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SOUTHERN REGION, MONTHLY REPORTS
SEPT. - DEC. 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS

SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

Ref: PS/ 2.5.1

Date 5th Dec. 1944.

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT OF ACTIVITIES - NOVEMBER 1944.

TO	HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION.	
COL. CHAPMAN	(ATTENTION OF THE DIRECTOR, PUBLIC SAFETY	
COL. YOUNG	HEAD-COMMISSION).	
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CONFIDENTIAL

G. Richardson, Major
Reg. Public Safety Officer.

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

Ref: PS/ 2.5.1

Date 3 December 1944

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of Activities - November 1944.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
(for attention of the Director,
Public Safety Sub-Commission).

1. Submitted hereunder is the report of activities for the MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1944 in respect of Public Safety Division, Southern Region, Allied Commission; the information is set out in a manner similar to that in the report for the month of September 1944 and, in explanation of the areas 'covered' by the Zones of the Region, I beg reference to the table appearing on pages 1 and 2 of that report.

2. CIVIL POLICE AGENCIES.

General Remarks re Police Agencies throughout Region.

During the month throughout the Zone the conduct, morale and efficiency of all civil police agencies with the exception of the Vigili Urbani, has been reasonably satisfactory.

The chief complaint is as of old - the low pay and lack of equipment particularly of adequate and efficient motor transport and accessories. This lamentable state of affairs is having a serious retarding effect on our endeavours to reintroduce efficiency and morale amongst the ranks of all agencies. Practically daily at this and Zone HQ's complaints are received to the effect that duties cannot be carried out properly owing to lack of transport, motor car tyres etc. These complaints are genuine and we do our best to relieve the situation temporarily by the 'begging and borrowing' process but we are unable to satisfy their needs satisfactorily and permanently. The various agencies, particularly the CC.RR., have considerable areas to police in this Region; they are

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understrength as regards personnel and the transport, if any, at their disposal now can be described as makeshift or better still, scrap, therefore, how can we demand of them efficient policing and supervision? As each month passes the situation is not improving, it is deteriorating rapidly - it is no idle statement to say that the day will assuredly arrive when Italy will, as other Countries have done in the past, wake up and regret that she had not put the enforcement of law and order foremost by giving the police agencies due recognition, fair-play and tools to do the job. This is not 'idle gossip' but merely a statement of fact. After long contact with Italian police I am satisfied there is excellent material amongst their ranks and they are only too willing to do the job if trusted and given the equipment with which to do it.

Reference to para. 2(b)(1) of previous report respecting the death of a British sailor in Naples at the hands of an Agent of P.S. The Agent appeared before a GM Court in Naples and after a lengthy hearing was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment. During the proceedings, evidence as to powers of Italian police and the policy of AC/AMG was given by this H.Q. - this evidence was accepted without question and the Court accepted that the Agent acted properly in endeavouring to arrest the deceased but found that the force used in that act was 'excessive'. There have been no repercussions amongst the Italian police following the publication of the result of the trial, in fact, it can be said that the publicly declared policy of AC/AMG has been favourably received by all the Italian police in this area.

(a) Carabinieri Reali.

(1) Naples Zone.

Strength - Naples Prov -	77 officers,	2367 o.r's
" - Benevento " -	5 "	289 "
" - Avellino " -	7 "	377 "

The difference between the present strength and the strength previously reported in Naples is due to the fact that last month I inadvertently omitted the figures of the Legion Command in Naples.

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In Naples City and Province the morale and conduct is improving under the efficient and zealous command of Lt. Col. Neoli, the A/Legion Commander.

In Benevento and Avellino satisfactory reports have been received regarding the conduct and morale of the CC.RR.

In Naples there has been a satisfactory return of arrests and denunciations; similar reports have been received from the remainder of the Zone.

CC.RR. patrols are still operating in conjunction with Allied M.P. patrols in the specific duty of combatting violent crimes of civil/military interest. The results have been satisfactory.

Patrols, totalling in all 75 CC.RR., have been instituted in the City of Naples to patrol from 20.00 hours to 08.00 hours - this, it is hoped, will reduce the crime figures.

Certain CC.RR. have been found performing extraneous duties - this has been rectified and by the time this report has been submitted all such personnel will have been returned to normal duties.

The CC.RR. Command in the area is still concerned regarding the scarcity of experienced personnel - they feel that still further demands will be made on their establishment for assignment to the northern areas.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Strength - Salerno Prov - 10 Officers, 722 o.r's

Morale and efficiency here remain satisfactory and the ZPSO, who has daily contact with the local Command, has no adverse comment to make regarding their conduct.

Co-operation with the Allied M.P. has been good in connection with general enquiries and road blocks. 1641

(3) Foggia Zone.

Strength - Foggia Prov - 6 Officers, 639 o.r's

" - Campobasso" - 6 " 482 "

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Morale and efficiency satisfactory - it is reported that in this respect there has been an improvement seen during the month due to the fact that no further CC.RR. have been withdrawn for duty in the northern areas.

In conjunction with the other police agencies the CC.RR. throughout the Zone have worked well upon black market offences.

(4) Bari Zone.

The strength of the CC.RR. in this Zone is 53 Officers and 2980 other ranks. This increase is due to the fact that the repatriated CC.RR. POW's (10 Officers and 496 o.r's) referred to in para. 2(a)(5) have been distributed throughout the Legion for service. The distribution is 3 Officers and 200 o.r's to Bari; 2 Officers and 100 o.r's to Brindisi; 96 o.r's to Lecce and 5 Officers and 100 o.r's to Taranto (Taranto Zone).

During the month the CC.RR. have been doing good work and have been busy recovering contraband of all description. It is also observed that a considerable quantity of Allied military material has been seized.

At Potenza Province 68 'snap' road blocks have been operated - the average period of these blocks has been 24 hours. The returns indicate these blocks have been very successful indeed.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Strength - Taranto Prov - 5 Officers, 219 o.r's

The satisfactory standard as regards morale and efficiency has been maintained.

The ZPSO reports that during the month the CC.RR. have been busy in combatting the activities of black market operators and one case of particular interest is noted - this will be dealt with under the appropriate heading of 'Black Market'.

It is said a large force of CC.RR. is engaged on guard duty at the Arsenale, Taranto, on behalf of the Italian Ministry of Marine - these CC.RR.

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could be of greater use elsewhere;-the matter is being looked into and a special report will be submitted.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Strength - Catanzaro Prov - 9 Officers, 681 o.r's
 Cosenza " - 5 " 627 "
 Reggio Cal. " - 8 " 157 "

The morale of the CC.RR. in this Zone is reported to be quite fair whereas their efficiency is said to be up to standard. Complaints however are still being received that the forces are understrength and that equipment is lacking.

(b) Questura.

(1) Naples Zone.

The strength of this agency is 11 Officers and 3766 o.r's.

Conduct generally satisfactory. Efficiency of Agent doubtful whilst morale is poor.

It is still necessary to continually supervise the duties performed and specific assignments given to ensure that they are not 'forgotten'.

Furthermore, it is apparent that this particular department of Government Service is content to adopt a passive attitude in the application of its duties.

Discontent amongst personnel in respect of low wages and high cost of living, still exists.

Arrests and denunciations have been, in comparison with previous months, up to the standard - there is no attempt to unravel or investigate large scale illicit operations (black market) unless pressure is brought to bear by our PSO's.

This most unsatisfactory state of affairs as previously reported is due undoubtedly to the weakness of the Questore, low wages as against cost of living, insufficient equipment and lack of transport.

At Benevento where the strength is 6 Officers and 58 other ranks, the position is a little better although morale remains poor. Here routine enquiries

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have been performed satisfactorily. The Questore has been transferred to Pisa and a new appointment is awaited at Benevento.

At Avellino the establishment is 3 Officers and 57 other ranks. As in the other cases it is reported routine and everyday enquiries are conducted satisfactorily but there is a general lack of initiative and energy.

(2) Salerno Zone.

The effective strength of this agency is 2 Officers and 165 other ranks. The reason for the reduction is that certain Agenti have been withdrawn to 'Bari for regrouping' - I am not as yet aware of the reason for this 'move' but enquiries are in hand.

Salerno has not been harrassed by serious crime during the month and thus this agency has not been called upon to exert itself unduly - nevertheless, they have worked quite well in the prevention and detection of local offences.

Certain dissatisfaction has been expressed owing to their inability to obtain certain foodstuffs, viz, coffee, tea and pepper, as permitted under the Italian Government scale - this matter is being taken up with the local alimentation authorities by the ZPSO.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Strength - Foggia Prov - 3 Officers, 97 o.r.'s
Campobasso" - 2 " 44 "

It is reported from Foggia that this agency has been operating satisfactorily. This Province is not 'gifted' with a heavy crime return but in connection with the olive oil control this agency has denounced 17 persons for various offences and has seized approximately 3 quintali of oil. ^{Some} 41 persons have been arrested for other crimes. 1088

At Campobasso the Questura has not done so well - the crime figures here are by no means heavy so this may account for the low figures of arrests etc. It must also be taken into account that this agency has not a large staff at its command.

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(4) Bari Zone.

Strength - Bari Prov - 6 Officers, 468 o.r.'s
 - Potenza " - 7 " 49 "
 - Matera " - 1 " 37 "
 - Lecce " - 1 " 74 "
 - Brindisi " - 1 " 120 "

No adverse report can be made regarding the morale and efficiency of these agencies. Despite lack of equipment, transport etc their work in combatting local crime has been satisfactory. The returns also show that these agencies have been responsible for the recovery of much contraband from black marketeers; Allied property has also been recovered during the month.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Strength - Taranto Prov - 15 Officers, 201 o.r.'s

No complaint can be made regarding the efficiency or morale of this force - they have been working quite well in combatting local crime.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Strength - Catanzaro Prov - 6 Officers, 56 o.r.'s
 - Cosenza " - 5 " 75 "
 - Reggio Cal " - 8 " 157 "

Throughout the Zone the morale and conduct of these agencies have been reported as quite fair. Their standard of efficiency has been maintained although complaints are being received continuously of lack of equipment etc.

No report has been received regarding the special conditions at Cosenza - this is awaited.

(c) Guardia Finanza.(1) Naples Zone.

The strength of the force in Naples is not yet to hand but the establishments at Benevento and 1687
 Avellino are as follows - Benevento, 3 Officers, 125 other ranks and Avellino, 9 Officers, 138 other ranks.

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Complaint is made of lack of equipment particularly transport.

O/C of Naples City and Province has disclosed that approximately 150 members of his force previously performing duties in the Naples Port were withdrawn some months ago supposedly by the Allied authorities at the Port - the reasons for this are unknown. Representations have been made by the ZPSO with the result that reinstatement will take place during the early part of Dec. 44. The reinstatement it is felt will create a considerable uplift in their morale and efficiency as they will appreciate we are taking more and more interest in their return to normal duties.

Requests made by Zone to concentrate on combatting black market and contraband activities have produced good results but greater energy is necessary and the O/C has been made aware of this.

Summarising the situation as regards GG.FF. in this Zone it is obvious they are suffering from a feeling of inferiority which has produced a low morale, but every effort is being made by our PSO's to introduce a feeling of responsibility and pride in the execution of their duties.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Strength - Salerno Prov - 8 Officers, 329 O.R's

Morale and efficiency can be described as fair. During the month they have been active against the black market and have recovered a reasonable quantity of grain and oil from traffickers.

Here the transport and equipment problem remains unchanged - as previously reported they are in urgent need of replacements.

As in the case of the Questura they have been unable to obtain certain of the permitted foodstuffs which is due entirely to lack of supplies.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Strength - Foggia Prov - 6 Officers, 222 O.R's
Campobasso - 2 Officers, 69 O.R's

In Foggia it is reported that about 70 quintali of

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olive oil has been recovered from contrabanders - this is a very satisfactory return.

GG.FF. in Campobasso have likewise been active against illicit trafficking. They have been combining well with CC.RR. in a drive against black market operators.

We still have the complaint of lack of equipment and transport.

(4) Bari Zone.

Strength - Bari Prov - 16 Officers, 715 o.r.'s
 - Potenza " - 2 " 51 "
 - Matera " - 1 " 34 "
 - Lecce " - 6 " 213 "
 - Brindisi " - not yet to hand

No complaint has been received concerning the conduct, morale or efficiency of the force operating in this Zone. Returns, particularly of confiscated property, are quite good and substantial quantities of contraband foodstuffs etc have been 'rescued' from the black market operators. Their arrests and denunciations have also maintained a good standard.

The force throughout this area is giving valuable assistance in connection with the olive oil control - this will be dealt with further under the appropriate heading.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Strength - Taranto Prov - 3 Officers, 122 o.r.'s

The position of this agency is by no means satisfactory. On 17 Nov correspondence was forwarded to HQ. Allied Commission pointing out that the C/O was resenting Allied supervision and advice. A request was made for the transfer of the officer, but to date the position remains the same. The unsatisfactory behaviour of the C/O is reflected in his men as four have been denounced by the CC.RR. for being concerned in a substantial black market conspiracy - dealt with under heading 'Black Market'.

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(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Strength - Catanzaro Prov - 3 Officers, 153 o.r's
 Cosenza " - 2 " 165 "
 Reggio Cal " - 5 " 223 "

Complaints are still made of equipment shortages but the morale and conduct are described as quite fair.

Throughout the Zone GG.FF. have been particularly active against black marketeers and the returns are most encouraging.

Concentration on the Messina - Reggio Calabria ferry has continued and results have been obtained.

(d) Real Corpo delle Foreste.

Again it must be reported that the activities of this agency are handicapped throughout the Zone as a result of lack of suitable equipment. Conduct has been satisfactory but morale poor; they are having to contend with shortage of transport, poor rates of pay and lack of suitable clothing to fortify themselves against the coming winter. Despite these difficulties no report has been received that they are other than loyal to their calling- throughout the Region denunciations for contraventions against the Forestry Laws have been up to standard.

(e) Vigili Urbani.

Probably the least said about these agencies the better - there has been no improvement in morale or efficiency; they are faced with poor rates of pay, lack of equipment and as we know no proper training. In these circumstances we cannot expect a great deal from them; they have been and still are considered by the public (probably rightly so) the most incapable and corrupt branch of the Italian Police Service.

32 CRIME SITUATION.(a) Naples Zone.

The situation, particularly in Naples City and in parts of the Province, shows an increase in crimes of violence - in the greater majority of cases these offences have been committed by Allied military personnel or by persons masquerading as such. A return has been drawn

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up by the ZPSO showing that 57 cases of crimes of violence, viz, murder, rape, etc., have been committed in the Naples area during the month ending 5 Nov 44 - this is most disturbing and such return has been transmitted to Provost of all Services.

Civilian crime statistics also show an increase in crime in the Naples area but not to any alarming degree. Most of these offences are committed during the hours of darkness and consequently the patrols previously referred to under the heading of 'Carabinieri Reali' have been instituted in the City area.

Cases of note in the Naples area are:-

On 27 Oct at Nola two British soldiers were accosted by unknown armed civilians who demanded money. The soldiers made good their escape but one was slightly wounded. The incident was reported to the Allied Military Command and an armed patrol was sent to the vicinity. The vicinity was searched, no trace was found of the assailants and the patrol decided to search a farmhouse. Their demand to enter was refused by the owner (he believed they were criminals intending to enter for a felonious purpose). Shots were exchanged and a British NCO was mortally wounded. Later the residents were arrested but a post mortem examination revealed the NCO had been killed by a bullet fired by one of the patrol. The residents were released and enquiries are now in hand to identify and apprehend the assailants.

On 28 Oct at Marcianise a LAC of RAF was shot and killed in a house. It is alleged that with others he was endeavouring to interfere with an Italian woman. Enquiries in hand by RAF SIB.

On 4 Nov in S. Anastasia at the Alfa Romeo plant, materials value 4,000,000 were stolen.

On 6 Nov at Torre del Greco reports of trains being plundered en route have been received. Enquiries in hand by Questura and CMP.

On 14 Nov at Vico Colonna an Allied soldier was stabbed and killed by a civilian during a quarrel. Assailant escaped but enquiries in hand to trace.

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On 20 Nov at Somma Vesuviana 43 farmers denounced for making false returns in connection with potato seed amassing.

In Benevento Province the crime situation is static. Crimes of violence are fortunately few the majority of offences being larcenies from the person - a total of 76 cases have been reported. One case of murder occurred as a result of a domestic quarrel.

Patrol card offences are reported to be on the increase in this Province and vigilance is being exercised to prevent and detect such offences.

Also in Avellino Province the situation remains static. Two cases of rape have been reported whilst a total of 93 larcenies from the person have come to notice of police. No crimes of special interest are reported.

In conclusion to the comments for this Zone it should be mentioned that in order to prevent the use of firearms by civilians, the Questore of each Province has been advised to suspend the issue of small arms licences to enable the position to be reviewed - in the AMG area of Naples issue of licences for such arms has been suspended. The Zone Commissioner has agreed to the withdrawal of certain permits and it is hoped that these measures to prevent the use of firearms for unlawful purposes by civilians will do much to relieve our 'crimes of violence' situation. Incidentally, it should be stated that the Allied Military authorities have complained about the number of firearms in the possession of civilians.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Crime in this Zone has remained very reasonable, indeed - I know of districts in London which would like to be in a position to submit monthly returns such as Salerno, even in peace-time.

There has only been one case of serious crime; an assault on an Italian police officer. Their heaviest return is under larceny-simple, 51 cases are recorded.

It is noted that 18 cases have occurred in which civilians have been arrested for the larceny or illegal possession of Allied property. 1082

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The larcenies of lead covered cables referred to in previous reports have ceased, due entirely to the strong action taken by the Allied and Italian authorities.

At the time of the compilation of this report information has been received of larcenies from military controlled railway installations in the Zone - we are making enquiries from the Allied Commission public safety point of view.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Again as regards Foggia Province it can be said the situation is static although two cases of murder have been disclosed, one at Nicandro and the other at Stornarella. Special vigilance has been kept in the southern portion of the Province to apprehend members of a gang who are impersonating Allied military personnel.

The civilian crime situation at Campobasso by no means gives cause for alarm. Agreed two cases of murder have been reported but the principal crime here is cattle-stealing and a marked drop has been shown in offences of this character.

(4) Bari Zone.

The crime in this Zone can be described as reasonably satisfactory.

In Bari Province the CC.RR. and Questura together have arrested 103 persons and denounced 282 for offences both serious and petty. The most serious crime 'cleared-up' here is one of rape.

An unfortunate incident has occurred in this district during the month - a CC.RR. NCO has been arrested by M.P. for being concerned in a case of bribery and corruption; some 50,000 lire cash and Allied military property are involved.

Two murders have been committed and 'cleared-up' in Potenza Province; briefly these cases are:-

On 28 Oct at Casale a known black marketeer from the Naples area was shot and killed by a local youth who afterwards stole 6,000 lire from the body - murderer arrested.

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On 16 Nov at Satriano a road worker was shot and killed by an acquaintance. The motive was of a personal revenge and the murderer has been arrested.

Other than these two cases this Province has not been unduly troubled from the crime aspect.

Matera Province likewise has not been unduly troubled the only serious case of crime being one murder - on 30 Nov at Ferrandina an Italian soldier shot and gravely wounded his wife and shot and killed a woman acquaintance for domestic reasons - enquiries in hand to trace murderer.

Lecce Province has been fairly 'quiet' from the crime angle - their highest return is 71 cases of larceny-simple.

The position at Brindisi has not been so satisfactory, there have been four cases of violence and the return shews that many persons have been dealt with for the improper possession of firearms.

One case of particular importance is noted from the Brindisi area - on 21 Nov at the Brindisi Docks two civilians were arrested by CC.RR. for stealing from US mail bags.

(5) Taranto Zone.

The position here can be described merely as fair - robbery with violence shews a total of 14 whilst other offences of violence number 32. On the other hand 65 cases have occurred in which arrests have been effected for the larceny or illegal possession of Allied property.

Cases of note are:-

On 20 Oct at Taranto a boy of 16 shot and killed an Indian soldier - it is alleged the Indian was discovered in the act of raping the boy's sister.

On 11 Nov a man was found shot dead at Taranto - it is alleged that a brief case supposedly carried by deceased and containing 300,000 lire, is missing.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

It would appear from the monthly statistics that there has been increase in crimes of violence during the period under review; murders have been reported from all three Provinces of the Zone as have robberies with

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violence.

