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10000/143/675

AFHQ, PWB REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY
AUG. - DEC. 1944

0021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

All to me
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TO	INIT	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN		
COL. YOUNG		
LT COL WILCOX		
[redacted]		
MAJ WILSON		
MAJ H NEARY		
[redacted]		
MAJ BALLANCE		
CAPT POWELL		

0022

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

14064/4

Folio	Date
DPS	21 Jun
DDPS	29 Jun
Ex. Officer	
POLICE	
Lt. Col. Wilcox	28 Jun
Major Wilson	29 Jun
Prisons	
Reg. & Lic	29 Jun
A.C.	
Maj. Harvey	
Capt. Brown	
Security Division	3183

REMARKS

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

20th December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 33.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Distribution and Organisation of Partisan Bands.

Considerable information has reached us regarding the distribution of patriot bands south of the line PARMA-PIACENZA. Although confirmation from official sources is not yet to hand, enough news has arrived to show that these bands are numerous, well organised, fairly well armed, on the whole well led, and have caused the Germans heavy losses and annoyance.

Major Mauri appears to have extended his control to bands operating in Northern LIGURIA and Southern PIEDMONT.

Reports have also come in of bands operating in the provinces of TORINO(South East), CUNEO, VERCELLI, NOVARA, VENEZIA GIULIA. In LIGURIA the patriots have suffered a set-back, the Liguria Division having lost their Div. H.Q. owing, it is said, to the cowardice of their 2nd in Command.

In LOMBARDY, though patriots are numerous, there is little activity owing to lack of organisation and of arms.

Recent activity.

It is reported that General Archimede MISCHI, Chief of Staff of the Republican Army has been killed in TURIN.

A number of daring raids and ambuscades have been registered. In MILAN the Phillips Radio Co in Via Padova was raided and in addition to 100 wireless sets, other valuable material was carried off. Successful ambushes were made near BOLOGNA, and SONDRIO, while much sabotage to railways was effected in the VAL DI SUSA, in the VENETO and in FRIULI.

It should be pointed out that all the above exploits occurred about one month ago, from 25th to 30th November.

Morale.

The majority of partisan leaders and delegates from Committees of Liberation, who have arrived in our lines, are very gloomy over

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Morale.

The majority of partisan leaders and delegates from Committees of Liberation, who have arrived in our lines, are very gloomy over the prospects of another winter in the hills. The supply problem will shortly become very difficult, and undoubtedly large numbers of partisans will have to descend into the valleys to obtain food, and lodgings. It is not expected that there will be any large scale surrenders as no trust can be placed in the Fascists and Germans, who shoot or deport to Germany all partisans who are ingenuous enough to give themselves up.

SECRET

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Report on Conditions In Emeny Occupied Italy -No 33.

SUMMARY 2.

FASCIST FORCES.

Black Brigades.

The mobile portion of these organisations is being trained so as to form fighting units for the front.

GERMANS

Anti-Partisan Units.

The 362nd Div. has organised a Divisional Training School for anti-partisan Units. An officer PW, who commanded an Anti-Partisan platoon, claims that these units have had considerable success in curbing partisan activity, as they are usually considered as the advance guard of larger bodies and the patriots scatter without engaging.

Cossack Troops.

In FRIULI, there are said to be about 3',000 Cossacks under a General DOMANOV. While in general they show no great enthusiasm or energy in the war against partisans, nevertheless in the work of reprisal and looting they are more brutal and destructive than the Germans.

Paralysation of Italian Industry.

A Swiss source states that the Fascists endeavoured to save Italian industries from complete destruction by persuading the Germans to agree to a paralysation. The Fascists asked for a stoppage of 6 months, but the Germans insisted on two years, and this must be obtained by the paralysation of Electric-power producing plants. When the Italian experts studied to save what was possible, German engineers proceeded to destroy completely the electric power stations at BOLOGNA and BEVERA.

Requisitioning of Metal and Cattle.

In VENEZIA the Germans are requisitioning metal It is said that they have removed the four famous bronze horses outside the Cathedral of St. Mark, and other well-known bronze figures.

Owing apparently to a shortage of petrol numbers of horses, donkeys and cattle are being requisitioned for transport. Source reported German motor transport being hauled by oxen. Animals are driven until they drop, when they are shot, and fresh beasts

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Fighting in Bologna.

A Swiss source states that after several weeks fighting Black Brigades had succeeded in mopping up the patriots in the city. The bitterest fighting took place round the Maggiore Hospital, where patriots had rallied for a last stand. The Germans are apparently convinced that they will be able to maintain themselves in BOLOGN. and are believed to be preparing a house to house defence, as fortification is being intensified both inside and outside the city.

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SUMMARY3

A Fake Massacre.

Fascists accused the patriots of having tortured and massacred a number of Fascists in the Maggiore Hospital. The Popolo e Liberta of Bellinzona says that the bodies discovered there were those of Allied soldiers picked up from the battlefield and after suitable treatment, passed off as Fascist victims.

German Emergency Measures.

A state of siege has been proclaimed in VARESE, following upon the bombing of a Nazi-Fascist barracks. The streets are patrolled and schools closed. Passengers are searched on leaving trains. Hedges are being removed along the MILAN-VARESE motor road. It is believed that the Communists are preparing for a general insurrection in the big cities of N. Italy, and that this is the explanation of the intensified mopping up operations.

Atrocities. are reported from:

RAVENNA: 25th August
CAMERLONE 26th August
MASSA LOMBARDA - early November
RAVENNA 15th November
CASALGLA DI BOLOGNA - 29th September and 5th October
SANT ALBERTO (RAVENNA) 10th December.
METETO (SAN GIOVANNI VALDARNO) Four months ago
SAVIGNANO (On the Rubicon) 1st October.
Other cases are reported by Civil Censorship intercepts.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Radio The 8th Army Radio was well received in FORLI and RAVENNA and was much appreciated. It was suggested that more news be given of the Italian Government and political developments in liberated Italy.

Leaflets

Many Germans and Austrians serving in the CARNIA and FRIULI regions are said to be willing to desert, but afraid of the partisans It is suggested that safe-conduct leaflets be dropped on the zone they occupy rather than on zones held by partisans. It was also hoped that in drops to partisans, some newspapers would be included.

German P.Ws opinion on leaflets.

In general the Germens pick up, read and in some cases even collect leaflets. According to statistics from 5th Corps 64% had seen leaflets in the last four weeks. "Frontpost" is most popular and its regular distribution much appreciated, as "the one

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R.VENN.: 25th August
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M.SS. LOMB.RD. -- early November
R.VENN. 15th November
C.S.GLL. DI BOLOGN. - 29th September and 5th October
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POLITICS.

The Communist and Socialist parties of Occupied Italy have approved the Socialist-Communist alliance in Rome and propose to adapt it to conditions prevailing in the North. The combined parties then state that they would support the proposal for a Republic when a Constituent Assembly has been formed.

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The Duce and Farinacci.

It is rumoured that only the Fuhrer's personal friendship for Mussolini keeps the latter from being deposed by the Germans in favour of Farinacci. Mussolini is supported by Buffarini-Guidi, Pavolini, Graziani. Their distrust of Farinacci is so great that they released the notorious Koch and gave him the task of watching Farinacci.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation.

A growing food shortage is reported from all regions of N. Italy. There is also an almost complete lack of fuel. In MANTOVA, however, the situation is good, as supplies of grain have been distributed to the population.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 33.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 20th December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 33.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the stateof public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

In the foot hills south of the line PARMA-PIACENZA to a depth including FORNOVO-BARDI-BETTOLA and PONTE D'OLIO are a minimum of 5,000 men, armed and equipped, with complete freedom of movement and an abundance of transport and petrol. Their zone of operations is along the VIA EMILIA between PARMA and PIACENZA, with continual incursions into towns. They carry out sabotage and attacks against the German lines of communication up to the river PO.

In the foot hills south west of PIACENZA are about 1,500 well armed and equipped men.

In the vicinity of CORNIGLIO are about 800 armed men of the 12th GARIBALDI Brigade of the PARMA Division.

The 31st GARIBALDI Brigade of the PARMA Division has a strength of 700 men and about 50 vehicles, with petrol. The Commander is a professor of ancient history, aged 35, a lieutenant in the Italian Tank Corps. He is a keen patriot, non political, a capable leader, and disciplinarian.

The [illegible] has a strength of 1000 men with about 70 vehicles and petrol. It has several heavy machine guns, with some ammunition and a number of German, Italian and English small arms, with no reserve of ammunition. The Brigade is commanded by a Jugoslav. He is an ex-lieutenant of the Regular Jugoslav Army, a very capable leader and a keen fighter. Discipline is good and politics are forbidden in the band. Civil administration is also good. Their zone of activities is LUGAGNANO.

The 38th Brigade, PIACENZA Division, of which no details are known, has well over 1000 men. The Commander is an ex-student of theology, communistic in outlook and ambitious for a political career after the war. The Brigade is well equipped with transport, petrol and light arms. Organisation and administration are reasonably good.

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The 38th Brigade, PIACENZA Division, of which no details are known, has well over 2,000 men. The Commander is an ex-student of theology, communistic in outlook and ambitious for a political career after the war. The Brigade is well equipped with transport, petrol and light arms. Organisation and administration are reasonably good.

The 61st (?) Brigade, PIACENZA Division. The Commander of this Brigade was an ex-regular Captain of Carabinieri, exceptionally keen and capable. The discipline of the Brigade is excellent, its strength is approximately 1,500, well armed and supplied, but no details are known. There is no political element in the band. Its disposition and location of its headquarters are unknown.

12th Brigade, GARIBALDI, PARMA Division. Strength 800 armed men The Commander is an ex-medical student, 8/Lieut, in Infantry, with no war experience. His communistic outlook has recently been modified since the dismissal of his political Commissar, and the Brigade is fighting well. It operates against the German lines of communication on route 62 (L. CISA-FORNOVO) Its general zone of operations is in the mountain area CORNIGLIO-BARDI.

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A COMANDO UNICO of PIACENZA exists, but has very little control, as the individual brigades work as seperate entities.

The COMANDO UNICO of PARMA. Three weeks ago this Command was surrounded by Germans; prisoners were taken and the Commander was killed. One female prisoner, since exchanged, stated that during the interrogations the Germans were interested only in details of the British Command of the partisans and British control of the supply situation. The Command has now been taken over by the father of the 2 I/C Political Commissar. He (the new commander) has no military experience, is aged 55 and no details of his political career are available.

The PARMA Division, under the Command of DARIC occupied the towns of VARSI and BARDI and the surrounding country during the first week of June 1944. HQ was established at BARDI and the bands operated in the VIA EMILIA in the zone of FIORENZUOLA and FIDENZA against the German lines of communication. Much booty was captured and over 100 prisoners taken. The Germans attempted continuously to retake these areas, and finally, in the second week of July, with about 20,000 SS. troops they carried out a large scale rastrellamento. On the 17th July BARDI was bombed by six aircraft. Mountain guns and mortars were used in the attack. All partisans were ordered to disband and hide and started to reform after the Germans had left at the end of July. The Committee of Liberation of PARMA reorganised the entire Division. Operations were started on a small scale and finally the complete occupation of the zone was achieved again on a more rigid military basis.

The morale of partisans in this area is very high, as they are living reasonably well on German supplies, but they feel a lack of recognition from the Allies. The lack of liaison between this area and the Allied Command has been due to the considerable distance between Partisan Command and Allied Missions, at least three days walk through the mountains. There is not an abundance of food for the winter, but probably sufficient. Difficulties will be encountered in movement in the area when heavy falls of snow begin. There is lack of suitable warm clothing for winter operations.

An Austrian Captain in command of a small German garrison in BORGO TARO told the partisans that he will not molest them and is prepering to remain until the arrival of the Allied forces. Most of his garrison wear civilian clothing. Considerable numbers of Poles and Czechs and Austrians are joining the partisans and of late quite a few Germans have deserted, together with their vehicles and arms.

A large percentage of these partisans are dressed in German uniforms, the rest in British battledress. Some however are nondescript all wear the partisan Star. Company commanders wear on the breast as badge of rank one small white star on a red triangular background. Political commissars wear three stars on a blue triangular background. (Confidential Source).

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ALESSANDRIA PROVINCE.

Major MAURI is now stated to command the area bounded by the following points:- CANALE, MILLESIMO, TENDA PASS, COLLE DI LARCHE. He has under his command a force of 10,000 men split into 5 Brigades in this area.

10 Partisan Div. Str. estimated 2400 mostly unarmed, is located N of ALESSANDRIA.

16 GARIBALDI BRIGADE, area N of ACQUI 0-6281

74th GARIBALDI BRIGADE, area S of ACQUI 0-6281.

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MONTEMAGNO band of 600 men.

51st and 3rd GARIBALDI Brigades under "MARZO" and "DAN".

ROMAGNOSE band under LIBERO

GIUSTIZIA E LIBERTA band under Capt. FAUSTO

These forces occupy the area bordered by the PIACENZA BOBBIO VOGHERA roads.

PAVIA has a town group of 400 men

TORINO PROVINCE

Bands SE of TORINO and S/ of ASTI are now banded into 9 GARIBALDI Divisions commanded by NANNI.

3 GARIBALDI Division comprises:-

42	Garibaldi	Division -	strength	920 -	Commander NEGRI
17	"	"	"	850 -	" MARIO
41	"	"	"	620	" FASCINO

This Division is located along the main road W of TORINO from S. GIORGIO H-6438 to RIVOLI H-8929, in the order W. to E. - 42 Brigade, 17 Brigade, 41 Brigade.

VAL DI LANZO Band - 700 men well armed, under ARMANDO and BARCHINI, VCR.CNO area - H-8159

MATTEOTTI Brigade - 1000 men under MARCELLIN. No information as to arms. Split into small groups of 100-200 men between VAL DI SUSA H-5441 and VAL DI PO. Stated to be occupying the heights only.

GLAVENO band, 1500 men (700 armed) under VIAN, west of GLAVENO H-7728.

GAR Brigade - 1000 men - no information as to arms under BARBATO and SALUZZO area Val PELLICE H-6504.

The Matteotti Brigade also known as the VAL CHISONE Brigade, commanded by MARCELLIN. Strength 700 men poorly armed

4 Garibaldi Division, 1500 men, poorly armed, area middle and lower VAL SUSA H-5441, Commanded by NICOLETTA.

STELLINA Brigade, 300 men, poorly armed, area CHISONE and Upper SUSA H-5441, commanded by LAGHI.

VAL DI LANZO H-8953 and CANEVESANO, have now been reoccupied

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VOGHERA roads.

PAVIA has a town group of 400 men

TORINO PROVINCE

Bands SE of TORINO and SW of ASTI are now banded into 9 GARIBALDI Divisions commanded by NANNI.

3 GARIBALDI Division comprises:-

42	Garibaldi	Division	- strength	920	- Commander NEGRI
17	"	"	"	850	- " MARIO
41	"	"	"	620	" FASCINO

This Division is located along the main road W of TORINO from S. GIORGIO H-6438 to RIVOLI H 8929, in the order W. to E. - 42 Brigade, 17 Brigade, 41 Brigade.

VAL DI LANZO Band - 700 men well armed, under ARMANDO and BARCHINI, VOLVERA area - H 8159

MATTEOTTI Brigade - 1000 men under MARCELLIN. No information as to arms. Split into small groups of 100-200 men between VAL DI SUSA H-5441 and VAL DI PO. Stated to be occupying the heights only.

GIAVENO band, 1500 men (700 armed) under VIAN, West of GIAVENO H-7728.

GARI Brigade - 1000 men - no information as to arms under BARBATO and SALUZZO area Val PELLICE H-6504.

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SIZZANO Brigade, 300 men, poorly armed, area CHISONE and Upper SUSA H-5441, commanded by LAGHI.

VAL DI LANZO H-8953 and CANEVESSANO, have now been reoccupied by patriots.

CUNEO PROVINCE.

VAL PELLICE Brigade, 700 men, arms and military value good, commanded by RENATO

VAL GERMANASCA Brigade, 400 men, arms poor, commanded by UCCIO.

MAURO formation, 1800 men, area VAL VARAITA N-5578. No information as to arms.

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VERCELLI PROVINCE.

5th GARIBALDI DIV. 3 Brigades 600-700 unarmed men, area BIELLA J-3781, between GRESSONEY D-2106 and outskirts BIELLA, with western limit SERSA, eastern limit SESSIA river. The leader and the political commisser, ITALO, are Communists.

NOVARA

OSSOLA reported liberated. Character and strength of formations not known. A recent report mentioned the OSSOLA DIV. commanded by Major SUPERTI, consisting of 420 armed men and 180 unarmed. (A.C. Patriot Branch Advance Detachment 4.11.44).

VENEZIA GIULIA.

North of UDINE a band of about 350 partisans is operating. They are commanded by Capt. GRASSI, ex. Bersaglieri Regt. who goes under the pseudonym of "VERDI". They carry out raids against German garrisons in the area and are in contact with TITO's partisans. They also distribute typed leaflets and news-sheets which are sent to them by the Committee of Liberation of VENICE. They have two 81mm mortars and an unspecified number of BREDA machine guns and rifles.

LIGURIA.

The LIGURIA Division under "Col. MURCHI" whose real name is FONTANA, has one of its HQs at FRESONI. It has no definite political tendencies. Its members wear civilian clothes with a rectangular tricolour on the left breast.

On 5th August 44 about 7,000 Germans and Republicans attacked 1 Coy with which source was serving, near CASONI . The partisans killed about 90 of the enemy and wounded about 150. Their own losses were only one man slightly wounded, who was taken prisoner, but subsequently managed to escape. After this action the HQ of the Liguria Division was captured, together with large quantities of stores by the Nazi-Fascists. Much of the blame for this was laid on 2/IC, a certain DEL CARPIO, known as "BOIA", who abandoned his men and fled. I Coy also carried out various acts of sabotage.

LOMBARDY.

The situation of the patriots in LOMBARDY is not strong at present. There are large numbers of patriots in the area, but they are unable to take any effective action against the BERGAMO-USMATE and LECCO-COLICO-SONDRIO roads and railways, which are of the utmost importance to the Germans, because of their shortage of weapons and equipment.

(Special Forces in Italy GSPIC G/F Report 8.11.44).

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(P.W.B. HQ Allied Armies in Italy CSDIC CMF Report 8.11.44).

Regional Commands.

Regional Commands (formerly known as Military Committees) subordinate to GENERAL COMMAND, exist in PIEDMONT, LIGURIA and LOMBARDY, MILAN, VENETO, EMILIA and NORTH EMILIA. These include representatives of 5 parties. In MILAN there are six parties, the sixth being republican. In some cases there is also a Consulente Militare.

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From these Regional Commands depend Zone and Provincial Commands. The former exist in areas controlled by partisans, and have a member elected by the bands. The latter are in enemy controlled areas where partisans live at home with civilian jobs or are organised in S...P. groups as in NOV..RA. These consist of Party representatives and will give way to Zone commands when the areas are taken over.
(Confidential Source 13.12.44).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

According to news from a neutral wireless General Archimede MISCHI, chief of S.M. of the Republican Army has been killed by the partisans in TURIN.
(Italian Official Source 19.11.44).

MILAN. "Corriere della Sera" Milan 28.11.44 reports that on the evening of November 27th a group of armed men with a big lorry stopped outside the premises of the Phillips Radio Co in Via Padova, Milan, overpowered the night watchmen, sacked the building and removed 100 wireless sets, four calculating machines, a typewriter, 2,000 wireless valves, a large quantity of copper and 6,000 lire in cash.

TURIN On November 22nd the Military Tribunal in TURIN passed the following sentences on a group of young women accused of belonging to a partisan band or of assisting patriots: Giuseppina MENSIO, aged 19, from GASSINO, living in TURIN, female worker, sentenced to death: Giovanna Maria DALMASSO, aged 19, from Brossasco, living in Turin, female employee, and Eleonore BONATTO, to 15 years' imprisonment: Luigia Maria TRICNE to 8 years, and Maria FENOGLIO to 24 years.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 29.11.44).

UDINE In the Province of Udine on the night of 17th November, a group of patriots attacked 50 Fascists in CANALUTTO DI TORREANO. In the violent encounter that followed 6 of the enemy were killed. It is verified that on 13th October on the San Vito al Tagliamento-Potogruaro line the patriots blew up a piece of line 200 metres in length. At LATISANA a railway bridge was completely destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 27.11.44).

NORTHERN APPENINES The daring actions of the patriots of the "Lombardia" Division, under difficult conditions, are particularly reported recently. Obliged by the excessive enemy pressure to give ground in a zone in the northern Apennines, these men succeeded in quickly organising counter attacks. After their request for help, the atmospheric conditions being favourable, on the 1st December, the Allied Air Force helped them in their operations, with efficacious results. Particulars of the operation are lacking, but it seems that special strategical objectives were reached, and important positions reconquered from the enemy.
(P.W.B. Rome 5.12.44).

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 23.11.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome 5.12.44).

BOLOGNA Near Bologna 70 Germans have been put out of action by patriots on the road leading to RAVENNA. Fourteen German tanks have been attacked and destroyed.
(Libera Stampa 21.11.44).

SONDRIO Near Sondrio a group of partisans attacked a motor-car carrying Black Brigade officers of the Sondrio garrison, killing one and wounding two. Later, the same motor-car, which had succeeded in extricating itself from the ambush, thanks to the arrival of another car full of German soldiers, was again attacked, together with the second car. One German soldier was killed.
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The Fascist press when announcing that tens of thousands of "rebels" have reported to the authorities in response to Mussolini's "final" appeal, omits to say that a large number of those who believed in Mussolini's promises have been hung, shot, or deported in sealed cattle trucks to Germany.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 22.11.44).

III. Sabotage.

VAL DI SUSA The patriots in the VAL DI SUSA continue their sabotage acts along the railway lines. In the zone between PIACENZA and PAVIA, to be precise, between BOBBIO and ROMAGNESE, a German attack has been repulsed by the patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 2.12.44).

VENETO During the night of 22-23 November, the Trevigianian patriots in the Veneto blew up a bridge on the MONTICANO road near GORGO AL MONTICANO. Notwithstanding the growing vigilance of the enemy, patriot sabotage still continues on the VICENZA-TREVISO line and they derailed a goods train on the night of November 30th, destroying rolling stock.
(P.W.B. Rome 7.12.44).

FRUILI The week ending 25th November saw continued sabotage of enemy communications in the FRIULI plain. The embaressment of the Germans by such activities is demonstrated by the ferocity of their reprisals against the civilian population in the area.
(Confidential Source 4.12.44).

VENETO The following sabotage has been carried out by patriots in the Veneto area:

On the 24th November three electric locomotives were wrecked at GEMONA.

On the 25th November an east-bound train was derailed between PRAD AMANO, and BUTTRIO, and a north-bound train was derailed between GEMONA and VENZONE.

On the 28th November a north-bound train was derailed between VENZONE and CARNIA.

On the night of 1/2 December an engine was wrecked near REANE.
(Confidential Source 10.12.44).

IV. Reprisals.

Extraordinary precautions have been taken for the defence of north Italian cities, where blocknouses are under construction. Thus all the roads leading to TURIN are now barricaded with reinforced concrete walls. In MILAN the situation remains very tense and COSTA [illegible] Brigade and "Muti" Legion have

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Reprisals are being intensified. In S.VON. the German Command arrests 20 hostages weekly, liberating an equal number. This new system of rotation aims at extending the menace to a larger proportion of the population. PISENTI, Minister of Justice, has ordered the liberation of female political prisoners who accept work in Lombard munition factories.
(Gazzette de Lausanne 24.11.44).

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Libera Stampa, Lugano reports from Chiasso that the Germans and Fascists are using asphyxiating gas in order to dislodge the patriots from the mines and caves of the Upper V.I BLENDINO. (24.11.44).

In the Province of UDINE, west of the Tagliamento, parties of German SS are attacking the patriots in four directions. In the course of the bitter fighting the patriots succeeded in throwing the Germans back to SPILIMBERGO. The fighting still continues in this sector.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.12.44).

In the VENETO area enemy anti-partisan companies are still combing the area, burning and hanging.
(Confidential Source 29.11.44).

V. Fascist Ruse to Discredit Patriots.

The following is the text of a letter distributed to various addresses by the Fascists in certain zones of Lombardy in order to discredit the activities of the partisans: "To be delivered by hand Signora M.P. via... Pavia. Domodossola October 14th. Dear Mother. During the six months I have been with the partisans I have been in a very bad way. Winter is coming on and we have no clothes to wear, no change of shirts, shoes or coats. The food is bad too, a little rice and in the evening soup, but sometimes nothing but a piece of bread. Since the Germans cut our lines of communications it is difficult to get supplies. We cannot satisfy our appetites with the promises of the commissars. The British drop us arms and munitions from their aircraft, but no food. Our officers have everything they want, shelter, warmth and a bed which they share with their sweethearts. They also have warm clothing, good food and plenty of money. But we are shivering with cold in our wretched hiding places and caves in the mountains, where snow has already fallen. And we have to go on guard too. I am terrified when I think of the winter coming on. Don't mention this letter when you write or I should be killed like my friend Gino. He was tied to a tree and the commissars flogged him till they drew blood. This is our plight and our only hope of escaping from the terrors of winter is by flight. With love from Carlo".
(Libera Stampa Lugano [illegible].11.44).

FASCIST FORCES.

VI. Denials of dissolution of Fascist Forces.

The fascist press has been at great pains to publish denials of the dissolution of the Fascist Republican Army. "Il Piccolo",

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 7.11.44).

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The Fascist press has been at great pains to publish denials of the dissolution of the Fascist Republican Army. "Il Piccolo", TRIESTE says that the crude Reuter lie that Marshal Graziani has disbanded the Army of Republican Italy is not worth while wasting time over. Nevertheless, this incorrect report betrayed that the enemy camp is concerned with...(text corrupt) the Italian army and tries to attack it, not only with weapons, but also with lying propaganda.
(D.N.B. 24.11.44).

"Regime Fascista" Cremona 26.11.44 says "Anglo-Saxon radio stations, hard up for news, have repeatedly broadcast lately the news of the dissolution of the Republican Armed Forces. News of this kind, a fresh confirmation of the bad faith which characterises all enemy propaganda activity, is not worth denying. We only point out the

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inopportunity of the Anglo-American broadcasts, which indulged in their vain fancies on the very days when, on the Apennine front, Republican troops were giving eloquent evidence of their presence, and in the principalities of northern Italy demonstrations were being held in honour of divisions leaving for the front, or who had distinguished themselves in the defence of national territory side by side with the soldiers of the Reich.

Tribune de Geneve 24.11.44 reports from Chiasso that Regime Fascists says that the Fascist army has gone into action against the Allies. Corriere della Sera confirms this, although Fascist circles are reserved. Troops are apparently in the line against the Brizilian contingents of the U.S. Fifth Army on the Gothic Line, west of the breach of the Futa Pass.

VII. Piacenza Police Dasert.

In PIACENZA Province numerous desertions continue among the Posts and Telegraphs Militia, the Public Security Auxiliaries and the G.N.R. According to reports, they fear partisan reprisals.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 24.11.44).

VIII. Black Brigades.

Among the Black Brigades in the various provinces, special operational battalions are being formed which, in addition to being highly mobile and aggressive in the struggle against the bandits and outlaws in the provinces, will also be trained to regroup in order to form a fighting unit at the front under the banner of the Fascist Republic. The first of these detachments, formed by the COMO Black Brigade, was reviewed by the Commander of the Black Brigades in a locality in the Province of SONDRIO, where mopping-up operations were in progress. At the end of the day's operations the Party Secretary spoke to detachments which had come from COMO, VARESE and SONDRIO, giving them the Duce's greetings, which were received with much enthusiasm.
(Italian Home Service 30.11.44).

A detachment of the "Athos Capelli" Black Brigade, operating in the LECCO zone, arrested at a farm two British prisoners of war who had escaped from a concentration camp. Four members of the farmer's family were also arrested for having helped them.

Another detachment of the same Brigade, operating in the PINEROLO district, together with German troops, attacked the outlaws' HQ in this zone, putting to flight a strong force of bandits, of whom 20 were killed, including four leaders of bands.
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(Sera, Milan 17.11.44).

IX. Legionaries Abduct and Murder Prisoners.

Eighteen prisoners were removed by night from San Vittore Prison in MILAN by members of the "Muti" Legion and taken to a spot on the MILAN-PAVIA road, where they were killed by revolver shots in the neck. Only four of those killed have been identified.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 24.11.44).

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GERMANS

X. German Methods in Anti-Partisan Warfare.

Three prisoners captured from an Anti-Partisan Unit organised by 362 Division received special instruction at a divisional school and have given the following information on the training and methods employed.

A. Training.

The school which the PWs attended had a threefold purpose: a) to acquaint the men with existing partisan methods, b) to teach them how to detect and deal with the partisans properly and effectively so that c) German activities would not be hampered. The training was not primarily designed to destroy Partisans. On the contrary, the platoon was to simulate organised action, large scale action, if possible, to scare partisans back into the hills where they could do little or no damage. In short, the platoon's ultimate function was to clear and make safe for German vehicles and soldiers all necessary routes of communication and supply.

One PW, the OC anti-partisan Pl, 2nd Lt. STURY, claims that similar operations have been successful in the past as Italian partisans are very apt to scatter when they first see organised troops obviously sent out to find and apprehend them. Instead of waiting to determine the strength of the approaching troops, the partisans scatter to hide, even though they outnumber the Germans by far. By using such small units, the German High Command hopes to conserve some of its depleted manpower, and to keep supply routes open and safe.

In addition to rendering the partisans harmless by causing them to disperse, the Germans have employed other methods to discourage and hamper partisan activities.

B. Anti-Partisan Methods

1. Wherever possible, hostages, such as parents or sisters of partisan leaders or of well-known partisans, are taken. PW claims that these partisans are not maltreated, but held only for the purpose of exchange for the partisan sought. He admits, however, that he has heard of atrocities committed against these hostages, but places all blame for them on SS units.

2. A regular order of battle of partisan band activities and locations is kept by all Divisional G-2s. All information obtained on the various partisan bands is passed on through intelligence channels up to the Army G-2 and likewise down to lower echelons. It is the duty of the Anti-Partisan [illegible] on partisan activities.

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B. Anti-Partisan methods

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2. A regular order of battle of partisan band activities and locations is kept by all Divisional G-2s. All information obtained on the various partisan bands is passed on through intelligence channels up to the Army G-2 and likewise down to lower echelons. It is the duty of the Anti-Partisan Platoon to obtain information on partisan activities.

3. All civilians in small villages are watched closely and interrogated often as to the location of certain partisan bands and to future operations planned by these bands. Without realising it, civilians have many times given away valuable information on partisan activities.

4. Churches are watched closely as it is known that they are used by partisans as observation posts and that sometimes, the Church bells are used to give signals. 3170

5. All persons carrying flash lights and all persons displaying any light at night are immediately arrested.

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6. Ertswhile Fascists, used as agents, join partisan bands with the ulterior motive of keeping the Germans informed of partisan locations and operations. Many agents have gained the confidence of some partisan leaders with an apparently honest admittal that they were Fascist in the past, but with the false claim that they wish to make up for their past, by joining and fighting together with the partisans. Many of these Fascists have been killed in the attempt to join, but a few have thus far been successful.

7. Sometimes English-speaking Germans, posing as escaped Allied Prisoners of War, join partisan bands with the hope, as they say, of crossing the front lines. Instead, they operate as agents.

8. All public buildings are watched closely, for the partisans have been noted to use decorative flags as a means of giving signals.

C. Classification of Partisans.

2nd Lt. Stury, who made it clear that he was abiding by WEHRMACHT Regulations (NOT SS), claimed that when partisans are captured or arrested they are classified into two groups:

1. Partisans: Those who bear arms against Germans.

2. Partisan Helpers. Those who do NOT bear arms against the Germans yet associate with partisans.

In either case the Anti-Partisan Platoon does not shoot the partisans or the partisan-helpers. In every case all those arrested are delivered to the FELDGENDARMERIE, who interrogate and dispose of them. If they are found to be partisans they are arrested as Prisoners of War. If they are found to be partisan helpers, they are given prison terms or sent to Germany where they will be forced to work. In the event that German deserters are arrested, they are courtmartialed for the desertion, and following the courtmartial they are executed.

Germans found in German uniform fighting or otherwise engaged in anti-German activities are shot and killed on the spot without courtmartial.
(G.2 Intelligence Notes No 78 17.10.44)

XI. German Use of Cossack Troops.

In the FRIULI zone there is a group of approximately 3 .,000 cossacks, under the command of General Domanov. This group have their families and all their worldly possessions with them; they are, for the most part, Cavalry. These people possess only a few heavy arms, which so far they have not used against the partisans. They

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When the Germans use them in action against the partisans they are more brutal than either the Germans or the Fascists. Though they seldom fight the partisans when they pass through the villages or towns which are held by them and they get the chance, they burn, rape and destroy everything they can before departing. They appear to be quite willing to treat with the Osoppo Division, but they will have nothing to do with the Garibaldis, whom they consider to be 100% communist.
(Confidential Source 24.11.44).

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XII. Destruction and Removal of Italian Material.

A great deal of material taken away by the Germans from LIGURIA is arriving at the warehouses in CHIERI (south-east of TURIN), situated near the station.
(Italian Official Source 15.11.44).

For some time there have been negotiations between the Germans and Fascists over the question of industrial plants and special electric plants. Under the pressure of public opinion and alarmed by the future prospect, Fascist hierarchs and Ministers made efforts to gain some modest concession from the Germans in order to save their faces. The Germans deigned to substitute the "inutilizzazione" of plants for the "distruzione" as the standard. The Government and the Minister MARCHI considered this as a notable victory and expressed their humble thanks to their masters.

However the standard "inutilizzazione" remained to be defined and committees started work in the hope of inducing the Germans to accept elusive formulae aimed at having the months of "inutilizzazion" fixed at six. But the Germans declared that all possibility of resuming industrial production must be excluded for at least two years and this must be ensured by the paralysation of plants producing electric power.

Italian technicians had resumed their work in order to examine what could be saved, when the German colonel presiding over the demolitions told them outright that everything would be destroyed without distinction. In justification of this he pointed out that the electric power station at Nettuno, which had been left intact, had been used by the Anglo-Americans to illuminate the zone during the landings and that this had caused serious trouble. It is reported that the power stations at BOLOGNA and BEVERA have already been destroyed.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 24.11.44)

The Germans are driving away nearly all livestock from south of the River PO. North of the river the Germans are requisitioning certain numbers of cattle, sheep, pigs, horses and donkeys through the Communes and the Italian authorities. It is interesting to note that on the way south subject saw much German MT being drawn by oxen as well as peasants' carts loaded with ammunition and military stores. Most of this was making its way to MANTOVA. Horses, oxen and donkeys are worked so hard that when they become exhausted the Germans shoot them and replace them with others.

VENEZIA. The Germans here are taking away metal from the city in all forms. For instance, during the past two months they have taken away the four large horses outside S. Marco cathedral, as well as the well-known figures on the roof of S. Marco which strike a bell to tell the hour.

