreasing	14
27	"To the gallows with them"	14
28	Transport tariffs fixed by AMG	14
	DEMONSTRATIONS	
29	Demonstrations in the Province of Messina	15
30	Sassari Communists freed	15
	FASCIST ACTIVITIES	
31	Fascist propaganda against participation in war	16
	PUBLIC OPINION	
32	Bari	16
33	Sardinia	16
	RELIEF	
34	American Red Cross in Calabria	17

Explanation of Reliability rating.

Source (reliability)

A always reliable
B usually reliable
C sometimes reliable
D frequently unreliable
E a bad source

0 not possible to judge

Report (probability)

1 confirmed
2 probable
3 possible
4 doubtful
5 improbable

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785621

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

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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 18

Part II. Annexes

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

1. Interview with Count Sforza.

In a confidential interview with a PWB officer Count Sforza expressed his traditional feeling for a democratic monarchy, but confessed that this feeling had been subjected to many shocks, which might prove mortal. He referred to Prince Umberto's recent interview with a Times correspondent. This, he said, was deplorable. It indicated a kind of mental and moral bankruptcy that was more than disturbing to those who had hoped, perhaps in vain, for something better. The Prince did not try to evade the vital questions; he merely disclosed his utter unawareness of their real significance.

Count Sforza added that superficial foreign observers might take Prince Umberto for an Italian, but no Italian would make this mistake.

Sforza said that he liked Badoglio personally. "Who could help liking him. In spite of myself I like him." Sforza had hoped for the compromise of a complete abdication of both the King and the Prince, and a regency of Badoglio created for the Prince of Naples. But since this present temporary - and, he thought, shaky - plan had been adopted he, as a member of the government would put no spokes in the wheels.

His aim was a republic, on the Jeffersonian plan, with a great deal of decentralisation, giving as much autonomy as possible to the different provinces. He thought that the Socialists and Communists might oppose this, as a danger to unity. In his opinion it would, on the contrary, promote unity.

Sforza was optimistic about the "grandi del popolo." He believed that there would be a genuine response, volunteers, enthusiasm, and that the plan would work.

On the subject of Epurazione, Sforza said that he would divide it into two categories. The first was de-Fascistisation. Everybody was agreed here. It meant that all men who have been and can be a danger to the country, must be removed from office.

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

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On the subject of Epurazione, Sforza said that he would divide it into two categories. The first was de-Fascistisation. Everybody was agreed here. It meant that all men who have been and can be a danger to the country, must be removed from office, and at the same time leniency be shown to the involuntary victims of a system over which they had no control. All responsible Fascists will go - of that there is no question. But many Italians who were forced to hold Fascist cards merely to get a job and live may find themselves useful cogs in a wheel of freedom instead of one of slavery.

On the second category, epurazione, or the purging from Italy of the guilty men who have betrayed her, Sforza said that the the matter was discussed at the cabinet meeting held on May 4th. The Last Minister of Justice, Ettore Casati, had drawn up a very radical, far-reaching and sweeping plan for the punishment of all Fascist criminals. Casati was an honest man ("not

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

everyone in the last government was a rogue" - Sforza observed) but to his astonishment the plan presented by the present Minister of Justice, Arangio-Ruiz, fell far short of it. Sforza himself attacked this milk and water plan at some length, and was strongly supported first by Togliatti, and then by all the members of the Cabinet, who asked him to take on the responsibility for this task himself. He had not yet given his answer intending to do so at next Thursday's meeting. Before he could accept, he would need as Under-Commissioner a jurist of great integrity and great ability. He could not possibly do the vast amount of work which the job would entail. If he accepted the post he would, of course, shoulder the responsibility of ultimate decisions, plan the course, etc. However, nothing was decided yet.

2. Interview with the Minister of the Interior.

A PWB officer interviewed the Minister for the Interior, S. E. Aldisio, on May 3rd, and asked him what the new government intended to do with regard to purifying the administration. The Minister replied that there was to be a meeting of the Cabinet on the following day in which the matter would be thoroughly discussed. He himself had already nominated two members to represent his Ministry on the purge commission. The old law of December 30th, 1943, would continue to apply to State and parastatal employees and the new decree to deal with all other persons would be promulgated as soon as possible. The Government considered this question of eliminating Fascist elements as one of primary importance and the necessary measures would be prosecuted with vigour. The Minister did point out, however, that it was difficult to find trained administrators who had no attachments to the old regime, and he cited the example of Prefects. /V

Asked about the proposed Consultative Assembly, the Minister said that he thought that it would be set up very soon. However the criteria for choosing the members of such an assembly had still to be discussed. He himself thought that the provision referred to by S.E. Pancini that all deputies who belonged to the Chamber or Parliament dissolved by the Fascists on November 9th, 1926 could, if available, be members of the Consultative Assembly was too wide. Some of these people had since that date been in close touch with Fascism.

As regards the Ufficio Stampa, the Minister disclosed that the Under-Secretary, Salerno, would devote his whole time to the work of such an office, the importance of which at present could not be over-estimated. He seemed most anxious to get all possible Allied advice which would help.

3. Notes on the Ufficio Stampa

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

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3. Notes on the Ufficio Stampa

Palmiro Carnaciolo in conversation with PWB officers explained that the Ufficio Stampa was to be put in charge of the Under-Secretary, Salerno. The Partito d'Azione and he himself were anxious to secure the work as he felt that his experience would make him a more suitable head of a press office than Salerno, whose knowledge lied particularly in the field of labour. He had therefore pressed his Minister, Aldisio, to let him take over the Ufficio Stampa. This had been impossible, so he affirmed, because the matter had already been arranged between Badoglio and Togliatti in relation to the general distribution of offices among the parties. Aldisio had offered him the post in three months time but Carnacciolo had replied by saying that by that time it was not at all certain where any of the Ministers or Under-Secretaries would be.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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It is reported that the Under-Secretary Salerno has chosen an Italian journalist, Murialdi, member of the Socialist Party, now attached to Radio Naples, as the successor to Major Nino Bolla. He has been a journalist for fifteen years, and for ten years worked on the Messaggero.

4 Interview with the Minister of Finance.

Interviewed by a PWB officer on May 5th the Minister of Finance, Quinto Quintieri, declared that on taking over his Ministry he had not found the financial position of the country as bad as could be expected. All problems of finance were unavoidably connected with general problems of reconstruction. He revealed that he had hoped to be able to help in the solution of the food problem by a plan of taxation of agricultural produce. Since most farmers were at the present time witholding large quantities of produce of their land from the government in order to sell on the Black Market, and by this means were making heavy profits, he proposed to place a tax on all agricultural produce, (presumably based on the ascertained yield of the land owned) and to grant a rebate on the amount of produce duly delivered to the ammassi. (This statement was made before the announcement of the "grandi del popolo")

He stressed the need to keep informed of all trends in international finance and to this end asked particularly to be supplied with Anglo-American financial papers.

5 Interview with Signor Montanari.

The Prime Minister's secretary talked to PWB officers about measures discussed at the previous day's Cabinet meeting to effect a cleaning out of Fascists from public life. The new decree, which had already been drafted was reviewed by the Ministers and would in all probability be promulgated the following week. Dott. Montanari pointed out that the label "squadrista", "marcia su Roma" or "Sciarpa littorio", was not the best yardstick by which to measure a man's Fascist proclivities. A number of young men had joined the Fascist movement in the early days for idealistic reasons who later became disillusioned and disgusted with it. They were less culpable than those who in the late twenties had joined the party from motives of profiteering and who had exploited political activity for private gain.

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

4 Interview with the Minister of Finance.

Interviewed by a PWB officer on May 5th the Minister of Finance, Quinto Quintieri, declared that on taking over his Ministry he had not found the financial position of the country as bad as could be expected. All problems of finance were unavoidably connected with general problems of reconstruction. He revealed that he had hoped to be able to help in the solution of the food problem by a plan of taxation of agricultural produce. Since most farmers were at the present time witholding large quantities of produce of their land from the government in order to sell on the Black Market, and by this means were making heavy profits, he proposed to place a tax on all agricultural produce, (presumably based on the ascertained yield of the land owned) and to grant a rebate on the amount of produce duly delivered to the amassi. (This statement was made before the announcement of the "granai del popolo")

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He continued by saying that Zaniboni might be replaced as head of the purging commission by someone more energetic. (see para 1 and 2. The Risorgimento of May 5th reports that the Council of Ministers, at their meeting of the previous day, had appointed Omodeo, Minister of National Education, as president of the Commissione di Epurazione for state and para-state officials.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

5. Meetings of Socialist and Communist Ministers at Salerno 3.5.44.

A meeting was held in Salerno during the morning of Socialist leaders and Socialist members of the Government. It is reported that the line to be followed by the Party in meetings of the Ministers was discussed. It is possible that this meeting was the result of an action taken by the Socialist Minister Di Napoli which displeased the Directive Council of the Socialist Party. The Directive Council had suggested to him a nomination for an appointment which he had disregarded.

In the afternoon the Communists Ministers and Under-Secretaries and leaders of the Communist Party not in the Government, together with Socialist leaders held another meeting. The object of this meeting was reported to have been to achieve greater unity between the two parties in following a common policy within the Government. The line to be followed in preparing measures of epuration (to be discussed at the Cabinet meeting of the next day) were examined, and the question of national reconstruction and volunteers for the army are also reported to have been considered.

It is further reported that during the afternoon, Togliatti also met Enrico Russo the Labour leader of the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro. It may be worth pointing out that there are in the Socialist Party two distinct currents - one of the left represented by Nenni, and the other of the right, represented by Modigliani who is now in Switzerland. These political currents have their following also in the Socialist Party of Naples. The left wing is represented by Oreste Longobardi, a close associate of Nenni. The right wing has as its chief exponent the Avvocato Rennucci.

Similarly, but on a lesser scale, there are some dissident voices within the Communist Party. One of these is Enrico Russo himself who first disagreed with Togliatti on a point of Party Politics as long ago as 1927 in France. It is thought that the meetings in Salerno were held for the purpose of achieving greater unity among members of the left-wing parties so as to obtain more concerted and effective action within the Government. (B-3).

6. Communist meeting in Salerno.

A Communist meeting was held on 23rd April in a cinema, at which an Italian Lieutenant, named Gioni, spoke most effectively on the policy adopted by the Communists. By good organization he took the place of the ... Togoschi, who had not arrived ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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7. Communist opinions on the intellectuals.

It is learnt that on the 5th May the Communist De Feccilla in a Party meeting at the party headquarters, made a speech, in which he paid tribute to the intellectuals' contribution to the war of liberation. Marchetta, a member of the party secretariat

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then spoke against the intellectuals, blaming them for Italy's present plight and saying that they should leave their dusty books and go out and fight for Liberty instead of just asking for it. (Caserta report).

8. The Apulian clergy and Communism.

An Italian collaborator of P.W.B., Bari, writes that a favourable attitude towards Russia, expressed even publicly, is evident in authoritative clerical circles at Bari, Brindisi and Lecce. These consider that Communism is rapidly assuming a character akin to that of the English Labour Party. The most conservative elements among the clergy are also the keenest exponents of the return of Russia to Christian ideals and of the speedy establishment of an international order based not on liberalism but on the rules learnt after twenty years experience by the people of Soviet Russia. They frequently quote extracts from English and American papers which praise the new Soviet outlook. Some prelates even favour Civiltà Proletaria, not for its polemics, but for its social programme. Chaplains and officers who belonged to the Italian Expeditionary corps in Russia have related how there they found a well organized society, physically and morally healthy.

The Communists in Liberated Italy have not neglected the Italian clergy and have enlisted the sympathies of many well placed persons in Catholic milieux, with the result that there is now a wide sympathy if not specifically for Russia at least for Communism, as the "economic doctrine of the future."

This rather surprising tendency on the part of the higher clergy may be explained in part by the attitude of the Italian Communists, by Russian propaganda and by those English and American publications which feature the toleration now enjoyed by the Orthodox church and other communions in the USSR. The upper clergy are thus evolving an attitude favourable to the acceptance of Communist economic theories and to the idea of Russian predominance in Europe. For twenty years the Church has been accustomed to Fascist authoritarianism, under which she has enjoyed more public and apparent favours than under the former liberal regimes, today represented by the Action and Liberal parties, with their conception of the "Lay State."

9. A biassed Bishop.

The Socialist weekly of Salerno, "Il Lavoro", on its May 1st

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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9. A biassed Bishop.

The Socialist weekly of Salerno, "Il Lavoro", on its May 1st number, reports an attack on the two left parties by a Campanian bishop, Giuseppe Palatucci, and quotes the following sentences: "We have got the Ministry of the Interior. We are strong and we shall squash the Socialists and Communists". Later on, he is alleged to have said, "All the citizens of Campania must be Democ-Christians. Do not join the Socialist and Communist parties. Those who do will be excommunicated and will not receive absolution on their death beds".

CONFIDENTIAL

3615

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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10. Interview with Monarchist.

A P.W.B. officer interviewed Marchese Capomazzo on the 4th May. The Marchese, a retired Army officer and friend of Prince Umberto, is a prominent person in Neapolitan monarchist circles, and is in touch with the leaders of the Associazione Monarchica Liberale per la Ricostruzione. He said that monarchists would support the present government in its efforts to prosecute the war and restore sound economic conditions in Italy. Monarchist propaganda would exert itself to procure votes for the forthcoming Constituent Assembly, so that the institution of the monarchy might be preserved by democratic means. The Marchese bitterly criticised the attitude which the parties had taken towards the King, who had no choice in 1922 but to call Mussolini to power, since all the other Italian statesmen had backed away from responsibility, and who was the only person in 1943 who had the courage to take the intitiative to bring about Mussolini's downfall.