Cases of special interest are :-

On 28 Oct at Nicastro (Catanzaro) five unknown persons, all wearing ^{and} armed with rifles and shot guns, entered the house of a blind man and stole 17,000 lire cash and 2 quintali of grain.

On 3 Nov at same locality four unknown persons, all masked and armed, robbed 7 peasants of 19,000 lire cash.

On night of 3 Nov on main road Cosenza - Sibari an unknown person fired 6 shots at a taxi driver causing serious injuries. The assailants then took the vehicle and drove away.

On 23 Oct at Palmi (Reggio) an aged woman was killed in her house by blows from a blunt instrument. Her son has been arrested for the offence.

On 26 Oct at Staiti (Reggio) four men, all armed and two in unidentified uniform, entered a farm and stole 100 goats and 20 sheep. CC.RR. have succeeded in recovering the animals but the thieves are still at large.

On 5 Nov at Oppido Mamertina (Reggio) 12 unknown men, all armed and masquerading as CC.RR. entered a farmhouse and stole from the owner 21,000 cash and a quantity of household goods.

On 12 Nov at Gioia Tauro (Reggio) 3 armed men held up and robbed two persons of 23,000 lire. Thanks to the timely intervention of the CC.RR., two of the bandits were arrested and a greater portion of the money was recovered.

On night of 19 Nov at Cosenza unknown persons entered house of woman aged 50 and strangled her. Theft is believed motive for crime.

4. BLACK MARKET.

(1) Naples Zone.

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Civilian police have been fairly active in this connection and a total of 1,541 cases have been dealt with during the month in the Zone - this is not a good return when one bears in mind that Naples is still an important Port

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area in the military sense and the fact that there are still many leakages of foodstuffs, cigarettes etc. from the port area Allied depots.

It is reported that road blocks operated by the CC.RR. and GG.FF. have been producing indifferent results only - this matter is being looked into and the agencies are being 'advised' to make greater effort.

Special detachments of Allied military personnel working in co-operation with Questura agents have been engaged solely in combatting black market activities.

Investigations by the Security Section, QM., PBS., assisted by PSO's of the Zone, have resulted to date in the arrest of 6 members of a Naples gang which is believed to be one of the principal black market gangs operating between this City and Rome. At the time of arrest the gangs were negotiating the purchase of two truck loads of Allied coffee - the purchase price was in the Region of 4,500,000 lire.

The Consiglio dell'Economia, Naples, has been advised to be on the alert to detect and prevent the issue of motor car circulating permits to suspects.

Arrangements have been made by Zone with S.E. il Cardinale of Naples to undertake the examination of all commercial agents arriving in the Zone to purchase commodities on behalf of the Vatican City - this will prevent a 'leakage' which is known to have been taking place in the past.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Local police agencies, particularly the GG.FF. have been busy looking into the leakage of flour, pasta etc from mills and to date one large mill has been closed by order of the Prefect as a result of investigation disclosing irregularities.

In consequence of police activity a total of 2019 kg of grain and 3939 of olive oil has been recovered from the possession of black marketeers.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Foggia Province is still troubled with black market but success has attended the efforts of police - the

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returns show that contraband wheat, oil etc to the total weight of 1107 quintali has been recovered from the black market and returned to the legitimate market.

This Province is now devoting much of its time to the olive oil harvest which is in full swing - this, however, will be dealt with under a special heading of 'Olive oil Control'.

In Campobasso Province a drive by the CC.BB. and GG.FF. against operators has been going a lot of good even although the amount of goods seized is small when compared with Foggia standards - it would appear that the operators are using the Campobasso route to Rome because of the police 'pressure' in Foggia and the southern Provinces.

The transport of black market goods by rail from Termoli, Campobasso, has practically ceased as a result of police activities.

(4) Bari Zone.

Throughout the Zone 77 black market operators have been arrested, 989 denounced and 61 concerns suspended from business for illegal activity - really a satisfactory return. Also to be taken into consideration is the fact that the police agencies in this area are busily engaged on the enforcement of the olive oil control.

In Bari Province a total of 512 quintali of grain and other produce has been recovered from the black market. The return from Potenza is also quite reasonable.

Matera Province where police are not particularly numerous, has recovered contraband foodstuffs to the total weight of 177 quintali.

In Lecce Province some 19 persons have been arrested and 240 denounced for black market activities and in these cases property to the weight of 105 quintali has been seized for proper distribution. Brindisi Province has not such a good return; 4 persons arrested and 17 denounced for illicit activity.

In the Zone road blocks have been maintained and train raids have been conducted - owing to the success of these the police agencies are being (advised' to 1677 continue such operations.

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(5) Taranto Zone.

Throughout the Zone police road blocks have been maintained: quantities of beans, oats etc have been recovered, but little olive oil. The oil traffickers are obviously resorting to the use of trains as frequent police raids on the Tranto-Naples passenger trains have produced contraband oil in very substantial quantities.

The CC.RR. have uncovered a very interesting case of black market conspiracy - following the seizure of a few packets of Italian cigarettes, enquiries continued and a gang of tobacco traffickers was broken up. Over 6 tons of tobacco had been 'stolen' by this gang and illicit sales realised 5,000,000 lire. Of this amount 118,000 lire has been recovered whilst two motor cars and two motor cycles have been confiscated. Many persons were involved including 5 Italian naval deserters and 4 members of the CC.FF. at Bari.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Police activity has been in evidence in this Zone during the month - trains are still the medium for the conveyance of a great deal of the contraband and the police services are encouraged to search more trains and increase the number of arrests and confiscations.

In Catanzaro Province 88 persons have been arrested or denounced for black market offences; the figures for Cosenza Province are 135 and Reggio Calabria 102.

5. OLIVE OIL CONTROL.

Arrangements in connection with the olive oil harvest are now in full operation in the Bari, Foggia and Tranto Zones.

Speaking from the police point of view, the situation is very satisfactory. During the month Captain Noble of this H.Q., proceeded to Bari on the temporary duty of supervising the police enforcement of the Control. Under his command he has 4 British Officers at Bari, 3 in Foggia and 1 in Taranto - these officers have been 'loaned' by the military authorities. 1676

The situation in Bari is satisfactory from our viewpoint - some 514 quintali of oil have been recovered by the police services. The figures are not available for Foggia and Taranto.

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All our officers are doing good work - they are working day and night to help bring in the oil and are giving excellent encouragement to the police - despite this, however, the officers are all too few whilst sufficient transport is lacking. It is also understood Agriculture Section is not satisfied with the way the Italians are working on the agricultural side - it seems the Italians are still requiring someone to come and do the work for them.

Static and mobile police blocks have been operating throughout the Zones and frequent raids have been made on trains.

Some of the devices employed by the traffickers have been most ingenious but unsuccessful - one outstanding method of transportation has been that of hiding a tin of oil in a large loaf of bread which had been baked around it.

There has been one case of more but as yet I am not in possession of the full facts - it seems that in Bari Province a truck carrying a consignment of figs to the Vatican City was subjected to examination; 5 1/2 quintali of contraband olive oil was found secreted - needless to say the oil was confiscated and the offenders denounced.

It is understood that owing to the non-cooperation of the Italian agricultural authorities, those responsible at this H.Q. for the olive oil harvest control are making representations to higher H.Q. to withdraw Allied support - if this takes effect, Captain Noble will return to his normal duties at this H.Q. - in any case he will return about the middle of Decr when it is said the harvest season ends.

6. MAFFIA ACTIVITY.

No Maffia activity has been reported in this Region.

7. PROSTITUTION.

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(1) Naples Zone.

Allied military and civil police agencies have co-operated in attempting to put a stop to the nuisance of clandestine prostitution. M.P. in this areas are acutely aware of the danger in this respect and special squads have been formed to deal with street solicitation.

The mobile squad of the Questura appointed for this particular type of work has produced good results.

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During the month in Naples City and Province 560 prostitutes have been detained. Benevento shows a return of 6 and Avellino Province 60.

(2) Salerno Zone.

This is the 'black mark' against an otherwise orderly Zone - during the month 88 clandestine prostitutes have been detained, 87 found infected, whilst a total of 109 are at present in hospital undergoing treatment.

There are still a large number of Allied troops in the area and VD is causing concern to the Allied military authorities particularly in the Amalfi and Positano districts - this has been brought to the notice of the civil police agencies and appropriate advice given.

(3) Foggia Zone

The situation, particularly, in Foggia Province is not good. Here 148 prostitutes have been arrested; 32 of them found infected whilst a total of 78 were undergoing hospital treatment at the end of the month.

Campobasso is better only 5 of the prostitutes examined were found to be infected and they are now undergoing appropriate treatment.

(4) Bari Zone.

In connection with prostitution in Bari City a very serious problem is the matter of 'ponaing' by children aged 10 to 15 years. They do not work for any particular prostitute but lead groups of soldiers, sailors and airmen to houses where they know prostitutes live. Owing to the increase of this activity the ZPSO, Italian Police and Allied M.P., have discussed the matter and appropriate action is being taken.

Throughout the Zone the serious problem of clandestine prostitution has been received the attention of the police. The monthly return shows 95 prostitutes arrested; 422 prostitutes under treatment for VD; 98 admitted to hospital; 94 discharged from hospital and 2 unauthorised brothels closed.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Civil Police have been active in this connection → 10 clandestine prostitutes have been apprehended and examination of these, together with those authorised,

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has revealed 46 to be infected. A total of 34 are undergoing hospital treatment.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Throughout the Zone police inspection of licensed brothels has continued. At Catanzaro 12 clandestine prostitutes have been detained, 21 at Cosenza and 12 at Reggio Calabria.

8. FUNCTIONING OF COURTS.

(1) Naples Zone.

AMG Courts are functioning in the City of Naples. In the Provinces of the Zones the Italian Courts are reported to be functioning and dealing satisfactory with Allied cases.

Owing to heavy larcenies etc at a BAD at Nolas Naples Province, the question of the setting up of an AMG Court is under consideration.

(2) Salerno Zone.

No AMG Courts in this area - the Italian Courts are functioning reasonably well. Complaints have been received from Allied units regarding alleged unsatisfactory handling of cases, but when the matters have been enquired into by the ZPSO it is usually found that the Allied units have not been following the proper procedure.

(3) Foggia Zone.

There have been no AMG Courts in this Zone and it is reported that the Italian Courts are functioning reasonably well. It is noted however that during the month at Campobasso Province 221 cases have been dealt with by the Italian Courts whereas 1185 cases are waiting to be heard.

(4) Bari Zone.

Upon the instructions of H.Q. AMG Courts are already functioning at Bari in connection with heavy larcenies of ammunition, equipment etc, at Bitonto in that area - this matter will also be dealt with in para. 15 (Sabotage).

No information has reached this office of the Italian Courts in the Zone operating other than satisfactorily.

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...../22

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(5) Taranto Zone.

One AMG Court was held during the month - on 7 Nov a man was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment and 45,000 lire fine for stealing 4800 litres of aviation spirit from a pipe-line at Massafra.

The Italian Courts here are said to be operating reasonably well.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

No Allied Courts have been held during the month in this Zone and the Italian Courts are said to be operating satisfactorily.

9. LIAISON WITH MILITARY POLICE.

The correct description under this heading is 'excellent'; as each passes co-operation becomes closer and here both we and the military authorities are reaping the benefit.

At the request of the military authorities, this HQ. is regularly attending training and refresher courses of all ranks of C.M.P., S.I.B., and F.S.S., and giving lectures not only upon the activities of AC/AMG Public Safety and the Italian civil police agencies, but also upon their own duties. The military authorities are very appreciative of these lectures - as will be realised these lectures are a drain on own manpower resources here, but it is absolutely essential they should continue if we desire 'liaison and co-operation' to reach the perfect mark.

10. CONDUCT OF ALLIED NAVAL AND MILITARY PERSONNEL.(1) Naples Zone.

As will seen from para. 3 (Crime situation) of this report the conduct of troops still leaves much to be desired. Deserters are still at large in this area and there is no question that they are responsible for most of the crimes of violence with which we are faced. It is known that Allied M.P. are fully alive to the situation and that they are doing their utmost to put a stop to these criminal activities - the scheme referred to in para. 9(1) of previous report is still operating and is shewing satisfactory results.

Outstanding serious incidents are:-

In connection with the train fatality are Gragnano reported in para. 9(1) of report last month; two members

...../23

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of the R.A.A.F. have been arrested by S.I.B. and are now awaiting trial on charges of manslaughter.

On 14 Nov in a bar at Torre del Greco a fight took place between 10 British soldiers and four Italian civilians - one of the soldiers received a knife wound near the heart.

On 15 Nov at Torre del Greco a disturbance arose between Allied soldiers and civilians. A fight ensued and one soldier was fatally stabbed.

On 21 Nov two British officers were found by CMP behaving irregularly in a street in Naples. One was arrested but the other escaped.

(2) Salerno Zone.

On the whole it can be described as fairly satisfactory - in this Zone - drunkenness continues it has not reached serious proportions.

DAPM, 94 Sub-Area, has conducted a 'drive' against deserters - this has been successful and several 'long-term' deserters have been apprehended.

One serious incident has occurred during the month - on 22 Nov at Salerno a British WCO when in company with an Italian female, was assaulted by three coloured soldiers one of whom took the female and raped her. SIB are investigating.

(3) Foggia Zone.

The situation has been far from satisfactory. In the early part of the month at Campobasso in the area of Campomarino the situation was serious as a result of the conduct of Greek troops - they seemed to be carrying out systematic violence and robbery; fortunately, the Greeks have left the area and the position has returned to normal.

Trouble is still being experienced in Campobasso City owing to the influx of Polish troops. However, following strong representation by our ZPSC, regular visits to the town are being made by American, British and Polish M.P. and the position is improving.

In Foggia Province the situation is much better although

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occasional reports are being received of military personnel committing various crimes, chiefly petty larceny.

(4) Bari Zone.

Reference to the first portion of Para. 9(4) of report for previous month pointing out that a serious situation had arisen owing to the ramifications of an armed and mobile gang believed composed of Canadian deserters. As stated therein the DMP of the District was seen by this HQ and in view of the information supplied, he despatched forthwith a special squad of M.P. SIB to investigate and round up the gang.

With the assistance of the ZPSO, CC.RR. were supplied to assist the Allied M.P., and it can now be reported that as a result of those operations the gang has ceased to exist - three French Canadian deserters are known to have been the ring-leaders are now facing Court Marshal.

Only one other incident of importance has occurred in the Zone - on 23 Nov at Maglie (Lecce Prov) about 10 persons wearing Allied uniform and travelling in two trucks entered a civilian food supply depot and after disarming three watchmen took them away and left them by the road side. It is not known as yet if any property is missing, but enquiries are in hand by M.P.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Apart from the Greek troops, the conduct of Allied military personnel cannot be described as bad in this area.

Some 20 different incidents in which Greeks were concerned, have caused the civil population a certain amount of anxiety - the departure of these troops from the area is expected at any moment and this will obviously ease the situation. The greater number of these incidents occurred around the 28 Oct which was the anniversary of Italy's declaration of war against Greece.

Incidents of note are:-

On 15 Nov at Taranto an Italian sailor was shot by a US soldier during a brawl - the US soldier is under arrest. 1670

On 28 Oct ten Greek soldiers entered the Socialist club at Taranto, broke some furniture, destroyed papers and

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then left. Two members were in the club at the time; they offered no resistance and were not interfered with.

There have been two cases of cycle-stealing by British soldiers.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Conduct of troops is described as quite good in this Zone. There are still a number of deserters in this area and during the month three British, four Canadian and two American deserters have been arrested by Italian civil police agencies in liaison with AC.

On 8 Nov at Nicastro (Catanzaro) an English and a Canadian deserter stopped and took possession of an AC truck loaded with oil. The truck was driven away and the crew reported the facts to the CC.RR. who took up the enquiry and later arrested the thieves. A letter of commendation has been sent to the Legion Commander by the ZPSO.

11. CONTROL OF CIVILIAN MOVEMENT.

Throughout the Region civil police agencies have been keeping a check on civilian movement - lists are being received and recorded at this H.Q. of all passes issued to the restricted areas.

No untoward incident has occurred in this connection and no information has been received to suggest that the Italian authorities are issuing these passes other than in a regular manner. Nevertheless, our watch will be maintained.

12. REGISTRATION AND LICENSING.

During the month throughout the Region all civil police agencies have been keeping observation for the presence of unlicensed motor cars on the roads.

In all Zones PSO's have been keeping a check on the issue of motor vehicle circulation permits but nothing has occurred to warrant intervention.

13. STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS.

(1) Naples Zone.

On morning of 17 Nov the Clerks of the Court at Naples Tribunale went on strike and consequently all cases

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had to be suspended. Their action was decided upon because no reply had been given to their repeated requests for payment of the usual air-raid indemnity as well as of the promised salary increase. The following day after authority had been received from the Treasury Minister for an immediate payment of 800 lire a month, the strikers returned to their duties.

On 22 Nov a firm engaged on a work for the Royal Navy at the Naples Port came out on strike as a protest against the low rate of pay. Four of the principals were dismissed and the remainder returned to work.

On 23 Nov labourers repairing damaged buildings in Naples came out on strike demanding higher wages - offers of consideration being given to their demands met with disapproval so the strike continues.

(2) Salerno Zone.

None reported.

(3) Foggia Zone.

None reported.

(4) Bari Zone.

On 29 Oct employees of a private firm at Bari ceased work for 24 hours demanding an increase in wages.

On 2 Nov at a milk pasturisation plant at Terlizzi, Bari, 100 workers came out on strike protesting against low wages.

On 6 Nov workers employed by British Sub Depot at Palese Macchia, Bari, ceased work protesting against the decision of the British authorities to suspend the pay of approximately 70 workers as a punishment for the thefts committed by civilians who could not be identified.

On 14 Nov at Corato, Bari, 60 road sweepers ceased work for 24 hours as a protest against low wages.

(5) Taranto Zone.

On 23 Oct workers of the Arsenale at Taranto staged a sit-down strike to protest against dismissal of

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5 fellows workers. Work was resumed the same day after reinstatement of those discharged.

On 25 Oct at Arsenale, Taranto, 4000 workers went on strike for one hour to protest against delay in payment of promised increase in pay.

On 14 Nov about 12000 shipyard, Arsenale and Buffoluto workers went on strike for 6 hours owing to non-distribution of pasta and flour ration and high cost of living.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

None reported.

14. RIOTS, DISTURBANCES AND UNAUTHORISED DEMONSTRATIONS.

(1) Naples Zone.

On 7 Nov a meeting of the Patriotic Association was to be held in the Galleria Umberto, Naples. M.P. advised the organisers not to hold the meeting in view of possible disturbance and it was abandoned after 3 arrests had been made by MP. No personal injury no damage to property.

On 11 Nov at the University of Naples during an inauguration ceremony a disturbance was caused by opposite political factions which resulted in several 'private fights'. The trouble-makers were ejected and the ceremony continued. No personal injury and no damage to property.

On 12 Nov at Pozzuoli, Naples, during a procession subsequent to a meeting held by the Communist Party to celebrate with anniversary of the Russian Revolution hand grenades were thrown, allegedly by over enthusiastic party members. One Italian soldier was slightly wounded and slight damage was cause to property 1667

On 17 Nov at S. Lorenzo Maggiore (Benevento) five persons were arrested when they demonstrated against the amassing of the potato crop. 13 have also been denounced for participating. No personal injury or damage to property.

(2) Salerno Zone.

On 2 Nov at S. Gregorio Magno approximately 50 persons

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demonstrated as a protest against withdrawal of ration cards. No injury or damage to property.

On 9 Nov approximately 500 demonstrated outside Prefettura, Salerno, as protest against non-payment of air raid indemnity and cost of living bonus. No personal injury or damage to property.

On 18 Nov at Scafati about 800 persons, all engaged in tobacco manufacture, demonstrated for payment of air raid indemnity and cost of living bonus. No personal injury and no damage to property.

On 18 Nov at Cava dei Tirreni about 1000 workers of the tobacco industry demonstrated as protest against non-payment of air raid indemnity. No personal injury or damage to property.

(3) Foggia Zone

None reported.

(4) Bari Zone.

