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REPORTS, LOMBARDIA LIAISON OFFICE
FEB. - JULY 1946

A.C. 14011/10/PS.

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"Report - COMBARRIA - Liaison Officer"

Reports - COMBARRIA - Liaison Officer

10000 / 143/310

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FM FEBR. 46

JULY 46

CATALOGUE

AG/4004/10/PS.

LEAVE AND LIAP.

James

10/11/90
James

MMIA (COOR)

W. L. Hignall

Please see 'A' at Page 2 of 5^A

for your information.

Thank you
W. L.

646

Encl 365.

Pub. Safety.

Notes with thanks.

action taken.

8 April 1966

W. L. Hignall

Hignall
2460.

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Public Safety

(Lt Col Wilson)

Notes. Strengths are being

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m.m.i.A.

Hignall
2460

Pub-Safety.

- 2 -

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8 April 46

Hinghall
21 bol.

MMIA (CORR)

- 3 -

W. H. Hinghall - Please see 'A' at Page 3 of 7th for

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Handwritten note: "Handwritten note"

17 Feb. 365.

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M.M.I.A.

11 May 46.

Hinghall
21 Bol

Send to
13/1

429

RECEIVED WITH L.V. COLLECTION

HEADQUARTERS
LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

Public Safety Liaison Office
Montecatini Building
Via Albaria, 20 - Milano
Tel. 12641 ext. 2041.

APO 394

PS/6.

3rd July 1946.

SUBJECT : Monthly report.
TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, A.C.

GENERAL MATTERS

The elections passed off very quietly with no irregular incidents being reported throughout the region.

Public order was very good both during and after the elections. In this region, up to the present moment, there is not the slightest indication that the initial stages of the new republic will be disturbed by political disorders or attempts to restore the monarchy.

In spite of the continuous decrease in Allied Military establishments in the Area this office is still being called upon to deal with a disproportionately large amount of clerical work. The explanation of this appears to be that Allied Units as well as civilians when not sure of whether they have a local A.C. Liaison Group seem to send both correes; and informants to Milan on the assumption that there is bound to be an A.C. office there.

Correes; which refers to other parts of Northern Italy is also being received from Switzerland, Austria, England and U.S.A.

One of the latest arrival was a very lengthy report complete with photostatic copies from the city of London Police asking for enquiries to be made by a British Police Officer in connection with a complicated and extensive series of cheques frauds. The letter has been passed to the Questura of Milan and the City Police so informed.

POLICE AGENCIES

There is very little new to say about the re-organisation of the various police agencies. Jeeps and other ex-allied vehicles are now being received at every Questura and where they are already in use they are a source of great pride to the agenti.

The re-action of the Carabinieri Reali to the result of the referendum has been most interesting. They are quietly carrying on with their duties and are apparently quite prepared to do their very best for the Republic. There is however very little doubt that there would be a very large number of resignations from all ranks, if the new Government adopts any ill-advised policy of material interference with the organisation of this basic police force.

PRISONS

the overpopulation of the prisons

Montecassino Station
Via Albania, 20 - Milano
Tel. 12641 ext. 2041.

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PRISONS

Very little to report. The problem of the over-population of the prisons has been solved, at least for the present, by the recent amnesty.

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

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RELATIONS WITH MILITARY POLICE ETC.

Relations with all provost and intelligence services are extremely good. There have been no unpleasant incidents between troops and civilians or police.

ARMS RAIDS

The CC. RR. have made 17 raids and arrested 10 people. The arms etc. found included 17 M.Gs, 14 S.M.Gs., 9 pistols, 198 rifles, 475 hand grenades, 15600 cartridges, 31 cases of mixed ammunition, 3 cases and 76 packages of explosives and 134 detonators. Most of the above items were found in one raid in the Province of Cremona.

The agenti di P.S. for the first time made more raids than the CC. RR. They made 20 raids (14 in Milan) and arrested 39 persons (35 in Milan). The arms recovered were however very small compared with those found by the CC. RR. The principal items were 2 M.Gs, 9 S.M.Gs, 51 pistols (40 in Milan) 6 rifles, 69 hand grenades and 2688 cartridges.

CRIME

The crime situation is satisfactory and throughout the region there are indications that conditions are now showing signs of returning to normality.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

There have been no reports of irregular political activities and the situation seems very orderly.

The demonstrations to celebrate the new republic all passed off very quietly. The Milan demonstration took place in the Piazza Duomo which was packed by an orderly crowd which assembled and remained in their places in spite of heavy rain.

STRIKES DEMONSTRATIONS ETC.

There have been a few small strikes but none worth mentioning.

On the 27th a small number of reduci accompanied by about 150 youths staged a demonstration in the centre of Milan. After forcing about 10 shops to close; interfering with passengers in private cars etc. they were very quickly dispersed by the new Mobile Squad of the questura who arrived in their "jeeps" and used their new troncheons. Some of the demonstrators and 4 agenti were injured. There has been no repetition of this form of demonstration.

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J.B. Flintwood
J.B. FLINTWOOD, Major
Public Safety
Liaison Officer.

427

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394
Public Safety Liaison Office
Montecatini Building
Via Albaria, 20 - Milan
Phone 12641 ext. 2041.

RS/6.

3rd June 1945.

SUBJECT : Monthly report.
TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, AC.

GENERAL MATTERS - Throughout the month the impending elections overshadowed and effected everything else. The actual electioneering was carried on at a very even tempo with no irregular incidents being reported throughout the region. The general opinion is that the "elezioni politiche" have aroused much less interest and enthusiasm than did the "elezioni amministrative".

The arrest by Agents of the Milan Questura of 30 members of a suspected neo-fascist organization aroused a great deal of discussion and speculation. One of the arrested men stated that it was planned to kill a member of the Military Police apparently with a view to convincing the Allies that the times were too troublesome for the holding of an election and so securing their intervention and the postponement of the elections.

There was no real evidence to show that this tortuous reasoning had ever been seriously considered or had had many supporters. The Italian police refused to take the matter at all seriously but for a time all troops in the Milan district were ordered to carry weapons and to go about in pairs and guards were placed at all military hotels, etc.

POLICE ADVANCES - The most important event during the month has been the removal of Dr. Papa, Questore of Milan. The logical successor Dr. Le Niccolais, Questore of Como was appointed to succeed him but, unfortunately, was unable to do so owing to ill health. Comm. Dott. Agnolino, Ispettore Generale, Ministero dell'Interno, has now arrived and taken over from Papa. The new Questore is apparently an energetic and forceful personality and seems to be an excellent choice for this very difficult post.

The re-organisation of the Milan Questura is proceeding quietly but satisfactorily. In all the provinces the auxiliaries are being systematically reduced. Throughout the region there is a general mistrust of the auxiliaries and in many provinces a belief that many of them might take an active part against the Carabinieri and Army in the event of any disturbances following the result of the elections. The situation is being very closely watched.

So far as the Carabinieri are concerned there has been a decided improvement in the situation as regards clothing, weapons and transport.

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So far as the Carabinieri are concerned there has been a decided improvement in the situation as regards clothing, weapons and transport. There is still however a great shortage of personnel (877 wanting out of 3575). The morale of the CC.PP. is very good but the very poor rate of pay is causing universal dissatisfaction.

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

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The Guardia di Finanza is functioning almost normally but are very badly handicapped by a really serious shortage of clothing, transport, arms and ammunition.

PRISONS - The heavy punishments given to the ring-leaders of the San Vittore riot have had a most salutary effect on the inmates of the other prisons in the region. There have been no further prison "incidents" since the announcement of these punishments. At the moment there are only 500 prisoners in San Vittore but other prisoners will be brought back as the various wings are made ready for them. At the moment approx. 500 men are working on this prison and the repairs etc. are expected to be completed by the end of July. It is rather ironic that the prison had to be rendered unusable before the Gerio Civile and the other authorities would make any real effort to put things in order.

