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CPS'S MONTHLY REPORTS, 5 ARMY  
JAN. - JULY 1945

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464

EJB/TJM/ewp

3rd July 1945.

REF : 223/2

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for June - Public Safety.

TO : H.Q., Allied Commission,  
(Attn: Public Safety Sub-Commission)

1. There is enclosed herewith, in duplicate, the report of the Public Safety Division, AMG Fifth Army, for the month of June, 1945.

2. The following appendices are attached :-

- \*A\* Forged Currency.
- \*B\* Disposition of Public Safety Officers.
- \*C\* Prisons.

TO		
DIRECTOR		
DEPUTY DIR		
EXEC DIR		
POW		
SEC. AFF.		
POST. F.		
ADM. AFF.		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

For the Commanding General:



THOMAS J. MICHIE,  
Lt. Colonel, AC.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Encls. 2

1230

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

EJB/ewp

3rd July 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for June, 1945.

223/2.

TO : SCAO, AMG 5th Army.

1. The area administered by 5th Army remains the same as reported in the monthly report for May, i.e. the Regions of Emilia, Liguria, Piemonte, Lombardia and five provinces in Venezia Region.

2. Location: No change.

3. Check Line: On 30th June the Army Control Line was moved to the Western boundary of Venezia Giulia Region.

4. Police.

(a) The CC.RR. in all the Northern Regions are gradually being drafted into the various communes. This has taken longer than it would normally have done, due, in many instances, to the lack of NCOs. This is so in Emilia Region.

Generally the morale of the CC.RR. is gradually improving and they are beginning to get a grip on things. The publicity given to the Partisans and the fact that they practically "ruled" the outlying portions of many provinces for some time after the German collapse contributed in no small measure to the lack of energy on the part of the Civil Police Agencies.

The clothing of CC.RR. remains very serious, although occasional supplies are received they are not nearly sufficient and the lack of clothing and equipment seriously affects the efficiency of the force.

Nearly all Regions have now reached the maximum numbers of CC.RR. for their respective areas.

Vetting of recuperated CC.RR. continues.

CC.RR. attached to 5th Army are performing duty in Milan, Bolzano Province and in the 5th Army Hq district at Gardone. In the event of their services no longer being required in 5th Army Area arrangements will be made to transfer them to the nearest Region which is still short of its full complement.

Questura: This branch of the Civil Police Service is also showing signs of improvement. A fairly large number of Agents have been suspended from duty. As is only to be expected the morale and efficiency of this Force depends to a very great extent on the official at the head of the force. In many instances the present Questore was appointed by the local CLN; some of these are very good men and are making a success of their job, others are not good and it will be necessary to replace them, preferably by a Career Officer.

An instance of this is the Questore at Brescia. The man appointed by the CLN, although an Advocate and outwardly willing, was useless from a Police point



of view, very weak and completely under the domination of the local GLN with the result that the Questura department was in a deplorable condition. He has now been replaced by a Career Questore which it is hoped will bring the necessary improvement.

Finance Guards: Finance Guards, although not up to full strength are gradually being reorganised and are rapidly improving.

Lt.Col. Murgia, head of the Royal Finance Guard Mission to the Army, appears to be efficient and is really trying hard to bring conditions back to normal. He is applying for the Finance Guards to be more heavily armed, especially in the Frontier Regions, where he says bands of men are attempting to smuggle goods across the frontier. He claims these bands are all armed with "Tommy Guns" and that in an encounter with them his Finance Guards - armed only with rifles - would come off second best. He was unable to give any definite details, but in view of the fact that beyond all doubt, large numbers of arms were not handed in by the Partisans there may be some truth in what he says. There have been no other reports of this, but RPSOs of Liguria, Piemonte, and Lombardia are being informed for special attention to be paid to the Frontier Areas.

Col. Murgia is also applying, through Italian channels, for additional clothing and blankets for his men on Frontier Duty during the winter months. This is very necessary as their present clothing, although suitable for the summer, would be totally inadequate for winter wear in the mountain passes.

The Royal Finance Guard Alpine School at Predazzo is at present occupied by Italian troops. It is hoped to re-open it again as a Finance Guard School and application has been made to 5th Army for its release for this purpose.

Municipal Guards: In most Provinces this body continues to function with reasonable efficiency.

(b) Frontier Control: Nearly all Finance Guard and CC.RR. are now at their posts along the Swiss and French Frontier. As mentioned above their clothing will need to be greatly increased in view of the high altitudes in which they work. Some difficulty is also being experienced in feeding the CC.RR. as although they are authorised by SEPRAL to purchase extra food necessary the amount allowed is insufficient to purchase at present day-prices.

There have been cases of smuggling of rice into Switzerland from Italy and arrests have been made. It is also suspected that some unauthorised persons are getting through the Control from Switzerland to Italy.

(c) Partisans: Not so much is being heard of Partisans now. The last Parade was held in Bolzano and generally the Partisans are conforming to law and order much better than they did in the early days of occupation.

The special Partisan Police services are still in being but in many Provinces their numbers are gradually being reduced as regular Police services become available.

The recruiting of suitable Partisans into the regular Police Forces continues.

(d) Crime: Viewing the position as a whole, the crime position in Northern Italy compares favourably to the position in Southern Italy after a similar period of occupation.

It is true that at the onset the state of affairs was really bad with political murders rampant. The position has now improved considerably.

In Milan, where killings in the early days might well have been classed as wholesale, during the week ending 30th June, only six were reported. The motive of two of these cases was robbery, two arrests have been made. The remainder were probably paying off old scores.

Similarly in Bologna, the position has materially improved. Murders and kidnappings have appreciably decreased.

An exception to this was at Carpi in Modena Province where a number of alleged Partisans went to a small Mandamentali Prison at Carpi and after gaining admittance by subterfuge, shot 16 Fascists detained there. Enquiry has failed to trace the persons responsible. Special precautions have been taken to prevent any unauthorized person gaining entrance to prisons and guards have been strengthened.

In La Spezia, during the last two weeks of June, 9 murders were reported. In one case three armed men, dressed as Partisans, went to Ameglia, a small fraction of La Spezia and took away three political prisoners who were being held by the local Partisans, saying the prisoners were to be taken to La Spezia for interrogation. The following morning the dead bodies of the prisoners were found near Arcola, a village a few miles distant from Ameglia. Each had been shot through the head and had their hands tied. No arrests have so far been made.

A special Homicide Squad of Civil Police has been formed to work under the direction of the Questore to investigate these murders but little so far has been accomplished.

It will be appreciated that in cases of political murders no one is prepared to give information, partly because they are in sympathy with the killers and even more so because of possible reprisals, if not now, then after the Allied Forces have left the country.

(e) Prostitution: In view of the fact that the VD rate has risen considerably among troops since the cessation of hostilities, concentrated efforts are being made against Prostitutes in all localities where troops are stationed.

Special Vice Squads have been formed to detain for medical examination all known Prostitutes and to suppress all clandestine brothels.

(f) Relations with Military Police: Excellent.

5. (a) Public Morale: Generally good.

(b) Attitude of Public towards (1) AMG (2) Italian Government: The position remains unchanged.

(c) Political Activity: Nothing special to report. In the Bolzano Area the political situation is somewhat complicated. There are two distinct parties in the area, namely, South Tyrolean Party and Italian Parties. The Tyrolean Party is much the stronger as the majority of the population is Tyrolean. Both sides are active, particularly regarding the future frontier line. No trouble has been experienced and the position is being carefully watched.

(d) Strikes: There have been a few strikes in the Milan Area but they have been cleared up quickly without any serious trouble.

(e) Control of Movement: No difficulties experienced.

6. Prisons.

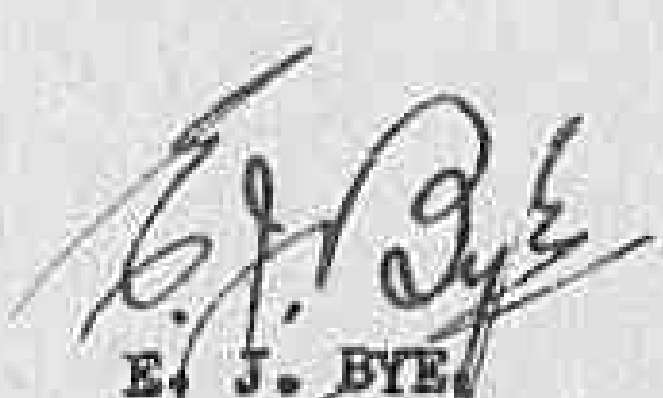
The Prison position remains unchanged. The prisons are still overcrowded entirely due to the detention of political prisoners and in view of the recent decision that Neo-Fascists will remain generally in Italian custody, the overcrowded conditions are not likely to be immediately relieved although every endeavour is being made to speed up the Italian procedure in dealing with cases.

7. Fire Brigades.

As previously mentioned the Fire Brigades are in excellent condition.

8. General.

Conditions generally have improved since the submission of the May report and it is hoped this improvement will continue until conditions become normal.

  
E. J. BYE  
Lt. Colonel,  
Chief of Public Safety,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.



Appendix "A"Forged Currency

No cases have been reported to Army during Month.  
Returns being submitted by Regions.

Appendix "B"Disposition of Public Safety Officers

Lt.Col. E.J. Bye	B	CPS, 5 Army
Major Ronnie	B	Security Officer, 4 Corps
* Captain A.Hunter	B	CAPO, 5 Army
* Captain P.A.Edwards	B	CAPO, 5 Army
* Captain A.G.Mack	B	CAPO, 4 Corps
Captain J. Dunstan	B	Transferred to Emilia Region
Captain R.C. Limbert	B	Patriot Officer

\* Are being transferred to Venezia Giulia Region wef 3rd June.

Appendix "C"Prisons.

Returns being made by Regions.



7A

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

EJB/AES/ewp

REF : 223/2

3rd June 1945.

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SUBJECT: Monthly Report for May - Public Safety.

TO : H.Q., Allied Commission.  
(Attn: Public Safety Sub-Commission)

1. There is enclosed herewith, in duplicate, the report of the Public Safety Division, AMG Fifth Army, for the month of May, 1945.

2. The following appendices are attached :-

- "A" Forged Currency.
- "B" Disposition of Public Safety Officers.
- "C" Prisons.

For the Commanding General:

*Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.*

ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.  
Colonel, CAG.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Encls. 2

TO		
DIRECTOR	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/6
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	<i>[Signature]</i>	6/6
EXEC. OFFICER	<i>[Signature]</i>	9/6
CHIEF OF STAFF	<i>[Signature]</i>	11-5
PRISON	<i>[Signature]</i>	9/6
ADJ. GEN.	<i>[Signature]</i>	
SECURITY	<i>[Signature]</i>	
CHIEF CLERK	<i>[Signature]</i>	

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HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

EJB/ewp

2nd June 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for May, 1945.

223/2.

TO : S.C.A.O., AMG Fifth Army.

1. Since the submission of the monthly report for April the whole of Northern Italy has come under Allied control and AMG Fifth Army now administers the Regions of Emilia, Liguria, Piemonte, Lombardia and five Provinces in Venezia.

2. Location: The Executive Officer, with a small staff, is located at Gardone with Fifth Army CP, whilst specialist officers are with Rear at Salo, about 3 Km south, on Lake Garda, in Brescia Province.

3. Check Line.

The Rear Army Security Control Line has now been moved forward to the following line and is now known as the Security Control Line : "River Piave from mouth to road-river crossing G6494 thence by road to Vittorie Vento B6712 to Piave di Cadore B7562 to Steffane di Cadore B8875 thence due north to Italian-Austrian Frontier".

This line generally follows the line separating the Fifth and Eighth Armies.

The Restricted and Economic Lines have been suspended as from 28th May, 1945.

A Prohibited Frontier Zone has been created to a depth of 25 Km extending along the French, Swiss and Austrian Frontiers. Within this zone the 10 Km rule applies; elsewhere, travel is "free" apart from the normal restrictions which govern the crossing of the Security Control Line.

4. Police.

(a) The following numbers of CC.RR. have been moved into forward Regions since the advance started :-

Toscana Region - Apuania	100
Liguria Region	1,792
Piemonte Region	340
Lombardia Region	1,910
Emilia Region	1,450
Venezia Region (5 Provinces)	720
<u>Total:</u>	6,812

Five hundred (500) reinforcements for Piemonte Region have been signalled forward from Rome and are expected to arrive during the next few days.

Three hundred and fifty (350) CC.RR. and 600 Finance Guards for Frontier Control were sent direct to Milan on 27th May, 1945.

It will be appreciated that moving such large numbers of Civil Police - the greater part of the way by road - involved heavy demands on truck transportation, which was made more difficult by reason of the fact that the trucks were also required for other essential work, i.e. transport of food and refugees, etc. In this connection, I would mention the splendid help and collaboration which this Division received from Lt.Col. Toscani, Senior Supply Officer, AMG Fifth Army, in arranging transport often at a moments notice. Without his help it would not have been possible to bring the CC.RR. forward without undue delay.

The figures so far received of recuperated CC.RR. in the Regions is as follows:

Liguria	45
Piemonte	500
Lombardia	1,486
Emilia	1,079
Venezia (5 Provinces)	1,382
Total:	4,492

These CC.RR. are in the course of being screened and those found suitable will be taken on the strength. The figures shown above are not complete especially with regard to Liguria and Piemonte Regions from whom fuller details are awaited.

Lombardia and Emilia Regions will not require any more CC.RR. reinforcements having reached their ceiling under the 65,000 allocation.

Further reinforcements will, no doubt, be required for Piemonte and for some of the Provinces in Venezia in due course, but Liguria has received 1,170 reinforcements above their original spearhead force and this should suffice for the time being.

Of the spearhead force attached to Fifth Army: 1 officer and 50 men are temporarily attached to Lombardia and 54 men to Bolzano Province, Venezia Region. The remainder are still employed by 4 Corps and Fifth Army. When they become surplus they will be attached to a Province requiring reinforcements. They have done excellent work throughout the advance and have fully upheld the prestige of the CC.RR.

The reception of the spearhead CC.RR. by the local population varied in different Provinces. In some cases they were well received, in others the population seemed totally indifferent, whilst in some cases their reception was bordering hostile. I do not think the feeling of hostility was general in any single Province but was confined to "left" elements, particularly Partisans.

In Milan it was not thought advisable to put the spearhead CC.RR. in the streets for some time after entry on account of the fact that the Partisans received them with a certain amount of contempt on account of the fact that they came from the South.

The appearance of the spearhead CC.RR. told heavily against them as, in general, they were very badly clothed and equipped, and compared very unfavourably with the CC.RR. found in the Regions. This is a deplorable fact, for it was of paramount importance that they should be respected by the population, but this was impossible in view of the fact that their uniforms and boots were, in many



cases, completely worn out. The blame for such a state of affairs rests with the CC.RR. Command in Rome whose duty it was to ensure that the men were properly clothed and equipped before being sent to the North.

A report was received from Major Chappel, a Special Services officer, who has been working with the Partisans in Bolzano and Belluno Provinces since September last, in which he stated he was of the opinion that, if CC.RR. were employed in either or both Provinces, serious trouble, with possible bloodshed, would break out on account of the extraordinary hate of the CC.RR. by the local Partisans and populace generally. In view of this report, I visited both Provinces and ascertained from the PCs and PPSOs that, on the whole, conditions were good.

