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P/S REPORTS, ELBA
SEPT. 1944

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 ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
 ISLAND OF ELBA

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 Rio Marina,
 14th September 1944
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SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO: Public Safety Subcommission,
 Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army.

POLICE AGENTS. A separate report has been submitted respecting the Carabinieri asking for a wholesale transfer of as many as possible. At the moment there is a tendency to transfer CC.RR to the mainland and not to replace them. I have given instructions that I will not permit any more CC.RR to leave the island until replacements arrive. With the imminent departure of the French garrison it is essential that the CC.RR must be strong and it is again urged that either these be reinforced or else a small garrison of Italian military be placed on the island.

The strength of the other police agencies has been maintained. A courier service has been established between the island and the mainland and the Police agencies have been able to contact their Headquarters.

There is some discontent amongst Police Agents by reason of the fact that the CC.RR are now receiving a military food ration. This is at a bigger scale than the civilian ration which all other Police agents are receiving. A separate report and request has been submitted and it is requested that early attention be given to the subject of rations for police agencies.

PRISONERS. There is nothing further to report on this subject. A separate report has been submitted respecting the Director of the Penitentiary at Porto Longone and instructions are awaited.

A new scale of rations for prisoners has been received by the Supply Officer, but owing to the isolated position of the island of Pianosa and the lack of boats I have not visited the island since the ration was started to obtain the reactions of the prisoners to it.

FIRE BRIGADE. There have been no fires during the month. The Brigade are assisting the Portoferraio authorities in the clearance of debris and use is being made of the pump for the recovery of boats sunk in the harbour.

MILITARY. The garrison troops of the island are not causing much trouble and there are practically no complaints now of misbehaviour.

SECURITY POLICE. The strength of this section has been reduced and they are not very active. Since the last monthly report a list of people arrested on security grounds has been submitted. As far as is known no further arrests have taken place.

MILITARY POLICE. These are cooperating satisfactorily. A unit at the Port of Rio Marina are doing good work in the checking of refugees and passengers between the island and Piombino. 6676

PUBLIC MORALE. This is good. There are some vague rumours in the Portoferraio district that when the French troops are withdrawn the Communist Party are going to demonstrate. This is a reason why representation has been made for reinforcement of the CC.RR. and for Italian garrison troops.

There are no meetings or disturbances of any kind at present and the public are very well behaved.

CRIME. There have been no serious crimes reported during the past month.

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CRIME. Contd. As was to be expected there is a traffic between Piombino and the island of contraband in the shape of army rations and cigarettes. ~~Street~~ control has been made and searches of boats at the port are made but they are very difficult to detect. One reason is the fact that the French Military Police are also buying these cigarettes as their own ration is very small. American cigarettes are being sold at 120 lire per packet of 20.

CIRCULATION PERMITS AND MOTOR PASSES ETC. Free movement about the whole of the island has now been given. A pass system for travelling to Piombino is functioning satisfactorily.

Owing to the lack of petrol severe cuts have been made in the number of vehicles circulating but the system is working. The French Military make a constant check and owing to the fact that they confiscate any vehicle found without a permit there is no trouble of vehicles being used without passes.

Fishing during the day time at a distance not more than 1 mile from the shore is being carried on, but the catches of fish are not large and do not relieve the food shortage to any extent. Repeated applications are received for permission to fish with lamps at night.

COURTS. The Pretura court is operating in a satisfactory manner. Due to the bad state of communications it is not possible to have many hearings but the Pretura has been urged to clear off arrears of cases as quickly as possible. Capt. Hill, legal officer from Grosseto visited the island and has submitted a report on the Court.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS. The biggest problem at the moment is that of the 2000 Italian military at present on the island. Many of these run into the bush in September 1943 when the Germans occupied the island. They are in a desperate state for food and clothing. A special system of relief has been started to enable these men to buy the rations issued by A.M.C. Instructions for the disposition of these men is urgently requested.

T. Goodagen
Major.

T. GOODAGEN,
Major,
P.S.O. Elba.

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