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Germans recently sent from VENEZIA large truck loads of small Italian metal money. The result is that small change given by shops is in the form of [illegible] discs representing centesimi. These may be used again for purchases from the same shop- the name of which is stamped on the disc.
(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.A.I. Italian Section Report No 49. 24.11.44).

XIII. Situation in Bologna.

According to an official Fascist communique, special Black Brigades, after fighting for several weeks, concluded a large mopping-up operation inside BOLOGNA city and immediately adjoining zones. The communique added that [illegible] inside Bologna had

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been completely liquidated. PAVOLINI arrived in BOLOGNA and inspected the Fascist formations which carried out the purge.

Italian resistance circles have also confirmed the fact that, on Kesselring's personal order, a complete Blackshirt Division, recently arrived from Germany, spent about one month in hunting, arresting, deporting and massacring many thousands of Bolognese accused of being in some way connected with patriotic movements. The city was subjected to an extremely strict regime which undoubtedly enabled the occupants to restore order in the city, though at a high price.

Even Corriere della Sera has admitted that a long and terrible struggle raged round the Ospedale Maggiore, Bologna's largest hospital, where the partisans rallied in order to defend themselves to the last. With the help of strong artillery, the Fascists succeeded in completely destroying the hospital, killing the majority of the patriots.

Recently the German military authorities, who appear to be convinced that they will be able to remain in Bologna for some months longer, have made some concessions to the inhabitants. According to Corriere della Sera, 20 cinemas have now been opened. On the other hand, all schools and the university are shut. The food situation in Bologna, which lies in the middle of a rich agrarian zone, is satisfactory, as the paralysation of transport has made it impossible to send products, which were formerly exported throughout Italy and also abroad, out of the zone.

It is believed that the Wehrmacht intends to defend Bologna house by house, as fortification works are being continued and even intensified inside and outside the city.
(Basler Nachrichten 20.11.44).

An indication of the German concern over partisan activity in BOLOGNA is their latest threats of savage reprisals including the shelling of buildings, demolitions and mass deportations.
(Confidential source 9.12.44)

Sera, Milan 24.11.44 gives a detailed description of the mopping-up operations in the city of Bologna, including the assertion that a torture chamber was found in the cellars of the Ospedale Maggiore, where the partisans had been entrenched. "The cellar contained two cases of food and other supplies, enough to fill three lorries. Two naked bodies were found in the hospital yard, one of which was that of a man who had been kidnapped on November 6th by two men in German uniform. A short distance away could be seen a skull, arm and foot. The first common grave was thus discovered and then another. All the bodies were naked, with ropes round their necks."

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Regime Fascista, CRemona, 26.11.44 publishes further details about the Bologna mass graves saying "The cellars of the Ospedale Maggiore sheltered 100 partisans of the so-called "Castel Maggiore" Battalion, who intended carrying out further acts of sabotage and terrorism".

An anti-Fascist version of the affair comes from the Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 29.11.44 which says "As regards the mass graves alleged to have been found by the Fascists containing the victims of the partisans in the Ospedale Maggiore in Bologna, the truth has now been revealed by a Republican officer who, nauseated by the Fascist methods, joined the maquis, followed by several of his men. He made very serious statements, giving precise names and facts, promising to give evidence before any enquiry commission nominated. The

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officer had the duty of garrisoning with his own detachment the zone adjacent to the hospital ruins after they had been evacuated by the partisans. During the evening he was making an inspection when he saw a mysterious lorry arrive and halt near the ruined walls of the hospital. Several Arditi of the "Eugenio Facchini" Black Brigade got out of it and unloaded from the lorry ten or 12 bodies which by their uniforms the officer recognised as Allied soldiers. One after the other the bodies, which had evidently been collected on some neighbouring battlefield, were carried inside the half-destroyed hospital. The next day the Fascist newspapers announced the discovery of naked bodies of Fascists tortured by the partisans. The Black Brigade men had done good work on those poor bodies.

XIV. German Emergency Measures.

According to a decree issued by the German Army Command, curfew for the entire Province of PADUA is fixed from 22.00 to 06.00 hrs. Restaurants and places of entertainment must be closed down by 21.00 hours. Special permits entitling the holders to stay out of doors during the curfew will be issued by the German Garrison Commander. Workmen engaged in fortification work need no special permit. It will suffice for them to show their workers' identity card.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 20.10.44).

A state of siege has been proclaimed in VARESE. The curfew has been advanced to 16.00 hours. Germans and Fascists, armed to the teeth, patrol the streets. Schools are closed. Passengers are searched on leaving trains. Some bombs laid by patriots exploded seriously damaging buildings used as barracks, killing and wounding several Germans and Fascists. This act of violence is all the more significant as Fascist propaganda had proclaimed that Varese Province could now be considered to be completely "liberated from outlaws". Along the MILAN-VARESE motor road, hedges are being removed, behind which the Maquis francs tireurs fired on German and Fascist motor vehicles. Guards are also being placed at all the bridges which offer patriots hiding places for ambushes. These precautions have been taken at the request of P.VOLINI whose family still live in LUINO in the Villa Frua. Pavolini lives in the Plaza Hotel, Via Restrelli, in Milan, but often visits his family, using the motor road. He has four bodyguards who accompany him everywhere. When he is motoring, four gunmen, who are highly paid, shield him with their bodies.

There is still a big influx of Fascist refugees into Varese Province, which is putting the residents in a difficult situation, and even embarrassing the authorities. Almost daily, columns of lorries arrive, carrying furniture and household goods. It is at present necessary to find homes for several hundred refugees from LIGURIA, and nobody knows where to put them.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.11.44).

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(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.11.44).

In the large cities of northern Italy the Communist Party is reported to be actively preparing a plan of insurrection to which the Socialists adhere in principle. The Fascists' fear of this danger explains the intensification of mopping-up operations and razzias against the partisans, who, at a given moment when the Germans and Fascists are engaged in the big cities might bring about a rising among the country people.

Meanwhile, in order [illegible] against partisan attacks, points of access to all main roads are being blocked with concrete walls. All the German commands, offices and depots are surrounded by electrified barbed wire. 3170
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 30.11.44).

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XV. Atrocities.

RAVENNA On 25th August 12 innocent citizens, including a woman were executed in Ravenna as a reprisal for the killing of Bedeschi (Cattiveria) by the partisans.

CAMERLONE On 26th August the Germans massacred 5 persons in the country near Camerlone without any reason whatsoever. The same day three peasants were hanged at SAVARNA.

MASSA LOMBARDA. During the first days of November an entire quarter of Massa Lombarda was set on fire by the German SS and several people were burnt alive in their houses.

RAVENNA. In Ravenna on 15th November the Germans blew up 7 houses in Via Fiume VISIO, without giving any notice to the inhabitants. This caused several victims.
(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.A.I. Italian Section Report No 49 24.11.44).

BOLOGNA. Two eye witnesses, escaped from the massacre by the Germans in C.S. GLIA DI BOLOGNA, brought proofs of the martyrdom of Italians, still under the Nazi Fascist yoke. On the morning of 29th September, in the village of Casagli, the alarm was given that a party of SS was on the march in that direction. The alarm gave time for the few men who remained to escape to the mountains. About 80 women and 50 children under the age of 15, took refuge in the church. They were all gathered round the parish priest saying the rosary out loud, when the soldiers broke into the church and compelled everyone present to go outside. Then they drove them all to the cemetary. Whilst the women and children, terrified, left the church, the assassins, violating every respect for the church, killed the parish priest, and a woman, a certain Vittoria Manni, who was paralysed and unable to walk. All those who were thrown out of the church and sent to the cemetary were mown down by machine gun fire. Two women who were only slightly wounded succeeded in escaping and reached CASA BIGUZZI.

When the Germans had left in the evening four men came down from the mountains and found the church in flames. Amongst the heap of corpses in the firelight they found a baby still alive, wounded in the head and arm.

After having buried the bodies of the murdered people the four men went to the place where the women had taken refuge, who were safe with their families. There they found 21 people who lived in fear and trembling of the return of the Germans. Their fear was

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After having buried the bodies of the murdered people the four men went to the place where the women had taken refuge, who were safe with their families. There they found 21 people who lived in fear and trembling of the return of the Germans. Their fear was realised on the 5th October with the arrival of a squadron of 10 SS. commanded by a captain. On arrival in front of the place where the people were hidden the Germans ordered the men out, about 9 of them. Five were sent off towards Belvedere and the others taken to a field near by where they were killed. Of the five taken to Belvedere, one was killed by the Captain with a pistol, the other four were taken to a precipice and sent over. At the same time a German soldier stationed himself at the edge of the precipice and shot the unfortunates in the neck. Three of the men perished thus, but the fourth survived his fall and towards evening, hearing no more noise he returned to Casa Biguzzi to look for the women who had remained behind. There too the barbarians had committed another massacre. The bodies of the victims were half in and half out of their refuge. Only two men survived in the whole village, Gino Chirici and Celso Manni. The latter owed his life to the fact that he wandered in the mountains until he was sure that the Germans had really gone away. These two men gave the details of the outrage.
(P.W.B. Rome).

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Apart from atrocities against people the Germans have destroyed works of art. In B.DI.. .. SETTIMO they demolished the magnificent 1200 belltower of the abbey, which was one of the most beautiful in Tuscany, and was not of the slightest military interest. The San Quintino chapel is damaged, the walls having fallen, damaging the frescoes of the Cupola, which are by Giovanni da San Giovanni. The rest of the frescoes on the walls by the same artist have been destroyed by German handgrenades.
(P.W.B. Rome).

R.VENN. December 10. Monsignore Rossini, Bishop of Ravenna, today revealed that the Germans executed 70 civilians in the village of S.N .LBERTO. According to reports so far received, said the Bishop, partisans occupied the village on December 4th. They were driven out a few hours later by the enemy who seized and shot 70 citizens in retaliation for the partisan operation. The victims included the parish priest, Don Giovanni Zalambani, the local doctor, Biandi, the schoolmaster, Gambi and a representative of the Podesta, Amadori.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Press Division)

S.N GIOV.NNI V.LD.RNO Particulars have now been received of the massacre, about 4 months ago of all the male population of the village of .ELETO. The widow of one of the victims declared that at the beginning of July a group of German soldiers with a motor lorry came to the village and gathered all the population together in the principal square. The women were then put into a great cellar. The men were divided into groups of 20, brought out and killed. One group were machine-gunned in a barn and the bodies, after being covered with petrol, were burnt. Many women who saw the corpses later said that there were evident signs that some of them were alive when set on fire. According to numbers up to date the remains of about 100 men have been found. When the women who had been shut in the cellar came out about mid-day the Germans had gone, the village was in flames, and after putting these out they buried the bodies. There was not one man left to help them. One woman had to find the bodies of seven members of her family, husband, two sons, two brothers, a brother-in-law and a nephew. Some particulars of this massace have been provided by the Bishop of FIESOLE, Monsignor Giorgis, who recently came to Rome. He described how the parish priest, Don Giovanni Fondelli was murdered by the Germans whilst trying to prevent the massacre.
(P.W.B. Rome 25.11.44).

S.VIGN.NO -on the Rubicon. The night of October 1st, the Germans blew up houses with d[illegible] in via Rubicone Destra 10, burying under the ruins whole families. Other houses were blown up by the same method. The church, the bridge over the river were also

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(P.W.B. Rome 25.11.44).

S.VIGN.NO -on the Rubicon. The night of October 1st, the Germans blew up houses with d[illegible] in via Rubicone Destra 10, burying under the ruins whole families. Other houses were blown up by the same method. The church, the bridge over the river were also destroyed. Fourteen bodies were discovered by the date of the report (20.10.44).

MONTECATINI- V.LDINIEVOLE "So many ugly deeds have been committed by the Germans with the help of the Republican Fascists. Our men hid themselves and then joined the patriots (including my brother and cousins) and the others then raged against the women and children They have thrown little creatures of the age of Mario and Marcello into wells, they have ravished and then hanged women, burnt other women, hanged old people offhandedly, and finally have done things not to be believed if one had not witnessed them".
(Civil Censorship Intercept 10.10.44).

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PESCIA. "The vile German was not satisfied with so much mourning and ruin, but wanted to add to them on the day before our longed for liberation. In fact during the tragic evening of the 6th September, at 1930 hours, some cursed pioneers placed a small box of dynamite in front of my house and another at the back, and then fired. Just imagine! Everything blown up together with my beloved parents who were buried under the ruins."
(6.10.44).(Censorship Intercept).

LUCC.. "Eugenio Cavallore's mother and signor Minutoli have been burnt alive at M.SS.CIUCCOLI. Because a German was found dead in the neighbourhood, Sandra Settepassi, together with other women and children of ten years of age were machine-gunned and slaughtered at M.SS.RELL.. The Lippi and Francesconi families, with the exception of the latter's wife, have been shot or hanged".
(Civil Censorship Intercept 13.9.44).

XVI. New Radio Station.

On December 6th a new radio programme, originating from German controlled Italy or from Germany itself was monitored in Rome. The station is R.DIO F.NTE, broadcasting in Italian to Italy every day at 1215 to 1300, 1830 to 1900 and 2215 to 2300 hrs on a frequency of 216,221, 449, 47.3 metres. The reception in Rome is very good, and may easily be picked up by any local set. Night reception is the best on 221 metres. The programmes themselves are of much better quality than those on either Radio Tevere or Radio Adriatico. At 2245 hours it is broadcasting on the same frequency as BBC in English (449 metres).
(P.W.B. Rome -Monitoring).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

XVII. Reactions in Forli and Ravenna.

In F.RLI the voice of the 8th Army was well known. The general opinion was that the programme is good and can be listened to with less risks than the BBC because of its being shorter. Leaflets giving the wavelength and time of transmissions, dropped by us on Forli were picked up by the inhabitants.

In R.VENNA 8th Army radio was heard well and was popular. The leader of the GAP Brigade of Ravenna, interrogated on the subject, said that he considered the programmes very good and the "Giro d'Orizonte" feature by Mario Fedulli was much appreciated by his partisans. The only criticism was that there is not enough news about the Italian government and political developments in liberated [illegible] 1830 and 2200 hours.

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LUCCA. "Eugenio Cavallore's mother and signor Minutoli have been burnt alive at MASSA.CIUCCOLI. Because a German was found dead in the neighbourhood, Sandra Settepassi, together with other women and children of ten years of age were machine-gunned and slaughtered at MASSARELLA. The Lippi and Francesconi families, with the exception of the latter's wife, have been shot or hanged".
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(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.A.I. Italian Section Report No 49. 24.11.44).

XVIII. Comments on propaganda from the Carnia/Friuli zone.

It has been found that many Germans and Austrians serving with the units in this area would willingly desert to the Partisans if they were not, in their own minds, certain that they would be killed on arrival in partisan held territory. It is felt that much could be done by strong propaganda in the form of leaflets dropped by aircraft over German occupied territory in this area, and not over partisan held territory, as has been the case in the past. This type of propaganda should guarantee them their lives, if they desert to the partisans. Leaflets in the form of safe conducts would be effective.

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Much good could be done if, on drops to the partisans, certain kinds of newspapers were included in the load; these should contain the latest war news. It has been found that the partisans have little or no idea of what is happening in the world outside their province.

Very few wirelesses are owned by the partisans. It has been discovered, however, that in broadcasts where the name of their particular unit is mentioned, the news is always passed round and printed in their Unit News sheet, and their morale is considerably raised after such broadcasts. So far no individual names have been mentioned from this particular zone.
(Confidential Source 24.11.44).

XIX. Information from P.W. Interrogations.

P.W. taken from the Italian Divisions opposing Fifth Army in the Western Appenines say that the Italians do not want to fight and that Allied leaflets addressed specifically to them have increased the number of Italians deserting, both to the partisans and to the Allies.

Twelve P.W. captured by a raid on an advanced post were interrogated by P.W.B. as soon as they got to our lines. Most of them were Silesian Poles. They complained of the lack of news. One produced a German Communique of the 20th November, which he had received on the 2nd December. All P.W. produced copies of Allied leaflets; one had kept a collection of 8 different ones pinned together, having three different issues of Frontpost, the regular delivery of which was, they said, much appreciated.

Fifty P.W. were interrogated at 5th Army Stockade early in November. Nine had not seen any leaflets. Several of them, however, had only been in the line for about a week. Most of the other prisoners confirmed that most German soldiers try to get hold of leaflets when they can, that they read and discuss them before passing them on. A hostile PW, a student from Osnabrueck said "It must be admitted that leaflets undermine the war spirit". Frontpost drew special praise from PW, being described as the one reliable source of information, and making a good impression on soldiers always arriving long before the German communique. In two cases PWs had received Frontpost from someone who had been to the rear, where he had found them and brought them along. Another had got Frontpost from partisans. The Leaflet "Where there is a will, there is a way" was also mentioned as particularly effective.

A student from Sudetenland made this comment "You achieve more with leaflets than we do with grenades".

Leaflet statistics from 5 corps [illegible] that out of 246 PW interviewed, 158, 64% had seen leaflets in the last four weeks and 36, or 14% had come over carrying safe conducts, while a further nine were in possession of copies of Frontpost.

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A PW from 26 Panzer Div. stated that all troops were made to empty their pockets on the day following one of our leaflet shoots. He knew of the case of a German NCO who had been seriously wounded and taken to hospital. A safe conduct was found in one of his pockets, and as a punishment his Iron Cross was taken away from him.

One P.W. read last October of bombings near his home town in Upper Silesia. This news had never been disclosed by German News Agencies, but was subsequently confirmed by a letter from home. Ever since that day he had believed our leaflets.

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A PW who had seen many copies of Frontpost stated that that was how he first learnt of the desertion of Germany's satellites. This, he stated, more than anything else made him lose faith in a German victory.
(P.W.B. H.Q. A.M.I. Propaganda and Leaflet Reaction Report No 10 12.12.44).

POLITICS.

XX. Communist Socialist pact in North.

The Italian Communist and Socialist parties in German occupied Italy, approving of the making of the pact concluded between the Communist and Socialist Parties in Rome, have decided to adapt it to the conditions prevailing in the area under their jurisdiction.

After emphasising the obligation to support this policy of mutual understanding, especially within the National Liberation Committee of Northern Italy, on which the six principal anti-Fascist Parties are represented, and after expressing a definite desire for unison and collaboration with these parties, the agreement concludes thus:
"The Directorare of the PC (Communist Party) for the occupied area and the Executive Committee of the PS (Socialist Party) for the occupied area finally declare that they share the conviction expressed by the two central Directorates that the desire of the Italian people is that the imminent Constituent Assembly, to be elected by freed consultation of the people, should proclaim a Democratic Republic.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 16.11.44).

XXI. Report on Mussolini's Health.

It is rumoured in Fascist circles that the state of Mussolini's health has recently become worse and that the Duce is suffering from an acute crisis of his internal complaint which is confining him to bed. The specialists, two Germans and an Italian, who are attending him are very worried, attributing the relapse to Mussolini's extreme activity during the past weeks, as well as to the stimulants he was forced to use in order to meet visitors in a relatively normal condition. During the last few hours various members of the Duce's family have arrived unexpectedly at his villa on Lake Garda which has increased Fascist anxieties.
(Basle Nachrichten 24.11.44).

XXII. New Fascist Radio.

Patriots in north Italy have been warned against the new Fascist radio, the so-called RADIO BAITA, which is directed by VERNETTI and FRANCO BORGIO. In their transmissions they praise the patriots, but really they try to divide their ranks. Radio Baita is not a patriot

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(P.W.B. Rome 2.1.244).

XXIII. Plot against the Duce by Farinecci.

Koch's blind devotion to Mussolini is proved by the importance and delicacy of certain tasks entrusted to him by the latter. Mussolini has always distrusted Farinacci and has now, more than ever cause to fear him owing to his relations with the Germans. If it were not for Hitler's personal friendship for him, Mussolini would already have been set aside. The German Command does not appreciate him and thinks it high time he was pensioned off.

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It is reported that the Germans are thinking of entrusting to Farinacci the government of the last strip of Italy occupied by them when the Nazi troops are obliged to withdraw to the last line of defence from CHIOGGIA to the STELVIO. Mussolini and the group of opponents of Farinacci round him-ie. Buffarini-Guidi, Pavolini, Grazieni and a few others - have sensed the danger and are on the alert. They released Koch, who lost no time in surrounding Farinacci with a dense network of spies.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 16.11.44).

XXIV. New appointments

PIACENZA Ernesto MARIONI, a worker employed at the local Direzione di Artiglieria, has been appointed Prefectorial Commissioner at Piacenza instead of Angiolo Cappellini, lawyer.
(Stampa, Turin 15.11.44).

Alcibiade Carlo COMPIANI has been appointed Federal Commissioner of the 15th zone and Commissioner of the CASTELLEONE Fascio. The Federal Commissioner has appointed Alfonso MARSILI Commissioner of PADERNO.
(Regime Fascists, Cremona 15.11 44).

The Under-Secretary for Air, Carlo MOLTESE, has asked to be relieved of his post, and General of the Air Force, Ruggiero BONOMI, has been appointed in his place. Moltese has been appointed a Councillor of State.
(Italian Home Service 27.11.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXV. Food Situation.

TURIN The food and rationing situation is farcical. There is plenty of food if one can afford to buy it. It is still possible to buy good clothes at high prices, but generally clothing is rubbish. Money is very scarce and credit notes are being used.
(Confidential Source 17.11.44).

A growing food shortage is reported from all regions of north Italy. The Fascist authorities are gravely preoccupied. In SAVONA the bread ration has diminished by 50 gr; in September there was only half a kg of rice and 50 gr. of butter, and in October there was nothing but bread. Moreover it was announced that new food cards would not be distributed owing to technical difficulties. A similar situation is to be found in GENOA, TRIESTE and ROVIGO. At the same time there is a grave shortage or complete lack of fuel.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 27.11.44).

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 27.11.44).

MANTOVA. On the other hand it is reported that "there is plenty of food in Mantova. 1½ quintals of grain has been distributed to the population, manual workers having received 2 quintals. There is also plenty of flour and vegetables. Oil is practically unobtainable, however, and meat is very scarce.

Bread 150 grms. Lire 3 per kg.			
Meat. Black Market only		lire 100 per kg.	
Oil " " "		" 400/500 per litre.	
Cigarettes per coupon 40 per week (Nazionale) lire 15.			
Black Market	10	Nazionale	lire 25
	20	Serraglio	" 80/85
	20	Africa	" 80/85

(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. [illegible] Report No 49 29.11.44)

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TRIESTE. The Food Office for Trieste Province announces: As from November 8th "Nestogen Nestle" milk powder will be distributed to bottle-fed babies under 12 months. Small children will continue to receive their daily ration of fresh and condensed milk.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 8.11.44).

The Director of the Food Office for Trieste Province announces that the shortage of eggs, and the necessity to reserve available supplies primarily for hospitals and sick people, has forced him to order that, as from November 12th, all eggs received in Trieste must be reported to the Egg Wholesalers' Association which is responsible for supplies being primarily distributed to those in possession of purchase vouchers.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 11.11.44).

MILAN. The Head of the Province has issued a decree totally prohibiting the manufacture of pastries and confectionery, of any kind, including ice creams, from sugar. The stocks of these products existing in the factories must be notified immediately for retail distribution. All stocks of sugar in the factories must be notified before November 15th for distribution to the civilian population.
(Sera, Milan 13.11.44).

Considering that many shopkeepers continue to violate the regulations governing prices and supplies in spite of punishments, the Head of the Province has decided that all future offenders will have their trading licence irrevocably withdrawn and will be sent to "labour battalions" to be employed on public works. He further issued instructions for keeping a close watch on concierges, most of whom are black market middlemen. All concierges liable to punishment will be sent to "labour Battalions", together with Black market traffickers and will be subjected to penal proceedings.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 19.11.44).

XXVI. Transport.

FRIULI. In order to make the best use of available transport, The German Adviser has ordered all lorries driving into zones where firewood is felled to carry firewood on their return journey whenever possible.
(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 8.11.44).

Railways. MILAN-TURIN line. 200 metres of line were interrupted by the patriots, who also took away material in transit for Germany
(Italian Official Source 15.11.55).

TRIESTE The Germans have begun to carry away the railway lines of the goods station at Trieste and from the station of PRESTANE (in the Commune of VILLA SLAVINA -7 km south of POSTUMIA)
(Italian Official Source 14.11.44).

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XXVII. Finance.

Cost of German Occupation.

Italy has hitherto been obliged to pay Germany 100 milliard lire occupation costs; eight to ten milliard lire bank notes are manufactured and placed in circulation monthly. The Germans pay a portion of the notes directly to their troops who use them for their own account. The Fascist Government, apparently, has no control over this money.
(Tribune de Geneve 22.11.44).

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XXVIII. Situation in Mantova and District.

The following information has been obtained from a refugee whose home is in MANTOVA. He left about the end of September and arrived at FORLI on 9th November.

The population of Mantova may be considered to be somewhat above normal. Some months ago, when the station, etc, was being bombed by allied raids, many people left and went into the country, but lately, as no raids have taken place, the opposite has happened. The normal residents have returned plus a number from the country, who hope to seek refuge in the city, which they consider will be safer than facing the terrors of a battlefield outside, at a later date.

Mantova is considered to be a Fascist city, and in addition to the number of Fascist residents, the population has been still further increased by the influx of a number of Fascists and their families driven back by the Allied advance (some from BOLOGNA and FORLI)

Apart from the station and the surrounding area, the city has not been damaged, and life carries on.

Cinemas and theatres are open.

Electricity and water supplies are normal, but Gas is only supplied between the hours of 1000-1300 hrs and 1800-2300 hrs.

No busses are running and no trams run in the city itself. The only service still running is from Tetro Sociale to Porta Belfiore, where it divides into one service to the Hospital, and one to "La Grazie".

There is little to buy in the shops and what there is, is expensive. Clothing, etc, may sometimes be found through Black Market Channels.

Shoes cost 1500-2000 lire, whilst a suit of clothes would cost about 4/5000 lire.

Just before subject left MANTOVA the Germans issued an order clearing people out of all houses and buildings in the southern outskirts of the city. The outskirts to be cleared lie between the MANTOVA-CREMONA road and the MANTOVA-PADOVA road. The reason for this order is understood to be in connection with defence works of the city. Source also states that the Germans are preparing a defence line between MIRANDOLA-S BENEDETTO del PO and MANTOVA, on which many civilians are compelled to work. A decree has come out calling up men for work between the ages of 16 and 60. Many are to be sent into Germany. All men are required to register at Mantova recruting offices by 6 or 7 November 44.

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(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 49 23.11.44).

XXIX. Fuel and Power.

MILAN. The Head of Milan Province has issued a communique informing the population that, in anticipation of the compulsory suspension of the gas supply owing to the shortage of coal, "necessary measures" are being taken. As a substitute for gas it is planned to issue a daily ration of 1,800 g of wood per person, i.e. one piece of wood. No assignment has been fixed for heating. Instead people must have recourse to the Black Market or freeze. Black market coal now costs 1,000 lire per quintal and wood five to 600 lire.

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The Fascists, however, assume that the substitution of wood for gas in kitchens will also solve the heating problem. Thus the average family of four persons will have a little over three kg of green wood daily for cooking and heating.

No supplement has been announced for families with old people, children or sick people. The schools will be closed owing to the lack of heating. Actually it will prove impossible to distribute even the proposed wood ration, owing to the lack of means for transporting to MILAN. Furthermore, out of 300,000 families, only one third possess wood-burning stoves.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 27.11.44).

LABOUR.

XXX. Workers in Germany.

The last number of the Clandestine newspaper "Appello" wrote "Franco Fratterelli, Federal Commissioner of GORIZIA, who was arrested on July 4th by the Gestapo, had some interesting experiences during his imprisonment in German gaols which were cut short by his liberation at the end of a month. He was able to observe the state of mind of his fellow captives, political prisoners who had little conception of the reason for their imprisonment. He gained experience of the German prison system, and also learned of the conditions and state of mind of Italian workers in Germany. The Italian worker who voluntarily proceeds to Germany signs a contract containing guarantees of reciprocal rights and duties vis-a-vis his employer. No sooner has he crossed the frontier than this contract ceases to exist".
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 23.11.44).

CHURCH

XXXI. Pope Accused of Favouring Allies.

"It has now been confirmed that the Pope will hold a consistory before Christmas.... The most burning question asked in Vatican and Government circles of authorities most interested in the politics of the Church is the following: in what proportion will Cardinals be nominated? It is a tradition that Italian Cardinals should be represented in the Sacred College by a large majority, but today, when the Church has intervened, at least spiritually, in the mighty conflict which divides nations and continents, will the Pope be able to resist the pressure which he has himself, to a certain extent, authorised by his no longer disguised partisanship? Do we stand, then, on the threshold of a considerable admission of Cardinals representing the Anglo-Saxon bloc, as the noisy restlessness of Spellman would seem to desire? Or will the Pope choose a middle way between tradition and innovation, retaining, that is, a majority of Italian Cardinals, but bestowing the "hat" on Italian prelates whose political leanings are a

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ing to MILAN. Furthermore, out of 300,000 families, only one third possess wood-burning stoves.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 27.11.44).

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(Gazzetta del Popolo, Turin 26.11.44).

XXXII. Priest Arrested In Domodossola.

Father Giuseppe Bedetti, Superior of the Rosmini Institute in DOMODOSSOLA has been arrested. Father Bedetti's arrest is attributed to the fact that the fathers had adopted an equivocal attitude before and during the brief period of bandit oppression in that region. The Head of the Province has given orders that the school be transformed into a state school.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Report 21.11.44).

SECRET.

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SECRET
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PRESS

XXXIII. Papers in Mantova.

The following newspapers are obtainable in Mantova:

Voce di Mantova (Daily)
Corriere della Sera (Milan daily), arrives one or more days late.
Resto del Carlino.

Another paper, source could not remember the name of it, but which he stated, is edited and controlled by Farinacci.

(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.M.G.I. Italian Section Report No 49. 24.11.44).

XXXIV. New Paper to Publish Extracts from Rome Press.

A special newspaper called Corriere di Roma has been published containing facsimile reproductions of items and articles in the ROME newspapers. The "joys of liberation" can thus be made known from direct evidence and the respect that Churchill showed for Badoglio and Bonomi when receiving them in slippers on his visit to Rome.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 20.11.44).

PERSONALITIES

XXXV. Spies and Fascists in Udine.

GORI, called TIMAIL of TERENZANO -POZZUOLO DEL FRIULI. He is an ex-sergeant-major of the Alpini, and an active and zealous collaborator of the Germans. Takes part personally in the mopping-up operations and reprisals against the patriots and their families. On the 13th August, at TALMASSONS, together with some Germans he captured hostages and then disappeared mysteriously. Is a dangerous element.
Signora TARONI, Via Caccia n. 48 Udine. People meet in her villa, amongst whom are some friends of hers who are in the pay of the Germans. From this nest of traitors many denouncements have been sent against patriots and anti-Fascists.
Renzo BIANA of REANA, living in UDINE with his sister. He is a habitue of the Patrizio restaurant, and a very active spy. He forms a trio of traitors with his companions PICCOLI and CUSTODAZZI.
One of the direct dependents of Custodazzi, VALENTINO TURCO, living in Viale Duodo n. 4, thin, and with his head always shaved is an agent provocateur and is always under Custodazzi's orders.
Another woman who is a spy is MINER DIRVE, mother of three children [illegible] a German quartermaster sergeant.

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Another woman who is a spy is EUNER DIRVE, mother of three children and at the moment mistress of a German quartermaster sergeant. Before living in Udine she was in CIVIDALE, and she served there as a cook.
(P.W.B. Rome 26.11.44).

ROSARIO NERO dangerous spy. Lives at the corner of Via Zorutti, on the 2nd floor, over the Bar Paolinelli, and is a very active German police agent. He has himself compiled lists of anti-Fascists, several of whom have been assassinated by the Nazi-Fascist police or they have disappeared, leaving no trace whatsoever.
FORTE MASSINVERA. comes from FANO DI STATO. In Udine he lives in a furnished room in Via Pellegrino and eats at the "Ancora d'oro" restaurant. He is on guard from 21 hrs until 1 o'clock at the Fascist Federation. During the day he has more lucrative work.

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He controls all the passengers who arrive from and leave for the Carnia, and he has all the persons he suspects of anti-Fascist activities arrested at once.
ENORE TIRINDELLI living in Via Spilimbergo N. 18, Udine. He is Commissario Fascista of the MARTINICCO Federation. A dangerous spy paid by the SS.
ANNA CANTONICCI, 19 years old, born in France, usually living in Turin. For a certain period she practised her infamous activities in VERONA where she has kept her address as Signora BARBIERI, Via Cesare Amatore n 14 or 15. At present she is in Udine.
LUIGI CURNIOLO , Via Viola, n. 19 Udine, a dangerous spy.

(P.W.B. Rome 23.11.44)

LUIGI SARCHIETTI, son of the late Giuseppe and Carlotte Leso. Born 11 November 1921 in VERONA. Living in Via Incatenato Acquamonte n 17. He is in contact with other spies.
Signorine PERESSINI of NIMIS The elder of the two sisters lived with a certain MARTIS. They are paid informers of a Nazi-Fascist agent who answers to the name of SPANGARO
Signorina delle Camelie, known under the name of IRENE, who is a habitue of the Centarena Caffe in Udine. She is an informer to the Nazi-Fascists.
(P.W.B. Rome)

XXXVI. Fascists of Mantova.

MOTTA - Federale
Col. SISSA Col of Milizia.
PUNGILUPPI, Dott. A keen fascist
GENOVESI, Avv. " "

(P.W.B.Adv. H.W. H....I. Italian Section Report No 49 24.11.44).

XXXVII. La Spezia Traitors.

Names of the Special Tribunal of La Spezia.

General MASSIMO DE CASTIGLIONI, President of the Tribunal
Doctor PAOLO BEDUSCHI Public Minister.
VITTORIO BULFONI. Member of the Tribunal
GIUSEPPE GANDINI. Senior of the Militia.

(P.W.B. Rome 2.12.44).

Other Fascists are:-

The Prefect APPIANI, who is actually collaborating zealously with the Nazis in preparations for destroying the town.

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Other Fascists are:-

The Prefect ASPINALI, who is actually collaborating zealously with the Nazis in preparations for destroying the town.

ALBERTO LA NOCCA, quartermaster sergeant of the police, specialises in persecuting and betraying anti-Fascists.

MARCOBELLO Commander of the Black Brigade of La Spezia.

VITO SPIOTTA. Engineer, Commander of the Black Brigade of CHIAVARI and Vice Federale of GENOVA. One of the most infamous of Fascists.

(P.W.B. Rome 2.12.44).

SECRET

10. Italian Letter etc.

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TO	INIT	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN		
COL. YOUNG		
LT. COL. WILCOX		
MAJ LUCKMAN		
MAJ WILSON		
MAJ HANSEN		
MAJ BALLANCE		
CAPT POWEL		

CONFIDENTIAL NO. 46

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
Psychological Warfare Branch
Unit No. 12 APO 512

Central D Section, Liberated Italy 14 December 1944.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN LIBERATED ITALY NO. 46

PART II - ANNEXES

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APPENDIX I REPORT ON VITERBO
APPENDIX II REPORT ON AREZZO
APPENDIX III (NEW CABINET - will be sent out as soon as completed)
APPENDIX IV BOMB INCIDENT IN PALERMO

Explanation of Reliability Rating:

Source	(reliability)
A	Always reliable
B	Usually reliable
C	Sometimes reliable
D	Frequently unreliable
E	A bad source

Report	(probability)
1	Confirmed
2	Probable
3	Possible
4	Doubtful
5	Improbable

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PART II - ANNEXES

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A. - CURRENT EVENTS

1. The Government Crisis

The press continued to keep the public extremely closely informed about all fresh developments and new positions taken — to the detriment of other news.