11. Meeting of Monarchist groups.

On 25 April at the head quarters of the Associazione Monarchica there was a meeting of the following groups:

Group	Represented by
Centro Italiano del Partito di Collaborazione fra le classi	Colonel Verde, Magg. Amicarelli, Ing Ricpoli, Prof. Cutolo
Democrazia Sociale	On. Manlio D'Ambrosio, Ing. Rossi, Savelli
Partito Agrario	Avv. Pennacchia
Comitato Monarchico Liberale per la Ricostruzione.	Prince Stefano Colonna.

Speeches were made by Col. Verde, On. D'Ambrosio, Prince Colonna, Avv. Pennacchia and Avv. Crispo. In the course of these speeches, some unflattering comment on the new ministers was made. A resolution was passed uniting all the parties represented in a single front to defend the country and maintain the equilibrium of Italian political life. (C-2).

12. Origins of the Centro di Ricostruzione.

According to information received, the Centro was formed in order to protect the director of the Bank of Naples, Frignani, an [illegible] friend of Mussolini. At the instance of his friends, now

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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12. Origins of the Centro di Ricostruzione.

According to information received, the Centro was formed in order to protect the director of the Bank of Naples, Frignani, an intimate friend of Mussolini. At the instance of his friends, now Under-Secretary to the Presidency of the Council, the Liberal Renato Morelli, who was in turn a friend of Croce and Arangio-Ruiz, Frignani handed over the premises at No. 5 Via Medina, formerly a branch of the Bank of Naples, for the use of the Liberal Party and the Centro.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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However, after Frignani was arrested, a rivalry arose between Morelli, Arangio=Ruiz and Raffaele Cardillo, a well=known and influential young anti=Fascist, as to who was to be president of the Centro. As a result Cardillo took it over and moved away to No. 102 Via De Protis.

The President, Cardillo, is a friend of D'Ambra, one of the leaders of the Socialist Revolutionary Party, and the Vice=President D'Antona, is also a member of that party, so possibilities of collaboration developed and ripened. According to the the informant who submits this report, the Liberal tendency are contesting for superiority in the Centro, but nothing has yet been settled on paper.

Renato Morelli continues to take an interest in the Centro, on the Liberal side of course. (C=3).

It should be added that a Liberal source also alleges that the Centro is being supported by big business, and that its method of supplying the workers directly through the syndical organization is Fascist. (C=2).

13. The Bari Democratic Liberal Party.

A new party has been started at Perrone=Capano's Bari Democratic Liberal Party by the resignation of the Hon. Pasquale Caso, for three legislatures deputy of Altamura and a well=known anti=Fascist. He joined the party believing that it represented the Liberal views of Benedetto Croce, but resigned when he discovered his mistake.

An Italian collaborator reports that a few days ago, Avv. Domenico Suglia Bassori openly attacked Perrone Capano in the head=quarters of the party, saying that the British Command would have nothing to do with such a man. It is now thought possible that Perrone Capano may finally resign, particularly as he is believed to be compromised in the affair of the Colonna Volontaria. The Democratic Liberal Party might then dissolve, some members of it passing to the Action Party. (C=3).

ARMED FORCES

14. Italian troops in the line.

A P. .B. officer, who has payed a recent visit to the Italian troops in the front line, reports that their morale is on the whole

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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ARMED FORCES

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A P. .B. officer, who has payed a recent visit to the Italian troops in the front line, reports that their morale is on the whole good. The troops have react d well to the taking up again of arms, and declare that they are now fighting on the side that has all along appeared to them the most sympathetic. They also seem to have a sense of importance that they did not have when fighting alongside the Nazis.

a) At Monte Marrone, where troops of the Italian Alpine Batallion are holding the line against German Alpine Jaeger troops, the Italians were quite enthusiastic because they had not only been the

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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first to occupy these positions but also repulsed a German counter-attack. They were eager to quote the figures of enemy losses, the number of prisoners captured, and did not hesitate to claim that this was only a foretaste of what they would soon be able to give the Germans. These troops seem satisfied with their conditions and treatment. There were no complaints of insufficient food. These Alpine troops are at home on the rocky footpaths and welcome the treks up the precipitous slopes to their positions.

The spirit of mutual cooperation between the Allies and the Italians has been greatly strengthened through the excellent work of Allied Liaison officers and visitors. The troops were especially pleased by the visit of the Army commander, General Sir Oliver Leese who also spoke in Italian to them during his tour of inspection. Many of the officers and men have some knowledge of English, and rush to act as interpretors where necessary or to chat on the military situation.

b) Near Aquafonda, a Bafile Bn. of Italian troops hold positions facing the enemy to the West of Cassino. All along the roads leading to this position other Italian troops have arrived to help in the repair of roads and in the establishing of supply routes over passes visible to the enemy.

c) Along the road to Cassino, route 6, Italian troops are much in evidence as mule transport groups, road repair and engineering units and also as Security Police, under the supervision of the P.S.P. Where these units have been pulled out of the front lines there is much speculation as to where they will next go and they look forward to resuming an active part in battle.

d) Some matters have come to the surface. One is the need for reading matter in Italian, or in English for those who are familiar with our leading magazines and Army newspapers. The troops have made a proposal that they be supplied the "Risorgimento" free, through Army Welfare. The bi-Weekly P.W.B. CORRIERE ALLEATO is now distributed through Brigade Commands to all Italian troops in this area. Copies are supplied free in the proportion of one to every five to eight soldiers. In addition units receive free copies of 11 Nose, Mondo Libero, Victory, Etc.. Through P.W.B. request they also receive several hundred copies of the UNION JACK and EIGHTH ARMY NEWS.

In addition the Corriere Alleato has announced a literary competition open to Italian soldiers and the publication of the selected contributions on a special page devoted to the Italian soldiers. Prizes are being offered and Italian officers form a major part of the judging committee.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

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15. Reactions of an Italian officer at the front.

'A twenty four year old officer of the San Marco Marines Regt., one of a formation of about five thousand volunteers (for the most part from Venetia and Lombardy, and all anti-Fascist) now on the Cassino front, told an Italian collaborator of P.W.B. some of his impressions and those of his unit's conditions in the army in the line;

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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This officer admitted that he had been a great admirer of Germany, but that the scenes he had witnessed at the time of the Armistice had made him change his mind. These incidents had convinced him that there could be no friendly cooperation between Germans and Italians. Speaking of his men and brother officers he said, "I am glad that the whole of Italian youth had the same training for the fight against Fascism. Most of our marines have seen four years of active service, and they have all accepted voluntarily to return to the fight." Asked about desertions from the Italian forces this officer replied that while in the zone of operations he knew of no case of desertion to the enemy. He added that those who still cherished illusions about the Germans soon shed them after contact with the civilians behind the lines and with refugees. He also remarked that the undertaking of the spirit of the Italian war effort at the moment was principally due to the tendentious statements spread by fascist elements behind the lines.

The officer spoke warmly of the Americans and British at the front, characterising them as "excellent soldier and generous men." He said, "they have a special approach to action, and they fight with skill and daring; generally speaking they prefer patrol activity, which allows ample opportunity to their sporting instincts. Relations between Italians and the Allies at the front are "cordial and friendly". He gives high praise to the Allied supply service at the front, singling out for special praise to the "generous welfare distribution to the Italian troops, who are unaccustomed to such gentlemanly and courteous treatment." (B-2).

16. Incidents in the Army.

An Italian source (B-3) at Lecce reports that about the middle of April there occurred two incidents among the Italian troops stationed there.

1) During the inspection of an Infantry Battalion by General De Martino, commander of the Lecce Garrison, a captain of the battalion, which was under orders to leave for the front, approached the general and said to him: "We have to go and fight so that you generals do not lose your big salaries, but we go unarmed and unequipped." The general immediately placed this officer under arrest and at once left the camp. As soon as the men heard of the incident they mutinied.

2) The same day troops billeted in the General Elementary Schools at Lecce beat up some junior officers..

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

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17. Fascist officers.

Colonel ORZI of the Italian Infantry, a former Lieutenant General of the Blackshirts, has been recalled to service with the rank of colonel and is destined as commanding officer of the garrison at Francavilla Fontana. It appears that on more than one occasion he has been heard to say to other officers, "why should we go and fight our own brothers?"

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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A P.W.B officer at COSENZA heard from an Italian contact that about a week ago a Lieutenant Colonel of the 76th Infantry Regiment of the Mantua Division committed suicide. He had been an ardent fascist. Lately he was feeling very depressed. For a minor infraction he had been put under arrest by General Bologna. He resented deeply this punishment and shot himself.

18. Italian troops in the rear areas.

Reports contrast the good morale of the Italian troops at the front with the depression and low spirits of the Italian soldiers in the rear areas. Bad barrack conditions, scanty clothing fascist officers and the depression resultant on inactivity are all adduced as reasons. One source (C-3) suggests that low pay and insufficient rations cause great discontent. It appears according to this report that recently the bread ration has been reduced to 230 grams per day while the pasta ration has been increased. The troops had expected the pasta ration to increase without detriment to the bread ration.

A P.W.B. officer reports from Cosenza that there is a growing feeling there against General Bologna among both officers and men of the Mantua Division. He is very strict. Recently Bologna issued an order that any soldier found on pass without proper uniform be brought back to his quarters and placed under arrest. The troops complain that they cannot conform to this order as they lack almost every item of clothing. The junior officers for their part complain that they are compelled to patrol the streets day and night to pick up soldiers who are incorrectly dressed.

19. Civilian reactions to the Army.

The active part being played by Italian troops at the Front seems to arouse little enthusiasm among the civilian population. This may be partly due to the little publicity given to their activities. Many people fear that the new government will call more classes to the colours and this they accept with resignation but with no thought that these measures will help to defeat the Germans and bring the war to a close.

An Italian collaborator (C-3) at Ravenna reports that the people there are hostile to the idea of once more taking up arms. However, it is generally conceded that fighting units could be organised on a volunteer basis and that classes not yet called to the colours should receive military training and be sent to the

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

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19. Civilian reactions to the Army.

The active part being played by Italian troops at the Front seems to arouse little enthusiasm among the civilian population. This may be partly due to the little publicity given to their activities. Many people fear that the new government will call more classes to the colours and this they accept with resignation but with no thought that these measures will help to defeat the Germans and bring the war to a close.

An Italian collaborator (C=3) at Messina reports that the people there are hostile to the idea of once more taking up arms. However, it is generally conceded that fighting units could be organised on a volunteer basis and that classes not yet called to the colours should receive military training and be sent to the front.

A report from Lecce indicates that the political parties and others are sensitive to Allied treatment of Italian troops for labour duties, and consider that the 180,000 soldiers asked by the Allies for labour duties and absorbed as civilian labour should not wear uniform.

20. Italian Civilians in Allied Military Clothing.

A P.W.B. officer with the Eighth army reports that the taking over by that army of sectors which American units were previously billeted has brought to light the number of Italian wearing Ameri-

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carn military clothing. Many women wear G.I. shoes, most men wear some garment of military issue and there are many instances of Italian civilians in full American uniform, complete with field jackets and badges of rank. Male youngsters are especially prone to array themselves in this manner. There are frequent cases of American olive drab being converted into shorts, women's dresses and short coats. Woolen caps are predominant among men, and women, young and old. This gives rise to certain inconveniences. On occasions Italians dressed up as American soldiers pass themselves off as such on fellow Italians. Apart from the difficulty in maintaining a strict curfew there have also been one or two cases of the theft of farm animals by Italians in G.I. uniform.

Rarely have these offenders troubled to dye their uniforms. To the advice given by the CORRIERE ALLEATO and the P.W.B. public address vans to dye Allied clothing, the general cry is that dyes are not available.

A general clean-up by the Allied authorities and the Field Security groups is scheduled for the near future.

LABOUR

21. May Day meeting in Bari.

The celebration of May 1st at Bari took place at the head-quarters of the Post and Telegraph workers. About a thousand workers were present.

The meeting was presided over by Avv. Prospero Nicolla, a member of the directive council of the Camera del Lavoro. He began by referring to the new government and urged those present to have faith in it. (Apparently an expression of confidence in the new government was on the order of the day, as all the speakers alluded to it).

The official orator, the On. Guido Molinelli, secretary of the Camera del Lavoro. He warned his hearers that the proletariat has still to fight "against the reaction which has oppressed us for twenty years, against Fascists at home and Nazi-Fascists abroad. Have no illusions! Prosperity cannot return until the damage has been repaired, the peasants returned to the fields, the workers returned to industry, the ports and roads rebuilt. We have already faced and resolved one problem, the problem of a government. Now that we have it, we must have faith in its orders. We re-serve the right to direct, guide and control the work of the government, which is the democratic, all-party government of the Italian people. The present manifestation must mean co-operation

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Avv. Michele di Sonno then spoke on behalf of the Christian syndicates, who explained how twenty years of Fascism had destroyed the dignity of the individual, and said that the Christian syndicates also incited the workers to reconstruction and its necessary premise, the liberation of Italy from the Germans and Fascists.

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The next speaker was Antonio di Donato, secretary of the Bari Section of the Communist Party, whose speech was warmly applauded. He told the workers that they were celebrating May 1st under the sign of unity between the Communist and Socialist parties which constitutes a guarantee that we will defeat reaction from whatever quarter it comes - of unity between the Socialist and Communist parties, of unity of the Italian people, the first fruit of which has been the formation of these government. But the Communist Party has only put forward the other great problem, which at this time is supreme. We must fight for the existance of the Italian people, because only a democratic and independent Italy can bring prosperity to the Italian people. Today we must fight for the existance of the Italian people, with all weapons, without waiting for the help of others, beginning the fight with what weapons we have. This is the watchword which the Communist party today gives to the workers of Italy.

Vito Popolizio representing the Italian Liberal Party, also stressed the supreme need to drive the Germans from the soil of Italy. The Liberal Party is not conservative but progressive, and does not exclude the most far-reaching reforms.