In Bolzano, about half the communes were policed by CC.RR. and in Belluno, CC.RR. were in every commune.

In the former Province, it was estimated that the population in many communes was 75% Austrian and German, and that, in one or two communes, the presence of the CC.RR. might be resented, at least for a time, but no serious difficulties were anticipated.

In Belluno, the position was quiet and satisfactory. There had been no trouble and none was expected. There is little doubt that Major Chappel had been given a garbled version of the Patriots intentions. However, the position is being carefully watched.

Guardia di Finanza. In the majority of Regions, this force was found to be in very good condition and functioning efficiently. They are all in the course of being screened.

On 25th May 1945, a Finance Guard Mission, consisting of 6 officers, arrived at this HQ from Rome to assist in reorganising the Finance Guards.

One officer has been appointed to each of the Regions of Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardia. The remainder are dealing with the Provinces in Venezia attached to Fifth Army and generally supervising throughout.

Agents of Public Safety. In nearly every Province it was found that the original Questore and Vice Questore had left with the Germans or had in some cases been imprisoned by the Partisans. Meanwhile the CLN had appointed local men to fill the vacancies.

Some of these were found to be reasonably good men and were suitable to carry on temporarily. The Rome nominees were not called up immediately, as tempers were still frayed but in due course it will be necessary to either call forward a Questore from Rome or promote a suitable senior officer in the Regions.

Generally, records were found intact and the buildings little damaged. Screening of Agents is proceeding and many are found whose records debar them from further service. Those suitable are being taken back into service as quickly as possible.

At Valdagno, in the Province of Vicenza, complete political records were found which had been removed from Rome. They were in charge of Dott. Leto, Inspector General of the Questura. All the documents had been carefully filed and were in excellent condition.

HQ, Allied Commission, have been informed of their location with a view to their removal to Rome, meanwhile they are being carefully guarded.

(b) Frontier Control. The 350 CC.RR. and 600 Finance Guards who were



recently sent up to Milan are at present being distributed to posts along the Swiss Frontier. Those destined for the French Frontier are being temporarily held at Turin until the position at the Frontier has been clarified.

(c) Partisans. Partisans have been gradually disarmed throughout Northern Italy.

Parades of Partisans have been held in various Provinces and a very large quantity of arms has been recovered from them but, nevertheless, in every case, a large amount has been hidden, doubtless with the intention of using them if need be against their political opponents.

In the majority of Provinces, some of the better type of Partisans are being employed as Special Partisan Police to assist the local Civil Police Agencies.

Arrangements are also being put in hand to recruit suitable Partisans into the regular police services - other than the C.C.R.R.

(d) Crimes and other Offences. Ordinary types of crimes have been conspicuous by their absence and the position in that respect is good, but there has been large numbers of unofficial executions in nearly all the Provinces.

They have been committed under the pretence, real or assumed, of meting out justice to Fascists, but there is not the slightest doubt it is in reality, plain simple murder.

The root of the trouble is gangs of bandits, professing to be Partisans, kidnapping and executing people, alleged Fascists and others, at will. In addition, particularly in the Provinces of Emilia Region, extortion and black-mailing seems to be the order of the day.

This state of affairs exists more in the small towns and villages than in the Provincial centres, due, undoubtedly, to the fact that few if any Allied Personnel are located in the country. Furthermore, the local Police Agencies are neither sufficiently numerous, nor enthusiastic enough, to cope adequately with the situation. The latter factor is due, in my opinion, to the fact that they are in doubt as to which Party will assume power when we leave and that consequently if they work too energetically against the "Partisans" now, they may themselves pay forfeit in due course. Another aspect is that when the Partisans summarily executed Mussolini and his henchmen and hung them up in Milan, it was generally applauded, consequently, the killing of minor Fascists or persons against whom a grudge is held is viewed as a small matter.

In Bologna Province during week ending 23rd May, 58 dead bodies were found, 11 in Bologna City and 47 in the Province, the majority of the latter in the Northern Sections. Thirty-two (32) persons were reported kidnapped and the probability is that these were summarily "executed" and their bodies disposed of.

In Milan, over 800 persons are known to have been killed. These figures are merely an indication. Many cases are not reported and the true facts will never be known.

As instances of these murders, the following cases are under investigation: (1) Late in the evening of 25th May, a party of supposed Partisans, armed with Tommy Guns and Rifles, arrived at Cologn Veneta, Province of Verona, from Imola, Province of Bologna, for the purpose of transferring to Imola, 16 alleged Fascists who had previously been arrested by the Partisans of Verona Province.

They saw the Vice Commandante of the Partisan Police and later two members of the local Committee of Epuration. The Party were informed that the men

they were seeking were lodged in the Prison at Verona. They then asked if the families of the imprisoned men were living locally. On being informed they were, and receiving the addresses they took approximately 20 of the members of the Prisoners families and interrogated them until 2.30 am when they released 14 and put the remaining six - 3 men and 3 women, which included a girl aged 16 and a boy aged 17 - into a lorry, drove about 1 Km out of the village and then shot them all through the back of the head, leaving the bodies on the bank of a canal.

They then went to Verona Prison, collected the 16 men detained there and returned to Imola. On arrival, in the public square at Imola, a large crowd, which was assembled there, dragged the prisoners from the truck, killing 12 and badly injuring 4.

Ten (10) of the responsible persons have already been arrested and enquiries are continuing to enable the arrest of any others implicated.

The second case is the alleged execution without trial of approximately 16 Fascists near Brescia on 9th May 1945.

Both cases are being thoroughly investigated and provided sufficient evidence is forthcoming, application will be made for the alleged Partisans responsible to be tried by an Allied Court and the maximum penalties imposed. This may act as a deterrent to some of the lawlessness which at present is being practiced.

(e) Prostitution. At the present time the question of Prostitution is not an acute one. The Military and Civil Police Agencies are keeping careful checks in the large towns and taking action in appropriate cases.

(f) Relations with Military Police. Excellent in all centres, but more Military Police are needed, especially to patrol towns and villages where troops are stationed nearby.

5. (a) Public Morale. Generally good.

(b) Attitude of the Public towards (1) AMG (2) Italian Government. The attitude of the public is, on the whole, friendly towards AMG. It is naturally more friendly in the Po Valley than in the Frontier Provinces where the population is largely Austrian, but even in these Provinces, their attitude, although aloof, is not hostile.

Throughout one hears nothing but veiled contempt for the present Italian Government. On the other hand, it is doubtful if any form of Government would, at the moment, be universally popular.

(c) Political Activity. There is little political activity to report. One noteworthy occurrence was the arrest of Signor Pietro Nenni, leader of the Italian Socialist Party, at Vercelli on 25th May 1945, for holding a political meeting there without authorisation of AMG. He was taken to Turin and subsequently released.

(d) Strikes. Nil.

(e) Demonstrations. At about 10 am on 19th May 1945, a crowd of about 1,000 persons, some of whom were armed, the majority being youths from La Spezia and the surrounding districts, went to the main square in La Spezia and demonstrated

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against the King and the Italian Government. They took down the Italian flags from various buildings and finally went to the Prefettura where they were addressed by the Provincial Commissioner and the Prefect. They then dispersed.

At that time there were a very small number of CC.RR. in La Spezia and no military police, therefore, it was unwise to invite a clash between the Police and demonstrators which might well have had serious consequences.

At about 3 pm, the same day, a crowd of 200 persons went to the CC.RR. Caserma at Levice, a fraction of La Spezia, entered the Caserma, disarmed the CC.RR. and took down the Italian flag. They carried banners inscribed "Viva Stalin" "Abbasso Re" "Morte CC.RR." and "Viva Communisti". Later they dispersed quietly.

There is little doubt that both demonstrations were of Communist origin and carried out by young irresponsible members of the organisation.

No further incidents have been reported and the CC.RR. have been strongly reinforced.

(f) Control of Movement. The abolition of the Economic and Restricted Lines and "free" movement throughout Italy other than in the Frontier and Security Zones has considerably lightened the work of Public Safety officers with regard to the issue of passes.

It will be appreciated that the depth of the Frontier Zone will vary in different Provinces as for instance, where a large town is situated within the zone which involves a large amount of civilian movement daily south, the line is fixed to exclude such towns if this can be done with reasonable safety.

(g) Curfew. Curfew is no longer in operation unless required by the Military Authorities. No difficulty has been experienced in this respect.

#### 6. Prisons.

The Prisons in the North are generally in good condition but in nearly every case they are overcrowded with political prisoners placed there by the CLN or Partisans. Committees have been formed in most Provinces to make a preliminary survey of the cases, releasing those against whom there is little or no evidence, bailing the minor offenders and holding only the serious cases. This has relieved the situation to a great extent.

#### 7. Fire Brigades.

The Fire Brigades are, in almost every case, in very good condition as regards buildings, personnel and equipment. They are much better equipped than they were in the South and are fully capable of dealing with normal fires.

#### 8. General.

The situation as a whole, apart from the lawlessness of the alleged Partisans, is good, but a true estimate cannot be given until the hooliganism which at present exists is finally suppressed. No efforts will be spared to bring this about.

*E. P. M.*  
E. P. M.  
Lt. Colonel,  
Chief of Public Safety.

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Appendix "A"Forged Currency.

No cases have been reported during month.

Appendix "B"Disposition of Public Safety Officers

Lt.Col. E.J.Bye	B	CPS, AMG 5 Army
Major Ronnie	B	CAPO, 4 Corps
Captain A. Hunter	B	CAPO, 5 Army
" P.A.Edwards	B	CAPO, 2 Corps
" A.C.Mack	B	CAPO, 4 Corps
" J. Dunstan	B	CAPO, 5 Army
" R.C.Limbert	B	Patriot Officer

Appendix "C"Prisons

Returns being made by Regions.



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TO	INT	DATE
DIRECTOR	Seen	
DEPUTY DIR.	WR	26/5
EXEC. OFFICER		
POLICE		
LIC. & REG.		
PRISONS		
ADM. OFFICER		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

6A

SUBJECT:

ED : S.S.A.O., Fifth Army. (2)

SJR/ewp

16th May 1945.

203/14.

1. The Public Safety position in the following liberated Provinces, by Regions, of Northern Italy is as shown below :

I - EMILIA REGION

(A) - Bologna Province.

1. CC.R. The present strength of the CC.R. in Bologna is :

Gruppo Interno	480
Gruppo Esterno	94

this number includes 180 sent to the city as reinforcements from Florence. Those imported into the Province at the time of its liberation were generally well received and they are now functioning normally.

Joint Military and CC.R. patrols, both foot and mobile, are in operation. The Legion Commander and his staff are now installed in a temporary building. The Legion H.Q. having been occupied completely before liberation by refugees complete with families, furniture and livestock. Their removal is now in hand.

A number of CC.R. have reported for duty and screening by the Legion authorities is in operation.

Check posts are in operation at or near the 10 Km boundary from the city and 6 motor cycle patrols cover the devastated areas south of the city where there is no accommodation. They also cover Routes 64 and 65 which are still debarricaded to civilian traffic.

2. Vigili Urbani. This force consists of approximately 400 men under an able Commandante. They are very well organised and have undertaken all traffic duties since the first day of liberation.

Two sets of automatic traffic signals were put into operation on 26th April. This force may well be termed satisfactory.

3. Air Raid Precautions. There is no doubt that the need of this service is past. However, U.S.P.A. were operating on our entry and on the night of Sunday, 22nd April, when German planes appeared over the city, three petrol operated sirens sounded and the squads were ready for action, but fortunately

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their services were not required.

4. Agents of Public Security. The Acting Questore is making a thorough check of all his officers and agents. This is very necessary and of the original 500 agents, it is doubtful if those approved for further service will greatly exceed 100. Advocate TRANZIL, the acting Questore, is working satisfactorily and the appointment of a career Questore might well be left in abeyance for the time being until conditions have become more normal.

Carefully selected agents are working with the various Allied Security branches.

5. Finance Guards. This force comprises some 300 men in the city and province. They are well organized and in full operation.

6. Fire Brigade. The personnel consists of approximately 200 men with 10 various types of appliances. Others are being repaired. All the Fire Stations were badly damaged.

7. Prisons. Were dealt with in Monthly Report for April.

8. Patriots. The parade of Patriots held in the city resulted in a large number of arms and ammunition being surrendered. Pistols, as usual, were conspicuous by their absence.

After being disbanded, about 800 patriots remained in the Patriot Centre, the CC.RR. Caserma in Via Magiotti, but it is hoped they will be moved in a few days. It would seem there are still a fair number of Patriots in the city who did not surrender their arms and still larger numbers in the Province where they still apparently hold sway. Major Ray, P.P.S.O. Bologna, is actively engaged in endeavouring to clear up these cases. So far as is known, at least 150 alleged fascists were shot by the Patriots.

A further report on the Patriot situation will be submitted when the position is clarified.

9. Civilian Movement. The issue of passes is being kept to a minimum. Arrangements are in hand for free travel throughout practically all of Army Area. When this is in operation the work of dealing with applicants for civilian movement passes will be greatly lessened.

The relaxation of the 10 Km rule is really necessary now in view of the limited number of C.A.Os available. It is not possible to enforce the rule and applicants, in some cases, have to travel 20 Km to apply for a permit to travel 10 Km.

#### (B) - Modena Province.

1. CC.RR. Present strength approximately 300 men. This includes 170 original spearhead and 100 reinforcements sent forward from Florence. The majority are functioning in the city itself but they are gradually being drafted into outlying stations in the Province. Thirteen such stations are now operating.

The CC.RR. were not so well received here, due in the main to the fact that the Partisans in Modena are very numerous, they had appointed their own

Police forces and resented any interference.

Three Questuras were found empty and only one slightly damaged. They are now occupied and functioning normally.

Two officers, 14 N.C.O.s and 12 C.O.s, who had been active Partisans were put back into service by the Legion Commander in areas where the Partisans are very strong.

2. Agents of Public Security. The Questore and Vice Questore fled with the Germans. The C.L.N. appointed the Chief of the Civil Guards as Questore. They also appointed two Vice Questori. These men are collaborating with us very well, and, although later on it will probably be necessary to appoint a permanent Questore, the situation at the moment needs delicate handling, therefore, it is considered advisable to leave them in their positions for the time being. The Questura Agents are being screened and those suitable will be returned to duty.

A previous Questore of Modena, PAPA Antonio, recently reported back for duty. He has been informed that it is not possible to re-engage him forthwith and a report regarding him has been sent to H.Q., Allied Commission.

3. Finance Guards. This force is functioning normally.

4. Civil Guards. About 100 men remained on duty. They are carrying out normal traffic duties.

5. Fire Service. This service is fully efficient with ample apparatus.

#### (2) - Basilia Province.

1. C.O.s. One officer and 89 men taken in by Capt. Mann on 24th April. No C.O.s. found in the town. Three officers and 30 men reported first week. At present 4 officers and 95 men on duty in town and 1 N.C.O. and 5 men at Rubiera. As C.O.s. become available they will be sent to communes (see "Partisans" below).