RELATIONS WITH MILITARY POLICE ETC. - The relations with all G.M.P. and security formations are very satisfactory. In Milan during the month there have been three reported incidents of Agenti di P.S. interfering with women accompanied by allied personnel.

One was completely unjustified and the agente concerned was sentenced to 20 days detention and dismissed. On the 2nd occasion the agente concerned quite correctly stopped and questioned two suspected prostitutes. A third girl who was nearby and accompanied by 2 allied soldiers induced the soldiers to intervene. This is now quite a common practice with these girls when one of them is stopped by Italian police. No action was taken against the agente but the necessary representations have been made to the A.P.M. The third incident concerned 2 American G.M.P.s and reflected no credit on any of the persons concerned.

In view of the fact that many officers and men now have their wives living with them in Milan everything possible is being done to prevent unpleasant incidents. It has been arranged with the Questore that any agent found guilty of unjustified interference will be dismissed apart from any other punishment.

On 15/5/1946 a Tenente of P.S. in conjunction with a Guardia di Finanza shot and seriously injured a British soldier who had assaulted a young woman. The 2 men are now in the Military Prison but efforts are being made to secure their transfer to the control of their own officers pending a decision as to the action, if any, which will be taken against them.

The enquiries in all these cases have revealed that in many occasions the Italian Police when carrying out proper police functions in a completely correct manner are subject to abuse, ridicule and molestation by allied troops. For some reasons or other the Italian authorities are not taking any action against them.

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The enquiries in all these cases have revealed that in many occasions the Italian Police when carrying out proper police functions in a completely correct manner are subject to abuse, ridicule and molestation by Allied troops. For some reasons or other the Italian police are extremely loth to report these incidents. Further enquiries are now being made in connection with this matter and when complete the necessary representations will be made to Area Commander.

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

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ARMS RAIDS - In every province the CC.RR. have shown both zeal and initiative in searching for hidden arms. Two big dumps were found in the mountainous region of Sonirio. One was buried under 6 feet of earth and the other was underneath the cement bottom of an irrigation channel. Two other substantial deposits were found in the mountainous region of Pavia. These were under the control of an auxiliary agente di P.S. who has been arrested. He has stated that the deposits were formed under the express direction of two men who are local communist party candidates in the elezioni politiche. Enquiries are continuing.

In all the CC.RR. have made 47 raids and the items found include 90 machine guns, 79 sub-machine guns, 126 rifles, 734 grenades, 41 pistols, 4 mortars, 507455 cartridges, 253 cases of ammunition, 75 artillery shells, 3037 detonators, 125 metri of fuse, 2428 kilos of explosives, 2 cases of dynamite, 1 case of "Donarit", 22 spare barrels for machine guns, 7 cases of spare parts for machine guns, 500 mortar bombs etc.

The agenti di P.S. have made 15 raids (9 in Milan City) and found 3 Sub-Machine guns, 31 pistols, 8 rifles and about 300 cartridges.

CRIME - The crime situation is satisfactory and in some areas there is a decrease in recorded crimes.

POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS ETC. - There has been considerable political activity but everything has been done quietly and regularly. It is the general opinion that the political elections have aroused far less excitement and produced far less propaganda than did the administrative elections. During the last 2 weeks propaganda for the monarchist party increased very noticeably. To most people the question "Monarchy or Republic?" seems to be far more important than political party.

There are many general rumours of disorders by either Communists or Monarchists according to which side is victorious in the elections.

It is possible that there will be instances of hooliganism and disorder following the results of the elections but there is no evidence and no reason to suppose that there will be any general and organized uprising by either communists or monarchists whatever the results of the elections may be.

B. L. Williams
J. B. FIVEWOOD, Major

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Copies to: Chief Liaison Officer
Capt. Forster
2 files.

J. B. Fennwood

J. B. FENNWOOD, Major
Public Safety
Liaison Officer.

7A

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

PS/6

APO 394

Public Safety Liaison Office
Montecatini Building
Via Albania 20, Milan
Phone 12641 ext. 2041

6 May 1946.

SUBJECT : Monthly report
TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, AC.

GENERAL - During the first week of April the outstanding feature of interest was the final day of the Administrative Elections which included the City of Milan and some of the bigger and more industrial Suburbs.

Nobody had expected, least of all the Italian Civil Authorities, that these elections could have been concluded with such good public order. This was especially commendable when it is understood that, due to insufficient number of Police, the public order at some "BOOTHES" was the sole responsibility of representatives of the C.L.N.

The most serious incident being on 8-4-46 at Erba, Commune of Como, about 500 persons all said to be members of the left parties including many women, justifying there action by saying that there had been irregularities during the elections which had taken place the day before, overpowered the police, burst into the 1st electoral Section and burned documents and ballot papers that they found there. They then took a communist flag found on the premises and paraded through the streets of the village singing communist songs. There were no injured and 12 persons have been denounced including the Sindaco of Erba.

As the count had already been made no re-ballot was necessary.

PELTATIONS WITH MILITARY ETC. - On the whole behaviour of Allied troops is excellent and very few incidents have been reported, the most serious of which is:

on 27 April 46 two English Soldiers broke into a house in Como and after assaulting the owner and her son, stole two valuable fur-coats and other property. Two CC.RR. on patrol stopped their jeep and ordered the soldiers to surrender. One saying that he was an Allied M.P. refused and drew a pistol but was shot and killed by the CC.RR. The other then surrendered and was handed over to the M.P. Section at Como.

It has not been possible to perfect the "road-blocks" on the lines reported last month, due to the civilian police not having either

ALLIED COMMISSION

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It has not been possible to perfect the "road-blocks" on the lines reported last month, due to the civilian police not having either sufficient transport or the necessary equipment in the way of lights for night "road-blocks".

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

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The "Squadra Buon Costume" which has replaced the 59 Area Vice-Squads is operating efficiently with the assistance of the NOO's loaned by GAR.

The great majority of the work done by this office is connected directly with military units and personnel and shows no decrease. All the time there are Public Safety Liaison Officers here, the local military formations will continue to use them to the full.

Relations with all branches of Military Police, PSS, SIB, Provost Coys etc. are excellent.

The PSS have been the cause of a great deal of discontent in Milan and District because of their procedure which is to order arrest on suspicion, hold prisoners for sometimes quite long periods during which time they are not allowed to receive visits from their friends and relations.

If the result of the investigations confirm the suspicion, the individuals are then duly charged but if on the other hand, these investigations prove nothing, they are released without comment or explanation.

The first result of this procedure is to have a larger prison population than at first appears necessary and the second, is to give a wrong impression of Allied justice. PSS however say that they cannot diverge from this procedure because all the "suspects" are a security risk and as such must not be subject to contact from outside sources. No doubt this is an excellent reason but it does not relieve the discontent and the adverse criticism.

POLICE AGENCIES - All Police Agencies are functioning satisfactorily and showing steady improvement but it is always the same old handicap of lack of clothing, equipment, arms, petrol and transport.

The thieves only operate with the best of equipment in the way of transport and arms and have always the choice of time and place for their "coup" and the efforts of the police in the outlying districts, to combat these conditions are sometimes remarkable when it is considered that they are often in the position of having to chase a "race horse" with a "cart horse".

The new Flying Squad "777" operating in Milan under the Questore are doing excellent service and have effected several very good arrests.

The conditions of service and pay was stressed last month but it cannot be emphasized too strongly that neither Officers nor men can maintain

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The new Flying Squad "777" operating in Milan under the Questore are doing excellent service and have effected several very good arrests.

The conditions of service and pay was stressed last month but it cannot be emphasized too strongly that neither Officers nor men can maintain a reasonable standard of living in the face of the high cost of living.