Dr. Natale Loiacono, speaking for the Christian Democratic Party, recalled that his party was descended from the old and glorious Partito Popolare Italiano. The Italian people must at this time find themselves the strength to liberated their oppressed brothers. We must thank the friendly, and not yet Allied, nations for the liberty conceded to us in this area, and with them, and more than them we must fight for liberty to be extended to all Italy." Dr. Loiacono alluded to Fascism and Nazism as reactionary movements provoked by and exploiting unintelligent capitalism. The Christian Democrats, he said, did not deny function of capital, but desired that it should be recognized by its social purpose.

Turning to the workers present, Dr. Loiacono said: "Nothing divides us from you.....Patriotism is for all people." He was warmly applauded.

Avv. De Filippis spoke for the Action Party. He referred to the millions of workers still under the Germans and called for a concentration of energies on the war and on the problems of food and reconstruction. In the social field, the Action Party maintained absolute need for a complete abolition of unemployment.

Eugenio Larricchiuta spoke last for the Socialist Party. He addressed a salute to the three United Nations, and referred to the unity between the Communist and Socialist parties. He added:

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

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"It is the privelége of the working classes to take the helm of the ship and bring it into port. Anti-Fascist Italy has formed a new government, which includes our representatives.....

Passing to the social problem, Larricchiuta warned the workers to remain united, and to make use of their strongest weapon, the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro. He concluded with a tribute to Giacomo Matteotti.

The meeting broke up to the tune of Bandiera Rossa.

22. May Day meeting at Sassari.

A May Day demonstration was held at Sassari (Sardinia) organised by the Socialist and Communist parties. A report from an Italian collaborator states that the Teatro Verdi, in which the meeting was held, was crowded.

Professor Laconi, a young Communist, spoke first. He said that Fascism was substantially a phenomenon of capitalist reaction against the working masses. Every trace and memory of Fascism must be forgotten, and in particular the syndical organizations in which the Italian worker never had any faith because they were in reality a cunning infiltration of Fascism. There must be union between all workers. For this reason the party proposes adherence to the Confederazione Generale del Lavoro.

Referring to the Committees of Liberation, Laconi attacked the local Committees of anti-Fascist concentration, which he said were not representative. The Communists, he said, were not in the government to support dying institutions or the reactionary classes, but only to protect the interests of the workers. The government must, in the future, be transformed again and carry out the Communist programme completely.

Cavallieri Macciotto then spoke for the socialists, he also referred to the supreme need of driving the Germans from Italian soil, but his references to internal politics were less violent, and he urged collaboration between the classes.

There were no incidents, although the military authorities had prepared for possible trouble. During the meeting the air raid alarm was sounded. This was generally regarded as a bad joke.

A dissident Communist group, the Communisti di Sardegna, had ... to hold a meeting in a public square in Sassari. It is

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23. Minister of War attends May Day meeting at Lecce.

The May Day celebrations at Lecce were attended by the Minister of War, General Orlando, the commander of the garrison and the Prefect. This fact created a great impression, particularly as in other Apulian centres, the administration tended to ignore the celebration.

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24. Political strikes in Lecce Province.

A report from Lecce says that at Galantina (Lecce Province) a strike led by Communists and Socialist workers took place at the beginning of April. The reason is said to have been the removal of the Commissario Prefettizio, Colonel Mosè (who returned to the Army when the government revoked the anti-Jewish law) and his substitution by Gino Vallone, a rich proprietor of the locality who was not looked on with favour by the opposition. The "strike" lasted three days, without succeeding in its aim. Vallone remained.

25. Sassari Christian Democrats reestablish "white" unions.

The Sassari Provincial Section of the Christian Democratic Party, at a meeting held in Sassari at the end of last month, reconstituted the Christian Democratic Syndicates entolled in the provincial Unione dei Lavoratori which, as on the mainland, will represent an opposition to the General Confederation of Labour.

ECONOMIC

26. Black Market on Allied goods reported decreasing.

A report from Bari sayd that in that area there has been a considerable diminution in the buying and selling of goods stolen from the Allies owing to the strict repressive measures taken by the courts. Black Market prices continue high in the towns but are tending to decrease in the country districts.

27. "To the Gallows with them."

Allied poster giving sentences against Black Market profiteers in Naples are reported to have had such remarks scribbled on them. They seem to indicate that public opinion considers the Allied authorities too lenient. (C=2).

28. Transport tarriffs fixed by A.M.G.

A new A.M.G. regulation is published in the Risorgimento of May 3rd, establishing tarriffs for the transport of goods, in accordance with the weight of the goods, the distance covered, and the time taken for the journey, and according to who provides the petrol.

It is also laid down that the owner of the vehicle must keep a log book, giving his name, and address, a time table of journeys, the places visited, the kind of freight, and the details of the client. An account book must also be kept.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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DEMONSTRATIONS

29. Demonstrations in the Province of Messina.

The F.S.P. reports sundry demonstrations of an economic nature in the Province of Messina. At Taormina, on April 24th, a crowd of women demonstrated outside the municipio for about two hours. They complained that flour was being stolen and sold on the black market. They demanded an increase in rations and relief.

At Giardini on April 24th, about 1500 men and women, some armed with sticks, marched on the municipio, and then attacked the Communal Secretary's home. Little damage in either case is reported apart from broken windows. This demonstration lasted about four hours. At Francavilla, on April 21st, people demonstrated before the municipio, called for an increase of the bread ration and the removal of the sindaco. The Sindaco, who is reported to have done his best to improve conditions, was only stopped from resigning by the Prefect.

Apart from the very bad food situation and the lack of adequate relief, much disappointment was caused in these communes by exaggerated hopes from promised distribution of articles by the Red Cross which were not in practice realised.

But apart from the real causes for discontent, it is considered that there is an element in the population which organises these sentiments. The following facts can be adduced for this opinion:

(a) Most of the people taking part in the demonstrations came from outside the towns concerned.

(b) the main demonstrations sprung up round the province of Messina over a period of four days.

(c) in most cases prior information was received of the demonstrations taking place, which shows they were not spontaneous.

(d) the demonstration took place in areas where anti-Allied propaganda had previously been noticed.

(e) the reasons for these demonstrations have existed for at least a month.

A number of arrests were made.

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

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A number of arrests were made.

30. Sassari Communists freed.

The Communists arrested at Sassari following the food demonstration on January 13th and 14th have been set free by the Giudice Istruttore of Sassari because they were found not guilty of responsibility for the trouble. The announcement has increased the unpopularity of the questure, regarded as responsible for the false arrest.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

FASCIST ACTIVITIES

31. Fascist propaganda against participation in war.

Fascist elements are said to be using the following argument in reply to propaganda, spread chiefly by Socialists and Communists, encouraging Italians to take part in the war against Germany.

"We wanted the war against Abyssinia, and we Fascists fought in it as volunteers; we wanted the war in Spain, and we Fascists fought in it as volunteers. Now the Communists and Socialists want the war against Germany; well, let them go and fight it as volunteers, and leave other people in peace."

PUBLIC OPINION

30. Bari.

A common rumour last week was that the new Democratic government has already produced one bad thing: black bread. The ordinary person expected an increase in the bread ration, whereas instead there has been a deterioration in the quality of the bread.

A sergeant in the Customs Police, 45-50

"Life in German occupied Italy is happy and serene, and people eat and drink well."

"Do you think the Germans will win the war?

"The Germans win? Certainly so far the Germans are winning, in so far as they possess a great part of Europe and do not give signs of weariness, despite Allied air raids. The Germans, I think, will reply to these raids soon by the use of chemical and gas warfare."

It is reported that many Italians are afraid they will be forced to fight, as the new government will try to mobilise the whole nation.

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

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It is reported that many Italians are afraid they will be forced to fight, as the new government will try to mobilise the whole nation.

An air of expectancy as to the imminence of great and decisive military events in Europe is reported from Bari among the ordinary people

33. Sardinia.

It is reported that the public has continued to follow with interest the negotiations which have led to the formation of a coalition government. In particular, the sacrifices made by the various parties in the interests of the nation as a whole have been greatly appreciated. Disappointment continues to be expressed at the absence

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

of any Sardinian representative in the government. It is reported that discontented and Fascist elements may exploit this disappointment to foment ill-feeling against the government by pointing out that Sardinian interests will be neglected.

On the other hand, the nomination of an Advisorty Council to assist General Pinna, the High Commissioner, has been favourably received.

RELIEF

34 American Red Cross in Calabria

The A R C has been distributing goods throughout Calabria. Mrs. Gilmore travelled through the poorest districts distributing American made clothing to the people. Of course, there are complaints from all sides, because it is impossible to satisfy the needs of the entire population. For instance, members of the clergy and Christian-Democrats complained that some Communists, who have been co-operating with Mrs. Gilmore in the work of distributing clothes, have stolen a good part of them and have tried to convey the impression that those goods were gifts from the Soviet Union. (It is a fact that at least 200 pieces of clothing were stolen from the railway station of Cosenza: thus far, nobody has been able to establish the responsibility for this theft.)

Ubaldo Montalto (Communist) secretary to the Camera del Lavoro, denied all charges against his party members and replied that, while Communists were taking care of lice-ridden refugees from the war zones and were distributing American Red Cross gifts to them, Christian Democrats remained at home watching.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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APPENDIX I

PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

1. Press in Sassari.

L'Isola is considered too cautious, and lacking in initiative. Recent articles on the financial and food situation have been followed with great interest.

The following publications were issued on May 1st:

1.) Partito Socialista Italiano: primo maggio. A booklet of 20 pages which reproduces the text of the agreement reached between the Socialist and Communist parties in Rome. It is interesting to note, however, that the Socialists here declare that they do not wish the Fascist dictatorship to be replaced by a dictatorship of another political colour.

2) Rinnovamento: The second number of the periodical directed by Dr. Salvatore Cottoni, Secretary of the Italian party of action. Contains an article by Mario Berlinguer entitled the "Rebirth of a people."

3) Il Lavoratore. Communist newspaper

2. Press in Castrovillari (Cosenza)

Some time ago four periodicals were published in the town of Castrovillari. They started after the armistice and lasted only for a few months. None of them is published now. The following is a list:

La Vedetta, edited by Avv. Guido Lombardi. It was an old paper which managed to live through Fascism with all kinds of compromises. Lombardi calls himself a socialist-republican.

La Voce dei Giovani, edited by Umberto Caldora, of radical tendencies. This has been suspended pending the issue of a licence. It has recently changed its name to Il Solco.

Diogene, edited by Franco Scorza, Christian Democrat. This also has been suspended, pending the issue of a licence, a fact which is much resented by the editor, who feels that

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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Diogene, edited by Franco Scorza, Christian Democrat. This also has been suspended, pending the issue of a licence, a fact which is much resented by the editor, who feels that the administration is hostile to his paper. Many people in Castrovillari and Cosenza have been accusing Diogene of conducting Fascist propaganda.

3. Reactions to propaganda - Lecce -

Radio Bari. At Lecce, the radio is not widely heard. There is, however, no unfavourable comment. (B3)

Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno. This paper is read with interest, as it is the only daily newspaper. People like the liberal attitude of the newspaper.

The only complaint is that the space dedicated to correspondence from the provinces has been reduced; as a result no problem which regards the provinces can be dealt with there.

3608

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

4 - Castrovillari, (Cosenza).

The reception of the following stations is generally good: London; New York (through London); Tunis (on the channel of Milan); Rome; Most of the German stations.

The reception of the following stations is fair: Bari; Palermo; Algiers.

The reception of the following stations is very poor: Naples.

There has been a slight increase in the sale of our propaganda material. So far the distribution has been limited to the town of Cosenza, but the PWB distributor intends to make a trip through the province. Best seller in Cosenza "Victory".

5. Refugees impressions of Radio Naples.

The following are the impressions of the programme of Radio Naples of an Italian fugitive from Turin who reached Naples in February.

"The transmissions of Radio Naples have been the subject, in the past, of many criticisms on the part of listeners. Recently, however, a certain improvement has been noticed; in spite of this we continue to notice in the transmissions that coldness which is one of their ugly characteristics.

"While in Piedmont we appreciated the Allied radio for the spontaneity and warmth which was infused into propaganda broadcasts

"On the other hand, after arriving in Naples and listening to this radio station one has the definite impression of broadcasts which are too cold, and anaemic and lacking in colour.

"If for example we examine the news bulletins we notice that very important news, such as great military victories, is dealt with in a few words and immediately passed over.

"Political and military propaganda is almost completely lacking. Compare Radio Rome for example. Rome immediately draws material from a single victory, such as the destruction

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

Bari; Palermo; Algiers.

The reception of the following stations is very poor: Naples.

There has been a slight increase in the sale of our propaganda material. So far the distribution has been limited to the town of Cosenza, but the PP distributor intends to make a trip through the province. Best seller in Cosenza "Victory".

5. Anti-fugees impressions of Radio Naples.

The following are the impressions of the programme of Radio Naples of an Italian fugitive from Turin who reached Naples in February.

"The transmissions of Radio Naples have been the subject, in the past, of many criticisms on the part of listeners. Recently, however, a certain improvement has been noticed; in spite of this we continue to notice in the transmissions that coldness which is one of their ugly characteristics.

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"If for example we examine the news bulletins we notice that very important news, such as great military victories, is dealt with in a few words and immediately passed over.

"Political and military propaganda is almost completely lacking. Compare Radio Rome for example. Rome immediately draws material from a stupid victory, such as the destruction of two enemy planes, for good propaganda. What can we say of Radio Rome's treatment of the food problem? Unfortunately many of us know about the sad situation of occupied Italy, and yet the listener to Radio Rome could never form an idea of what effectively the situation there is.