On 3 Nov at Squinzano (Lecce) incidents broke out between the Communists and local section of the Combatants on occasion of a demonstration organised by the Combatants of Lecce. Order restored by CC.RR. Two persons injured and two arrested; no damage to property.

On 4 Nov at Trepuzzi (Lecce) incidents occurred between local Communists and members of the Liberal Party. Order restored by CC.RR. 19 arrests, no personal injury and no damage to property.

On 20 Nov at Minervino (Bari) local Communists during a demonstration assaulted a civilian. Order restored by CC.RR.

(5) Taranto Zone

All over Taranto Province there have been minor demonstrations over non-distribution of flour and pasta - this non-distribution was due to transport difficulties.

On 28 Oct at Maruggio about 400 persons demonstrated for this same reason and a Municipal Guard whilst attempting to restore order, was roughly handled.

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On 29 Oct at Manduria a political meeting of the Demo-Liberal Party was broken-up by CO.RK. when Communists interfered. No personal injury or damage to property.

(6) Catanzaro Zone

On 13 Nov a minor disturbance took place at Villa S. Giovanni when a number of students demonstrated against the reduction of the local train service. Some slight damage caused to carriage windows of a train. Order soon restored.

15. SABOTAGE.

It is appropriate under this heading to mention certain larcenies which have occurred recently at BAD establishments in this Region.

At the 16 BAD, Nola, Province of Naples, larcenies and consequent destruction of ammunition and precision instruments have reached serious proportions. Some 43 arrests have taken place in the past two or three months but owing to the increase consideration is being given to the setting up of AMG Courts in that area.

At Bitonto, Bari, a BAD covers an area of quite 150 square miles. Larcenies of ammunition and of vital ingredients of same have reached alarming proportions. Four static and two mobile AMG Courts have been set up to deal with these cases. As investigations are being conducted by HQ. Allied Commission this HQ. has no knowledge of the progress of those investigations.

Elsewhere throughout the Region no incident has to be reported under this heading.

16. SECURITY.

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(1) Naples Zone.

For some time past a rumour has been circulating in Naples that the Republican Fascist Party has been re-established in the Provinces of this Zone, further, that the members have joined anti-Fascist parties in order to better their chance of carrying on anti-Allied propaganda without interruption. This Fascist propaganda is rumoured to be meeting with some success amongst the harbour workers owing to discontent prevalent amongst the latter.

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No information has been gained from the CC.RR. or other security services, Allied or Italian, to indicate there is any truth in these rumours - nevertheless, the situation will be watched.

For the past three months in the City of Naples and the whole of Campania, the Epuration question has remained dormant. The sudden announcement of the appointment of Avv. Eugenio Mancini as Epuration Commissioner has met with approval and awakened considerable interest.

It is said that on 17 Nov the Intendenza di Finanza at Naples took back into service two officials who had been removed in February last owing to the fact that they were Squadristi - further particulars are as yet unknown to this HQ.

On 18 Nov a man was arrested in Benevento Province by CC.RR. when found in the possession of a parachute and other equipment including a wireless transmitting set as used by enemy agents. When arrested he declared the property had been left in his possession by a certain Filippella Alfredo, and an enemy agent, who was dropped from an enemy plane by parachute on 5 Nov. SIM(CS) and FSS are investigating.

(2) Salerno Zone

One Italian, operating on behalf of the German Intelligence Service, was dropped by parachute in the Province, but was arrested by FSS - further details not yet to hand.

Reports respecting conditions at 371 POW (Civilian Internees) Camp are satisfactory. Latest return shows 'population' as 1849 males, 130 females. No releases of political importance have taken place during the month.

(3) Foggia Zone

Nothing of note to report.

(4) Bari Zone

One Italian civilian arrested 20 Nov at Bari ¹⁶⁶⁴
FSS allegedly for security reasons - is being

...../31

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detained as civilian internee - no further information to hand.

On 19 Nov property at Bari of Senator Michele Castelli, Fascist High Commissioner for Naples, ordered to be confiscated by the President of the Bari Tribunal.

(5) Taranto Zone

On 30 Oct the Provincial Committee for Defascistisation sentenced two fascists to two years imprisonment each and two others were ordered to live within the limits of their own villages. Otherwise nothing of note to report.

(6) Catanzaro Zone

It was announced on 21 Nov by the Asst. Commissioner for Epuration, Rome, that Antonio L'Ocaso, Intendent of Finance, Catanzaro, had been dismissed.

On 18 Nov 10 prefectural commissioners were dismissed from their posts at Cosenza for shewing lukewarm interest in the Granai del Popolo - the order came from the office of the Prefect.

Throughout the Region all PSO's have maintained contact with the Allied and Italian security services.

17. POLITICAL SITUATION.

General remarks.

Taking into consideration Italian standards a fair summing-up of the political situation throughout the Region during the month would be 'satisfactory', but still confused - generally, the population in view of the approach of winter are worrying more about their next meal and the means to pay for it than what party is gaining in political field - even the resignation of Bonomi from the Italian Government has so far failed to disturb them to any extent.

The most important news this month was the announcement of the exchange of Ambassadors with London, Washington and Moscow and the restoration of diplomatic relations with all the Latin American republics - informants tell

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us it is one of the chief topics of conversation amongst the more serious minded and they are confident that the day when Italy will be recognised as one of the Allies is not far distant.

Public opinion here has also been stirred by the Calling to the Colours of various classes. There is no doubt that the population in the south is opposed to this for the following reasons:-

- (a) Many Italians have already seen many years of military service usually under bad conditions, poorly clothed, fed and equipped.
- (b) pay and allowances are insufficient to support a family nowadays.
- (c) there is little enthusiasm among the southern Italians to fight for those in the north.
- (d) last but not least, they resent military discipline.

(1) Naples Zone.

There are six principal political parties with approximately 25 or 30 off-shoots in existence in the Zone - the parties in order of importance are:-

- (1) Christian Democratic
- (2) Communist
- (3) Socialist
- (4) Action
- (5) Republican
- (6) Liberal

These parties form the Liberation Committee and reasonably good relations exist.

It is said the Communists are the best organised Party in the Zone and most probably they have the largest number of followers.

The newspaper 'Bandiera Rossa' organ of these extremists who have declared themselves to be the only 'true' Communists, had been suspended from publication for issuing same without the authority of AC/AMG - information has been received that ¹⁸⁶² paper is now being published under another title which has received the approval of AC/AMG.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Political activity in general can be, described

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as slight - the public are very obviously concerned more with the cost of living and food situation.

At the beginning of the month a large Communist party meeting with delegates from provincial communes was held at a theatre in Salerno - there was no disorder.

Professor Ruggiero Moscati of Rome University and a member of a well-to-do Salerno family, is said to have been sent from Rome to organise the Liberal Party in the Province. He has already held meetings with local heads of the party and it has been declared the chief aim of the party is that of avoiding the spreading of Communist and Socialist factions in the villages - this make wake up an apathetic public; the position will be watched.

(3) Foggia Zone

Throughout the Zone the situation can be described as static and satisfactory.

In Foggia Province the Communist Party is the most active - in a few Communes here there has been considerable Communist propaganda activity.

There does not seem to be any real political interest in Campobasso Province; this can be explained by the fact that it is purely an agricultural province with a very scattered population.

(4) Bari Zone.

In this large Zone reports would not indicate that the situation is other than reasonably satisfactory. There has, however, been fairly considerable activity in Lecce Province and at one particular Commune serious incidents have occurred.

On 19 Nov at this Commune, namely Gallipoli, unknown individuals threw a hand grenade at the window of the civilian hospital. The room was occupied by the chief of the local Communist Party. No person was injured, but slight damage was caused to the front of the building.

Then, on 21 Nov unknown persons threw a grenade against the balcony of an apartment occupied by the Commandant of the Vigili Urbani. No person injured but slight damage to property.

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The Prefect has ordered investigation but from the point of view of an observer it would seem that the friction in this town is between the Socialist and Communist Parties in regard to the appointment of Sindaco.

(5) Taranto Zone

The position remains satisfactory with the Communists taking the 'lead' - even they are not too active and are merely holding orderly meetings.

It is from this Zone that information has been received the population is concerned over the fall of the Bonomi Government - nevertheless, no untoward incident has been reported.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

The situation is generally satisfactory throughout the Zone.

The chief development during the month has been the improper sequestration of lands by peasants led by local Communist and Socialist Party secretaries. In some cases the procession of invading peasants has been headed by a secretary carrying a red flag. Arrests and denunciations have been made by the CC.RR. but they have been ordered to release the prisoners and to date no Court action had been taken. No violence has, as yet, occurred but it is felt that if the Italian Government do not make a stand soon the good work of the forces of law and order will be undone. The owners of the invaded land are taking the matter calmly and only two complaints have been received by the ZPSO from injured parties.

18. PUBLIC MORALE

No improvement has been observed in morale this month. ¹⁶⁶ the main reason for this is the poor economic condition which still exists.

Much damage is being done to morale by the many Italians who now say openly that the Allies have failed in their promises to supply adequate essential foodstuffs. There seems a growing tendency here to consider that the conditions caused by war, damage to property, shortage

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of transport and rations etc are peculiar to Italy; they refuse to realise that conditions may be worse elsewhere - these 'beliefs' are having a very harmful effect on morale.

19. FIRE BRIGADE SERVICES AND CIVIL DEFENCE

The Fire Brigades in the Region are functioning satisfactorily and meeting the demands made upon them in spite of certain shortage of equipment. There is still a serious lack of tyres and tubes for motor transport and leather for boots.

A further 11 British trucks 'on loan' to Naples Fire Brigade were transferred to Rome to form part of a mobile squad for the northern areas.

Following an order of the Ministry of the Interior dated 16 Oct. the Civil Defence Services in Southern Region were taken over by the Fire Brigade Commands as from 1 Nov.

Agreement was reached with the Ministry of the Interior for the strength of the Naples Fire Brigade to be reduced to a figure of 1100 (all ranks) - this means a reduction of 391 on the present strength.

Liaison has been maintained with the Italian Army Officer responsible for the recruiting and training of the civilian mine disposal squad. A difficulty is being experienced in obtaining volunteers.

20. CIVIL PRISONS.

Taking into consideration the inadequate pay of the prison personnel, the serious shortage of prison equipment and the overcrowding which exists in the majority of prisons, it can be said that the prison administration is fairly efficient.

There are, however, and to a large extent due to the prevailing conditions, irregularities taking place. For instance 'trafficking' goes on and it would appear that the guards look upon this as a legitimate business to augment their pay and they are quite prepared to take the consequences when detected. Every efforts is being made to stamp out this practice but it is feared that little headway will be made until such times as the living conditions of the guards are improved.

At the Fola Maddamentali Prison (Naples Zone) a guard

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obligingly supplied a duplicate cell key to an inmate which enabled he and two others to escape. The monthly income of that guard and his family of six was under 3000 lire.

An inmate of Poggioreale Prison (Naples Zone) managed to escape by a rather unusual method - two inmates, one serving a long sentence and the other a short sentence, were accommodated in the same cell. For 50,000 lire cash and the promise of two food parcels a week the one serving the short sentence agreed to change identity with the one serving the longer sentence - this exchange of identities was not detected by the prison authorities and so the long term prisoner gained his 'release'.

As long ago as July 44 it was known that in Naples a conspiracy was developing in the forgery and uttering of release warrants, but the resulting investigation although curtailing the activities of those concerned, did not bring the culprits to justice. During Oct 44 however, the forgeries again appeared bearing a representation of the signature of the Regional Legal Officer - two of these forged instruments reached a local prison but the forgeries were detected before the releases were effected. Later, a man called to enquiry for the non-release in these two cases; he was detained and subsequent enquiries resulted in the arrest of two civilian employees of Legal Division this Region. Further arrests have been effected and now fifteen conspirators are awaiting trial.

The Central Prison Directorate inaugurated on 4 Oct 43 to administer the civil prisons in the former Region 3, AMG ceased to function as from 15 Nov 44. All prisons in Southern Region are now the responsibility of the Italian Government.

The decrease in the prison population was maintained during the month, release exceeding admissions by 600. Bari, Taranto, Poggioreale (Naples) and Catanzaro Judicial Prisons are still very much overcrowded.

From reports and personal visits it may be said that the hygiene in the prisons is quite fair. There are exceptions, however, Bari is bad and the Eboli Reformatory when visited recently by R.P.O. was found to be in a shocking state - this formed the subject of a special report. Taranto Prison continues to

Forgery of Allied
Military Currency

(Report for No 4 &
by Public Safety
Division, Southern
Region, A.C.)

Drawing



ALL F1002/143/327

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improve and the small-pox cases in Poggioreale (Naples) have abated, there being only two cases reported during the month.

There is no change in the food situation. The inmates of the Judicial and Mandamentali Prisons, benefitting from the food parcels sent in by friends and relatives, manage to live decently. Not so the unfortunates in the Penal establishments; they have to exist entirely on the prison diet.

The total number of inmates in the prisons of this Region (less Mandamentali prisons) at the end of the month was 12,889 with approximately half still awaiting trial.

38 A list of prisons now in use and shewing both capacity and number of inmates on 21 Nov is attached as Appendix No. 1.

21. FORGERY AND UTTERING OF ALLIED MILITARY CURRENCY.

During the month the forgery and uttering of AM currency notes has reached serious proportions and the situation is deteriorating rapidly - it is most significant that many British officers in Naples are becoming wary of touching a note of high denomination unless it has been drawn from the Official Allied sources.

From widespread areas in this Region 108 cases involving 319 forged notes have been reported to this H.Q. - in a number of these cases arrests have been effected and Court proceedings are pending.

It is not for this Division to suggest a solution to the problem, but in this Region (and I am sure in others) the simplicity of imitation or raising of AM currency notes is becoming common knowledge to all and sundry and to such an extent that the only solution seems to be a complete redesign of the notes.

In view of the heavy return this month it has not been possible to compile the necessary appendix to this report for submission within the stipulated time - the appendix together with the forged notes received, will be submitted by a special report at the earliest possible moment.

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22. LOCATION AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.

For particulars see Appendix No. 2.

G. Richardson

G. RICHARDSON
Major,
Regional Public
Safety Officer.

GR/tp.

APPENDIX No. 1

NOVEMBER 1944

38

CAPACITY AND POPULATION OF PRISONS.

Judicial Prison = (A)
 Penal Prison = (B)
 Juvenile Prison = (C)
 Reformatory = (D)
 Manicomio = (E)

Capacity = A.
 Men sentenced = B.
 Women sentenced = C.
 Minors sentenced = D.
 Men awaiting trial = E.
 Women " " = F.
 Minors " " = G.
 Total November = H.
 Total October = I.

PRISON	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
<u>NAPLES ZONE.</u>									
Ariano Irpino	A	102	26	4	-	40	8	-	18 81
Avellino	A	350	189	7	2	147	19	6	370 397
Benevento	A	225	92	6	-	98	19	6	221 264
Airola - Girls	D	180	-	-	92	-	-	-	92 92
Poggioreale Men	A	2000	1448	-	-	1259	-	-	2707 2917
Poggioreale Wom.	A	500	-	138	4	-	184	24	350 377
S. Eframio	C	250	3	-	266	1	-	132	402 382
S. Eframio	E	50	17	-	-	30	-	-	47 40
Aversa	A	250	79	31	3	100	28	6	247 266
Aversa	E	410	108	256	18	20	23	-	425 427
Caserta	A	76	8	2	-	14	3	-	27 48
Pozzuoli	B	300	257	-	-	43	-	-	300 247
Procida	B	600	419	-	-	-	-	-	419 436
S. Maria C.V.	A	535	311	9	1	129	7	38	495 445
S. Maria C.V.	D	165	-	-	96	-	-	-	96 103
S. Angelo Lom.	A	80	17	2	1	59	5	1	85 86
<u>FOGGIA ZONE.</u>									
Campobasso	A	311	123	19	1	36	7	2	188 209
Isernia	A	100	12	3	-	8	2	-	25 32
Larino	A	-	50	10	1	20	-	3	84 96
Foggia	A	Figures not yet to hand.							
Lucera	A	300	154	12	2	114	10	7	299 420
<u>TARANTO ZONE.</u>									
Taranto	A	220	74	11	-	265	33	17	402 348

...../2

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PRISON		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
<u>SALERNO ZONE.</u>										
Salerno	A	480	47	7	-	357	63	16	490	527
Eboli	D	50	-	-	39	-	-	-	39	39
<u>BARI ZONE.</u>										
Lagonegro	A	120	6	2	-	50	6	1	65	80
Matera	A	68	24	-	-	36	1	-	61	75
Melfi	A	154	16	2	-	42	5	4	69	80
Potenza	A	169	57	6	6	86	5	5	165	167
Avigliano	D	280	-	-	51	-	-	-	51	49
Bari	A	827	216	11	22	994	57	127	1427	1494
Treni	A	283	193	9	1	94	8	2	307	360
Treni Women	B	140	-	126	-	-	-	-	126	131
Brindisi	A	200	163	7	1	139	13	13	336	317
Lecce	A	380	199	27	25	144	10	9	414	387
Lecce	B	228	279	-	-	8	-	-	287	286
<u>CATANZARO ZONE.</u>										
Castrovillari	A	94	18	2	-	39	2	3	64	73
Catanzaro	A	280	138	11	-	300	15	2	466	557
Cosenza	A	230	119	12	-	78	2	2	213	255
Locri	A	144	64	3	-	98	15	4	184	203
Nicastro	A	144	84	4	-	59	5	5	157	157
Palmi	A	78	15	5	-	73	8	4	105	98
Rossano	A	44	19	2	-	14	4	1	40	41
Vibo Valentia	A	204	54	8	-	140	11	3	216	225
Reggio Calabria	A	245	73	8	3	135	22	10	251	278
TOTAL			5171	764	632	5269	600	453	12889	13670

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APPENDIX No. 2

NOVEMBER 1944

LOCATION AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.Regional Headquarters

1. Major G.I. RICHARDSON, No.282757 (Br), Regi Public Safety Officer
2. Capt. L.W. TOES, No.287723 (Br), Asst.Reg. Public Safety Officer
3. Capt. G.R. DALEY, No.291039 (Br), Reg. Prisons Officer
4. Capt. C. NOBLE, No.279323 (Br), Reg. Fire and C.D. Officer.

H.Q. Naples Zone

5. Capt. R.N. HOBBS, No.279423 (Br), Zone Public Safety Officer
6. Capt. F. SCALFE, No.291660 (Br), Asst. Zone Public Safety Officer
- Capt. D.W. MILLER, No.0906084(Am), Asst. Zone Public Safety Officer
(temp duty and training).

H.Q. Salerno Zone

7. Capt. J. MADILL, No.287711 (Br), Zone Public Safety Officer.

H.Q. Foggia Zone

8. Capt. E.F. COCKS, No.279403 (Br), Zone Public Safety Officer.

H.Q. Bari Zone

9. Major G.H. REVELEY, No.6099 (Br), Zone Public Safety Officer
- Major T. GOODACHE, No.287702 (Br), Asst. Zone Public Safety Officer
(temp attachment on 48 hrs recall)
- Lieut. C. ANDERSON, No.01797584 (Am) Asst. Zone Public Safety Officer
(temp attachment on 48 hrs recall).

H.Q. Taranto Zone

10. Capt. H. STRAND, No.279422 (Br), Zone Public Safety Officer.

H.Q. Catanzaro Zone

11. Major D.F. STEPHENS, No.287370 (Br), Zone Public Safety Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS

SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED ~~COMMISSION~~ COMMISSION

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

Ref: PS/ 2.5.1.

Date 5TH NVK 1944. *oc*

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT OF ACTIVITIES - OCTOBER 1944

TO : HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION.
(ATTENTION OF THE DIRECTOR, PUBLIC SAFETY
SUB-COMMISSION).

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CONFIDENTIAL

Richardson
G. Richardson, Major,
Reg. Public Safety Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED ~~CONTROL~~ COMMISSION
PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

Ref: PS/ 2.5.1

Date 3 November 1944

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of Activities - October 1944L

TO : HQ. Allied Commission
(for attention of the Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission)
Regional Commissioner, HQ. Southern Region, Allied Commission.