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

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The CC.RR. are still short of personnel, the Region being 640 of all ranks below their establishment and this, at a time when they may well require all their resources.

PRISONS - There has been another serious riot in S. Vittore Prison Milan (see report dated 26 April 1946). The resulting damage to the prison has aggravated an already difficult situation and is bound to have an accumulative effect on the whole judicial system of the district for the following reasons:

- (a) About 950 prisoners, some convicted and some awaiting trial, have had to be transferred to other prisons (Pizzichettone, Varese, Gallarate, Monza) which in their turn were already crowded and their administration is thus made still more difficult and the source of the trouble further distributed.
- (b) The cases of many of the a/m prisoners were already underway and now their "folders" will be required to be passed to other Giudice who will be compelled to make a new start, thus an already slow system will be made slower still.

The Ministry of Grace and Justice has held an inquiry into the reasons of this riot and in the meanwhile repairs are in progress but it is likely to be many months before this damage can be made good. Thus months of excellent work by AMG has been ruined in as many hours. A prison without locks to the cells can be better likened to a zoo than a jail.

A new director has now taken over S. Vittore Prison but it is the confirmed opinion of this office that the previous Director was an excellent man even if not a career man and that no blame for the recent disturbance, can be attributed to him as he had continually brought the prevailing conditions to the attention of the Italian Authorities.

In Milan the serious problem of Juvenile Offenders has again been aggravated as the Security Prisoners which were previously a wing at the S. Vittore Prison, have had to be transferred to the Istituto Beccaria. The hope expressed in last months report that the City Guard Room might be transferred to a newly repaired wing of the S. Vittore Prison, now seriously damaged, has been dashed to the ground. It is therefore considered unlikely that the Military Authorities can be persuaded to evacuate the Istituto Beccaria and thus relieve the problem of Juvenile Offenders.

There has also been a minor riot in a supplementary Prison at Pavia. Order was restored by prompt and forceful action. This "Prison" is not suitable for holding criminals serving long sentences. At present it is occupied by both criminal and political prisoners which is in itself a source of

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HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

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CRIMES - Considering current conditions the crime situation can be considered fairly satisfactory but it is impossible to hope that a Police Force however efficient can eliminate crime until something definite and effective is done to remove the cause of the crimes.

(a) There is still much unemployment especially in Industrial Towns, the unemployed have too much time on their hands which proves the truth of the saying "idle hands turn to mischief".

(b) The cost of living is beyond the reach of the working classes who, if they have to buy in the blackmarket are bound to traffic in the blackmarket which puts them on the wrong side of the law from the start and leads from petty larceny to crime.

(c) Thousands of young virile men have lived dangerously for several years and the monotony of ordinary life leads them to hooliganism.

There have been some unpleasant cases of armed robbery on the roads mostly around Milan City.

30 March 1946 at about 2100 hours on Milan-Como autostrada a civilian vehicle was fired on by bandits who wounded one man and made good their escape after robbing the occupants of all their valuables.

1 April 1946 at about 2330 hours on Varese-Milan autostrada, a English "Liberty Van" which refused to stop for bandits was fired upon with no results other than superficial damage to the truck.

17 April 1946 near Brescia a returning patrol of CC.RR. was ambushed by bandits who opened fire without warning, killing one carabinieri. As a result of this, 4 men have been arrested and charged with murder. The motive appears to have been that communist elements wanted the arms of the CC.RR.

On 18 April 1946 at about 23 hrs. on the Como Milan autostrada an English Major travelling in an Italian Military vehicle was held up by 4 masked bandits. This Officer refused to stop and the bandits opened fire and burst his tyre thus bringing the car to a standstill where he was duly relieved of his wallet and its contents.

ARM RAIDS - This month all Police Forces have returned to arm raids again and have obtained some excellent results:

The CC.RR. have carried out 43 raids, made 36 arrests and recovered:

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HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

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74 rifles
48 sub-machine guns
41 machine guns
24 pistols
15 cases of handgrenades
45 handgrenades
583 cases of cartridges
1380 various cartridges
141 rifle clips
6 complete M.G. belts
30 M.G. tripods
45 mines
173 kilos explosives
21 charges
quantity of radio equipment.

The Agenti di P.S. have carried out 16 raids and made 18 arrests and recovered:

9 rifles
6 sub-machine guns
24 pistols
4 hand-grenades
595 cartridges
10 quintali of various explosives
1 case of detonators.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES - After the feverish activity of March, last month might be called a climax. However, during the latter part of the month there has been a tendency to return to propaganda for the Political Elections.

Mr. Laski visited Milan during the month and addressed a meeting of Socialists where ^{he} was well received.

DEMONSTRATIONS AND STRIKES - Very few strikes or demonstrations have been reported in the Region. On May day there were several processions and the "Red Flag" was well in evidence but there were no incidents reported.

In the early part of April, the Non Career Elementary and Secondary School Teachers in Milan, decided to go on strike because of their low wages compared with the high cost of living. On being assured that their position would be reviewed at the next meeting of Ministers, they decided to resume work.

On 9 April 46 in Cremona some young Communists were arrested for forcing their way into the Municipio and removing the flag of the Christian Democrats from

74 rifles
 45 sub-machine guns
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13 April 1946 there was a demonstration in the Scala Square, Milan organised by the un-employed and reduci. This passed off very quietly.

23 April 1946 workmen of the Montecatini Concern in Milan, staged a strike in protest to the decision not to give them a "Paid holiday" at Easter.

J.B. Forster

J.B. FORSTER, Capt,
Public Safety
Liaison Officer.

Copies to: Chief Liaison Officer
Major J.B. Fleetwood
2 Files.

ACIO/DZ/108.

SUBJECT : Depot of Medicines near Merano.

TO : A/C Lombardia Region Liaison Group,
Public Safety Liaison Officer,
for Maj J.B. FLEETWOOD.10 April 1946.
SWH/gt.

14011/10-9

1. Reference your letter 13/Misc. of 8 March 46 addressed to Director P.S. Sub-Commission A/C. with copy to my office.
2. I have caused enquiries to be made to this end with the result shown in the attached report dated 5 April 46 which is sent to you for information.

*John Lee*S.W. MILLER, Colonel,
Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO.

TO	INIT	DATE
DIRECTOR		13/4
DEPUTY DIRECTOR		13/4
EXEC. OFFICER		23/4
ASST. DIR.		23/4
ADM. & REG.		23/4
FINANCE		23/4
ADM. OFFICER		23/4
SECURITY		23/4
CHIEF CLERK		23/4

1 encl.

Copy to DIRECTOR P.S. SUB-COMMISSION A/C.
together with copy of report.

10 April 1946.
SWH/gq.

ACLO/BZ/108.

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TO : A/C Lombardia Region Liaison Group,
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SEC. OFFICER	<i>SWH</i>	23/4
POLICE	<i>SWH</i>	23/4
IN. & REC.	<i>SWH</i>	23/4
PERSONS	<i>SWH</i>	23/4
ADM. OFFICER	<i>SWH</i>	23/4
SECURITY	<i>SWH</i>	23/4
CHIEF CLERK	<i>SWH</i>	23/4

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together with copy of report.

417

ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of Chief Liaison Officer
BOLZANO

COPY

5 April 1946.
GWB/mab.

ACLO/BZ/108.

SUBJECT : Depot of Medicines near Merano.

To : CLO Bolzano.

1. With reference to an article which was published in the newspaper Alto Adige, Bolzano, on the 6th March 1946, headed "Here Merano, good mine for speculators, a very big fire of medicinals in a Bunker near Merano", a similar article also being published by the Corriere d'Informazione of Milan on 7 March, I have made enquiries with the following result:

2. The Bunker in question is a large concrete fort, built by the Italians in 1938 in the Passiria valley, about 15 kilometers north of Merano. The fort, which is constructed underground, the entrance being about 50 yards from the road, was used by the Germans as a large store for all kinds of medical supplies.