2. Agents of Public Security. LOTTI Pietro, who was the Questore until July, 1943, has been temporarily appointed, (a C.L.N. Nominee), with 2 Vice Questori, BORTARELLI Ottavio and VALERIANI Davide. Most of the Questura records were found but they were scattered all over the building, which was occupied by Partisans.

Seven officers and 41 agents available for duty, of these, on the recommendation of C.L.N., 5 officers and 28 agents are on service. Agents are now operating from the Questura and the Partisans are out. Few of the Agents have arms but Capt. Mann hopes to provide them soon.

3. Finance Guards. Capt. GUISANNI Giovanni is in charge of 43 men. Originally there were 2 branches - Polizia Tributaria (under Guisanni) and Polizia Economica (under a Capt. SCAPUZZO). This was a Fascist system and has now been demolished. Scapuzzo has been transferred and all are under Guisanni. Uniforms are fair and most men have arms.

4. Vigili Urbani. One officer and 48 men were serving on arrival. The Commandante fled with the Germans and the Vice-Commandante, GIRLINI Rinaldo, has

taken charge. Few men have uniforms and they have practically no arms.

5. Prisons. A new director, BRUGHI Walter, has arrived from Bologna and was appointed on 1st May 1945. There are 25 guards (some appointed by the G.L.N.) and 8 C.C.N., who will be withdrawn when the guards are brought up to strength. The building is undamaged. Normally holds 90 men and 35 women. There are no civil offenders. In the province there are about 1,000 prisoners (arrested by G.L.N. and Partisans). The G.L.N. are releasing the least "guilty" and all will be tried by Peoples' Courts.

6. Fire Service. The Chief is Capt. GASTANO Pedere. There are 3 fire stations in the Province:

Reggio Emilia:	2 officers, 60 men 7 auto pumps 14 motor pumps 2 tanks
Casalella:	1 officer, 30 men 2 auto pumps 4 motor pumps
Castelnova:	8 men 1 auto pump 2 motor pumps

All are in good condition, hydrants functioning.

7. Partisans. 4,500 Partisans were found on entering the town. Col. Matte, their leader, has been very cooperative and has helped in the disarming of the band. Parade was held on 3rd May and arms were handed in except by 1,000 men (these, however, were collected later) and stored in the C.C.N. Caserma from whence they are issued to Partisans performing Police duty under the Partisan Police Chief, Lt. Fananti (directed by Capt. Mann). 1,000 Partisans are used for Police duty owing to shortage of C.C.N., they only carry arms on duty.

(B) - Parma Province.

1. C.C.N. Only 50 spearhead C.C.N. were allocated to Parma, wastage due to sickness, etc., reduced this number to 41. These arrived in Parma on 28th April.

It was found on arrival that the Partisans were extremely strong numbering from 4,000 to 5,000 and the policing of the city and communes was being carried out by them.

It is thought there are approximately 300 C.C.N. in the Partisan ranks. They are in the process of being screened.

In view of the small numbers of spearhead C.C.N., 100 reinforcements from Florence Legion have since been sent to Parma.

During the first 2 days, sporadic firing occurred in the city by Partisans who were apparently dealing with Fascist snipers. Since then the city has been quiet.



2. Agents of Public Security. The Questore, reputed to be Anti-Fascist, remained in office, his antecedents are being checked as are those of all the Agents.

3. Municipal Guards. Ninety-four (94) serving, capable and efficient.

4. Finance Guards. Thirty-four (34) in service carrying on normal duties.

5. Fire Brigade. Normal. 57 men in service. Appliances reasonably good.

6. Prisons. One prison, capacity 600, damaged by Air Attack, capacity now approximately 250.

There were approximately 550 German prisoners held there. These are being transferred. In addition, 398 men and 65 women were detained, all but 66 were persons arrested by G.L.N. These are being sorted out as under:

- (a) Liberated without further action,
- (b) Bailed until Trial, and
- (c) Dangerous, to be kept in custody until Trial.

7. Crimes. No serious crimes reported.

8. Partisans. No serious cases of disorder among Partisans. Believed approximately 8,000. Arrangements made for parade and handing in of arms on 9th May.

It will doubtless be some time before Partisans throughout Province are completely disbanded.

### (3) - Piacenza Province.

1. CC.NN. Forty-nine (49) CC.NN. were taken in to the town (1 CC.NN. having been shot and killed outright through the carelessness of a Partisan) and these were received with great warmth. Approximately 150 CC.NN. have been with the Partisans and they are continuing to police outlying communes. Every day CC.NN. who "escaped" are reporting back and although the force is not yet properly organized there are about 300 available for duty.

2. Agents of Public Security. The force is controlled by Lt. FAUSTO (CC.NN. a Partisan leader who had been acting as Questore. Fausto is young, energetic and popular with G.L.N. and has certainly kept the Questura together. There are 42 Agents, who so far have not ventured out of doors and 15 Agents who refused to work with the Republican Fascists have reported back for duty. Apart from Fausto there is no suitable nor capable person to act as Questore and I hope a qualified officer can be supplied as early as possible.

3. CC.FF. There are 81 officers and men available for duty.

4. Fire Brigade. Well equipped with 16 appliances and 104 officers and men. The whole of the various services are being "vetted" and inspected.

5. Patriots. Arrangements were made for the surrender of arms and munitions.

ition at 1400 hours on Saturday, 5th May. Between 3,000 to 5,000 partisans were present and certificates were presented to the leaders of the various groups. A large quantity of arms were surrendered.

6. Prisons. Approximately 400 persons are in prison, all but 2 having been put there by the Partisans.

No casual arrests are now permitted and whenever a person is arrested a proper arrest report is completed and together with the prisoner handed over to the G.I.R.

It is hoped that F.S.S. or C.I.C. have arrived to assist in the checking of prisoners.

7. General. Occasionally a stray shot is still fired but nothing to cause alarm. During the first days of liberation the Partisans were zealous in capturing Republican Fascists especially those found sniping. A number were killed.

When the AME team arrived, Piacenza was completely controlled by the Partisans under the command of Col. MOLINARI and the C.I.N., and were cordially received by them. The public were calm, well disciplined and co-operative.

## II - LOMBARDIA REGION

### (A) - Milan Province.

1. G.I.R. Milan itself had suffered little damage and on entry, the city organisation under the C.I.N. was found to be functioning normally. 650 G.I.R. (Partisans) were found on duty, well clothed and equipped, in fact the uniforms of the spearhead G.I.R. were deplorable in comparison.

The attitude of the population especially the Partisans, who numbered several thousands, was antagonistic towards the spearhead G.I.R. when they viewed as Southerners and therefore had little, if any, respect for them. The situation was so delicate that the whole of the spearhead G.I.R. for both City and Province, i.e. approximately 900, were not immediately employed on the streets but, to avoid incidents, were kept "under cover" until the Partisans had disarmed and the situation had eased.

There are 36 G.I.R. Casernes in the City, 11 of which are occupied by the G.I.R. and the remainder by Partisans. It is hoped that, in the very near future, all the Casernes will be cleared and the spearhead G.I.R. will take up their normal duties together with those returned to duty from Partisan and other sources.

It is estimated that there are at least 2,000 G.I.R. in the region suitable to be returned to duty. They are being temporarily employed pending their reinstatement into the regular G.I.R. Service.

A signal has been sent to H.Q., Allied Commission, asking that the services of 2,000 men in the South be dispensed with thus enabling those found in the Region to be reinstated without delay.

2. Finance Guards. A full complement of officers and men, approximately 900, were found. They are functioning normally.

3. Vigili Urbani. This force is very efficient and smart. 550 men were on duty. All their officers had been dismissed by the C.L.N. and new ones appointed. All traffic duties in the City are being performed by this force.

4. Agents of Public Security. A Questore and 4 Vice Questori were appointed by the C.L.N. and a total of 1,129 Agents were found available. In addition, there were 1,000 auxiliary agents appointed by the C.L.N. All are in the process of being screened.

The question of the suitability or otherwise of the Questore and Vice Questori will be reported upon in due course.

5. Prisons. One State Prison, capacity approximately 4,000. A new director had been appointed by the C.L.N. A number of Guards remained in service and they are now assisted by Partisans.

Few ordinary prisoners were found in the prison but about 2,000 alleged Fascists have been arrested by the Partisans and enquiry re these people is in hand.

6. Partisans. As mentioned above, a very large number were in Milan and so far they have not been disarmed. The situation, although outwardly quiet, is tense, but every endeavour is being made to arrange for them to disarm. So far as can be ascertained about 500 executions of alleged Fascists have taken place and at the present time a few murders occur nightly. Some bodies are recognized as those of Fascists but, in the majority of cases now being committed, all marks of identity have been removed from the victim and there is little doubt they are murders by gangs of criminals. The fact cannot be ignored that amongst the Partisans are very many lawless hooligans, who are now murdering, robbing and looting under the cloak of being Partisans. No effort by the Civilian authorities is, or is likely to be, made to suppress them.

Whilst these murders are taking place in Milan similar acts are being enacted in various Provinces although not on such a large scale.

The true Partisans are disbanding and returning home prepared to assist Italy by working as much as they did by fighting. Those who remain are to a large extent near-do-wells bent on living by any means other than by their own toil. I suggest the time has now arrived when everyone should be ordered to surrender their arms and stern action taken against offenders.

At the present time all the Civil Police Agencies appear to be very loth - probably due to fear, to take any action against Partisans, it will therefore be necessary to give the Police the fullest support when enforcing the order, providing they act in good faith.

### (B) - Brescia Province.

1. CC.NN. 150 CC.NN. were taken into Brescia. A number of static CC.NN. were found and these will be screened in due course.

Partisans are temporarily assisting with the policing of the Province, but it is intended to discontinue with their services as early as possible.

2. Agents of Public Security. The Questore fled north and was replaced



by the C.I.N. with Dott. Alfonso BODRA. He has been screened by F.S.S. but Major Fowler is not very impressed with him, however, the question of his replacement will be considered when conditions have become normal.

There are 367 Questura Agents in Brescia, this number includes 195 auxiliary agents. They generally appear to have communist tendencies. It is too early to express an opinion as to their efficiency.

3. Finanza Guards. Five officers and 150 guards in Brescia and 3 officers and 294 guards in the remainder of the Province. They are now performing normal duties and there are no known Fascists in their ranks.

4. Municipal Guards. There are 94 Municipal Guards. They appear to be reasonably efficient and are carrying out all traffic duties.

5. Forest Guards. Thirteen (13) officers 113 other ranks. They will be screened, meanwhile they are performing their normal duties.

6. Partisans. There are about 2,000 Partisans in the Province. The disarming of them is in process by stages. About 150 will be temporarily retained on Police work until the strength of the C.C.R. is increased. The Partisans in this Province are divided between the "Reds" and "Greens". The latter appear to be rather apprehensive of the intention of the "Reds", however, all the Group Leaders have promised to co-operate with us, but Major Fowler is doubtful whether the leaders have full control over their followers. This is probably the case in every province.

So far, there has been no serious incident.

7. Fire Brigade. The Brigades are normal in strength and equipment. They are functioning satisfactorily.

8. Prisons. No immediate problems but details are lacking.

9. Factories. There are two munition factories in Brescia, i.e. the Beretta Factory and the Breda works.

Among other weapons the former is manufacturing 10,000 7.65 pistols.

There are 1,500 at present in stock.

There are no 9. pistols in stock neither are any being produced.

In view of the shortage of pistols amongst Police personnel, I recommend representation be made to the C.C.R. Command to take necessary steps to have a sufficient number of these pistols allocated to their service.

The Breda works is not in production, the buildings having been extensively damaged during air raids.

#### (g) - Como Province.

1. C.C.R.. There are 3 Casermas in Como in good condition. 135 spear-head C.C.R. were taken in when town was liberated. They were well received and are doing duty on the streets.

Three hundred (300) C.C.R. have reported for duty and are being screened.



Commo is intact and all services are functioning.

2. Agents of Public Security. The peace-time strength of this force is about 300, the present strength is 50.

The present Questore and Vice Questore were appointed by the C.L.N. Both appear active and are co-operative.

Forty five (45) Questura Agents have been returned by Capt. Breafield, Chief of C.I.G. Frontier Force. They are no longer required for duty with the Frontier Force, I have therefore instructed Capt. Anderson, P.P.S.O., to have them screened and utilize those who are suitable in Commo.

3. Finance Guards. Information awaited.

4. Municipal Guards. Information awaited.

5. Fire Brigade. In normal conditions. 204 Firemen and adequate appliances.

6. Prisons. There are 2 State Prisons. One in Como and one in Lecco. There are also 3 Mandamentali Prisons, all in good condition.

The prisons are filled with political prisoners. These are being sorted out.

Italian Courts are expected to commence functioning on 14th May and the "Peoples Courts" during the course of the following week.

7. Partisans. The number of Partisans is estimated at 12,000 of which 9,000 have already been disbanded. The remaining 3,000 will shortly be disarmed. For the time being 250 Partisans are being employed as special Police but it is hoped to disband them as soon as the normal Police Forces function fully.

There have been no serious incidents at Como and its outward appearance, it appears unaffected by the war.

(D) - Mantova Province.

1. CC.M. Mantova is not badly damaged. 136 CC.M. were taken in by Major Hughes, P.P.S.O., and 62 have since reported for duty.

The CC.M. were well received and no serious police troubles have been encountered. Screening of CC.M. reporting back for duty is in hand.

2. Agents of Public Security. There are 59 regular and 134 auxiliary agents in Mantova. The Questore was appointed by the C.L.N. and is not a "career" Questore. His suitability for the post is doubtful and a further report will be submitted in due course.

All Questura records are intact.

3. Finance Guards. One officer, 17 N.C.O.s and 28 men in service. They are resuming normal duties.

4. Municipal Guards. A total number of 58. They are functioning efficiently and well.

5. Fire Brigade. This service is complete both in personnel and equipment. There are no worries with regard to this service.

6. Partisans. I have little information regarding Partisans in this Province beyond the fact that they are surrendering their arms and there has been no major incident. Undoubtedly, like all other Provinces a number will retain their arms if they can do so without being detected.

### III - PIRENNE REGION

#### (A) - Turin Province.

1. Q.C.R.R. 790 spearhead Q.C.R.R. went into Turin and at present are being employed at road blocks with Military personnel. They are not at the moment being used for ordinary Police duties in the city as they were not too well received by the population, particularly the partisans, due to the fact that the majority of the spearhead Q.C.R.R. hail from Southern Italy - Neapolitans - and are consequently viewed by the natives of Turin with a certain degree of contempt. Conditions are gradually improving and it is hoped in due course to have all the Q.C.R.R. working normally.

2. Agents of Public Security. The original Quarters was not in office but a nominee of the C.L.S. was acting in his stead. He has been screened and appears to be a suitable individual for the post.

Five hundred agents have been screened and are already back in service.

3. Finances, Municipal and Forest Guards. No figures are available regarding these forces but I understand each is performing its normal functions, efficiently and added numbers are expected.

4. Prisons. The British Vice-Consul, who I understand has been a prisoner, is acting as director of the prison and is doing an excellent job of work. The figures of guards and prisoners is not at present available, but the prison is not overcrowded and the segregation of political and criminal prisoners is proceeding.

Incidentally, 70 of the Fascist prisoners have asked to be kept in custody, no doubt fearing the worst should they be liberated.