"As far as Naples is concerned, on the other hand, where the food situation is better than it is in Rome, listening to Radio Naples from afar off, one would be pessimistic with regard to the food situation, just because Radio Naples is so cold.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

Then there is another problem to be solved: 90% of the Italian people know nothing of liberalism or democracy. Often they hear these words, but what is their meaning? Why isn't propaganda carried out to inform people effectively what the democracies mean, what are their virtues and the benefits which they offer the country and the population? Radio Naples' only contribution to the spreading of a knowledge of Allied countries is the broadcasting of some syncopated American music and some classical English music. What effect do these transmissions have? Only a relative interest on the part of music lovers. Nothing else.

"But this is not propaganda for the democracies. It would be more interesting to make known to the Italian people the life in democratic countries, how these people benefit from the four freedoms and how they endure restrictions in order to wage and win war.

"Why are not topical plays broadcast, dealing with the present war?

"Such broadcasts would serve to awaken the consciences of Italians and revive their love of their country, more necessary than ever today in order to bring the war to a victorious conclusion.

"As for Stella Bianca, this feature is no longer listened to with the same interest as before; many months have passed since this feature was started. Therefore in justification of the protagonists, it has exhausted its repertory and perhaps it has also fulfilled its task."

6. Giuliana parlerà

The University student in touch with Bari right wing circles, who has recently supplied comments on propaganda, reports that radio Bari continues to be criticised. It is said that its programmes are put out with "the sole aim of converting to Fascism those who have never been Fascists" by its bad construction and production. Particularly criticised is "Giuliana" of the "Quarto d'Ora per le Signore" whose voice "tries to be beautiful, but in reality resembles Greta Garbo at 90." All this is a source of profound irritation to a public which wants incitements to resistance, to the war against the Germans, and news from the front.

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

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"The programme Italia Combatte, even if it bears a Communist stamp, is an example of what the listener prefers to hear but, just because it pleases, it is broadcast late at night when most honest men are taking their well-earned rest... The criticisms of the public are all more or less the same. They are impatient at having to 'pay to be robbed today as yesterday'. With this difference: that in the past irritation at Fascist blunders could be soothed by listening to Radio Londra; today irritation is increased by hearing only: 'Giuliana parlerà alle sue gentile ascoltatrici."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

122

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20 MAY 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No 8 APO 512

"D" Section Italy (Lib) 2nd May 1944

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY No. 19

Part II - Annexes

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Prince Umberto's interview	1
2	Demonstration for the Prince	2
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
3	Togliatti speaks at Torre Annunziata	3
4	Relations between Socialists and Communists	3
5	General meeting of the Socialist Revolutionary Party	4
6	Libera Unione degli Uguale and the Socialist Revolutionary Party	5
7	The Party of Action and the Government	6
8	"Partito dei Lavoratori Italiani" ...	6
9	Outside parties seek recognition ...	6
10	Finocchiaro Aprile to the Separatist Youth	7
11	Fusion of Sicilian Parties	8
12	Sardist attack on Communism	9
13	The Monarchist view: Editor of the"Unione"-	9
14	- Editor of the"Voce del Popolo"	10
16	Political parties in Taranto	11
	EPURATION	
17	Interview with the Minister of Justice	11

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

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Part II - Annexes

Contents

Paragraph		Page
	ITALIAN GOVERNMENT	
1	Prince Umberto's interview	1
2	Demonstration for the Prince	2
	PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES	
3	Togliatti speaks at Torre Annunziata	3
4	Relations between Socialists and Communists	3
5	General meeting of the Socialist Revolutionary Party	4
6	Libera Unione degli Uguale and the Socialist Revolutionary Party	5
7	The Party of Action and the Government	6
8	"Partito dei Lavoratori Italiani" ...	6
9	Outside parties seek recognition ...	6
10	Finocchiaro Aprile to the Separatist Youth	7
11	Fusion of Sicilian Parties	8
12	Sardist attack on Communism	9
13	The Monarchist view: Editor of the"Unione"-	9
14	- Editor of the"Voce del Popolo"	10
16	Political parties in Taranto	11
	EPURATION	
17	Interview with the Minister of Justice	11
18	Reaction to Southern Cotton Mills trial	11
19	Bari De-fascistisation Committee meets	13
	ARMED FORCES	
20	Conversations with Mario Palermo ...	14
21	The Italian General Staff and Allied troops	16
22	Togliatti on the Italian Army	17
23	An Italian General's view on the war	17
24	Italian Navy	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 760521

Contents page 2

Paragraph		Page
	FASCIST ACTIVITIES	
25	Fascist organisation in Catanzaro and Cosenza	18
26	Fascist personalities	18
27	Reported Fascist demonstration in Apulia	18
	DEMONSTRATIONS	
27a	Land demonstration in Sardinia ...	19
	PUBLIC OPINION	
28	Reaction to the new offensive ...	19
29	Naples reaction to work of new government	19
	HEALTH	
30	Beginning of the "settimana della igiene"	20
31	Smallpox in Taranto	20
32	Child Welfare	20
	ECONOMIC	
33	Interview with the Minister of Agriculture	21
34	Doubts on the new grain campaign	22
35	Reaction to "granai del popolo"	22
36	Black market prices in Salerno at end-April	22
37	Prices in Sardinia	22
38	Conditions in Capri	23
39	Decrease in circulation of Money in Province of Salerno	23
40	Sale of sweets, cakes and soft drinks forbidden...	23
41	Conditions in Caserta...	23
42	Interview with the Minister of Industry and Commerce	24
APPENDIX I	Press and Propaganda	
APPENDIX II	Conditions in Ischia	

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

27	Reported Fascist demonstration in Apulia	18
	DEMONSTRATIONS	
27a	Land demonstration in Sardinia ...	19
	PUBLIC OPINION	
28	Reaction to the new offensive ...	19
29	Naples reaction to work of new government	19
	HEALTH	
30	Beginning of the "settimana della igiene"	20
31	Smallpox in Taranto	20
32	Child Welfare	20
	ECONOMIC	
33	Interview with the Minister of Agriculture	21
34	Doubts on the new grain campaign	22
35	Reaction to "granai del popolo"	22
36	Black market prices in Salerno at end-April	22
37	Prices in Sardinia	22
38	Conditions in Capri	23
39	Decrease in circulation of money in Province of Salerno	23
40	Sale of sweets, cakes and soft drinks forbidden...	23
41	Conditions in Caserta...	23
42	Interview with the Minister of Industry and Commerce	24

APPENDIX I
Press and Propaganda

APPENDIX II
Conditions in Ischia

Explanation of reliability rating.

Source (reliability)		Report (Probability)	
A	always reliable	1	confirmed
B	usually reliable	2	probable
C	sometimes reliable	3	possible
D	frequently unreliable	4	doubtful
E	a bad source	5	improbable
0	not possible to judge	0	not possible to judge

3067

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

CONFIDENTIAL May 16th, 1944

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Part II - Annexes

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

1 Prince Umberto's interview.

The report of Prince Umberto's interview with The Times correspondent on May 5th has caused quite a stir in the outwardly pacified but in fact most delicate political situation. It is pointed out by anti-Fascists that the Prince's greater responsibilities do not seem to have increased his sense of diplomacy. Not only does he make the Italian people responsible for Fascism and the war, and then excuses his father altogether, but also expresses his disapproval of the liberty now given to the Italians. There are no two subjects on which anti-Fascist opinion feels more strongly, because on them depend the self-respect and the resurgent hope of the nation.

Anti-Fascists feel that the expressions of admiration for Mussolini's astuteness in dealing with the Italian people; the attempt to blame the people in order to justify the king; the complaint that there is too much freedom and the statement that it would have been better for Southern Italy to remain under A.M.G, indicate a lack of understanding and patriotism, and they regard the Prince as undemocratic and reactionary.

Even Croce who, after his interview with the Prince, had appeared favourably impressed, has rebutted the Prince's charges in a Press interview. It is pointed out that the Prince must have known that, at the beginning of the war, the people were not free to speak nor able to summon a parliament.

An Italian observer declares that the statement made recently by the Italian Cabinet concerning the interview has definitely lessened the Prince's popularity. The firmness of the Ministers in refuting the accusation that the Italian people must share the responsibility of declaring war on the Allies, and in defining the participation of the Royal Family in this action, is said to have met with general approval.

One monarchist paper, the "Giorno" mentioned the interview, and in doing so defended the ideas expressed by the Crown Prince. The "Unità", a Communist organ, refrained from mentioning the interview, and published the statement by the Cabinet without comment.

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

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Incidentially, it is interesting to note that the statement was not made without some rather heated discussions between the Communists, the Socialists, and the Party of Action on the one hand, and the Liberals and Democracy of Labour on the other. Eventually they came to terms, though attempts were made to modify the unompromising attitude of the members of the Party of Action.

Monarchists are said to be a little alarmed about the communique, as they fear that the government has completely discredited the Prince of Piedmont by calling attention in such a public manner to the statements made in his inter-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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view, thus weakening his position as Lieutenant General. It is feared that the anti-Fascist parties may achieve from within the Cabinet what they failed to achieve in opposition - the removal of both the king and his son, and the establishment of a republic or a regency.

This is a problem which interests chiefly the Party of Action and the Liberal Party. The Communists are reported as being solely interested for the moment in the war effort. Later such problems as the monarchy will be settled by the Italian people, and the Communists have no doubt as to the ultimate solution, but are prepared to concentrate for the moment, on more important problems.

2. Demonstration for the Prince.

On the 13th of May the Prince of Piedmont paid a visit to some British officers in Naples. A large and excited crowd quickly gathered in the square outside and when he came out raised a cheer to him, and also to his father.

A P.W.B. officer who was an eye witness if of the opinion that; difficult as it is to gauge the general feeling of a crowd, the demonstration made on this occasion was without doubt most friendly but definitely not enthusiastic. It certainly should not be construed as politically significant, in the light of recent events (the famous "Times" interview), though it is actually suggested that the Prince's political friends may purposely intend to give it a political meaning.

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

Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only

PARTY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES

3. Togliatti speaks at Torre Annunziata.

On Sunday 23rd April, Palmiro Togliatti, the Communist Party leader made a long speech at Torre Annunziata on the party's present policy. His expressions of out and out patriotism and his conciliatory words, backed by the genuine efforts of the party to collaborate and so strengthen the Italian anti-Fascist front, are reported to have been most heartily welcomed also by the non-Communists and authorities, who thus feel assured that the traditional Communist policy of ruthless revolution and class conflict had been relinquished. Togliatti's praise for the three Allies, his call for total mobilization and especially his support of an alliance with the Socialist party were according to reports enthusiastically applauded by the audience.

The Italian informant adds that here as elsewhere, there is a dissentient Communist group of extremists, who accuse Togliatti of following an opportunist policy, contrary to the real marxist principles. It is formed mostly of local intellectuals and a few extremist workers. (C-3).

4. Relations between the Socialists and Communists.

In the meeting held between Communists and Socialists on 3rd May at Salerno, it is reported that contrary to prevalent rumours there were no negotiations for an eventual fusion. Nothing of this sort is apperently envisaged till after the liberation of Italy. (B-2).

A less reliable source reports that there is a group of over a hundred Communists in the party, headed by two leading members of the GCL, Enrico Russo and Vincenzo Jorio and by intellectuals like Libero Villone and Giuseppe Giudice, which disapproves of Togliatti's directive to collaborate in the government and claims to express and represent freely a more left tendency within the party. (C-3).

On the other side of the picture, the Socialist party held a meeting on the 7th May, under the Chairmanship of Avv. Schiavone. About 150 persons, including Dr. Longobardi, Avv. Finizio and Avv. Porzio were present. Avv. Benevenuto gave a report on the activities of the party. He referred to the participation of the party in the new government, saying that the principal tasks of the Socialists ministers was to ensure the meximum war effort and the complete elimination of Fascist elements.

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

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This information seems to indicate that the Socialist party as a whole definitely backs up its members in the government and is in close agreement with them as to the plans and policy to be carried out. According to the same less reliable source a motion disapproving collaboration in the government was proposed at the meeting on the 7th May but there were only three votes for it and over a hundred against it. (C-3).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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5. General meeting of the Socialist Revolutionary Party.

The first general meeting of the Socialist Revolutionary Party was held in Naples on 7th May, with about 200 members present. Sig. Cammino, a member of the Central Executive Committee was in the chair. Avv. Puglia, who outlined the history of the party, and described the intransigent attitude so far adopted towards the new government. This refusal to collaborate will be maintained unless the party's revolutionary programme is adopted, revolutionary to be understood in the sense not of violent change but meaning a peaceful though radical change in the economic and social system.

Avv. D'Ambra, the secretary of the party, next spoke; and read a message from the Cetral Executive Committee to the members of the party in Naples. This, briefly, recalled the fight against Fascism carried on by members of the party before the liberation of the city, and said that this fight was still going on in silence. It exhorted the government, "these new anti-Fascists", to put the people in a condition to make its contribution to victory. Finally it appealed to members to expand the movement, in order to encourage those party members who were carrying on the struggle in Northern Italy.

Avv. De Luca gave a brief account of the "Bandiera Rossa".

An order of the day was approved, containing among other things the following points:

"In view of the fact that the action of the present government does not respond to the interests of the people, has not achieved the noped-for concord of all the anti-Fascist political tendencies and still less is inspired by true democratic principles,

"considering that the party, while reserving its function of control and criticism in the interests of the working masses, must at present abstain from any action likely to obstruct the activity of the government.....

"declare that in conformity with the points laid down in the manifesto of Como of 15 July 1940, the P.S.R.I. must reaffirm its principle of no collaboration or compromise with the bourgeois parties.....

"asks the Allied authorities to consider the party as a force in the life of the nation..l.....

"hopes that the ACC will convey to the leaders of the United [illegible] (Questura report).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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It is learnt from a member of the Socialist Revolutionary party that a secret meeting of the party leaders was held on May 6th, at which D'Ambra proposed that the party merge with the Socialist party. The proposal was unanimously rejected. (C-2).