3. Enquiry reveals that just prior to Allied occupation of this area the fort was in charge of a German Major, who had a good deal of these supplies removed to Austria by motor transport.

4. In the early part of May and before Allied Troops actually arrived in the Passiria Valley, the German Major is reported to have permitted a part of the population of the valley to take a certain amount of the stores; the remaining material he destroyed by fire, using a type of incendiary bombs for this purpose.

5. From a personal examination of the fort, the tunnels of which extend for about 100 yards into the hillside, I found the concrete floors littered with debris and fine ash, almost a foot deep, and it was quite obvious that a large quantity of material had been destroyed. I also found many metal cases of incendiary bombs, which had been used to start the fire.

6. In addition to the dump referred to above, there is also at Merano a huge medical store (German) known as Feltre Park, which was handed over to the Italian Authorities about a month ago.

7. It is quite true to say that in the past a large quantity of medical supplies, including cocaine, has been stolen from this store and much of this loot has found its way on the market, resulting in an active trade in medical supplies in the Merano area, intending buyers coming mainly from Milan and Bologna, most of them having "contacts" in Merano.

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8. The local Police Agencies are well aware of this illegal trade and for some months now have been very active in this direction. As proof of their activity and success the undermentioned list of property has been recovered since November 1945. (list attached)

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9. There is no doubt that the newspaper article refers to illicit trade in goods stolen from Peltre Park, Merano and not from the Bunker in Passiria Valley, which was never abandoned by the Germans until they had destroyed the contents by fire. It is entirely wrong and ludicrous to say that this had been done by local landowners.

10. At present it is suspected that there is an illicit trade in cocaine between Switzerland and Merano through the Tubre Pass, and local Police, engaged on frontier control duties, are watching the situation very carefully.

Signed: G. W. BROWN,
Captain,
I.O. (P.S.)

LIST OF MEDICINALS RECOVERED AT MERANO
SINCE NOVEMBER 1945.

2 rolls of gauze
 4 boxes containing sealed phials
 5 rolls of gauze
 21 packages containing 8 bandages each
 3 sealed tubes of latten
 1 zinc box containing medical samples
 8 packages containing 50 tablets 0,03 of Aetilmorfin
 10 boxes of antiseptic powder
 4 boxes of Piripher Asta Wehre
 4 boxes Aolan
 1 small bottle containing silver powder
 2 boxes of solu-salvarsan
 8 boxes of neosalvarsan
 5 big boxes of cocaine in phials
 8 small boxes of "
 2 small bottles of oil
 3 rolls of Artkigon
 1 box of pyramidon
 3 boxes of pirifer
 1 small box of cloro-morphine
 31 tins containing oil of vaseline, 30 litres each
 45 kg of russian tea
 20 barrels of alcohol, 200 ltrs. each
 1 wooden box containing an instrument to measure blood
 1 instrument made of a round plate of metal and a ring
 1 table lamp
 1 bed for operation
 1 basin of enamelled iron
 1 basin of metal
 1 box headed "MOTOSCOP" containing 2 surgical knives
 1 syringe of the capacity of 50 cm
 1 " " 10 cm
 1 " " 5 cm
 several rolls of gauze, packages of medicinals, rubber gloves,
 several boxes containing pills and phials of different quality
 some tubes and envelopes containing phials and pills of differ-
 ent quality.
 50 50 kg of pyramidon
 58 kg of Chinine
 14 small bottles of Codeina
 1 tube of vovocaina
 22 phials of insulina
 2 packages of cloritrate

HEADQUARTERS
LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394 Public Safety Liaison Office
Montecatini Building
Via Albania 20, Milan
Phone 12641 ext. 2041

PS/6

2 April 1946.

SUBJECT : Monthly report.
TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, A.C.

The elections have been the outstanding feature of the past month. The C.L.O. organised a team of 12/15 officers who toured various parts of the Region each election day. So far, with 2 exceptions, these elections have been carried out in a very quiet and lawful manner with heavy polls almost everywhere.

At Palazzolo sull'Oglio (Brescia) on Monday 25/3/1946 a crowd of about 100 persons overpowered the president of one of the local polling booths as he was on his way to the Municipio with the ballot papers after the count had been made. His ballot papers were thrown into the river and the crowd then entered the Municipio where they seized and burnt all the other ballot papers. Two communists have been arrested and 12 other persons have been denounced.

The same day at Ieno (Brescia) a large number of persons tried to obtain possession of the ballot papers but they were dispersed by CC.RR. and 13 have since been reported to the judicial authorities.

RELATIONS WITH MILITARY ETC.

On the whole the behaviour of allied troops is very good but there have been a few unpleasant incidents - generally in connection with women.

On 7/3/1946 a drunken American soldier created a disturbance in a bar, then badly assaulted two elderly civilians. He disarmed the driver of a CC.RR. car; tried to drive it away and fired at a Capt. of the CC.RR. who was with the car. The Capt. shot the man four times. He is now in hospital. No action is contemplated against the CC.RR. officer.

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On 5/3/46 the C.M.P. demonstration re. procedure at road-blocks, was held and was attended by several Italian police and army officers and the P.S. Liaison Officers from Piemonte and Liguria. A booklet prepared by the C.M.P. was

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used in connection with the demonstration and is has now been decided that the methods described shall be adopted by all police services in Lombardia. Copies of the booklet have been sent to the P.S. Liaison Officers in Bolzano, Bologna and Venezia. 160 copies have been distributed among the various police agencies in the region and requests for more copies are being received.

The 59 Area Military Vice Squad has now been abolished and its functions are now being carried out by the squadra buon costume of the various Questure. Three M.C.O.'s of the G.M.P. have been temporarily attached to the Squadra Buon Costume in Milan.

The Area Commander has now agreed that a P.S. Liaison Officer shall attend every court of enquiry dealing with incidents where the conduct of Italian police is or may be under discussion. The necessary A.R.O. has been published.

The great majority of the work done in this office is connected with military personnel or interests and there does not seem to be any immediate prospect of a decrease in this type of work.

Relations with the military police, FSS etc. are excellent.

POLICE AGENCIES

All the police agencies are functioning satisfactorily but in every case they are handicapped by lack of clothing, equipment, arms, transport and benzine.

Although the police services are functioning satisfactorily and have recovered their moral, there is extreme and justifiable dissatisfaction because of the meagre pay they receive. There is no doubt that it is practically impossible for both officers and men to live on their pay and the seriousness of this will be fully appreciated if one considers the temptation to which they are exposed at the present time.

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The CC.PP. are also badly handicapped by shortage of personnel due to epuration etc. The shortage is particularly serious in the Gruppo Interno Milen, where there is a shortage of 219 men out of 884, and in Mantova where there is a shortage of 73 out of 341. In this province many stations have only 3

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ALLIED COMMISSION

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men and at two there are only 2 men.

The surge of undesirable auxiliary agents of P.S. continues. In Milan Lt.Col. Beltramo, the commander of the Battaglione Ausiliari and several other officials have been arrested and charged with participation in armed robberies etc.

At Bergamo the enquiries into the officers of the Questura have now been completed and 8 officers and N.C.O.'s have been arrested and charged with murder and other offences.

In the same province another auxiliary agent was found to be the leader of a band of criminals and another auxiliary agent was a member of a gang which carried out a theft of clothing valued at 8,000,000 lire.

When another large and well armed gang was broken up in Cremona province, it was found that 2 auxiliary agents of Milan were members and had been supplying the gang with arms.

PRISONS

There have been serious riots in both San Vittore Prison, Milan and the prison at Brescia but in each case the situation is now under control. The situation in the former prison is still dangerous as there are very few cells with effective locks and order is being maintained solely by the use of firearms.