5. Partisans. It is anticipated there are 30,000 Partisans in Turin Province and possibly 10,000 to 15,000 in the City of Turin.

A parade of the Partisans was held on 6th May and arms are being steadily handed in. It is fairly certain all will not be surrendered as they have not been in other Provinces.

The city is fairly quiet now but the situation was extremely tense at the onset. It has been reported that 3,000 persons were killed by the Partisans prior to our occupation. It is also suspected they are still holding clandestine courts but not on any large scale. It is also suspected that some Partisan Bands are holding Fascist prisoners to work for them. This, of course, is rumour and no

definite reliance can be placed on it, but, generally, it is in keeping with what has been suspected in some other provinces, i.e. Bologna.

It is proposed to enrol a 1,000 Partisan Force as special police. 500 have already been enrolled. Their length of service is problematical.

6. Fire Brigade. The Fire Brigade is in good condition as regards personnel, equipment and buildings. It is significant that in the majority of the Provinces throughout Northern Italy, little, if any, assistance is necessary to this service.

7. Text Factory. This large factory is still operating and every effort is being made to provide raw materials thus preventing large numbers of persons being thrown out of employment, thus causing additional unrest.

8. General. In the Provinces near the French border, the French have occupied portions of the Provinces and the conditions there are somewhat obscure.

#### IV - VENETIA REGION

##### (A) - VENEZIA PROVINCE

1. CC. RR. One Caserma in the city, capacity 120, which is undamaged. There are 5 officers and 77 men serving, all having returned to duty since the town was liberated, under Capt. LANDALLA Gasparino who is considered to be a capable officer and good disciplinarian. All of the officers are being screened and are continuing in service meantime. Uniforms and arms are scarce but this problem is going to be rectified by assorted stocks of clothing and arms from the Partisans. Some CC. RR. have been sent to outlying communes but the lack of transport handicaps this.

The 116 CC. RR. which were scheduled for the province had not, as of the 6th May, arrived from Bologna owing to transportation difficulties, but they arrived later.

2. Finance Guards. Functioning well, caserma undamaged. The total strength at present is 3 officers and 93 men who are assisting in general duties and are in close touch with the CC. RR. and Partisans. This service has two cars as transport.

3. Agents of Public Security. The acting Questore is FOLLINI Luigi, a C.L.S. nominee, and appears to be quite capable, having previously been a functionary in the Questura. The latter building is badly damaged but some offices are being put to use, it was formerly used to house political prisoners of the Partisans.

The strength of the Agents is 1 officer and 161 agents, 47 of whom are in service.

4. Fire Service. Is functioning with a strength of 11 officers, 31 men and 215 auxiliaries. I have no information as to equipment. The officer in charge being GAMBINI E. who appears to be capable.



5. Prisons. The Prison is undamaged and in good condition, having a capacity of 140 men and 40 women. There are approximately 30 prisoners at present. The director is MANNI Raimondo and appears to be of doubtful quality. There is a staff of 25 prison guards and 3 nuns.

6. Civil Defence. Only 3 out of 11 squads are working and mobile. The warning system is operative.

7. Guardia Forestale. Has strength of 5 officers, 90 men and 1 civilian inspector who, as far as can be ascertained, are all working under normal conditions.

8. Vigili Urbani. There are 40 officers and men under the control of a Commandante and are carrying on with their duties.

9. Partisans. Were in 3 divisions, 1 City with a strength of 2,000 and 2 provincial with a strength of 2,500 each. They are all well disciplined and have good leaders. Disarming is in progress and no trouble is anticipated though in the mountainous districts they are not over-eager.

(B) - Verona Province.

1. CC.RR. Upon arrival of the 254 spearhead CC.RR., it was found that the Caserma had been totally destroyed. Accommodation was found in the old Comando Armata H.Q. which, though not ideal, is serving its purpose.

A Lt.Col. of CC.RR. reported to the P.P.S.O. with a force comprising 4 officers and approximately 80 men, all of whom he had "vetted". The Lt.Col. had done quite a good job of policing the city and the services of he and his force are being temporarily utilised.

2. Agents of Public Security. The original Questore had fled and the Vice Questore had been suspended by the C.L.N. A Commissario of the Questura had been appointed Acting Questore by the C.L.N. who later wished to substitute him by a Partisan leader, as he knew nothing about the job, the P.P.S.O. left the C.L.N. former choice, the Commissario, in office for the present.

The Questura is badly damaged but the force of 15 Funzionari di P.S. and 133 N.C.C. and agents is carrying on its normal function.

3. Finance Guards. The Caserma is more or less intact and the force is carrying on with 3 officers and 170 N.C.C. and men.

4. Vigili Urbani. Their H.Q. is intact and they are carrying on with their normal traffic duties, etc. Strength is 72 members under a Commandante and Vice Commandante.

5. Vigili del Fuoco. The Fire Station has been damaged but is still useable. The Brigade is 130 strong in the city and there are 3 sub-stations in the province, each with a force of about 7 men and two small motor pumps. The City is well equipped, practically all the equipment having been preserved. They have 3 large fire engines with reservoirs, 4 large fire engines with pumps, 2 large petrol

driven water tanks, 1 fire escape of about 70 feet, 1 private car, 7 motor cycles, 4 three-wheeled lorries and 3 large 2½ ton lorries.

The Chief of the Fire Brigade was executed by the Partisans as being a Fascist but there are two Lieutenants in charge, one of whom was nominated as Chief by the C.L.N.

6. Prisons. This is a problem as the prison was destroyed by air attack, the main Questura building was damaged and the CC.RR. Caserma destroyed, consequently there are no possible "lock ups". The prisoners have been sent to Vicenza prison. There are one or two castles overlooking the city which, it is hoped, can be utilized as prisons on adoption.

7. Partisans. At the onset, the Partisans in Verona presented a very real problem. They were well organized but, for a time, took matters into their own hands. They had detained some 300 political prisoners, 14 of whom they summarily executed. The P.P.S.O. took over control of the prisoners detained and committees were organized to sift the evidence against the detainees.

Later, a parade of the Partisans was held and a very large amount of arms were surrendered, nevertheless, as in other Provinces, a large number did not surrender all their arms, particularly in the outlying parts of the Province. A special Partisan police force of 400 men, (200 for the north and 200 for the south of the Province) has been organized as a temporary measure until such time as sufficient CC.RR. are available to adequately police the Province.

(2) - Bolzano Province.

1. CC.RR. The Questore had listed 38 ex-CC.RR. with which he had intended to form the nucleus of the local CC.RR., all had been approved of by the C.L.N. He was told not to put them into service but to await the provincial spearhead CC.RR. and await instructions as to the disposal of the 38.

The Caserma is in good condition, clean and undamaged but is occupied by some 500 German troops. The Military authorities are being contacted to make arrangements for their removal.

2. Agents of Public Security. The former Vice-Questore, SPANI Salvatore, was appointed Questore by the C.L.N. The Questura is intact and the work of the Agents is continuing although they are lacking arms, having been disarmed by the Germans. Their strength is 9 officers and 56 agents.

3. Vigili Urbani. This force consists of 13 men under a Commandante and they are carrying on as normal.

4. Vigili del Fuoco. Is working as usual under a Commandante who has been instructed to continue in his command pending further orders. There are 2 officers and 37 men.

5. Prisons. The prison has accommodation for about 200 persons. It is clean, undamaged and in good condition. The Capo, one VENTRO Sebastiano, has held office since 1937 and has 29 prison guards. There are 22 male and 8 female prison-

ers, of which, 3 men and 1 woman are said to be political prisoners.

6. Finance Guards. There are 8 guards functioning in the town, carrying on normal duties.

7. General. The Public Safety situation generally in this town can be described as satisfactory. German military police are numerous, a few partisans are undertaking police duty as are groups of Allied Military police.

The attitude of the general public appears to be one of cold reserve. It is obvious that the local civilian population, who are in the main German speaking, have fraternized with the enemy troops. It cannot be overlooked that the population are mainly Austrian, and many Italians who were "too Italian" were, during the course of the occupation, sent South.

(D) - Trento Province.

1. CLM. There are 640 CC.M. in the province and they are well clothed and equipped. Supplies were drawn from the Legion H.Q. in Bolzano. The Group Commander is Lt. Col. Michele de Finis who has 7 officers and 632 M.G.Os and men. The Group Commander has been stationed there during the last ten years, and by virtue of his office, has had to collaborate with the Fascists. Arrangements are being made for him to be screened, as they are for the other officers. The M.G.Os and men will be screened in due course but, in view of the shortage of CC.M., are continuing in service meantime.

All the Casermas are in good condition and connected by telephone to the Group H.Q. in Trento.

Many of the CC.M. have had to suffer indignities at the hands of the Germans and on the 2nd May, eleven were killed by the Germans. The German Platz Commander at Trento has been instructed to discipline his troops more rigidly.

2. Agents of Public Security. The Questore retired on pension 5 months ago and since then his duties have been performed by a Commissario. On 5th May, the CLM appointed Dott. Forini Ivo as Questore, he is an advocate who has no previous experience of police work. He has been in a concentration camp at Bolzano until fairly recently and is a Socialist. It has been explained to him that he is only acting Questore and it is strongly recommended that an experienced Questore be sent there.

There are 8 officers and 67 agents.

3. Finance Guards. These are well equipped and many of them joined in Partisan activities. Three of the Casermas have been damaged by air attack but all are properly accommodated. There are 5 officers and 260 men.

Col. Domenico Fusarola is stationed at Trento and is the responsible official for the Provinces of Trento, Bolzano, Verona and Belluno. As he has associated with the Germans, it is recommended that he be replaced as soon as possible.

4. Prisons. The Carceri Giudiziarie at Trento is undamaged and at the present time there are 47 male and 3 female prisoners detained. 42 are awaiting trial and 5 have been sentenced by the courts. The administration and sanitation



of the prison is good. The staff is present and consists of : 1 Direttore, 1 Regioniere, 1 Medico, 1 Capo d'Arte, 1 Capoguardia, 3 Sottocapiguardia, 4 Agenti Scritturali, 6 Agenti per servizi Speciali, 17 Agenti a servizio, 2 Guardiani per la Sezione Femminile.

5. Fire Brigade. The Fire Stations in the province are intact and the equipment has been maintained in good order. There are 95 regular firemen on the strength and there is a voluntary body of 1,500 trained firemen throughout the province.

6. Patriots. It is estimated that there are about 3,500 partisans in the province but they have not been very active. There will be no difficulty in disarming them.

In view of the fact that there are at least 20,000 crack German troops in the province, the partisans have been afraid to take any organised action. The German troops are still at liberty awaiting orders to go to P.O.W. cages and they walk about fully armed. Many of them are still stealing from the civil population. The usual theft is that of bicycles which they trade in exchange for eggs and wine. They will soon become groups of roving bandits if they are not seen placed in the P.O.W. stockades.

7. Public Morale. The population is calm and orderly despite the fact that there are so many German troops in the area. The Austrian sphere of influence is most noticeable and many of the people are proud of their Austrian descent.

8. Civilian Movement. It is estimated that 6,000 people a day, from the concentration camps and labour units of Germany, are passing through Trento on their way to their homes in the South. They are creating many problems in the way of feeding and transportation but the situation is well in hand.

#### V - LIGURIA REGION

##### (A) - La Spezia Province.

1. CC.RR. 92 CC.RR. were taken into La Spezia at the time of occupation. 45 men reported back for duty and these are being screened.

Although the CC.RR. were warmly received on their arrival, they have not taken the situation in hand as well as was hoped due to the strength of the Partisans who show signs of unwillingness to recognise the CC.RR. as the official Police Force, however, the situation is gradually easing and will no doubt resolve itself in due course.

The Casernes are in reasonably good shape.

2. Agents of Public Security. This force has been increased to 126 men. It is gradually getting back on its feet but it will be some time before it will be in efficient operating order, even by Italian standards. Many of the agents are without arms and, as usual, there is the complaint about pay and rations. The pay situation should be relieved this week when the Finance Officer promises the banks will be opened.

3. Vigili Municipali. Strength 36 men who are carrying out the usual guard duties.

4. Finanze Guards. Strength is 134 men including officers. Some agents are still returning from the mountains. This body is also in need of arms, having lost many to the Germans, Fascists and Partisans. Will supply Italian rifles from the stores turned in by Partisans. Nine guards are being held as P.Ws at Pontremoli, Apennine Province, and arrangements are being made to effect their release. Several guards have also been sent to that area to attempt to recover equipment taken away by the Brigata Nera during the last days before our occupation.

5. Vigili del Fuoco. Strength is 99 firemen including officers. Equipment being put back into order and an attempt being made to recover what was lost prior to our occupation.

6. Prisons. As yet, the P.P.S.O. has been unable to dispose of the P.Ws temporarily being held there, the number has risen to 103, including Germans and Italians. A promise by a Military Police Officer from Livorno to send trucks has not materialized. There are also 31 P.Ws under Partisan guard at Livorno.

The prison is in good condition but is in need of soap and disinfectant which may be supplied through the Red Cross.

An exterior guard of select Partisans has been set up. This guard was at one time handled by CC.RR., later by Italian Military personnel and during recent years by Fascist Militia, all of whom left with the Germans. This new guard is only a temporary measure but will continue until relieved by proper authority.

7. Partisans. Becoming fewer in number and most expected to be disposed of by the end of the week. Arms are still being collected - no pistols or pistol ammunition, of which much is known to be in their hands, has been turned in. Future police problems will, no doubt, arise as some of the Partisans are of the troublesome type and known to have past criminal records.

8. Public Order. Gradually normalizing itself. On April 30th, Partisans were marching 7 prisoners to La Spezia from the north of the city. Several were recognized as having collaborated with the Germans and the Brigata Nera and were executed by a mob near Chiappa. Marcellino Carboni Luigi of the CC.RR., former head of the Chiappa station, was amongst the three executed. One body has not been identified. An investigation is being conducted but little is expected to come from it.

On 1st May at Livorno, 4 German soldiers including one officer were executed by Partisans after being captured. Partisans alleged that several of their ranks had been killed when the Germans faked surrender and then fired upon their would-be captors.

On 1st May at Livorno, a notorious Fascist, Vezzinielli Ferdinando, was executed in the public square by a mob. CC.RR. had arrived in the town that afternoon but were powerless to interfere.

9. Crimes. There has been no doubt a considerable amount of looting by Partisans but few reports have been made to police. It is believed that quite a number of murders took place during the first days of our occupation (murders of

Fascists and grudge killings by persons who took advantage of the opportunity during the abnormal period). Reports have not yet been made to police.

#### CONCLUSIONS:

Reinforcements of C.C.R. are needed in almost every Province to deal with the abnormal conditions at present prevailing.

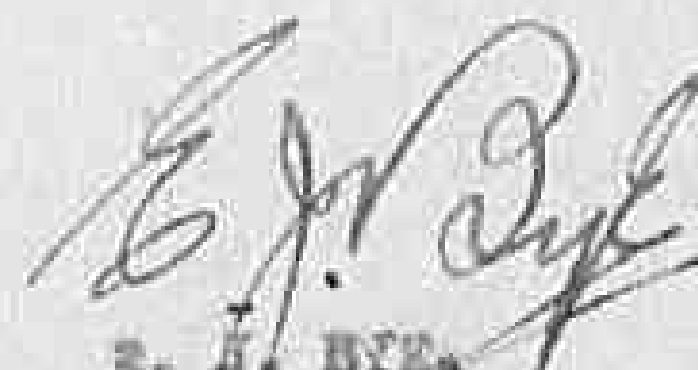
Up to the present time a total of approximately 5,000 spearhead C.C.R. have been moved into the forward regions under the control of Fifth Army. A further 900 will be moved forward from Florence immediately transport is available.