1. Submitted hereunder is the report of activities for the MONTH OF OCTOBER 1944 in respect of Public Safety Division, Southern Region, Allied Commission; the information is set out in a manner similar to that in the report for the previous month and in explanation of the areas 'covered' by the Zones of the Region, I beg reference to the table appearing on pages 1 and 2 of that report.

2. CIVIL POLICE AGENCIES.

General Remarks re Police Agencies throughout Region.

The news that civil police of all accredited agencies are to have an increased food ration has been received with approval and gratification throughout the entire Region. In consequence, there has been a marked uplift in morale and I would not exclude efficiency from this improvement.

During the latter part of the month I had the opportunity of visiting a number of Provinces and viewing the situation for myself - the remarks of both officers and men in connection with the coming food increase were most encouraging; their general outlook is that at last the Allies are making an effort to treat them as police officers within the true meaning of the term and are here to "put them back on their feet" and not here to deal with them as a police service of a defeated nation.

Having knowledge of the forthcoming distribution of equipment to the CC.RR., the other agencies believe the day is not far distant when they will receive a similar distribution. I am sure such a distribution would go a long way to producing the results we desire, in fact, the results we demand.

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The supply of equipment has always been a sore point with them and with us, but I am sure if the appropriate authority could see fit to recognise all these police agencies in their true light as guardians of the Allied 'back areas' and supply them accordingly, we should be rewarded a thousandfold - at least, it would not be necessary for PSO's to 'beg and borrow' from local military authorities to supply pressing needs. Here, it is realised, is not the proper place for criticism, but I feel so strongly on the point - at this moment a matter of 12 months after the liberation of one of principal Cities of Italy, we still have Metropolitan operating in plain clothes because uniform is non-existent - this, it will be agreed, is not to the credit of the Allies.

During the month only 90 CC.RR. left the Region for the Northern areas whilst 377 are standing-by at Naples and 40 at Taranto awaiting orders. By reason of this fairly 'static' condition - a condition we urge will be permitted to remain - I am in a position this month to give the CC.RR. effective strength for the Region; we have a total of 153 officers and 9,027 other ranks - in pleading for no further reduction of experienced officers and men, I ask comparison of these figures with the population and size of our Region; nearly 10,000,000 inhabitants in a widespread area of 15 large Provinces. In dealing later with the CC.RR. Zone by Zone, I will set out the effective establishments by Province under the respective Zones.

The CC.RR. Commands in the Region are awaiting the new arrival from the Italian Army - they are not exactly enamoured with the idea of having untrained police, but being fully appreciative of the situation they are accepting the 'gesture' in the true and proper spirit.

The withdrawal of civil police from duties other than their normal duties as ordered by HQ., is doing much towards relieving the 'pressure' on our already over-worked police.

On 3/10/44 during a visit to Italy, Sir Frank Brook DSO., MC., H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for England and Wales, inspected detachments of the Naples Legion of the CC.RR. and paid tribute to the loyalty shewn ^{by them} to the Allied cause and the new Italian Government.

(a) Carabinieri Reali

(1) Naples Zone.

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Strength - Naples Prov - 48 officers, 2270 o.r's
 " - Benevento " - 5 " 270 "
 " - Avellino " - 5 " 376 "

Morale and efficiency has been good and despite the fact their ranks have been depleted through transfers resulting in only two, three or four Carabinieri at outlying stations, they have done some very fine work recently.

Owing to serious crimes occurring and attributable to Army deserters and impersonators of Allied personnel, a special campaign has been in operation since 16/10/44 in which CO.RR. have operated as joint mobile patrols with Military Police. This has been very effective indeed, but I will refer to this in greater detail under 'Conduct of Allied Naval and Military Personnel'.

Equipment, of course, cannot be described as completely satisfactory; nevertheless, it is hoped we can report an improvement soon when the new system of CO.RR. distribution gets under-way.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Strength - Salerno Prov - 10 officers, 722 o.r's

There is no change to be reported as regards morale and efficiency.

Equipment replacements are imminent - these are much needed replacements and will be well received.

Co-operation with the Allied M.P. detachments has been praiseworthy as results have proved.

The P.S.O. has been successful in obtaining a few tyres from local Military authorities and distribution to this and other agencies has eased a very difficult situation.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Strength - Foggia Prov - 6 officers 639 o.r's
 " - Campobasso" - 6 " 482 "

No adverse report can be made regarding the morale and efficiency of the forces operating in this Zone. They have done much good work in connection with the

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suppression of the black market and have co-operated well in the Allied M.P. 'drives' against deserters and impersonators.

Replacement of equipment is being eagerly awaited.

An unfortunate incident occurred at Serracapriolo, Foggia Province, when an American soldier fired on a Carabinieri and was wounded by the return fire of the Carabinieri - the matter is still under investigation.

(4) Bari Zone.

Strength - Bari Prov	- 24 officers,	779 o.r's
" - Matera "	- 2 "	228 "
" - Potenza "	- 5 "	399 "
" - Lecce "	- 6 "	379 "
" - Brindisi "	- 4 "	245 "

There is no change as regards efficiency and morale.

During the month throughout this Zone, the CC.RR. have been very active at road blocks checking civilian movement, movement of grain etc, and suspected black market operators.

In the Zone CC.RR. have operated at 70 'floating' road blocks and the results have been very good indeed; in addition to contraband commodities a considerable amount of Allied and Italian military property has been recovered.

In Bari Province the CC.RR. have arrested or denounced 338 persons for offences of varying degrees of seriousness. In Brindisi 46 persons, Lecce 10, Matera 29 and in Potenza 83.

On 6th Octr 1944, 90 Carabinieri left Brindisi for Ancona on transfer to the northern areas.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Strength - Taranto Prov - 5 officers, 312 o.r's

Morale and efficiency good.

There is great satisfaction over the decision to supply clothing but their ardour has been damped somewhat by the fact that the local Group Commander has been informed by the Legion HQ. at Bari that Bari

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Group must be supplied first - this is being looked into by the ZPSO.

On 22/10/44, 10 officers and 497 other ranks, all repatriated POW's, arrived at Taranto by sea from Kenya. 100 are housed in Lecce Province (Bari Zone) and the remainder in Taranto Province awaiting disposal by the CC.RR. HQ. Rome.

About a month ago the Province was informed that 105 men were wanted for the north; up to the moment 65 have departed and orders are awaited regarding the 40 remaining.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Strength -	Catanzaro Prov -	13 officers,	753 o.r.'s
"	- Cosenza	" - 6	" 533 "
"	- Reggio Cal.	" - 8	" 640 "

Morale and conduct throughout the Zone has been very good. The CC.RR. of this Legion are responding to the efficiency of the command of the new Colonel Commanding - this officer is very energetic.

Road blocks in the three Provinces of this Zone have been producing very good results - the control has been strict in regard to suspected contraband and improper movement of civilians.

CC.RR. No. 1 dress has been withdrawn from the Legion and forwarded to the Rome Command for use of personnel there.

(b) Questura.

(1) Naples Zone.

The Questura here is up to normal strength but I have to report that it is still operating far from efficiently. Many items essential to good police service are lacking and all contribute to this deficiency, namely, poor pay, lack of training and lack of equipment. Nevertheless, I feel the Questura is doing his best under very difficult circumstances and he appears sincere in his endeavours - however, despite this, I do not consider he is a strong enough man for Naples.

*Special investigation
of Questura proceeding*

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It must be admitted the forthcoming increase of the food ration has created an uplift in the morale of this agency but it has been offset somewhat by an unfortunate incident which occurred at Naples at the beginning of the month - all personnel are anxiously watching the result of that case. / The incident briefly is that ^{on 1 July} a drunken British sailor after unprovoked assaults on a French sentry and two civilians, assaulted a Metropolitan on traffic control duty; a colleague who came to the police officer's assistance was approached by the sailor in a menacing attitude so he drew his pistol and fired mortally wounding his would-be assailant. / Afterwards the atmosphere was tense and at first we were informed the Agenti would refuse to go on duty unless their powers were clarified } however, the position was overcome and now they are awaiting the result of a trial of the police officer for the offence of 'killing' under the proclamation - the 'rights or wrongs' cannot be mentioned here as the case is still 'sub judice'.

Reference para.2 same heading of previous report - with the ZPSO Naples I have interviewed the O/C, PBS, and requested de-requisitioning. He is appreciative of our position and has promised to give the matter his early personal attention. Developments are now awaited and it is hoped in the next report we shall be able to say accommodation has been returned to the Questore for use of his personnel.

The traffic control duties performed by the Agenti in Naples have been carried out expertly and efficiently - the 'release' by the military of this particular duty could quite easily and safely have taken place at a much earlier date and so released M.P.'s for other duties. This is further evidence that if trust is placed in them the local Italian police will show that they know their own locality better than anybody else and are only too willing to 'save' M.P. for more important and urgent duties.

The Questura at Benevento and Avellino have been doing some good work in connection with local crime and black market offences and it can be reported their morale *has* improved not merely because of the anticipated increase of food, but because the French colonial

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troops are leaving their areas rapidly.

(2) Salerno Zone.

This agency with an effective establishment of 2 officers and 213 other ranks is reported to have operated efficiently and successfully during the month. Although not 'blessed' with a heavy crime return they have done well in combatting local crime from the prevention and detection points of view.

During the month they have received 410 pairs of boots through AC and this, together with the food increase, has gone a long way towards improving their morale and efficiency.

In addition, the ZPSO has obtained motor tyres from a local military unit and equal distribution with other forces will, it is hoped, have the desired effect.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Strengths are not yet to hand, but it is reported they are up to normal and efficiency is not affected thereby.

The Questura at Foggia Province is said to have operated very well indeed and no adverse report can be made as to efficiency or morale. The same remarks are applicable to the Questura at Campobasso where although there has been a slight increase in the number of cases of animal stealing, the efforts of this agency have not diminished in energy.

(4) Bari Zone.

As yet the establishments in this Zone are not to hand.

No complaint at all can be made regarding the efficiency of the agencies here and likewise no adverse comment can be levelled against their morale.

Throughout the area some very serious crimes have been investigated and brought to a successful conclusion - at Bari 2 of murder, 1 of robbery and 1 of rape have been 'cleared up'. At Lecce 2 murders have been solved whilst at Potenza 3 such cases and 2 of robbery have ended in arrests. Matera returns 1 case of murder 'cleared up'.

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The Agenti of P.S. in this Zone have also contributed well to the drive against black marketeers and persons unlawfully in possession of military property.

(5) Taranto Zone.

The establishment of the force in the Province of this Zone is 15 officers and 191 other ranks.

Equipment, particularly footwear, is required and it is hoped that in the near future we shall be able to do something for them.

The ZPSO reports that by observation he has no complaint to make regarding the efficiency of this force during the month.

Rumour has it in the Questura that it is intended to rename the agency and issue a new type of uniform.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Strength -	Catanzaro Prov	- 6 officers,	54 other ranks
"	- Cosenza	" - 5	" 64 " "
"	- Reggio Cal.	" - 7	" 171 " "

The new Questura at Catanzaro has shown complete satisfaction - it is obvious he is desirous of giving his best to all concerned.

Some improvement has been seen in the work of the Questura at Cosenza - our watch will be maintained.

At Reggio this agency has operated excellently under a very able and zealous leader.

(c) Guardia Finanza.

16/2

General remarks re whole Region.

Excluding the Provinces of Naples, Avellino and Brindisi from where establishment figures have not as yet been received, the total effective strength of this agency in the Region at the end of the month was 58 officers and 2403 other ranks - I will set out the strengths by Province as in the case of the CC.RR.

The public and authorities have heard little regarding the activities of this force. They have not the glamour of, and do not receive the publicity as do the CC.RR.,

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but during the month in spite of many difficulties, viz., lack of transport, inadequate equipment etc., they have displayed continued loyalty to the Allies and the Italian Government.

Much valuable contraband has been seized throughout the Region and many smugglers have been arrested and denounced as a result of their activities. Their operations at road blocks have been continued successfully and success has also attended their efforts in the checking of property carried by civilians on civilian trains.

(1) Naples Zone.

Strength, not yet to hand for Naples and Avellino Provinces. Benevento shows 2 officers and 131 other ranks.

The morale has improved undoubtedly as a result of the forthcoming food increase. This, of course, is applicable throughout the Region.

A list of unlicensed m/vehicles obtained from RACI Naples has been forwarded to the C/O of the local GG.FF. and this may assist in relieving their present transportation difficulties.

There is an extremely effective road block at the junction of Highways 6 and 7 (Naples Prov) run jointly by Allied M.Ps, CC.RM. and GG.FF. and the GG.FF. are reported to be doing very good work here.

(2) Salerno Zone.

The strength of the force is 7 officers and 322 other ranks.

The morale and efficiency has been good.

During the month we were successful in distributing 800 pairs of much needed footwear - these were received with gratification.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Strength - Foggia Prov - 8 officers and 246 other ranks.
 " - Campobasso" - 2 " and 74 " "

Instructions have been received for the release from service of time expired men and the transfer of others from Foggia Province. As the olive oil control

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campaign is now getting under way in that Province with the GG.FF. playing a major part, representation through HQ has resulted in a postponement of these retirements etc - the facts are being reported to HQ in accordance with directions.

The work of the GG.FF. in this Zone has been good - during the month at Foggia Province they have sequestered amongst other property 52 quintales of wheat and 13 of oil, whilst in Campobasso 84 quintales of wheat and other cereals and 18 quintales of oil have been seized.

(4) Bari Zone.

Strength - Bari Province -	16 officers,	661 other ranks
" - Matera "	- 1 "	39 " "
" - Brindisi "	- not yet to hand	
" - Lecce "	- 6 officers,	238 " "
" - Potenza "	- 2 "	54 " "

Conduct, efficiency and morale satisfactory. Throughout the month this agency has been active in recovering contraband and military material.

Notification has been received by Bari Legion that three coastal craft are being placed at their disposal by the Italian Navy. The ZPSO has arranged for these craft to operate from Bari, Brindisi and Taranto - it is hoped this arrangement will do much to stop the illicit traffic of goods by sea which we know has been going on; we have been practically powerless to cope with the situation before through lack of patrolling vessels.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Strength - Taranto Prov - 3 officers, 104 other ranks

Efficiency and morale good but they are hampered by lack of proper equipment particularly footwear - the ZPSO is endeavouring to satisfy their needs in this direction.

Despite shortage of personnel the GG.FF here have done some very good work in combatting the black market and in their own particular duty of tax evasion.

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(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Strength - Catanzaro Prov - 5 officers, 88 other ranks
 " - Cosenza " - 2 " 189 " "
 " - Reggio Cal. " - 4 " 257 " "

Morale and conduct good.

In Catanzaro and Cosenza Province this agency has been operating satisfactorily. They have been paying particular attention to road blocks and have recovered a substantial quantity of contraband including military property.

In Reggio Calabria the GC.FF. have continued to concentrate on contraband goods in transit between the mainland and Sicily and vice versa with good results.

(d) Real Corpo delle Foreste.

Throughout the Region the operations of this force have been severely handicapped by the lack of proper equipment. Only in one instance have we been able to relieve the situation - 1000 pairs of footwear have been distributed to the Forest Guard Command at Naples this month; these have been gratefully received and they entertain the hope there are more to follow.

The importance of the Forest Guard cannot be over-exaggerated and it is hoped the Italian Government will realise this particularly when it comes to the question of equipment - by the very reason of their work and the places to which they must go they need stouter equipment than other forces. This lack of equipment and the belief that they are being 'left in the dark' by the authorities has done much to offset the good news of the food ration increase; thus, for this month I am unable to report improvement in their morale. Their efficiency I would describe as static.

(e) Vigili Urbani.

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To be honest to all concerned, I must report no improvement as regards these agencies with the exception that uplift in morale has been reported ^{from} most areas due to the food increase. The rates of pay are still deplorable as is their lack of equipment and proper training. They are doing and have done little good in the police 'world' - their difficulties make them fertile ground for the

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criminal particularly the black marketeers

A new Comandante has been appointed for Bari and this may have the desired effect - the position will be watched.

3. CRIME.

(1) Naples Zone.

Particularly in the outlying districts of Naples Province crimes of violence such as hold-ups, robberies, rape etc., have shown a sharp increase during the month. These crimes for the most part are being committed by deserters from the Allied Forces and civilians jointly and, in many instances, have been committed by these persons wearing uniforms and equipment of military police and carabinieri - under the heading of 'Conduct of Allied Naval and Military Personnel' I will outline the steps we have taken this month in the matter.

Crimes of violence within the City of Naples are not unusually great in number for a City of this size and type and under the present conditions.

One crime of special importance has occurred during the month in Naples. On the night of 6-7/10/44 unidentified persons broke and entered the evidence room at the Tribunale at Naples and stole valuables worth over 20 million lire. The Minister of Justice has taken a hand in the investigation and has ordered a Magistrate to conduct all necessary enquiries. As yet none of the thieves has been identified and no property has been recovered. It is said there is great similarity between this office-breaking and that at the Tribunale at Rome where valuables worth 28 million were stolen recently.

There are no outstanding cases to be reported from Avellino Province but in Benevento Province one murder has been committed - the particulars of this case are not yet to hand.

(2) Salerno Zone.

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The position here has been satisfactory with no cases of importance to record.

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Arrests have been effected in 49 cases of improper possession of Allied military property.

Only 63 cases of larceny have been reported - this is a very satisfactory return for an area the size of Salerno Province.

Reference the remarks under this heading in previous report in respect of theft of lead cable coverings for manufacture of lead shot: Certain shot gun permits are being withdrawn in the affected area and the Italian Military authorities are issuing an ordinance imposing heavy penalties for trespassers on railway embankments where the cable lines are located - these steps should ease the situation.

(3) Foggia Zone.

The crime situation in Foggia can be described as satisfactory. There is no case of note to report with the exception of one where a civilian met his death at the hands of a member of the RAF but this will be referred to under the appropriate heading of 'Conduct of Military etc'.

It is interesting to note that in Foggia vast numbers of anonymous letters denouncing various people - mainly officials - are being received almost daily. Wherever possible these are investigated but few have led to anything worthwhile - one writer went so far as to accuse a NCO of the CC.RR. of being a smuggler for refusing to allow him the use of the Commune's car for his wedding.

Likewise in Campobasso Province the crime situation is satisfactory and for the first time for several months there is no case of murder to be reported. There have been a few cases of assault between civilians and a number of animal thefts but these seem to cover the principal offences recorded.

(4) Bari Zone.

The situation in this Zone can be described as static and police agencies have been quite successful in their investigations.

A gang of dangerous and active thieves operating in Matera and Potenza areas has been broken up and all

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members arrested through creditable work on the part of the CC.RR.

Bari Province reports do not shew a high rate of crimes of violence. Their highest return is larceny simple with 193 cases.

Crime in Matera remains satisfactory - their highest return is larceny-simple, 21 cases.

Potenza is on a par with Matera, the situation is very satisfactory.

Brindisi is likewise satisfactory; a drive in respect of illegal possession of firearms has produced 1844 cases. Suicides have returned to a reasonable and normal level - only 1 case as against the 55 last month.

No complaint can be found regarding Lecce; the return is very satisfactory.

Outstanding cases are as under:-

On 18/9/44 at Manchi (Potenza) two men attempted to force an entry to a farm house. They were carrying arms. One of the thieves was killed with a stick by the occupant and the other was arrested.

On 23/9/44 at Rionero (Potenza) three men shot and killed a local resident for reasons unknown. Murderers identified and enquiries in hand to locate.

On 24/9/44 at Varco (Potenza) one man killed another with a knife during a quarrel. No arrest effected to date, enquiries proceeding.

On 5/10/44 at Novoli (Lecce) a man intervened in a fight between two other men and killed one of them with a knife - he has been arrested.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Although offences of larceny-simple have shewn an increase during the month, it cannot be said the situation is other than satisfactory. 88 such cases have been reported whilst 74 persons have been arrested for improper possession of Allied property.

Two cases of murder have occurred as under:-

...../15

- 15 -

On 22/9/44 a woman was found stabbed to death near near Laterza; no arrest has as yet been effected but investigations are continuing.

On 26/9/44 at Faggiano the body of a young man was found in a well. Medical and other enquiries revealed the date of death to be on or about 8/2/44. As result of Questura activity four persons have been arrested and charged with murder - the motive would appear to be one of 'honour'.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

The crime situation here is reported to be fairly static although it is noted 7 murders have been committed in Catanzaro Province - there is a slight increase in cases of robbery with violence at Reggio Calabria Province.