Arrangements are being made for the transfer of prisoners from San Vittore and Brescia to other prisons. This office is maintaining a strict attitude of non-intervention in this matter.

The visit of the director of San Vittore Prison to 411 Togliatti was very successful. The introduction of the new scales of pay has been suspended and a compromise has been effected with the prison contractor.

The most serious problem is that of juvenile offenders.

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The most serious problem is that of juvenile offenders. There is now no juvenile prison or reformatory available in the whole of Lombardia and juveniles are being kept in San Vittore Prison. During the next month it is hoped to persuade the military authorities to vacate the Istituto Beccaria in

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In view of present conditions the crime situation is very satisfactory and in the border provinces, is decreasing. In Milan city and province the situation is still unsatisfactory with 6 murders and 68 armed hold-ups during the month.

ARM RAIDS

There has been a decrease in arm raids due to the fact that so many police have been engaged on duties at the polling booths.

The CC.RR. have carried out 16 raids, made 9 arrests and recovered 65 rifles, 22 machine-guns, 11 pistols and a substantial amount of ammunition and explosives.

The Agenti di P.S. have carried out 13 raids, made 4 arrests and recovered 46 rifles, 18 machine-guns, 15 pistols etc.

Twenty seven persons have been arrested for unlawful possession of arms.

The response to the appeal of the Prefect of Milan for the surrender of arms has been poor. Very few automatic weapons have been surrendered.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

As a result of the elections there has been great political activity throughout the Region but there has been no indications that any of the Parties have engaged in any irregular or unlawful activities.

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410

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On 16/3/1946 at Codoceo (Milan) a man who was selling "UOMO QUALUNQUE" was assaulted and his stock of papers burnt. On the same day at Pavia a group of ex-soldiers and unemployed invaded the Technical Institute and assaulted a number of students who has announced their intention of holding a "Trieste è Italiana"

HEADQUARTERS
LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

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demonstration. The demonstration did not take place.

DEMONSTRATION, STRIKES, ETC.

On 14/3/46 demonstrations, strikes etc. took place throughout the Region and apparently were organized by the Confederazione Italiana del Lavoro through the local Camera del Lavoro, to demand that the entire "Contributi Sindacali" should be paid by the employers. There were no incidents.

The biggest demonstration was at Milan where the police estimate that between 200,000 to 300,000 were involved. The whole affair was conducted in a very quiet, orderly manner and there were no incidents.

The first recorded instance of a lock-out has occurred at the spinning factory of S. Antonio of Olgiate Olona, Varese. At the moment the situation is quite calm and police have not directly intervened but are being held in reserve in the vicinity.

J.B. Fleetwood
J.B. FLEETWOOD, Major
Public Safety
Liaison Officer.

Copies to: C.L.O. (2)
Capt. Forster
File.

4A

PRISON GUARDS

Ministry of Grace and Justice had reduced pay of
cadet guards i.e. under 6 months service.

Rome and Milan protested and order rescinded.

Present Pay:

Fully qualified Agents : 8,000 to 14,000
lire per month.

Cadets according to
service and single or
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HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Public Safety Liaison Office
Palazzo Montecatini
Via Albania, N°20-Milano-
(Tel. 12641 Ext. 2041)

PS/Misc.

8 March 1946

SUBJECT: Depot of medicines near Merano.

TO : DIRECTOR P.S. SUB-COMMISSION A.C. ✓
C.L.O. BOLZANO LIAISON GROUP
(attn. Public Safety Officer)

1404/10

1. The attached translation of an article published by the "Corriere d'Informazione" of Milan on 7-3-46, is forwarded for your information.

2. The necessary action is being taken in Milan.

For the Chief Liaison Officer.

TO	INIT	DATE
DIRECTOR	WV	14/3
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	WV	13/3
ALC. OFFICER	WV	13/3
CHIEF	WV	13/3
SEC. & REG.		
RECORDS		
ADM. OFFICER		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

J.B. Fleetwood
J.B. FLEETWOOD, MAJOR
Liaison Officer
Public Safety

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A VERY BIG PIPE OF MEDICINALS IN A
"BUNKER" NEAR MERANO

MATERIALS FOR 60 MILLIARDS VALUE ACCUMULATED BY THE
GERMANS-A GOOD MINE FOR THE SPECULATORS-The "Cocaina"
trade between the Alto Adige and Milan

Merano, 6 March 1946

Remounting the Passiria valley, in view of Merano, at left hand of the national road, the entrance of an immense "bunker" can be remarked, which goes on for several hundred meters under a meadow, until it gets inside big rocks. It was constructed by the Germans, some months after September the 8th, 1943, where they brought a huge depot of medicinals, being the result of their "scientific" robberies all over Italy, and of the purchases made, naturally with Italian money, of pharmaceutical materials by the Istituto Militare di Firenze.

It was excellent material, whose value is about 60 milliards lire. The "bunker" had been therefore transformed, for Kesselring Armies, into the "pharmaceutical zone of Merano". The material, before reaching Merano, had been transported to Feltre, from Feltre it was passed for a great quantity to Rovereto and from there in the "bunker". Then, by means of heavy capacity vehicles, it was sent to the various pharmaceutical depots of Army Corps and Divisions. It was formed of complete dental surgeries, radioscope apparatuses, sets of surgery instruments and several thousand "quintali" of medicinals of great value, including cocaina, opium, morphine, insulin, adrenaline, etc. and all Italian and foreign special products.

There was also the great depot of bandage, cotton wool and other medication material, coming from the southern Army. In the underground depot there was also a great quantity of "china" from which quinine was made.

And then came the 3rd of May, the day of liberation. The depot, carefully guarded was abandoned, attracting in this way a great number of speculators, who arrived at Merano from different regions. From the 3rd until the 30th May 1945 the depot was guarded by peasants who, in view of the coming apple crop, thought it advisable to empty all wooden cases, using them to keep and forward fruit. During these days a timid attempt of sale of such materials took place, as well as thefts of "cocaina" but the occasional robbers, fearing possible consequences, threw the "drug" in the Passirio river.

THE "MECCA" OF THE SPECULATORS

403

Then came the summer, and the "trade" spread off to huge proportion in a very short time. Merano became the "Mecca" of stupeficient drugs merchants and the ambiguous world of speculators, who lives on this clandestine trade were attracted there. The "cocaina", sold at Merano at 80 lire a gram, was resold at Milan at 4,000 lire. Then the price

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Of course, landowners and ex German prisoners of war did not give any news on the location of this speculators' mine and continued quietly to draw from it. The black point of the forwarding of parcels was overcome as it was decided to use the "Polizza multipla per collettame" for forwarding the parcels by railway trucks. From the examination of the books of a forwarding Agent of Merano it was found out that during the period between August and November 1945 a considerable number of parcels were sent with the declaration "clothing", "books" and "linings" to various Italian cities. One day, the systematic pilfering of goods, which had cost to the public treasury

.../...

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not less than 30 milliards lire, but which was in the end somehow useful as the so long missing medicinal could be found again on the Italian market, suddenly ceased. The landowners, to whom the field in front of the principal entrance of the "bunker" belong worried because the grass was no more growing under the feet of the motorized "Attila" spread the entrance of the "bunker" with petrol and set fire. The fire lasted four days, fed by the draught created between the principal and secondary entrances, so that many millions of precious material were burnt. Even now an ash bed more than a meter thick covers the "bunker" all over its length. But the trade of "cocaina" is still increasing. It is calculated that from Merano, Bolzano Appiano is still increasing. It is calculated that from Merano, Bolzano Appiano from 6 to 8 kilos of the precious stupeficient were shipped every week. It comes from the cornerers, who collect it among the peasants. The cocaina is also sold by ex German prisoners of war, who had used the money stolen to the Italians to buy the drugs. It also comes from the robbers of the several Alto Adige hospital centres and from the continuous thefts which take place even to-day in some hospitals.