One of the greatest handicaps is the lack of Allied personnel. Generally, there is one Police Officer for a Province with perhaps 2 or 3 C.A.O.s to supervise anything up to 100 communes. The consequence is that many communes are run entirely by the Partisans. Such C.C.R. as are available in the outlying districts are, more or less, overawed by them and take no action, however illegal some of the acts of the Partisans may be.

Possibly 4,000 to 5,000 C.C.R. have reported for duty. They are being screened as quickly as possible.

A possible solution of the problem may be the drafting of Allied or Italian troops into Provinces, who, by their presence, would give moral support to the Civil Police Agencies and would act as a deterrent to the lawless gangs of hoodlums masquerading under the title of Partisans which undoubtedly exist in the country districts.

It will be appreciated that this report is scanty in information and does not cover every Province, but complete details are still lacking. A fuller report will be submitted in due course.



E. J. BYRNE  
Lt. Colonel,  
Chief of Public Safety,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

- 17 -

Copy to:

H.Q., Allied Commission (2)  
(Attn: Public Safety Sub-Commission)

1205



HEADQUARTERS AL 1st Ind.  
FIFTH ARMY, APO 464 US ARMY

AES/VHR/hdp  
21 May 1945

TO: HQ Allied Commission.

1. Attention is invited to the basic communication from the Senior Civil Affairs Police Officer, AMO Fifth Army. As more information becomes available it will be forwarded in due course.

For the Commanding General:

ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, JR.,  
Colonel, CAG,  
Executive Officer.

5A

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

EJE/AES/ewp

30th April 1945.

REF : 223/2

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for April - Public Safety.

TO : H.Q., Allied Commission.  
(Attn: Public Safety Sub-Commission)

1. There is enclosed herewith, in duplicate, the report of the Public Safety Division, AMG Fifth Army, for the month of April, 1945.

2. The following appendices are attached :-

- "A" Forged Currency,
- "B" Disposition of Public Safety Officers,
- "C" Prisons.

For the Commanding General:

*Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.*  
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.,  
Colonel, CAC.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:

R.C. Toscana Region.  
(Attn R.P.S.O.)

TO		
DIRECTOR	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5
EXEC. OFFICER	<i>[initials]</i>	
POLICE	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5
HC. & P.D.	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5
PRISON	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5
ADM. OFFICER	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5
SECURITY	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5
CHIEF	<i>[initials]</i>	12/5

1203

5B

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S.Army

EJB/ewp

30th April 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

223/2.

TO : S.C.A.O., AMG Fifth Army.

1. Considerable changes in front line positions have taken place since the submission of the report for March. Events have moved so fast that it is not possible at the moment to state the exact position of the line, however the following Provinces are known to have been occupied by Allied troops :-

Massa and Carrara were occupied on 11th and 12th April, 1945, and since that time the whole of the Province of Apuania has been liberated. One hundred (100) CC.RR. were moved into Massa and Carrara on 14th April, 1945. Massa was badly damaged but Carrara was practically untouched.

Bologna was liberated on 21st April, 1945, and Major Way, PPSO, with Capt. Eddings entered the city late in the evening of 21st April, 1945, with 230 CC.RR. Major Bond from Emilia Region HQ later reported for duty as PSO. The outskirts of the city had been badly damaged by bombs and shell fire, but the centre had suffered little damage.

On 23rd April, 1945, 50 CC.RR. earmarked for Parma and 50 CC.RR. for Piacenza were moved into Bologna preparatory to moving into their respective Provinces.

On 24th April, 1945, information was received that Modena had fallen and on that date, 70 CC.RR. together with Major Beer, PPSO, and Capt. Greenhill (the remaining 100 CC.RR. for Modena were with 4 Corps) and 100 CC.RR. for Reggio moved into Modena from Florence. This city had suffered little damage during the fighting and was practically intact.

On 25th April, 1945, 90 CC.RR. under Capt. Zittel, PPSO, moved from Viareggio into La Spezia which had been captured on the previous day. La Spezia had been damaged but not to a serious extent.

As it was believed Allied troops were on the point of entering Genoa, 250 CC.RR. destined for that city were moved forward from Viareggio on the morning of 26th April, 1945, but were unable to enter Genoa until later.

On the same date (26th April) the CC.RR. for Parma and Piacenza were moved from Bologna to Parma which had in the meantime been liberated. Piacenza CC.RR. have now been moved into that town. So far as is known neither of these towns have been badly damaged.



On 26th April, 1945, 135 CC.RR. under Major Hughes, PPSO, were moved from Florence to Mantova and on the 28th April, 1945, 254 CC.RR., i.e. 120 Verona, 79 Trento and 55 Bolzano, were moved from Florence to Verona which had been occupied on 27th April, 1945. The CC.RR. for Trento and Bolzano will move forward from Verona as and when these provinces are liberated.

On 29th April, 387 CC.RR. under Major Lacey, PPSO Milan Province, 100 reinforcements for Parma and 100 for Modena were sent forward from Florence to their respective Provinces.

On 30th April, 180 CC.RR. reinforcements for Bologna, 146 Pavia, 64 Cremona and 116 for Vicenza were sent forward from Florence. Total CC.RR. transported forward is 2,262.

There remains 1,910 spearhead CC.RR. comprising the whole of Piemonte Region and a part of Lombardia Region to be moved from Florence and Lucca respectively. (NOTE: This number does not include 240 Liguria waiting to go forward from Viareggio as Liguria passed to 15th Army Group on 26th April 1945)

It is hoped to move forward 1,120 CC.RR. on 1st May from Lucca to Lombardia Region thus completing the spearhead move for the whole of that Region.

Great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining necessary transport, but this can be well understood in view of the rapid advance by the Army, which necessitated practically the whole of the transport being utilised for military purposes.

2. Location:- Florence - Scuole Femminile Rossini, Via Giuseppe Galliano. A move will be made forward within the next few days.

3. Check Line:- The Rear Army Security Control Line was moved as from 0001 hours, 28th April 1945, as follows, east to west :- Ravenna, Forli, Pontassieve, Florence, Prato, Pistoia, Pescia, Lucca, Macsarosa, Viareggio.

#### 4. Police.

(a) The strength of Fifth Army CC.RR. remains as heretofore with the exception that on 28th April, 1945, Lieut. Ugo Pezzattini reported from Rome for duty with 2 Corps. He is senior to Lieut. Summa, at present in command of Fifth Army CC.RR. and, as it was felt unwise to make a change in command at this busy period and CC.RR. officers were lacking for forward Regions, it was arranged for him to go forward with reinforcements for Modena. A Maresciallo Maggiore Renzo Luigi, attached to Florence Legion, will meanwhile be in charge of 2 Corps.

The morale of the CC.RR. is good although they are now being really hard worked.

The spearhead men going forward to the various Regions have been in excellent spirits and all appeared delighted they were moving at last.

The numbers of CC.RR. in the forward areas reporting for duty is not at present known but their numbers will be reported in due course.

Guardia di Finanza: There is nothing new to report regarding this force in the back areas and on information is to hand respecting conditions forward.

Agents of Public Safety: In Bologna approximately 500 Agents were found prepared to perform duty. They are being vetted by CIC and a very large percentage will be found unsuitable on account of their political background. The Questore fled and the Vice Questore was killed (allegedly by partisans) on the day of the liberation. The CLN had appointed Avvocato TRAUZZI as Questore. He appears a well balanced intelligent man and at the moment is continuing as acting Questore. A further report will be submitted regarding him in due course. The Questura building together with records is intact, but unfortunately all the CC.RR. Casermas were badly damaged.

The normal strength of the Agents of Public Safety in Apuania is. I understand about 40. To date, there are only 10 available for duty without officers. Capt. Bradbury, PPSO, is going fully into this question.

No details are available at present regarding other liberated towns.

(b) Crimes and Offences: In the back areas the crime position is generally good. One case of interest was dealt with in Florence on 28th April 1945, when 3 men were sentenced, one to 10 years and two to 8 years imprisonment for uttering counterfeit 1,000 lire notes. When arrested, 17 counterfeit 1,000 lire notes were found in their possession.

On 1st April in Florence, an American soldier was murdered. The murderer was arrested within a few days due to excellent work by a Maresciallo of CC.RR.

On 23rd April, an enemy agent was arrested by CC.RR. at Montespertoli within a few hours of his arrival by parachute. The man was in possession of a wireless transmitter and 300,000 lire.

In Bologna, a number of killings by shooting have been reported. Generally they have been attributed to Partisans liquidating Fascists but there is little doubt some cases have been the settling of old scores.

(c) Prostitution: As all troops are on the move forward, this evil naturally falls into the background but will, undoubtedly, rear its head again if and when conditions again become static.

(d) Relations with Military Police: Excellent.

5. (a) Public Morale: Good, especially since the advance commenced

(b) Attitude of Public towards (1) AMG (2) Italian Government: In the liberated areas generally a very friendly attitude is shown towards AMG but how long such an attitude will last is problematical. The general feeling towards the Italian Government is as previously reported. The people have little or no faith in it.

(c) Political Activity: Nothing special to report. Applications have been made for May Day meetings but no trouble in connection with these is anticipated.

ipated. On 27th April in Florence, about 6,000 persons collected in the Piazza Signoria and were addressed by a journalist, a Socialist and a Republican. No application was made to hold a meeting and to outward appearances, it would appear to have been spontaneous. However, there is little doubt it had been secretly organised and enquiries are in hand to trace its origin. As it was a very orderly and good humoured meeting no attempt was made to disperse it.

(d) Strikes: Nothing to report.

(e) Sabotage: Nil.

(f) Control of Movement: The move forward of the Security Control Line will ease this difficult situation to a very great extent so far as applications to enter Army Area is concerned.

(g) Curfew: Well observed.

#### 6. Prisons.

The prison situation in Florence has become less acute recently due to the transfer of a large number of prisoners. The application to the Military Authorities for a portion of the Murate Prison, at present occupied by the Military as a holding centre, to be returned for use by the Civil Authorities was refused on the grounds that it was still required for military purposes.

Little is known at the moment regarding the prison situation in the newly liberated areas.

Apuania: In Massa the State Prison is badly damaged and practically unusable. In Carrara a Mandamentale Prison was found intact and has accommodation for approximately 100 persons.

Bologna: One State Prison, capacity 350 - 400 prisoners, in good repair. Prison director appointed by CLN. About 40 prison guards. All prisoners were released by Germans before arrival of Allied troops. A number of alleged Fascists were imprisoned by Partisans. These cases are being investigated by CIC.

#### 7. Possession of Firearms.

Nothing special to report.

#### 8. Fire and Civil Defence.

Massa: 30 Firemen and Commandante. 4 pumps only are serviceable. Remainder without tyres, otherwise serviceable.


Carrara: 25 Firemen. One pump in good condition. Fire Brigade buildings in both towns in good condition.



Bologna: Personnel approximately 200. Ten appliances in good repair.  
All Fire Stations damaged beyond repair.

9. General.

This report is sketchy in the extreme, particularly with regard to forward areas but further reports will be submitted when the conditions are known.

  
E. J. BYE,  
Lt. Colonel,  
Chief of Public Safety,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Appendix "A"Forged Currency.

Returns being made by Toscana Region.  
Nothing to report in Forward Regions.

Appendix "B"Disposition of Public Safety Officers

Lt.Col.	E.J. Bye	B	GPS, AMG 5 Army
Major	Ronnie	B	Espionage, Fifth Army
Captain	A. Hunter	B	CAPO, 5 Army
"	P.A. Edwards	B	CAPO, II Corps
"	A.C. Mack	B	CAPO, IV Corps
"	J. Dunstan	B	CAPO, IV Corps
"	L.G. Whyman	B	CAPO, IV Corps (temp Attd from Lombardia)
"	R.C. Limbert	B	Patriot Officer

Appendix "C"Prisons

No change from previous months. Returns being made by Toscana Region.

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

EJB/AES/ewp

2nd April 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Public Safety.

223/2.

TO : H.Q., Allied Commission.  
(Attn: Public Safety Sub-Commission)

1. There is enclosed herewith, in duplicate, the report of the public safety division, A.M.G. Fifth Army, for the month of March, 1945.

2. The following appendices are attached :-

- "A" Forged Currency;  
"B" disposition of Public Safety Officers;  
"C" prisons.

For the Commanding General:

*Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.*  
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.,  
Lt. Colonel, CAC.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army/

Copy to:  
R.C. Toscana Region.  
(Attn: R.P.S.O.)

/ewp

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SECURITY	
CHIEF CLERK	



HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

EJB/ewp

1st April 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

223/2.

TO : SCAO, AMG Fifth Army.

1. There has been little change in the front line positions since the submission of the monthly report for February and no alteration has taken place so far as Civil Affairs is concerned.

2. Location. Florence, Scuole Femminile Rossini, Via Giuseppe Galliano.

3. Check Line. No change.

4. Police.

(a) CC.RR. The strength of the spearhead CC.RR. remains at 290 divided between 2 and 4 corps. 13 Corps is policed by CC.RR. from 8th Army. The whole are doing very good work in the liberated communes but, although fairly well clothed, they still require a certain amount of clothing and equipment. Representations have been made to the CC.RR. Command for additional supplies to be forwarded and their arrival is awaited.

At the moment, there are three commissioned officers attached to the spearhead CC.RR., one performing duty at HQ, AMG, and two with 4 Corps. Application has been made for the appointment of an additional officer for duty with 2 Corps. This addition is very necessary in view of possible future operations.

Morale. The morale of the CC.RR. is in the main good. They still require greater self-confidence and they have still to learn to perform their duties without fear or favour. One cannot expect this to be brought about very quickly when it is remembered that for the past 20 years justice in Italy has been totally one sided, however, every opportunity is taken to instill into them that they should take proper action in every case irrespective of a persons class or creed.

The spearhead men for the Northern Regions have now been issued with AMG arm flashes and appear to be very pleased and proud to wear them. Endeavours are being made to obtain accommodation for additional spearhead men for Lombardia Region, also some earmarked for Venezia Region.

500 *Libretto on 5<sup>th</sup> div.*

Guardia di Finanza. This force continues to do good work. There is nothing special to report regarding them.

Agents of Public Safety. There are approximately 800 Agents in Florence Province. They are not up to the standard of the CC.RR., generally due to the fact that their officers are not so energetic and reliable as the CC.RR. officers. They are also under the additional handicap that they were more closely associated with fascist machinations during the Fascist Regime, consequently, they are now received with considerable suspicion by everyone, which does not help to strengthen their morale.

It has recently been reported that the Agents in Florence are becoming more or less active Communists. This, I think, is greatly exaggerated. The Questore is not particularly strong but is doing his best and need not be removed at the moment. A separate report is being submitted on this matter.

(b) Crimes and offences. The crime position remains fairly good, although a few isolated incidents have occurred which is only to be expected.