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Page

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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6. Libera Unione degli Uguali and the Socialist Revolutionary Party

The Libera Unione degli Eguali (L.U.D.E.) is a movement which was started in Naples in the first half of January by dissident elements of the Communist Party (Giordano, del Giudice) and others of republican, left-wing tendencies. One usually well informed source states that some of these people are Trotsky followers but this is not confirmed.

The leaders state that the movement is primarily educational and cultural and this seems to be borne out by their activities which (according to them) consist to a great extent in arranging free lessons in various subjects for their members. They have also started a dramatic society. Their newspaper "Spartaco", at present unauthorized, is however, mainly political.

The party's programme is republican and socialistic, Mazzinian rather than Marxist. The cult of liberty is insisted on. Dictatorship or a one-party system is attacked, but no monarchist party will be allowed. All property except small agricultural and industrial property is to be nationalised. There must be a single syndicate for all workers. Free Church in Free State is the motto in religious matters, but it is established that all ecclesiastical property except that which is needed for the immediate requirements of the Church will be handed over to the state.

The movement has a certain following in Naples and in certain districts, e.g. Mondragone, where one of the leaders has some standing. It is not possible as yet to give the number of members but these are reported to be growing rapidly. The principal leaders are:

Dr. Corrado Giordano
Tiberio
Guido Schettini
Del Giudice

Giordano is a Neapolitan doctor who was a "confinato" for anti-Fascist activities for 3 years and imprisoned for 18 months. He left the Communist Party in March. He has great local influence in Mondragone. Schettini is at present working as Inspector General of the Assicurazione di Venezia Co. He wrote a pamphlet on the "Four days in Naples" during which he took a leading part in the fight against the Germans. Del Giudice is a workman/[illegible]

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The relations of the L.U.D.E. to the Socialist Revolutionary Party appears to be friendly but officially at any rate they are not closer than that. For some time the P.S.R.I. (Partito Socialista Ricoluzionario Italiano) allowed the L.U.D.E. to use its offices and it was then reported by a reliable source that the P.S.R.I. was trying to absorb L.U.D.E. In fact, however, the latter has since about mid-April set up its own central office at Via Salvator Rosa 321 and there seems at present no disposition to effect a merger.

3603

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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There is a distinct resemblance in some points between the programmes of P.S.R.I. and L.U.D.E. Both stress the need for safeguards against the recurrance of dictatorship; both wish to preserve the holding of the small propietor; both make a definite point of expropiation of the Church; both are in favour of divorce.

7. The Party of Action.

Quite recently Ciance joined the Party of Action officially. In the past, he had often addressed meetings of this party, and collaborated with its leaders. Now it is learnt from a usually reliable source that he is playing an increasing part of directing its policy, more especially in the campaign against the declarations made to the "Times" by the Prince of Piedmont. (C-3).

In the course of conversation with a P.W.B. officer Avv. Schiano, chief of the Naples branch of the Party of Action declared that he and his associates were profoundly dissatisfied with the present government. He very much doubted whether his party could continue its collaboration with the other anti-Fascist parties because of their readiness to accept Prince Umberto as head of the State. He expressed his belief that the Party of Action alone was pro-Ally, and therefore worthy of trust. He and many others of his colleagues were beginning to believe that they could contribute more effectively to the war effort especially as their party was the mainstay of the resistance movements in occupied Italy, and had a very large following particularly in the North.

8. "Partito dei Lavoratori Italiani".

A report from Bari says that another new party, the "Partito dei Lavoratori Italiani" has put in an appearance in the area. Nothing much is known of it, but it is believed to be led by a relative of Aldisio, the Minister of the Interior. It is rumoured that this party may have attractions for some former members of the Democrazia Liberale, now discredited.

9. Outside parties seek recognition.

An Italian informant reports that the contacts between the Communists and the Republican Party are being maintained. This week Togliatti, the Communist leader, had a long consultation with the Republican leaders who called on him. (B-2).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The Demo-Liberal party is in the same predicament. According to the same source, it has decided to send a protest to the Liberation Committee, expressing its indignation that a party with such ancient traditions should be left out in the cold, outside the national but narrow circle of the six parties.

On the 10th May, according to this source, ex-Minister Raffaele de Caro, went as head of the part to discuss the matter with Marshal Badoglio. (C-3).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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10. Finocchiaro Aprile to the Seperatist Youth League.

The full text of F inocchiaro Aprile's speech to the Palermo Young Seperatist League, referred to in Report No. 17, para is now available.

Finocchiaro Aprile said that Sicily would be prepared to an Italian federation or better still a European confederation which Sicily could enter in conditions of perfect equality with other States including Italy, which will inevitably be forced to renounce her rank as a first class power and the morbid dreams of greatness and hegemony which, through the fault of the Fascost regime, have led her to irreparable catastrophe. "Federation is the only concession which we are prepared to make. The negotiations for autonmy which certain people have already tried failed miserably, as it was easy to foresee they would, and there is nothing more to be said."

After claiming Carl Marx as a supporter of Sicilian independence, Finocchiaro Aprile launched an attack on Communism, Referring to the recent article in "Isvestia", he said they might be interpreted as a sign of strained relations between the three great powers, but that in actual fact this seemed unlikely. The truth was that there was no need for an immediate solution of the problems of Italian institutions and government, and that there was no need for the Soviet Union to be called in, since "Russia had shown no interest in the Mediterranean sectors, and had not in any way participated in Italy's liberation, but had limited herself to sending to Sicily, and then to Italy, a few fighting observers, while the Anglo-Americans have sent us a whole collection of intelligent and capable officers. Only when the Soviet Union believed that the moment had come to take an interest in Mediterranean affairs, did she open direct relations with the Italian government and take the initiative for enlarging the basis of the cabinet. She did not do this to save Italy in disaster, so much as to draw an advantage for her own purposes.

It was not accurate, said Finocchiaro Aprile, to claim, as some have done, that Russia's action was an attempt to take reprisals on the Allies by freeing Italy of her engagements in regard to them, or to make a pretext for an eventual seperate peace with German. It is certain however that the Russians did not warn the Allies of their intentions, and had they done so, the Allies would

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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"Russia in fact....has taken command of the Italian government, through men who form part of it and who are said to be send from Moscow and to obey only the orders of Stalin. Thus, in view of the unions between the Communists and Socialists, and in view of the small representation of efficient members of other parties...the result is that Palmiro Togliatti - a man who many describe to me as talented, but of whom nobody knows what he is, although he is Minister without Portfolio - is the recognised and unopposed arbiter

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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of the situation, and Badoglio is nothing but a puppet in his hands. It is possible that some people in Italy may regard this state of affairs as satisfactory, but there will certainly be few, very few, in Sicily, where the great majority is highly discontented and where the abnormal solution has drawn into the opposition even certain unitarian groups which justly desired a substantial, and not merely formal, equality of representation".

Finocchiaro Aprile then referred to what he described as a "red dictatorship" being set up in some towns in Southern Italy, it will never, never happen in Sicily. We have fought against the Fascist dictatorship and we will not permit, wither now or in the future, the rise of other dictatorships....If a dictatorship is imposed on us, Sicily will rise as a man, and we shall have an outbreak of fire of which none has ever seen the equal".

Finocchiaro Aprile explained that he did not want to be misunderstood. He had the greatest sympathy for Bolshevism, which he thought was the only regime which could have saved Russia. But Sicily wants democracy and liberty. Communism has only one chance of victory in Sicily, that is to draw into its ranks all the adherents of the movement for independence, should that movement itself fail. "Our watchword is either independence or Communism".

Because of her love of liberty and democracy Sicily, said Finocchiaro Aprile, was pro-British and pro-American, although he personally, through the scientific turn of his mind, had frequently been led to criticise certain deficiencies, and particularly political deficiencies, in the attitude adopted by the Allies in Sicily. "The Allies, conscious of the great importance of the movement for independence, conferred public offices on adherents to this movement. They must remain at their posts.

After speaking of the need to prepare for municipal elections next autumn, Finocchiaro Aprile attacked the Badoglio Government and the Sicilian High Commissioner and Council. Finocchiaro Aprile admitted that he had discovered Musotto, when nobody else had thought of him. But now "his uncertainties, his lack of initiative, his absolute unpreparedness, do not allow him to remain at his post without harm to Sicily". He compared Musotto to the bat in the fable who, presiding over a congregation of birds and rats, claimed anxiously to belong to both sides."

Concluding, Finocchiaro Aprile addressed a greeting to representatives of the Sardinian seperatists present in the hall, and expressed his sympathy for their cause.

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

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11. Fusion of Sicilian parties.

The Sicilian Partito Riformista Laburista has announced its intention to join the Democrazia del Lavoro, to which the Sicilian party, "Democrazia Sociale" has already adhered. This means that the Partito Riformista Laburista, a small group of right-wing liberals formed to combat seperatism, now has the benefit of belonging to the National Committee of Liberation as one of the recognised parties and will be entitled to publish its own newspaper. This last fact has been resented by the Seperatists who, although they probably have a larger number of adherents, are an unofficial party and have not yet received permission to publish their own paper.

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

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12. Sardist attack on Communism.

The Associazione Universitaria at Sassari has promoted a series of lectures on the programmes of the various parties.

Avv. Bartolomeo Sotgiu of the Sard Party of Action, in one of these lectures given recently, said that what had happened to Sardinia under Fascism would have happened under any dictatorship. For this reason Sardinians must unite against dictatorship.

The Sard Party of Action, he said was the first to support collaboration with Badoglio. In January it had voted an order of the day for the constitution, of a Sardinian division armed at Sardinia's expense with Lease Lend equipment.

Sotgiu traced the origins of the party back to 1919, when, he said, a group of young men had decided to have nothing to do with parties and policies on the mainland, but to concentrate on the struggle for Sardinian autonomy.

The Sardists, he said, do not ignore social questions, but think it ridiculous to talk demagogic ll, of giving the land to the Contadini and to affirm the principle that those who don't work shouldn't eat, when there is not enough to eat for even those who work. "The Communists should not deceive themselves that we will leave them along to develop this propaganda. We will always fight them.

The capital necessary for the re-birth of Sardinian can only come from America or England. Nobody can really believe that it will be invested to become the property of Sard Communists.

13. The Monarchist view: Editor of the Unione.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer the Editor of the Partito d'Unione paper "Unione" expressed the following views:

In modern Italian political life the leftist parties are trying to do what Fascism tried to do, without success, more than 20 years ago, namely, to impose upon the people a form of government foreign and repugnant to them. The Italian people are attached to the monarchy which they associate with the most glorious periods of Italian history and are indifferent to the changes that are taking place around them. To be sure, the almost general lack of the absolute necessitites of life has created a certain discomfort and discontent which has been exploited by certain selfish and ir-

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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The people are not content with the new government because they feel that it does not represent all the political Parties of the country. The decision of the new ministry to appoint a Corpo Consultivo composed of delegates chosen by the Committees of Liberation and of representatives of the Chambers of Labor, and some senators and the 5 ministers without portfolios, which will function as a Chamber of Deputies, is an undemocratic proposal because no one could rightfully contend that the Committees of Liberation really represent all shades of political opinion and all social classes.

14. Editor of the Voce del Popolo.

The following views were expressed in an informal conversation with a P.W.B. officer; by Avv. Dino Rizzo, editor of the Taranto "Voce del Popolo" a paper which has shown decidedly Monarchist leanings.

There was no attempt to interrogate Avv. Rizzo or elicit answers to specific questions. Although he occupies no official position in the community it can be safely said that his opinions are, likewise, those of the cultured, well-to-do class with rightest tendencies.

Despite the seeming ascendance of the Communist Party both in the government and in the general political activity of Liberated Italy there is really no immediate danger because most of the members of the Communist Party have joined the party not through conviction but through necessity. In contrast with its previous incessant activity and agitation the Communist Party has been, since the formation of the new ministry, unusually quiet because it has apparently succeeded, for the moment, in obtaining the results which it was pursuing.

In the field of international politics Russia, according to Sig. Rizzo, is following tthe best foreign policy, the most consistent and the most realistic. Everyone in Italy understands the present, as well as the remote, implications of Russian policy, but no one claims to understand the Anglo-American policy. It is not at all clear to the Italians whether England and the U.S. are determined to oppose, by any possible means, the spread of communism in Italy and the establishment of Russian hegemony in the Italian peninsula, or they are indifferent to the political future of the country and intend to take no measures to prevent its bolshevization.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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It is evident that there is no clear understanding between the U.S. and England, on the one hand and Russia on the other, for the settlement of the social and political problems after the war. The Anglo-Americans, heavily indebted to Russia for her enormous contributions to the war effort and concerned principally with the pressing problem of the destruction of Hitlerism, are ready to concede to Russia almost anything she requests, while the latter, having a more definite and practical foreign policy wishes to retain her freedom of action and deal with both friend and foe according to the dictates of her interests. The recent Russo-Japanese agreement on Saknalin Island indicates that Russia may be contemplating a seperate treaty with Japan.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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15. Political parties in Taranto.

The Prefect of Taranto, the On. Festa, told a P.W.B. officer that all the Committee of Liberation parties are represented in the town. The Communist and Democratic-Christian parties are the strongest, in the order named. There is also a Democretic Liberal part, but its following is insignificant.

There is perfect harmony among the parties and their attitude towards the government and the authorities is very co-operative.

16. Political parties in Caserta.

A P.W.B. officer who recently visited Caserta found conditions there quiet and the work of reconstruction progressing favourably. There is very little political activity since the most important political party, the Liberal (Croce) party, has only about 1000 members and the next in importance, the Christian Democratic party, some 500 members, while the remaining three have between 200 and 150 members each. The local administration is in the hands of a Giunta headed by a Liberal Sindaco, Ing. Luigi Giaquinto.