"CARLETTO'S BUSINESS"

The greatest part of the cocaina is conveyed to Milan, where Carletto, the most known merchant - tall, thin and long haired - provides to distribute it to those people who wish to try the "paradisical mistery" at the cheap price of 5.000 lire a dose. But as this fellow sells his goods also per kilo, he asks for large quantities, more reasonable prices, which go from 3.000 to 3.500 a gram.

When the drugs is short, "Carletto" goes to source of it and through intermediaries contacts an old white haired man, who spends his time, like a peaceful citizen in Bolzano coffee houses. This man supplies "Carletto's" depots. He must often go to Switzerland to take his supplies, because now the Milan market requires much more than what Alto Adige can do.

The "Streppa" (the cocaina is known under this name among the "beginners") arrives at Ponte Chiasso probably from Lugano and is sent on nearly always by rail, well hidden in the most unexpected recess of locomotors (often in the transformers cases) and from there it reaches Milan, where it is sold for the pleasure of the visitors of night clubs.

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HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394 Public Safety Liaison Office
Montecatini Building
Via Albania 20 - Milan
(phone 12641 ext. 2041)

6th March 1946.

SUBJECT : Monthly report.

TO : C.I.O. Lombardia Region, Liaison Group AC.

1. The outstanding features of the month have been the remarkable successes achieved by the Milan police - particularly the Carabinieri - and the very high esteem in which the Carabinieri are now held by all sections of the public and press - including AVANTI and L'UNITA'.

The first success came in the early days of the month when Capt. PERRONE, of the Polizia Giudiziaria of the CC.RR. Milan, arrested 6 thieves who had stolen a lorry loaded with material valued at 25,000,000. The lorry and material were recovered and the 6 thieves arrested. They had in their possession 3 sub-machine guns, 4 pistols and 4 hand-grenades.

On 8/2/46 at MASNAGO (Milan) 6 armed men held up 3 bank messengers and stole from them 1,420,000 lire. The local Carabinieri chased the bandits, arrested them and recovered all the money.

On 11/2/46 Capt. PERRONE, after securing admission to a band of four bank-robbers drove their car to the Banca Popolare of BAREGGIO. On returning to Milan the Captain was extremely fortunate to find that the gate of the CC.RR. Caserma in Via Moscova was open. He drove the car into the Caserma where the four men were arrested and all the stolen money recovered. The four men are wanted for other similar offences and they had in their possession 4 sub-machine guns and 3 pistols. For this exploit the Capitano has been recommended for the medaglia d'argento.

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URGENT.	TO	UNIT	
1 DIRECTOR		<i>10/12/73</i>	
2 DEPT OF JUSTICE		<i>10/12/73</i>	
3 FBI WASH DC		<i>10/12/73</i>	
4 SECRET		<i>10/12/73</i>	
SECURITY			

Please initial

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

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On 20/2/46 the Brigadiere and a Carabinieri of SENAGO, Milan, attempted to arrest 5 men who were strongly suspected of armed robberies. Both Carabinieri were wounded and the Brigadiere who was unable to stand was then held up by two of the men whilst a third killed him with a burst of machine-gun fire. Two of the men have since been arrested - and the arrest of the others is expected shortly. These men are all wanted for armed robberies.

On 23/2/46 Capt. PERRONE effected the first arrests in a round up of a large, well organised and well armed criminal band which has been operating between Milan and Como. So far 21 persons, including 2 agents of P.S., have been arrested, and about another 30 to 40 arrests are expected during the next few days. Amongst the exploits of this band are seven armed robberies, in which the total of property stolen is over 100,000,000 Lire.

On 26/2/46 a small number of Agents of P.S. and Carabinieri in Milan combined together to trap BEZZI and BARBIERI, the best-known and most sought after bandits in Lombardia. In the resultant gun-battle BEZZI and his driver were killed and BARBIERI and another member of the gang were captured. Seven other members of the gang have since been arrested.

On 28/2/46 Capt. PERRONE and his men recovered a large quantity of machinery which had been stolen on 8/2/46 from a factory near RHO, Milan, and arrested the eleven persons concerned. On returning to RHO with recovered property Capt. PERRONE and his men were seized by the crowd and carried shoulder high through the streets - preceded by the town band.

The astonishing thing is that the Italian Police are able to do such good work in view of all their handicaps. Unfortunately there has been little improvement as regards clothing, equipment, transport, arms and ammunition during the past month and now that all C.B.M. stocks have been handed over to the Ministero Post-Bellico there is practically nothing left to be used in connection with the

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The most serious problem is now that of benzine. In 402 every province the quantities allocated to the Police Agencies are hopelessly inadequate and in some cases they are farcical.

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

-- 3 --

In COMO for instance the Questura receive 220 litres for the month. During the AMG period this Questura received 3000 litres per month. In Milan the amount the Questura receives, is sufficient for 10 days only.

2. GENERAL MATTERS.

The organisation of this office is now complete. Relations with all the police agencies in the Region are completely satisfactory. All Questori etc. are regularly visited usually about once a fortnight.

Capt. W. WILLIS, commenced duty here on 18/2/46, in place of Capt. Riley who left on compassionate leave. He is now almost solely engaged in the preparation of the case against Giovanni SILVAGNI, ex-AMG employee who will be dealt with by an AMG Court as soon as possible. The ramifications of this complicated case are very extensive, and unfortunately, the AMG Officer for whom Silvagni worked is involved. At least another 20 persons will have to be traced and interviewed before it will be possible to decide what charges can be preferred. It will probably take 2 weeks before the enquiries are complete.

3. POLICE AGENCIES.

There is very little to report so far as the Carabinieri and Guardia di Finanza are concerned. Both are functioning very well but both suffer from the same handicaps - insufficient clothing, arms, equipment, transport and benzine.

One very satisfactory feature is that the Carabinieri are showing no hesitation in dealing with unruly demonstrations etc. even when these have a political background.

During the month the position has improved slightly so far as the Agenti of P.S. are concerned. All the auxiliaries have now been brought under the direct control of their respective Questori and more career officials have arrived.

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Draastic changes have taken place in Milan. The new Questore of Milan (Antonio PAPA) arrived on 15/2/46 and brought with him several career officials from LA SPEZIA. 4 Vice-Questori and 11 Commissari have since been transferred and replaced by new

HEADQUARTERS LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION

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career officials from other places. There has been a general tightening up in all departments of the Questura.

At the moment the most efficient branch of the Questura is the Traffic Control Branch. During the month of Feb. the road blocks of this Branch seized 8 tons of food stuff and 23 improperly used tyres; recovered 9 stolen cars; impounded 22 cars whose ownership could not be proved and secured the "de-requisitioning" of 20 other cars which had been "requisitioned" by various partisans of the formations. 979 persons were reported to the Judicial authorities for motoring offences.

The re-organisation of the Polizia Ferroviaria is still prevented by the failure of the Ministero dell'Interno and Ministero dei Trasporti to agree upon who shall control this force.

4. PRISONS.

San Vittore prison, Milan, is once again a source of trouble. This time the inmates are not responsible. The essential repairs which were commenced in August and were to be completed in 5 weeks time are still not complete. Two complete wings have still to be dealt with and the repairs which have been done in the other 5 wings are far from satisfactory. The locks which were stated to be extremely reliable have proved extremely unreliable and may have already been broken by the inmates.

The Ministry of Grace and Justice have also decided to reduce their per diem allowance for each prisoner from 48 lire to 42 lire. The contractor states it is impossible to carry out his commitments at the new figure. The Ministry has also introduced a reduced wage scale which is effective from 1/10/45. This means that many of the guards are being asked to repay between 14,000 and 22,000 lire to the Ministry. The guards have refused either to accept the new scale or to repay any money to the Ministry. On 2/3/46 the Director of the prison flew to Rome to discuss the matter with Togliatti.