The nine men concerned in the robbery at Castelfalfi when an AMG officer was robbed, were convicted by a General Court and sentenced to the following terms of imprisonment :- 2 men - 20 years each; 2 men - 15 years each; and 5 men - 10 years each. This result was given wide publicity in the local newspapers and has apparently had a good effect.

Recently in Florence, 3 Italian soldiers cut off the hair of girls who were with Allied soldiers. Two Allied soldiers went to one of the girls assistance and in the course of the fight which followed, one of the Allied soldiers was stabbed through the arm. The Italian soldiers were subsequently arrested and charged. They were convicted and each sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

In Lucca and in 13 Corps Area, similar threats to cut the hair of girls friendly with Allied troops have been made by young civilian men and Italian soldiers. In Lucca a number were charged and dealt with.

In 13 Corps Area at Marradi on the 14th March, a number of Italian soldiers, stationed locally, armed with rifles placed themselves in front of a dance hall, where a dance for Allied troops was in progress, with the intention of preventing civilians entering. Conditions became serious and as a result the local CAO stopped the dance. The ringleader was identified as a civilian dressed in Italian Army uniform. He was arrested and now awaits trial by a Superior Court.

#### Brief Summary of Incidents.

Florence Province. On evening of 6th March at Paterno, 3 men, armed, entered a farm house and stole 77,000 lire, also the house of the Sindaco where they stole 350,000 lire afterwards shooting and wounding the wife of the Sindaco in the arm. Enquiries to trace them are continuing.

Pistoia Province. On 22nd March, 3 Italian soldiers stole goods valued at 500,000 lire. Soldiers have been arrested and property recovered.

On 13th March at Montecatini, civilian shot dead by negro soldier. Soldier arrested.

On 14th March at Montecatini, negro soldier stabbed by civilian. Inquiry to trace proceeding.

On 21st March, premises at Montecatini entered and clothing value 578,000 lire stolen. No arrest.

2 Corps. On 17th March at Pirenzuola, two U.S. soldiers shot by a civilian (one fatally). Man arrested on 22nd March now awaits trial.

(c) Prostitution. The drive against Prostitution continues with the usual quota of examinations in Florence City. A new V.D. Hospital is opening in the city which it is hoped will accommodate 100 to 150 infected women. In Montecatini, a rest centre for troops, many prostitutes have been found in the area, but only 12 were found to be suffering from V.D. and evacuated to Pistoia for treatment.

In Corps Areas the position is fairly satisfactory as many prostitutes are fairly easily spotted in small communities and evacuated south.

(d) Conduct of troops. Generally the conduct of the troops is reasonably good, although in Florence City a fair number of allegations of minor assaults by troops are received. As a rule a civilian reports, sometimes days later, that he was assaulted by an Allied soldier, no description, who struck the civilian for no reason. Some such complaints may be genuine, but I am inclined to the belief that in many cases the civilians find it convenient to blame unknown Allied soldiers. Some cases of misconduct by negro troops have been reported but the position with regard to them has improved during the past two months.

(e) Relations with Military Police. Excellent.

(f) Refugees. Small numbers of refugees continue to come south from the forward areas and from E.O.T.

(g) Special Problems. Apart from the issue of passes - always a problem and mentioned in the February report - the chief concern at the moment is finding accommodation for spearhead CC.RR. for northern Regions. There is no room in Florence but every effort is being made to find accommodation in neighbouring towns.

5. (a) Public morale. Fairly good.

(b) Attitude of Public towards (1) AMG and (2) Italian Government. As mentioned in the February report the Public are not enthusiastic towards AMG. They think we have not given them nearly the amounts in food which they expected. On the other hand they think their position under the Italian Government might be even worse. They have no faith in the latter.

(c) Political Activity. There is nothing of note to report in this direction with the exception of a meeting held at the Verdi Theatre, Florence, during the evening of the 9th March to protest against the escape of General Roatta from Rome. It was a Communist meeting and the theatre was packed to capacity, but beyond the release of a large amount of "hot air" nothing resulted from it. On the 8th March, 3 men, one of whom was believed to be Roatta, were detained at Pontassieve, near Florence. Enquiry revealed a mistake had been made and the men were released. A separate report was submitted regarding this incident.

(d) Strikes. A small strike for a rise in wages occurred at Montecatini amongst the men employed unloading food trucks. This lasted only a few hours and was amicably settled.



- (e) Sabotage. Nil.
- (f) Control of Movement. Nothing special to report.
- (g) Internees. C.I.C. and F.S.S. continue to arrest suspects and where evidence justifies it, interning them.
- (h) Curfew. Well observed.
- (i) Espionage. During March, four men on whom the death sentence had been passed for Espionage were shot. Eight men and three women who had been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment were sent south to serve their sentences. There are a few outstanding cases awaiting trial.

#### 6. Prisons.

The prison situation in Florence has recently become acute due to overcrowding. The greater part of the Murate Prison, Florence, was taken over in the early days of the occupation by the Military authorities as a holding centre. At the present time some blocks of the prison held by the Military are unoccupied and application was made to Florence Command for the unoccupied portion to be returned for use by Civil prisoners. This has been refused. To alleviate the situation, as many prisoners as possible have been removed to other prisons in Toscana Region, and those charged with minor offences, awaiting trial, have been released on bail.

On 18th March at about 20.00 hours, four prisoners attempted to escape from the S. Teresa Prison, Florence. They escaped into the grounds of the prison and at 22.00 hours were located in a private garden near the jail. They were summoned to surrender by C.C.R.R. and Guards. They did not do so and the police and Guards fired warning shots. One of the prisoners, Calzolari Vincenzo, was wounded in the head and subsequently died. The remaining three were captured.

#### 7. Possession of Firearms.

One large and one small dump of arms were found recently in Pistoia Province. Weapons included 1 machine gun, 7 sub machine guns, 12 rifles, 1000 rounds of ammunition, 14 magazines for machine guns and 52 hand grenades. Another dump was found in 4 Corps Area.

There is little doubt that arms are being hidden at every opportunity and vigorous action is being taken against offenders.

#### 8. Fire and Civil Defence.

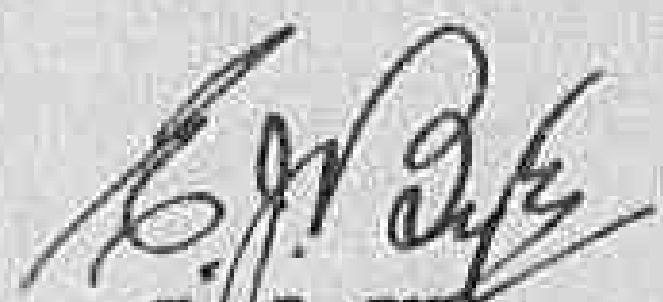
(a) Operating satisfactorily. An American Army Fire Unit recently took over a part of the Fire Station at Montecatini, but this does not affect the efficiency of the local brigade.

(b) Unexploded bombs and mines. Very good work indeed is being done by civilian squads and large numbers of mines and U.X. shells are being daily removed.

1192

9. General.

On the whole, the position is encouraging but there still remains a lot to be done before it can be described as really satisfactory.



E. J. BYR.  
Lt. Colonel.  
Chief of public safety,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

- 5 -

/ewp

1191

## Appendix "A"

Forged Currency.

Florence City. 106 forged 1000 lire notes, 15 forged 500 lire notes and 1 forged 100 lire note were stopped in circulation. No arrests. Enquiries continue.

Florence Province. 1 forged 1000 lire note and 1-50 lire note raised to 500 lire seized. No arrest. *no notes enclosed*

Pistoia Province. Six forged 1000 lire notes and one forged 500 lire note seized. No arrests. Enquiries continue.

Lucca Province. 23 forged 1000 lire notes and 7 forged 500 lire notes seized. No arrests. Enquiries continue.

## Appendix "B"

Disposition of Public Safety Officers

Lt.Col. E.J. Ewe	B	CPS, AMG Fifth Army
Major Ronnie	B	Espionage, Fifth Army
Captain J. Dunstan	B	CAPO, Fifth Army
" P.A. Edwards	B	Assisting in Espionage Cases
" A.C. Mack	B	CAPO, IV Corps
" L.G. Whyman	B	CAPO, IV Corps (Lombardia)
" R.C. Limbert	B	Patriot Officer
" T.W. Glasspool	B	A/CAPO II Corps (Venezia Region)
" L.A.E. Eddings	B	CAPO II Corps (Emilia Region)
" T. Greenhill	B	NW Florence Prov. Special Duties (Attd from Emilia Region)
" A. Hunter	B	CAPO IV Corps
" R. Hunt	B	CAPO XIII Corps (from 8th Army)
" Bigham	A	Assisting in Espionage Cases. (Piacenza)

## Appendix "C"

Prisons

No change from previous months. Returns made by Toscana Region.



1401/15

3A

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

CONFIDENTIAL.

EJB/AES/ewp

2nd March 1945.

cc.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Public Safety Division.

223/2.

TO : H.Q., Allied Commission.  
Attn: Public Safety Sub-Commission.

1. There is enclosed herewith, in duplicate, the report of the Public Safety Division, A.M.G. Fifth Army, for the month of February, 1945.

2. The following appendices are attached :-

- 3B  
3B  
3B
- "A" Forged Currency,
  - "B" Disposition of Public Safety Officers,
  - "C" Prisons

For the Commanding General:

Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.  
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, Jr.,  
Lt. Colonel, C.A.C.,  
Executive Officer,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:  
R.P.S.O., Toscana Region.

/ewp

TO	
DIRECTOR	7/3
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	5/3
EXEC. OFFICER	8/3
POLICE	5/3
LEG. & REG.	8/3
PRISONS	8/3
ADM. OFFICER	9/3
SECURITY	8/3
CHIEF CLERK	8/3
CH	0/3

1180

3B

Appendix "A"Forging and Uttering of Allied Military Currency

Good work was performed in Lucca during the month when a civilian was arrested by the Questura Agents for uttering 29 counterfeit 1,000 lire notes in Lucca. Under interrogation he admitted purchasing the notes in Florence paying 500 lire for each of them. Enquiries are continuing in Florence by C.I.D. In view of the numbers of counterfeit notes still in circulation, it would seem a counterfeiting plant is still in existence.

Florence City. One hundred (100) forged 1,000 lire notes and twelve (12) 500 lire notes were stopped in circulation. No arrests. Further enquiries in hand.

Florence Province. Nil.

Pistoia Province. Four cases of forged currency reported. Fifty-two (52) forged 1,000 lire notes (A.M.C.) stopped in circulation. Further enquiries in hand. No arrests.

Lucca Province. Including the case mentioned above, thirty-eight (38) 1,000 lire and five (5) 500 lire forged notes were stopped in circulation. One arrest was effected. Thirty (30) 1,000 lire notes are at present held by C.I.D. who are conducting enquiries. The remaining eight (8) 1,000 lire and five (5) 500 lire notes have been forwarded to R.P.S.O., Toscana Region.

Appendix "B"Disposition of Public Safety Officers

Lt.Col. E.J. Bye	B	CPS, AMG Fifth Army
Captain J. Dunstan	B	CAPO, Fifth Army
" P.A. Edwards	B	Assisting in Espionage Cases
" A.C. Mack	B	CAPO IV Corps
" L.G. Whyman	B	CAPO 92 Task Force
" R.C. Linbert	B	Patriot Officer
" T.W. Glasspool	B	L/CAPO II Corps (Venezia Region)
" L.A.E. Eddings	B	CAPO II Corps (Emilia Region)
" T. Greenhill	B	NW Florence Prov. Special Duties (Attf from Emilia Region)
" A. Hunter	B	CAPO IV Corps (E. Sector) (Lombardia)
" R. Hunt	B	CAPO XIII Corps (from 8th Army)
" Bigham	A	Assisting in Espionage Cases (Piacenza)

Appendix "C"Prisons

No change from previous months. Returns made by Toscana Region.

1158

HEADQUARTERS  
 AMG FIFTH ARMY  
 APO 464 U.S.Army

EJR/ewp

1st March 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for February, 1945.

223/2.

TO : S.C.A.O., Fifth Army.

1. The front remains static apart from the taking of one or two hill features which did not alter the situation so far as A.M.G. is concerned.

2. Location - Florence, Scuole Femminile Rossini, Via Giuseppe Galliano.

3. Check Line - as previously reported.

4. Police.

(a) CC.RR. As is only to be expected during a static period, calls for CC.RR. services continue to increase and, in this respect, it is fortunate there are a large number of CC.RR. in Florence and Visreggio waiting to go forward into the Northern Regions. They are being usefully employed on check-posts and other important duties. This not only improves their morale but also gives them an insight into the work they will be required to perform when the Regions to which they are assigned are liberated.

The strength of the CC.RR. attached to Fifth Army is at present 290, approximately 10% are either on leave or sick. In view of possible moves in the near future the numbers of men on leave will not be allowed to rise too high as should the line suddenly begin to move the services of every man will be required.

Morale. Generally the morale of the CC.RR. is good and is gradually improving. In this respect, the fact that Fifth Army CC.RR. are fairly well clothed has a tremendous bearing on their morale. They now take some pride in their appearance and feel they have some place in the scheme of things. Clothing has been coming in slowly for the CC.RR. for the Northern Regions, but not nearly as much as I would like to see. It is vitally essential that when these men go forward they should be properly clothed and equipped. R.P.S.Os of forward Regions have been asked to leave no stone unturned to ensure their men go forward well clothed.

To enable the spearhead men of Regions going forward to be easily recognised, to improve their morale, and possibly to give them greater weight with the local population, as it distinguishes them from CC.RR. who may



have worked for the Republican Fascists, arm flashes - Red with A.M.G. in black - are being obtained and issued to them.

The work generally of the CC.RR., both in forward areas and in Florence City and Province, is really good and deserving of high praise. When it is remembered that, when the Allied Forces leave Italy, the maintenance of law and order will rest solely on the shoulders of the Civil Police Agencies, it is essential to have a good and efficient Police Force, therefore it is particularly encouraging to see the Police services regaining some of their old self-confidence and respect.

Guardia di Finanza. This force although small is doing good work in their own particular sphere.

Agents of Public Safety. This service has not made such rapid strides as the CC.RR. but they are improving and undoubtedly they have ability in their ranks. The fact that in the past this branch of the Police service dabbled a good deal in political affairs causes them to be viewed with a certain amount of suspicion, however there is no reason why they should not gain public confidence by applying themselves solely to Police work.

The new Questore of Pistoia, La Rosa, is going ahead very well in reorganizing the Agents in that town. He appears to be strong and impartial. He is at present "weeding out" unsatisfactory Agents.

With regard to the Public Safety Agents at Lucca, it is thought some of the officers need replacing. This is being taken up with the R.P.S.O., Toscana Region, as he will eventually be working in close harmony with the Questura in the Region, therefore replacements should, I think, be scrutinized by him before appointment.

(b) Crimes and Offences. During the month under review the crime position has considerably improved, particularly in Florence Province. This is primarily due to the energy and drive of Major Harris and his assistants, Capt.s Marsh and Roberson, particularly the latter who by tenacity effected the arrest of six civilians concerned with three others in an armed hold up of Major Clinkscales, an Allied officer, during January. The arrest of the remaining three men is imminent. Not only did Capt. Roberson effect the arrests but also recovered the proceeds of the robbery, i.e. cheques and a watch. The highest praise is due to Capt. Roberson, also the CC.RR. working under his direction.