Cases of special interest are hereunder:-

On 22/9/44 at Nicastro, Catanzaro, three armed men held-up and robbed four persons of cash - the three thieves were arrested.

On 8/10/44 during a religious feast at Riombolo, Catanzaro two persons shot and killed two other persons - both murderers arrested; no political significance.

On 18/10/44 at Nicastro, Catanzaro, two brothers shot and killed a person for reasons unknown - no arrest effected to date.

On 2/10/44 at Cervicati (Cosenza) two men shot and killed a man who disturbed them in the act of stealing chickens - two arrests effected.

On 29/10/44 at Giosa Jonica, Reggio, an Italian deserter shot and killed a youth during a quarrel - no arrest effected as yet.

On 12/10/44 at Reggio unknown persons entered the Cathedral and stole two gold crowns and a gold chain total value 1 million lire - no arrest effected to date.

163.

4. BLACK MARKET.

(1) Naples Zone.

Black market has continued to be our major problem

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and regardless of the large number of arrests, the 'market' continues to flourish and, in fact, appears to be growing. Countless numbers of people are engaged willingly or unwillingly in this illicit activity and this is brought about by the scarcity of necessities and the fact that the prices are out of all reasonable proportion with the wages received by the average wage-earner.

It has been observed that the 'price' of Allied property, particularly cigarettes and clothing, has shown a marked increase - this is due to scarcity of the property, a scarcity which has been created by closer control of the port area and the fact that further military detachments have left the area during the month.

Nevertheless, throughout this Region all civil police agencies have been doing well in connection with the black market; they have continuously come under our 'pressure' and will continue to do so.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Black market dealings in Allied goods and Italian rationed goods have continued despite extensive arrests and sequestrations by both military and civil police services.

During the month some 410 kg of soap, 2128 of oil and 136 of grain have been recovered from black marketeers and in this connection 193 persons have been arrested or denounced for the illicit traffic.

(3) Foggia Zone.

The principal operations in Foggia Province have been connected with the transit of contraband olive oil through this Province from Bari Province for the black market of Naples.

The departure of the French has resulted in a drop in the actual quantity seized but the number of persons from whom oil has been seized has not diminished.

1620

The railway station at Foggia has been 'raided' at frequent intervals during the month. The first such raids resulted in approximately five quintales of

- 17 -

oil being seized on each occasion and the destruction of large numbers of empty containers being returned to Bari from Naples. Later raids produced less and less until only a few litres were found each time - this shows we have practically sealed one source of transport and proved conclusively the value of train raids and searches.

In all 531 quintales of grain and 246 of oil have been recovered from smugglers during the month in Foggia Province.

In Campobasso Province it can be reported there is still a small amount of black market property leaving the Province chiefly for Rome and Naples, but when compared with other Provinces and areas the situation must be considered satisfactory.

A small trade was carried on from Termoli by means of the railway to Bari where oil was being purchased and exchanged for flour at Termoli - this, however, was stopped as a result of the train raids at Foggia.

There have been some satisfactory seizures in this Province - 228 quintales of wheat and 20 of oil have been sequestered.

(4) Bari Zone.

Throughout this Zone all police agencies have been active as the following disclose:-

In Bari Province there have been some very satisfactory arrests and seizures. In all 499 have been arrested or denounced for black market activities whilst a total weight of 411 quintales of contraband property have been recovered during these activities.

Matera Province produced a like result; 32 persons arrested or denounced with 171 quintales of property recovered.

The return from Potenza Province indicates the civil police have been active - 32 black marketeers detected and a considerable quantity of contraband has been seized as a result.

Similarly in Brindisi Province, the police have shewn good results - 53 persons detected and a large quantity of material recovered.

1635

- 16 -

Lecce Province has produced good results - 90 contrabanders have been arrested or denounced and much property has been seized.

A regrettable incident has been reported by the M.P. from Bari. On 5/9/44 an Italian Customs officer entered the SIB office at Molfetta and offered two sergeants 40,000 lire if they would convey black market produce from Molfetta to Rome. 'Arrangements' were made and olive oil and other commodities were picked-up - the Customs officer and two confederates were arrested. Enquiries revealed that the conspirators were willing to pay 200,000 lire for a second trip if the first was successful.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Black market activity is still reported from this Zone but 11 shops have been closed during the month for varying periods for overcharging whilst 106 persons have been denounced for rationing offences. In addition, 24 shopkeepers were reported for unticketed articles being exhibited for sale.

Road blocks here have not been particularly successful although on 19/10/44 a good 'stop' was effected - a British military truck driven by an Italian soldier was stopped by the CC.RR. in Taranto City and was discovered to be carrying 9 quintales of pasta without authority; three civilians on the vehicle were arrested.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

All agencies in this Zone have combined to counteract the activities of black marketeers and reports indicate success has attended these efforts.

Catanzaro shows 193 arrests and denunciation for black market offences, Cosenza 219 and Reggio 126.

Reggio Calabria trains have been searched with the approval of the transportation authorities and quantities of contraband have been seized as a result.

5. MAFFIA ACTIVITY.

No Maffia activity has been reported in this Region.

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6. PROSTITUTION.(1) Naples Zone.

The campaign in this area has been continued during the month without any abatement. Although the position in Naples City where husbands and children have been openly 'pimping' for their wives and sisters respectively, is far from satisfactory, the situation seems to have shown an improvement.

No cases have come to our notice of Allied personnel frequenting the licensed brothels in the City - this is probably due to the 'tight rein' of the M.P. on this particular 'amusement'.

(2) Salerno Zone.

A decrease has been shown here - 36 clandestine prostitutes have been arrested and 10 of them found infected - 97 such prostitutes are at present receiving attention in hospital.

(3) Foggia Zone.

The position here is reported as static, but the police are not curtailing their activities to prevent illicit prostitution and the spread of disease.

(4) Bari Zone.

Police in this Zone have been busy on checking up on prostitutes and the results have been good.

In Bari Province examination of 190 licensed prostitutes revealed 72 suffering from VD. Now in this area there are 549 receiving hospital treatment.

Matera Province has continued to be a particularly 'free' area - as previously reported there are only 5 prostitutes licensed and no cases of VD have been reported.

Potenza Province has also had a 'light' month - of 9 authorised prostitutes only 1 has been found infected - this is an improvement on the previous month.

At Brindisi Province there has been a similar improvement - out of 13 clandestine prostitutes arrested only 1 was found to be suffering from VD. In all 13 women are receiving hospital treatment, in the Province.

- 20 -

Lecco Province, a 'heavy' prostitution area, has been the scene of police activity - 105 clandestine prostitutes have been arrested of which number 89 are suffering from VD and receiving appropriate hospital treatment.

(5) Taranto Zone.

As in other Zones the civil police have been active during the month 177 prostitutes were examined and 62 found infected and taken to hospital for treatment. In all there are 50 prostitutes under treatment in hospital now.

A total of 48 prostitutes have been repatriated to their own towns by the Questura as undesirables.

Nine people have been denounced for conducting disorderly houses in Taranto City and 3 prostitutes have been arrested after having been 'deported' from the City.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Here the police have been active; in Catanzaro 16 clandestine prostitutes have been apprehended, in Cosenza 9 and in Reggio Calabria 12.

7. FUNCTIONING OF COURTS.

(1) Naples Zone.

It is reported that the work of AMG Courts and Italian Courts in the Zone are progressing normally and satisfactorily.

(2) Salerno Zone.

No AMG Courts operating but in regard to the Italian Courts there appears to be undue delay in the hearing of serious cases where the process has to be referred to Naples. The hearing of minor cases appears satisfactory.

(3) Foggia Zone.

No AMG Courts - during the month the Italian Courts have dealt with 105 cases in Campobasso Province but there are still 690 cases to be heard. A large number of cases have been dealt with in Foggia

- 21 -

Province by the Italian Courts, but here there are 1049 cases awaiting decision.

(4) Bari Zone.

Two AMG Courts have been held at Bari; 26-28/9/44 and 10/10/44 - in the first case a sentence of death was passed for espionage whilst in the second, sentences of 5 and 3 years imprisonment were passed for larceny of explosives.

The Zone Commissioner is putting forward a proposal for a permanent Summary Military Court at Bitonto (Bari) and this matter is being dealt with through the proper channels, viz. Legal Division.

Through the activities of a visiting HQ Legal Officer there has been a considerable increase of cases tried and a consequent decrease of cases pending in connection with the Italian Courts.

The number of Allied cases pending on 21/10/44 was 679 against 787 on 30/9/44.

(5) Taranto Zone.

In this Zone there has been only one Allied Court during the month - at Taranto on 12/10/44 a General Court sat to try an Italian sailor for the alleged murder of a French soldier last July; the sailor was acquitted owing to insufficient evidence.

The Italian Courts are reported to have been operating reasonably well here.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

No Allied Courts have been in session during the month and it is reported Italian Courts are progressing satisfactorily although continued interest in their activities is necessary.

8. LIAISON WITH MILITARY POLICE.

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Throughout the Region liaison with the various M.P. detachments has continued to be on a very high standard - there is no question that understanding now exists on both 'sides';

As regards this H.Q., officers of this Division have

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come into very close contact during the month with officers and men of the British SIB operating in the Region; without exception they are all police officers in civil life and thus it will be appreciated the liaison has been of the highest order - it is that type of liaison we must have in this extensive Region.

9. CONDUCT OF ALLIED NAVAL AND MILITARY PERSONNEL.

General Remarks.

Taking the Region as a whole it is only fair to say there has been an improvement in the conduct of Allied personnel - nevertheless, there is still a great deal of room for further improvement particularly in Naples and Taranto.

Due entirely to the withdrawal of French colonial troops from the Region we are in a position to report that this month only one instance of misconduct involving such troops has come to the notice of this H.Q.

(1) Naples Zone.

Under the headings 'CC.RR' and 'Crime' reference was made to serious crimes committed in the outlying districts of the Zone allegedly by Allied deserters who have joined forces with civilian criminals. In view of the seriousness of the situation a conference was held on 16/10/44 between representatives of all M.P. forces both British and American, Commanding Officers of the CC.RR. and Questura throughout the Region and members of Naples Zone Allied Commission and this H.Q. A plan was formulated whereby systematic mobile patrols would be carried out by M.P. and CC.RR working in conjunction. The plan was ordered into operation at once and some very good results have been produced by all teams.

A number of serious cases have been reported in the Zone in which Allied personnel are said to have been involved:-

It is alleged that on 28/9/44 two British NCOs ¹⁶³⁰ soldiers when in possession of arms entered a shop in Benevento Province and whilst supposedly searching for Allied material, stole cash 150,000 lire and a watch. Enquiries still in hand to trace by M.P.

- 23 -

On 6/10/44 a mixed gang of British and American soldiers, all armed, are alleged to have broken into two houses in the suburbs of Naples and stolen a considerable amount of cash and other property after threatening the occupants with violence. Enquiries in hand by MP.

On 7/10/44 it is alleged three unidentified French colonial soldiers stole 28 sheep value 80,000 lire from a farmer at Aversa. Certain of the property has been recovered, it having been disposed of to neighbouring farmers. MP. conducting enquiries.

On 23/10/44 a very serious incident occurred at Gragnano railway station near Castellammare, Naples. It is said that a number of drunken Australian soldiers 'stole' and drove away a railway engine with two passengers coaches. The train became a 'runaway' and crashed into the railway building killing 6 Italians and 1 British soldier and injuring 2 Italian civilians, 6 Italian soldiers and 3 British soldiers. Enquiries are now in hand by M.P. with assistance of Italian Civil Police.

On 26/10/44 following a case of housebreaking 3 American soldiers and an Italian civilian were arrested at a road block in Naples and are now awaiting appearance before the Court.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Can be described as good but one serious case occurred on 5/10/44 when five Greek soldiers after drinking heavily entered into a dispute with Italian soldiers. Afterwards one of the former is said to have fired his rifle, mortally wounding one of the Italian soldiers. No arrest effected as yet, but SIB enquiries are proceeding.

(3) Foggia Zone.

162.

In Foggia complaints against Allied personnel for various crimes, mainly assault, still being received.

In this Province a member of the RAF has been arrested in connection with the death of a civilian.

At Serracapriola (Foggia) an American soldier after firing at a CC.RR. was wounded himself by a return fire.

- 24 -

Another case occurred in Foggia Province where a CO.RR is alleged to have been disarmed by some Canadian soldiers. Enquiries in hand by M.P.

Campobasso reports that during the month there has been some discontent owing to the conduct of the Balkan Air Force who are stationed in the area and who appear to be intent on treating the Italian civilians in a manner some of their own nationals are alleged to have been treated. M.P. and patrols of an RAF Regiment are now patrolling and there have been no incidents reported during the last week.

(4) Bari Zone.

In this Zone a very serious situation has arisen. It is reported by the ZPSO that a gang of Canadian deserters believed 10 in number armed and mobile, have since 15/10/44 been operating in Potenza, Matera and Bari. They have visited and stolen from 23 farm houses a total of 339 quintali of grain and other property to the total value of 2.1/2 million lire. M.P. are of course on the 'job' but in view of the seriousness of the case I am visiting the DPM No. 3 District, with a request that extra M.P. be drafted into the area temporarily.

Other than this, the situation can be described as fair.

It is reported that on 22/10/44 at Bari City a drunken New Zealand soldier entered into a brawl with two Italian soldiers, as a result of which the Allied soldier was stoned to death. No arrest effected to date but enquiries are proceeding.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Not good and improvement required. The following serious incidents have been reported:-

On 8/10/44 a Greek soldier was found suffering from stab wounds in Taranto. Other Greeks appeared on the scene and carried him away at the same time stopping 3 Italian soldiers who were assaulted - one of them has his jacket and 100 lire stolen. 1528

On 17/10/44 an Italian woman was stabbed by an unknown Greek soldier in a wine shop in Taranto. Injuries not serious and enquiries in hand.

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On 26/10/44 a party of drunken British soldiers are alleged to have thrown a hand grenade in the village of Statte and to have entered various houses by force. Enquiries are in hand by SIB but no result to hand.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

The situation here has shown an improvement since the advent of the M.P. campaign against deserters in Calabria. The M.P. team unfortunately travelled in strength (1 officer 40 NCOs in 1 car, 2 trucks and 13 m/cycles) and in convoy and naturally news of their presence preceded them - although arrests were few it does seem that this M.P. activity has been responsible for the decrease of 'Allied military' offences.

10. CONTROL OF CIVILIAN MOVEMENT.

From each Zone throughout the Region lists have been received at this E.O. of particulars of persons issued with civilian movement passes by the various Questure and this is enabling us to keep a strict watch of all civilian movement from this Region to the restricted areas.

No incident has been brought to light to suggest that any of the Italian authorities concerned are dealing with the issue of these permits in an improper manner.

11. REGISTRATION AND LICENSING.

Throughout the Zone the CC.BR. and other civil policing agencies have kept a watch for the presence of unlicensed vehicles on the highways.

ZPSO's have been keeping watch on the issue of the circulating permits and any improper or unnecessary issue will be investigated and reported. No such action has been necessary to date.

12. STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS.

None has been reported from the Naples Zone during the month. The same applies to Salerno Zone.

On 17/10/44 information was received from the Ministry of the Interior through HQ to the effect a strike or disorder was threatened at Foggia Paper Mills. The

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matter was investigated at once by the Zone Commissioner; no strike has or will occur - the case has been reported to HQ by way of special report.

On 29/10/44 approximately 400 street sweepers in Bari went on strike for 24 hours as result of failure of Italian Government to pay a promised increased in pay. The strikers have returned to work.

No strikes have been reported from Taranto Zone.

13. RIOTS AND DISTURBANCES.

(1) Naples Zone.

None reported.

(2) Salerno Zone.

On 20/10/44 demonstration of 200 municipal employees at Prefettura, Salerno Town, requesting bonus in view of high cost of living. Demonstration peaceable and dispersed without police intervention.

(3) Foggia Zone.

None reported.

(4) Bari Zone.

None reported.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Two meetings of black coated workers took place at Taranto Arsenale on 3rd and 4th Octr 1944 to discuss reasons why the increase in wages authorised by the Italian Govt had not been made. Meetings quite peaceful and ended by President of local Trades Union agreeing to enquire into the matter - the workers meanwhile will carry on with their work.

At S. Giorgio on 24/10/44 local Communists under the leadership of their Secretary forcibly entered and occupied certain premises for use as an office. Five persons were arrested and the premises were restored to proper occupants by the CC.RR. 162

On 4/10/44 four unknown men, believed repatriated Italian prisoners of war, entered Communist Club at

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Taranto and at the point of firearms removed the Party flag, pictures and pamphlets. Following evening 800 local Communists demonstrated peacefully in protest outside the Prefettura. Representatives were seen by the Vice Prefect with the result that 13 fascists were detained pending decision of the Ministry of Interior - they were released after a week. Police intervention was unnecessary to disperse this demonstration.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

No public meeting, civil disturbances or riots have been reported from this Zone during the month.

14. SABOTAGE.

The incident reported to which this heading might be considered applicable comes from Barletta (Bari Zone) where on 15/10/44 an explosive fountain-pen, of German origin, was found at the local railway station - the instrument was recovered and destroyed.

15. SECURITY.

Throughout the Region the '28th October', the anniversary of the fascist 'March on Rome' is reported to have passed without incident except at Castellammare (Naples Zone) where crudely executed inscriptions praising Mussolini were found at different parts of the town. Enquiries in hand by CC.RR.

There have been no repercussions in this Region from the recent Palermo 'incident' - the population here are too preoccupied with their own trouble to take any interest in the 'bleats' of the Sicilians.

On 10/10/44 the trial of Domenico Soprano, ex-Prefect of Naples, accused of assisting the enemy and ordering conscription of labour for Germany was opened before a Military Tribunal at Naples (Naples Zone) but was transferred by the High Commissariat for Sanctions against Fascism. Wishing no repetition of the Rome (affair', vigilance was maintained and no onward incident occurred.

On 18/10/44 Domenico Tilena was charged at Naples (Naples Zone) with organising the Fascist Republican Party in this City and was remanded to the Court of Assise. 162

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On 6/10/44 an Italian civilian appearing on an AFHQ Black list was arrested at Bari (Bari Zone) by order of GSI(b) No. 2 District - further details awaited.

Twenty-one cases of fascist documents and records have been recovered at Minervino (Bari Zone) by 315 F.S.S.

On 25/9/44 at Taranto (Taranto Zone) three civilians were arrested on security grounds by the Port S.S. - details are not yet available.

On 27/10/44 the ZPSO, Catanzaro Zone, as a result of information received signalled HQ that two principal members of the Fascist Party were seeking sanctuary in Reggio Calabria and asked directions. Instructions to detain were received - these instructions have been carried out.

Throughout the Region ZPSO's have maintained close contact with Allied and Italian security services and this HQ has done likewise with GSI(b) of District etc.

16. POLITICAL SITUATION.

General remarks.

Everywhere in the Region the position is still complex and confused - all parties and movements who had forgotten about the war in their excitement of 'power juggling' have received a jolt upon learning that Italy is at war with Japan - they have received this news with mixed feelings and haven't finished talking about it yet; neither have the general public.

(1) Naples Zone.

Although the populace are thinking primarily of this winter and their stomachs, they are still finding time to devote to politics - they are trying to 'guess' the political future with no little apprehension; they realise the Communists are gaining ground but do not appear at all disturbed at the thought of being ¹⁶²⁴ 'ruined' by that Party.

On 9/10/44 the Soviet Trades Union Delegation visited Naples City - the reaction of the public was one of approval of the sentiments expressed by the Delegation. You could not however associate over-enthusiasm with their support.

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- 29 -

(2) Salerno Zone.

Here political activity has been slight with the Communists, despite the fact they have split into two groups, winning the race for power.

(3) Foggia Zone.

The situation is reported as good and tranquil. The Communist Party has been the most active in this Zone although the recent visit of the Soviet Delegation to the Provinces of Foggia and Campobasso does not seem to have caused any increased interest amongst the population.

(4) Bari Zone.

The situation is static and satisfactory and there is nothing of an unusual nature to report. The Communist Party has been much more active than the other parties particularly in the port areas.

(5) Taranto Zone.