The announcement (December 7th) that Bonomi was after all to form a new Government composed of four parties out of the six -- viz. Labour Democrats, Liberals, Christian Democrats and Communists -- came as a sudden surprise at a time when the crisis seemed almost interminable. It had not been clear up to the last minute what would be the attitude of the Socialists (whose leader Nenni was due to leave for London on December 8th) to a new Bonomi Ministry. The announcement of their abstention was welcomed by members of the Action Party. It was not clear what effect the difference of attitude between the Communists and the Socialists would have on the pact of alliance between these two parties. If the pact were to remain in full vigor and the Socialists, with their increased independence of criticism, and the Communists from inside the government, were to work together, the stability of the yet infant Ministry would be menaced at the start.

If the two parties were to cease to work closely together, one from inside and the other from outside the Government, then the pact between them would probably be weakened or dissolved as other parties have wished to see it dissolved; and the Socialists would presumably feel the attractive force of the Action Party and tend to form an opposition bloc. Ultimate developments of this situation could not of course be forecast. The fact remains that the Socialists, like the Action Party and the Christian Democrats, have a conservative as well as a more radical wing and each of the parties looks towards its immediate right as well as towards its immediate left.

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The position of the Communists in the new Government cannot be entirely comfortable as they are the only left element in a predominantly right organization; though there are advantages as well as disadvantages in participation in an Italian Government at the present time.

2. Press Reactions to Mr. Eden's Speech

The Rome press has reacted strongly and resentfully to Mr.Eden's speech. His statement is looked upon as the disclosure of the real intentions of Britain -- at least of conservative Britain -- towards Italy, at a most inopportune moment when Italian troops are about to go to the front, and the Patriots are facing another hard winter of war.

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ITALIA NUOVA writes that Eden gives the "strange impression" of one who confuses two diverse teams: co-belligerent and mercenary.

AVANTI (Socialist) points out that in the rear of the Allied Armies there is not the slightest need for precaution; that Britain and America have the forces of anti-fascism beside them, that Italy only asks to fight and work — facts which every British citizen should know. British policy is to back anti-democrats; it supports Bonomi now that he is against the C.L.N. but in June Britain was antagonistic to him.

UNITA (Communist) stressed the need for unity among all anti-fascist forces to regain complete independence. Eden's plain speaking makes this need still more obvious.

ITALIA LIBERA (Action Party) says it would be better to declare Italy a conquered country and warn the Patriots that they will pass from one military occupation to another, and not to liberation. The paper envisages a quisling government in a conquered Italy and ends "we can bear defeat, divisions, suffering, but not humiliation --the day we accept that, our mission is ended."

VOCE REPUBBLICANO (Republican) declares that the case of Sforza shows that Britain has the right to intervene because Italy, though co-belligerent, is under the Armistice a conquered country. Britain blames fascism for the war and supports those directly responsible (the Luogotenente, Badoglio, etc.) If Britain wants a puppet government let her choose it from the personnel of the Quirinale, and leave the anti-fascists alone.

TEMPO (Independent) discusses whether Eden's statement reflects the opinion of the government, in which case it may change, or whether it is a veto, which would make the Italian government a quisling one. The paper reaffirms the need for collaboration within the framework of European unity.

B. - GENERAL REPORTS

FOOD SITUATION

3. Defense of SETRAL

In view of the numerous recent press attacks on SETRAL and the associated agencies, ASA and UDIS, a member of PWB interviewed Dr. Petrucci, Secretary of the Director of SETRAL, on 4 December.

Dr. Petrucci said that SETRAL (Sezione Provinciale dell'Ali-

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Dott. Petrucci said that SETRAL (Sezione Provinciale dell'Alimentazione) is a government organization under the Ministry of Agriculture charged with the distribution of rationed foods to the population of each province. SETRAL has the task of collecting supplies into its warehouses and also of disciplining the people involved in the distribution. They distribute food only under the control of AMG and as a rule they distribute it to the large wholesalers in the various districts who in turn distribute to the retailers.

SETRAL does not engage in any commercial activities involving financial transaction; its only function is bureaucratic. It has relations with UDIS (Uffice of Distribution) and LSA (Azienda Servizi An-

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nonari); thus it is able to see that all of the various localities in the province of Rome have the means of storing and transporting the supplies that are rationed. SEPRAL does not possess any means of transportation and is not responsible for supplying transport. All transportation is done by the wholesalers or by Allied transport. The payment for the various goods does not pass through the hands of SEPRAL; the wholesalers pay the producers directly for the amount of goods assigned to them, or they sometimes pay the Allies, who in some cases facilitate exchanges.

In regard to goods that are sold on the free market (or the Black Market, whichever one choses to call it) SEPRAL issues permits that authorize commercial dealers to go into the provinces and buy goods, and SEPRAL wants to know the price they pay for the merchandise and also the price for which it is sold in order that SEPRAL may be able to exercise some degree of control. If these permits were not issued all the goods would disappear from the shop windows and be sold through the alley doors on the black market. This is a point where control is very difficult. Dott. Petrucci said that SEPRAL suffers very much from the lack of trained personnel; the employees receive very low government wages, and that does not attract able men.

According to Dott. Petrucci the press is a safety valve for the explosive public opinion, and they like to attack SEPRAL because they think it is at the root of their troubles; however they know nothing of the tremendous problems of organization that SEPRAL faces nor of any of the problems involved in trying to maintain a steady flow of rations to the people. He said that they often receive quantities of food in their warehouses for eventual distribution but they have to wait until they have enough to distribute to the whole population of some two million people. While they are collecting the supplies the newspapers and public like to shout that food is coming into Rome and is not being distributed.

The facts on the shipment of wine from Puglia were these: the Allies provided a ship that was to leave Brindisi and bring wine to Civitavecchia; from there the wine was sent to Rome by means of the transport of the wine wholesalers. As soon as the wine arrived at Rome SEPRAL had a meeting to try to decide how it should be distributed. They decided to distribute it by ration ticket at 28 lire a litre; but after a few days they were bitterly attacked by the press

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SETRAL has also set up several small distributing centres where goods that have been seized by the Questura (in the case of illegal practices) are sold at moderate prices to the public.

The SETRAL offices are in Via Borgo Pio. There are continually crowds of people coming and going from one office to another trying to get permits and special assignments from SETRAL. The officials

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are always swamped by telephone calls, visitors, and much paper work. In conclusion it should be added that the common opinion among Romans who know nothing about the workings of SEPRAL is that all the directors, secretaries, truck drivers and warehousemen take their cut of the goods and when the latter finally reach the consumer they have been reduced to about 10% of their original quantity.

4. The Hunger League

The press of 1 December announced the constitution of a so-called "Hunger League" (Lega della Fame) claiming to be composed of members of all social classes -- workmen, white-collar workers, unemployed, pensioners, war widows and orphans, etc. The League is stated to have presented the following five demands to the new Government (presumably the one being constituted):

a) Increase the bread ration to 300 grs.
b) Macaroni ration of 100 grs. per day and oil (or fat) ration of 1000 grs. per month.
c) Control of profiteering to reduce prices of fruit and vegetables.
d) No export of food from Italy or consumption of Italian foodstuffs by Allied troops.
e) Energetic measures against food producers evading the "ammassi" (state food control)

If these demands are not satisfied by the 16 December the League proposes to hold a 'gigantic' hunger march from Piazza del Cinquecento through the streets of Rome.

There is little editorial comment. "Risorgimento Liberale" envisages the possibility of the hunger-marchers meeting a column of Italian troops on their way to the front. AVANTI asks what will happen if they come across some of the "black market" stalls which sell in the public streets butter, sausage, eggs, etc.

Efforts on the part of PWB officials to contact representatives of the League have so far failed. The situation will be kept under observation.

5. Slight Improvement in Florence Food Supplies Reported

The activity of the SEPRAL during November has, thanks to somewhat improved transport, resulted in a slight increase in food supplies in Florence. Figures quoted are:

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Green vegetables	quintals	transported	5471
Fruit	"	"	4200
Wine	"	"	4235
Fish	"	"	201.14
Poultry	"	"	40.50
Milk	"	"	587.08
		Total	14734.72

To these figures must be added all the food supplies (fruit and vegetables) brought to the Florence market by other means and regarding which precise figures are not obtainable. To this month's food rations (equal to last month's) were added 300 grams of flour and 300 grams of pasta per head. It has been announced in the papers that sugar and

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soap will be distributed before the end of the month. No oil can be distributed as yet because there is none in the pools and the province can yield none before the new harvest is in.

Prospects for December -

Fruit and Vegetables - A slight reduction is expected since production in the Province of Florence is now less and supplies must be brought from the Southern provinces.

Wine - A slight increase is expected, export from the Province being blocked.

Poultry and Fish - Transport for about 100 - 150 quintals per week is expected.

Milk - No increase is expected.

Oil - Nothing is expected save the removal from the pools of very small deposits which may still be in stock.

Figs - During December, SETRAL informs that a distribution will be made of dried figs.

Black Market Prices, Nov. 27, 1944, in Florence were:

Wheat flour	Lire	100 a kg.
Meize flour	"	80 a "
Oil	"	450 " "
Butter	"	600 " "
Beef	"	450 " "
Mutton	"	400 " "
Pork	"	500 " "
Potatoes	"	60 " "
Sugar	"	500 " "
Poultry	"	900 " "
Beans	"	80 " "
Ham	"	1100 " "
Rice	"	220 " "
Eggs	"	45 each

Woolen stuffs, 180 centimetres wide	Lire	2100 a metre
Linen stuffs, 180 centimetres wide	"	1500 a metre
Cotton goods, 180 centimetres wide	"	700 a metre
Sewing cotton	"	280 30 Yd.

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Cotton goods, 180 centimetres wide	"	700 a metre
Sewing cotton	"	280 30 Yd.
Charcoal	"	30 a kg.
Car tires (Copertoni 1100)	"	30,000 each
Car tires for Topolino	"	15,000 each

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POLITICAL PARTIES

7 Crisis in the Christian Democratic Party

The following view of the crisis in the Christian Democratic Party has been given by an Italian left-wing source.

It may now be regarded as certain that as the Allies liberate the North of Italy, the Labour Democratic andAction Parties will gradually melt away, while the Republicans and extreme Left parties will gain in strength. The fact that Bonomi is held in slight esteem in the North, that members of the present government lack prestige, that the conflict of ideas regarding monarchy or republic grows daily sharper, may lead to a crisis.

Following this assumption the parties after the liberation of the North will coalesce into the following blocs: Liberals, Christian Democrats, coalition of Republicans with the Socialist-Communist group.

Christian Democracy will thus be the centre party and will have the difficult role of acting buffer between the two extreme ideologies - that of the Liberals on the Right, and of the Socialist-Communist group to the Left. The future of Christian Democracy is far from clear, as it is not yet possible to say which of the extreme parties will prevail in the future. It is,however, a fact that a split has already begun and the Left counts on the North to carry it to the top.

The Christian Democratic Party traces its origin to the neo-Catholic movement of the early years of the present century. After the war of 1915-18 Don Sturzo translated it from the philosophic plane to the political-economic one, founding the Italian Popular Party. As invariably happens in the development of Centre parties, a dualism between the conservative and the progressive revolutionary trends has been apparent from the beginning.

The general terms of the present conflict may be summarised as follows:

(a) The Left-wing (the progressive re olutionary element urged on by Miglioli - now Farinacci's prisoner - and eventually producing the Left Christian Party) wishes the Party to cut loose from its confessional ties and be independent of official Va ican policy.

The Right Wing (the conservative trends which had withdrawn under the protection of the Vatican, and the so-called "parties of order" which agreed to work with Mussolini and accept office under him), although disclaiming any such intentions, wishes to remain the secular instrument of the Holy See in the sphere of Italian politics.

(b) The Left Wing wants the Party to declare now for a decision against

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(b) The Left Wing wants the Party to declare now for a decision against the Monarchy and in favour of a Republic taken by a Constituent Assembly and not by plebiscite

The Right Wing under cover of apparent indifference upholds the opposite view.

(c) The Left Wing have already adopted a policy of co-operation with the Socialist-Communist bloc, fearing that the latter parties will steal a march on them.

The Right Wing favours a policy of compromise and "wait and see" in regard to the Party's relations with the Socialist-Communist group.

At the moment the Right Wing represented by De Gasperi is in power and lays down the official policy of the Party. The weakness of the Right

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Wing resides, among other factors, precisely in the character of De Gasperi. As a political brain he is third-rate; as the spokesman for the official policy of the Vatican Foreign Office he is considered less clever than sly; within his own party circles he is known as "Alcide the Temporiser". Because ofhis close relations with the Holy See his stock stood high, especially during the underground period, with the chief members of the C.L.N.

The Left wing, on the other hand, enjoys the support of the young progressive forces of the party, and the greatest volume of support on which it can count is still under-Nazi-Fascist oppression.

The most disquieting feature of the dissension is the increasing movement ofthe more progressive Christian Democrats towards the Socialist-Communist coalition, which might lead to an open break and assure the victory of the latter. Togliatti is striving with all his might to bring about disagreements within the ranks ofthe Christian Democrats, and hasmany emissaries in the Left Christian Party.

AGRICULTURE

8 National Agricultural Conference

The first national agricultural conference since the Allies landed in Italy was held at the Ministry of Agriculture from 30th November to 3rd December. It was attended by the Compartmental Inspector of A.C., Italian experts in agriculture, forestry and fishing, and worked in three committees devoted to these topics. All A.C. agricultural officers were called to Rome to attend the proceedings. The basis for the work ofthe Conference was provided by a report produced by Allied and Italian experts estimating Italy's agricultural needs and production in 1945.

The opening address was pronounced by Fausto Gullo, Minister of Agriculture. Commodore Ellery Stone, Chief Commissioner of A.C., praised the Italian farmers for their good work in the face of tremendous difficulties and expressed his pleasure at the rapid recovery being made by Italian agriculture. Mr. Leland Allbaugh, Director of A.C.'s Agricultural Sub-Commission, spoke of the need for co-operative and democratic methods to increase production and speed distribution, and referred to A.C.'s consultative role. Dr. Gino Borgami, Under-Secretary for Agriculture, stressed the need to increase production and mentioned the pressing problems of livestock and fisheries.

The major recommendations of the conference included plans to increase production of cereals, dried legumes, potatoes, olive oil, fuelwood, charcoal, fish and game with the limited supplies available. Improvement in the controls on livestock slaghter, fish markets and motor schooner transfers, were also suggested. Methods of improving the status of the personnel involved in carrying out the recommendations were suggested through the provision of legal status to provincial and communal committees in agriculture, de-militarization and improved epuration procedures for the Forestry Corps and the provision of a budget for the re-organized Fisheries Division in the Ministry of Agriculture.

It was also decided to constitute a special committee to report on communal and provincial agricultural committees to the next national agricultural con-

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It was also decided to constitute a special committee to report on communal and provincial agricultural committees to the next national agricultural conference on 20th January, which will deal with the problems of land reclamation, livestock and prices. During the discussion of this proposal strong approval of the communal and provincial committees was expressed by several speakers and democratic election of their members by the farmers themselves was urged.

ARMED FORCES

9 Parade of Italian Troops in Rome

Units of the newly-formed Italian Army paraded for the first time in Rome on November 25th. Students and school boys took the morning off and people of all walks of life lined the streets. The crowd clapped rather soberly as the soldiers passed: there were shouts of "bene", "viva l'Italia", and women threw flowers. At one point some ragged little boys were requisitioned to throw pink communist leaflets into the vehicles. The soldiers caught some and grinned as they read them; those that fell to the ground were hastily gathered up by the little urchins and used again. Feelings were somewhat uncertain when the flag of Savoy appeared, but some middle-aged men on the

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steps of the church bared their heads as it passed. Outside the Porta del Popolo where the parade halted, crowds pressed round the vehicles and talked with the troops and members of the Italians Women's Union distributed cigarettes and sweets.

Remarks of the crowd varied. Some said that this was the only way to go to war, i.e. armed and equiped by the British. Others remarked rather bitterly that their own flesh and blood would be fighting under foreign emblems, and a young workman said that it was a sorry sight to see Italian soldiers in British tin hats.

The troops wore British battledress, and were well shod. They carried used British arms and equipment, and their trucks, armour and 16 and 25 pounders showed evidence of wear. They looked in good health and spirits.

An Italian Captain told a P.W.B. officer that the troops were mostly men from the North, and that their food was good. The troops themselves said their food was bad. They were glad to fight for their country, but did not like wearing British uniform or the British tin hats, which, they said were uncomfortable and too soft to give much protection - Italian helmets, they said, were far superior.

On December 1st the second parade took place. Again crowds of students were about, this time streaming down the Corso to Piazza Venezia protesting that they wanted four school hours a day instead of five. They faded into the larger crowds when the Italian troops came along. The crowd, smaller than at the first parade, was on the whole quiet and thoughtful: light waves of applause spread intermittently among the onlookers. The band played "Piave" continually. An elderly white-haired woman in anxious tears waved her handkerchief at the passing infantry.

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10 This Week in Tuscany

Mr. Eden's declaration about Conte Sforza has aroused a great deal of adverse comment. The majority of people consider that the British are trying to dominate the Italian political scene and to interfere unduly in the interests of their own national policy. Some of the Monarchists consider that Mr. Eden's remarks were perfectly justifiable in a country threatened with anarchy. Moreover, they declare that Count Sforza made many promises to the Allies which he did not attempt to carry out when he reached Italy. This recent crisis, it is claimed, adds to the discontent created by the appointment of Paterno as Prefect and the belief that the Allies are, in the main, opposed to the Committee of National Liberation here and elsewhere. In Florence itself there is one new development. The tendency is now to separate the attitude of the British Government and the attitude of the British people who are believed to be friendly to Italy. This is due partly to the correspondence that there has been in certain London newspapers requesting greater liberty for Italian prisoners of war and also the fact that Mr. Eden's declaration was criticized in the House of Commons.

The new regulations concerning the movement of civilians, which were issued last week, have left most people frankly confused. Many Florentines declare that they do not understand them. At the same time there is some complaint that Italians who have friends in the Allied armies are getting preferential treatment when they apply for permits and that these permits are given by people who have no right to do so, whilst the authorized office adheres strictly to regulations. Comments are still being made about the lack of discipline being shown by irresponsible people, and many Italians would like to see Allied authority enforced more strictly.

In the meantime the population of Florence is suffering from the acute shortage of fuel, not only for heating, but also for cooking. Wood, which is most difficult to obtain, costs some 400 lire a quintal as opposed to the controlled price of 65 lire per quintal; charcoal which used to be very cheap, now costs anything from 25-40 lire a kilo. Gas is not yet obtainable and electric heaters can no longer be used.

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11 Weekly Political Review - Naples

The Italian Government crisis is being closely followed by political circles, but with apparent indifference by the general public.

The fact can be explained by the sorry economic conditions in which the majority of the Italian people finds itself. In truth the former Government crises at Brindisi and Salerno seemed to have been followed more closely by the Neapolitans. The present apathy can be explained by the fact that most of the members of political parties do not take an active part in the life of their own parties because of the more urgent problems of livelihood that are well-known to beset all Italians and also because of the delusion caused in many by the party politics of the men in the Government. The crisis is, therefore, regarded with less interest because it appears to be more a matter of form than principle. A new Government, whether of greater Left or Right tendencies, could still do little to solve the most urgent problems which can only be solved after the war.

In political circles, the situation is closely followed, no less by the Left Parties who are very guarded in their pronouncements than by the Right Parties who are less reserved in giving their opinion. When a "comrade" asks the Communist leaders for explanations, the stock answer is given - "Togliatti knows what he is doing." In Demo-Christian circles on the other hand, the crisis has aroused much discussion. A very strong current of opinion in the Party leans to a more Right Wing government, while a minority asks for a more Left Wing policy. This party is one of the few where there is free discussion and where you can find an influential member criticising the policy of the head of the party.

In Monarchist circles here, the crisis is causing some anxiety because, if Bonomi, who was nominated by the Lieutenant of the Realm, remains as premier, the Monarchy would indirectly feel a certain moral encouragement, whereas if the charge of forming a new government were given to a nominee of the National Committee of Liberation, the Lieutenant of the Realm and the Monarchy would lose prestige.

12 Government Crisis and Eden Statement - Reaction in Sardinia

The long government crisis has had very little effect in Sardinia. It can even be said that the news from Rome has not nullified the feeling of optimism which followed the announcement of the government measures in favour of Sardinia.

A renewal of xenophobe argument is evident following Mr. Eden's declaration with regard to Count Sforza, even among those who do not interest themselves much with politics. It has given rise to the exhumation of anti-English political arguments dear to the mussolinian propagandists. People who have always expressed anti-bolshevick ideas are speaking in favour of Russia. There is a desire for national clarification and a fear that the democracies will

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Among the island's intellectuals Eden's declaration has been received with surprise and disillusionment and they are afraid that involontary support will be given to the fascist elements which the new Italy was slowly eliminating.

Among the working classes the question is seen in a very simple light, that is as an issue between the Right and the Left, Capital and Labour, between Monarchy and Republic, in which Sforza figures as the champion of the latter.

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13 Government Measures in Favour of Sardinia
Ing. Salvatore Sale Addresses the Sard Action Party of Sassari

This week there was a reunion of the Sard Action Party of Sassari. The greater part of the reunion was taken up by the report that Ing. Salvatore Sale made on the preparatory work on the measures which will be taken by the Government in favour of Sardinia.

The speaker gave details on his activity as representative of the party in the Regional Council. He spoke of the sheep production and of the possibility of sending 200,000 lambs to continental Italy: of the formation in Cagliari of a Compensation Chamber to balance buying and selling in relation to the different purchasing power of money: of the need for the party to come to a decision concerning the question of controlled or free trade, so that its representatives can be sure of expressing the will of the majority.

Ing. Sale went on to speak of numerous meetings in Rome with members of the Government and Sard personalities. He read and commented on a report presented to the Council of Ministers by General Pinna as well as the text of the measures advocated. The audience was pleased to hear of the creation of a Sard Budget.

Referring to the ministerial crisis it was pointed out that the consent of all the political parties and well known personalities had been obtained in drawing up the regulations and it is certain that they will be adopted, whatever the new Government.

14 Movement on Account of the Economic Situation - Catania, Sicily

The so-called "white strike" or boycott of the normal work of the office continues in some ofthe fiscal offices of the Province (Agenzia delle Imposte di Catania) on the part of the office personnel. This is true in spite of the appeal made by the Prefect to the persons concerned when they were threatening to hold public demonstrations against the Government and the Allies.

The motives for their action are economic in character, but they are adding others which are political in order to keep the support of the mass of white collar workers. The economic motives resolve themselves into two main ideas:

(a) The impossibility of finding essential goods on the market at a fair price.

(b) The state of economic difficulty in which the employees find themselves because of the inadequate salary increases they have received. They openly blame the Allies for having prevented the Italian Government from increasing their wages sufficiently.

[illegible] the moderate action among the employed personnel

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14 Movement on Account of the Economic Situation - Catania, Sicily

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The motives for their action are economic in character, but they are adding others which are political in order to keep the support of the mass of white collar workers. The economic motives reduce themselves into two main ideas:

(a) The impossibility of finding essential goods on the market at a fair price.

(b) The state of economic difficulty in which the employees find themselves because of the inadequate salary increases they have received. They openly blame the Allies for having prevented the Italian Government from increasing their wages sufficiently.

However, notwithstanding the moderate action among the employed personnel of the various public offices which have been influenced by a few persons interested in order and good sense, later developments must be expected. This may be affected by political manoeuvres by those of icials who still have opinions identical with those of the fascist regime.

In a conversation held with Sig. Intendente di Finanza di Catania, he showed his disapproval of the behaviour of certain persons who are carrying on propaganda among theoffice workers in order to excite them. It is being said that the Allies are secretly supporting separatism in Sicily. This propaganda continues in spite of the official statements of denial issued by the American and British governments.

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RECONSTRUCTION

15 Re-Housing

The "Quotidiano" of 2nd December publishes the text of a decree of the Ministry of public Works dealing with repairs to houses to provide shelter for homeless persons, calling it a "first step on the way to rehousing the more urgent cases".

In this connection the following extract from the Routine Report of 276 F.S. Sec. for the period 20-26 November is of interest. The information is said to come from a well-informed contact.

"The present contracting system by which the reconstructional work is being proportioned is little short of ludicrous and a further incitement to corruption if any were needed. An example of this was the allotment of the contract for huts ents for refugees and displaced persons in the Rome area by the Ministry of Public Works. Contracts were invited from about 20 irms, by an official communication in the newspapers, for the construction of sixty million lires worth of small buildings, at an average price of 6000 lire per sq. metre. Only 88 firms tendered estimates which varied between 2960 lire per sq. metre and 13,000 lire per sq. metre. This in itself is an indication that the data and technical information supplied to tendering firms was so hopelessly incompetent as to allow such wide variations in interpretation. The whole contract was finally allotted to a firm which offered to do the work for 2950 lire a sq. metre and it is extremely improbable that this firm will be able to do the work satisfactorily at the price. The contract will be fulfilled but only as a result of corruption of technical inspectors and engineers and the resulting buildings may be expected to be classic examples of jerry building. It would seem elementary to have selected a number of reasonably reliable firms and split up such a large contract among them."

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PRESS AND PROPAGANDA

16. Reception of PWB Publications

People in general have expressed pleasure at the arrival of the new issue of IL RESE. The one-volume edition of the first six issues of this publication, has arrived, but since a sufficient number of copies is not at hand, it has been decided to hold off the actual sale of the book. It will sell at about 50 lire.

The new issue of IL MONDO LIBERO has also just arrived but it is not liked so well. The complaint is that it does not have enough articles. There are too many pictures in it, and some of these are reprints from other issues. Specific pictures will be mentioned in a later report. Again complaints have been received concerning the format of this publication which changes from time to time. Articles about notable American personalities not known to Italians would be welcome.

VICTORY is still eagerly awaited because it is the publication most liked. The last issue to be sold to Italians is that of September. It is also hoped that back issues, especially No. 1 and No. 2, will be on sale.

The public desires that publications in the English language be put on sale; especially requested are LIFE and TIME. An artist met in one of the propaganda shops said;" We need to know what has happened in the world during the 22 years we were under the fascist yoke."

UNION JACK and STARS AND STRIPES are very often requested in the propaganda shops. "The more new publications we have, the better, because new publications help the sale of others," said the director of one of the shops.

EDUCAZIONE ALLA MORTE is very well liked by the public. A number of persons questioned on whether they would like to know more about the youth movements in England and in the United State, said they would be very happy indeed to know what is being done for the youth of other countries.

17. DEMOCRAZIA INTERNAZIONALE, A New Periodical.

The first public issue of DEMOCRAZIA INTERNAZIONALE appeared in Rome on 5 December. It is edited by Federico Valenzani and Giulio Cenci and the administrative director is Peppino Pampiglione.

The previous issues of this paper were clandestine numbers pub-

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The previous issues of this paper were clandestine numbers published during the German occupation. The present publishers have made numerous requests during the past four months for permission to resume publication of their paper.

The policy of the DEMOCRAZIA INTERNAZIONALE is described as being anti-nationalistic and international. In the number now issued, two columns furnished by PWB are included, "Democracy in a Simpler Form", and "What is the Economic Policy of the United States." There is also a small column in English on the "Political Situation in Italy"

Eager to prove the consistency of his ideas, Signor Valenzani

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publishes in the present issue of the paper an article which he wrote in 1922. Always an anti-fascist, he lived in France for many years, during which time he wrote several books in French.

18 Constant Lambert at the Argentina

The long awaited concert (under the auspices of Radio Roma) conducted by Constant Lambert was given at the Argentina Theatre on 26 November and repeated on the 27th. A very large audience gave Mr. Lambert a great reception. The suite from his own ballet "Horoscope" earned particularly warm applause. Press criticism was unanimously favorable.

19. "George and Margaret" at the Astra Theatre.

This unpretentious comedy of English middle-class life was a great success in its Italian version at the newly-opened Astra (formerly Teatro Emanuele). Although some of the humor of the original is lost on an Italian audience, a packed house was very generous with its applause. The acting was excellent, and the press generally good.

20. American and Russian Films

Giuliano Ferrieri, writing in the cinema weekly "Star" expresses the disappointment of the Italian public in the films so far sent to Italy from America. The explanation, according to the writer, is not that American films are not good enough, but that good American films are too dear for Italian exhibitors. Five thousand dollars may not seem much to an American producer, but to an Italian exhibitor it means five hundred thousand lire, a price few are prepared to pay.

On the contrary Russian films are supplied absolutely gratis on application to the Soviet Embassy. The U.S.S.R. subscribes to no international agreement on performing rights and does not even protect the work of its nationals abroad -- an indication of its evaluation of the international character of art.

In conclusion the writer suggests that Britain and America might reduce their terms, even to the extent of showing films at a loss in Italy.

21. In Florence

a) Russian Film Draws Large Audiences - The presentation of "The Battle for the Ukraine" now showing at the Gambrinus Cinema has gratified the desire for Russian films. Preceded by a documentary of the [illegible] in 1940, the film illustrates the in-

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b) Propaganda Shop - This continues to be much appreciated and is doing valuable work. There is however some disappointment that fresh material does not arrive more frequently and in greater quantities. People state that they go there frequently and find nothing new. Regret is also expressed that as the hours when the shop is open (9-12 and 15-17) fall within normal shop and office hours, large

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numbers are debarred from visiting it. It is asked whether it would be possible to keep it open during the midday hours, at least three or four times a week. (B-2)

c) Simplicity and Geniality of British Forces Extolled - An Italian; employed in the decoration of a Rest Centre for Allied troops near Florence, expressed the wondering admiration felt by himself and his colleagues when General Alexander lately visited the premises. Accustomed to the spectacular arrival of Mussolini surrounded by self-important and obsequious dignitaries and received by rigidly marshalled troops and personnel, they saw General Alexander arrive quietly and unceremoniously with two or three officers and make his inspection, welcomed by all but disturbing no one, not even the soldiers in the reading room. All the Italians present, he reported, expressed their hope that Italy might learn this simplicity and ease from the Allies. (from an Italian source, B-2)

d) Col. Stevens' Broadcasts - Appreciation of Col.Stevens' broadcasts and gratitude for the information and encouragement they brought to Italian patricts during the war years is expressed in an "open letter' in the CORRIERE DEL MATTINO of Tuesday, 29 November. In this letter it is proposed to make a collection and offer him a medal. Although the tone of the letter is slightly humorous it reflects the feeling which the majority of Italians have for this celebrated British Radio Commentator. Since 1940 the Colonel's name has been on everyone's lips in Italian circles. To listen to his amiable and admonishing words became a cherished habit, continued even today. The fascist government organized a regular campaign of calumny and jibes against him but it had no effect on public opinion. Col. Stevens' talks were undoubtedly the first lessons in democracy in agreeable form, given to Italians. They contributed not a little to create a vast current of sympathy for the Allies. In discussions the Colonel's benevolent tone was often compared with the virulent speeches of the fascists such as Ansaldo and Appellius (inventor of the famous phrase "Dio stramaledica gli Inglesi" - "God super-curse the English!") (from an Italian source.)

22. In Naples

a) La Voce del Fesso (the Fool's Voice) - This unauthorized paper (? weekly) is published by a very popular journalist, Michele Parisi. Fully 50,000 copies have been sold, and comments by the public have been extensive and favorable. This paper, now in its third issue,

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b) La Fiaccola (the Torch) - On 26 November, the first number of La Fiaccola, the new organ of the Revolutionary Socialist Party, and successor to "Bandiera Rossa", came out duly authorized by PWB. In actual fact, PWB had authorized paper for only 10,000 copies, but there was such a demand for the second number, issued 4 December, that 25,000 copies were sold, some of them at inflated prices.

The great attraction of the paper for Neapolitans is the indiscriminate attacks which it makes on all and sundry: personalities, public institutions, etc. It appears that various daring articles of

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the second number have caused some apprehension in the offices of the Genio Civile (Civil Engineers), the Pubblica Sicurezza (Police), and also in the Royal Academy of Sciences.

Popular opinion seems to be that this is the only paper which speaks the truth about anyone in plain language, but the Allies authorities will not allow the established authorities to be excessively criticized and it is foreseen that the "Fiaccola" will eventually suspend publication. It is said that the attacks of the paper are so many and so vigorous because the edictors are in possession of numerous secret files on personalities, institutions, and so on, which they acquired no one knows how. (B-2)

24 In Taranto

"Educazione alla Morte" by Grego Ziener seems to a Taranto reviewer most interesting and a complete exposé of the nazi methods of education, but he wonders if the Italian people are able to understand it with their scant knowledge of the truth of nazism. He feels they are still intoxicated by a false elation from fascist propaganda, but that the use of this book in Italian high schools might educate them. Literarily it is clearly written, and the material has been carefully and intelligently collected, and he would like if possible to see parts of it published in the press. He also notes that the book is not known in the Province of Salento. (B-2)

C U L T U R A L

24 The Circolo del Ritrovo

A new artistic and intellectual club of some size and importance was inaugurated in Rome at the Palazzo del Drago, Via Quatro Fontane, on 2 December. It is called Il Circolo del Ritrovo. Its aim, according to its founders, is to bring together the large numbers of intellectuals who have no meeting place at present in Rome, to provide some facilities for reading and discussion, and also to promote a cultural interchange between Italians and Allies.

For the opening of the club there was an exhibition of mosaics by Galassi, of ceramics by Leoncillo and of bronze work by Mirko. Some of the Galassi mosaics were especially well worth seeing.

Amongst the large and varied concourse of persons present at the opening were most of the founders of the club. Politics were represented by, amongst other, Sig. Mario Palermo, tall, thin and gestic-

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The President of the Circolo is Princess Bassiano, with Count Umberto Morra as Vice-President. Amongst the "Soci Fondatori" are the following: Marchesa Visconti Venosta, Elena Craveri, Elena Giolitti; Pietro Paolo Trompeo, the critic; Prof. Carlo Antoni; Enrico Galassi, the architect; Gino Severini, the painter; Alberto Moravia; Dr. Perotti, the psychologist; Alessandro Manasseri, attaché to the Italian representative in London; Contessa Carandini; Prince Filippo Caracciolo; Piccardi, the former Minister; Fedele D'Amico, Editor of

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the"Voce Operaia", organ of the Christians of the Left; Mirko, the painter; Vittorio Gabrieli, the young critic; Princess Boncompagni-Ludovisi; Paolo Solari, the economist. The fondatori members are of very different political points of view. There is also an Allied Advisory Committee to deal with Allied membership.