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EPURATION

17. Interview with the Minister of Justice 7.5.44.

While discussing the question of epuration with PWB officers, Signor Arantio Ruiz (Liberal), the Minister, declared that there would be two procedures: the first, defascistisation, under Signor Omodeo would consist merely of removing noted Fascists from key positions, and this would not be applied to the small fry who had become party members merely to earn a living. The second epuration under Signor Zaniboni would be for the purpose of punishing crimes committed by Fascists, such as the abuse of power, the acquirement of wealth illegally and all forms of corruption. Participation in the March on Rome would be considered a crime since it was an act of violence and contrary to the constitution. Some of the worst offenders would be sent to labour camps which are to be set up shortly. The law of Epuration is to be valid for the next five years. Signor Omodeo is to deal with the dismissal of State employees for Fascist activities, while the employees of local administrations will be dealt with by the Prefects.

Following the announcement from the cabinet on 13.5.44. Count Sforza will now replace Signor Tito Zaniboni.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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18. Reactions to Southern Cotton mills trial.

The trial, which opened on April 14th in Naples before the Special Military Court, of Luigi Piscitelli, Tullio Tagliavini and Guido Mosca, former directors of the Manifatture Cotoniere Meridionali (Southern Cotton Mills) ended on May 8th, each of the accused being sentenced to five years imprisonment, having been found guilty of selling blocked merchandise without permission of the Allied authorities. The three men were acquitted of three additional charges. The defending lawyers were granted a month in which to file petitions against the sentence, but release of the defendants on bail was refused.

3600

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In will be remembered that Piscitelli and Tagliavini were among four directors of the company who were removed from their posts on March 18th by the A.C.C. The official order declared that these men had had close contacts with the Fascist Government: that they enjoyed high positions in their industry as a result of such contacts: and that their retention of office would constitute a danger to the security of the Allied forces and to the wellbeing of the inhabitants of liberated territory (cf. "Report on Conditions in Liberated Italy," No. 12, March 28, 1944, page 18).

When the accused were subsequently arrested, their associates and relatives, particularly in the case of Piscitelli, moved heaven and earth to have them released on bail. Those Italians who knew the power formerly wielded by these men, feared they would once again have their way. That the Allied authorities withstood every influence brought to bear made a first favourable impression.

The trial, in fact, has been regarded as a test case by the public, which has followed the proceedings with considerable interest. Doubts were to be heard as to how successful the Allies would be in dealing with this outstanding instance of the survival of Fascist mentality and practices in the life of liberated Italy. Many people, indeed, expressed scepticism as to the ultimate result of the trial. They feared that such influential figures, typical of the corrupt business world which existed under the defunct regime, would manage to evade that severe punishment which would, incidentially, act as a warning and deterrent to others of the same kidney, and reassure honest Italians as to the policy of the Allied authorities in this sphere of Italian life.

This fear, it is stated in some quarters, which include members of the Bar, has been partially justified. While the trial and sentence have been generally welcomed as a fitting act of avenging justice, some people remark that five years imprisonment is a mild punishment when the gravity of the offences committed is considered. Unfavourable comparisons are made with sentences of ten years penal servitude which, it is alleged, have been imposed on those who stole a lorry load of flour.

Another fact which has made an unfavourable impression in Naples is the permission granted to Piscitelli, the most dangerous and powerful of the accused, and a particularly unsavoury figure, to stay in a nursing home. According to one usually reliable informant, the malady from which he is suffering is not such as

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

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In other circles the fear prevails that as a result of the appeal, the sentences may be reduced or even squashed. Such an act, it is stated, would be highly unpopular with the general public. (B-2).

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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19. Bari Defascistization Committee meets.

The Bari Provincial Committee of "Defascistizzione" met last week and examined the cases drawn from the Banco di Roma, the National Council of Aid to the War Wounded, the Commune of Bari.

Of the 37 cases examined, the majority of which came from the Bari commune Administration, eleven were referred for further enquiry, seventeen were dismissed, six are to be re-called in thirty days time for seven entenuating circumstances were admitted.

The cases from Bari Commune were mostly minor municipal employees.

Of the cases examined ten asked for a hearing.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

19. Bari Defascistization Committee meets.

The Bari Provincial Committee of "Defascistizzione" met last week and examined the cases drawn from the Banco di Rome, the National Council of Aid to the War Wounded, the Commune of Bari.

Of the 37 cases examined, the majority of which came from the Bari commune Administration, eleven were referred for further enquiry, seventeen were dismissed, six are to be re-called in thirty days time for seven entenuating circumstances were admitted.

The cases from Bari Commune were mostly minor municipal employees.

Of the cases examined ten asked for a hearing.

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

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ARMED FORCES

20 Conversations with Mario Palermo.

A PWB officer last week visited 8th Army headquarters and spend an evening with the civil liaison officer at 8th Army. The Under-Secretary of State for war had been invited to spend the night at the transit camp for Italian officers who are posted as Laison officers with the 8th Army. Palermo had just returned from two days visit to Italian troops at the front and was accompanied by an Italian Colonel of the General Staff and other Italian officers. Palermo, who had fought with distinction in the last war was dressed in the tropical uniform of an Italian officer, except that he was not wearing any badges of rank. It was interesting to watch the reaction of the young enthusiastic Italian officers to the Under-Secretary of State. The evening before one of them had said that on no account would he be prepared to give up his room for the Communist Palermo. Towards the end of dinner he said to another Italian officer that "if all Communists are like Palermo I myself will become a Communist." Palermo clearly was tremendously popular with these young officers because they realised that he interested himself in their problems and was determined as far as lay within his power to contribute as much as possible to the common war effort. He was passionately keen on improving the quality of the Italian army and on creating a small efficient fighting force. He said that he was tremendously impressed by the morale of the troops that he had visited. Italian soldiers got on very well with British soldiers at the front, and great understanding existed between the officers of the 8th Army and those of the Italian Corpo di Liberazione.

The equipment of the Italian troops is for the most part Italian, though the 8th Army has given them some anti-tank guns, jeeps and other equipment. Rations are pooled and shared. Palermo made a point of talking to as many Italian soldiers as possible and the Colonel accompanying him said that he stopped and talked to almost every soldier that he saw. He asked them whether they had all they wanted. He made notes and promised to rectify any reasonable complaints.

The Italians realised that it was a war of liberation, he said. Palermo made a point of not taling politics to the troops, as he felt that Italians should unite in the urgent common cause of liberating Italy from the Germans and Fascists. He hoped that it would be possible for Italian soldiers and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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He very much wanted to increase Italy's direct fighting contribution to the war and he felt that it would be possible to create a small force of 50 000 combat troops. At present, however, Italians were not allowed more than 14,100 troops at the front. As a minimum he would like to have another 14,000 in reserve so that those who had been in the lines for some months could be replaced from time to time. He realised that if there was any increase in the number of troops at the front, Allied equipment for these 50,000 would be necessary, but he hoped that the Allies might later be prepared to lend a certain amount of equipment. He wanted the Allies to realise how keen the Italians were to redeem their honour and the mistakes committed by Mussolini and the Fascists.

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

He also said that wherever he went a found a number of Italians who were keen to fight and he could not make any promises to them as he knew that the Allies had limited the number to 14,000. He quoted an as example a conversation he had had with three young soldiers at the front. He was struck by their youthful appearance and asked each of them how old they were. They all replied 24 years old. He said that was impossible, they did not look 24. The officer commanding them said that they were actually 17, but were so keen to fight that they pretended they were older than they really were.

Palermo said that last week he visited Cosenza and inspected the troops there. He was ashamed, humiliated and saddened by their lack of clothing and equipment. Many of the soldiers were without boots and other clothes, and presented a very ragged appearance. As a result they had lost their self-respect. If they are underpaid, underfed and poorly clothed, they cannot be expected to sacrifice their lives. The soldier must be made to feel that he had the best his country could provide him with.

At Cosenza, Palermo was asked to address the troops. He made a speech in which he told them that he had their interests very much at heart and that he would do everything in his power to improve their condition, and that this war was different from the other one. It was not a war of aggression or conquest; it was a war of liberation aimed at freeing Italy from both the Germans and the Fascists. They were now fighting, as in the other war, for certain ideals common to all the democracies. He gave an assurance that there would be a complete purge of pro-German and Fascist officers. These remarks were loudly cheered.

He was then asked to address the officers, and he received a group of officers in the town and told them that they must get nearer to their men and must develop the spirit of comradeship which characterised the British and American armies. He himself was resolved to cut burcaucracy to a minimum, and was always prepared to see any officer personally and hear suggestions and criticisms. The same evening while he was dining at Cosenza two or three officers came to see him and he immediately talked to them and listened to what they had to say.

At the moment he was primarily concerned with the morale of the army. He felt that there were many too many generals. "When you have only 14,100 troops you do not need 150 generals, nor when the army is under the command of the Allies, and when the Navy and Air Force are also under the command of the Allies,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The army must be keen to fight for ideals which are worth fighting for. Consequently he was anxious to explain to the troops what they are fighting for.

He had not yet made contact with the Allies, but he hoped 3598
be able to do so soon and to put these points to Allied authorities, and he felt that the only way in which Italy could redeem her honour was through her army. If the Italian army could contribute effectively to the military effort, he felt that this was the best way to create understanding between Italy and the United Nations.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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He was deeply interested in the resistance of the patriots in Occupied Italy and hoped that he might be able to concern himself directly with this problem. Badoglio had promised him that he would do so, but so far the Italian General Staff had opposed this. He thought that the partisans could contribute more than other Italians to the winning of the war;

He would like the people in England and America to know that the government wasanxious to do all in its power towards the common victory. He would like to gain the confidence of the Allies. The Communists, he said, had subordinated everything to the winning of the war. All other problems were of secondary interest. Other parties may not think along these lines, but his party did.

He realised that in England and America there must be a certain amount of mistrust for Italy. It was up to the Italians to overcome this feeling by their deeds. He realised too that after twenty years of Fascism many Italians were still imbued with a purely nationalistic spirit. It was up to the government to convert Italians once more to democracy.

Many people, he said, were still suspicious of the Communist Party. There was no justification for this. After the war there would be a movement towards greater social reforms; Italy must take part in it. Fascist capitalism had led Italy into the war. It was necessary to ensure some kind of international understanding through Socialism and Communism. Frontiers would disappear and armies would become unnecessary. This must be achieved by peaceful means. If Russia, England and America keep together, as he was sure they would, there would be new peace and understanding for the world.

Communism would not destroy small property nor the family, nor would it attempt to exterminate the Church. The Church would be a free organisation within the State. A revolution would not be necessary, as it has already taken place in Russia and the war itself was a revolution and would naturally result in many changes.

Palermo spoke freely and with sincerity. He gave the impression that he was determined to do everything in his power to increase the efficiency of the Italian army and to bring Italy into line with the United Nations.

21 The Italian General Staff and Allied troops.

The Italian General Staff has issued to subordinate commands a circular letter, dated 27.3.44, concerning the attitude

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

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21 The Italian General Staff and Allied troops.

The Italian General Staff has issued to subordinate commands a circular letter, dated 27.3.44, concerning the attitude Italian troops should assume towards possible provocations by Allied soldiers. The text of the circular reads:

"There have come to my knowledge frequent instances of aggressive acts on the part of Allied troops, for the most part drunk, against our soldiers, who have been man-handled and occasionally seriously hurt.

"Our troops must avoid all occasions that might give rise to incidents of this nature.

"Where our soldiers may expect to find themselves the victims of aggression, (after night-fall, vicinity of their quarters or billets to settlements of Allied troops, casual encounters with Allied troops under the influence of drink), they should proceed with accustomed caution, ready to make use of arms if necessary.

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

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"Italian soldiers must not use provocation, but in the event of violence they may react in their own defence with firmness and decision, putting themselves in such a position that they do not get the worse of the encounter.

"The above instruction should be brought to the attention of the troops - in the accustomed manner - so that all may know what the attitude of the soldier should be in such circumstances.

signed: Chief of the General Staff
BERARDI

The latent danger in this circular is the handle it gives to ill-intentioned persons in the Italian army to stir up feeling against the Allies, and secondarily the inadvisability of allowing discontented elements to circulate freely with arms

22 Togliatti on the Italian army.

Togliatti has published an article in the Naples Communist weekly "Unità" (13.5.44) entitled: "For a strong and well-disciplined Italian army" in which he writes:

The spirit of our army must be national, democratic and anti-Fascist; it must no longer be either reactionary, imperialist, or against the people." The article goes on to say that Fascism brought the Italian army to defeat, that though the military may reasonably be bitter about this, woe to them and to Italy if they have failed to learn a lesson from this tragic experience. Two lessons arise from the defeat; one that the anti-national imperialist war was imposed by the Fascist government on an unwilling people; & that the army showed itself to be a sick organism. There are excellent elements in all ranks of the army, and these must replace all those who still retain Fascist or imperialistic ideas.

The spirit which should animate the army is that of the patriots and the volunteers, who are recreating the great Italian tradition of Garibaldi.

This is not the moment to discuss organisation and cadres, nor to worry about the Italian army after the war. Italy has now an army on the Garigliano "the front of our war of liberation. In this part of Italy, this is the Italian army."

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

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Though it is true that we cannot make this army into an effective fighting force, without the help of the Allies, this must not be adduced as an excuse to relieve us of our own responsibilities. It is still for us to play the principal part; we must do things on our own initiative without waiting for others to remind us of our duties.

23 An Italian General's view on the war.

General Pecorelli, who is stationed at Cava, (it is believed that he is on the General Staff) had a long talk with the brother of a usually reliable informant about the present military situation, and said, briefly that "the military situation of the two belligerant groups is not clear; that Germany

3597

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

will give us a lot more to think about and a lot of unpleasant surprises; that there will be a decisive turn in events only if the Allies decide to make several simultaneous landings either on the north coast of France or on the Mediterranean coasts of France and Italy; and that the reorganisation of the Italian army presents many serious difficulties, especially on account of the state of demoralisation and uncertainty which exists among the soldiers and the offivers (C2)

24 Italian Navy.

An Italian Admiral in conversation with an Italian collaborator of PWB claimed that the Italian Admiralty still followed Fascist procedure in promoting only those officers who had faithfully served the late regime and who were known as sound monarchists.