The position here remains more or less static with the Communist Party taking the 'lead' - two new sections of this Party were opened in Taranto City.

Attempts by the P.L.I. to merge with the local Liberal and Democratic Liberals have failed so far.

The populace are somewhat disturbed concerning the future of the Italian Colonies following the speech of the British Foreign Minister in the House on the subject.

(6) Catanzaro.

Here there has been little or no change in the situation. The Communist Party have been the most active and the visit of the Soviet Delegation to Cosenza and Reggio Calabria gave them a certain amount of notoriety amongst the impressionable public. Meetings were held by the Delegation but no untoward incident occurred.

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17. PUBLIC MORALE.

Generally throughout the Region the morale of the population has shown no improvement during the month; this is primarily the result of the poor economic conditions still prevailing - the public on the whole are extremely apprehensive as to how they are going to fare from the food aspect this coming winter.

The lack of improvement in morale is also due to the Italians' summing-up of the present slow progress of the Allied Armies in Italy and Europe generally - the Italian is of so excitable and unstable a character that it is practically impossible for him to 'stop and think' of the real reason for this slow progress.

The fact that the Armistice conditions are still on the 'secret list' is causing much speculation and the rumours spreading as a result, are not tending to improve the morale situation.

18. FIRE BRIGADE SERVICES AND CIVIL DEFENCE.

The Regional Fire Brigades are functioning as efficiently a shortage of equipment permits. Shortage of leather, tyres, tubes and batteries remain the major problem and 100 p.c. efficiency cannot be expected upon a directive dated 17/10/44 from the Minister of Interior all Brigades in Allied Commission territory will henceforth requisition for supplies etc directly to that Minister.

Seven British trucks 'on loan' to Naples Brigade have been transferred to Rome to form part of a Mobile Squad for the northern areas. On 19/10/44, 1 officer and 160 other ranks of Naples Brigade left Naples for Rome for service in the northern Regions.

Comandante of Naples Brigade by order of the Ministry dated 10/10/44 has, in addition to his present duties, taken command of the Brigades in Avellino, Benevento, Salerno and Campobasso Provinces. Complaints have been received at this HQ. alleging this Comandante is guilty of black market activities, mis-appropriation of Fire Brigade funds and fascist activities - the matter is at present under investigation by the Regional Fire and C.D. Officer. 1622

Regional Fire and C.D. Officer during the month has visited and inspected the Brigades of Naples, Cosenza and Catanzaro Provinces - shortage of equipment revealed, but no other cause for complaint.

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Passive Air Defence now largely under control of the Fire Services.

Arrangements in hand to have Southern Region cleared of mines which is now the responsibility of the Italian Government. Italian squads in training at Capua (Naples Zone) for mine clearing operations.

19. CIVIL PRISONS.

From reports received from ZPSO's it can be said that prison administration with the exception of Poggioreale (Naples Zone) is quite fair.

At Poggioreale there have been allegations of petty 'graft' on the part of certain guards - investigation resulted in certain transfers to other prisons.

The administration of the Naples Zone prisons is being taken over by the appropriate Ministry of 16/11/44.

News has been received that Dott. Bonomi, present Director of Central Directorate, Naples, is to be appointed Director of Poggioreale and Inspector of Prisons for Southern Region.

There has been a slight decrease in prison population during the month, releases have exceeded admissions by some 400. However, Poggioreale, Bari and Taranto Judicial Prisons are still overcrowded but as the new Foggia Prison is due to open this week, this will help lighten the burden of Bari.

As regards hygiene, the position is fair and unchanged with the exception of Poggioreale and Taranto Prison. The latter was found in a filthy condition but the ZPSO reports an improvement this month.

10 cases of smallpox were reported from Poggioreale - nine of these appeared to be the result of outside contact. All inmates of the prison have been re-vaccinated and admissions are segregated during the incubation period. 162

The prison personnel have appreciated their increased food ration scale - it is hoped something can be done in the near future for the inmates. The chief concern of prison directors during the visits of the Regional Prison Officer appears to be that of inmates who do not benefit from the 'extras' brought in by relatives and who have to exist on the bare prison ration.

A serious situation has been disclosed as a result of a

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statistical check-up by the Regional Prison Officer of prison population throughout the Region - he discloses that the total number of inmates (less Mandamentali Prisons) is 13,670 and of this number approximately half are still awaiting trial - this is certainly not to the credit of the Italian Judicial authorities.

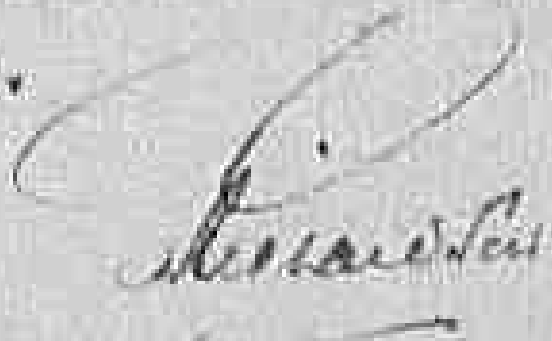
A list of prisons now in use in the Region and showing both capacity and number of inmates present on 21/10/44 is attached as Appendix No. 1.

20. FORGERY AND UTTERING OF ALLIED MILITARY CURRENCY.

For particulars see Appendix No. 2.

21. LOCATION AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.

For particulars see Appendix No. 3.


G. RICHARDSON
Major,
Regional Public
Safety Officer.

GR/tp.

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APPENDIX NO. 1

OCTOBER 1944

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CAPACITY AND POPULATION OF PRISONS

Judicial Prison = (A)
 Penal Prison = (B)
 Juvenile Prison = (C)
 Reformatory = (D)
 Manicomio = (E)

Capacity = (A)
 Men sentenced = (B)
 Women sentenced = (C)
 Minors sentenced = (D)
 Men awaiting trial = (E)
 Women " " = (F)
 Minors " " = (G)
 Total October = (H)
 Total September = (I)

PRISON	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Ariano Irpino.....(A)	102	30	7	-	38	6	-	81	96 ✓
Avellino.....(A)	356	200	9	2	166	15	5	397	411 ✓
Benevento.....(A)	225	108	7	1	118	20	10	264	281 ✓
Airola - Girls.....(D)	160	-	92	-	-	-	-	92	91 ✓
Poggioreale - Men....(A)	2000	1717	-	-	1200	-	-	2917	2901 ✓
" - Women.....(A)	500	-	193	5	-	168	17	377	408 ✓
S.EFRANO.....(G)	250	3	-	270	1	-	108	382	375 ✓
"(E)	50	17	-	-	23	-	-	40	38 ✓
Aversa.....(A)	250	86	35	3	125	12	5	266	336 ✓
Aversa.....(B)	410	103	264	17	20	23	-	427	454 ✓
Caserta.....(A)	76	18	1	-	21	8	-	48	53 ✓
Pozzuoli.....(B)	300	196	-	-	51	-	-	247	242 ✓
Procida.....(B)	600	433	3	7	-	-	-	436	430 ✓
S.Maria C.Vetere....(A)	535	240	9	1	186	6	3	445	457 ✓
" " " "(D)	165	-	-	103	-	-	-	103	79 ✓
S.Angelo Lombardi...(A)	80	20	2	1	57	6	-	86	80 ✓
<u>FOGGIA ZONE</u>									
Campobasso.....(A)	311	131	17	-	46	12	3	209	285 ✓
Larino.....(A)	142	44	7	-	40	4	1	96	90 ✓
Foggia.....(A)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- ✓
Lucera.....(A)	320	200	19	6	160	25	10	420	415 ✓
<u>TARANTO ZONE</u>									
Taranto.....(A)	220	60	7	-	240	23	18	348	381 ✓
<u>SALENTINO ZONE</u>									
Salerno.....(A)	480	159	19	-	288	46	15	527	585 ✓
Eboli.....(B)	50	-	39	-	-	-	-	39	38 ✓

...../2

- 2 -

PRISON	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
<u>BARI Zone</u>									
Lagonegro.....(A)	120	6	4	-	65	4	1	80	91 ✓
Matera.....(A)	58	41	-	-	34	-	-	75	89 ✓
Melfi.....(A)	154	35	-	15	27	-	3	80	87 ✓
Potenza.....(A)	169	63	5	6	92	6	3	167	187 ✓
Avigliano.....(D)	280	-	-	49	-	-	-	49	49 ✓
Bari.....(A)	627	185	12	27	1069	74	127	1494	1648 ✓
Trani.....(A)	283	221	12	22	135	7	3	360	434 ✓
Trani Women.....(B)	140	-	131	-	-	-	-	131	125 ✓
Brindisi.....(A)	260	132	7	5	152	17	4	317	304 ✓
Lecce.....(A)	380	229	30	29	80	12	7	387	375 ✓
Lecce.....(B)	228	264	-	-	22	-	-	286	293 ✓
<u>CATANZARO Zone.</u>									
Castrovillari.....(A)	94	32	3	-	34	-	4	73	87 ✓
Catanzaro.....(A)	280	237	16	-	287	15	2	557	466 ✓
Cesenza.....(A)	230	112	16	-	111	14	2	255	279 ✓
Locri.....(A)	144	62	8	-	113	17	3	203	218 ✓
Nicastro.....(A)	144	94	4	-	53	1	5	157	166 ✓
Palmi.....(A)	78	27	4	-	61	5	1	98	104 ✓
Rossano.....(A)	44	22	2	-	11	4	2	41	44 ✓
Vibo Valentia.....(A)	204	54	8	-	149	10	4	225	175 ✓
Reggio Calabria.....(A)	245	70	7	3	158	32	8	278	338 ✓

5631 999 545 5433 594 368 13670 14085

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1618

APPENDIX NO. 2OCTOBER 1944. 2cFORGING AND UTTERING OF ALLIED MILITARY CURRENCY(1) NAPLES ZONE

Case No. N/1 - Note No. A.04511640 - value nil
Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
Fair specimen.
Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of
Italy during ordinary course of business.
Note relates to Reggio Calabria case reported
vide this HQ corres PS/4.9. Note forwarded
to Catanzaro Zone.

Case No. N/2 - Note No. A.05428581 - value nil
Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
Fair specimen.
Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of
Italy from regular customer who received
same for source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.

Case No. N/3 - Note No. A.14105327 - value nil
Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
Fair specimen.
Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of
Naples from regular customer who received
same from source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.

Case No. N/4 - Note No. A.16120171 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
Good specimen.
Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of 1617
Italy from regular customer who received
same from source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.

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Case No. N/5 - Note No. A.05874027 - value nil.
 Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
 Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
 Fair specimen.
 Facts - At Nola where received by branch of Bank
 of Italy from customer who received same
 from source unknown.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

Case No. N/6 - Note No. A.17669429 - value nil.
 Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
 Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
 Good specimen.
 Facts - At Nola where received by Bank of Naples
 from customer who received same from
 source unknown.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

Case No. N/7 - (1) Note No. A.06067516 - value nil
 (2) " " A.06067516 - value nil
 (3) " " A.17745690 - value nil
 (4) " " A.17745690 - value nil
 (5) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (6) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (7) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (8) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (9) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (10) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (11) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (12) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (13) " " A.06776646 - value nil
 (14) " " A.06776646 - value nil

Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
 Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
 All fair specimens. 1610
 Facts - At Nola where received by Bank of Italy
 from customer.
 Enquiries negative.
 Notes attached.

Case No. N/8 - Note No. A.17743490 - value nil.
 Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
 Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
 Fair specimen.

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- 3 -

Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of Naples from customer who received same from source unknown.

Enquiries negative.

Note attached.

Case No. H/9 - Note No. A.14105327 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44.
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
Fair specimen.

Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of Naples from customer who received same from source unknown.

Enquiries negative.

Note attached.

Case No. H/10 - Note No. A.04480721 - value 50 lire
Date offence disclosed - 18/10/44
Type - 50 lire note raised to 500 lire by addition of '0' to original figures by means of brush and ink. Denomination in words added and basic colouring tinted by means of colour wash. A fair specimen.

Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from source unknown.

Enquiries negative.

Note attached.

Case No. H/11 - Note No. A.47215394 - value nil.
Date of offence disclosed - 18/10/44.
Type - complete forgery to represent 500 lire.
Poor specimen.

Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from source unknown.

Enquiries negative.

Note attached.

Case No. H/12 - Note No. A.00285915 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 18/10/44.
Type - complete forgery to represent 5000 lire.
Fair specimen.

Facts - At Naples where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from source unknown.

Enquiries negative.

Note attached.

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- Case No.N/13 - Note No. 07395107 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 18/10/44
Type - complete forgery front only to represent 100 lire. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Naples where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No.N/14 - Note No. 06067516 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 19/10/44
Type-complete forgery to represent 1000 lire. Fair specimen.
Facts- At Naples where received by Bank of Naples from customer who received same from source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No.N/15 - Note No. A.21515778 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 10/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 100 lire. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Naples where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from unknown source.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No.N/16 - Note No. A.08153642 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 20/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 100 lire. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Naples where received from railway company who received same from source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No.N/17 - Note No. 17669442 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 20/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Naples where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.

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Case No. E/18 - Note No. A.12287444 - value 50 lire (app)
 Date offence disclosed - 20/10/44
 Type - raised to 500 lire by total erasure of figures and insertion centrally of figures '500'. Basic colouring tinted by colour wash. Fair specimen.
 Facts- At Benevento where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from source unknown.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

Case No. N/19 - Note No. 07395117 - value nil.
 Date offence disclosed - 20/10/44
 Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire. Poor specimen.
 Facts- At Naples where received at main post office from some person unknown.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

(2) SALERNO ZONE

No cases reported.

(3) FOGGIA ZONE

Case No. F/1 - (1) Note No. A.17745690 - value nil
 (2) " " A.17745690 - " "
 (3) " " A.06067516 - " "
 (4) " " A.06067516 - " "
 (5) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (6) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (7) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (8) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (9) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (10) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (11) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (12) " " A.06776646 - " "
 (13) " " A.06776646 - " "

Date offence disclosed - 15/9/44
 Type - complete forgeries to represent 1000 lire. Fair specimens.
 Facts- At Ottaviano where received during ordinary course of business by wine merchant. Believe all originally received at Nola (Naples) Zone)
 Enquiries at present in hand by Questura, Naples, thus notes not attached.

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- 6 -

Case No. F/2 - Note No. A.19611371 - value nil.
 Date offence disclosed - 24/9/44
 Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
 Fair specimen.
 Facts- At Foggia where received in Officers 'PX'
 from person unknown.
 Enquiries in hand, thus note not attached.

(4) BARI ZONE.

Case No. B/1 - (1) Note No. A.38844513 - value 50 lire
 (2) " " A.63044717 - " 50 "
 Date offence disclosed - 27/10/44
 Type - Both raised to 500 lire by addition of '0'
 to original figures. Condition of forgeries
 not known.
 Facts- not yet available.
 Enquiries proceeding, thus note not attached.

(5) TARANTO ZONE.

Case No. T/1 - Note No. A.10620532 - value 50 lire
 Date offence disclosed - 4/9/44
 Type - raised to 500 lire by erasure of all
 figures and insertion of figures '500'.
 Basic colouring tinted. Poor specimen.
 Facts- At Taranto where person arrested whilst
 uttering same at Post Office.
 Note not attached as retained as Court exhibit.

Case No. T/2 - Note No. A.21515778 - value nil.
 Date offence disclosed - 2/10/44
 Type - total forgery to represent 1000 liras.
 Condition not known.
 Facts- At Taranto where received by Bank of Italy
 from customer who received same from source
 unknown.
 Enquiries proceeding, thus note not attached.

(6) CATANZARO ZONE.

Case No. C/1 - Note No. A.15464986 - value 50 lire
 Date offence disclosed - 22/9/44
 Type - raised to 500 lire by means of brush and
 ink. Basic colouring tinted apparently by
 yellow crayon. Poor specimen.
 Facts- At Catanzaro where received by Post Office
 from source unknown.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

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- Case No. C/2 - Note No. A.13749235 - value 50 lire.
Date offence disclosed - 30/9/44
Type - raised to 500 lire by total erasure of figures and insertion centrally of figures '500' also written denomination apparently by pen and ink. Basic colouring tinted apparently by yellow crayon. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Catanzaro Marina where received by tradesman during ordinary course of business - no guilty knowledge.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No. C/3 - Note No. A.06285968 - value nil
Date offence disclosed - 2/10/44
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
Condition not known.
Facts- At Reggio Calabria where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from unknown source.
Enquiries proceeding, thus note retained.
- Case No. C/4 - Note No. A.33012477 - value 50 lire
Date offence disclosed - 5/10/44
Type - raised to 500 lire by means of pen and ink.
Condition not known.
Facts- At Crotona where received by civilian employee in payment of wages - no guilty knowledge.
Enquiries proceeding, thus note retained.
- Case No. C/5 - Note No. A.65537675 - value 50 lire.
Date offence disclosed - 6/10/44
Type - similar to Case No. C/2 with exception basic colouring tinted by colour wash.
Poor specimen.
Facts- At Catanzaro where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from unknown source.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.

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- 8 -

- Case No. C/6 - Note No. A.26271098 - value 50 lire.
Date offence disclosed - 9/10/44
Type - raised to 500 lire by means of pen and ink. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Reggio Calabria where received by local tradesman from source unknown.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No. C/7 - Note No. A.24876524 - value 50 lire.
Date offence disclosed - 10/10/44
Type - raised to 500 lire by erasure of all figures and insertion centrally of figures '500' by means of stamp and ink. Basic colouring tinted by yellow crayon. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Viho Valentia where received by tradesman during ordinary course of business from unknown source.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No. C/8 - Note No. '17669426 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 10/10/44
Type - total forgery to represent 1000 lire. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Crotone where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from unknown source.
Enquiries negative.
Note attached.
- Case No. C/9 - Note No. 30602777 - value 50 lire.
Date offence disclosed - 11/10/44
Type - raised to 500 lire by addition of '0' to original figures. Basic colouring tinted by colour wash. Poor specimen.
Facts- At Catanzaro where received by Bank of Italy from customer who received same from unknown source.
Enquiries negative.

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Case No.C/10 - Note No. A.07260705 - value 50 lire.
 Date offence disclosed - 11/10/44
 Type - raised to 500 lire by means similar to
 Case C/9 excepting basic colouring tinted
 apparently by yellow crayon. Four specimen.
 Facts- At Catanzaro where received by Bank of Italy
 from customer who received same from unknown
 source.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

Case No.C/11 - (1) Note No. unknown - value 100 lire
 (2) " " " " 100 "
 (3) " " " " 100 "
 (4) " " " " 100 "
 (5) " " " " 100 "
 (6) " " " " 100 "

Date offence disclosed - 13/10/44
 Type - raised to 1000 lire by means of pen and ink.
 Condition unknown.
 Facts- At Cassana Ionia where man arrested by CC.RR.
 whilst attempting to utter.
 Notes not attached as retained as Court exhibits.

Case No.C/12 - Note No. A.06067516 - value nil
 Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
 Type-complete forgery to represent 1000 lire. Fair
 specimen.
 Facts- At Catanzaro where received by Bank of Italy
 from customer who received same from source
 unknown.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

Case No.C/13 - Note No. A.68823793 - value nil.
 Date offence disclosed - 17/10/44
 Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
 Fair specimen.
 Facts- At Catanzaro where received by Bank of Italy
 from customer who received same from unknown
 source.
 Enquiries negative.
 Note attached.

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Case No. C/14 - Note No. 10873517 - value nil.
Date offence disclosed - 20/10/44.
Type - complete forgery to represent 1000 lire.
Condition unknown.
Facts- At Reggio Calabria where received at Post
Office from customer who received same
from unknown source.
Enquiries negative.
Note retained by AFA, Bari.

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APPENDIX NO. 3OCTOBER 1944 20LOCATION AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERSRegional Headquarters

1. Major G. RICHARDSON, No. 282757 (British), Regional Public Safety Officer
2. Captain L.W. TOES, No. 287723 (British), Asst. Regional Public Safety Officer
3. Captain G.R. DALEY, No. 291039 (British), Regional Prisons Officer
4. Captain C. NOBLE, No. 279323 (British), Regional Fire and C.D. Officer.

H.Q. Naples Zone

5. Major F. LUCEMAN, No. 9-901608 (American), Zone Public Safety Officer
6. Captain F. SCAIFE, No. 291660 (British), Asst. Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Salerno Zone.