The dynamic spirit behind the organization of the Circolo has been Elena Craveri, the eldest daughter of Benedetto Croce, on whom its birth very largely depended. Elena Craveri explained privately that there are several problems still to be overcome. One of the greatest difficulties lay in getting into touch with Allied officers who would probably be interested if they knew of the existence of the Circolo. Another was to get hold of Allied periodicals or other literature, which at present are utterly unobtainable in Rome. Large numbers of enthusiastically pro-Allied Italians are anxious to see English and American newspapers and books but feel at present cut off from information about the outside world. Amongst the members of the club the majority can read English and much prefer English originals to translations imported from England or the U.S.

25 Recovery of Caravaggio's "Susannah and the Elders"

One of the many masterpieces of Italian art looted by the Germans -- in this case from the monastery of Monte Cassino -- has turned up in Rome, in the studio of an artist who was trying to sell it. It was stated to have been given to an Italian musician by a German officer as the price of a concert.

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX I No. 46

REPORT ON VITERBO

Viterbo, a town of some 38,000 inhabitants, is the center of Viterbo Province. It lies on the highway to Florence, about 80 km. north of Rome, in the midst of a rich wheat, olive and wine growing farming district. It is an old town, picturesque, full of shrines and historical buildings, bearing the stamp of an old culture. Nearby are mineral springs, known for centuries for their therapeutic values. Local industries include pasta manufacturing, oil pressing, wineries, a ceramics factory, metal foundries, and many other small industries.

Viterbo Province has a population of about a quarter million, at present increased by some 20,000 refugees from Naples, Civitavecchia and Toscana. The population makes its living mostly from farming and small industry based chiefly on local raw materials.

5 km. outside the city of Viterbo the Luftwaffe maintained an important airfield. The city itself is an important communications link between north and south. From the end of July 1943 to July 5, 1944 Viterbo suffered 15 major bombardments. About 1000 civilians were killed, 4 to 5 hundred seriously and some 800 lightly wounded, even though all but 6,000 citizens had left the town after the first heavy bombardment. Six Hundred houses were completely destroyed; 300 were severely damaged, and about 1500 suffered light damage. Of the latter about 300 have already been repaired; another 500 could be put to use within a matter of a few weeks if 250,000 roofing tiles could be made available. On 31 July, 1944, the provincial engineering department, Ing. Muritano, Francesco, assistant city engineer, estimated that the cost of repairing and rebuilding these structures would come to about 370 million lires. The repair of public buildings, schools, churches, etc., would add another 150 million lire.

40% of the city is still uninhabitable, which means that some 15,000 are without homes. Of these 8000 live in the country, 5000 have found shelter in the city, and about 2000 now living in makeshift quarters in the city, still have to be adequately housed. Theoretically at least if the above mentioned 500 houses were repaired, the most urgent housing needs could be met. The necessary roofing tiles have been set aside for the Viterbo genio civile at the tile works at Sinalunga, but have not yet been delivered. 50,000 tiles have been delivered. Of these 12,000 had to be used to repair the grain elevator of the Consorzio Agrario. A local brick oven is producing some 3000 tiles a week now, but it is hoped to step up that production.

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There has not been enough to eat since July 1943. The provincial physician (Dr. Giuseppe Gabriele, Medico Provinciale) estimates that about one-third of all children are undernourished. Symptoms are chiefly pallor and glandular disturbances. Infant mortality, he thinks, is 20% above normal. Allied medical supplies have been of great help, especially the packages supplied for newborn babies and their mothers, though more are needed. Bombing in June 1944 broke the sewer system resulting in a typhus epidemic. 200 cases were reported, of which 24 resulted in death. The outbreak was controlled by vaccination (vac-

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cines supplied by the Istituto Vaccinocino Toscana and the Ist. Sup. di Vacc. Roma), repair of the sewer, and disinfection of the water system. Even during the worst bombings, the city's five physicians remained, and so did the midwives. The present lack of soap is responsible for the prevalence of scabies and other skin troubles. Insufficient clothing and primitive, damp shelters are causing rheumatism and respiratory diseases. These difficulties are expected to be a serious threat to community health during the winter. At present school luncheons and a community soup kitchen are helping somewhat to ease the food situation. However, the children do not "take" to the thin soups made from dehydrated vegetables. Many grown-ups still seem to hesitate to avail themselves of the soup, sold at a nominal price or given free to the needy; but the soup kitchens are only a few days old.

The school system of the province of Viterbo was described by the Provveditore degli Studi, Mr. Antonio Marzulo, as follows (the facts were corroborated by Major E.H. Clarkson of the Viterbo AMG, and to some extent by personal inspection):

The 58 communities of the province have 70 elementary schools with some 711 classes, comprising about 25,000 pupils. 2000 additional children normally receive higher education in 9 institutions which include one gimnasio, 2 technical schools, 3 artisan training schools and 3 magistral institutes. In addition the Province boasted 69 kindergartens. Not only were about 20% of all school buildings of the province destroyed, but a good number of those not destroyed had to be used to house refugees, most of whom could not yet be moved.

As of November 30, 1944, 46 elementary schools were open and functioning fully; 12 were open but functioned only in part, because of refugees and war damage; 13 were still closed. Of the latter, 5 were occupied by refugees; 2 were occupied by troops; the rest were damaged and partly occupied by refugees. But even though only 2/3 of all schools were functioning fully, more than 8 out of 10 children were going to school. This accomplishment is a great credit to Mr. Marzulo, the various communities concerned, the religious institutions of the province, and to the responsible officers of AMG.

Viterbo city had 2 elementary schools. One, an old monastery, was half bombed out; the other half is now occupied by refugees. The other school which formerly housed 24 classes now contains not only elementary but high school classes, and 6 of its 24 rooms are used by the Provincial Finance Administration. Elementary school is taught [illegible] of the Sisters of Beata Angelica, the Sisters

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tism and respiratory diseases. These difficulties are expected to be a serious threat to community health during the winter. At present school luncheons and a community soup kitchen are helping somewhat to ease the food situation. However, the children do not "take" to the thin soups made from dehydrated vegetables. Many grown-ups still seem to hesitate to avail themselves of the soup, sold at a nominal price or given free to the needy; but the soup kitchens are only a few days old.

The school system of the province of Viterbo was described by the Provèdittore degli Studi, Mr. Antonio Marzulo, as follows (the facts were corroborated by Major E.H. Clarkson of the Viterbo AMG, and to some extent by personal inspection):

The 58 communities of the province have 70 elementary schools with some 711 classes, comprising about 25,000 pupils. 2000 additional children normally receive higher education in 9 institutions which include one gimnasio, 2 technical schools, 3 artisan training schools and 3 magistral institutes. In addition the Province boasted 69 kindergartens. Not only were about 20% of all school buildings of the province destroyed, but a good number of those not destroyed had to be used to house refugees, most of whom could not yet be moved.

As of November 30, 1944, 46 elementary schools were open and functioning fully; 12 were open but functioned only in part, because of refugees and war damage; 13 were still closed. Of the latter, 5 were occupied by refugees; 2 were occupied by troops; the rest were damaged and partly occupied by refugees. But even though only 2/3 of all schools were functioning fully, more than 8 out of 10 children were going to school. This accomplishment is a great credit to Mr. Marzulo, the various communities concerned, the religious institutions of the province, and to the responsible officers of AMG.

Viterbo city had 2 elementary schools. One, an old monastery, was half bombed out; the other half is now occupied by refugees. The other school which formerly housed 24 classes now contains not only elementary but high school classes, and 6 of its 24 rooms are used by the Provincial Finance Administration. Elementary school is taught also in the buildings of the Sisters of Beata Angelica, the Sisters of S. Giovanni, the Sisters of Buon Pastore, Padre Giuseppe, and the Brothers of S. Filippo Neri.

In Soriano, the large beautiful elementary school building was used by the Luftwaffe as a supply depot. On leaving in a hurry, the Nazis destroyed it. School is now being held in a large private house (20 classes), in a privately owned club building, and one class is being held right in the [illegible] home.

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The elementary school of Montefiascone was so badly damaged that it cannot soon be repaired. Meanwhile classes are held in the building of the Suore Filippine who had formerly instructed girls only. Now the girls have classes in the morning, the boys in the afternoon.

In Bolsena the monks used to teach only boys; now girls are instructed in the afternoon.

In Oriolo elementary school is taught in the town hall. In Vetralla and Vignanello high school is held in the municipal buildings; in Basagnello a privately owned castle serves as school house. In Sutri, the Bishop has made available the rooms of the Seminario for newly organized high school classes by sending his own students to Nepi. In Nepi the Frati Serviti have furnished space for the high school students. New high school classes have also been organized in Vignanello, Basagnello and Vetralla for those students who formerly attended school in Viterbo.

In contrast to fascist practice, the principle followed was that the teacher was to follow the children to their new, even if temporary homes. Not that these adjustments were possible without overcoming difficulties. Many teachers refused to move to new locations where no housing could be made available. A number of teachers even stayed in their Rome refuges. When the school superintendent instructed them to return, or to show good reason for the continued payment of their salaries, they tried to have him removed on the charge of being a fascist.

The necessary textbooks are available in only one out of every five towns on the average. Where books are available, they are being shared. In other places, the teacher dictates the lesson or writes it on the blackboard. In some places the children go to the teacher's home to study. The Province last semester received 2000 textbooks from the Allies for its 25000 elementary school children.

The overthrow of fascism has made little impression on the average child. Fascism was never taught by the regular elementary school teachers, but spread by specialists who visited the schools. Thus fascism was always something "foreign" and not absorbed by the children. Out of 720 elementary school teachers 21 were epuratdd; also one high school professor out of a total of 130; 6 directors of elementary schools out of 71; and 2 high school directors out of 9.

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The ECONOMIC SITUATION of the province is well characterized by the fact that not only is there no unemployment, but on the contrary need for skilled labor. Only recently some 400 expert charcoal burners were brought from near Naples. In the past 4 months the province has supplied Rome with 10,000 tons of charcoal. This charcoal has gone where it was most needed, to kitchens, bakeries, hospitals, etc. The Vatican soup kitchens have been fed with firewood from Viterbo. Livestock has been supplied to other provinces for restocking purposes. Substantial additional amounts of sheep cheese and salt pork could be produced if the necessary salt were available. The ceramics works are producing urgently needed china ware. More details on these and other industrial activities are to be obtained from another visit. At pres-

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ent the olive oil harvest is in progress. The growers and pressers of the Province seem to be cooperating in the government-sponsored program, though the price paid is not considered attractive. Twice the estimated amount of oil is however expected to be collected.

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

Unfavorable Factors - Town and Province of Viterbo have suffered considerable war damage, especially from bombing. When liberation came, it arrived in the persons of French native troops who came not as liberators but as victors. Many outrages (24 cases of rape, for instance) were committed by French soldiers wearing American uniforms. When Americans took over, they had to overcome considerable distrust. The people of the province are not given to cooperative action. Nevertheless they have helped each other by sharing housing and clothing. But they had to be pushed fairly hard sometimes to cooperate in the reopening of schools, and doing other things for the common good.

At the moment the low salaries of state employees present a grave problem. For instance, a man charged with maintaining Italian and Allied laws and regulations cannot live and feed his family on the 2,200 lire he earns monthly. So he is forced to seek an income on the side; and the only way to find it is either by granting favors, or carrying on black market operations. Graft and corruption cannot easily be eliminated without first supplying an economic basis on which honesty can exist.

Allied trucks are alleged to be buying up wine and meat direct from the farmers; they not only interfere with the food supply to the local population but they also set poor examples with regard to the black market. The farmer won't bring his products to market if he can sell at a higher price direct to Allies without any risk or trouble of transportation.

Favorable Factors - The provincial Allied Military Government, under Captain W.F.Phillips, is setting a splendid example of efficienty, sincere interest in the welfare of the people, and practical approach to many problems facing it. It has succeeded in establishing an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence not only by such human touches as giving a weekly dance to the town folks, but by going out of its way to secure essential parts and materials to get local industry going. For instance, the oil presses could not have functioned without the necessary washers; AMG got them. Glass was needed to repair the hospital; somehow AMG helped get it. The restoration of salt manufac-

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A recent meeting of olive growers and pressers, called jointly by the Prefedt and the Allied Commissioner, was typical of the manner in which problems are discussed, difficulties avoided. The procedure of and reasons for the laws and ordinances relating to oliv oil pressing and collection were explainted to 4 - 500 people present at that meeting.

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The professional police officer attached to AMG has tried to maintain honesty and integrity among the provincial police. The officer in charge of education has given full support to the provincial school superintendent chiefly responsible for the good record mentioned above.

Viterbo Province's rapid recovery is, however, due not only to competent administration, but to a basically sound economy. Not only were the Nazis forced to retire too quickly to destroy all the existing industrial establishments, but those industries are small, dispersed, and they do not depend on the importation of raw materials from other parts of the country, or from abroad. The nearness to Rome assures provincial products of a ready market. Most of the sheep and pigs could be saved; the olive oil crop is better than in many years; wine and chestnuts yielded good returns. At this time more wood is cut in local forests than a sound forestry program would justify in normal times, but the cutting is held to limits which are believed not to endanger the continued existence of the forests themselves.

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX II No. 46

REPORT ON AREZZO

1) ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

THE PREFECT, Colonel Guidotti Mori, was appointed by the Allied Government, despite some opposition on the part of the C.L.N. He belongs to one of the richest families of the district and was the first Fascist Podestà of the city. At the beginning of the year he was Food Controller and was arrested by the Fascists for having authorized the distribution of a reserve stock of biscuits which was being held for an emergency. Suggestions have been made by some Italians that this distribution was not purely disinterested, and that the Prefect was able to gain a reputation as a martyr without financial loss to himself. At present he is reported doing his best to satisfy the population, although he is said twice to have offered his resignation. In any case the Prefect is reported to be working in harmony with the C.L.N.

The SINDACO, Signor Curina (Party of Action) is reported to be kindly, energetic and very popular with the people. During the German occupation he was President of the C.L.N. and one of the chief organizers of patriot activities.

THE COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION has representatives of the Communists, Socialists and Demo-Christians. The Democracy of Labor does not exist in Arezzo, but has some members in the provinces. The Sindaco of Cortona, who is President of the C.L.N., is a member of the party. Besides the representatives of the party, the Partisans have two members on the Committee, both of whom are said to be without political tendencies.

The relations of the C.L.N. with the other Italian organizations are excellent. Every Tuesday the Committee has a meeting with the Prefect, the Sindaco and the representatives of the Administrations of the town to discuss various problems. The C.L.N. of Arezzo deplores the attitude of the C.L.N. of Florence, on the grounds that it acts without consulting the other Tuscan Committees. The relations of the C.L.N. with the Allies are said to be not quite so cordial, as the Civil Affairs Administration is believed to consider that the Committee is now superfluous.

THE PRESIDENT, the Hon. Mascagni (Socialist), is reported to be popular and a very sound man.

2) POLITICAL PARTIES

In Arezzo at the present moment there appear to be no Christian Socialists, Republicans or Anarchists.

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THE LIBERALS are said to have about 50 members. Their leaders are aristocrats such as Marchese Albergotti, Count Frassineto, Marchese Barbolani. The Liberals are accused by the other parties of being ex-Fascists.

THE COMMUNISTS have about 1000 members, of whom about 400 are women. Although moderate in theory they are accused of being extremist in practice by the other parties. They are reported to have ample means which allow them to do a good deal of propaganda in the countryside.

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The DEMO-CHRISTIANS have about 500 members, mainly intellectuals and members of the middle class. In Arezzo they have opposed the Communists.

SOCIALISTS in Arezzo are said to have from 3-400 members. They do not appear to be reedy to collaborate with the Communists.

THE PARTY OF ACTION has rather less than 100 members, but is fairly well represented in the various labour organizations.

3) EPURATION

The Provincial Commissioner for Epuration is Avv. Severi. Epuration has scarcely begun, though a few officials in government offices have been suspended. Most of the leading Fascists have left the city and consequently it is impossible to take proceedings against them. The people of Arezzo are indifferent to epuration as there were few fascist atrocities in the city.

4) MONARCHIST AND REPUBLICAN TENDENCIES

The people of Arezzo are hostile to the House of Savoy rather than to monarchy as a political system. Most of them consider that the king and his son are largely responsible for the present condition in Italy. There would appear to be no republican organizations in the town. The aversion of the population towards the present king is shown by their dislike for the Carabinieri, whom they consider to be representatives of the Crown.

5) THE ITALIAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Quite recently two young women formed an association called Unione Donne Italiane, at whose headquarters there are courses in typing, dressmaking and other professional instruction. Although this league claims to be without political tendencies, suggestions have been made that the U.D.I. is backed by the Communists.

6) THE YOUTH MOVEMENT

The Fronte della Gioventù is considered to be under the aegis of the Communists, hence it has been banned by the Demo-Christians. The football team of this organization has the red star as a badge. The activities of the Fronte della Gioventù include sports, amateur dramatics and debates.

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7) PATRIOTS

The chief patrict organization of the Province was the 23rd Garibaldi Brigade commanded by Capt. Sirio Rossetti. Apparently it had no Communist tendencies. When the town was liberated, with the help of the patricts, Rossetti induced 250 of his men to enlist in the Italian army. Within a very short time most of them returned to Arezzo, declaring themselves disgusted with the treatment they had received. They said they had been used to train recruits and had been ill-treated by officers and NCO's alike. As a consequence of this Rossetti went to Rome and obtained the release of his men from the Army.

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6) LABOUR PROBLEMS

The CAMERA DEL LAVORO has representatives of the Communists, Socialists and Demo-Christians. But the Communists alone have a paid representative. The Demo-Christians have had some difficulty in participating in this organization which is dominated by the Communists. In the local offices of the Province the Communists and Socialists only are represented.

The FACTORY COMMISSIONS have no great importance in Arezzo because there are no industries. There are Employees Commissions which function easily and without opposition from the Allies or the employers.

UNEMPLOYMENT is small at the present as the bulk of workers work for the Allies. Last month the Sindaco issued an order to all citizens between 16 and 60 to present themselves at the Provincial Labour Office for registration. Everyone unable to present a certificate of employment is compelled to work on the city's reconstruction. In order to avoid what they considered unjustifiable forced labour, many people procured forged employment certificates, so that unemployment statistics are rather hard to control.

WAGES generally speaking are considered to be far too low. Even with an increase of 70% they would be insufficient in relation to the present high cost of living. There are still municipal employees earning 300 lire a month, and few of the lower grade earn more than 700 lire a month. A graduate in local government employment does not earn more than 1700 lire a month and the Education Officer for the Province earns less than 4000 lire a month. The increases in wages that have been made have been the result of local agreements. Most people think that a general agreement would be preferable.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS in this essentially agricultural province are a problem of greatest importance with reference to wages for farmhands. The Demo-Christians are trying to form agricultural workers' unions before the Communists can intervene.

9) FOOD SITUATION

Here as elsewhere the food situation is linked up with the question of transport. Although Arezzo is a junction, the Province is so well supplied in normal times, that only sugar, salt, cheese and groceries had to be imported. Local production is sufficient for the present moment the food situation is con-

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TRANSPORT AVAILABLE in all is said to be about 33 lorries with a potential load of 1698 quintals. Owing to a shortage of tires and other factors, only about half that amount can be carried at one time.

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Assuming that the above figures are correct, only about 1/4 the daily needs of the town can be brought in of the 3600 quintals of food required daily to supply Arezzo.

SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS TO THE TRANSPORT PROBLEM - Since the Provinces of Siena and Perugia are said to be well provided with transport, it is suggested that 10 more lorries could be borrowed from these sources. Many of the lorries available are now stationary for want of spare parts; these could be obtained, it is believed, from Florence, and also by having access to some of the material left by the withdrawn German armies.

10) SILK INDUSTRY

25 years ago the production of the Province was over 500,000 quintals of cocoons, and even before the war it reached 200,000. Mulberry trees are plentiful, especially in the Casentino. The following problems are raised this year:

a) Whether there will be a sufficiency of eggs.
b) How to dry the cocoons.
c) How to work the spinning looms.

Since the centre of the silk industry is Milan, there may be great difficulties in inducing the population to continue production. It will be necessary to launch a campaign for the cultivation of the cocoons. Also the local silkproducers should meet in order to decide how to handle the present situation. Lastly a fair price should be fixed by the pools, which function like the grain and oil pools. This industry should be able to employ a great many people, especially women.

11) WOOL PRODUCTION

The chief wool producing centres of the Province are in the mountain districts which have suffered most from the war. The autumn shearing was rather late, owing to the fighting. In spite of this, the Minister of Agriculture has ordered that the wool should be handed into the pools. As the producers are short of clothes, owing to the war, the Ministry has allowed them to keep 2 kilos of wool per head, which of course diminishes the contribution to the pools. In a normal year the Province has a production of some hundred thousand kilos. and this year it will not be more than 7000 kg.

12) CATTLE AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

There is a great shortage of agricultural machinery, hence a pair

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12) CATTLE AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

There is a great shortage of agricultural machinery, hence a pair of oxen now costs about 180,000 lire, some ten times last year's price. The Val di Chiana was a centre for the production of beef; owing to the German depredations, the stock of the province has been reduced by 55%. If however the cattle are not slaughtered for the meat market, it is probable that this deficiency can be made up within a year.

The number of pigs is also considerably reduced, but if restraint is used, the stock should be made up again very quickly. The price of pork in Arezzo is L.400 a kilo, and it appears that this high price is due to purchases by Allied troops.

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13) PROBLEM OF FLOODS IN THE VAL DI CHIANA

Owing to the mining of bridges and the steady downpour of rain, the district to the south of the Val Di Chiana is flooded. Although the Allies have repaired or supplemented the bridges, they have not removed the ruins which hold up the water. In the floods of 2 November, thousands of acres of land were flooded and much sown seed was wasted.

14) PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES IN AREZZO

Supply of light and water is practically normal and it is hoped very shortly gas will be available. Train services between Arezzo and Rome have been re-established, but are reserved entirely for military purposes.

15) EDUCATION

Many of the schools in Arezzo Province are closed, because they have been damaged by bombardment or shelling. Of those that remained, 3/4 have been requisitioned by Allied troops, often without occupying them. At Foiano, for instance, the Elementary and Technical Schools, which are new and well equipped, are occupied by six or seven soldiers, who prevent the re-opening of the autumn session.

In Arezzo the central schools (grammar schools) are open on alternate days and its scholars have 12 hours tuition a week. In San Sepolcro only one of the central schools is open. In the Casentino practically all the schools have closed down. Restrictions on travel are an obstacle to the re-opening of schools. For instance, a schoolmaster of Leghorn, now resident in Arezzo, was ordered to return to work, not only by his Educational Officer, but also by the Senior Civil Affairs officer at Leghorn. In spite of this, he was not allowed to leave Arezzo. Also the Education officer for the Province of Arezzo, (Italian) has no car, hence it is impossible for him to reorganize education, send his inspectors on tour or even to displace his staff.

16) RELATIONS WITH ALLIED TROOPS

The people of Arezzo, who welcomed their liberators with enthusiasm, were somewhat disappointed to find that they had a 7 o'clock curfew. Since the population of this town is law-abiding and peaceful, this restriction is considered to be rather an insult.

[illegible] in obtaining permits to travel

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ber, thousands of acres of land were flooded and [illegible]
wasted.

14) PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES IN AREZZO

Supply of light and water is practically normal and it is hoped very shortly gas will be available. Train services between Arezzo and Rome have been re-established, but are reserved entirely for military purposes.

15) EDUCATION

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They complain about the difficulty in obtaining permits to travel in the district. As this province is exceptionally fertile, it should be possible to relieve food shortage without much difficulty. Agriculture has suffered greatly because of the number of mine which have not been removed; the peasants especially are asking for a rapid solution of this problem.

The last complaint is that many of the troops invite young women to their premises and induce them to drink....

Relations between individual soldiers and the people of Arezzo seem very friendly. The Polish troops especially are on the best of terms with the population, although they had been described by German

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(Passages marked with a line at the side are for information only.)

propaganda as fierce, dishonest and treacherous. The Poles too impressed the people by their piety. Most of the men in these detachments have been in the Siberian Internment Camps and are anti-Communist. They declare that the Lublin government is one of traitors and this war will not be finished until the Soviet dictatorship is overthrown. Another favorite theme is that the British are using them as Storm Troops and they boast their success at Cassino. The population, already prepared by fascist propaganda to believe the British always sacrifice troops of another country, are inclined to believe these statements.

17) ALLIED PROPAGANDA

Quite recently an Information Bureau has been opened under the auspices of the Army Educational Corps, in Piazza S. Francesco at Arezzo. The site is very central and the bureau has attracted a great deal of attention. Inside there is a display of reviews and newspapers in English, Polish, Hebrew and Italian and they hope soon to have a loudspeaker to broadcast the news. Italians complain that reviews such as the Mese and Victory, are not on sale; in fact there is a demand for propaganda literature of all kinds.

Of the Cinemas, one was destroyed by bombardment, and 2 have been requisitioned for Allied troops. The Supercinema is open only Sundays, for Italians. In spite of high prices (25 and 15 lire) it is always full, and newsreels and films are appreciated.

Now that electricity is available many people can listen to the radio. On they whole they prefer music to war news. BBC is however still popular; many continue to listen to Colonel Stevens and Candidus, out of habit and personal regard.

18) THE PRESS

Popular and considered reliable, the CORRIERE DEL MATTINO arrives daily in sufficient quanty from Florence. The INFORMATORE DI AREZZO is published locally twice a week, edited by Avv. Funaro, who is reported to have done excellent work during the occupation. 10,000 copies are published at 2 lire, considered high. The C.L.N. is said to be anxious to control the INFORMATORE. The NAZIONE DEL POPOLO, Florence, is very much in demand. The POPOLO, Rome, and AVANTI both arrive by train; the former, Demo-Christian, has many readers outside

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19) RELATIONS BETWEEN DIFFERENT PROVINCES OF TUSCANY

Tuscany is divided into many self-contained and self-supporting division; hence at present there is very little exchange of material between the different provinces. Other contributing factors are shortage of transport and shortage of food. Quite recently, owing to protests by the people of Arezzo, a permit for export of potatoes and chestnut to Florence was rescinded by the Prefect. At different times there have been Prefectorial decrees restricting the export of cattle and meat, potatoes, chestnuts and fruit of all kinds. Later by order of AMG permits for exports of goods had to be obtained and only on the conditions that a corresponding quantity of goods was to be imported.

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CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX IV No. 46

S I C I L Y

Bomb Incident at the showing of the "Great Dictator"

Showing of the long-awaited Charlie Chaplin film "The Dictator" finally began in Palermo on Friday 24 November, in two of the leading cinemas, the Olympia and the Biondo. Both cinemas were crowded from the start, and there were lines of people outside waiting to buy tickets on the first afternoon. It is estimated that there were about 2000 persons in the Olympia Theater by the late afternoon. The theater has 927 seats which were all occupied, and crowds were standing in all available places.

The showing at the Olympia started at 2 p.m., and shortly after 4:30 a violent explosion occurred, the noise being audible within a radius of half a mile. A time bomb had been placed in a toilet adjoining the balcony, and when it exploded, a small service stairway was partly wrecked. Despite the violence of the blast, only two persons were seriously injured, one an employee of the cinema, and the other a Carabinieri major who was attending the showing in civilian dress. The latter's injuries may prove fatal.

Following the blast, there was a brief moment of panic, which was quickly subdued when the theater manager assured spectators that it was merely an explosion in the projection booth, and that there was no danger of fire. The audience was then asked to file out quietly which was done.

No further showings of the film were held that evening at the Olympia, but showings were resumed next day at 2 p.m., with an extra guard of police on hand. Meantime, showings on Friday at the Biondo continued, although the manager, on the advice of the police, ceased selling standing room. The front doors of the Biondo were closed, and additional spectators admitted only to fill places vacated by departing spectators. There were no special incidents in connection with the first day's showing at the Biondo.

As for the film itself, viewed by three members of EMB, and an Italian friend, at the Biondo on the evening of the opening day, it seemed to be highly appreciated by the audience. The adroit mixture of comedy and tragedy gripped the audience's attention. There was no special audience reaction to any of the scenes, although the comedy incidents brought hearty laughter. It was wondered in advance what the reaction would be to the scenes showing Mussolini's visit to Hitler. The audience seemed to regard these scenes as high comedy, and at this particular showing there were no anti or pro-fascist reactions.

Regarding the bomb incident, several suspects were arrested the

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Regarding the bomb incident, several suspects were arrested the same day, and by Saturday afternoon 14 in all were being detained by the police.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

3rd December, 1944.

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 32.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 32.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE.

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands, and General Organisation.

The C.L.N. and C.V.L.

In virtually every town of occupied Italy there is now a C.L.N. (Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale) which is responsible for the supplying and financing of the local partisans, the collection of intelligence about the Germans and Fascists, recruitment of volunteers, organisation of a communications system, etc. Fortunately the good sense of the leaders of the C.L.N. which has prevented them playing politics and, possibly, the lesson of YUGOSLAVIA has prevented a split developing between C.L.N and "independent" bands; indeed recently the tendency has been towards increasing integration of the military organisation of the partisan movement: e.g. the leader of the most important "independent" band in PIEDMONT and a strong anti-Communist, has recently applied for membership of the Liberal Party, which is represented in the C.L.N. It remains to be seen whether this will lead to better collaboration with the Left Wing bands in this area.

Outside PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY "independent" bands are insignificant. In the area where Eighth Army is fighting at present and in North East Italy, all the important bands acknowledge the C.L.N., the authority of which was greatly increased by two developments which took place in the Spring and Summer of this year. The first was the formation of the BONOMI Government which consists of nominees of the six parties represented in the C.L.N. The second was the transformation in June of the "Military Committee for Upper Italy" of the C.L.N into a General Headquarters, which goes by the lengthy title of "General Headquarters for Occupied Italy of the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty" (usually abbreviated to C.V.L.) with an Allied representative attached.

According to a document which announces the formation of the C.V.L. the intention is that its headquarters, which are situated in northern Italy, should co-ordinate as far as possible the activities of existing bands to conform with Allied directives, encourage the formation of new bands, issue training memoranda on partisan tactics, sabotage methods, propaganda, etc, and in general, prepare the ground for an eventual "national insurrection".

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Under the conditions of partisan warfare it is impossible for a central HQ to control in detail the operations of individual bands. Decentralisation is achieved by the constitution of "Regional Delegations" of the C.V.L., which are also called "Joint Military Headquarters" (Comando Militare Unico) These are responsible for organising partisan activity over a large area, e.g. EMILIA, or VENETIA and are responsible to the Committee of Liberation for the area. Finally the bands operating in a particular district are responsible for creating "sector" or "valley" HQs.
(8th Army Partisan Summary No 3 to 11th Nov.).

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It is said that the present comparative lull in partisan activities is due partly to the switch over to winter tactics, but above all to acute shortage of ammunition reported from everywhere, and in many areas shortage of food, lack of boots and clothing.
(P.W.B. Advanced HQ A.A.I. 25.11.44).

Dispositions.

STIENTA area. (small place on the Po, N.W. of FERRARA.

Here there is a band 300 strong, called the ZAGHI Band, with its HQ located in ZAMPINE. The band is non political but contains several radicals. It is divided into two companiesof 150 men, which are then divided into squads of 30 men each. It operates in the area north of the river Po and SW of ROVIGO. Its main activities consist in attacking Fascists and helping escaped PW (4 boats were used on the PO for this purpose).

PARMA zone. Dispositions of "Brigades up to 31st October.

They are 8 in number. There is a "Comando Unico", composed of

1 Comandante	PABDO (killed in battle recently)	
3 Vice Commandanti	NASI	ALPINO LIBERO
3 Commissari Politici	MAURI, PELIZZARI	SCHIAVIO
1 Capo di S.M.	OTTAVIO	

Political Tendencies of the Brigades.

12th Garibaldi	Communist
47th "	"
31st "	"
11th Julia	Badoglian
Giustizia e Liberta	Party of Action
Fiamme Verdi	Christian Democrat
Bentta	Apolitic
Bill	"

Commanders of the Brigades.

12th Garibaldi	DARIO (Marchini di Bardi)	Commandante
	MARIO (Avv. Parisi di Parma)	Comm. Polit.
	OTTO (Ten. R.E. Ottavio Luna)	Capo S.M.
47th "	IVAN	Commandante
	WILLIAM of Reggio Emilia	V. Commandant
	REMO Cohen di Coretolo	" "
	LAMBERTI (Cortesi Gino)	Comm. Polit.
	NARDO	Capo. S.M.

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PARTE zone - Disposition of Brigades up to 31st October

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	LAMBERTI (Cortesi Gino)	Comm. Polit.
	NARDO	Capo. S.M.
Giustizia e Liberta	URANO	Commandante
31st Brigade	TRASIBULO	Commandante
	RODA	Comm. Polit.
Beretta	Beretta Jr.	Commandante
	Beretta sr.	V. Commandante.
Bill	BILL	Commandante
	ROLANDO	Comm. Pol.
Modena	MODENA	Commandante
Fiamme Verdi	Not Known	
Julia II.	" "	

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Dispositions of the Brigades.

47th Garibaldi	works on the left bank of the river in the area of RUZZANO, RANZANO PALLANZANO, MONCHIO RIGOSO
Giustizia e Liberta	works in the zone of MONTE CAIO TIZZANO, CORNIGLIO between the rivers PARMA and ENZA.
Fiamme Verdi.	works in the area of MONTE CERVELLINO, MONTE POLO, MARRA, on the left bank of the river PARMA.
12th Garibaldi	works in the zone round BEDUZZO, CALESTANO, MONTE MONTAGNANA on the left hand side of the strada nazionale of CISA
Boretta	acts in the region of MONTE MOLINATICO, BORGALLO and BORGO VAL DI LARO
31st Garibaldi	works in the region of MONTE SANTA DONNA, MONTE DELLA TAGLIATA, MONTE BARIGAZZO in the area round BARDI.

All these brigades are directly responsible to the C.L.N. of PARMA, which undertakes work in connection with feeding and equipping the brigades, publishes a news bulletin, giving up-to-date news of the war fronts and of the work of partisans and including names of traitors. It also does counter-espionage, and receives volunteers for the brigades.
(P.W.B. Florence Ten. A. of Parma.21.11.44).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

VICENZA. It is reported that on the night of the 8th November the VICENZA battalion GUASTATORI blew up the railway bridge over BACCHIGLIONE, derailing a train loaded with war material. As a result of this action 10 youths were shot, one being aged fourteen and another sixteen. All of them were blameless, and were just passing through the place when arrested.
(Confidential Source 24.11.44).

PIEDMONT. According to very recent reports from western Piedmont the Germans are now in effective control of the following valleys: VAL SUSA up to MONDANE (K43) and BARDONECCHIA (K41) and MONTGENEVRE (K 40); VAL VARAITA up to SAMPEYRE and CASTELDELFINO (M 8.); and VAL MAIRA up to ACCEGLIO (M 46)

The Germans have established themselves firmly in this area and punish by heavy reprisals on the civilian population even the smallest activity on the part of the partisans; this has almost paralysed the partisans, who have virtually ceased operations.

The band led by MARCELLIN has withdrawn to SESTRIERE (M 32).