#### Brief Summary of Incidents.

Florence City. Two men, a printer and a shopkeeper, were arrested for printing and selling counterfeit ration cards. They await trial.

Five Italian soldiers caught in the act of breaking into an Allied warehouse. One was shot by the Italian guard on duty. Remainder were arrested.

An Italian Corporal killed an Allied soldier in a fight - sentenced by an Allied Court to 5 years imprisonment - plea of self-defence.

Florence Province. At Dicomano. Armed hold up at a farm. Four men identified.

Enquiry in hand to arrest.

Viareggio. On 11/2/45, CC.RR. found in loft of a house, 27 Sten Guns, a number of Machine Gun Pistols and Rifles and a large quantity of Hand Grenades and Rifle ammunition. There is no doubt the whole of it had been secreted in the loft by Partisans. One man has been arrested. Further enquiries are in hand.

On 14/2/45 at Camugnano. Armed robbery of 300,000 lire by young man formerly Partisan. Awaits trial.

Lucca. Two civilians and one enlisted man dealt with for stealing and buying Allied property. Interesting to note that Enlisted man tried by Court-Martial, sentenced to 30 years. Civilians sentenced to 2 months each.

Pistoia. On 28/1/45. Case of rape by a Negro soldier.

On 16/2/45, 15 men, one armed with pistol, entered the Tax Office, assaulted the Director, an alleged Republican Fascist, stole his wallet and watch. Enquiries continue.

On 19/2/45 at Montecatini. Two American soldiers robbed three civilians. Both arrested by CC.RR. handed over to Provost Marshal.

On 23/2/45 in commune of Castel del Rio, a civilian was shot dead by two men. It is not known if crime due to political motives or robbery. Enquiries continue.

(c) Prostitution. As is only to be expected, there are fairly large numbers of Prostitutes in Florence. During the period under review, 320 were dealt with in Florence City. At Montecatini, which is a rest area for troops, 30 Prostitutes are being examined for V.D. symptoms on alternate days.

M.Ps and Civil Police are making an energetic drive against these people.

In other parts of Corps Areas, the position is fairly good although it is necessary to exercise a very strict watch.

(d) Conduct of Troops. Generally the conduct of troops has been good. There has been a noted improvement on the west side amongst the coloured troops. This improvement is largely due to strong action by the Military Police and by placing drinking establishments in Viareggio "Off Limits" to Allied personnel. As mentioned in preceeding sub-para. 4(b), a few isolated cases occur, but these must be expected where there are large concentrations of troops during a static period.

(e) Relations with Military Police. Good. Close cooperations is being maintained.

(f) Refugees. Small numbers of refugees continue to come in to the centres at Florence and Lucca. Those living south are sent to their homes but there are over 2,000 in the Florence Centre waiting until their homes are liberated in the Northern Provinces.

(g) Special Problems. The chief problem at the moment is the question of civilian movement into Army Area. At the present time a very large number of applications to enter are being received for all kinds of purposes. When the position remains static for so long as it has since September last, it is only to be expected that the number of civilians required to enter the area to reactivate various industries is bound to be large, but from a security angle the smaller number who are allowed in forward areas the better.

One of the chief troubles is that Executive Memorandum No. 77 (a very clear and excellent directive) is rarely, if ever, followed. It seems that each department at H.Q., Allied Commission, prepares and issues its own passes, consequently there is rarely uniformity.

It is suggested that it would help matters considerably if the issue of passes at H.Q.s were centralised, preferably - Public Safety.

5. (a) Public Morale. Fairly good. The increased ration which will come into force on 1st March, 1945, has helped considerably in this respect.

(b) Attitude of Public towards (1) AMG and (2) Italian Government. While the public do not appear to be unduly enthusiastic towards A.M.G., they nevertheless realise that so long as we are here things will be reasonably secure and generally it would seem they would prefer Allied to Italian control - fearing under the latter rule, outbreaks of lawlessness due to political intrigue.

(c) Political Activity. There has been little real political activity during the past month. However, there was one incident worthy of record. On 14th February, at Pistoia, about 600 Partisans who had volunteered to join the Italian Army, rounded up a number of reputed Fascists and after pinning Recruiting Posters on them marched them to the CC.BR. Caserma. 32 alleged Fascists were brought to the Caserma. Apart from a few scratches no one was hurt and later the Partisans dispersed. On 16th February, 500 Partisans left to join the Italian Army. Everything has since been quiet.

(d) Riots or Civil Disturbances. Nothing to record.

(e) Strikes. Nil.

(f) Sabotage. Nil.

(g) Control of Movement. See under Special Problems. It might also be mentioned that a scheme has been put into operation whereby no civilian can pass a Police check-post unless his pass bears a special stamp affixed by this H.Q. or by the Corps concerned. The object is to tighten up the movement of civilians in forward areas, where at times in the past, the CC.BR. have not been acquainted with the signatures of officers issuing passes, therefore, there was a possibility of a "wrong one" slipping through.

(h) Internees. C.I.C. are, from time to time, arresting suspects and persons whose previous records justify internment.

(i) Curfew. Well observed. Nothing special to report.



(j) Espionage. The number of arrests has dropped recently probably due to the difficulties of travel over the snowbound mountains. Now that the thaw has set in, "business" may become brisker in the near future. One man was shot during the month.

Capt.s Edwards and Bigham are still engaged with investigation into spy cases. Major Ronnie is at present in the U.K.

#### 6. Prisons.

Satisfactory generally. Recently it was found the CC.RR. were arresting Italian Army deserters, of whom there is no lack, and placing them in the Murate Prison. This question was taken up with the Italian Liaison Officer attached to Fifth Army with the result that they are now being regularly transferred to Rome for Courts Martial and only temporarily housed in the Prison.

In Pistoia, it has been necessary to transfer some prisoners to the prison in Florence due to overcrowding.

#### 7. Possession of Firearms.

Apart from the case mentioned early in this report, there have been a number of arrests made for unlawful possession of firearms.

There is not the slightest doubt that a very large part of the people did not hand in their firearms, particularly Partisans.

Strong action is being taken in every case where it is suspected firearms may be concealed.

8. (a) Fire and Civil Defence. Operating satisfactory. Col. Parr, Senior Public Health Officer, has devised a First Aid scheme for Florence for use in an emergency. There will be approximately 17 First Aid stations with necessary equipment and manned by Italian personnel.

(b) Unexploded Bombs and Mines. Large numbers of mines and UX bombs are being lifted daily by civilian squads. Really good work is being done in this respect.

#### 9. General.

Viewing the picture as a whole, the Public Safety position is satisfactory. It is true there is ample room for improvement and no effort will be spared to better the present situation.

*E. J. Bye*  
E. J. BYE,  
Lt. Colonel,  
Chief of Public Safety,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

1183

785016

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

CONFIDENTIAL.

1st February 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Public Safety.

229/2.

TO : H.Q., Allied Commission.  
Attn: Public Safety Sub-Commission.

1. There is enclosed herewith, in duplicate, the report of the Public Safety Division, A.M.G. Fifth Army, for the month of January, 1945.

2. The following appendices are as attached:-

- "A" Forged Currency — 20  
"B" Disposition of Public Safety Officers  
"C" Prisons

For the Commanding General:

E.B. MAYNE,  
Colonel, UDF,  
Chief of Staff,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:

R.C. Toscana Region. (Attn: R.P.S.O.)

/ewp

COL. DUNN	10/11
CD. YOUNG	11/12
LT. COL. G.	5/1
MAJ. WILSON	6/2
MAJ. HARRIS	10/2/01
MAJ. BAKER	10/2
CAPT. DOLY	12/5
MAJ. HARRIS	12/2
MAJ. BAKER	12/2

1184

2B

HEADQUARTERS  
 AMG FIFTH ARMY  
 APO 464 U.S. Army

CONFIDENTIAL.

31st January 1945.

223/2.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for January, 1945.

TO : S.C.A.O., A.M.G. Fifth Army.

1. The front remains static with the exception of the western sector where the situation was somewhat fluid for a time due to a bit of give and take at the festive season. A little bit of "take" can now be recorded north of Lucca.

2. Location. Florence, Scuole Femminile Rossini, Via Giuseppe Galliano.

3. Check Line. Remains the same.

4. Police.

(a) CC.RR. Strength of CC.RR. of the Fifth Army Nucleo Autonomo is 282. Considerable calls continue to be made for the services of CC.RR. which could not have been met but for the reserves in the Scuole Centrale, Florence. One example was to send 100 to the S.W. Florence Province to combat an outbreak of armed holds-up at lonely farms and which was successful in its mission.

The need to transfer the Liguria CC.RR. from the threatened portion of the coastal front to Florence did not materialise and they are still retained in the area from where they will eventually be required to go forward.

Supplies of clothing still come forward and it is hoped they will be kept up especially in the case of boots which deteriorate quickly in the slush and snow on the forward roads.

Too high praise cannot be given the CC.RR. in their general security work in forward areas and in provinces under Army. They are on the ball.

Small teams are selected each week to sit in the Florence Courts and gain knowledge of procedure when they have to work in new provinces as taken over.

Provision has been made at the Florence Refugee Centre to have CC.RR. in the Scuole Centrale "dusted" as an anti-typhus measure. Shower baths and disinfection services are put at their disposal.

Guardia di Finanza. Satisfactory especially as revenue producing factories of tobacco and matches are now functioning.

Agente Sicurezza and Metropolitani. The new Vice Questore has arrived in Pistoia and this, together with several transfers in other areas, will.



it is hoped, make for a better police set-up.

A Public Safety Office has now been set up in Viareggio and is functioning well.

(NOTE: CC.RR. have been the means of collecting 700 petrol containers which were badly wanted by Q.M. Branch.)

(b) Crimes and Offences. (Exclusive of Forged Currency). An outbreak of lawlessness occurred in the early part of the month, embracing a triple and a single murder and several armed holds-up. Resolute action was taken in which CC.RR. played a prominent part resulting in several apprehensions which has had the desired effect in that there has been no recurrence. In the case of the robberies good hauls of arms and ammunition have been effected, proving that arms have not been handed in. Persons of "Red" flavour and alleged ex-partisans are suspect.

Brief Summary of Incidents.

Florence City. 1.1.1945. 4 alleged partisans on being questioned by Agenti fired and wounded an agent in the hand, the four were apprehended, two of the men had arms.  
3.1.1945. Jewellers shop entered by breaking wall in adjoining premises 1½ million lire's worth is allegedly stolen.  
6 men sentenced from 3 - 5 years for petrol theft.  
2 men sentenced to 2 years for possessing arms.

Florence Province. 22.12.1944. 2 men apprehended by CIC for theft of telephone wire clearing all wires between two poles carrying important military lines. Investigation brought out that the wire was being used wholly on connecting up houses to power lines. Enquiry proceeding further.  
4.1.1945. Montalone (SW Florence Province). 12 armed masked men held up party in farm, including CAO. Haul consisted of L. 200,000 including 37\$ from CAO. 4 men caught so far and more to follow. Several arms and ammunition recovered hidden in specially prepared box in woods nearby. On the night previous CC.RR. captured 7 armed men on their way to carry out a hold-up.  
6.1.1945. At Vinci N. of Prato 5 men caught by CC.RR. in act of holding up people in house. Each sentenced to 10 years.  
10.1.1945. Same area further 8 men caught with arms holding up house and they await trial.  
In a search for forged currency at a house in Campi Bisenzio there was found after a raid by CID an active communist who had in his possession arms and ammunition.  
At Piastro (San Marcello) in IV Corps territory, 150 rifles and 25 Sub M.G.'s supposedly hidden by partisans. Further investigation under way.  
5.1.1945. At Lastra a Signa 3 supposed fascists, 1 of whom was recently released from internment, were fatally shot by supposed

partisans. No apprehensions so far have been made. Agenti have seized large quantities of tobacco, charcoal, flour and meat during the month in connection with "Black Market" cases.

Lucca Province. General increase in offences but no outstanding cases.

Pistoia Province. 7 persons interned as a danger to the war effort. In all 45 persons have now been dealt with for possession of arms, armed holds-up and this has had a salutary effect on the community. 131 various types of arms, 10,000 approx. rounds of ammunition and 63 grenades have been recovered.

A large number of apprehensions of prostitutes have taken place all over the area but active watch has to be kept to curb their activities. Under all circumstances the V.D. situation is satisfactory.

Great credit must go to CC.RR. for their keenness for work under the C.A.P.Os who have done a good job in directing them.

(c) Conduct of Troops. On the extreme west of the front the conduct of U.S. coloured troops has been bad. Murders of five persons and several cases of alleged rape have been reported. In each case the P.M. has been informed. Four apprehensions for murder have been effected and enquiries are going on in the other. Wine and women lead up to the cases. Two CC.RR. have been wounded in shooting affrays. It is understood that one soldier was responsible for three murders. The four accused have been sentenced to the extreme penalty.

In XIII Corps an Indian soldier has been charged with the murder of a woman.

In the Brazilian Corps, 2 Brazilians have been apprehended for a murder.

In addition to the foregoing there is the usual complaints of appropriation of civilian property and damage but not to an alarming degree having regard to the numbers of troops in rest.

(d) Relations with Military Police. Good.

(e) Refugees. Regular numbers continue to flow from forward areas through refugee centres to the rear.

(f) Special Problems. With the assistance that has had to be given by the loan of CC.RR. destined for the north, the region that will have eventually to take over may feel a draught when the men have to go to their proper assignment. As many CC.RR. as possible should be centred at Legion H.Q. to keep a finger on the pulse of illegal holding of arms that have not as yet been uncovered.

5. (a) Public Morale. Tranquil. In the severe weather at present the clamour is all for food and it is suspect that the oft referred to "Black Market" keeps body and soul together.

(b) Attitude of Public towards (1) AMG and (2) Italian Government.

1170

(b) Attitude of Public towards (1) AMG and (2) Italian Government.

- (1) The strong action taken by the police in the outbreaks of lawlessness has been favourably commented on.
- (2) Only in one area midway between Florence and Bologna was an expression of opinion obtained and that was very much against the present legislature.

(c) Political Activity. A report from S.E. Florence to the effect that there was a swing over to the Christian Democrats is worthy of note. The Red element is still the predominant body in expression. It is however felt that the creed they preach is not modern communism but hostility to good government, almost anarchic in its policy. Much of the crime of a violent nature is attributable to them and invariably they claim their valour while patriots.

(d) Riot or Civil Disturbance. One small fracas took place at Scarperia when Communists went to the rescue of drunken Italian soldiers who had been arrested, the accused were suitably dealt with by AMG Courts.

(e) Industrial Agitation. The labour situation is a happy one in so far as the manual class is concerned.

(f) Strikes. One small strike at Pontassieve was of short duration.

(g) Sabotage. Nil.

(h) Control of Movement. Well maintained. Too many applications to enter Army Area are received by cable at this H.Q. With the good courier service letter applications should suffice.

(i) Internees. A small number continues to pass through, especially where sufficient evidence to warrant trial is not forthcoming to treat them as full blooded spies.

(j) Curfew. In S.W. Florence the curfew was extended to 1900 hours during the outbreak of crime.