7. Captain J. MADILL, No. 287711 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Foggia Zone

8. Captain B.F. COCKS, No. 279403 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Bari Zone

9. Major G.M. REVELEY, No. 6099 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Taranto Zone

10. Captain H.F. STRAND, No. 279422 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Catanzaro Zone

11. Captain R.N. HOBBS, No. 279423 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer.

+ Note: On 25/10/44 Major D.F.W. STEPHENS No. 287370 (Br.) arrived in Region for public safety duties in lieu of Major Luckman ordered for duty at H.Q. Allied Commission. Major Stephens has proceeded to Catanzaro to take over from Capt. HOBBS who has been assigned to Naples Zone. These transfers are now proceeding and when completed a special report will be submitted in accordance with existing directives.

FOR :-

THE DIRECTOR,
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION, *1A.*
H.Q. ACC.

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HEADQUARTERS

SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

Ref: PS/
2.5.1

Date 5 October 1944

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of Activities - September 1944.

TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, HQ. ACC.
Regional Commissioner, HQ. Southern Region, ACC.

1. In submitting this report of activities of Public Safety Division for the month of September 1944, it must be pointed out that it is the first monthly report to be submitted for Southern Region which comprises the areas formerly controlled by Regions II, III and VII, and the Provinces of Foggia and Campobasso of Region V.

2. For the information and guidance of the Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, it must be stated that for administrative purposes this new Region is divided into six Zones. Therefore, in an endeavour to facilitate reading of the report and appreciation of the true position from the public safety viewpoint, I will, wherever possible, deal with each Zone separately in respect of each subject and, should the occasion demand it, will conclude the particular subject by a general comment.

3. The Zones in the Region and 'covered' by the report are :-

(1) Naples Zone	-	Province of Naples
		" " Avellino
		" " Benevento
(2) Salerno Zone	-	" " Salerno
(3) Foggia Zone	-	" " Foggia
		" " Campobasso
(4) Bari Zone	-	" " Bari
		" " Lecce
		" " Matera
		" " Potenza
		" " Brindisi

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|-----|----------------|---|---------------------|
| (5) | Taranto Zone | - | Province of Taranto |
| (6) | Catanzaro Zone | - | " " Catanzaro |
| | | | " " Cosenza |
| | | | " " Reggio Calabria |

4. CIVIL POLICE AGENCIES(a) Carabinieri Regli.(1) Naples Zone.

Owing to the many changes which have and still are taking place in establishment due to transfers for northern areas, it is not possible to give figures of the officer and other ranks strengths - it is anticipated this can be accomplished at an early date.

As regards efficiency: there has been no incident calling for criticism in any of the Provinces in this Zone. I have had the opportunity of seeing the CC.RR in Naples City 'at work' and they left a very favourable impression - I am convinced they are completely loyal to their Command and our cause despite the fact they have so many difficulties to contend with in their civil life, viz., cost of living etc.

Their morale has remained very satisfactory and is improving week by week - this is due considerably to their knowledge that we are placing our trust in them. Again, the progress of the war has much to do with this steady improvement.

Equipment can be described merely as satisfactory - they are in need of uniform replacements, particularly footwear. The position regarding arms, however, is satisfactory.

(2) Salerno Zone.

For the reasons given above the strengths cannot be given at the present.

Despite shortage of personnel the efficiency and morale has been very good and no adverse report can be made.

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There is a need for equipment especially footwear and uniform replacements.

An unfortunate incident occurred at Salerno on 22/9/44 - A Carabinieri became involved in an altercation with five British soldiers, all allegedly drunk, and was shot dead. C.M.F. have arrested a soldier who is believed to have fired the shot and the investigation is proceeding. The Zone P.S.C. is keeping a watch on the progress of the case.

(3) Foggia Zone.

The strengths in this Zone are not yet available. However, from a strength of nearly a 1000 in Campobasso about 500 have been transferred for duty in the north.

Nevertheless, the CC.RR efficiency and morale has been really good and they have been particularly successful in combatting the black market.

(4) Bari Zone.

There has been further fluctuation of strength, thus it is not possible to give particulars of establishment - on 25/9/44 1440 CC.RR left Bari for the northern areas via Naples.

Throughout the Zone they have maintained a good standard of efficiency, discipline and morale.

In regards equipment; my remarks under other Zones are applicable here.

There has been excellent co-operation between CC.RR here and Military Police in a drive against absentees and deserters who have been troubling the area - the results have been satisfactory.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Again, I am unable to give establishment figures.

With the limited personnel at their disposal, the CC.RR have continued to operate satisfactorily.

The P.S.C. reports that despite his not having

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been in the area long enough to come to definite conclusions, he feels satisfied that from efficiency, discipline and morale standpoints, they are well up to standard.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

The strength of the force in this Zone is reported to be 29 officers and 1926 other ranks which the CC.RR. Command intimate is insufficient for efficient policing, especially in an area such as Calabria.

Nevertheless, they have maintained a good standard of efficiency throughout the month and this is undoubtedly due to the loyalty of the men and the control exercised by their officers.

Morale throughout is described as very good.

As in the other cases there is a shortage of equipment, particularly footwear.

General Remarks.

The CC.RR Commands throughout the Region view with no little apprehension their decrease in establishment, fearing that they will be unable to cope with any major disorders which may occur following the withdrawal of AGC and the removal of its restraining influence. Personally, I do not view the position with such a degree of seriousness; it is very noticeable that the CC.RR are rapidly regaining the confidence and respect of the general public and by the time we are due to leave they will be able to cope with any situation which may confront them.

Note has been taken of a recent HQ letter stating that it is 'hoped' there will be no further drain on our resources; we hope so also because if these transfers continue we shall soon be reaching a danger level particularly in regard to Naples City (Naples Zone). There is still a considerable number of Allied military and naval personnel in the area & I am sure the reason why we can ill afford reduction here is well appreciated by the authorities thus making further comment unnecessary.

During the month considerable forces of CC.RR have been mustered in Naples from points throughout the Region upon instructions of HQ. and, through the facilities granted by PBS, they have been transported by sea to Leghorn en route for the northern areas - this transportation by sea has 'saved' a

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considerable amount of much needed road transport.

(b) Questura.

(1) Naples Zone.

There is little or ^{no} change to be observed in the morale of personnel at Naples Questura which is due to conditions stated in previous reports, namely, low rate of pay, shortage of equipment and lack of training. As a result of these conditions efficiency is much below standard. The establishment is approximately 3500 agents many of whom are without arms or uniforms.

There is another matter affecting efficiency and morale and this is being looked into - quite half the Questura building is requisitioned and occupied by various branches of P.S.; the fingerprint and scientific bureaux also the cells have been commandeered by sections of the M.P. The Questura personnel are squeezed into spare offices etc. and this, it will be appreciated, is having a serious effect on efficiency.

During the month all traffic posts previously manned by M.P.'s became the responsibility of the Questura consequent upon withdrawal of M.P. units from the area. The Zone P.S.O. was successful in obtaining 250 salvage raincoats for use of traffic police - a very important acquisition at this time of the year.

At the instance of H.Q. and the Italian Ministry of Interior a confidential investigation is being conducted by the Vice Questore into allegations of bribery and corruption amongst certain agents and officers of this Questura; the enquiry is not yet complete but progress is said to be satisfactory.

On 17/9/44 an anonymous letter was received by various authorities allegedly from some Agents of this Questura in which they threatened to come out on strike unless they received increased pay etc - this was enquired into and it appears some civilian wishing to stir up trouble in police circles, was the author of the letter. Admittedly, their economic position is bad but

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*10/10/44 Sent
Lettre to the
to ask for release?
noting must be the office.*

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we are satisfied they have no intention to strike. Nevertheless, a watch is being kept upon the position and our plans are laid to deal with any emergency.

I have seen the Questore here on a number of occasions recently, but am not greatly impressed. I do not doubt his honesty or desire to cooperate, but he is not strong enough to command force at Naples.

The Questura at Avellino has been operating very satisfactorily. An interesting report has been received from the Prefect showing that during the month Agents of PS have seized 102 quintals of contraband grain, 25 of oil and 541 of salt - this discloses a satisfactory degree of efficiency.

At Benevento Province the Questurini have been doing good work in combatting local crime and no adverse comment can be made concerning their conduct and morale.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Generally satisfactory although it must be reported that the recent increase of wages of Agents has given little satisfaction - it is considered inadequate to meet the present high cost of living. Nevertheless, the conduct and morale of this force, is quite good and observation has produced no evidence of serious dissention.

(3) Foggia Zone.

No complaints have been received concerning the Questura in this Zone and they have been quite successful in dealing with local crime.

In Foggia there is a total strength of 43 and in Campobasso 102.

(4) Bari Zone.

In spite of lack of effective personnel the Questura in Bari Province have operated very well and much success has attended their activities against the "black market". Furthermore, no criticism can be made concerning their morale and conduct. Equipment, as in all other areas, is 1599

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very short.

The above remarks are applicable to Lecce, Matera, Potenza and Brindisi Provinces. Special mention should be made of Lecce Province where there is a small establishment, only 9 officers and 29 agents - although their crime returns are not heavy, they are working at full pressure and are obtaining really good results.

(5) Taranto Zone.

The new PSC for the Zone is taking great interest in the Questura of the Province and he reports the conduct, morale and efficiency is satisfactory - next month he will be in a position to give a broader picture of the position.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

The establishment for Catanzaro Province is 7 Officers and 53 Agents.

Was agreed to by the S/C

On 14/9/44 without prior notification to this Region or to the Zone, the Italian Ministry of the Interior saw fit to appoint a new Questore and the Questore resumed his duties as Vice-Questore - this Vice Questore had been placed in office as Questore by AMG in the early days of the invasion when the Questore had been arrested and interned for security reasons. The failure of the Ministry to notify this HQ of the appointment constitutes not only discourtesy on their part but also gives occasion for adverse comment to an appointment which had been made by the Allied Command and the 'demotion' of an official who, to my personal knowledge has given every satisfaction.

It is, as yet, too early to judge whether the appointment will have repercussions within the Questura or amongst the general public. A very careful watch is being kept upon the position.

It must be reported, however, that the efficiency to date of the officers and agents is satisfactory and although their arrests and denunciations show a decrease is undoubtedly due to a falling off in crime.

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In conclusion and in all fairness to the new Questore we must say that so far he has appeared capable and an officer who desires that the excellent co-operation formerly existing between the Questura and AGC, shall continue.

*New Q being
Nominated.*

I have personal knowledge of the conditions at the Questura at Cosenza Province and in June last, when RFSO of Region VII, I submitted a report 'pleading' that a Questore be appointed - the A/Questore was useless and very nearly came within the category of 'passive resister'. Although no Questore has been appointed it seems that our continued 'pressure' has had some effect as this month we can report a very favourable and necessary improvement in the efficiency of this agency; it is hoped this improvement will continue. It should have been mentioned that the strength here is 5 officers and 63 other ranks.

*Legal obstacles
to confirming
appointment.*

In Reggio Province the personnel, numbering 7 officers and 249 other ranks, continue to perform their duties efficiently under the able and zealous command of the A/Questore. It is deeply regretted that despite 'forceful' representation, the Italian Government have not seen fit as yet, to confirm the AMG appointment of this A/Questore who I have no hesitation in saying is the most efficient and hardworking Italian police officer I have met so far.

(a) Guardia Finanza.

(1) Naples Zone.

In Naples Province this force has been operating successfully but they are having to put up with many hardships owing to lack of personnel. Many GG.FF. are still engaged on duties other than their normal duties and we are taking immediate action for their withdrawal.

In the other Provinces of this Zone the forces are reported to be operating efficiently and have done very good work on road blocks by seizing much contraband material.

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The GG.FF on service in Benevento Province, totalling 2 officers and 132 other ranks, are likewise working satisfactorily.

The same applies to Avellino where personnel have been particularly active in recovering military equipment. Over a period, the end of July to date, it is reported amongst other property 267 quintales of contraband salt and 74 quintales of oil were seized.

(2) Salerno Zone.

The force in Salerno, has been operating successfully in spite of the shortage of personnel and equipment and they have been particularly useful at road blocks working in co-operation with M.P.

(3) Foggia Zone.

In the two Provinces of this Zone the GG.FF. continue to maintain a satisfactory standard of efficiency, morale and conduct. The chief complaints we have to make are usual, lack of personnel, equipment mainly transport and footwear. Nevertheless, they have been doing good work in their own sphere of operations and the number of cases of tax evasion, sequestration of contraband material, etc. is really satisfactory.

(4) Bari Zone.

My remarks under Foggia Zone are applicable here.

(5) Taranto Zone.

As under Foggia Zone.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

In Catanzaro Province the strength is 2 officers and 205 other ranks and their morale and conduct is good. Here they are working in conjunction with CC.RR. at roads blocks and the results have been very satisfactory. In addition to the recovery of contraband material, they have seized a considerable quantity of military clothing and footwear from civilians.

1596

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Cosenza Province has an establishment of 2 officers and 195 other ranks and the results during the month have been very good indeed. Here they are very short of uniform replacements. Conduct and morale can be described as very satisfactory.

In Reggio the force is considerably understrength there being only 4 officers and 257 other ranks. Nevertheless under the capable leadership of the C.O. they are operating in an efficient and zealous manner - they have concentrated on the traffic of contraband goods the mainland and Sicily and results have been good. Again, their chief complaint is lack of equipment, low wages and the high cost of living.

(d) Real Corpo delle Foreste.

As yet I am unable to give the strengths of this force, but from all Zones throughout the Region it is reported they are very much under-strength and are in urgent need of suitable equipment. However, no complaint has reached this HQ. to suggest a breaking down in their morale or efficiency. It is known that in the agricultural districts they have been doing good work within their own sphere of operations and have given valuable services to the Allied military lumber detachments in the forest areas.

(e) Vigili Urbani.

Throughout the Region the efficiency of the various Municipal Guards leaves much to be desired. They are very badly paid and on account of this and the sad lack of equipment and training, their morale has been very low - Zone PSO's are giving this matter their attention and advising the appropriate local authority to take more interest in the police forces at their command.

5. CRIME.

(1) Naples Zone.

Crime in Naples Commune (under AMG), particularly 1593

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crimes of violence, are not abnormally high considering the general conditions. With the gradual departure of military units from the area we can reasonably expect a decrease in the near future. Practically without exception the crimes of violence are committed by drunken Allied military and naval personnel or by civilians during altercations with such persons. At the time of submission of this report the crime figures have not been received but it is known there are no cases of crime of outstanding importance to record.

On 13/9/44 at Resina, Province of Naples, important arrests were effected by the CC.RR. - 19 members of a youthful gang actively engaged in housebreaking, burglary and larceny of property from Allied encampments and vehicles over a period, were arrested as a result of outstanding work on the part of the CC.RR. It is particularly important to note that 6 receivers of the stolen property were also apprehended.

During the month from the outlying parts of the Province and also from the other provinces in this Zone allegations have been received that farmers and the like have been the victims of armed robbery by persons in the uniforms of the M.P. and the CC.RR. - the civil police and military police have received information that the offenders are civilians improperly in possession of the uniforms and extensive enquiries are proceeding in this matter.

In Benevento Province the crime situation is very satisfactory and some 224 cases of crime, all minor, have been investigated by the civil police authorities with good results.

Avellino Province shows a static crime return with nothing of importance to record.

(2) Salerno Zone.

In Salerno the crime situation remains fairly static. Five murders and 182 crimes of larceny and minor assault have been reported and are under investigation by the Italian civil police.

There is nothing outstanding to report with the exception that as a result of the return of shotguns ¹⁵⁹⁴

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to farmers an interesting form of petty theft has come to light - the larceny of lead covering from signal cables etc - it is impossible to purchase commercially made shot and the stolen lead is being used for home manufacture of cartridges.

(3) Foggia Zone.

In Campobasso Province position reported static. There have been two cases of murder during the month which, together with one case of assault, form the total recorded crimes of violence. Minor cases of crime are few and this is really very satisfactory considering only a year has elapsed since the liberation of the area.

Crime in Foggia Province is largely confined to petty thieving and evasions of the agricultural laws governing harvest collection. The situation can be described as satisfactory.

(4) Bari Zone.

Throughout this Zone the crime situation can be classified as static and satisfactory.

Bari Province shows a return of two murders, 211 larcenies and 351 offences of lesser importance.

During the early hours of 19/9/44 a R.A.F. Officer disturbed a thief in his flat. In attempting to effect apprehension the officer received a knife wound in the stomach. The thief, identity at present unknown, escaped. The officer is not seriously wounded.

The state of affairs in Lecce Province remain unchanged. One murder (fratricide) reported - on 28/9/44 a man died at Disco, Lecce, following stab wounds received during a quarrel with his brother; assailant arrested. Housebreaking in the Province remains at a normal level, 27 cases having been reported. Petty larcenies total 73.

Crime in Matera Province has shown a considerable improvement; the only crime of violence was an assault of a minor nature on a civil police officer. Petty larcenies totalled 29.

In Potenza Province an improvement is likewise

1593

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disclosed; again the only crime of violence was an assault on a police officer. Petty larcenies reported during the month are reduced to 25.

Brindisi Province produces an interesting report - two cases of attempted murder and 1115 offences of improper possession of arms. 32 cases have occurred of illegal possession of firearms. 55 suicides are reported - a total exceeding all the other Provinces in the Region put together. The figures for minor crimes are reasonable.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Serious crime is not prevalent here although the number of minor crimes is still substantial. 241 cases of possession of firearms have come to light and 82 cases of illegal possession of military property have been reported.

There are three cases worthy of mention; on 8/9/44 a bomb was placed in the house of a CC.RR. NCO, persons responsible have been arrested and one charged with attempted murder. On 19/9/44 an unknown man was murdered at Porta Napoli. He had received a gunshot wound in the head and all marks of identity removed from the body and clothing - enquiries are proceedings. On the same day on the Taranto to Brindisi road a civilian selling articles to troops unlawfully was shot dead by an Allied sentry whilst endeavouring to escape.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

The situation remains comparatively static throughout the Zone, but there have been a number of serious crimes reported.

In Catanzaro Province 7 murders occurred. Cases of special interest are these :-

On 27/8/44 at Crotone a hand grenade was thrown by an unknown youth amongst a group of civilians & 13 civilians injured. No political significance and enquiries are proceeding.

On 1/9/44 at Limbardi a husband shot and killed his wife and mother-in-law and wounded his sister during a dispute over financial matters. Arrest not yet

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effected.

On 10/9/44 at Crotone 4 persons killed a young man for "reasons of honour". Assailants have been arrested.

On 16/9/44 at S. Leonardo a gang of thieves attempted to steal grain from a farmer but were disturbed. Shooting took place and one of the thieves was killed - other arrests have been effected.

The situation in Cosenza Province can be deemed normal. 2 murders, the result of drunken quarrels, occurred.

Robbery with violence here shows a big increase - 118 cases - but investigation has revealed the majority of incidents to be of minor character with no injuries sustained. A total of 9 arrests have been made and it is anticipated they will 'clear up' most of the outstanding cases.

Reggio Calabria Province shows an improvement. In all, five cases of murder have been reported. The following are cases of special interest:-

On 3/9/44 at Oppido Maerentino a youth was murdered for unknown reasons - murderer has been arrested.

On 7/9/44 at Gioiosa Jonica a husband murdered his wife and then committed suicide.

On 18/9/44 at Delianova a murder was committed for revenge - murderer arrested.

6. BLACK MARKET.

(1) Naples Zone.

Black market still continues to be a major problem facing the Italian police and ourselves in this Zone.

In Naples Allied material usually found on the 'market' is slowly disappearing; this is due undoubtedly to the increased vigilance of the local police and M.P., a tightening-up of conditions at the Port and the fact that Allied personnel responsible for the 'supplies' are gradually withdrawing from the district.

An interesting matter has come to light during the month; the official price of controlled petrol is 1591

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13.50 lire whereas on the 'market' it is said one can buy a litre for 10 lire. This shows an extremely serious leakage from a source at present unknown; suitable representation has been made to all authorities holding stocks to tighten-up all channels of withdrawal.

In Benevento Province the civil police have been active and 32 persons have been arrested and 48 denounced and 739 quintales of grain seized. A considerable quantity of olive oil ~~is~~ destined for the 'market' has also been sequestered.