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HEADQUARTERS
LOMBARDIA REGION LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION - 5 -

APO 394

5. RELATIONS WITH MILITARY POLICE ETC.

Relations with all C.M.P. and security formations are very satisfactory. Some cases of police road-blocks in Milan firing at Allied vehicles and wounding military personnel caused great concern at 2 District and 59 Area.

On 20/2/1946 a conference was held in the office of C.L.O. to discuss the matter and arrive at a solution which would afford the maximum amount of safety to allied personnel without interfering with the work of the Italian Police. The D.P.M. 2 District, APM 59 Area and representative of all the Italian police forces attended and it was decided that the C.M.P. should stage a demonstration on 5/3/46 which should be attended by representatives of the Military Police, Italian Police etc. and would establish the system or systems of road-blocks which would be used in future.

The activities of the military vice Squad in Milan have led to much resentment amongst all classes and it is strongly believed that some of the local news papers are collecting data before printing violent articles attacking this squad. In order to prevent any undesirable publicity and the present unsatisfactory position, and bring about a fusion of the agents of the military vice squad with the agents in the regular Squadra Buon Costume of the Questura, I have arranged for a conference of all persons concerned to take place in my office on 7/3/46.

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6. ARM RAIDS ETC.

The Carabinieri and Agents of P.S. are still showing satisfactory zeal in dealing with unlawful possession of arms.

The CC.RR. carried out 29 raids for arms. These resulted in the arrest of 24 persons and the recovery of 3 machine guns, 20 sub-machine guns, 164 rifles, 146 hand grenades, 22 pistols and 540,000 cartridges.

Practically all the arms and ammunitions were recovered in Milan City and Province.

5. RELATIONS WITH MILITARY POLICE ETC.

Relations with all C.M.P. and security formations are very satisfactory. Some cases of police road-blocks in Milan firing at Allied vehicles and wounding military personnel caused great concern at 2 District and 59 Area.

On 20/2/1946 a conference was held in the office of C.L.O. to discuss the matter and arrive at a solution which would afford the maximum amount of safety to Allied personnel without interfering with the work of the Italian Police. The D.P.M. 2 District, APM 59 Area and representative of all the Italian police forces attended and it was decided that the C.M.P. should stage a demonstration on 5/3/46 which should be attended by representatives of the Military Police, Italian Police etc. and would establish the system or systems of road-blocks which would be used in future.

The activities of the military vice Squad in Milan have led to much resentment amongst all classes and it is strongly believed that some of the local news papers are collecting data before printing violent articles attacking this squad. In order to prevent any undesirable publicity and the present unsatisfactory position, and bring about a fusion of the agents of the military vice squad with the agents in the regular Squadra Buon Costume of the Questura, I have arranged for a conference of all persons concerned to take place in my office on 7/3/46.

6. ARM RAIDS ETC.

The Carabinieri and Agents of P.S. are still showing satisfactory zeal in dealing with unlawful possession of arms.

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The agents made 12 raids, arrested 13 persons and found 1 sub-machine gun, 1 rifle, 16 pistols, 20 hand-grenades, 800 cartridges and 780 kgs of explosives.

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In addition 18 persons were arrested for possession of arms which included 7 sub-machine guns and 17 pistols. The returns for the month are not yet complete.

On 17/2/46 the Prefect of Milan issued a decree stating that all persons in possession of arms without authority could surrender them within 10 days and no questions would be asked. No information has yet been obtained as to the results of this announcement.

7. CRIME.

The crime situation is improving and is satisfactory except in the City and province of Milan, where there have been 72 armed hold ups or raids. One man was murdered and another seriously injured as a result of these, and one of 7 persons taking part in an armed raid in a farm was killed.

On 30/1/46 at Chiari, Brescia, two men were sentenced to death and a third to 30 years imprisonment for three murders committed during an armed hold-up. These sentences have given great satisfaction throughout the region.

8. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

In spite of the nearness of the Elezioni Administrative the political situation is very quiet. The general impression is that the Christian Democrats are the largest single party but could be outvoted by a combination of the Socialists and Communists. Fusions of the two latter parties have taken place in Cremona and Mantova.

The only unlawful political activity has been reported from Cremona where gangs of young communists have been concerting disturbances and trying to terrorise persons likely to vote against their Party. There is no reason to believe that these gangs are supported or even approved by the Communist party.

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The senior officers of the CC.RR. of Milan are of the opinion that the Communist and Socialist parties are organizing armed squad which will be used to intimidate persons likely to vote for the right-wing parties. I can find no actual evidence to support this opinion.

Only one crime of a possible political nature has occurred during the month. On 8/2/46 at Bareggio, Milan, the dead body of an unknown man was found by the roadsill. The body bore a notice "This is how we pay those of the S.A.P." (Squadra Azione Partigiani).

2. STRIKE DEMONSTRATIONS ETC.

In spite of the serious unemployment situation there have been very, very few strikes or demonstrations and those that have taken place are of a very minor character.

B. Fleetwood
J.B. FLEETWOOD, Major
Public Safety
Liaison Officer.

Copies to:

Director, P.S. Sub-Commission, AC.
Capt. WILLIS,
2 spares.

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Public Safety Liaison Office
Montecatini Building
Via Albania, 20 - Milan

4th February 1946

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT

To: Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission A.C.

Forwarded for your information.

By order of the Chief Liaison Officer.

J. B. Fleetwood
J.B. FLEETWOOD, Major
Public Safety Liaison Officer

TO	INIT	D/T
DIRECTOR	<i>[Signature]</i>	14/2
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	<i>[Signature]</i>	82
CHIEF OFFICER	<i>[Signature]</i>	
VICE		
IN & REG.	<i>[Signature]</i>	14/2
ISONS		
COMMUNICATES		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

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Public Safety Liaison Office
Montecatini Building
Via Albania, 20 - Milan

4th February 1946

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT

TO: C.L.O. LOMBARDIA REGION, LIAISON GROUP A.C.

1. The predominant impressions gained during the month have been (1) that the change over has been effected very smoothly indeed and with practically no outward sign of any change and (2) that the conditions throughout the region are very satisfactory with the political situation very calm.

2. During the first two weeks very little real "liaison" work could be accomplished owing to the fact that Capt. Riley had not yet returned from I.I.A.P. and I was fully employed clearing up outstanding matters of Lombardia Region A.M.G. and endeavouring to obtain clothing and equipment for the various police agencies from 2 District, C.E.M. Branch, U.R.M.I.T. etc.

3. This latter work was very successful; large quantities of uniform material, uniforms, under-wear, pull-overs, etc. have been released and will be released in the near future. The Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza, Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza and Prison Guards have all benefitted and will benefit from these releases and it is hoped to assist the Guardia Forestali in the very near future.

4. All the provinces have been visited and contact established with all Questori, Commanders of the Gruppi of CC.RR. and Commanders of the Circoli of the Guardia di Finanza. In every case the officials concerned seemed genuinely pleased to see either Capt. RILEY or myself apparently because they have not yet any faith in their superiors and government departments and were relieved to find that they had not been completely abandoned by the allied authorities.

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5. In order not to arouse any false hopes and to give them a clear idea of our functions and requirements a written memo has been forwarded to all concerned.

6. One disturbing feature discovered when visiting the provinces, was that practically all P.P.S.O.s had conducted a "personal" administration in that they had received reports on various matters from the Italian police agencies and had then submitted them to the allied office concerned, instead of issuing instructions on the matter so enabling the Italian police agencies to submit their reports direct and send a copy to the R.P.S.O. where necessary. The result of this was that, with the withdrawal of the P.P.S.O.s, the Italian police agencies did not know what to do with their reports and either did not submit them at all or else sent them to this office. Detailed instructions (copy attached) for the submissions of such reports have been sent to all persons concerned and the position is now satisfactory.