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Fiamme Verdi.	works in the area of MONTE CERVELLINO, MONTE POLO, MARRA, on the left bank of the river PARMA.
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(Confidential Source 24.11.44).

PIEDMONT. According to very recent reports from western Piedmont the Germans are now in effective control of the following valleys: VAL SUSA up to MONDANE (K43) and BARDONECCHIA (K41) and MONTGENEVRE (K 40); VAL VARAITA up to SAMPEYRE and CASTELDELFINO (N 6.); and VAL MAIRA up to ACCEGLIO (N 46)

The Germans have established themselves firmly in this area and punish by heavy reprisals on the civilian population even the smallest activity on the part of the partisans; this has almost paralysed the partisans, who have virtually ceased operations.

The band led by MARCELLIN has withdrawn to SESTRIERE (M 32).

The road CUNEO-VENTIMIGLIA, strategically important to the Germans, is, according to recent reports, controlled by German forces at BORGO S. DALMAZZO (N 84) and COLLE DI TENDA(N 82) and by Fascist Republican Forces on the stretch of road from COLLE DI TENDA to BORDIGHERA.
(P.W.B. Rome -Picco 28.11.44).

VENICE Patriots executed Ernesto FACCA, Political Secretary of the PFR of ANNONE VENETO, as well as Ragioniere Oreste CANCIANI, Prefectoral and Political Commissioner of CONCORDIA SAGITTARIA. The same day a lorry load of members of the Black Brigade left PORTOGRUARO in order to carry out repressive action, but near the hamlet of SAN GIUSTO the Fascists were machine-gunned and four were killed, including Michele CASGRANDE, Deputy Commissioner of the Province near Fascio. A patriot detachment invaded the SANTO STINO DI LIVENZA railway station and, after damaging the telephone and telegraph installations, removed clothes and material belonging to the local

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GNR detachment. A patriot detachment executed six Fascists, including the Prefectoral Commissioner of GAGGIO DI MARCON in the VENETO. On the PRIMAGGIORE-PORTOGRUARO line a patriot detachment attacked a German train, firing at three trucks.

PADUA. Patriots assembled in mobile detachments are very active and particularly attack small garrisons in order to obtain arms, ammunition and clothing. Patriots executed the Podesta of PERAGA. A patriot detachment engaged members of a Black Brigade in CAMPODARSEGO, killing the commander of the garrison. In PIOMBINO ten patriots, of whom four were wearing GNR uniforms, called at the local GNR detachment claiming that they had the duty of examining the position of certain political prisoners. They wounded a GNR corporal and removed rifles and hand-grenades to a lorry. In ASOLA patriots executed the Artillery Colonel Luigi CAZZANILLAN, ex-Depot Commander of the 20th Pavia Artillery Regiment.

VICENZA. Throughout the zone patriots are active, particularly carrying out sabotage. At SOLAGNA railway station, partisans, after violent fusillade, detached and derailed the locomotive of a train coming from PRIMOLANO, thus obstructing the traffic. During a clash between patriotsand a Flak detachment which was going to the help of an Alpini and GNR detachment already attacked at the ?SAN FELICITA powder magazine, an Italian NCO and a German Corporal were killed. In CARPANE patriot detachments blew up the 400 m long ? SANBUGO railway tunnel. The explosión also damaged the highroad beside the track. Rail traffic is totally interrupted and road traffic is partially stopped.

TREVISO. A partisan detachment called on the Municipal Guard of ODERZO and ordered him to deliver the keys of the record office. They then removed the mobilisation lists for the 1924-1930 classes.
(Gazzetta Ticinese 9.11.44).

TURIN Motorised elements of a patriot brigade attacked on the 11th November the Fascist garrison of SANGANO, in the Province of TURIN, where they had lost their Commander Sergio de VITIS, in a previous encounter. In this action three of the enemy were killed, nine wounded and 11 made prisoner; a great deal of arms and ammunition were also captured.

CUNEO Near ROCCA CIGLIE, in the Province of CUNEO, parties of patriots blew up the railway bridge on the TANARO at COGNE (AOSTA), and in the adjoining region at the beginning of November large German Forces succeeded in defeating some groups of partisans, who retired with small losses. Afterwards, however, they made a daring attack on the enemy camp, killing 11 Germans and wounding 30, without any loss to themselves.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.11.44).

SPEZIA. During the night of 9th November, in the port of LA SPEZIA, patriots of the "Giustizia e Liberta" brigade sabotaged a ship of 8,000 tons, and blew up two big iron rafts which were anchored near the landing stage loaded with great quantities of ammunition. The explosion caused great damage to the port works, and especially to the cranes. Many Germans were killed.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.11.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome 22.11.44).

MODENESE APPENINES. On 5th November in the zone of BENEDELLO the Germans passed to the attack, helped by mortars and guns. There was bitter fighting until evening, when it ceased on the banks of the PANARO. The losses on both sides were considerable. Two days afterwards the Germans carried out most ferocious reprisals, hunting the patriots from house to house, killing four who were in bed wounded. Those who managed to escape crossed the lines.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.11.44).

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Fascist Government's Attitude to Partisans Changing?

There is an impression that the Fascist Government is about to effect a complete change in its attitude towards the population and partisans in northern Italy. There has recently been a series of dismissals and appointments and the new officials have apparently received orders to drop their hitherto uncompromising attitude and adopt a more conciliatory one. In numerous towns the black-out has been postponed and the police are less strict.

Fascist propaganda can be summarised as follows: "It is now clear that the war in Europe and in Italy will last throughout the coming winter. The outlook as regards food and economic problems is very black. The Fascist authorities will be faced with difficult problems. Would it not therefore be preferable to call a halt to civil war in northern Italy, and try to overcome the bad times as well as possible? Let us postpone the deadly struggle between Italians for some months". These arguments undoubtedly find listeners among the anti-Fascists also as the ominous signs of winter have already begun to appear. The possibility of some kind of armistice cannot therefore be excluded.

The partisan commanders naturally oppose such ideas, though they are considering whether they ought not to reduce their effectives and limit their occupation to some of the most important strategic points in order to be able to face the difficulties of winter. The final decision, however, lies with the north Italian Committee of National Liberation and Alexander's HQ.
(Der Bund, Berne 27.10.44).

Der Bund also reports that "Alexander's announcement practically demobilising Italian partisans caused great astonishment in Italy and there is no lack of bitter comment, even in anti-Fascist circles. Fascist propaganda accuses the Allies of having sacrificed thousands of young Italians only to leave them to their fate now. It is finally stressed that Mussolini's armistice with the partisans lapsed on November 10th, whereas the Allied demobilisation order was issued on November 12th. Thus the situation of the partisans who rejected the Fascist offer and remained in the mountains is made even more difficult.
(13.11.44).

III. Subterranean Bologna.

Bologna possesses a vast subterranean net, made of a very complete sewer system. This same net enabled many people to escape from the Germans on the 8th September 43. All these sewers which cross the town in every direction and are about the height of a man standing, are 1.70 m in height and 2.70 m in width and have a pavement 30c wide. The biggest are
Via Roma, Via Ugo Bassi, Via Rizzoli, Via Maggiore, Via Mascarella
Via Zamboni, Via S. Stefano, Via Castiglione, and all the avenues of the Circonvallazione.

It is obvious that with such a complete system one can pass from one part of the town to the other through the sewers. In practically every street there are holes of entrance or exit.
(F.W.B. Florence Report - Duo Riccardo 4.11.44).

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(P.W.B. Florence Report - Ono Riccardo 4.11.44).

IV. Reprisals and Mopping up Operations.

Blackshirts belonging to the 2nd Battalion of the CREMA "Folisari" Black Brigades with the help of the Crema GNR garrison, successfully terminated brilliant mopping-up operations in the VAILATE and AGNADELLO zone. At Vailato, six escaped British prisoners were found having a meal in the house of the parish priest, GIUSEPPE AROLDI. The priest and the six prisoners were arrested. Arms, compromising documents and two cases full of boots and silverware were found in the priest's house. During the same operation ten civilians were arrested, including women.
(Pomeriggio, Milan 1.11.44).

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VERONA Black Brigade detachments, reinforced by the GNR, carried out mopping-up operations in the PONTE district, capturing 18 outlaws and many arms. Subsequently the same detachments, aided by German elements, mopped up the Monte BALDO zone, between CASTELLETTO and PAI, capturing 14 outlaws with arms and ammunition. The first company of the 2nd Battalion of the Black Brigades, together with German detachments, mopped up the BEVILACQUA zone, capturing 41 outlaws, including several heads of bands.
(Pomeriggio, Milan, 1.11.44).

DOMODOSSOLA. A Fascist source reports that the Commission charged with investigating the property of inhabitants of the Val d'Ossola, who have fled to Switzerland since the re-occupation of the valley by the Germans and Fascists, held its first session at DOMODOSSOLA. It sequestrated the NEGRA sawmill, the POLLI factory, the PORTA printing works, the OSSOLANA agricultural concern and the Catena and Corso cinemas belonging to NOBILI who was Commissioner of the Giunta during the 34 days of the partisans' reign.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.11.44).

BRESCIA. The Fascist press reports that a Garibaldi Brigade was almost completely wiped out near BRESCIA. A score of partisans, caught with arms in their hands, were executed on the spot. Another mopping-up operation was carried out in the BOLOGNA region. In an engagement against about 100 partisans, 30 were killed and 20 captured and executed on the spot. Another clash is reported in the ROVIGO region in which both sides lost dead and wounded. Several partisans were captured, of whom four were immediately shot. During an attack by a strong partisan detachment against an isolated garrison in the STRADELLA hills, both sides suffered losses and ten partisans were executed on the spot. The Fascists arrested 300 suspects in the Bologna region.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse. 12.11.44).

VAL TOURNANCHE Auxiliary police detachments, German groups and Moschettieri delle Alpi carried out a mopping-up operation in the Val Tournanche, killing 12 outlaws and wounding eight. Hitherto 70 defaulters have reported to three provisional police posts, handing over their arms. Many outlaws in the mountains have been frozen to death.
(Repubblica Fascista, Milan .11.44).

V. Assassinations.

Fascist press reports show a notable increase lately in sabotage attacks on Fascists and German soldiers. In LEGNANO, on November 5th, two time bombs exploded in a restaurant, killing three people, including a German technician of the Tosi works and a German Major. Twelve passengers were killed owing to sabotage on the CENEO-BOVES railway.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 13.11.44).

Numerous members of the Party, Army, and administrative staff of the office of the High Commissioner of the Adriatic coastal zone, on October 28th in OPICINA attended the funeral service for the leader of the legal section of the German [illegible] Gerald MOSSER, who, during an official trip, was

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(Deutsche Adria-Zeitung 29.10.44).

In the VALTELLINA partisans killed six women accused of collaboration. On October 22nd, at TELARINA, in the TARTANO Valley, partisans executed the school mistress, Maria Zuccalli, who was also accused of collaboration.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 26.10.44).

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FASCIST FORCES.

VI. The Dissolving of the Fascist Republican Army.

The following material is based on the interrogation of Italian patriots who have recently come across the lines:.

The news transmitted by the German Agency "Transocean" officially announcing from the headquarters of Marshall Graziani that the Army, Navy and the Air Force of the Fascist Republic have been dissolved, had already been communicated by elements coming from the North who had come through the German lines. These sources have furnished the following information:-

Officers and all other ranks of the Fascist Republican Army have been freed from their oath of allegiance to the Republic, but each citizen will have to swear an oath to fight against the rebels, the brigands and the saboteurs. Whoever refuses to take this oath will be deported to the concentration camps of Germany.

The reasons why the German Command has decided to dissolve the Fascist forces may possibly be:

1. The desire to put a stop to any kind of misunderstanding. The Fascist Republican Army was created because it was believed that it would collaborate in the war. After some months, however, it became apparent that no positive result had been obtained, and this army was kept merely for propaganda.

2. To maintain armed forces which could not be relied upon as an ally would mean in the case of a rapid Allied advance the creation behind the lines of a large number of armed and equipped deserters.

3. Owing to the recent dispositions it is believed that in Italy would be left only those who had given proof of their fidelity to Nazi Germany and who would represent a large enough force, not only as a rearguard for the German troops, but also for use as proper groups of snipers and saboteurs.
(P.W.B. Florence).

VII. Fascist Atrocities.

In spite of first-hand reports of the death of KOCH, the torturer of Milan, rumours are still being circulated that he is still alive and operating with his gang. "Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona" of 9.11.44 states "The Fascist press report published a few weeks ago stating that partisans had ambushed and killed the torturer Koch near TURIN is false. Koch's band has been fully reconstitued.

In May-June of this year, after the execution by partisans of the Political Secretary of S. MARCO, near RAVENNA, a few days before, the Black Brigade went to the houses of the most notable anti-Fascists in Ravenna with the intention of arresting 40, according to a predisposed list and shooting them. They only found three, GHIRARDINI, shopkeeper, Via Roma, Pietro GAUDENZI, living in Via Carraia and a third of whom the name is not known. In the night these three were taken [illegible] Bassio, 2 km out of the town. First of all

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In the meantime the third man, who had remained alone in the car, took advantage of the opportunity to escape. Gaudenzi was left for dead on the ground, but he was not mortally wounded. He dragged himself to a house nearby, where they kept him, and the same night was taken to hospital. He has since recovered and is hidden in another part of the country.
(P.W.B. Rome, Paganelli. Brunetto di Pasquale 8.11.44).

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VIII. Charges against Diamanti.

The charges have become known against former General of the Militia, DIAMANTI, who was arrested in MILAN on September 22nd in his office, while Commander of the Republican Forces in the LOMBARDY region. Diamanti is accused of commercial swindles and continued embezzlement, prevarication, extortion etc. While living in VERCELLI as Head of the Army Office, Diamanti took a 25% "commission" on military supplies, thus pocketing several million lire. Lt. of the GNR, Gian RITI, has been arrested for complicity.

The MILAN District Military HQ was the scene of another scandal when, on September 19th, a captain of the Artillery, Francesco MANCUSO and Lts. Giuseppe GRISPELLO and Giovanni FAVET were arrested. They had compiled a large number of forms for the delegation of powers concerning the payment of war idemnities and allowances due to Italian soldiers in Germany. They had these forms presented for payment by third persons and then appropriated the cash.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 27.10.44).

GERMANS

IX. The N.S.K.K.

This German body formed by volunteers from FRANCE, BELGIUM and HOLLAND, is mainly used for transportation of food and ammo to the Luftwaffe and Flak Artillerie. It originally had 4 Bns, commanded by a German general:-

1 FRENCH Bn of 1,000 men
1 BELGIAN Bn of 1,200 men
1 FLEMISH Bn of 2,000 men
1 GERMAN Bn of 3,000 men

Each Bn was commanded by an Oberstaffelfuhrer. The French Bn came to Italy from Belgium a year ago and set up in BRESCIA. After one month, its 4 coys and Bn HQ were dispersed; one coy going to MANTUA and the 4th Coy, together with Bn. HQ, going to PARONA, NW of VERONA. The Bn HQ was still stationed there in September.

Personalities.

OC Bn Oberstaffelfuhrer SEGEL
OC 4 Coy Capt STROLL
Oberstarmfuhrer VOLL

In addition each coy has 3 FRENCH officers and GERMAN and FRENCH N.C.Os.

Each Coy should have 4 columns of 25 trucks each plus staff cars for commanders. 4 Coy has only two columns. Petrol was short and spare parts non-existent.

Pay ORs. 125 lire per 10 days
NCOs 250 " " "

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Each Coy should have 4 columns of 25 trucks each plus staff cars for commanders. 4 Coy has only two columns. Petrol was short and spare parts non-existent.

Pay ORs. 125 lire per 10 days
NCOs 250 " " "
Offrs. 400 " " "
Family allowance, 4,000 lire per month.

Large profits were made by trading with civilians. Petrol was sold to civilians at 35 lire per litre. Officers also were involved in this traffic, but, while ORs were severely punished if found guilty (2 were shot for having sold 50 litres of pttrol), officers could safely deal on a big scale in Black Market transactions.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian [illegible])

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X. Dispositions and Strategy

RAVENNA. It has been reported that Ravenna is now comparatively empty of Germans. There are only about 1,500 left, distributed on the north-east and south-east outskirts of the town as far as PORTOFUORI, whilst on the South and South-west there are only inspection patrols
(P.W.B. Rome - Pagnanelli, Bruncttc di Pasquale 8.11.44).

UDINE. There is a German HQ (type unknown but thought to be a kind of Area or town HQ) in Via AQUILA. It is stated that there are only about 200-250 German troops in the town, but about 1,000 - 1,500 Militia and Esercito Repubblicano
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

Germans Repair Simplon Line. Repair work is progressing on the Simplon line between ISELLE and DOMODOSSOLA. The track has already been repaired between ISELLE and VARZO. German workers are now repairing the track damaged by partisans during the German-Fascist attack near PREGLIA. It is expected that traffic between DOMODOSSOLA and BRIGUE will be resumed within a fortnight.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.11.44).

Martial Law Proclaimed in Emilia. According to well-informed sources, martial law has been proclaimed throughout Emilia, not only involving the suspension of public entertainment, but prohibiting all persons from forming groups. It is reported that curfew starts at 1900 hrs and citizens are obliged to close all windows but leave doors open in order to facilitate police action.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 7.11.44).

German Strategic Plans? Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona writes 1.11.44: "It is now confirmed that the Germans intend to resist to the utmost on the Italian front; four divisions at full strength, chiefly composed of Alpine troops, have recently arrived from Germany. Kesselring originally hoped that the Gothic line would resist throughout the winter, but being disappointed in this, the Germans hastened to prepare a new and formidable line of defence. Desperate resistance before BOLOGNA in the Apennines, and before RAVENNA is intended in order to permit the completion of the new line, which, almost the whole of the local male and female population has been mobilised to build. The new line runs roughly from CHIOGGIA to GARDA, along the Euganean Hills, and ends at the STELVIO. Fresh units from Germany are being concentrated in the PESCHIERA, VERONA, MANTUA, LEGNANO quadrilateral. The Germans expect a big Allied offensive which would probably have begun already if bad weather had not favoured the defenders.

It is, however, a mistake to think that the Germans are prepared to retire without more ado to their new fortified positions. Instead they are prepared to hold a series of delaying lines, the first of which runs from Apuania along the outlying spurs of the Tuscan and the heights of the Modena Apanninos, through IMOLA and ARGENTA to the COMACCHIO marshes. The second runs from RAPALLO along the PIACENZA Apennines (MONTE PENICE) to the PO. The third runs along the TICINO to the PO, whose lower course would probably witness the crucial phase of the battle, as it is there that the Germans' main rearguard reserves, which are

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(P.W.B. Rome - Pagnanelli, Brunetto di Pasquale 8.11.44).

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XI. Behaviour and Morale.

It is reported that while in the towns of northern Italy the Germans behave like "gentlemen", in the country and forward areas they loot the houses, take cattle away and burn houses in the villages. The town of RAVENNA is being looted by the Germans and Cossacks.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

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A recent report from a refugee who crossed the lines states that "there is a scarcity of heavy machine guns in the German army. Their uniform is moderately good, though it is noticeably partly Italian; shoes are good. Lately there has been a skin affection among the German troops in the zone of VILLE UNITE (GERVLA) which takes the form of a kind of boil and wounds on the legs and neck. Transport and petrol are very scarce here, so the Germans are obliged to make use of any means they may find on the spot.

Discipline is still firm in the companies. They are divided up into houses. In this way they avoid being victims of Allied Air attacks or partisans. The men are very demoralised because they never see any of the Luftwaffe.

At MATEILICA (CASTIGLIONE DI RAVENNA), in the middle of October the Germans destroyed an entire section of the village in order to use the material taken from the ruins to make a ford across the river Sacio. The population had only half an hour's notice, absolutely insufficient, to evacuate their houses. (P.W.B. Rome Paganelli, Brunetto di Pasquale 8.11.44).

A very reliable source recently returned from the southern Alps declares that the morale of the German soldiers on the Franco-Italian frontier is very low, and suggests that radio and leaflet propaganda should be itensified. (Confidential Source 23.11.44).

About the night of November 15th at S. QUIRINO, nine km north of PORDENONE, two groups of AUSTRIANS, about 30 strong, deserters from VIENNA DIVISION met and clashed. When the mistake was discovered they joined forces. Austrians in the Vienna Division are not allowed leave for fear that they should join the partisans.
(Confidential Source 27.11.44).

The following are the words of a German prisoner on conditions in his regiment: "On October 21st Lt. Col. HARMES, commanding my regiment, passed us in review and read an order to us commenting on it. This order prescribed that every Commander of Platoon or squadron is obliged to execute any man who tries to abandon his position. If the commander does not execute this order he himself will be put to death by the commander of the company. The same thing for the Battalion commanders in respect to the Company commanders.. All soldiers who do not resist to the last in a position will be brought to the regimental Command and one out of every five will be shot. After reading this order Lt. Col Harmes gave the names of the first 20 soldiers who had been shot.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.11.44).

XII, Transfer of Machinery etc. to Germany.

On the electric railway lines TURIN-BUSSOLENO, TURIN-ASTI, CUNEO-CEVA, the Germans are removing the copper wire used for the transmission of current and one of the two rails. The machinery of the Junghans factories on the Giudecca has already been transferred to Germany. The German authorites and the IRI are discussing a standard contract between German and Italian firms for the transfer [illegible] German firm undertakes to restore the machinery

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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 6.11.44).

Libera Stampa, Lugano, also reports on 6.11.44. During the last few days the dispatch of Italian products to Germany has been intensified by all available means including river barges. In addition to the dispatch of three trains with 60 trucks carrying rice from the NOVARA and LOMELLINA districts, 5000 cows, and 6000 quintals of sugar beet requisitioned in VENETO and EMILIA and sent across the BRENNER.

The Germans have also removed one of the tracks of the double-tracked GENOA-RAPALLO line and taken the dismantled material to Germany. It is reported that they have begun to remove one track of the State Railway's line from COMO to MILAN.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 7.11.44).

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XIII. Atrocities.

On the 8th October the village of SASSOLEONE (4 9922) was burnt and the woman and children killed by 1 Company, 8th Battalion, 4 FOLA Division Engineers. (Confidential Source 29.11.44).

At S. ZACCARIA (Comune of Castiglione di Ravenna) a certain ARIANO, called RUCHI was hung on August 28th in front of his own house and left there for two days because he was found in possession of an Italian rifle "91". The truth was that he was a "Gappista", but the Germans did not know this. They had come from the front and were in the hayloft belonging to Ruchi, where they found the gun, and they therefore killed him as the only young inhabitant of the house. (P.W.B. Rome Panarelli, Bollettino di Pasquale 8.11.44).

German atrocities continue on the civilian population at CASTIGLIONE (10 k from Bologna). Forty people were first machine-gunned and then hung up after death. In MONTE RENZIO four families, including two children under six months were killed. (34 km from BOLOGNA)
(Confidential Source 27.11.44).

XIV. German propaganda.

Leaflets dropped at the end of August in the RAVENNA area showed niggers in the act of snatching and violating women in the town of SIENA. The vignettes and description were headed by the title "Facts in Siena".

Other leaflets contained stories of Italians who had crossed the lines and said that in liberated Italy the Italians were abandoned to themselves; that there was no provision for the food problem, which was very grave, and no help to put the public services, light, transport, railways etc. in working order.
(P.W.B. Rome Panarelli, Brunetto di Pasquale 8.11.44).

On 23rd October the Fascist radio stations in northern Italy were being jammed by jamming signals with the same characteristic signal as those used by Germany. No jamming on these stations had been noticed previous to this date, but on several occasions after the 23rd the Fascist stations were badly jammed and in all probability jamming is originating in Germany.
(P.W.B. Unit No 12 Radio Section 8.11.44).

A British IILO made the following statement on German atrocities at FORLI.

"I went to LR 403120 where I was confronted by a number of weeping women. I inspected seven bodies ~~Italian Civilians, all male~~, which been removed from the well nearby and obtained the following information:

1. All bodies were tied by the hands.
2. All bodies had been shot through the head at close range.
3. The seven bodies were those of men who were in MERLINO FRAZIONE VECCHIAZZANO on the evening of the 7th November 1944. 12 Germans, a Lt. commanding

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The following day one of the women called at the house and asked for her husband, VERITA GUILIO. She was told by the same German officer that there were no Italian men there, and who was pushed out of the house at the point of a pistol. The German officer disclaimed any knowledge of any Italian male ever being there. Signora Verita returned to the other women.

On the morning of November 9th the Germans left owing to a threat of being cut off, and the women returned to the house. They found the bodies of their husbands, sons and fathers in the well. The only reasons for this outrage appear to be that one of the sons killed was 20 years of age. He should have apparently reported for inclusion in the Fascist forces. He had not done so. (Main HQ 8th Army 15.11.44).

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ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XV. Reception of Radio.

UDINE. Permission to possess radio sets is officially limited to members of the Fascist Party, but a number of other people possess them. Friends of subject listened to Radio Bari each day at 1200 hrs.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

BOLOGNA. The London station is listened to generally, especially the transmission o of 22.30 hrs on 31/4 metre wave length, and it is not very distrubed. In the country, where all the wireless sets have been confiscated, the leaflets dropped from the air, have been much appreciated.
(P.W.B. Florence report (Omo Ricardo) 4.11.44).

STIENTA. The most listened to station was the BBC, and in particular the programmes "La Voce di Londra" and the BBC to Europe in French. The main listening periods for the former were at 0830 hrs and 1200 hrs. The usual method was as follows: a group of people, usually small in number, would listen to the news and then individually spread it among the population. A regular organisation was set up for this purpose. Most of the sets here were battery sets of rather poor quality and therefore trouble was experienced with fading No electric power was available for the ordinary citizen. Replacement parts were available through subversive channels and batteries were also changed in this way.

Most stations were either heavily jammed or an attempt was made to do so. However, on one wave length or another, it was possible to receive La Voce di Londra consistently.

The penalty in VERONA for being caught listening to our radio programmes was confiscation of sets, ransacking of homes and usually gaol.

Informant says that great reliance is placed on news and propaganda heard from Allied stations Counter propaganda, as might be expected, is considerable. Source heard from the BBC that the Americans were on the outskirts of BOLOGNA and this seems to have prompted him to make a break through. However, upon reaching Bologna, he discovered that the 5th Army was still 16 km away and so went back to Ravenna and came through there. He was quite naturally surprised at this inaccuracy.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

POLITICS.

XVI. Fascist Republican Propaganda.

The Fascist Republican Ministry of Propaganda is located in the PALAZZO MOCENIGO on CANAL GRANDE in VENICE. At present, the ministry employs about 600 people. The headquarters in VENICE also controls the Italian broadcasting station "E.I.A.R" (Ente Italiano Audizione Radiofonicho) which is located in TURIN and the Army Propaganda office with headquarters at DESENZANO SUL GARDA

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(P.W.B. Adv. HQy A.A.I. (From 62 5th Army Report No 820).

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XVII. Political Amnesty Proclaimed.

Italian Home Service 28.10.44 gave a decree by which Mussolini proclaimed an amnesty remitting sentences of up to three years' imprisonment for all political and many other crimes. Those guilty of default from the call-up or refusal of military service, as well as thosewho have absented themselves from compulsory labour, are included in the amnesty on the condition that they report within eight days of the publication of the decree.

XVIII. Mussolini's Family.

Some members of Mussolini's family are living in MILAN incognito, including VITTORIO MUSSOLINI, who lives at the Touring Hotel under the false name of TITO LOMBARDONE. He is writing a novel which will appear under the name of "Guido".

XIX. Fascists' Panic Rush for Safety.

Since the adminstration of the Fascist Party was transferred to MILAN from VERONA on October 14th the housing crisis has become more acute in MILAN Many hierarchs' committees, offices, Ministries and sub-Ministries have established themselves in Milan. Fascist officials and employees, including refugee hierarchs from liberated Italy, insist on being well-housed and provided with every household comfort, expelling former residents or installing themselves as arrogant guests. Many Fascist refugees went to the Lake District, but were obliged to return, finding the VARESE and COMO regions already full of their colleagues who had arrived earlier on. In the NOVARA district their stay is disturbed by the activity of the patriots. Recently, the ex-Federal Commissioner of PISA drove his family so hurriedly through Piazza Cavour in COMO that he ended in the lake. One of his daughters was drowned.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona, 7.11.44).

XX. Cione's Ideas for New Party.

Edmond CIONE, who wrote a series of abject articles in Corriere della Sera against his own master Benedetto CROCE, has been received by Mussolini, who apparently wants to use his theories for the foundation of a New Nationalist Party to replace Fascism, which everybody realises is dead. The new Party's motto would be "Via dall'Italia tutti stranieri, Tedeschi, Anglo-Americani etc.".
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 11.11.44).

XXI. Appointments.

The Prefecture announces that by a decree on October 20th the Extraordinary Commissioner for PIEDMONT, acting on the proposal of the Head of the Province, has appointed Professor Doctor Agostino CERUTTI Commissioner for the Extraordinary Administration of the TURIN Savings Bank, and Doctor Emanuele MATTISTELLI Commissioner for the Extraordinary Administration of the Piedmont Federal Institute of Agricultural Credit.

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(Gazzetta del Popolo, Turin 26.10.44).

The Secretary of the PFR, under a decree dated November 7th, has appointed Dr. Angelo ROGNONI Federal Commissioner of PARMA instead of ROMUALDI who has been made a Vice-Secretary of the PFR.
Italian Home Service 7.11.44).

Comandante Giulio SEGNO, organiser of the Seamen's Trade Union, has been appointed Podesta of GENOA. Alfredo CAVALLARI a worker in the Ansaldo Company and member of the factory committee of the Fossati establishment, and Giovanni LOMBARDO, a tramway worker, member of the factory committee of "Unite" have both been appointed Deputy Podesta of GENOA.
(Corriere della Sera, Milan 7.11.44).

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The Head of the Province of PAVIA has proposed to the Minister of the Interior the appointment of the Fascist Formo GROSSETTI, industrial technician, as Podesta, and Domenico GRAZIOLI, clerk, and Emilio GUGLIELMETTI, printer, neither of whom belong to the Fascist Party, as Deputy Podesta.
(Italian Home Service 2.11.44).

ECONOMICS.

XXII. Food Situation.

A period of grave food shortage, particularly as regards fats, will probably begin about December in northern Italy. As it is not possible to transport to Germany the stock of 30,000 quintals of frozen meat in deposits south of the Po, the German military authorities have placed it at the disposal of the Fascist authorities, but as they did not supply the means of transport, the frozen meat cannot be distributed.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 11.11.44).

UDINE (to October 19th 44)

The food situation is as follows:-

Bread	150 grms per head per day.	Lire 2.30 kg.
	Black Market.	Lire 80 per kg.
Macaroni	Not seen for past two months against coupons.	
	Black Market.	Lire 140/150/ kg.
Salt	100 grms per month.	Lire 7 per kg.
	Black Market.	Lire 120 per kg.
Oil.	None obtainable for past three months against coupons.	
	Black Market.	Lire 900/1000 per litre.
Meat.	Not issued against coupons.	
	Black Market	Lire 250/300 per kg.

Cigarettes Black Market;

"Nazionale"	10 cigs.	Lire 40
"Macedonia"	" "	" 45
"Serraglio"	20 cigs	" 100/110
"Popolare"	10 "	35.

Sugar Black Market Lire 150/170 per kg.

A great deal of Polenta is eaten as well as Minestra.

Water supply is normal. Electricity available, but in limited quantity.

FERRARA.

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Bread 150 grms per head per day. Lire 2.30 kg.
Black Market. Lire 80 per kg.

Macaroni Not seen for past two months against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 140/150/ kg.

Salt 100 grms per month. Lire 7 per kg.
Black Market. Lire 120 per kg.

Oil. None obtainable for past three months against coupons.
Black Market. Lire 900/1000 per litre.

Meat. Not issued against coupons.
Black Market Lire 250/300 per kg.

Cigarettes Black Market;

"Nazionale"	10 cigs.	Lire 40
"Macedonia"	" "	" 45
"Serraglio"	20 cigs	" 100/110
"Popolare"	10 "	35.

Sugar Black Market Lire 150/170 per kg.

A great deal of Polenta is eaten as well as Minestra.

Water supply is normal. Electricity available, but in limited quantity.

FERRARA.

The whole of this area of Italy, north, south, east and west of FERRARA (in the flat plain of the PO) has a considerable sugar-beet industry, with many sugar refineries. In FERRARA city and throughout the Province, sugar for 9 months has already been distributed to the population.

The growing of wheat is also extensive in this region; the crop has been excellent, and owing to transport difficulties, the Germans have not been able to take this away. The crop has been extensively distributed to the population, on the basis of about a 12 months supply. Hemp is also grown here, and the crop has been dealt with. The fruit crop has suffered somewhat, due to lack of labour to pick it, but a certain amount of the apple crop has been picked, which will be made into jam etc.

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The population, therefore, should not be short of food, excepting in, perhaps, certain cases where distribution difficulties may have prevented some individual families from receiving their supplies. Such a shortage will be purely local, but the food exists and in good quantities. It may be hidden.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 48).

BOLOGNA (up to beginning of October 44).

The food situation is fairly satisfactory; apart from the general rations which are regularly distributed, with the exception of oil which since Tuscany was liberated is completely lacking, every now and again extra supplementary rations are given.

Bread	200 gr	per day	(workmen 400 gr)
Rice	1000 "	" month	
Pasta	1200 "	" "	
Sugar	- "	" "	
Butter	100 "	" "	
Lard	50 "	" "	
Salt	200 "	" "	
Jam	only for children up to three years and old people.		
Eggs	2 each month.		

Black Market.

The maximum prices on the Black Market are as follows:

Flour	20-25 lire	the kg.
Meat	120-130 "	" "
Butter	400 "	" "
Wine	100 "	" bottle
Oil	1300-1400 "	" "
Wood	200-250 "	" quintal
Soft coal	1500-1600 lire	the quintal
Coke	400-500 "	" "
Leather shoes	1300-140[illegible] lire	the pair.

(P.W.B. Florence 1.11.44)
Cmo. Riccardo.

XXIII. Transport.

COMO. The Central Transport Office announces: New regulations come into force today (November 1st) for motor bus and motor lorry traffic. In order to economise fuel and rubber, transport by lorry of new or old furniture and household goods is forbidden.
(Provincia di Como 1.11.44).

With regard to the requisitioning of bicycles, "which can be looked upon as concluded," Corriere della Sera publishes the following notice specifying the classes [illegible] They are workers in war industries.

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Soft coal	1500-1600	lire the quintal
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Leather shoes	1300-14[illegible]	lire the pair.

(P.W.B, Florence 4.11.44)
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(Libera Stampa, Lugano 7.11.44).

XXIV. Fuel and Power.

The solid fuel department of the Ministry of Corporative Ecohomy announces that industrial establishments possessing sufficient stocks of solid fuel may apply for permission to release part of them for heating purposes in favour of their own employees who are the heads of families. Applications should be sent to the department concerned in MILAN which retains the right to effect such reductions as are deemed essential For obvious reasons, the quantities to be released will be very limited. The distribution of fuel without the relevant authorisation will be punished.