The Admiral feared that the new Socialist Under-Secretary, Domenico Albergo, had been side-tracked to the direction of the Merchant Marine, and that in consequence the purging of the Navy was still further postponed.

FASCIST ACTIVITIES

25 Fascist organisation in Catanzaro and Cosenza.

It is reported from Catanzaro that at the end of April or beginning of May, the Carabinieri in the provinces of Cosenza and Catanzaro arrested a number of former members of the Fascist party. Those arrested included some party hierarchs, and many young Fascists, mostly students. In the homes of those arrested were discovered arms, figures and lists of members of an organisation which was reported to intend to throw over the present government by acts of violence, and return to the Fascist regime (B1)

Unconfirmed reports say that a clandestine radio has been found. Public opinion is reported to be much disturbed at the length of time which the organisation was allowed to function without interference, and is demanding justice for the guilty (B2)

26 Fascist personalities.

Among the Fascists remaining in office of whom PWB frequently receives complaints are Innocenti, formerly Prefect of Brindisi and Capo dei Servizi Civili in the Badoglio Government, Giuseppe Penetta, Director General of public security who at the time of the armistice was Questore

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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27 Reported Fascist demonstration in Apulia.

In the Apulian village of Sant'Eramo in Colle (Bari) a series of demonstrations took place round about May 1st, at which the slogans were "Viva il Duce", "Viva la Germania" and "Viva la Russia Sociale" The PWB informer who reported these events says that the preparations for these meetings were known some time before the actual day. The community, he claims, supported the demonstrations. The protagonists were a group of young men under the patronage of ex-Fascist hierarchs, squadristi and volunteers from the Spanish Civil War.

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

Our informant considers that these demonstrations were caused by clandestine enemy propaganda, which is assisted and possibly subventioned by the Democratic Liberals, most of whom have ex-Fascist records which would not bear close scrutiny at the present time. These people are also annoyed at the exclusion of their party from the new government. The peasants, who have not reaped the benefits they expected from the Allied occupation, are not unwilling that their grievances be exploited by their former leaders. (B 4)

DEMONSTRATIONS

27 Land Demonstration in Sardinia.

On May 1st a crowd of peasants at Oniferi (Nuoro, Sardinia) attempted to take over some land which had formerly belonged to the Commune but which for many years past had been the property of private individuals. The occupation of the land took the form of driving out a number of cattle to graze on it. The private owners of the land protested, and the authorities intervened, trying to settle the question peacefully. Discussions lasted for two days, until on May 3rd fighting broke out. One villager was killed and several severely wounded. The cattle driven on to the land were confiscated, and there were a number of arrests.

The Nuoro Provincial Committee of anti-Fascist concentration was urgently summoned and, on the proposal of the On. Le Mastino, a Sardist, voted an Order of the Day, expressing its disapproval of all "violence and disturbance of the public peace" and demanding an immediate enquiry.

The Communists on the Committee adhered to this order, but the Sardinian collaborator reporting on the incident says that it is not to be excluded that local Communists were responsible.

PUBLIC OPINION

28 Reaction to the new offensive.

The first news of the offensive by the 5th and 8th armies on the Gustav Line has been received with a certain reserve by the population of Naples. It is felt that the terrain is a very difficult one, and that previous offensives have also been heralded with promises of success by Allied generals. This does not mean, however, that the people are not watching our armies with the greatest anxiety, for everyone is earnestly praying for an early liberation of Northern Italy. (C 2)

Reaction to work of new government.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763021

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29 Naples reaction to work of new government.

An Italian observer gives it as his opinion that in local political circles, the work of the new government is followed attentively. But a clear and effective judgement cannot yet be made because of the recent date of its formation. Nevertheless it would seem that much attention and thought has been given to the study of most vital national problems in a most serious and practical manner. He says that, on the difficult question of supplies, Signor Gullo's directive has been commented on with a certain diffidence, because the contributions to the granai del popolo can only be sufficient if great severity is applied to the peasants who hold back stores and speculate, and if administrations concerned (local committees) are formed in such a way as to act efficiently. Certain people think that the said local committees will be efficient if they are formed of a wide representation of technicians and workers.

3596

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

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HEALTH

30 Beginning of the "settimana della igiene" in Naples.

Reports so far received show that the cleanliness week begun in Naples on 8th May has been relatively successful, and the Allies are thought to have conducted an energetic and effective propaganda campaign, to this end, and to have prepared things very well.

Dustbins have appeared at the corners of the strees, the City Cleaning Service has engaged extra personnel, who have been provided with everything they need, even new clothes. The population is said to be collaborating actively, and actually putting its rubbish into the dustbins instead of throwing it into the street. The campaign is being energetically supported by the clergy, who make their contribution from the pulpit. Among other things, a certain amount of rubble resulting from air-raids has been cleared away; and measures have been taken for the disinfection and cleaning of drains. Much has been done to clean up streets which have not been touched for months, e.g. in the districts of S. Toledo, della Sanita, S. Antonio Abate, etc. In the streets near the port, the population is even reported to have provided lids for the dustbins placed at the street corners, and it is suggested that this might be done everywhere, in order to avoid flies. Schools have also taken their part in the cleanliness campain. In one elementary school, the headmistress put up notices telling the children not to throw rubbish on the floor, and not to spit anywhere but in the recipients provided for the purpose. (C-2).

Another source states that the chief thing which has attracted the attention of the common people to the campaign has been the hospital waiting room overflowing with people waiting to be vaccineted, a large percentage of whom are from the working classes.

The same source states that a gread deal in connection with the campaign for cleanliness remains to be done in the markets and food shops. There should be street-sweepers in all the markets, to avoid leaving refuse all over the ground for people to trip over. Likewise something should be done about the way food is exposed in the shop entrances, covered with dust and flies, or is sold immediately after being dropped on the ground. (C-2).

31 Smallpox in Taranto.

Recently five cases of smallpox broke out in Taranto. Two of them ended fatally. As a result all schools were ordered to be closed. It is believed that the disease was spread by a child who contracted it through contact with Indian soldiers [illegible] in a local

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

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32 Child Welfare.

An Italian collaborator of P.W.B. Bari, points out that since the collapse of organisations which, under Fascism, looked after child welfare, nothing is being done for the children. Apart from under-nourishment and the alarming increase in juvenile deliquincy, children are, in the country, being exploited by unscrupulous employers and made to do work much too heavy for their age. (B-3).

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ECONOMIC

33 Interview with the Minister of Agriculture 5.5.44.

The Minister, Signor Gullo, discussed with P.W.B. officers the measures for securing the full benefit of this year's harvest for the people. He said that the good weather gave promise of a bumper crop in spite of a lack of fertilisers. It was most essential that a due proportion of this should be collected in the granaries of the people. A propaganda campaign to achieve this was highly desirable. Marshal Badoglio had already made a statement and he thought that it would be an excellent thing to follow this up with other declarations made by himself and the Minister of the Interior.

One necessary expedient to persuade the farmer to yield his quota of grain to the granary was to fix an adequate price. There were two considerations to be taken into account. The price must cover the cost of production, but must not be so high as to cause inflation, as it must be remembered that the price of all commodities was influenced by the price of wheat. A survey of production costs had revealed considerable dissimilarities, ranging from 700 lire per quintal in Sardinia to 2,500 in Sicily, but in spite of this there must be a single price for all regions, otherwise the grain would tend to accumulate in the regions where the prices was highest.

It was expected that this year's yield would amount to 18 million quintals. Of this, three millions must be subtracted for seed, leaving 15 million quintals. The agricultural population of Liberated Italy amounted to about 7½ millions and would absorb about 12 to 13 millions, leaving about 2 to 2½ millions for the urban population of about 7 millions. Commenting on these figures, Signor Bergami, Under-Secretary of the Ministry stated that they could only be approximate as no census of Liberated Italy had been taken and there had been a great displacement of the population owing to the war. Under the existing agreements agricultural labourers (braccianti) would receive two quintals for each member of their family, other categories; freeholders and tenants, from one to one and a half quintals per capita (including their wives and dependents). Commenting on the disparity of the allocation to the urban population and the agricultural workers, Signor Bergami expalined that unless the latter were granted a full sufficiency for their personal needs they would refuse to work. In any case . their grain production was to be made at the mills where they would have to fill a declaration of the amount of wheat presented by them, for grinding and milling facilities would only be afforded to those who had been grated a permit. If the harvest should be poor the agricultural workers would be made to give up some of their share on the basis of their milling declaration form.. Roughly speaking and taking account both wheat and barley crops, the urban population would receive about

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789621

of the people. A propaganda campaign [illegible] desirable. Marshal Badoglio had already made a statement and he thought that it would be an excellent thing to follow this up with other declarations made by himself and the Minister of the Interior.

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With regard to propaganda, Signor Bergami declared that his policy would have to vary according to the amount of the crop.

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

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54 Doubts on the new grain campaign.

The recent government declaration has, it is said, left credit experts on the subject perplexed and sceptical. They maintain that the country people have by now lost all confidence in the paper money. Without very severe measures of compulsion of which no official mention was made, it is thought unlikely that all the agricultural produce will be handed in to the pools. (C-3).

55 Reaction to "granai del popolo".

A report from Bari says that in spite of the pessimists and the apprehensions of the dishonest, the "granai del popolo" project has been received with enthusiasm by the agricultural masses of the area. A meeting of the agriculturalists has been announced for the 16th to study the problems raised by Gullo's attempt. (B-2).

36 Black market prices in Salerno at the end of April.

Flour	140 lire per kilo
Pasta	140/160 lire per kilo
Bread	100 lire per kilo
Beans	150 lire per kilo
Ceci	120 lire per kilo
Potatoes	40 lire per kilo
Oil	150 lire per litre
Lard	200 lire per kilo
Beef	220 lire per kilo
Cream cheese	100/110 lire per kilo (at manufacturers)
Butter	170/180 lire per kilo (at manufacturers)
Eggs	13/15 each
Sugar	200 lire per kilo

(For Naples Black Market prices at same date see "Consolidated Report on Conditions in Liberated Italy" No. 17, dated 1 May.)

37 Prices in Sardinia:

The following food and clothing prices are quoted in Sardinia from various civilian sources (not verified):

Olive Oil	150/300 lire per litre
Sugar	200/300 lire per kilo
Coffee	900 lire per kilo
cheese (fresh)	60/80 lire per kilo
cheese (dry)	25/120 lire per kilo (depending on type)
Bread	120 lire per kilo

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

(C-3).

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Bread	120 lire per kilo	
Potatoes	30 lire per kilo	

Men's shoes	1500/3000 lire per pair	
babies shoes	300 lire per pair	
dress	7000	
suit of clotnes	7000/0000	

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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38 Conditions in Capri.

An Italian informant who has visited Capri reports that similar high prices obtain there as in Naples:-

Pasta	Lire	280
Fish	Lire	300
Oil	Lire	260
Wine	Lire	60 a litre
Cigarettes	Lire	45 for 20

There is an important exception: bread is so well controlled by the police that there is none on the Black Market. The small population enjous a certain prosperity because of the great influx of troops on the island and is on excellent terms with the Americans in coltrol. In the devit balance; it is reported that the same civil authorities and police are in office as under the fascist period of German occupation. (C-2).

39 Decrease in circulation of money in Province of Salerno.

It is reported that in recent weeks there has been a considerable decrease in the money in circulation and a noticeable contraction in the spending power of the population..In other words previously the people, especially the common people, were spending money without any limits, whereas for the past few weeks, shopkeepers have noted a definite decrease in the amount of money spent. This fact is said to be due to the suppression and reduction of the Black Market, which is in its turn attributed in great part, to the distribution of foodstuffs by the Allied authorities. (C-2).

40 Sale of sweets, cakes and soft drinks forbidden.

An AMG order dated 6th May, 1944, forbids the sale of sweets, cakes, soft drinks, ice-cream and any form of sweetstuff containing any of the following ingredients: sugar, butter, milk, eggs, wheat flour, cocoa, coffee and chocolate.

Anyone disobeying this order will be liable to a fine or imprisonment, and the goods in question will be sequestrated and/or the shop selling them will be closed.

This order becomes effective on 15th May.

41 Conditions in Caserta.

The economic situation is not wholly unsatisfactory since the Allies provide employment. Some of the Allied troops, particul

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

Oil.....Lire 260
Wine.....Lire 60 a litre
Cigarettes.....Lire 45 for 20

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The economic situation is not wholly unsatisfactory since the Allies provide employment. Some of the Allied troops, particularly the Americans, give a lot of their rations unofficially of course, to the population.

Here as elsewhere the Black Market flourishes, in spite of the co-operation of the local authorities with AMG. Forged AMG passes to cross the Volturno are sold for 3000 lire.

Since there is practically no electricity only a few people can listen to the radio, but those who do prefer the BBC.

There is a demand for publications, which are not widely distributed in the towns.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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41 The Prefect of Naples hands over a bakery.

The action of the Prefect of Naples in taking over a badly run bakery from its incapable owner and handing it to a group of unemployed workers was very well received, according to reports. It would be an example and a stimulus to other factories and shops. (C-2).