(k) Espionage. Three men were shot during the month, nine sentenced to death and a woman to 20 years. Capt. Bigham was sent to assist in investigations with Major Ronnie and Capt. Edwards.

Two courts are still in session and the work outstanding should soon be overtaken.

6. Prisons.

(a) Satisfactory. The lack of lighting at periods in Florence is a handicap and application has been made to remedy the matter.

(b) Administration. Good.



(c) Discipline. Good.

(d) Sanitation. Satisfactory.

(e) Political (Fascist) Prisoners. Nil.

(f) Prisoners awaiting trial. No delays.

7. (a) Fire and Civil Defence. Operating satisfactorily.

(b) Civil Defence Organisation and Equipment. The recent circular on V Bombs will be communicated to those concerned so soon as the fire officers return from the conference at present being held at H.Q.

(c) Disposal of Unexploded Bombs and Mines. Good work is maintained. It is happily recorded that some U.S. detectors have been acquired which is all to the good.

*Walter Doherty*

W. DOHERTY,  
Lt.Colonel,  
Chief of Public Safety,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

/ewp

## Appendix "A"

Forging and Uttering of Allied Military Currency

Despite the cases recorded below the opinion is formed that the reported discovery of one source of supply in Rome has checked the supply in this Area. Information that two persons had been apprehended in Piombino (Toscana Region) and that their residence was given as Sicily, would lead to the belief that there still is a forging plant in existence there.

The purchase price of L. 400 for each forged note of L. 1,000 denomination appears to be standard.

Florence City. Due to press publicity. Warden searched prisoner and discovered 22 L. 1,000 notes in boot. Among 50 L. 1,000 notes handed in by payee in Florence Bank, 30 were forgeries.

Lucca (IV Corps). Two L. 500 raised to L. 1,000. Eleven L. 1,000 forgeries.

## Appendix "B"

Disposition of Public Safety Officers

Lt.Col.	W. Doherty	B	C.P.S., A.M.G. Fifth Army
Captain	J. Dunstan	B	CAPO, Fifth Army
"	P.A. Edwards	B	Assisting in Espionage Cases
"	A.C. Mack	B	CAPO, IV Corps
"	L.G. Whyman	B	CAPO, 92 Task Force
"	R.C. Limbert	B	Patriot Officer
"	T.W. Glasspool	B	A/CAPO, II Corps
"	T. Greenhill	B	NW Florence Prov. Special Duties; att'd. from Emilia Region
"	A. Hunter	B	CAPO, IV Corps (East Sector)
"	R. Hunt	B	CAPO, XIII Corps (from 8th Army)
"	Bigham	A	Assisting in Espionage Cases (from Piacenza Prov.)

In compliance with H.Q., A.C., Special Orders No. 21 dated 21st January 1945, the following changes took place on 31st January 1945:-

Lt.Col.	F.J. Bye	B	Assumed duties as CPS
Lt.Col.	W. Doherty	B	Departed for duty with H.Q., A.C., Public Safety Sub-Commission.

## Appendix "C"

Prisons

No change from previous months. Returns made by Toscana Region.

Application has been made to have Florence City Prisons supplied with electric light at least during hours of darkness and that two of the three prisons be connected up by telephone.

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R

1A

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. ArmyCONFIDENTIAL.

WD/RVDJ/ewp

2nd January 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Public Safety.

223/2.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission, A.C.

1. There is enclosed herewith, in duplicate, the report of the Public Safety Division, A.M.G. Fifth Army, for the month of December, 1944.

2. The following appendices are attached :-

- "A" Forged Currency,
- "B" Disposition of Public Safety Officers,
- "C" Prisons.

For the Commanding General:

*R.V.D. Janzan*  
R.V.D. JANZAN,  
Lt.Col., Cav.,  
Acting Chief of Staff,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to: R.C., Toscana Region. (Attn: R.P.S.O.)

/ewp

TO	DATE	INITIALS
COL. CHAPMAN	6/1	
COL. YOUNG	9/1	
LT. COL. WILCOX	8/1	
MAJ LUCKMAN	5/1	
MAJ WILSON	7/1	
MAJ HANBU-Y	7/1	
MAJ BALLANCE	7/1	
CAPT POWELL	14/1	
CHIEF		

1175



1B

HEADQUARTERS  
AMG FIFTH ARMY  
APO 464 U.S. Army

CONFIDENTIAL.

WD/ewp

1st January 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for December, 1944.

223/2.

TO : S.C.A.O., A.M.G. Fifth Army.

- 
1. Little variation in territory from previous month except some gains on Eastern, XIII Corps, territory.
  2. Location - Florence, Scuole Femminile Rossini, Via Giuseppe Galliano.
  3. Territory - As for previous month. Check line remains unaltered.
  4. Police.

(a) CC.RR. One hundred (100) CC.RR. of the Modena Team have had to be attached to IV Corps to provide additional check posts in the Brazilian area.

Another CC.RR. was killed by shell fire east of Viareggio. viz:- CC.RR. Bellone Federico of the Genoa Group.

A small supply of clothing was most acceptable during the month and another supply is due now. If the supply can be stepped up, especially blankets and underclothing it will minimise the sickness rate of these men who are in very exposed places at the coldest period of the year.

It may be necessary to transfer some of the Liguria CC.RR. to the Scuole Centrale due to the tactical situation.

The CC.RR. continue to do magnificent work and the number of agents caught is still mounting up.

Use of reserve CC.RR. in Scuole Centrale is made in Florence City to meet special demands.

Guardia di Finanza. Satisfactory.

Agente Sicurezza and Metropolitani. A special report was made on the Questore of Pistoia with a view to his removal and replacement by a younger man.

(b) Crimes and Offences. (exclusive of Forged Currency)

Florence City. There is an upward trend in larceny cases in comparison with the three previous years.

14041/42  
La Rosa  
Proceeding  
on 19/1/45

Florence Province. The lawlessness in the S.W. area has been successfully combat~~ed~~ by the drafting there of additional CC.RR. and no case of banditry has been reported since. Slightly to the north of the area at Lastra a Signa an armed robbery took place and CC.RR. investigations are hopeful in this case of making an arrest. In the S.W. area after a general round up in the process of checking identities, 16 persons are being held for enquiry.

In the North of the Province 5 persons have been apprehended for armed hold ups and good valuable recovery of property made. A woman who was held up in her home will in turn be prosecuted for the possession of military property. It is significant that arms have been uncovered in these cases and special investigation is proceeding for a further large uncovering.

Four cases of cable cutting have been reported and 2 arrests have been made. Special warning notices have been issued to all police agencies in English and Italian. Cases of this type are being dealt with by Special or General Courts.

There has been no recurrence of damage to the gasoline pipeline.

In a round up of stolen military mules no less than 40 animals have been recovered and 15 persons sentenced to imprisonment. In some cases saddlery was involved.

Two CC.RR. and a civilian were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, 5, 6, and 7 years respectively for corruption and attempted bribery of M.Ps.

Pisa Province. A civilian was sentenced to 27 years imprisonment for the murder of, and theft from, a U.S. soldier.

Lucca Province. Three bad cases of store-breaking involving over one million lire in goods have been reported and no arrests have been made despite extensive enquiry.

Pistoia Province. Resulting from the armed rescue of a prisoner from Pistoia Prison quiet investigations were made regarding the activities of a gang of former partisans "Silvano Fedi Group" and nine of them have been apprehended. Some of them were armed or had arms while the other were in possession of Allied property. For security reasons they are being detained in Florence Prison. The escapee has not so far been got but his rescuers have and the quest will be maintained.

Another band of thieves reckoned to be about 50 in number have been causing alarm among the populace. In one of their episodes 8 men and a woman, all masked, entered a house armed and held up a party therein. They took away over a million lire's worth of money and goods. A doctor and his wife were not touched due to his assisting a partisan who was wounded during hostilities. Eleven known members of this gang have been locked up and more are expected.

The apprehensions have had a salutary effect and has been favourably commented on by the C.L.N.

(c) Conduct of Troops. One or two cases of rape still continue to be reported allegedly by coloured troops. Several thefts have been recorded of bicycles, money and in two cases live pigs (presumably for added Xmas fare). These are now promptly reported to the nearest P.M. with copies to the Army P.M. in order that early attention be given to the reports.

Cases have been reported of false passes being obtained and rubber



unit stamps manufactured and impressed on passes in order to pass M.P. checks. Appropriate action is under consideration with a view to preventing the supply of the stamps in question.

(d) Relations with Military Police. Continue satisfactory. At present difficulty is being experienced as to suitable action in cases where Italian civilians employees are apprehended with military (Allied) uniform, the wearing of which is contrary to Fifth Army Orders. These persons were allowed away from their units on leave and had authority to wear the clothing. It is hoped that the advice and opinion given by the Legal Division will clear the matter up.

(e) Refugees. There is still a steady flow from forward areas and all demands for accommodation and transport have been met from Corps to Centre and then to the southern camps.

(f) Special Problems. Despite road checks and orders forbidding transport of civilians in military trucks, prostitutes, in a number of cases, infected, have been encountered in troop areas. Special attention has had to be given to this matter due to an increase in the incidence of V.D. in troops. Quite large numbers have been arrested, medically examined and where not imprisoned returned to their abodes in the south.

It is presumed that such women have contrived to obtain clandestine trips in army vehicles by drivers who are prepared to take the risk of contravening orders and other things.

#### 5. (a) Public Morale.

This could be described as passive. In view of the fact that the olive oil ration has been increased and plentiful military employment is at hand things are not so bad.

#### (b) Attitude of Public towards (1) AMG and (2) Italian Government.

(1) Satisfactory.

(2) No great comment has been heard. Despite certain elements being absent from the Cabinet it is felt that the atmosphere is better. This has been a much quieter month largely owing to speculation caused by the fall of the former Central Government, though there were signs in Florence at the end of the month that activity by the C.L.N. may increase in the near future. The routine political life of the various parties has continued without much interest being shown by the bulk of the population. The extreme "left" wing continue to be the most active in unofficial activities, but such activity has not reached large or serious dimensions. The fact that no political meetings are allowed in Army Area prevents a better expression of opinion.

(c) Political activity. The Red element is the most active and the ex-partisan element accept their principles generally. In Florence for example the display of red scarves among the working class element and also those who wont accept

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Allied employment is very evident at times.

(d) Riot or civil disturbance. A small demonstration by 20 women in San Casciano by way of a food protest was the only incident this month.

(e) Industrial agitation. Nothing recorded.

(f) Strikes. Nil.

(g) Sabotage. Nil.

(h) Control of Movement. Strict control is being maintained. There have been a few cases of irregular passes having been issued by people who ought to be more conversant with procedure. Special reports have been rendered in glaring cases as they occurred.

Since Christmas there has been a marked falling off in the number of applications to travel into Army Area. verb sap.

(i) Internees. A falling off has taken place due presumably to static conditions.

(j) Curfew. Satisfactory. Special dispensations were made for Xmas and New Year's Day.

(k) Espionage. (This sub-para has been added) In order to assist Major Ronnie, Capt. Edwards has been loaned from II Corps to assist in the preparation of the large number of cases awaiting trial.

On 6th December, 1944, two further spies were shot.

Two General Courts are now in session. During the month three persons were sentenced to death and another, a female, to 20 years imprisonment.

Two agents who were parachuted from aircraft were successfully rounded up. Some have been caught by shore patrols, others in refugee centres but the major number of agents are invariably caught at the road blocks.

#### 6. Prisons.

(a) Satisfactory except for the incident at Pistoia where the roof guard was not alert which matter is being dealt with.

(b) Administration. No complaints.

(c) Sanitation. Satisfactory.

(d) Discipline. Good.

(e) Political Prisoners from Fascist Regime. No record.

(f) Prisoners awaiting trial. No delays.

#### 7. Fire and Civil Defence.

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7. Fire and Civil Defence.

(a) Difficulty is being experienced in getting spare parts to properly equip machines, especially in Montecatini.

(b) Civil Defence Organisation and Equipment. Satisfactory. The air raid sirens in Lucca can now be operated electrically.

(c) Disposal of unexploded bombs and mines. Continued good work is being done. The civilian teams trained by Italian Army Officers and coordinated by an AMG Officer have worked wonders in what was at one time thought to be a hopeless venture. Further progress is also recorded from Florence Province where the work has been organised by local initiative making use of a few trained U.N.P.A. personnel.

General:

The memorandum from Security Branch, A.A.I., of the good work by Public Safety Division is appreciated by all, especially the CC.RR.

The Public Safety Division continues to do good work despite the trying conditions under which those in the very forward area operate.

*Walter Doherty*

W. DOHERTY,  
Lt.Colonel,  
Chief of Public Safety,  
A.M.G. Fifth Army.



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Appendix "A".

Forging and Altering of Allied Military Currency.

Florence City.

During the month, ninety (90) 1,000 lire notes have been negotiated. At the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro a man named Bianchi Giorgio who is deemed to be beyond reproach paid in 174 A.M. 1,000 lire notes of which 53 were forgeries. Enquiries are being made to see if he can recollect from whom he may have got the money.

A squad of agents are working with the U.S. Provost Marshal of Florence Command to try and trace the source of issue.

Florence Province.

Twenty two (22) spurious notes were presented to Banca d'Italia on 12th December, 1944, by Papi Ricciotti who states that he got the notes from one Ottolenghi, who is wanted on warrant for fraud against the State by the Procuratore del Regno of Florence. This has been circulated through occupied Italy with a view to affecting his arrest.

Lucca Province.

Two 1,000 lire notes were presented to the Banca d'Italia, one on 15th December, 1944, by Barone Silvio who, after investigation by the Questore, is held to be blameless. The other note was discovered by the bank at the close of the day. No.s A06285985A & A16143772A.

IV Corps Area.

One transaction of a 100 lire note which had been raised to 500 lire. Enquiries are proceeding.

The Finance Officer. (A), 5th Army Rear accepted two 1,000 lire notes in his daily transactions which were later found to be false.

These notes are quite good imitations but on inferior paper and a special warning notice has been issued by this H.Q. to all concerned and as much press publicity as possible is being given by way of warning to all concerned.

If this Army Area is worse than others it is recommended that a Public Safety Officer be sent to the area to investigate the matter.



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Appendix "B".Disposition of Public Safety Officers.

Lt.Col.	W. Doherty	✓	B	Chief of Public Safety
Captain	J. Dunstan	✓	B	CAPO, Fifth Army
"	P.A. Edwards	✓	B	Assisting Major Ronnie in Espionage Cases
"	A.C. Mack	✓	B	CAPO, IV Corps
"	L.G. Whyman	✓	B	CAPO, 92 Task Force
"	R.C. Limbert	✓	B	Refugee Officer, Florence
"	T.W. Glasspool	✓	B	A/CAPO, II Corps
"	T. Greenhill	✓	B	NW Florence Province Special Duties (Attd from Emilia Region).
"	A. Hunter	✓	B	CAPO, IV Corps (East Sector) (Attd from Lombardy Region) vice Major Ronnie
"	R. Hunt	✓	B	CAPO, XIII Corps (from 8th Army).

Appendix "C".Prisons.

As for previous months. Poretta Terme Prison destroyed by aerial bomb. (vide special report rendered during month).



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