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TURIN Should the suspension of electric power in Turin prove absolutely necessary the current will, as from November 1st, be cut from 08.00 to 1300 in southern districts, and from 1300 to 1800 in the northern districts. The above measure through which existing arrangements are reversed, has been taken for reasons of equity. The industries should modify their working hours accordingly.
(Stampa, Turin 29.10.44).

MILAN The Milan press reports that the poor inhabitants of the city have recently been felling trees in the streets and parks for firewood. Corriere della Sera, though defending the inhabitants' rights to procure fuel by whatever means, nevertheless draws the attention of the authorities to the fact, simultaneously demanding that poor families should be given wood in order to spare Milan the mutilation which would be felt particularly after the war.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.11.44).

COMO Considering the very limited amount of available fuel the Head of the Province of Como has decreed that all private stocks exceeding 300 kg of coal and 1.000 kg of wood must be notified by their owners to the Provincial Council of Cooperative Economy, failing which the stocks in question will be confisdated without prejudice to other penalties.
(Provincia di Como 6.11.44).

BOLOGNA. Electric power is distributed regularly during the day without interruption. Gas is distributed only during certain hours of the day on account of the scarcity of coal, in fact there was such a difficulty about coal that the total suspension of gas was foreseen. The last consignment was to the sugar factory outside Porta Lama, which was completely destroyed by an Allied bombardment.
(P.W.B. Florence Report 4.11.44 Omo, Rimards.)

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

UDINE The railway station has been badly damaged by Allied air raids and civilian travel is prohibited

BOLZANO The town of Bolzano has been practically destroyed; the station does not exist, northe railway lines of BOLZANO-MERANO-MALLES VENOSTA, which are completely interrupted.
(P.W.B. Florence Report 5.9.44 Ferri, Mario).

BOLOGNA The E.I.A.R. Building in Piazza S. Martino has not been hit by the Allied bombardments.

VENICE. The record number of alerts in one day in VENICE is 14, the daily average being six. At the end of the causeway joining the city to the mainland there are bomb craters. The inhabitants often hear the crash of the coastal artillery in the Adriatic positions and, usually several times daily the thunder of the German-Italian ... guns.... For six months now Venice has been without water supply. ... supply. Yet, in spite of the heat there were no ... and all other wartime res-

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(Transocean 5.11.44).

XXVI. Trade.

For the first time in 15 months an official statement regarding Italian foreign trade has been published. Since 25.7.44 decisive changes have been noticeable. While, during the second half of 1942 Germany only received 61% of Italian exports, her share during the first six months of 1944 was over 97%. Italy was thus practically only trading with Germany. In spite of this, the total volume of Italian foreign trade has not decreased, but even slightly increased if the reduction of the area of Italy caused by war conditions is taken into account.

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In view of transport difficulties, this fact depicts the cleverness with which the problem has been solved. While the value of German exports to Italy increased by 7.5%, the volume fell by 2%. The value of Italian exports to Germany has increased by almost 9%, whilst the volume has diminished by 7%. The figure proves that Italy has again abandoned the policy observed last winter of resuming the exchange of goods with non-German foreign countries which had almost entirely ceased.
(Europa-Kabel, Amsterdam 27.10.44).

LABOUR.

XXVII. Strikes.

A general strike in Lombardy may be called at any moment. The Fascist authorities have promised, however, to consider the workers' demands regarding the food situation. Consequently the workers' representatives have decided to postpone the date of the strike.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 3.11.44).

STIENTA There are about 3,000 Frenchmen working in the TODT organisation. [illegible] believes that they would desert if approached directly by Allied propaganda. He mentioned that regular lectures were being given to these people and to Italians, stressing that Allied propaganda was a pack of lies and that it was impossible that the Allies would ever come near Berlin.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

CHURCH.

XXVIII. Alleged Plan to Restore Temporal Power of Pope?

The MilanCatholic newspaper "Italia" and Corriere della Sera are carrying on lively polemics over the question whether Rome should return to the rule of the Pope. In a leading article which some even believe to have been inspired by Cardinal Schuster, Italia denied that the Italian clergy intended to cooperate in political action whereby Rome would be detached from Italy and returned to the Papacy. The newspaper admitted, however, that other nations were planning to make the Eternal City into the capital of Christianity... It is regarded as possible that the Pope himself may take the next opportunity to express his opinion publicly on this important decision.
(Der Bund 11.11.44).

XXIX. Anti-Fascist Priest.

The priest Giuseppe [illegible] of the village of (VALATE?) Lombardy, hid six allied pilots in his home for over a year, and it is reported that only a few people in the region knew of this. According to Regime Fascists, Aroldi will [illegible] to death.

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(Aftonbladet 1.11.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXX. Atrocities in Bassano.

Altogether 137 Italians were hanged in BASSANO. The man responsible is Lieut. CASSERMAN, the German commander of Bassano garrison. Others bearing responsibility are the inhabitants of Bassano and the members of 22 Civilian Brigata Nera, who took part in the GRAPPA offensive, and later forced people of Bassano to watch the hangings. Professor SPAGNOLOLELIO of VIALE VENEZIA, the fascist Commissario of BASSANO and Commander of the Brigata Nera, Doctor BERTEZOLO

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Podesta of Bassano, and a Captain in the Brigata Nera Doctor DALLOLIO ERNESTO and his son MILLO, TITA COMIS, a Squadrista, Doctor SANDRIN and Son, ANTONIO TONIOLO aFascist propagandist and correspondent of Il Popolo Vicentino, MARTINATO, PARROCCO, VITTORELLI, a wholesale tobacco merchan , MASON an excise officer, GIUSEPPE FAVORO and PANZIERI of Rome, Chief of the Secret Police at Bassano. Also guilty of brutality during the drive against the partisans are GIANNI COMPORINI of MARONTICA, ex-Commander of the Brigata Nera of ZOCCA; also PERILLO of the Italian Intelligence Service, but who usually wears German uniform of the FLACH and who interrogates partisan prisoners.
(Confidential Source 14.11.44).

XXXI. Personalities in Udine, Modena, S. Giovanni in Persiceto, S. Agata Bolognese, Parma, Turin [illegible]

UDINE Capo della Provincia: BARTOLUTTI, Antonio
Segretario Federale: GINA, Gino.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Report 18.11.44).

MODENA. Captain MULLERO commands the SS of the town. He is a German spy, leading light of the Black Brigade, an ex-sergeant who now dresses as a Lt. of the Black Guard. He is hated by everyone, and because he is so small is known as "Nano" (the dwarf).

S. GIOVANNI IN PERSICETO

LINI, ex station master of AMOLA in PERSICETO, has committed acts of violence and abuse.

S. AGATA BOLOGNESE

ZAMBELLI
PUNO MAGNANI both spies.

PARMA

VENTURINI, Vice Questore, ex naval officer.
Has denounced and condemned many patriots.

VALLI ex federale. Head of the Province of PARMA. He is helped in his anti-patriot task by BERNADINI and a certain PANICARI.

(P.W.B. Florence 16.10.44).

CANNETELO DI FONTANELLATO (Province of Parma)

MAESTRO. This man sheltered two South African PW, namely 18567 Pte. LEE, W.A. and Pt[illegible] DU PREEZ. He had both those P W arrested by the Germans about the 20th September 43. It was also known that Maestro supplied the Germans with a list of names of Italians who

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(Confidential Source 12.11.44).

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(C.S.D.I.C. Interrogation Report).

ROSCA, (Province of Parma).

CELESTE. All civilians in the area are convinced that it was this man who betrayed the 10 British soldiers on 25th December 1943.

"EDWARDO" About 15th June 44 this man was the leader of a partisan band of about 70 men. He got three launches of kit, but distributed none of it amongst his band. Much he sold, but there is still a quantity of ammo and clothing hidden in his house.

(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

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TURIN.

MASELLI
CUNZI. Both from the political office of the Turin Questura

(P.W.B. Rome 15.11.44)

CAUPO and FELTRE

LUNGO Podesta of Caupo
BOLZANELLO Podesta of Feltre are responsible for the hangings at ARTEN. The fires/were ordered by MENUZZO, Communal Secretary of VALSTAGNO (Vicenza) and inspector of the Secret Police.

(P.W.B. Rome 13.11.44).

COMO

Some of the names of the Special Fascist Tribunal in Como.

Senator GIOVANNI CERCHIARI, President of the Tribunal
VINCENZO CORTICELLI, Lawyer, Public Prosecutor.
Doctor ANATOLIO GINO PAPINI, member of the tribunal
GIOVANNI SERVENTI " " " "

(P.W.B. Rome 16.11.44).

XXXII. Black Brigade Fascist.

The Black Brigade of RAVENNA is commanded by ADELMO MAZZOTTI, During the Fascist period he worked at the Intercensorziale Romagna works of chemical manures, but was always in the pay of the Fascist Federation.
(P.W.B. Rome Report 8.11.44).

XXXIII. Germans in Brescia.

HERMANN PANZER. Native of Milan and ex officer of the Austrian Army. Since 1935 has been the Director of the Pensione HOLL in GARDONE SUL GARDA. This Pensione became a centre for the collection of information of political and military character and German secret agents came there continually to collect information. His daughter ERTA was very useful to Panzer as she travelled constantly between Germany and Italy. Hermann Panzer has contact with the German agents resident in Roma. He was also helped in his activities by his brothers OTTO and WILLY. Otto is proprietor of the Parc Hotel of Moreno, and was elected Vice-Podesta in that town. In 1940 he write a letter to the Duce asking the favour of serving in the Italian Army with the same rank as he had had in the Austrian army, and was therefore assigned as Captain to the 2nd Alpine Artillery regiment serving also as adjutant. WILLY, a Lt of the 2nd Grenadier Regiment worked at the Central Censorship office in BOLOGNA. He was Director of the Dolomite Hotel at S. MARTINO DI CASTROZZA and recently of the Grand Hotel built at TRENTO
(P.W.B. Florence report 16.10.44).

XXXIV. Criminals of FORLI and LA SPEZIA etc.

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XXXIV. Criminals of FORLI and LA SPEZIA etc.

Corporal ANTONIO FERRARI of FERRARA and MICHEL CRIZZI of FORLIMPOPOLI took a prominent part in the recent massacres of 57 people at SAN PIETRO DI BAGNO

APRILINI, Prefetto of LA SPEZIA helps the Germans in the destruction and sacking of towns.

ALBERTO LAROCCA, Maresciallo di Publica Sicurezza of LA SPEZIA hunts out anti-Fascists for the Germans.

MARCOBELLIO, Commander of the Black Brigade of LA SPEZIA is a successor of Borgamini who was executed by the patriots. 3141

VITTO SPIOTTA, Engineer, Commander of the Black Brigade of CHIAVARI, and Vice-Federale of GENOVA, is the greatest criminal in the area and responsible for the death of many patriots.
(Confidential Source 28.11.44).

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To: Mullis Copy

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

20th November 1944

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12
APO 512.

	No 33/1	
	20th	November 1944
	NO 31.	
MAJ BALLANCE	1 of 1	2 of 2
CAPT POWEL	1	2
CHIEF CLERK	1	

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY NO 31.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 31.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship, for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

RAVENNA Area. Information about the organisation of bands in the Ravenna Area is now fairly complete. The military commander and liaison officer from the BOLOGNA Committee of Liberation is a Major "Bulow", other personalities are "Falco", who is chief of GAPs (Patriot Action Groups, who are more or less full time partisans operating in the plains), and "Zalet", who is chief of SAPs (Patriot Action Squads composed of week-end saboteurs).

Partisans under "Bulow" command are organised in 28 "Mario Giordani" Brigade and the "Terzo Lori" Detachment. there is also a Ravenna Battalion which is attached to 36 Garibaldi Brigade on the Eastern slopes of the Appenines. 28 Brigade, which has been in existence since last winter, consists of GAPs or, as they are styled by their commander "Flying squads", which were organised in five detachments, now reduced to four since one was over-run at CERVIA. These seem to be midway between undergroung sabotage groups, and military units since personnel, though full-time partisans, live in scattered hide-outs, (asually the homes of sympathisers), and only come together for particular actions. As a result, however, of the recent thinning out of German troops throughout the area, these groups are now beginning to develop into regular bands.

The "Terzo Lori" Detachment, on the other hand, has, since its formation at the beginning of August, lived together as a unit, and is at present camping out (unbeknown to the Germans), in the pine woods on an isolated part of the coast NE of RAVENNA between VALLE DELLE VENE (M 6152) and the CORSINI Canal (M 6042). Owing to the impossibility of a force of any size penetrating the marshes in the hinterland this area is unoccupied by the Germans, except for a few coastal guns and Turcomans to the North and South of the partisans' camping

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There are also believed to be small units to the North of the "Terzo Lori" Detachment, and on the same model, in the flooded land round the COMACCHIO lagoon, but precise information is lacking. They do not appear to be under command of "Bulow" and have probably grown up since the comb-out of the area which presumably followed the discovery by the Germans last summer, that the Allies were landing supplies in this area.

FAENZA Area.

It is uncertain whether [illegible] comes under 28 or 29 G.P Brigade. West of FAENZA a partisan band "BIANCOCINI" (some 1,100 strong under "Bob" from IMOLA) 36 Garibaldi Brigade, formerly operated in the Eastern Appenines up to the area of MARRADI (L 0901) -

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PALAZZOLO (M 0305) - CASTEL DEL RIO (M 0016). It consisted of:

A Brigade entirely composed of men from ROMAGNA, including a battalion from RAVENNA of some 250 men.

4th Brigade, which contained men from BOLOGNA and IMOLA.

Remnants of 66 GARIBALDI Brigade from CASTEL BOLOGNESE NW of FAENZA (M 2427);

About the end of August 66 Brigade had to disperse owing to German pressure. The Brigade split up into two detachments; 1st Detachment consisting of men from the BOLOGNA area, after operating in the M. FAGGIOLA area (R 0190) moved towards BOLOGNA in September; 2nd Detachment, which consisted of the men from ROMAGNA, remained in the old location. The greater part of both detachments has probably been over run, but definite information is lacking.

Area MERCATO SARACENO (R 6587) -S. PIERO in BAGNO (R 3776) - S.SOFIA (R 3286)

The remains of 8 GARIBALDI Brigade, which were in the MONTE - CODRUZZO (R 5995) area finally came across the lines on 7th October, and after a period of employment as civil police under AMG and manning FS check posts, have now rejoined the main body of the Brigade in the MERCATO SARACENO - SOFIA area.

FERRARA area.

Partisans are reported to be very weak in the FERRARA area, which is a stronghold of Fascism, and where a reliable partisan source considers that we are likely to encounter the "Black Brigade" nuisance There are, however, some 200 men organised in GAPS.

A document was recently brought across our lines from the patriot Commander "BULOW" reporting in full the disposition and achievements of the bands under his command. Its purpose was to enlist more Allied help. Of the 28th GAP Brigade he said "This is the oldest patriotic group in the Province; it is a military unit with branches all over the province, and counts about 500 patriots grouped in the following detachments:

Detachment "RICCI UMBERTO"	...	District enclosed by MASSA LOMBARDA (M 2742) CONSELICE (M 2749) RAVEZZOLA (M 3154) VOLTANA (M 3862).
Detachment "STROCCHI CELSO"	...	District of FAENZA and LUGO (M 3438)

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Detachment "T..RONI .RUNO"	...	District of .LFONSINE (M 4448) PI..NGIP..E (M 4738) LEZZ.NO (M 4744)
Detachment "B..BINO S..URO"	...	District of FUSIGN..NO (M 3744) B.GN..C..V..LLO (M 3838) RUSSI (M 4333) R.VENN. -S..M.RCO (M 5228) FU... M 4628) - RON- ..LOECI (M 4930).

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Detachment "SETTIMO G.R.VINI" ... District of S. ZACCARIA (M 5721) - S. STEFANO (M 5527) - CAMPIANO M 5624) -S. PIETRO IN VINCOLI (M5225) - CERVIA (M 6820)

The military activities of the 28th Brigade may be summed up as follows:-

Military actions	594
Sabotage acts	220
Actions or encounters the enemy	129
Enemy hors du combat	488

All these actions have been carried out in the Province of RAVENNA in the period Oct . 43 to Sept. 44. The casualties of the brigade have been:-

Dead	20
Wounded.....	6.

The Brigade operates all over the Province. At present its chief action consists of ambushes and attacks along the roads most used by the Germans. The increase in such actions noticeable in recent months has increased the violence of German reaction. The Brigade has always had to restrict its actions and limit their number owing to scarcity of weapons and ammunition. Sabotage likewise has been restricted by lack of explosives. Its armament is limited to old rifles (Italian and French) and a few automatic weapons (Breda and Fiat). This armament comes in part from the dissolved Italian army but mostly from disarmed enemy units. The same applies to the few explosives it has been possible to get. They have been obtained by dismantling of German mines employed in mine-fields and by raids on enemy stores.

The report says of the Detachment "LORI TERZO" - "Although is has been in existence only since 1st August (it could be founded only in this period, when the Germans began to withdraw some units from its area) it has the following successes to its credit.

12 encounters with [illegible]an forces (130-140 Germans killed or wounded)

15 German vehicles destroyed.

Bridge over the R. LAMONE on the RAVENNA -S. ALBERTO road

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15 German vehicles destroyed.
Bridge over the R. LAMONE on the RAVENNA -S. ALBERTO road blown up.
Small scale sabotage such as the cutting of German telephone wires and strewing anti-tyre nails.

(8th Army Partisan Summary No 2 -up to 28th October 44).

Bands Recently operating in the FORLI Area.

The most important band orgánised by the FORLI Committee of Liberation was a Garibaldi Brigade which operated in the area S. SOFIO (R. 5286) -S.P BAGNO IN [illegible] (R 2879) -CAMPIGNA. (R. 1978) A series of captured German documents and the reports of a conducted party of escaping British Generals who spent some time with the band, confirmed the effectiveness of the unit. Unfortunately soon after supply dropping started in April, the Germans started serious mopping up: part under [illegible] FALCO collected on the southern slopes of MT. FALTERONE (R 1679) and may still operate in the ALPI di S.N BENEDETTO The remainder under

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"PAOLO", stayed in the S. SOFIA area to the East. During the summer the band was re-organised as 8 GARIBALDI Assault Brigade by a veteran of the International Brigade in Spain from ALFONSINE NW of RAVENNA, who goes by the name of "PIETRO" or "MAURI".

Some form of partisan bands operate throughout most of the enemy rear areas on Eighth Army front. In the plains only small bands, supported by a well organised underground movement exist. (Eighth Army Partisan Summary No 1, to 9th October)

MODENA Area.

On the 14th January last the C.L.N. of MODENA constituted the first groups of partisans. By May they had grown sufficiently to be formed into five groups, which were called Divisions, the numbers of which varied between 5000 and 6000 men. The Command of these divisions was entrusted to one "ARMANDO", and the Commissar of the whole "army" is "DAVIDE", a doctor in law of the Province of REGGIO.

Commanders of divisions are as follows:-

1st.	Mario of Modena	(Communist)
2nd.	Babbolini	"
3rd.	Angelo	(Party of Action)
4th.	Marcello	(Apolitical)
5th.	Mario Nardi	(Party of Action).

The command had clandestine radios, which enabled it to contact the Allies and receive 17 droppings of arms. The severest mopping up operation which the brigade suffered was that of M. FIORINO, which was carried out by an armoured German division and a division of SS. After this action the Division was to a certain extent disintegrated and the elements which remained in the area reformed into Brigades. The commanders of these new units were

Fulmine
Filippo
Mario da Modena
Menchin
Claudio
(P.W.B. Florence)

German Precautions against Partisans

A German Order was recently found issued by 117 G.R. (in 98 Inf. Div). At that time (9th Aug. 44) the Division had only just arrived in Italy from the Balkans. 117 G.R. set up its HQ in RAVENNA and remained there until the last week in August, when the Division moved forward to be committed in the MONDAINO sector. The document was unsigned and ran as follows:-

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REGIMENTAL ORDER OF THE DAY

1. Partisans - General Situation and Counter-measures.

The development of partisan activities, an increase in which can be expected as the front line draws nearer, demands immediate and effective counter-measures. These can only be taken if information on the whereabouts of partisans, their strength, armament and activities, is passed immediately to higher headquarters. It is therefore the duty of every Coy commander and O.C. unit to forward all reports of partisan activities by the quickest possible means.

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(Here follows a description of the partisan groups in that particular area)

B. Partisan Activities.

Consist primarily of acts of sabotage. At present they concentrate chiefly on the disruption of communications, the destruction of roads, bridges and telephone communications. But they also attack single cars, horse-drawn vehicles, D.Rs and small groups of men, whilst attempts to destroy the harvest have also been made.

C. Suppression of Partisan Activities.

It is the duty of every German soldier to assist, as far as lies in his power, in the detection and suppression of these partisans. One source of information on partisans is the reports sent in by the troops themselves: this will be supplemented by "liaison officers" appointed by the Regt. Intelligence Officer. For this purpose Germans speaking Italians should be sought out and their names submitted to Regt. Liaison Officers will not be employed without authority from Regt.....

Counter measures will be taken on the spot against any acts of sabotage, and any attacks on German soldiers, Italian militia or civilians.

I. Prevention of Communications:

This can be achieved by:-

(a) Arresting the friends and relatives of partisans.
(b) Restricting freedom of movement, e.g. advancing the curfew hour (anyone found wandering about after the time laid down will be shot without appeal, unless his identity can be established)
(c) Confiscating bicycles.
(d) Closing down Italian telephone communications
(e) Closing down restaurants.
(f) Confiscating wireless sets.
(g) If no guard troops on L of C are in the area, a field unit should move in, strong enough to deal with the situation.

II. To persuade the civilian population to maintain peace, and to extract information the following measures are recommended:-

(a) Withdrawing tobacco ration cards)To be done in conjunction
(b) Withdrawing the wine ration)with the Mayor
(c) Imposition of fines.
(d) Transferring all men between 17 and 45 years of age to work in Germany, unless they are members of the Fascist Republican

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The public must be made to realise that any signs of partisan activities in their midst will have the most unpleasant consequences for them as well.

III. In areas where partisans are found in large numbers, or where acts of sabotage are of frequent occurrence and the criminals cannot be found, the following steps are to be taken:-

(a) Arrest Hostages. These are to be chosen on the recommendation of the Fascist militia, the Secretary of the fascist party or the Prefect of the province. The enemy of the country is the Communist.

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Prefects, Party Secretaries, and other fascist headquarters are instructed to prepare lists of all communists in the area, so that these elements are always at their disposal. Hostages must be taken from the circles which produce these criminals, so that, should shooting be necessary, a blow is dealt at others of the same ideology. It is a mistake to concentrate on the so-called "rich or upper classes".

(b) If there is a recurrence of acts of violence, an appropriate number of the hostages will be shot. I reserve the right to order the shooting. This is to brought to the notice of the population in advance, so that their responsibility in this matter is established and brought home to them.

(c) If crimes of outstanding violence are committed, especially against German soldiers, an appropriate number of the hostages will be hanged. In such cases the whole population of the place will be assembled to witness the execution. After the bodies have been left hanging for 12 hours, the public will be ordered to bury them without ceremony and without the assistance of any priest.

(8th Army Partisan Summary).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

REGGIO EMILL.

Partisan activity in REGGIO EMILIA has considerably increased recently. It appears that the area is becoming the centre of a large partisan concentration under a plan coordinated with the Allied advance. Anglo-American aircraft are constantly dropping arms, munitions and other war supplies to the partisans. (Agence Telegraphique Suisse 29.10.44).

Between the 1st September and 15th October Emilian patriots destroyed 19 bridges and 5 motor vehicles, besides interrupting the traffic on 8 roads. In the encounters with the enemy they killed 180 Germans and wounded 103. The Fascist losses amounted to 8 dead, 32 wounded and 4 prisoners. The patriots, who on their part suffered light losses, captured a large quantity of war material (P.W.B. Rome 2.11.44)

PIACENZA. The patriots in this zone, during the last two weeks, have taken about 200 prisoners and a considerable amount of arms, ammunition and explosives. They also blew up a bridge about 10 km from GENOVA.
(P.W.B. Rome 6.11.44).

LIGURIA. A Giustizia e Liberta brigade carried out the following actions in Liguria: Between CAPARENO and ALBIANO it attacked a German motorised column, destroyed two lorries, wounded two and killed 9 Germans; between PIANO BATTOLLA and FOLLO it defied a

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(P.W.B. Rome 5.11.44).

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Women Auxiliaries.

Mussolini received Piera Gazzetti Fondelli, General Commandant of the Women's Auxiliary Service, together with the Provincial Commandants. In a speech to the Duce the Commandant informed him that there are about 6,000 women in training in the various towns, while 1,237 women auxiliaries are already serving in the various units of the Armed Forces. Mussolini warmly praised the Commandant and her fellow commandants.
(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

The ceremony of swearing the oath of allegiance to the Italian Social Republic on the part of the group of Women Auxiliaries of TRIESTE took place in the "Muti" barracks there, in the presence of the military and civil authorities.
(Italian Home Service 30.10.44).

Air Force.

This is practically non-existent. It is made up of a mass of people who do nothing but draw their salary, not having any work to do owing to the total lack of planes.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.A. 27.10.44).

Navy.

It is reported from reliable sources that the following Republican Naval Units have been destroyed by Allied air attacks: Submarines Grongo, Sparide, and Aradam; torpedo boats Lira and Montanari.
(Italian Official Source 1.11.44).

VII. Behaviour and Morale.

PIEDMONT The Fascist troops here lack discipline and order; they habitually get drunk, and are specialists in sacking and rape. Pay is good. The Germans in general do not interest themselves in the behaviour of the Fascist troops in the towns, limiting themselves to supervising them in action. Occasionally they reprimand them, but in general they are pleased that the Fascists should compromise themselves and that the greater part of popular aversion should fall on them
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.A. 27.10.44).

Fascist Rule of Terror in Bologna. The situation deteriorates hourly in Bologna. All political prisoners are killed as hostages, or transferred to the north. The Fascists carry out arrests and deportations unscrupulously. It is confirmed that the Fascists hanged 23 partisans, who had been captured during a mopping-up operation in a public street in Reggio Emilia.

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(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.... 27.10.44).

Fascist Rule of Terror in Bologna. The situation deterioretes hourly in Bologna. All political prisoners are killed as hostages, or transferred to the north. The Fascists carry out arrests and deportations unscrupulously. It is confirmed that the Fascists hanged 23 partisans, who had been captured during a mopping-up operation in a public street in Reggio Emilia.

Further Details of Fossoli Executions. As regards the execution of 70 hostages chosen from among the prisoners of the FOSSOLI concentration camp, it is now learnt that the Bishop of Carpi was informed of the execution and immediately went to the spot, but that he was not even allowed to approach those who were still alive. Five succeeded in escaping at the last moment.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 30.10.44).

According to reliable sources the German decision to leave the Republican troops, in case of a retreat north of the Adige, to defend the line of the Ticino from the west of Lombardy, which is lightly fortified and without natural support, has caused great dread amongst official circles of the Republican Army. 3126
(Italian Official Source 24.10.44).

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VIII.
Anti-Partisan Organisation.

According to recent reports the Fascists are building up a new police organisation to supplement the feeble efforts of the Fascist Police Force, the Republican National Guard (GNR), in combatting partisans. The first step was the constitution of so-called RAP ("Reparti Arditi Partigiani" or Partisan Assault Detachments), which were apparently designed on the principle of setting a partisan to catch a partisan. Each Provincial Military HQ had to form one such detachment of four sections of 12 men, and an officer.

Personnel had, under penalty of being denounced to the Fascist and German political authorities, to declare themselves volunteers, and had the job of ranging the countryside after partisans, deserters etc.

This experiment was not much of a success, and a new idea was tried. Each Regional Military HQ was instructed to raise one battalion of RAU ("Reperti Arditi Ufficiali" or Officer Assault Detachments). The battalion was to consist entirely of officers and to be organised in 3 companies each of 3 sections of 13 second lieutenants and lieutenants.

Since, even under pressure, volunteers could not be found, this scheme too seems to have more or less still born, and finally, on about 1st September, a new organisation was set up called COGU. The letters probably stand for "Controguerriglia", ie. anti-partisan This organisation, headquarters and training centre of which are at VERCELLI, will probably include such RAPS and RAUs as have been formed. About 1st September a circular from Gen MISCHI, Chief of the General Staff of the Republican Army, stated that all officers who did not volunteer to serve in the ranks in the COGU organisation would be retired and placed under police surveillance. (8th Army Report 11.10.44).

GERMANS

IX. Evacuation Rumours.

From reliable sources it is reported that in German military circles it is considered probably that the German troops will be evacuated from PIEDMONT after the fall of BOLOGNA. (Italian Official Source 27.10.44).

It is reported that the Germans intend to destroy the port of LA SPEZIA completely; all the quays are already mined. The port of SAVONA is among the Ligurian ports from which the shipping [illegible] for La Spezia.

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(Italian Official Source 28.10.44).

The Germans have begun the removal of machinery and material from the AGIP factory (probably from the installation of the TURIN warehouses).

It was recently reported that 70 electric railway engines have been transferred from TURIN to [illegible]

In VENETO Province, in which the suspension of every industrial and transport activity is foreseen, as it will be included in the future German defence line, the German town majors have begun the requisition of all the industrial, electric, water and railway plant in the region in order to send it to the ALTO ADIGE.
(Italian Official Source 2.11.44).

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X. Morale and Behaviour.

Spreading Defeatism on Leave. The following is a translation of a captured Order of the Day for the 'Hoch-und Deutschmeister division".

"Sentence for K.LNZ, Simon, Corporal, 2nd Co. 80th Engr Bn.....

3 weeks close arrest and demotion to the next lower grade.

Reasons. During his furlough on 9th July 1944 the defendant
1. Boastfully told people in his village of incidents about the front, which did not correspond to the facts.
2. Recounted occurrences he was not permitted to divulge according to the "Regulations for Men on Furlough" known to him, and
3. Harmed the prestige of the combat soldier by his lack of confidence in the future.

This punishment will be carried out immediately. Procedure in accordance with Army Regulations.

I slapped this actually harmless gossiper on the mouth. In the future these cases will be dealt with only by courts martial.
/s/ M. ROST"

(P.W.B. German Intelligence 4.11.44).

Rahn Warns Fascists against Wonder Weapons.

Transocean reports from Venice 2.11.44: The moral crisis which swept Europe like an epidemic has been overcome, declared the German Ambassador, Rudolf RAHN, at a meeting arranged by the Italian-German Society in VENICE last night. Rahn referred to the frightful examples of Finland, Roumania and Bulgaria, which were awaiting certain and systematic destruction by a ruthless enemy.

Speaking of new weapons the German Ambassador said "we must guard against hoping for miracles other than the miracle of faith, will power and unshakable resolve." There was no such thing as the miracle weapon which appeared like a meteor overnight and destroyed the enemy at one blow. We were forging many new weapons for all branches of the Army, Air Force and Navy. They were being turned out in quickly growing numbers. People were working at top speed and with dogged perseverance in areas safe from air attacks.

German Supply Roads Function Well in Po Valley.

Transocean 30.10.44 stated "Seidlitz reports from VENICE: I counted 210 bomb craters along a second-class bridge over the river south of the Po, but traffic continues to pour across the bridge. Within a radius of 500 m the ground is marked with bomb craters. Not a single tile has been left of the peasant houses there.....

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Reasons. During his furlough on 6th July 1944 the defendant

1. Boastfully told people in his village of incidents about the front, which did not correspond to the facts.

2. Recounted occurrences he was not permitted to divulge according to the "Regulations for Men on Furlough" known to him, and

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Although it is not possible to make detailed statements on military traffic, the increasing proportion of heavy, and the heaviest German weapons seen permits the conclusion that military supplies are excellently organised. According to reliable estimates and under good conditions of visibility every important bridge south of the Po receives on an average (text illegible)...

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XI. Atrocities.

FELTRE area. 14 Partisan prisoners were hanged in FELTRE area early in October, with butchers' meat hooks wedged under their chins. It took them approximately three hours to die. The majority of partisans caught on GRAPPA were strung up to the nearest trees.

A British ex-prisoner of war BRYANT was shot in the leg, fell and was left behind. Germans beat his head to pulp with rifle butts. (Confidential Source 15.11.44).

CARNAIO. On the 24th July three German soldiers were killed by the partisans in the mountains of CARNAIO. Next day 25 inhabitants of S. PIERO, three of them old invalids, were arrested and taken to the CARNAIO and executed as a reprisal. Don Ilario LAZERONI, the local priest, asked to follow the innocents and to assist them; he was allowed to do so e and his body was found lying among the others. Eighteen farms in the surrounding district were burned and the cattle taken away.

On the 25th September the Germans withdrew from SARSINA, and the first Allied patrols entered the town led by the partisans. The population welcomed the liberators and volunteered immediately to repair a bridge destroyed by the Germans in their withdrawal. Next day the Germans counter attacked and re-occupied SARSINA. All men who collaborated with the Allies were arrested and 26 of them executed. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Intelligence Report No 43).

MONTE GRAPPA Details of the BASSANO Fascist Black Brigade atrocities after the Monte Grappa battles in four villages alone speak of many partisans hung or shot. Also 4 English, 2 South African and 2 New Zealanders from an Indian Division were shot. Partisans were hung from trees on meat hooks.
(A.A.I. 10.11.44).

MARZABOTTO The Germans killed 300 people as a reprisal against GAP action. The bodies were put in a common grave.

[illegible] PESIO Easter 1944.

The victim was a certain Armanda, a patriot of CORSAGLIA. Because he refused to speak his arms were broken in several places, and as he still kept silence he was tied to an armoured car and dragged in the snow until he died.

Between ARONA and GOZZANO a few days after the armistice three Jews, father and sons, then living at ARONA, were forced to dig a trench, were buried in it up to the threat and killed by being shot through the forehead and then having the tops of their skulls blown off. The daughter and sister of the three victims was brought to the place knowing nothing about it, shown the massacre of her relations and killed

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(Confidential Source 13.11.44).

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During a mopping-up operation between PIANFEI and VILLANOVA MONDOVI -April, May 1944- a girl was raped by a number of German soldiers. Before leaving her, while she was still screaming, they shot her in the mouth. The girl survived, gave birth to a child and remained for a long time in the hospital at MONDOVI. Nuns in the VAL PESIO were also raped and left pregnant.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.A. 27.10.44).

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GRAPPA After the recent anti-partisan offensive every house in the Northern area of Grappa was burnt and nearly every house in the southern part. Over 1,000 head of cattle were confiscated by the Germans. It is reported that when attacking the Fascists sent women and children ahead. 31 partisans and civilians were hanged in the VIALE VENETO at BASSANO. They were left on the trees for 48 hours (Confidential Source)

BERTINORO In Bertinoro 22 time-bombs were placed in the Bishop's Palace, with the only excuse that it could have been used as an OP by the Allies. Fortunately our REs got there just in time to neutralise the bombs.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 45.)
1.11.44.

CASONE The village of Casone, near CREMA, was completely destroyed by the Germans before their retreat because a few children threw nails on the road.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 45 1.11.44).