42 Interview with the Minister of Industry and Commerce 8.6.44.

Interviewed by a P.W.B. officer, the Minister, Signor Di Napoli, (Socialist) stated that his office was still in process of reorganization, and that he was making enquiries as to industrial conditions through the local government offices. Most of the industries that were to be reactivated were to serve the Allies in their campaign by reducing the tonnage of war material to be brought from overseas and thus afford more shipping space for food and other vital supplies. He also hopes to re-establish the textile and leather production to provide clothing and shoes which are so badly needed by the Italian population. With regard to the heavy industries, the ironworks had in the main been smashed up by bombing from the air and German sabotage, but the sulphur mining should be able to recommence very shortly. Questioned about the possibility of exports, he replied that at the present moment there was such a shortage of raw material, and such a demand for goods within the country, that for the time being, at any rate, it was out of the question.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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APPENDIX I

PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

1. The U.S. Government.

The publication of "Come funzione il Governo degli S.U." is reported to have been very well received. The Italians had no clear idea of how the government works in the United States, and many believed it to be a large-scale, unscrupulous commercial organization. For example, rhe fact that a judicial body, the Supreme Court, has the function of watching for possible breaches of the Constitution has created some surpise, since it had not been imagined that "the America of Brigands and speculations possesses such institutions." (B-2).

2. Italian prisoners and documentaries.

Italian audiences according to information received disspprove very strongly of Allied documentaries showing Italians surrendering. At a cinema of Salerno a few days ago whistles and protests occurred and were repeated when Allied troops were seen marching past immediately afterwards. (C-2).

3. Tribute to Allied propaganda.

An Italian collaborator of P.W.B. Bari expresses his scorn for the party newspaper, as being run by men of no great value "with no other aim but that of reaching, with acrobatic leaps, the high ranks of the government." Allied press and propaganda, in the opinion of this collaborator, are carrying out a great work of social justice by injecting spirit into the Italian masses, and giving them a sense of national dignity. This is understood by the people, who are beginning to regard themselves as allies, in spite of the lack of recognition by the Allies nations.

The people attend Allied film showings with interest. In this collaborators opinion, this means of propaganda has an excellent effect.

4. Suggestions for l'Italia Combatte programme.

The following suggestions for the radio programme - l'Italia Combatte - dedicated to resistance in German-occupied Italy, have been received from an Italian officer who belonged to a band of patriots in Piedmont and who arrived in Naples in February.

"It would be most effective from the propaganda point of

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"It would be most effective from the propaganda point of view if some patriot coming from the North, could frequently speak to his comrades, since only one who has lived and fought at their side can content them, satisfying them in their desires. A great deal of propaganda encouraging these unknown soldiers should be chosen, so that they may continue to fight with a blind faith against the invader and the Fascist traitors.

Sometimes the families of patriots should be addressed so that they may bear with courage the distance from their dear ones who have joined another family which is no less than their own.

3593

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 780021

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"It is necessary to address above all Italians from the North, so that they may help the patriots in every way possible; make them understand that these Italians are the best and the most worthy of their country. Make them understand that on the help they receive from the civil population will depend to a great extent the result of their fighting. In this case, without giving the names of places, one could allude to the importance of the help given by civilians for the victorious result of an action.

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

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APPENDIX I

CONDITIONS IN ISCHIA.

The following notes come from a P.W.B. officer who recently visited the island of Ischia.

The chief problem of the island, like that of its smaller neighbour Procida, is the enforced idleness of the fishermen, who, numbering as they do about 5,000, represent, with their families a considerable part of the population. Since the arrival of the Allies, severe prohibitions have been imposed on fishing, especially at night. In consequence, the men, their gear and boats, lie inactive, the island has been depirived of a valuable source of food supply andof income, and widespread distress has resulted among this section of the islanders. There are, of course, good security and military reasons for the ban on fishing, but it is not easy to convince the fishermen of this. They claim that it should not be impossible to reconcile military necessity with an imperative local need, and are asking that a narrow, well-defined zone of the coast should be allotted to this important source of livelihood. Proper safeguards for all, it is asserted, should not be difficult to organise.

Captain John Whyte, the Governor of the island, is, in any case, fully acquainted with the various aspects of theproblem, and is neglecting nothing that will help to solve it. Until the tide of war recedes further north, however, a satisfactory solution may be found impossible to reach. Meantime the fisnermen are, on the whole, displaying commendable patience, though it has recently been dound necessary to impose fines up to 15,000 lire each, on men who were caught fishing in prohibited zones..

Agriculture, chiefly wine growing, is the greatest activity of the island, and fortunately, it has been less affected by the war. Here again, however, complaint is made that sufficient fertilisers chiefly sulphate and sulphur, are lacking. There is also a demand for better transport facilities with the mainland.

The health of the population appears to be reasonably good, and there have been no epidemics. Medicines are said to be scarce. As was to be expected, there is evidence of under-nourishment.

Owing to the shortage of foodstuffs (rations are on the same scale as on the mainland) a black market exists. On this subject the local weekly news-sheet wrote on April 23rd as follows. "If to the 100 grammes of various foodstuffs weekly could be added 100 grammes

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

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Owing to the shortage of foodstuffs (rations are on the same scale as on the mainland) a black market exists. On this subject the local weekly news-sheet wrote on April 23rd as follows. "If to the 100 grammes of various foodstuffs weekly could be added 100 grammes of pasta and 30 grammes of olive oil daily: if, besides acting energetically in the places where goods are consumed, action could be taken in the centres of production, by requisitioning the harvests and distributing them equally and quickly: and if the traders were given permission to buy freely and the possibility of transporting goodstuffs from one region to another, by sea and by land, the civil population would no longer find it necessary to resort to the black market, the end of which would be quick and definite".

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Typical prices on the black market at the end of April were: bread 130/160 lire a kg: pasta 160/200: oil 200/250 a liter: wine up to 50 lire a liter (the official fixed price is 30 lire): flour 180/200: meat 250: fish 70/130: beans 180: cheese 350/400. lire a kg.

A cup of coffee costs 10 lire, Italian caramels 32/40 lire an hectogramme, pastries 15 lire each, oranges 28/30 lire a kg., apples 40 lire a kg.

The electricity station is working regularly and current is available from 6 to 8 a.m., from 1 to 2 p.m. (which enables islanders to listen to radio programmes), and from dusk to about midnight. The water supply is good and plentiful and the public fountains are functioning. Amusements are scarce, but at least one cinema opens for the locals, the charge being 8 lire. Demands have been heard for the reopening for the coming summer of at least some of the bathing beaches and establishments.

A weekly news-sheet, "Ischia Nuova", has been published regularly since Nov. 27th last, and is edited by Vincenzo Telese.

A motor-bus service links some of the chief centres of the island.

Most of the schools have been reopened and are crowded with scholars.

A committee of National Liberation has been organised. Politics do not, however, appear to claim much of the interest of the islanders. The Christian Democrats and Liberals are stated to have the most followers, while the Communists are said to be weak. There is a currants sympathetic to the monarchy, but the majority of the people are believed to be against the king, although favourable to Badoglio.

After the first inevitable shock of the occupation, relations between the islanders and the Allies troops, who are mostly British have been, on the whole, excellent. It has been found advisable for the benefit of all concerned to place restrictions on the opening hours of bars, cafes and inns. From May 1st these establishments can sell alcoholic beverages only from midday to 2p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. when they must close.

Personalities: Governor: Captain Johny Whyte (British).
British Naval Commander: Lt. Commander Gibbon

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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1178

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
Psychological Warfare Branch
APO 512 Unit No8

D Section, Italy (Lib.)

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO 18

Part 1 Summary

The different ministers have started to grapple with the problems of administration that confront Liberated Italy. Although it is undoubtedly true that some Ministers are finding that it was much easier to criticise from outside than it is to act inside the government, they are devoting their attention to their respective problems with a zest and energy totally lacking in the previous government. The Ministers now realise the enormous difficulties which face any government in Italy, but they are supported by their party organizations and have the advantage of being backed up by the party newspapers. Thus newspapers throughout Liberated Italy, which were formerly engaged on a sterile and negative controversy with the government, have now almost unanimously come into line to lend their support to the new government. This support serves as a valuable reinforcement to any official campaign carried out by radio or press in favour of administrative measures. In fact the popular support which was withheld from the previous government is now being given to the present one. This represents one of the greatest gains of the new government.

The decision reached by the Cabinet at its meeting on Thursday May 5th, to persuade the producers to deliver their grain to the "granaries of the people" is backed by popular support throughout the country, and from all reports should be successful. It is hoped to gather 45% of the grain harvest in the central pools. In 1943, under Fascism, only 16% in Sicily, 27% in the territory South of Salerno, and 8% in Campania were gathered. The Fascist system of ammasso was very unpopular with the producers, and in order to overcome their hostility the producers will now form part of advisory committees set up to collaborate with the public officials responsible for the collection of the grain. A higher price will be fixed for the grain, and it is hoped that this will serve as an incentive for the producer to send his grain to the central pools.

The Cabinet also decided to appoint Adolfo Omodeo, Minister of Education, president of a Commission of Epuration. It seems that Omodeo will only be concerned with those Fascists employed by State

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The Cabinet also decided to appoint Adolfo Omodeo, Minister of Education, president of a Commission of Epuration. It seems that Omodeo will only be concerned with those Fascists employed by State or semi-State organizations. It is reported that Count Sforza has been asked to preside over a central Committee of Epuration but it is not yet known whether he will accept the post.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789021

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The Cabinet also decided to suppress the Ministry of Exchange and Currency and the Ministry of Popular Culture. The Ministry of the Interior will be responsible for the press, the Ministry of Communications for the tourist industry and the radio, the Ministry of Education for the cinema and theatre. The question of raising the salaries of government officials was also examined.

The Executive Junta (formed at the Bari Congress) dissolved itself on Saturday May 6th, in view of the fact that it had carried out its mission.

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In an interview with a P.W.B. officer Aldisio, the Minister of the Interior, said he considered the purging of the administration of Fascist elements as one of the most important functions of the government. But he added that it was difficult to find trained administrators in this part of Italy who were not Fascists. It was possible, of course, to nominate members of the different parties, but he himself was opposed to political appointments for administrative posts. He said the press office would come under the control of Salerno, the Socialist Under-Secretary of State for the Interior.

In an interview with a P.W.B. officer Quintieri, the Minister of Finance, said he hoped to tax agricultural producers at source and to grant a large rebate on the amount of produce brought to Central pools. This would serve as an incentive to the producers to send their wheat to the pools.

Signor Montanari, Marshal Badoglio's private secretary, told P.W.B. officers that it had been decided to re-organise the press office, and that an office would be set up to deal with foreign correspondents.

Reports continue to be received showing that the new government has been favourably received throughout Italy, although disappointment continues to be expressed in both Sardinia and Apulia that there are no representatives in the government from those areas. The opinion of many people is that the government will be judged by its achievements. The Democratic Liberal Party has been gravely weakened in Apulia by the formation of the new government, and it is reported that many members are anxious to join the Liberal or Action parties. The Partito d'Unione is critical of the government, and its newspaper, L'Unione, questions whether the Committees of Liberation really represent the Italian people.

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

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It is reported from Apulia that the upper clergy in that region are favourably disposed towards Communism. They believe that Communism has evolved, and has become more tolerant of Christianity. They feel that a Communist regime would allow greater freedom to the Church than a Liberal Democracy, and the democratic parties have laid great emphasis on the importance of the lay state. It seems, too, that it is easier for the Upper Clergy to effect the psychological change from one authoritarian regime to another than it is from an authoritarian regime to a democratic one.

The interview granted by the Prince of Piedmont to the Times, in which, among other things, he said that the Italian people did not oppose Mussolini's declaration of war in 1940 and that he doubted whether the Italian people were ready for liberty, has created a minor scandal. The Party of Action newspaper has attacked the indiscretion of the Crown Prince, and Croce has replied to his statements in an interview to the Times. It is also know that Count Sforza and other members of the government are indignant.

The Communist and Socialist parties met at Salerno on May 3rd. It is reported that the object of this meeting was to achieve greater unity between the two parties in following a common policy within the government.

It is reported that monarchists are prepared to support the government in its prosecution of the war, but at the same time they would exert themselves to procure votes for the forthcoming Constituent Assembly, so that the institution of monarchy might be preserved.

Detailed information has been received about the morale of Italian troops both at the front and behind the lines. While morale is high at the front, it is not so good behind the lines. Relations between Italian soldiers and the Allies at the front are described as excellent. There is a need for reading matter in Italian for these troops, and it is suggested that free copies of the Risorgimento be distributed to them. It is also reported that the active part being played by Italian troops at the front seems to arouse little enthusiasm among the local population. It is suggested that more publicity be given to the part played by the Italian Armed Forces in the war. A report from Lecce says that the political parties and others are sensitive to the Allied treatment of Italian troops for labour duty. It is considered that these troops should not wear uniform.

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

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It is reported from Bari that there has been a diminution in the buying and selling of goods stolen from the Allies. The phrase "to the gallows with them" has been scribbled over Allied posters giving sentences against Black Market profiteers in Naples. The suggestion would seem to be that the Allied authorities have been too lenient.

May Day was celebrated in Bari at the Headquarters of the Postal and Telegraphic workers. About a thousand workers were present. They were addressed by representatives of the Liberal, Christian Democrat, Action, Socialist and Communist parties. There is also an account of the celebration of May Day at Sassari. At Lecce, General Orlando, the Minister of War, attended the May Day celebrations.

Demonstrations of an economic nature took place in the province of Messina towards the end of April. They appear to have been organised and not spontaneous.

Fascists are reported to be countering Socialist and Communist propaganda encouraging Italians to take part in the war against Germany by saying that they have fought the wars they wanted. Now it is the turn of the Socialists and Communists to fight their war.

It is reported that Radio Bari continues to be criticised. "Italia Combatte" is appreciated, but it is objected that it is broadcast at too late an hour for many people to listen to it. Suggestions for the improvement of Radio Naples are also included. It is pointed out that Italians should be told the meaning of democracy. What are the advantages which a democracy brings to a country. Radio Naples is criticised for being too cold. Reports on the reception of Allied Radio stations in Calabria and on the riots in Castrovillari are attached.

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

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