7. It was also found that many police officials were not sure of their position respecting arresting allied troops, arrests by allied troops, revocation of A.M.G. firearms certificates, use of troops in searching for arms etc. and written information about such matters has also been sent out.

8. In order to avoid overlapping of duties it has been arranged that Capt. RILEY will visit and have a general responsibility for the provinces of Bergamo, Brescia, Cremona, Mantova and Pavia, whilst I will maintain a general supervision over all matters and will visit the provinces of Como, Milan, Sondrio and Varese.

In view of the importance of obtaining such clothing, equipment etc. as can be obtained from 2 District, C.E.M. Branch etc. Capt. RILEY, who has already been very successful in this respect, will concentrate on this matter in addition to his usual duties. The arrival in Milan of Major P. COXHEAD, M.M.I.A. attached to 3 B.L.U. means that we will be able to hand over to him the work of obtaining clothing etc. for the CC.RR. and concentrate on the needs of the other police agencies.

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9. The situation as regards clothing and equipment, boots, transport, arms and ammunition is unsatisfactory throughout the region. The situation requires prompt action but unfortunately the Italian Police can do little to help themselves as most of the materials required are either held or blocked by the allied authorities. Capt. RILEY and myself are accordingly devoting as much time as possible to this matter, but it is hoped that there will be a speedy improvement which will enable us to return to more normal liaison work.

10. At that stage it seems opportune to draw attention to the peculiar situation of the Lombardia R. S. Officers. The fact that HQ. 2 District, HQ. 59 Area, and the offices of D.P.M., 2 District, A.P.M. 59 Area, D.A.P.M. S.I.B., 59 Area, and their attendant branches, are all situated in Milan inevitably results in this Office being called upon not only to answer questions upon matters of general P.S. polices etc., but also to deal with matters and to answer questions upon matters relating to places all over Northern Italy.

11. A similar position exists with regard to the Italian police agencies such as the CC.RR. and the Guardia di Finanza which have in Milan the HQ. of groups covering practically the whole of northern Italy. The senior officers of these agencies are frequently visiting this Office, requesting an approach to 2 District and 59 Area to discuss matters which concern not only Lombardia, but also other regions. As stated before, the arrival of Major COXHEAD should do much to alleviate the position so far as the CC.RR. are concerned, but at the moment the position is that the P.S. Liaison Office of this Group is also to all extents and purposes P.S. Liaison Office for 2 District and 59 Area. In view of the policy of gradually centralising all British troops on Milan, it seems as though the amount of work this office will be called upon to do is likely to increase rather than decrease and the apparently inability of 2 District and 59 Area to grasp the restricted scope of our functions does not improve matters. 393

12. The position is being carefully watched but it seems as though it may become necessary to recommend that a P.S. liaison

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officer be attached to 2 Dist/59 Area.

13. The CC.RR. have now reached quite a good standard of efficiency and their morale is high, but unfortunately in practically every province, except Milan, they appear to be too few for the duties allotted to them and this position is aggravated by lack of transport and automatic weapons.

During the last two months there have been very drastic changes amongst the senior officers and the HQ. officers, but, so far, it is not possible to judge the effect of these very drastic "shake-up". It is very pleasing to find that the general public now have confidence in the CC.RR. and regard them - in my opinion quite rightly - as the one body which can be relied upon.

14. The Guardia di Finanza are functioning in an almost normal manner, but are also badly handicapped by shortage of transport and lack of weapons. On the whole the clothing situation is worse than in the CC.RR. and on the frontier it is really serious. In some cases men are sharing overcoats. Unfortunately they cannot share their boots.

15. In every province, except Varese, the Pubblica Sicurezza auxiliaries are presenting a serious problem to the authorities. In practically every province the numbers are far too high, but everyone seems reluctant to reduce them for fear of political consequences. Many of these auxiliaries are completely unsuitable, both mentally and physically, and the general standard of efficiency and discipline is very low.

In no province did I find that the general public have any confidence in the agenti di F.S.; on the contrary the general opinion seemed to be that they were largely either completely useless or elsewhere simply uniformed hooligans who were strongly suspected of being responsible for many of the crimes which are being committed. A review of all these men is being carried out by the Ministry of the Interior and should result in the reduction of the numbers, by dismissals etc., if it does nothing else.

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The position in Varese is better than in the other provinces, because a "carabinieri" questore has been in charge from the first days and has taken very effective steps not only to keep the numbers down to a fairly satisfactory figure (530), but also got rid of the most undesirable of the early recruits and has obtained a large measure of control over the rest.

16. The Guardia Municipali are not really important except in Milan, where they are well organised, efficient in their own very restricted type of police duty. A new semi-private force - Corpo Vigilanza Notturna di Milano - of 1000 is now being enrolled and will replace the Vigilanza Notturna (250). The wages (10,620 - 14,420) are far higher even than those of the officers of the CC.RR. or Agenti di P.S. and this is causing a lot of resentment and undesirable comment amongst members of the CC.RR. and Pubblica Sicurezza.

In view of the difficulty of obtaining clothing equipment, weapons for the existing forces it will be interesting to watch the progress of the new force. In my opinion it would have been far better for the promoters of this new police to have concentrated on assisting the improvement of the existing police forces. It may be that the nearness of the elections has some bearing on this matter.

17. The general crime situation is satisfactory in view of all existing circumstances. In the provinces of Como, Brescia and Sondrio, there has been a general decrease in all forms of crime. In Mantova several hold-ups etc. have been traced to German deserters, who had been living in various country districts for several months. A general round-up of such deserters is now being prepared. A number of German deserters and P.O.W.'s were also 391 involved in a big warehouse-breaking at Vigevano. They were accompanied by a British deserter and some local criminals. Whilst escaping in an ambulance they were fired on by a CC.RR. road-block at Abbiategrasso. The British deserter and 1 Italian were killed and 3 of the others injured and arrested.

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18. Raids for firearms are still being carried out, but few arms are being recovered. 2 District is extremely interested in this matter. Although there is little doubt that large quantities of arms are still hidden, there is not - at the moment - the slightest evidence that these constitute any threat to allied personnel or installations.

19. The conduct of allied troops is generally good, but there was unpleasant brawl between troops, Italian civilians and police in a "requisitioned" bar at Lodi on 27-12-45. The A.P.M. is now dealing with the matter. Relations with the military police and security services are satisfactory.

20. There have been no noteworthy civil disturbances during the month, but in all the provinces one finds apprehension about possible disturbances toward the end of February and during March, apparently as the combined result of increasing unemployment and election "nerves".

21. The political situation is quite calm at the moment and a number of new parties are making their appearance although none are either strong or particularly interesting.

More arrests of neo-fascists are taking place (116 have been arrested so far), but the structure of the organisation is still not very clear. A separate report with copies for the information of Public Safety Sub-Commission A.C. is being submitted in connection with this matter. All the enquiries are being carried out by a special squad of agents of P.S., who are working particularly hard. Unfortunately their efforts were not appreciated by G.S.I. 2 District, who were extremely critical and threatened to intervene and interrogate all the prisoners. The whole trouble was really due to bad liaison between 2 District, F.S.S. and the Questura, but this has now been adjusted and - it is hoped - there will be no more cause for criticism by 2 District. 303

The weekly intelligence summary of G.S.I. 2 District dated 25-12-46, summarises this new neo-fascist activity as follows:

" From the point of view of security to allied troops

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and installations the present danger seems trifling and it is considered that suppressive measures are being adequately enforced by the Questura." I agree.

J.B. Fleetwood
J.B. FLEETWOOD, Major
Public Safety
Liaison Officer

Copies to:

✓ Director, P.S. Sub-Commission A.C.
Capt. RILEY
3 spares

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