XII. German Steps to Check Railway Sabotage.

The Fascist Newspaper Brianza Repubblicana, writes. "Sabotage to which the railways in the MILAN region are subjected endangers supplies for the German front. The OKW has decided to mobilise men aged 18 to 55 in order to guard the MONZA BERGAMO lines". This order makes citizens responsible for any further sabotage. Severe reprisals will be taken. Those eluding guard duties or not accepting them in such a way as to satisfy the German authorities will expose their families to reprisals or have their property confiscated.
(Tribune de Geneve 28.10.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XIII. Radio.

PIEDMONT. Radio Londra much listened to/- Radio Bari and Radio Rome are difficult to hear. Radio New York is little listened to. Radio London was well heard in the morning (6.30) on medium waves in the region of MONDOVI.

At TURIN artificial interference was strong enough to prevent reception, especially during the day. La Voce di Londra is well received at 22.30 and the news at 23.30. Radio Algiers is well received and the news found very interesting.

In general British propaganda is considered good. Candidus is more appreciated than Stevens, who has lost much of his early sting.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.A. 27.10.44).

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In general British propaganda is considered good. Candidus is more appreciated than Stevens, who has lost much of his early sting.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.A. 27.10.44).

UDINE North of Udine there are reports that ITALIA COMBATTE is heard very well from the PALERMO station.
(Confidential Source 11.11.44).

It is also reported from Udine that the people listen to our transmissions at 7 oclock and the B.B.C. transmission at 23.30 hrs is also very popular.
(Confidential Source 5.11.44).

PADUA B.B.C. is as usual very popular, but the short wave sets have recently been confiscated.

The 8th Army Radio is heard very clearly. 3134

Bari is very much disturbed.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44. 26.10.44).

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XIV. Leaflets.

PIEDMONT. No leaflets have been seen there, although they have been heard of. Italia Combatte leaflets are unknown there (P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ..... 27.10.44).

POLITICS.

XV. Political Situation in Piedmont. Anti-Fascist.

The COMMUNISTS are by far the most powerful and best organised political force in TURIN, drawing their adherents from the majority of the industrial workers of Turin.

The SOCIALISTS are few in number and have rallied to the party out of respect for the old names and traditions of Socialism. For all practical purposes they make common cause with the Communists.

At one time the PARTY OF ACTION was purely an anti-Fascist movement, combining men of every shade of political tendencies and views. When Fascism was overthrown and the old parties re-suscitated the adherents of the movement, out of loyalty to the leaders of the anti-Fascist resistence made the movement into a political party. The natural result was a split, the more radical members taking the Party towards the Left, while the more conservative joined the Liberal Party. The Party of Action still has considerable influence in Piedmont, and has a wide following among the younger professional men, intellectuals and students.

The CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, although they support an agrerian policy, with some tendency towards Collectivism, nevertheless, incline to ally themselves with the Liberal Party. The Christian Democrat Party is still in process of reorganisation, but it is expected that it will be able to count on the adhesion of ex-members of the old Partito Popolare, who are numerous in the province of CUNEO and also in the country districts of the province of Turin. The Catholic Action has always been very strong in Piedmont, and is also likely to provide adherents.

The LIBERAL PARTY is still in process of organisation. It can count on the support of the majority of the middle class. In the Province of CUNEO (a stronghold of the old Liberal Party), it has considerable adherents among students and professional men. There is still a minority which favours monarchical institutions; the larger part are either republican or merely sitting on the fence. In any case the hostility to the person of the present King is practially unanimous.

In CUNEO and MONDOVI the Liberal Party is prevalent. In the districts of SALUZZO and BRA and ALBESE, which are generally agricultural, the Christian Democrats are dominant, although the Communo-Socialists have small nuclei in the towns of MONDOVI, SOVIGLIANO and FOSSANO. In TURIN the Communo-Socialists predominate and are supported by the Party of Action.

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Another winter of war will undoubtedly add to the misery and hardships of the population, which will inevitably increase the influence of the left parties.

In TURIN the Communo-Socialists and the Party of Action claim the entire local government. In CUNEO the Liberals and Christian Democrats claim the Prefecture and the Municipality, while the Action Party have been allotted the Presidency of the Province.
(P.W.B. Rome [illegible]).

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XVI. Politics in Padua.

It seems that the Communist Party is the most powerful in the province of PADUA and has a big support even from the small proprietors who think that the big landed proprietors will have to share their land with them. The Action Party comes next and has many followers in the towns.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44)
26.10.44.

XVII. Generals Excluded from Amnesty.

Transocean reports from MILAN that Tullio CIANETTI, Mussolini 's former Minister -- sentenced to 30 years penal servitude at VERONA - will not be included in the Duce's amnesty proclaimed yesterday, it is learned from a reliable source today. Italian Generals CARACCIOLO, GARIBOLDI, ROBOTTI, and others awaiting trial in the prison of PARMA, are also excluded. The press has been silent about this trial for months.

XVIII. Fascist Refugees Repelled by Swiss.

Twenty notorious Fascists are reported to have entered Switzerland recently with a group of refugees. After their arrival in Switzerland they apparently presumed that they could behave as though they were at home and fortunately they made this so plain that they were sent back by the next train. When they raised their hands to give the Fascist salute, the train's departure saved them from being taught a good lesson.
(Berner Tagwacht 26.10.44).

XIX. Appointments and Dismissals.

On the proposal of the Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party, the Duce has appointed as Vice-Secretaries of the Party the Fascist Republicans Dr. Antonio BONINO and Dr. Pino ROMUALDI, who will take up their posts at Milan and HQ respectively.

The Duce has also appointed the lawyer Giuseppe PIZZIRANI, hitherto Vice Secretary of the Party, to be High Commissioner for the VENETO.
(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

In the Corps of the Black Brigades the Secretary of the Party who commands it, has appointed as Chief of Staff the Fascist Republican Colonel (? Edoardo PASTORELLO) instead of the Fascist Republican Colonel Giovanni RIGGIO, who has been appointed Inspector General of the Corps.
(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

By a regulation dated 20.10.44 PAVOLINI ordered that

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(Italian Home Service 29.10.44).

By a regulation dated 20.10.44 PAVOLINI ordered that Signorina Maria BEFANI, Reggente Provinciale dell'Ispettorato Gruppi Femminili di PAVIA, Signora Sandra BERNUZZA, commanding an auxiliary detachment, and Doctor Amato DEZZA were to be suspended from all political activity. Maria del CONTE has been appointed in place of Maria BEFANI and Libera MORSONI has been appointed director of the "Onore Combattimento" Group in PAVIA.
(Sera Milan 25.10.44).

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XX. Food Situation.

PADUA In Padua the living conditions are quite good. Shops are open and almost everything can be found. This is mainly due to the fact that the German soldiers sell on the Black Market a great part of what they have looted in the forward areas. The food situation therefore is satisfactory.

Black Market prices:

Bread - 3 lire per kilo
Meat - 45 lire per kilo, although enormous quantities are requisitioned by the Germans.
Butter - 400 lire per kilo
Oil - 600 lire per litre
Sugar - 80 lire per kilo

A good meal in any restaurant does not cost more than 80 lire. It is easy to find a decent man's suit for 4000 lire. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

VENEZIA Rations are as follows:-

Bread - 200 grms per day per person. Lire 3 per kilo
400 grms per day per person for labourers and normal workers.
Black Market price lire 50 per kilo
Rice - 1 kilo per person per month. Lire 3 per kg.
Black Market price lire 50 per kilo.
Meat - Nil, due largely to transport difficulties
Black Market price lire 250 per kg.
Salt - 10 grms per head per day - lire 2 per kg.
Oil, butter, fats. - Nil. Black Market price for oil lire 700 per litre.
Cigarettes - 20 per week - lire 20 per 20
Black Market price lire 70-80 per 20
Eggs - Lire 12 each.

Electricity is rationed and there is little gas available. The water situation is bad owing to Allied Air Raids. Fuel is almost non-existent, and people are dreading the winter with the dampness and fog which is prevalent in Venezia during the winter months. There are very few motor launches running on the Grand Canal, but the Canal Steamboat service is still running regularly. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 45 1.11.44).

MILAN Due partly to the additional number of people in Milan and to transport difficulties of bringing food into the city, the food situation is deteriorating. There is a great shortage of fats and oils.

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Bread - 3 lire per kilo
Meat - 45 lire per kilo, although enormous quantities are requisitioned by the Germans.
Butter - 400 lire per kilo
Oil - 600 lire per litre
Sugar - 80 lire per kilo.

A good meal in any restaurant does not cost more than 80 lire. It is easy to find a decent man's suit for 4000 lire. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

VENEZIA Rations are as follows:-

Bread - 200 grms per day per person. Lire 3 per kilo
400 grms per day per person for labourers and normal workers.
Black Market price lire 50 per kilo
Rice - 1 kilo per person per month. Lire 3 per kg.
Black Market price lire 50 per kilo.
Meat - Nil, due largely to transport difficulties
Black Market price lire 250 per kg.
Salt - 10 grms per head per day - lire 2 per kg.
Oil, butter, fats. - Nil. Black Market price for oil lire 700 per litre.
Cigarettes - 20 per week - lire 20 per 20
Black Market price lire 70-80 per 20
Eggs - Lire 12 each.

Electricity is rationed and there is little gas available. The water situation is bad owing to Allied Air Raids. Fuel is almost non-existent, and people are dreading the winter with the dampness and fog which is prevelent in Venezia during the winter months. There are very few motor launches running on the Grand Canal, but the Canal Steamboat service is still running regularly. (P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 45 1.11.44).

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Bread - 200 grms per person per day for non
375 grms " " " " for workers
475 grms " " " " for workers doing heavy work.
lire 2.60 per kilo against coupon
Lire 30 per kilo on the Black Market.
Yellow or white flour may be taken in whole or in part of bread ration.
Butter- 100 grms per person per month.
Prices: lire 50 per kilo against coupon
lire 400-500 Black Market.

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Oil - 50 grms per person per month.
Price unknown, but on the Black Market up to lire 1000 per litre.

Meat- 65 Or 75 grms per person each fortnight.
Price: lire 40 per kilo against coupon
lire 150 on Black Market.

Sugar - 500 grms per person per month
Price: lire 15 per kilo
lire 150/200 on Black Market.

Salt - 100 grms per person per month
Price: lire 5 per kib
lire 100/200 on Black Market.

Tobacco-15 cigarettes per person per week.
On the Black Market prices are: ..frice Lire 120 for 20
Serraglio lire 200 for 20.

Vegetables are in fair supply, whilst fruit is somewhat short. Prices of the latter are: 20-30 lire per kilo, according to quality. There are a number of communal kitchens in MILAN. No 10 was opening at the time informant left the city (23.9.44). Anyone may feed at these kitchens without ration cards or coupons. Some have a meal and then fall in at the tail of the queue for a second one. The meals are reported as being very good. (P.W.B. Italian Section Report No 43 22.10.44).

PIEMONTE

On the whole the food situation in Piedmont is moderately good. The 1944 harvest has been good and has already been distributed among the population by the Communal authorities, by means of the handing over of ration cards for bread and pasta and the allowance of an extra quintal and a half of grain per head. This has been done under pressure on the part of the partisan organisation.

The price of grain in the province of CUNEO is 500-600 lire the quintal on the Black Market. The official price is 350 lire per quintal.

Cattle are much reduced in numbers both on account of the lack of fodder - the harvest of which has been poor during the last two years - on account of bad weather conditions and the lack of chemical fertilisers, and also because of the killing off of young animals normally kept for breeding. The situation may become worse when the herds come down from the mountains, where they have been controlled by the partisans, into the valleys, where the Germans are rounding up all cattle.

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Sugar - 500 grms per person per month
Price: lire 15 per kilo
lire 150/200 on Black Market.
Salt - 100 grms per person per month
Price: lire 5 per kib
lire 100/200 on Black Market.
Tobacco-15 cigarettes per person per week.
On the Black Market prices are: Price Lire 120 for 20
Serraglio lire 200 for 20.

Vegetables are in fair supply, whilst fruit is somewhat short. Prices of the latter are: 20-30 lire per kilo, according to quality. There are a number of communal kitchens in MILAN. No 10 was opening at the time informant left the city (23.9.44). Anyone may feed at these kitchens without ration cards or coupons. Some have a meal and then fall in at the tail of the queue for a second one. The meals are reported as being very good. (P.W.B. Italian Section Report No 43 22.10.44).

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In the cities meat is distributed once a week in the smallest quantities. The price on the Black Market fluctuates between 120 lire (in the country) and 250 lire (in the towns). In the regions under partisan control meat is distributed fairly frequently to the civilian population at 20 lire the kilo. The patriots requisition cattle now that the "ammassi" and "raduni" have ceased to function.

The raising of pigs has much decreased and is mostly done on a small scale by families. The price of pork and salt meats on the Black Market varies between 300 and 400 lire a kilo.

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Fats. The situation is very critical. Oil has practically disappeared. and the price has gone up to 1000 lire a litre. Lard varies between 300 and 400 lire. As for butter, which is scarce owing to lack of cattle and fodder or because the "emassi" no longer function-/costs 250 lire per kilo in the mountains and 400 to 500 lire in the towns. There will, of course, be the usual seasonal decline in production during the winter.

Cheese and milk. These are absolutely insufficient, in fact have almost disappeared. Even in the mountains milk costs 10-15 lire the litre, when it can be found. It can be said that cheese costs 300/350 lire the kilo and 400 in the towns and it is of poor quality because made of skimmed milk.

Eggs and Chickens. There have been severe epidemics of laringitis. Chickens cost 100-200 lire the kilo, live weight, eggs from 80-120 lire the dozen. Egg pools are no longer functioning and distribution is difficult, especially in the towns. At TURIN, however, in the summer of 1944 eggs could be found at 7.30 lire each.

Maize. Considering the weather the harvest has been exceptionally good. Prices range round 500 lire the quintal and it is easily obtainable.

Potatoes. Good harvest - prices from 6-10 lire the [illegible]

Dried Vegetables. moderetely good harvest - beans 15 lire the kilo.

Fruit. This is very plentiful, has not been exported from the different regions and prices are therefore low. Apples 6 lire the kilo, pears the same. Many apples have been put aside for the manufacture of cider.

Chestnuts. Production has been good. Last year the price was from 1000 to 2000 lire the quintal.

Wine. Production good, but not extremely so on account of lack of copper sulphate. Sulphur has almost entirely disappeared and has reached the price of 2000 lire the quintal, although the official price is 200. The price of wine varies between 30 and 50 lire the litre. In the towns it is almost unobtainable owing to lack of transport.

LIGURIA. Here conditions are extremely bad. Flour has reached 200 lire the kilo. The people often remain for several days without bread the ration of which is very small. Paste is not distributed monthly. The only product which is found in any quantity is oil. Fruit too is plentiful.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ..... 27.10.44).

TURIN Milk Production Offences Punished. The Provincial Prices and Consumption Control Commission inflicted on 23 farmers and tradesmen fines ranging from 10,000 to 500,000 lire as well as withdrawing permits for handling milk in the most serious cases. The "Societa Nuova Italia" and the company's board of management have been jointly fined 300,000 lire for making cheese with insufficient fat content and supplying shops with butter without the prescribed seals.
(Sera, Turin 24.10.44).

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(Sera, Turin 24.10.44).

XXI. Industry.

PIEDMONT. The industrial situation here is very bad, both on account of Allied air raids and the removal of machinery by the Germans, but also because of acts of sabotage by the patriots. There is also a great lack of skilled labour, because of the call-up and German persecutions and lack of modern machinery and of raw materials and transport; finally too there is complete lack of faith in the future. In general only the industries function which produce for the German armed forces- these receive payment which covers any possible damage and the Germans pay without any trouble.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and ..... 27.10.44).

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XXII. Communications.

TURIN Stampa, Turin publishes the following text of an order prohibiting motor vehicle traffic. "In view of the large number of attacks by bandits against soldiers and civilians, and with reference to Article 19 of the unified text of the Municipal and Provincial Law, the Head of the Province of Turin decrees. "Until further orders all civilian motor vehicle traffic is prohibited in Turin in the zone lying within the block posts as from 06 00 hours on October 2nd except under a permit issued by the German Military Town Command. Except in more serious cases infringement of this order will be punished by arrest as well as confiscation of the vehicle which will be carried into effect by decree of the Head of the Province. Motor vehicles which do not draw up immediately on the order of a police agent will b be fired on.
(Stampa Turin 25.10.44).

PIEDMONT Railways are not functioning or only in portions for short distances on account of the destruction of bridges by the patriots and by allied bombing, and of the removal of tracks by the Germans. Wherever there was a double track they have removed one of them.

Telephone and telegraph communications are suppressed. Postal communications are so unreliable that the public rarely has recourse to them. A letter from MONDOVI to VILLANOR. (7 km), took a month and a half.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and .... 27.10.44).

XXIII. Public Health.

PIEDMONT Undernourishment has caused a great deal of tuberculosis, all the more so because the sanatoriums are no longer open. This is particularly the case in the towns. Cases of nervous exhaustion and stomach diseases are numerous. In one town alone of 4000 inhabitants (GOZZANO) on the Lake of ORTA, it was proved that there were 250 cases of gastric ulcer. There is a great lack of medical supplies.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and .... 27.10.44).

XXIV.- Air Raid Damage.

PADUA Padua had six bad air attacks, but the town has not suffered much. The station is completely destroyed, and so is the church Eremitana, where the frescoes of MANTEGNA were, but the Basilico of Sant Antonio and the famous chapel of the SCROVEGNO, with its GIOTTO frescoes are intact.

In VICENZA the station has also been completely destroyed, but the town has not suffered at all.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

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LABOUR.

XXV. Workers in Germany - more Inducements

Sveglia, Milan 15.10.44 publishes the following advertisement under a drawing showing a happy mother and her baby carrying parcels "In order to give greater tranquility of mind to the families of workers employed in Germany a special Bureau has recently been opened at the Employment Offices, where advise and assistance are given. The steps taken for this purpose are important and relief measures have been perfected. For example, it has been arranged to publish a periodical exclusively intended for the families of workers in Germany, which will give them news of their relatives there and also keep them informed of any new regulations which may be of interest to them. Secondly a special canteen will be reserved for workers' families for the distribution of food stuffs and articles of daily consumption with special regard to clothing requirements.

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Stampa Turin 25.10.44 publishes advertisement no 8 under a drawing showing a father playing with his children in a garden. Shall I get my holidays in Germany? Certainly. Men working in Germany are entitled to the normal holiday period with every facility for spending it in Italy. It is for this specific case that a law for temporary repatriation has been drawn up. There are other reasons which may jusitfy repatriation.

XXVI. Industrial Unrest in the North.

There is considereble movement among the workers in most of the North Italian industrial towns. The Fascist authorities fear a fresh general strike similar to that of last March. The present movements are particularly noticeable in MILAN, TURIN, GENOA, VENICE and other towns in consequence of the lack of food, the reprisals against certain workers and clerks who threatened a general strike if their demands were not satisfied.

The situation in VENICE is especially serious owing to the difficult food situation, and the fact that, after the recent raid which caused extensive flooding, thousands of people have been obliged to leave their homes.
(La Suisse 30.10.44).

XXVII. State Control of Industry.

"In view of the necessity to regulate the reduction of weekly working hours in industrial concerns in the Province of Turin, the Head of the Province decrees: "No industrial concern may reduce working hours to anything under 24 hours a week without the previous sanction of the Director of the Labour Exchange of the Province, who will first refer the matter to the syndical industrial organisation. The Director of the Provincial Labour Exchange is charged with the execution of this decree".
(Stampa, Turin 25.10.44).

In connection with closer State control over national economy various industrial bureaux have lately been established to ensure that the branches under survey execute the regulations enforced by war conditions and to prevent disturbances in economic life by attending to the distribution of production in their sector. Thus the industrial bureau for chemistry and rubber has been established under the Minister for Corporative Economy. The bureau controls the production and distribution of chemicals and rubber products, and can prohibit the manufacture of certain articles. The formation of similar bureaux for other industrial branches is being planned.
(Europa-Kabel, Amsterdam 13.10.44).

XXVIII. German Reassurances to Workers.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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(Europa-Kabel, Amsterdam 13.10.44).

XXVIII. German Reassurances to Workers.

In order to calm down the fear of the north Italian workers that the large industries will be destroyed, PAVOLINI made a speech stating that in MILAN there "existed serious preoccupation about the fate of factories and industrial installations in the case of a German retreat". PAVOLINI continued: "The Duce has interested himself in the matter and, after contacts yesterday with the highest competent German authorities, I have been authorised to communicate to you that productive establishments which assure work and a living to the Milanese and Italian workers and clerks will in no way be destroyed. It is solely planned to destroy installations directly useful for the war". Pavolini's statement was directly inspired by Kesselring and partly reassured the workers and clerks of Milan, Turin and Genoa. The threat of a general strike thus seems to have been avoided.
(La Suisse, Geneve 1.11.44).

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PRESS

XXIX. Papers in Padua.

The following Fascist newspapers are read in Padua:

Gazettino of Venice
Crociata Italica of Cremona
Vedetta Fascista edited in Vicenza
Regime Fascists of Cremona
Il Veneto edited in Padua.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

CHURCH

XXX. Attitude to Partisans.

PIEDMONT Officially the church takes a neutral attitude, but in actual fact it is in favour of the partisan movement. Naturally it supports the antifascist parties of the right and particularly the Christian Democrats. The help given by the "Cottolengo" is very generous to the bombed out and wounded. One priest at M- is the organiser of a band of youths of L'Azione Cattolica". His house is a clandestine refuge for partisans and he is always ready to take part in actions - however risky and he has collaborated in the collection and supply of arms. He also helps in the care of sick and wounded, although this is very dangerous on account of the strict control exercised over clinics and hospitals, as all those wounded by firearms should be immediately reported to the German authorities.

Another priest organised a squad of boys from 14-16 years to undertake work of sabotage - distribution etc.
(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.A. 27.10.44).

XXXI. Attacks on Cardinal Schuster.

Farinacci has launched a violent tirade against Cardinal Schuster because the latter, in a recent speech declared that the war was now lost for the Axis and that the only way out was to surrender to the generosity of the victors. Another reason for Farinacci's tirade was the Cardinal's letter addressed to the clergy of Milan after the recent heavy allied air attack. Farinacci's grievance was that the latter contained not a single word of protest and he writes "The terrorist bombers are not even mentioned for fear of offending them".
(Dovere Bellinzona 30.10.44).

PERSONALITIES

XXXII. Extraordinary Tribunals of Milan, Mantova, Bergamo and Cremona.

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Vedetta fascista edited in Vicenza
Regime Fascists of Cremona
Il Veneto edited in Padua.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

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- PERSONALITIES

XXXII. Extraordinary Tribunals of Milan, Mantova, Bergamo and Sondrio.

The names of the special Fascist Tribunal which worked in Milan are:-

EZIO MARI. GRAI, Lawyer, President of the Tribunal
Captain GLORCE -
Aldo LUPI
Edoardo ZANETTI

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Lt. Col. Girolamo LANTERI
Capt. SOFO BORGHESE
Lt. RENATO LAVIANO
Maj. ETTORE ACERRA
Maj. CARMELO VINCI
Maj. GUIDO PIGHETTI
Maj. DOMENICO ROBBA
Capt. ALBERTO CASSELLA.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.11.44).

Fascist Tribunal of Bergamo.

Alfredo DAINOTTI of the Militia. President.
AGOSTINI PERRONI - Public Minister
Alfredo BARILLARI
Antonio FONTANO
(P.W.B. Rome 8.11.44).

Special Tribunal of Mantova.

Raoul MARCHETTI President
Torquato STRAFICHI Public Minister
Enrico FRIPOLI Accountant
Guido MOSSINI

(P.W.B. Rome)

Special Tribunal of [illegible]ni which sat in Sondrio.

Antonio TROTTA Lawyer
Angelantonio BIANCHI
Michele PODDIGHE
(P.W.B. Rome 6.11.44).

XXXIII. Milan Torturers.

The following are the names of well-known torturers of Milan:-

Magg. DONGO Vice-Federale of Torino. Member of the Magistrature
Fascist Secretary (Black Brigade)

Capt.
(Centurione)
ORLANDI Member of Militia 30-35 years of age
Height 5' 5". Dark, curly hair

Cap Magg. FRANZONI 50 years of age, low intelligence,

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(P.W.B. Rome 4.11.44).

Fascist Tribunal of Bergamo.

Alfredo D.INCTTI of the Militia. President.
.GOSTINI PERR.NI - Public Minister
Alfredo B.RILL.RI
Antonio FONT.NO
(P.W.B. Rome 8.11.44).

Special Tribunal of Mantova.

Raoul M.RCHETTI President
Torquato STRE.FICHI Public Minister
Enrico FRIPOLI Accountent
Guido MOSSINI

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(Centurione)
ORL.NDI Member of Militia 30-35 years of age
Height 5' 5". Dark, curly hair

Cap Magg. FR.NZONI 50 years of age, low intelligence, Ignorant. Slender type
Round shouldered Height 5' 9" Described as being more cruel then Dongo and Orlandi.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Italian Section Report No 43).

XXXIV. Venezia Black List.

Col. MON.CO Commandante Military of the Province of Venezia
Console MORELLI Commandante Provinciale G.N.R.
Age about 50, height 1.65m, keen Fascist, very unpopular.

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Capt. SC.NZIANI	Secretary of above; native of MIL.N .ge 45, height 1.70m thin.
Lt. Z.NI or Z.NE	Head of the office of UPI. Native of C.V.RZERE (VENEZIA); age 40, normal build, height 1.75 m. In charge of interrogation and torture.
Capt. FR.NCESE.	Adjutant of G.N.R. Narive of S. Italy .ge 45, thin, height 1.75m. .ddress: S. M.RI. del GIGLIO (VENEZI.)
Sergente FR.NCESE	Son of above. .ge 20, height 1.70m thin.
Lt. LUX.RDO Sjt of Lt. LUX.RDO Dino.	With G.N.R. age 50, height 1.70m thin Spy for Italian SS to report to SS on partisan activity .ge 20. height 1.70m scar on forehead.
Capt. RIZZO	Ex. Capt of CC.RR. In charge of investigations for recruiting officers. .ge 50, wears glasses, 1.70m, moustache.

(P.W.B. .dv. H.Q. .....I. Italian Section Report No 45, 1.11.44)

XXXV. Padua Fascists.

The Prefect and Commissari Federali are changed very often. The last Prefect of P.DU., POLL.ZI, was sacked because found too weak.

The worst Fascists are the brothers .LLEGRO.

GINO .LLEGRO, Commandant of the Black Brigade is said to be a sadistic torturer and has a torture room in the Federazione Fascists, Via Riviere Tito Livio. He is responsible for the death of more than a hundred persons.

His brothers activities are more of a political and propaganda nature.

(P.W.B. .dv. HQ .....I. Italian Section Report No 44 26.10.44).

XXXVI. Collaborators in Piedmont.

M.RIO SOL.RO - Federal Secretary
ZERBINO -Ex prefect of Turin
BR.NDIM.RTE -Console Generale of the Militizia - native of SOMM.RIV. BOSCO
G.ZZOTTI- ex Federale of Turin

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Capt. FR.NCESE.	Adjutant of G.N.R. Narive of S. Italy age 45, thin, height 1.75m. Address: S. M.RIA del GIGLIO (VENEZI.)
Sergente FR.NCESE	Son of above. Age 20, height 1.70m thin.
Lt. LUX.RDO	With G.N.R. age 50, height 1.70m thin
Sjt of Lt. LUX.RDO Dino.	Spy for Italian SS to report to SS on partisan activity Age 20. height 1.70m scar on forehead.
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(P.W.B. Adv. H.Q. A.A.I. Italian Section Report No 45, 1.11.44)

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G.ZZOTTI- ex Federale of Turin
Eng. S.RTIR.N. -ex Mayor of Turin
Count F..LLETTI of Villa Falletto -ex Federale of Turin
Eng. Count .LESS.NDRO ORSI- one time Inspector General of the Party and Director of .T.G
Cesare BONINO - ex Federale
.ntonio BONINO
Dott. C..RLO BONGIOV.NNI - Member of the Special Tribunal Fierce persecutor of partisans
GL.REI - Federale of .OST. and CUNEO
M.RIO S..R.SINO -Squadrist and spy - now fled to MONDOVI
M.N..SSERO . father and son of MONDOVI -spies

SECRET

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

The brothers BORGNA -interpreters and collaborators with the Germans.
Avv. GIACOMO VIALE -ex Segretario politico of MONDOVI-spy
The sisters RINZIVILLO - keep a laundry at MONDOVI which is a well known refuge for spies and SS.
VITTORIA ORIGLIA -denouncer of patriots
The Segretario Comunale of PAMPARATO -spy
REVELLI -Segretario Politico of MONDOVI
ELIGIO POSSENTI - Journalist of SAVONA -spy who had Avv. Astengo Cristoforo of Savona shot
"DON APPELIUS" of CEVA - spy - incited the Germans from the pulpit against partisans
Dott. REVELLI of ROCCA CIGLIE -spy
DON DEI of CLAVESANA (CARRU) - guide to the Germans in their burnings of the houses of partisans.
Signorine MUSSO - hostesses of the GERMAN Command at MONDOVI - spies.
Signorine OCCELLI - collaborators and spies, welcomed the Germans
Professoressa MONTEZEMOLO of MONDOVI - welcomed the Germans with flowers.
Signorina BORGNA of MONDOVI -spy
Signore SARASINO of MONDOVI
Signorina MANFREDI -Via della Funicolare -MONDOVI spy
BONALLI -dye manufacturer at MONDOVI -collaborator
DOTT. RONZA -Federale of CUNEO, Commander of the Black Brigade.
2nd Lt. RICCIARDI -Commandant of the SS of MONDOVI, well-known for his savagery, war criminal
Capt TINTO -Commander of the SS at CEVA and CHIUSA-PESIO
Console BIANTI Head of the Ufficio Politico of TURIN with hq at MONCALIERI
BIANCHI -journalist of SAVONA, founder of the Fasci Repubblicani at SAVONA, now President of the Province.

(P.W.B. Rome G.B. and A.M. 27.10.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET
"D" Section Ital.. (Occ).

20th November, 1944

IT..LI..N THE..TRE H..DQU..RTERS
PSYCHOLOGIC..L W..R..RE BR..NCH
Unit No 12.

TO	DATE
[illegible]	[illegible]
LT CO W[illegible]	[illegible]
MAJ BUCKMAN	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
MAJ HANBURY	22/11
MAJ BALLANCE	23/11
CAPT POWEL	22/11
CHIEF CLERK	

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 31.

SUM[illegible]

RESIST..NCE

Patriot ..ctivity

The steady ..llied ..dvance into the Po plain has had the effect of stimulating the activity of the patriots in the region of EMILI.. For the last two months partisan groups have been accumulating in the hills south of P..RM.., REGGIO EMILI.. and MODEN.., and have been actively attacking German communications.

.. Swiss report states that two large scale punitive expeditions in the IMOL.. and MODEN.. zones were repulsed with heavy losses.

In LIGURI.. a Justice and Liberty Brigade has also been active.

Fascist sources claim successes in mopping-up operations in the PI..CENZ.. region and in the V..L SO..N.. (V..L DI..OST..) H 99[illegible]2. In the TIMOLI..IS Valley (FRIULI) 6000 Germans forced their way against the OSOPPO Garibaldi Brigade after six days heavy fighting. It was learnt later from German sources that the attackers had suffered 1000 casualties.

Partisan Organisation.

Details are given of the distribution of bands in the R..VENN.., F..ENZ.., FORLI and MODEN.. areas.

German tribute to Partisans.

.. Regimental order of the 117th G.R. (98th Infantry Division) of 9th August describes partisan activites and lays down methods of coping with them, naturally ending with instructions to shoot and hang hostages.

F..SCIST FORCES.

S. Marco Division This Division until late October was partly distributed along the Riviera from VENTI..IGLI.. to the TURCHINO Pass, and partly about the BR..CCO Pass (NW. of La SPEZI..)

[illegible] Division has been incorporated

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CHIEF CLERK

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The Etna Division It seems that this Division has been incorporated with the G.N.R.

Women ..uxiliaries. The General Commandant of the Womens' Auxiliary Service reported to the Duce that 6000 women are in training while 1,237 are already serving in the forces.

Morale. From Piemonte it is reported that Fascist troops there lack discipline. There is much drunkenness among them, and they are specialists in looting and rape.

New ..nti-Partisan Regulations. ..fter the failure to organise the R..Ps (Reparti ..rditi Partigiani) and the R..Us (Reparti ..rditi Ufficiali) a new force has been set up on September 1st called COGU (probably Control-Guerriglia). This will probably include what R..Ps and R..Us have been scraped together previously.

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET SUM..RY 2.

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

GER..NS

Evacuation of Piedmont.

Rumours persist that the Germans will evacuate Piedmont after the fall of BOLOGN.. It is also said that they have prepared the demolition of the port of L. SPEZI..

Morale.

Frantic efforts are made by the military authorities to prevent defeatism among the troops. In an order of the day to the Hoch-un-Deutschmeister Division, a corporal was reduced and got three weeks close arrest for his lack of confidence in the future.

.trocities.

More reports have arrived of the horrible atrocities committed on captured partisans in the MONTE GR..PP. area, where prisoners were hung by meat hooks under their chins, taking them about three hours to die. Other massacres of villagers are reported from C..RN..IO, 24th July, S..RSIN.., 25th September, M..RZ..BOTTO, CORS..GLI.., ..RON.. Nuns in the V..L PESIO were raped.

..LLIED PROP..G..ND..

Piedmontese sources report BBC well heard in MONDOVI at 6.30 am on medium wave. In TURIN during the day jamming is strong, but BBC is heard well at 22.30 (Voce di Londra) and news at 23.30 Radio Algiers is also well received. Candidus is now preferred to Stevens.

From UDINE it is said that the Italia Combatte programme is heard well from P..LERMO. From P..DOV.. BBC is popular as ever, but short wave sets have been confiscated.

POLITICS.

P..DU.. It is reported that the Communist Party is powerful in P..DU.. Province, and even finds support among the country people. The ..ction Party is next in importence and has many followers in the towns.

..ppointments. Dr. Antonio BONIZIO and Dr. Pino ROMU..LDI have been appointed Vice-Secretaries of the Party. In the Corps of Black Brigades Col Giovanni RIGGIO has become Inspector-General and Col Edoardo P..STORELLO replaces him as Chief of Staff.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation In P..DU.. conditions are good, mainly due to the fact that Germans sell on the Black Market a great part of their [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Appointments. Dr. Antonio BONIZIO and Dr. Pino ROMUALDI have been appointed Vice-Secretaries of the Party. In the Corps of Black Brigades Col Giovanni RIGGIO has become Inspector-General and Col Edoardo PASTORELLO replaces him as Chief of Staff.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation In PADUA conditions are good, mainly due to the fact that Germans sell on the Black Market a great part of their loot from forward areas.

VENICE. Conditions are bad. The water situation is precarious, owing to air-raids.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET SUMMARY.

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

MILAN Owing to the influx of refugees and transport difficulties the situation is deteriorating, especially in regard to fats and oil.

PIEDMONT. The situation is fairly good. The harvest has been plentiful, and has already been distributed. The meat ration may deteriorate as herds will now have to migrate from the mountains, where they have been under partisan control, and come down to the plains, where the Germans round up all cattle.