The same applies to Avellino Province - all police agencies have been satisfactorily and good results have been attained. Here as in all Provinces in the Zone there has been complete co-operation with M.P. at road blocks.

(2) Salerno Zone.

The 'market' is static here, but police activity has resulted in the arrest of 8 persons and denunciation of 125 for grain and cereal offences - 97 quintales have been seized.

Improper traffic in oil has also received police attention, 8 arrests and 220 denunciations being made and 87 quintales recovered.

In this Zone the various agencies have been collaborating well with M.P. units.

(3) Foggia Zone.

In Foggia Province the 'attack' has continued on black market operators with no little success and a number of interesting cases are reported. The seizure of a number of carts at a road block at Cerignola resulted in the arrest of 7 persons and the breaking up of an active organisation.

The arrest in this Province of a NCO of Bari Fire Brigade with quantities of grain and oil followed with the arrest of the 'middle man'. Enquiries are proceeding and it is hoped the vendors will be identified.

At traffic blocks during the month 21 military vehicles, mostly Italian and French, have been

1590

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discovered conveying black market material and their loads seized. In this particular activity it is interesting to note that 132 quintales of oil and 12 of grain were sequestered.

In Campobasso Province the black market which at all times must be considered serious is far more satisfactory than in many other Provinces. 9 arrests and 55 denunciations have been effected and 139 quintales of grain and cereals taken from 'operators'. 12 persons have also been arrested for illegal dealings in olive oil.

Throughout this Zone the civil police are reported to be co-operating well with our M.P.

(4) Bari Zone.

In this Zone during the past month very satisfactory results have been achieved against black market operators by systematic checks of passengers travelling on civilian trains.

1559 quintales of grain and 522 of olive oil resulting from 11 arrests and 28 denunciations, has been recovered in Bari Province - very satisfactory figures.

In Lecce there has been similar activity and the results have been good.

Matera Province police agencies have also been active and have been responsible for the recovery of some 24 quintales of grain and 45 quintales of oil. A number of arrests and denunciations have been made.

Favourable reports have also been received regarding the black market situation in the Potenza and Brindisi Provinces - all agencies have been very active but we shall continue to 'press' them to greater activity.

(5) Taranto Zone.

There is still too much activity by 'operators' especially in olive oil.

During the month Agents of PS took about 24 quintales of oil from passengers in the Bari-Taranto-Naples trains. 1589

10 shops have been closed for various periods for selling controlled goods at higher prices and 16

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others for failing to have prices properly exhibited. About 100 persons have been reported for various offences in connection with rationed goods.

Road blocks are being used by all police agencies.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

All police agencies are extremely active and much success has attended their efforts.

Police have been appointed to travel on trains for the purpose of preventing and detecting black market offences. Many main line trains have been stopped and searched and a considerable amount of contraband commodities has been sequestered.

The Zone P30 has been able to obtain the assistance of Royal Navy patrols at Reggio and they have been particularly active in arresting and preventing illicit transport of goods and passengers to and from Sicily.

In Catanzaro Province 66 persons have been arrested and 173 denounced for black market offences.

Cosenza Province shows a good return; 40 persons have been arrested and 192 denounced.

41 arrests and 311 denunciations have taken place in Reggio Province - a very satisfactory return.

General Remarks.

During the month 6 Allied Officers loaned by No. 3 District have been working under this Division in the Naples Zone in connection with potato control enforcement. The results have been extremely good - a number of arrests have been effected and over 2,000 quintales of potatoes seized.

This 'campaign' however, was marred by an unfortunate incident - on 7/9/44 near a small village on the outskirts of Naples Province a British Officer who was accompanying one of those engaged in the 'drive', was fired on by some unknown persons and seriously wounded in the head. SIB are investigating.

7. MAFIA ACTIVITY.

There has been no evidence or information to suggest any Mafia activity in the Region with the exception of Reggio Calabria Province (Catanzaro Zone) where it is alleged two offences

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involving 3 arrests, were Mafia instigated - confirmation of the allegations is awaited.

8. PROSTITUTION.

(1) Naples Zone.

The question of prostitution has been taken very seriously by civil and military police in this Zone. There is still far too much 'nuisance' from these women in the Naples City area; they are taking advantage of a recent influx of naval personnel and soldiers resting. A strict watch is being kept by the medical authorities in regard to V.D. but at the present moment I am not in a position to supply figures.

In Benevento there is only 1 'licensed' prostitute. Here 15 clandestine prostitutes have been arrested; 7 of these were found to be infected and 2 are detained in hospital.

The position at Avellino is satisfactory but the presence of many resting troops has created difficulties for the civil and military police.

(2) Salerno Zone.

In this zone 40 have been arrested, 18 found infected and 83 are in hospital receiving treatment - this activity indicates satisfactory state of affairs from the policing aspect.

(3) Foggia Zone.

In Foggia the situation can be described as normal - 88 prostitutes have been arrested and of this number 50 p.e. were found infected. 124 are undergoing hospital treatment.

87 were arrested in Campobasso Province of which 48 were diseased.

This discloses an unsatisfactory state of affairs from the morality and health points of view but does not indicate that the police services are doing their utmost to suppress clandestine prostitution and the spreading of disease.

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(4) Bari Zone.

Police agencies in this large area have been busily engaged in tackling this problem, and the results are gratifying.

In Bari Province there are 120 'licensed' prostitutes; 23 have been arrested for clandestine activity. In all, 132 have been found diseased and 185 are under hospital treatment.

Lecco Province carries a heavy 'licensed' prostitute population, 285 is the total. Inspections during the period disclosed 87 to be infected; 129 are detained in hospital.

Matera Province has been particularly free; they have only 5 authorised prostitutes and inspections of these and suspects have produced a nil return as regards VD.

There are 9 'licensed' in Potenza; 6 'unlicensed' have been detained and examinations have revealed 6 to be suffering from VD.

Arrests numbering 28 have taken place in Brindisi and of this total 7 are diseased and receiving appropriate treatment.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Here there has been police activity - 112 prostitutes were examined and 43 found to be suffering from V.D.; 36 are at present detained for treatment. It is noted that 25 have been returned to their homes in other areas during the month.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

The return from this Zone is likewise satisfactory from the police aspect. In Catanzaro 21 women have been arrested, in Cosenza 2 and at Reggio Calabria 20.

Throughout the Zone all licensed brothels have been supervised by the Questura and no untoward incident has to be reported in this connection.

9. FUNCTIONING OF COURTS.(1) Naples Zone.

The work of AMG Courts in the Naples Commune is reported to becoming successfully absorbed by the

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Italian Courts.

No AMG Courts have been in session in Benevento and Avellino Provinces and the Italian Courts are stated to be operating successfully.

(2) Salerno Zone.

No AMG Courts and no information received regarding Italian Courts.

(3) Foggia Zone.

No AMG Courts and Italian Courts understood to be operating satisfactorily.

(4) Bari Zone.

At an AMG Court at Bari on 26/9/44 a civilian was sentenced to death for espionage. Two other civilians will be dealt with in the near future for being concerned in the same offence.

Italian Courts said to be working satisfactorily.

(5) Taranto Zone.

No AMG Courts. A civilian sentenced to death by such a Court in July for murder of two Allied soldiers, was executed during the month - no repercussions.

Italian Courts reported to be satisfactory.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

No Allied Courts in session.

Italian Courts satisfactory although it necessary to apply continually to the Courts for dates of hearing of cases pertaining to Allied interests to ensure they have not been forgotten.

10. LIAISON WITH MILITARY POLICE

Throughout the Region liaison with M.P. is very good indeed. It is pleasing to note that at long last M.P. are realising there must be co-operation with AGO if they wish to obtain the best services from the native police services. It can also be said that in the Port areas contact has been made with the Naval police authorities.

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Our PEO's now widely dispersed, are making a point when visiting their areas to call upon all military police authorities - this will do much in the interests of efficiency.

11. CONDUCT OF ALLIED NAVAL AND MILITARY PERSONNEL.

(1) Naples Zone.

Still leaves much to be desired. A number of incidents have occurred in the Naples City area requiring the joint attention of AGO and M.P. Nevertheless, owing to the steadily diminishing number of troops in this particular area, there is an improvement over last months return.

The situation in respect of French Colonial troops in Naples Province reported as extremely unsatisfactory last month, has shown some improvement. Many of these troops have now left the area. A new French Provost Marshal has been installed during the month so I called upon him personally and made it perfectly clear to him the attitude of AGO concerning these incidents. I found him most receptive; he explained that he had only 4 officers to deal with such matters throughout the whole Italy and was finding it practically impossible to cope with the situation. Nevertheless, as a result of our representation he visited the GCO, French Troops in Italy, and put our case forward. It was recommended that only 20 p.c. of the troops be permitted out at any one time and that French M.P. patrols be doubled. This appears to have had the desired effect as since then no further complaints have reached this HQ.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Described as good - this months record was marred by the shooting of the CC.RR. referred to under the heading of 'Civil Police Agencies'.

(3) Foggia Zone.

Conduct can be described as fair. One case reported at Foggia involved the death of a civilian allegedly by unknown American coloured troops.

Two cases have also been reported in this same area of hold-ups by American soldiers.

In Campobasso Province two cases of sheep-stealing by

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French troops has been reported, otherwise the situation is satisfactory.

(4) Bari Zone.

In the main satisfactory although it is alleged Allied deserters have formed themselves into a gang with civilians and are raiding lone farm house. This is receiving the immediate attention of M.P. and civil police.

There is one case of note to report - on 13/9/44 a Canadian Sergeant was arrested and faced charges for black market offences, larceny of a WD vehicle and desertion.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Since the trouble with the French, Greek and Italian military personnel some weeks ago, the situation is now quiet and satisfactory. Only one incident has been reported - on 19/9/44 some Greek soldiers entered a farmhouse to obtain wine; Italian naval personnel intervened and a quarrel arose during which shots were fired. The matter has been taken up by 52 Area.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Following the strong representation by AGC a mobile squad of M.P., well organised and operating under 'secret' orders have been dispatched to the Calabria district to deal with the deserters and other Allied personnel who have been frequently reported as infesting the area and responsible for many of our serious crimes.

This concentrated 'drive' has not yet terminated, but success has already attended this activity - at Paola 4 deserters were arrested and they have admitted 18 cases of crime committed in the district.

One serious case has been reported from Reggio - on 11/9/44 three Allied vehicles supposedly containing American soldiers, was involved in the hold-up of an Italian official motor car. CC.RM were instructed to investigate and take necessary action. The result was that 1 American soldier and two armed civilians were arrested following good work by the CC.RM. Two American soldiers, believed wounded, made good their

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escape but their arrest is being urgently sought.

12. CONTROL OF CIVILIAN MOVEMENT.

Throughout the Region permits are being issued by Questore and no complaint has been received of unfair or improper issue. It would appear this method of issuing permits has proved satisfactory. Each month we shall be receiving a return from each Questore of the passes issued by him and this will enable us to keep an adequate check on the situation.

13. REGISTRATION AND LICENSING.

In all areas in the Zone the CO.RR are checking vehicles using the roads.

In Naples Commune (AMG territory) the issuing of motor car circulation permits is subjected to careful scrutiny and the numbers issued are kept down to a minimum - the effect has been that Naples has kept well within its limit for petrol. It is to be noted that as of 1/10/44 the responsibility for issue reverts to the Prefect.

Also in Naples during this month the responsibility for issuing travel, curfew and public meeting permits, was turned over to the Questore in accordance with the instructions of the Zone Commissioner - no complaint has been received of improper dealings on the part of the issuing authority.

14. STRIKES AND LOCK OUTS.

During the month there have been a number of strikes reported in the Region. In Naples certain workers of the SME (electricity undertaking) and the Gas company staged a sit down strike for a number of days - they demanded the release of certain foods, a supply of footwear and a cash grant. The Regional Commissioner interviewed the native officials and in no unmistakable words demanded that the strikers return to work - the Commissioner's warning had the desired effect and they returned.

On 19/9/44 a strike of half an hour duration occurred at the Post and Telegraph Office, Brindisi, the demand of the strikers being an increase in pay to meet the high cost of living. On the same day the Postal and Telegraph workers at Taranto staged a similar strike for the same reason.

Also in Taranto dockyard workers ceased work for one hour as a protest against the method of payment of wages. There was 1582

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no disorder but 200 - 300 tons of unloading was lost by the stoppage.

Catanzaro also saw a strike in the Postal and Telegraph service similar to those mentioned above.

15. RIOTS AND DISTURBANCES.

(1) Naples Zone.

None reported.

(2) Balerno Zone.

None reported.

(3) Foggia Zone.

None reported.

(4) Bari Zone.

On 22/8/44 a minor demonstration against the Sindaco of Francavilla, Brindisi, calling for his dismissal. The crowd dispersed without police intervention. No damage to property and no injuries.

On 15/9/44 at S. Pietro Vernotico, Brindisi, small demonstration for same reason. Demonstrators dispersed by CC.RR. No injuries or damage reported.

(5) Taranto Zone.

On 2/9/44 youths, believed Communists, forced their way into the offices of a Monarchist newspaper and damaged furniture etc.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

None reported.

16. SABOTAGE.

No cases reported throughout the Region.

17. SECURITY.

Following the transfer of Major Watts to Rome, Security Branch was amalgamated with Public Safety Division and I assumed responsibility for the security and policing of this HQ. In addition to the general security of the HQ. this Division has assumed the responsibility for the investigation of all civilian

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personnel employed here. Excellent co-operation exists between this HQ. and the military security services in the area.

Throughout the Region there is complete accord between our PSO's and military security services. I have had ^{very} satisfactory interview with the C.C. GSI(b) No. 3 District and it has been arranged that where there is no Allied security personnel in the Region our PSO's can 'represent' District in regard to internments etc.

Violently anti-Allied propaganda leaflets were found circulating at Nardo, Lecce (Bari Zone). Investigation by PSS revealed the identity of the author and he has been interned.

The Italian military security service SIM (CS) is operating in Calabria and they are maintaining close contact with our PSO. Five suspects have been subject of enquiry and observation and it is anticipated there will be sufficient to arrest in the near future and request internment.

18. POLITICAL SITUATION.

(1) Naples Zone.

As in all other parts of the Region the situation is very complex with some 10 political parties 'jockeying' for power.

It would appear that the Demo-Christian party is leading in the 'membership' race; this is very evident in Avellino where this party is by far the most numerous and important.

The Communist Party in Naples Commune and Province has also increased its membership.

In Naples there has been considerable public reaction to the appointment of Fucoli Giuseppe as Commissario Prefettizio - the political parties consider they have been rebuffed by ACC owing to that authority refusing their advice and assistance.

(2) Salerno Zone.

Political activity is slight and the populace apathetic - they prefer to interest themselves in the economic situation in preference to politics.

(3) Foggia Zone.

In Foggia Province the Communist Party has been continuing its intensive campaign and unfounded rumours have been circulating that members are buying and storing arms and ammunition. 1580

There is not a great deal of political activity or interest

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with the exception possibly of Campobasso Town - this is due to the majority of the population being engaged on the land and having little or no time to spare for political activity.

(4) Bari Zone.

On the whole political activity can be considered 'normal' from Italian standards. Communists have been active and on 11/9/44 about 20 young and headstrong Communists attempted to occupy premises of a labour society - their complaint was that they had no premises for their organisation.

(5) Taranto Zone.

Fusion of the Liberal and Democratic parties has been completed.

The Communist Party is growing in strength alarming certain of the population - they are said to be growing dictatorial and interfering with labourers working for the Allies.

(6) Catanzaro Zone.

Political parties and movements have been active enrolling supporters and it would appear the Communists have been gaining steadily.

In Cosenza the Action Party has increased its membership during the month by 1200 and now has the substantial figure of 41,200.

Information has been received of the arrival in Reggio from Rome of certain filo-fascists who are believed to be seeking refuge in Italian Government territory - this matter is under investigation.

On 18/9/44 an ex-Judge of the Fascist Special Courts was arrested in Reggio Province and has been taken to Rome for trial.

General Remarks.

No untoward incident has occurred in any part of the Region in connection with the murder of the Fascist prison warden in Rome.

19. PUBLIC MORALE:

Summarised, police reports throughout the Region indicate briefly that public morale has improved somewhat but it is still depressed due primarily to the high cost of living and the general poor economic conditions prevailing. However, the rapid advances of the Allied armies

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on all fronts is doing much to counteract this state of despondency and it is hoped I shall be in a position to report much more favourably next month.

20. FIRE BRIGADE SERVICES AND CIVIL DEFENCE.

The Regional Fire Brigades are functioning in an efficient manner with the exception of the Brigade at Avellino (Naples Zone) where an inspection revealed shortage of petrol, equipment and messing facilities - this has resulted in a feeling of discouragement amongst the personnel. This matter is being taken up by this HQ.

During the month we were successful in obtaining the release of 500 repaired shoes for distribution to the Brigades - this was very favourably received.

On 9/9/44 in the presence of Allied Officers of ACC and other services, a demonstration was held by the Naples City Brigade - an excellent show was put up and disclosed the Brigade to be well trained and disciplined.

Throughout the Region, Civil Defence is now largely under the control of the Fire Services.

Air raid 'watchers' on State buildings were abolished by order of the Ministry of the Interior.

Prefects have been informed by the Ministry of the Interior that all public shelters may be demolished.

21. CIVIL PRISONS.

Activities during the month have been chiefly concerned with the prisons in the former Region III territory, which although in the course of being handed over to the Italian Ministry, are still administered by this office.

The accommodation and transport situation still does not warrant the closing of any Mandamentali prisons at this stage.

It is observed there has been a slight decrease in prison population, releases have exceeded admissions by about 250.

There is no overcrowding at Campobasso (Foggia Zone) but at Foggia Reale Prison, Naples, there is a 400 overstrength - this is receiving the attention of our Prison Officer.

At Foggia there is general overcrowding caused to a large extent by delay in holding trials and by the M.P. arresting for very minor offences - the opening of the new Foggia prison, however, will relieve the situation.

Prison administration were released from direct supervision by 1578

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AMG, appears to be deteriorating - one glaring example is at Taranto prison which when inspected by the Zone Commissioner, was found to be in a filthy state.

To cope with the influx of Italian military prisoners into civil prisons, two military prisons at St. Elmo and Montesarchio have been handed over to civil administration.

As regards hygiene; the general position is fair although there is a lack of soap and disinfectants. Many cases of tuberculosis are reported in the Region and to cater for this problem a prison building in Naples is being converted into a hospital.

Prison labour has also been a problem although it has been eased somewhat in Naples. Here, 100 prisoners from the main prison are employed daily at a nearby Allied ordnance depot; the system is voluntary and those employed receive 20 lire a day and a hot mid-day meal.

The inmates of Judicial and Mandamentali prisons have not been faring too badly as regards food as their prison diet has been augmented by foodstuffs supplied by relatives. This is not possible for those in penal establishments and consequently they are having a very thin time.

22. FORGERY AND UTTERING OF ALLIED MILITARY CURRENCY.

Owing to difficulties following organisation of the Region and transfer of personnel, it is not possible as yet to give the information required under this heading.

23. LOCATION AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.

For particulars see appendix 1.

G. Richardson
G. RICHARDSON
Major,
Regional Public
Safety Officer.

CR/tp.

1577

APPENDIX No. 1

LOCATION AND DUTIES OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS

Regional Headquarters

1. Major G. RICHARDSON, No. 282757 (British), Regional Public Safety Officer
2. Captain L.W. TOES, No. 287723 (British), Asst. Regional Public Safety Officer
3. Captain G.R. DALEY, No. 291039 (British), Regional Prisons Officer
4. Captain C. NOBLE, No. 279323 (British), Regional Fire and C.D. Officer.

H.Q. Naples Zone

5. Major F. LUCKMAN, No. O-901508 (American) Zone Public Safety Officer
6. Captain F. SCARFE, No. 291660 (British), Asst. Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Salerno Zone

7. Captain J. MADILL, No. 287711 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Foggia Zone

8. Captain B.F. COCKS, No. 279403 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Bari Zone

9. Major G.M. REVELLY, No. 6099 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Taranto Zone

10. Captain H.F. STRAND, No. 279422 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer

H.Q. Catanzaro Zone

11. Captain R.N. HOBBS, No. 279423 (British), Zone Public Safety Officer.

Terrace
E. of Inport Bank