Industries.

The industrial situation in PIEDMONT is very bad, on account of Allied Air raids, removal of machinery by Germans, and sabotage by patriots. Skilled labour is lacking owing to the call-up, deportations and German persecution. Modern machinery, raw materials and transport are lacking.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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14061/4

	DATE
	13/11
	14/11
Maj. Luckman.	14/11
	16/11

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th November, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 30.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisan Organisation in Piedmontese Alps.

The Committee of Liberation of TURIN has organised patriot bands of four types:

1. Autonomous formations (estimated strength 10,000), usually made up of disbanded soldiers, organised militarily with no political leanings.

2. Garibaldi bands (estimated strength 15,000), originally emanating from the Communist Party, though all the members are not necessarily Communist.

3. Giustizia e Liberta Bands (estimated strength 10,000) take orders from the Party of Action and are largely commanded by officers.

4. Mattectti Bands (estimated strength 3,000) belong to the Socialist Party.

Nazi-Fascist Reactions.

The occupation of Val d'Ossola has resulted in the exodus of hundreds of partisans and refugees into the Canton Ticino, and the latter continue to arrive from the OSSOLA, VIGEZZA and FORMAZZA valleys, mostly in a pitiable condition. The Federal Government has warned the partisans that they will be interned. On 29th September, several thousand German SS attacked the Stella Rossa Brigade and divided it into two. The two bodies of the Brigade defended Monte Salvare and Monte Di Caprara with great resolution and eventually escaped. The Germans wreaked horrible reprisals in Caprara, Cassaglia and S. Martino. The Stella Rossa Brigade made its first contacts with the 5th Army at Castiglion de Pepoli.

Fascist Press and Radio claimed many successes in mopping-up [illegible] provinces of ASTI, VERCELLI, BOLOGNA, RAVENNA,

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Fascist Press and Radio claimed many successes in mopping-up operations in the provinces of ASTI, VERCELLI, BOLOGNA, RAVENNA, SONDRIO, COMO, VARESE and PIACENZA.

Partisan Activities.

In spite of strong German reactions, the partisans are still active. German transport columns were attacked near BIELLA, and in the Val di SCRIVIA. Considerable clashes occurred near PIGNA (Imperia Province) and near SCURANO (Parma Province).

Daring raids were carried out in SUSA, where patriots were released from prison and in TORINO where a Fascist Colonel of G.N.R. was kidnapped.

312°

FASCIST FORCES.

Navy.

A number of baby submarines of about 28 tons are being collected in TRIESTE. The morale of the crews is said to be very low.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET

SUMMARY 2.

This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

GERMANS

Morale.

All reports indicate a steady decline. The majority of P.Ws interrogated saw no chance of a German victory. The new weapons propaganda had given them a temporary exaltation, but under continued defeats that stimulus was now discounted and war-weariness is now prevalent. Only the fear and uncertainty of what will happen to Germany keeps the army fighting.

Evacuations.

More evacuation measures are reported. BUFFARINI-GUIDI and GRAZIANI are said to have issued instructions for the maintenance of order in the Po valley and the organisation of resistance by fascists in the case of a German retreat.

Atrocities and Reprisals.

The Black Brigade of BOLOGNA has revenged its failures against the partisans by reprisals on the partisans.

The Germans are reported to have massacred 300 men, women and children at MARZABOTTO.

Further details are given of the massacre in SANT'ANNA DI STAZZENA.

Desertions.

Kesselring, in a circular to his troops, threatens deserters or prisoners who surrender unjustifiably with reprisals on their families and confiscation of property.

POLITICS

Death of Koch

Details of Koch's execution have now arrived. His car was ambushed by patriots on the TURIN-CHIVASSO road and Koch and three other passengers were killed by hand-grenades

Low Morale of Fascist Party.

Captured documents indicate that the Fascist Party's morale is badly shaken. A report dated early in October complains bitterly of patriot propaganda, particularly in regard to sugar supplies, which, according to popular rumour, are being sent to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Appointments.

On assuming office as Special Commissioner for PIEDMONT, Dr. Paolo ZERBINO has asked to be relieved of the post of Under-Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior. Dr. Giorgio PINI has been appointed in his place.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET
This information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items dide-lined.

SUMMARY 3.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation

In TURIN the acute transport problem aggravates the difficulties of food supply. In the VENETO the Allies will be faced eventually with a serious food shortage, as stocks are being transferred to Germany. A report from BIELLA states that famine prevails in the VAL D'AOSTA owing to the heavy shipments of food to Germany via Switzerland, from NOVARA.

The production of sugar for the first week of October in ALESSANDRIA, viz 6000 quintals, has also been transported to Germany.

In BOLOGNA the food situation is described as catastrophic.

LABOUR

Throughout North Italy masses of workmen are reported to have been captured and deported to Germany. It is said that Militiamen are granted a fortnight's leave for every ten workers produced by them.

In TURIN special press gangs are operating, commanded by 300 Fascist officers, under Colonel GAJA.

PRESS

Transocean states that transport difficulties are responsible for a boom in local newspapers and publications, as the big MILAN and TURIN dailies cannot reach outlying towns.

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Ccc). 6th November, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12, APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 30.

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III. Mopping-up Operations .. .. " 5.

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V. The Badoglio Generals Trial .. .. " 6.
VI. Desertions .. .. " 6.
VII. Emergency Measures on the Po .. .. " 7.
VIII. Navy .. .. " 7.
IX. Atrocities .. .. " 7.

GERMANS

X. Morale .. .. " 8.
XI. Further Evacuation Measures .. .. " 9.
XII. Situation at Bologna .. .. " 9.
XIII. Atrocities and Reprisals .. .. " 10.
XIV. German Propaganda .. .. " 11.
XV. Kesselring Threatens Deserters .. .. " 11.

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XVI. Radio Reception .. .. " 11
XVII. Leaflets .. .. " 12.

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XVIII. Mussolini's Activities .. .. " 12.
XIX. Captured Documents Reveal Low Morale .. .. " 12.
XX. Exchange of Duce's Relatives for Democrats? .. .. " 13.
XXI. New Appointments .. .. " 13.
XXII. Death of the notorious Koch .. .. " 14.
XXIII. Escape of Anti-Fascist .. .. " 14.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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XXV. Fuel and Power .. .. " 15.
XXVI. Industry .. .. # 15.
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LABOUR

XXX. Fascists Aid Mass Deportations to Germany 16

3124

TO	INIT.	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN	[illegible]	14/11
COL. YOUNG	[illegible]	14/11
LT COL. WILCOX	[illegible]	13/11
MAJ. Luethman.	[illegible]	14/11
MAJ. WILSON	[illegible]	15/11
MAJ. HENRY	[illegible]	15/11
MAJ. HARVEY		
MAJ. BALLANCE		
CAPT. POWELL	[illegible]	15/11

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th November, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Unit No 12. APO 512.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 30.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

General Picture of the constitution of patriot bands in the Piemontese Alps.

The C.L.N. of Turin laid down that the patriot bands should be organised into formations of four types:

1. Autonomous Formations.

The first nuclei of these were formed by disbanded soldiers who later were joined by men who should have responded to the call-up. The organisation of these bands is of a military character, and they have no political commissars of their own. They incorporate men of various political leanings. There are about 10,000 men The disposition of these formations is as follows:

Alta Basse Langa: MAURI Band
Valli del Monregelese: (Val Tanaro, Val Corsaglia, Val d'Ellero, Val Pesio) - Mauri Bands commanded by Colonel "Vanni" and Captain Cosa.
Val Chisone: MARCELLIN Bands - from the name of the commander, ex champion in skiing.
Val d'Aosta: small formations
Novi Ligure: S. GIORGIO Band - commanded by REPETTO
Asti: small bands
Basso Vercellese: A fair number of small bands.

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2. Garibaldi Bands.

Although these emanated originally from the Communist Party the groups which form them have not usually any particular political leanings and may be constituted of men of varying opinions. The responsible positions, however are almost entirely held by communists These bands number about 15,000 men, formed into Brigades and Divisions. In each formation there is a Political Commissar - some of whom are in a purely consultative capacity, others are concerned with propaganda. The bands are disposed in

Alto Val Tanaro - a formation with contacts in LIGURIA- a brigade commanded by Capitano "MARTINENGO"
Val Veraita: small bands belonging to Divisions operating in other districts.

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Val Maira: small bands as above
District round Saluzzo: small bands as above
Parts of val Susa " " " "
Valli di Lanzo: " " " "
Basse Val d'Aosta " " " "
Alto Canavesano: " " "
Parts of the Alto Vercellese: " " " and two groups
Centro delle Langhe:
under the command of "Lulu" (a Frenchman) and "Eugenio" of slav origin.
Pinerolese. The BARBATO band - one of the best organised and best known
Valsesia: Biellese: "MOSCATELLI" bands, formed by various divisions

Other formations operate in Piedmont controlled by the Liberation Committee of Genova and also perhaps by that of Milan.

3. G.L. (Giustizia e Liberta) Bands.

These take orders from the Party of Action and are largely commanded by officers. They are variously organised and have a political commissar from the Party for every division. Their numbers include about 10,000 men; their disposition is as follows:

In the Cuneese.

Val Vermellagua: at the end of September the valley was under the control of the Germans
Val Gesso: do.
Valle Stura di Demonte: in progress of reorganisation after an attack on a German division which tried to cross the Colle della Maddalena to bring help to troops who were fighting the French (first days of September 44) Bands from the Gesso and Grana valleys also contributed to the action.
Val Grana:
Val Maira: suffered a mopping- up operation on the part of fascist forces on 25th September
Val Varaita: As Val Maira.
Val di Susa:

The G.L. bands have joined with the autonomous bands to provide for the restoration of order in the eventuality of a withdrawal on the part of the Germans. The G.L. divisions and the Cosa division operate in a particularly difficult district.

4. Matteotti Bands

Belong to the Socialist Party. They have limited forces and

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4. Matteotti Bands.

Belong to the Socialist Party. They have limited forces and operate in regions where other formations predominate. They include about 3,000 men and are disposed in all the regions of the Piedmontese alps, the Val d'Ossola and the whole zone up to the Appennines. Some bands also operate in the Monferrato plain.
(P.W.B. Rome27.10.44).

The 8th Garibaldi Brigade - in action in the region between CESENA and FORLI - constituted by the C.L.N. of FORLI. It is commanded by PIETRO MAURI (workman), and the total forces of the Brigade amount to 650 men, formed into battalions. Apart from individual arms, (they have rifles and Beretta guns) the Brigade has some automatic arms, both light and heavy. The Brigade has taken part in numerous actions against the nazi-Fascists, and has done much sabotage It has now made contact with the 8th Army in the region of CESENA. (P.W.B. Florence 25.10.44).

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II. Recent Partisan Activities.

BIELLA On 9th October the Biella G.L. Brigade made a daring attack on a motorised column of Germans powerfully convoyed. Fifteen Germans, among them a high ranking officer, were killed.

IMPERIA A Ligurian Garibaldi Brigade repulsed a German attack near PIGNA in the Province of Imperia.

In VAL DI SCRIVIA a patriot brigade continues to make attacks on enemy transport on the GENOVA -SERRAVALLE Road.

PARMA In the province of PARMA between the 5th and 7th October a Garibaldi Brigade killed 42 Germans and wounded many others near SCURANO.
(P.W.B. Rome 24.10.44).

GENOVA The warehouse which was blown up by the patriots in GENOVA on the 10th October, in the tunnel near LA LANTERNA, contained a great quantity of explosives which the Germans had intended to use to destroy the factories in the zone when they retreated. The explosion caused the destruction of the tunnel and the CALATA MOLO NUOVO and the CALATA DELLA SANITA (wharfs). Other damage was verified in another couple of tunnels further away. Three small warlike-ships were sunk and about 200 Germans killed. The repairs to the port are still in progress.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.10.44).

SUSA On 12th October some patriots carried out a daring stroke against the Susa prison, disarming the sentinels and liberating two patriots. A demand for a truce from the enemy who threatened reprisals if it was not accepted, was refused by a group of patriots who ambushed a German motor car and killed 6 officers.

TURIN Elements of a Garibaldi brigade entered Turin secretly and took prisoner a Colonel of the Fascist Republican Guard and removed him, together with two soldiers of the 10 MAS Flotilla.
(P.W.B. Rome 30.10.44).

The mopping up operations by the Germans in the valleys west of TURIN have not weakened the patriots' resistance. Immediately after the retreat of the Nazi-Fascist troops who were certain that they had cleaned up the zone, some Garibaldi Divisions were reorganised. Elements of three brigades inflicted serious losses on the enemy in an attack made against the garrison of PINO AUDI in the middle of October. Thirty Nazi-Fascist dead were left on the field and others died later in hospital, bringing up the number of casualties to 80. The patriots also took 19 prisoners.
(P.W.B. Rome 1.11.44)

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Sabotage
UDINE -on the evening of 19th October, near UDINE, an electric locomotive which was towing a steam engine, was derailed and the occupants attacked with hand grenades and automatic arms. The two engines were destroyed. On the night of the 24th, in the same sector, an electric train of 30 waggons was derailed. The engine was burnt and five waggons derailed.

TRENTO Near OSPEDALETTO, in the Province of TRENTO , the patriots destroyed a warehouse full of raw material and machines intended for fortification works.

SAVORGNANO The electric power station of SAVORGNANO in the province of UDINE has been rendered udeless. 3124
(P.W.B. Rome 29.10.44).

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GORETTO In Liguria the patriots have attacked GORETTO, forcing the enemy garrison composed of 400 Fascist Alpine soldiers, to retreat towards the north. Some of the Alpini, thinking that the patriots were American soldiers, met with great joy.

BOLOGNA A report sent by CVR. to the Ministry of the Interior, which fell into the hands of the patriots states: " A Committee of National Liberation composed only of elements of the Left is functioning in BOLOGNA. The Socialist Party has the greatest number of followers, whilst the Communist Party, though small, is composed of men of determination; the Action Party draws the intellectual elements, working hard, but only in the political field.

Partisan activity has greatly increased and measures are being taken to prepare for armed insurrection. Three Brigades from the Province of MODENA and one from the ROMAGNA are expected in Bologna. The situation had awakened serious concern in German circles, and even more among the Black Brigades who have received orders to resist the patriots to the last man".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.10.44).

VAL D'OSSOLA. A fascist broadcast on October 17th threatened punishment for the partisans and the pro-partisan population of the Val d'Ossola. The campaign of arrests has already begun. Nothing entitles anyone to believe that reprisals, hitherto usual in such circumstances against the guilty and innocent alike, will this time be discontinued. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 18.10.44).

The entry of armed partisans into Switzerland from Val d'Ossola does not pose a new problem. As they are armed, they will not be allowed to return after recovery from their hardships. The Federal Council has, therefore, issued instructions to the effect that partisans are to be allowed to enter Switzerland only if they are in mortal danger, and they will be interned for the duration of the war. The Swiss frontier guards have been instructed accordingly to inform the partisans of this before their internment.
(Vaterland, Lucerne 19.10.44).

Refugees from the OSSOLA, VIGEZZO and FORMAZZA valleys continue to arrive in the Ticino, almost all in a pitiable state. On October 19th over 500 people, including 300 partisans, arrived in AIROLO in three columns from the S.T GIACOMO Pass and from BEDRETTO. The population of Airolo rivalled the Red Cross in supplying the refugees with food, clothing and blankets. Towards evening a military lorry drove towards Bedretto in order to meet further refugees. Reports also come from BELLINZONA and LOCARNO of the arrival of further groups. An extra train on October 19th transferred 500 refugees from Airolo to Bellinzona where they will be quartered provisionally.

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LAKE MAGGIORE In the Lake Maggiore region a partisan band has held MONTE MOTTARONE for some time, and carries out raids as far as STRESA. It recently clashed with some fascist sailors, killing the Fascist Captain. A Colonel of the G.N.R. and three NCOs were ambushed and killed by partisans near Lake Maggiore. The CREMONA Black Brigade in a recent expedition against the Piedmont partisans lost an officer and three men.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 18.10.44).

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The Stella Rossa Brigade. At dawn on the 29th September some thousands of German SS, guided by traitors, attacked the Stella Rossa Brigade and succeeded in dividing it into two on the one hand the 1st and 2nd Battalions on Monte Salvaro and on the other the 3rd and 4th Battalions, which managed to take up positions on Monte di Caprara and Monte Sole. After fierce attacks and with the help of morters and flame throwers, the Germans obtained possession of M. Caprara. The partisans resisted on Monte Sole throughout the night, and succeeded in escaping from M. Salvaro The reprisals committed by the nazis in the region of the battle were terrible and unimaginable atrocities were carried out. In CAPRARA, for example, all the houses of the region were completely burnt down, and in one place thirty women and children were found murdered with hand grenades. The Church of CASAGLIA was also burnt to the ground, the priest killed and buildings destroyed. In the cemetary were found about 40 bodies of women and children, who were brought there and then killed with machine gun fire. At S. MARTINO 48 bodies of women and children were discovered in front of the burnt out church, all piled up and mixed up with the carcases of animals. Here too the church was set fire to and the priest killed.
The Stella Rossa Brigade made its first contacts with the 5th Army at CASTIGLION DE PEPOLI.
(P.W.B. Florence 25.10.44).

III. Mopping up Operations.

ASTI and VERCELLI A large scale mopping-up operation was carried out during the last few days in the area between the Provinces of Asti and Vercelli by units of the Republican Army and Black Brigades reinforced by elements of the German army. In the grim fighting which followed, 80 outlaws were killed, including the leader of the band, and more than 100 were taken prisoner. Arms and ammunition of American origin were captured- stolen automobiles were recovered.
(Monitoring Report - Axis broadcasts 27.10.44).

All the north Italian press gives plenty of space to the Fascists' numerous operations against the patriots, who are represented as bandits and assassins whom the German and Fascist soldiers must suppress in order to protect the civilian population. The following operations are reported:.
BOLOGNA.During the last days of September, some localities in the Province of BOLOGNA were mopped-up by a Black Brigade, a company of the GNR, Army detachments and German SS detachments. A group of bandits was attacked and routed in Case Ortolane. Five Squadristi were killed during the clash, including Lt. Filippini. Twenty-nine bandits were executed. Many arrests were made; a huge quantity of arms of Anglo-American origin was seized.
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RAVENNA During the last few days a Black Brigade Company mopped-up some localities in the Province of Ravenna, liquidating groups of outlaws. Seven bandits were killed and others were wounded. Some defaulters were captured and also a considerable quantity of arms of US origin.
SONDRIO Detachments of the GNR during a mopping-up operation killed some outlaws and captured two.
STRESA. At 05,000 hours on October 16th groups of outlaws, armed with machine-guns, attacked a convalescent home for officers and the HQ of the War Cripples' Association in STRESA whilst the personnel of these institutions, accompanied by their families and disabled officers, were preparing for safe transfer elsewhere. Violent fighting broke out between the rebels and the war cripples, aided by members of the 10th M.S Flotilla.
(Dovere, Bellinzona 20.10.44).

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The Italian Home Service 22.10.44 reported mopping-up operations in the following zones:

Casale
Province of Como by detachments of the GNR, the Black Brigades and German elements.
Province of Varese
Province of Piacenza, near Monte Chiero, where a motorised column composed of detachments of the "Piacentina" Black Brigade, the GNR and an armoured group of the "Leonessa" made contact with a group of bandits and engaged them in combat.

Operations were also carried out in Val STRONA, Novara Province by a Black Shirt Detachment.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 20.10.44).

Following the recent murder of Dr. Antonio ZEFFERINO, Head of the Prefecture Secretarial Staff, Black Brigade units have carried out mopping up operations, killing 20 members of the Communist bands.
(Corriere Della Sera, Milan 16.10.44).

FASCIST FORCES.

IV Dispositions.

Alpine troops of the Fascist Republican MONTEROSA Division are in the area of BORGO VAL DI TARO (P.6353) and VARESE (P.4941). An estimated 3000 troops of this unit are engaged in anti-partisan activities in those sectors.
(G2 - 5th Army 8.10.44).

V. The Badoglio Generals Trial.

MILAN has been chosen as the theatre for the great public trial of the Badoglio generals GAMBOLDI, MALGERI, CARACCIOLO, FORTUNATO, MOLAO, DALMAZZO, VECCHIARELLI, SCUERO, ROSI and RABOTTI who, after awaiting trial for months in VERONA prison, were recently transferred to BRESCIA from whence they will be sent to MILAN on the eve of the trial. The only general of Badoglio's army who has not been arrested is VERSELLINO, who made a timely escape abroad. Some ascribe the delay in holding this trial to GRAZIANI who wanted to keep the generals as hostages in order to bargain for his own life or that of other Republican military leaders with the National Liberation Committee. A similar need for hostages was demonstrated by Mussolini's recent order to arrest the relatives of the members of the Rome Government living north of the Gothic line.

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With time running short it is planned to sacrifice the Badoglio generals in order to force people's hands thus demonstrating the consequence of failure to reach agreement with the patriots to save the lives of Mussolini's chief hierarchs and their families. Inter alia a safe conduct is desired for Mussolini's wife and children to allow them to choose a safe residence abroad. The prisons are full. Other personalities besides the generals have been awaiting trial for many months, including the Air Force General MONTI, who was arrested in ROME during the violation of San Paolo fuori le Mura.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 21.10.44).

VI. Desertions.

The number of deserters among the MONTE ROSA division is always increasing; 200 Alpini recently went over with their arms to a partisan formation taking with them the wireless apparatus of the Division (Italian Official Source 16.10.44).

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VII. Emergency Measures on the PO.

The Prefect of CREMONA has ordered that, as from October 18th, no boats are to be allowed on the Po between 18.00 and 06.00 hours nobody is to be permitted to use ferries unless with a special permit delivered by the Prefecture; fishermen are only permitted to fish between 06.00 and 18.00 and are only allowed to carry passengers possessing special permits.
(Regime Fascists, Cremona 18.10.44)

VIII. Navy.

According to news from the crew of the Submarine CB 16 who brought their craft aground on the beach at Senegal (1st October) the CB (Battelli Caproni) are submarines of 28 tons, with a crew of four persons (A Commander, engineer, electrician and wireless operator) They have the following characteristics:

Surface Speed: 7 knots
Immersion Speed: 5 knots
Maximum depth: 70/80 metres.
Motors: Naptha and accumulators. They are constructed in the Captoni works at MILAN and taken by rail to TRIESTE where they are finished by Caproni workmen in the S. MARCO shipyards. During the month of September an order for 30 units was in progress to complete the 1st Submarine Squadron CB, which had to be finished for the beginning of October.
(Italian Official Source 17.10.44).

The CB was the first unit to be completed of the 1st Squadron now operating in the Adriatic with a base at VAL FIGO (POLA) On the 28th September the Squadron was commanded by Captain BACCARINI There was a Group Command at TRIESTE.

The CB 12 was at POLA, under construction in the arsenal. It had to be towed to TRIESTE, because it was without batteries.

The CB 7 was also at POLA in the arsenal, almost destroyed as a result of an air raid.

CB 17, CB 18, CB 19 and CB 20 were ready in TRIESTE. Caproni workmen were putting the finishing touches.

Sources were told that the morale of the crews was very low, and some had expressed the intention to desert on the first opportunity.
(Italian Official Source 17.10.44).

IX. Atrocities.

The last number of "Italian Libera" gives details of the death of Professor Quintino DI VONA, a member of the Action Party,

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VIII. Navy.

According to news from the crew of the Submarine CB 16 who brought their craft aground on the beach at Senegal (1st October) the CB (Battelli Caproni) are submarines of 28 tons, with a crew of four persons (1. Commander, engineer, electrician and wireless operator) They have the following characteristics:

Surface Speed: 7 knots
Immersion Speed: 5 knots
Maximum depth: 70/80 metres.
Motors: Naptha and accumulators. They are constructed in the Captoni works at MILAN and taken by rail to TRIESTE where they are finished by Caproni workmen in the S. MARCO shipyards. During the month of September an order for 30 units was in progress to complete the 1st Submarine Squadron CB, which had to be finished for the beginning of October.
(Italian Official Source 17.10.44).

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IX. Atrocities.

The last number of "Italian Libera" gives details of the death of Professor Quintino DI VONA, a member of the Action Party, killed at the beginning of September. German SS and "Muti" Militiamen arrested di Vona on September 7th at his house at INZAGO on the denunciation of spies. His execution, which took place during the afternoon, was entrusted to boys of 15 and 16. The body remained exposed in the public square until evening. The execution was a reprisal for the wounding of a Fascist and German soldier at INZAGO.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 25.10.44).

Following the MONTE GRAPPA battle 124 partisans were hanged and 22 shot in the villages at the foot of the mountains in BASSANO (G 28) For their part in the affair the VICENZA Black Brigade drew praise from Mussolini.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I. 21.10.44).

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GERMANS.

X. Morale.

Conditions in the German Army. Prisoners of war recently interrogated expressed very depreciating opinions on the qualities of their officers: "Nowadays officers are no longer any good. The young HJ officers are the worst type of man imaginable; arrogant and incapable."

In ZBV 2nd Co Officers are brutes. Lt. KNZLAN is a cruel and incompetent man. He has now gone back to the rear for hospitalisation in the opinion of these men this is because he is afraid that he might get a bullet from his own men. A short time ago Major ASSMANN, also from ZBV 7 was killed by his men".

Almost all good officers were either killed or wounded in the battles of this summer, says a man from 2 Co 117 IR; the new ones are mostly older reserve officers with little front line experience, 35 years old or so.

There were no complaints about delivery of mail or food. In one case a man stated that the rule was for letters from Germany to arrive in 7 to 10 days.

Attitude towards Capture. Willingness to fight to the last bullet in order to save the fatherland seems again to be notably absent from the units from which prisoners interrogated came.

A NCO from 8 Co 147 IR who was a deserter, and brought his group along, considered that 70 - 80% of the men of his Co would not be willing to fight to the end. They are mostly older men, 35 years old on the average- they are all tired and do not want to fight any more.

A NCO from ZBV 7 stated that his men were so much worn down by artillery fire that they gave up without resistance. This artillery fire, more than anything else, made them feel that it was senseless to go on.

Fear of consequences and of being shot is still a strong deterrant to surrender, and desertion. Furthermore, among those who think that there is no sense in continuing the war, there is the hope that they may reach the Brenner, from where they can get home, either to go into hiding or to return after defeat. They therefore try and avoid being taken prisoner, as they do not know when they may return from England or America.

Soldiers' opinions on the War. Among ten soldiers interrogated there [illegible] that many men in the German army still

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Soldiers' opinions on the War. Among ten soldiers interrogated there was only one who thought that many men in the German army still believe in victory and the Fuehrer. One man, a parachutist from Austria, admitted that in his unit they no longer knew what to think about continuing the War. He himself had been at the military academy in POTSDAM and found that they were fed with big phrases whilst the German troops had to withdraw everywhere. The accumulation of material he saw behind the American lines made him even more doubtful about German victory.

Many German soldiers believed in new weapons until the beginning of October, but now disillusionment was spreading rapidly. V1 was at first welcomed, then regarded with suspicion. It is now thought possible that V2 will appear, but little hope for victory is attached to it. Many said that if no new weapons came before October 10th it was no use going on with the war.

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Soldiers' opinions on Post-war Germany Most prisoners take a very gloomy view on Germany's fate in case of defeat.
The gloomiest view on record is that the German Reich will disappear, German territory will be placed under Russian influence, all family life will cease, the intelligensia will be wiped out. Bolshevism is as bad as Nazism, and there is no hope for any future for the ordinary man in Germany.

By some official propaganda stories about sterilisation and permanent enslavement of all Germans by Russia are still strongly believed.

Uncertainty of their personal future is said to wear down the morale of the soldiers. Some believe that they will be marched in parade through Rome. Others that they will sent to work in Russia or Africa. Some are simply so tired physically that they will no longer make any effort at all.

Men who have been in the front line since January are so worn out by artillery that they want nothing more than to be left alone, and have peace so that they can get back to work at home.

Some men are very bitter about the harsh punishments dealt out in their units for the slightest offences.

Fighting spirit would be much lower if the soldiers saw more clearly what their and their country's fate would be after defeat.
(5th Army Interrogation Report).

XI. Further Evacuation Measures.

The forthcoming transfer of the Fascist Secretariat from MADERNO to MERANO is announced. Other Government offices will also move shortly to the ALTO ADIGE. Germans are evacuating military magazines belonging to the Engineer Corps to PAVIA. All boats along the river TICINO have been requisitioned. The imminent evacuation of the population of MANTUA has been mentioned. BUFFARINI-GUIDI and GRAZIANI are issuing orders for the maintenance of order in the Po valley in the event of a German retreat and are organising armed resistance there.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 24.10.44).

XII. Situation at Bologna.

German reports from BOLOGNA say that "Italian Blackshirts and German defence forces have nipped in the bud attempts by strong rebel groups to prepare a second Warsaw inside Bologna. Should the attacking enemy be able to carry the battle from the Apennines into this city situated at the very approaches to these mountains, the rear of our defenders will be safe.

Official quarters in Bologna told the correspondent that the first shells to fall in the centre of Bologna were not fired by regular enemy troops, but by partisans, who shelled the town sporadically with

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Official quarters in Bologna told the correspondent that the first shells to fall in the centre of Bologna were not fired by regular enemy troops, but by partisans, who shelled the town sporadically with mortars and light mountain artillery from various hide-outs. Blackshirts have smoked out the [illegible] nests. Since then the town has been quiet, apart from air attacks. Only the southern fringe of Bologna is being shelled by Allied artillery.

In the centre of the city too, all resistance movements have been eliminated. Assaults, acts of sabotage and attempts at murder were, for a time, everyday occurrences. The famous Baglioni hotel in the Via Independenza in the centre of Bologna was destroyed.
(Transocean 26.10.44).

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Another German report speaks of the importance to Kesselring of the Via Emilia - "This is the shortest connection between the Adriatic coast and the Alps, running parallel to the Apennines and across the Po Plain, and is a modern concrete road built by Mussolini. It has not got a single curve and is a masterpiece of Italian road building. Four to six vehicles can travel abreast on the road which, in view of its situation, has become Kesselring's most important supply route. Allied aircraft are roaming the skies like hawks. Camouflage is the most elementary requirement of thedefenders. Traffic runs almost exclusively at night. In daylight notices warn not only against low-flying aircraft, but also against Allied artillery, which keeps observation on the roads and shells them at many points. The Via Emilia is more important than Bologna; its possession or loss decides the fate of the whole of Romagna.
(Transocean 25.10.44).

XIII. Atrocities and Reprisals.

BOLOGNA The Black Brigade of Bologna, moving towards the north for mopping-up operations, rather than confront the patriots, takes action against unarmed citizens. At MARZABOTTO, the Germans slaughtered 300 persons, amongst whom were women and children, and buried them in a common grave, as a reprisal for the activities of the G.P. At CASALECCHIO DI RENO 15 persons were publicly hung. Another 8 civilians were shot on the 12th September at Bologna (P.W.B. Rome 28.10.44)

SANT'ANNA The following details are now known about the horrible slaughter which took place on August 12th at SANT'ANNA DI STAZZENA by German butchers, in which nearly the whole population of the little village, amounting to little over 600 inhabitants, was victim of the Nazi ferocity. Using the killing of a German soldier as pretext the SS, numbering about 300, entered the village, divided into squadrons, and at once commenced the massacre. The men were absent, because they had fled from the village to escape forced labour. The first squadron of assassins forced about 100 old people, women and children to come out of their houses, and ordered them to leave the village; however, immediately the poor unfortunate people were grouped in the road a German officer discharged his automatic pistol, killing five people. The others rushed immediately into the nearest houses to save themselves. The Germans then hermetically sealed the doors and windows, and wreaked their fury on the unfortunate people inside, throwing hand grenades and flame throwers.

Not satisfied with this the murderers took the corpses from the houses (and some of the people were still alive), and after having tied them to the railings surrounding a large cross in the middle of the square, emptied their rifles among them. Finally

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Not satisfied with this the murderers took the corpses from the houses (and some of the people were still alive), and after having tied them to the railings surrounding a large cross in the middle of the square, emptied their rifles among them. Finally they piled up furniture and chairs from the church near the bodies and set fire to the tragic heap. After this horrible massacre 514 corpses were collected; others were found later amongst the ruins of the demolished houses and the remains of the pyre.

Some eye-witnesses have recounted that during the slaughter the Germans behaved in a very cheerful way. They accompanied the groans of the victims with derisive laughter and songs. According to the same witnesses the Germans were helped by elements of the Italian SS.
(P.W.B. Rome 29.10.44).

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The following is a translation of a poster captured in Italy addressed to Italian civilians; and partisans:

"German soldiers have recently been frequently attacked and murdered by partisans. Such occurrences compel the German Command to take measures to prevent the population from behaving in a hostile manner towards German soldiers.

10 (ten) civilians from the FIESOLE district will be placed under the surveillance of the German troops. If the behaviour of the population is good, these persons will be assured of good treatment and their release on the departure of the German troops. On the other hand, in the event of hostile acts against German soldiers, these persons shall be shot.

These persons will be supplied with food by the district of FIESOLE.

The German Command

(P.W.B. A.A.I. German Intelligence 21.10.44).

After 20 Russians deserted with arms to the partisans at ORBASSANO (H 9122) on 4th October, the German Commander threatened to shoot 20 civilian hostages if they did not return.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I. 21.10.44).

Following the explosion of a bomb at the "Three Kings" restaurant in TURIN when ten German soldiers were wounded, the German Command ordered the execution of nine "terrorists" who had been captured in possession of arms, including two leaders of Communist bands, Giovanni GARDONCINI and Giuseppe CASERA, the former known as "Battista" and the latter as "Pippo" who for many months had carried out every kind of violence, robbery and murder against the population of Turin, and the neighbourhood.
(Stampa, Turin 13.10.44).

XIV. German Propaganda.

The TRIESTE radio (enemy controlled) 24.10.44, broadcast a German appeal to the Istrians of the 13th and 43rd Divisions to COME OVER TO THE GERMANS and bring their arms with them, on the grounds that the Allies have let them down and that "Owing to Tito's incapacity" their condition will become much worse this winter.

[illegible] Deserters

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XV. Kesselring Threatens Deserters.

Kesselring has issued a circular to his troops, informing officers and other ranks that those who desert, or allow themselves to be captured unjustifiably, will be regarded as traitors and consequently their families will be punished and their property confiscated.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XVI. Radio Reception.

311c

The following reception was received from LA SPEZIA area "Have tried in vain to receive the ITALIA COMBATTE programme. If possible can you use a shorter wave".

"Italia Combatte" (presumably on short wave), can be heard well in the mountains west of TURIN.

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"Italia Combatte" and other Allied transmissions are much listened to by partisans in the Appenine area just behind the front. (P.W.B. Special Service 25.10.44).

XVII. Leaflets.

The "Italia Combatte" leaflets are received just behind the front and eagerly read and collected. They seem to have created more impression than the broadcasts. (P.W.B. Special Service 25.10.44)

German prisoners interrogated appear to have most of them seen allied leaflets. Only two out of 10 recently questioned claimed not to have seen any. In most units leaflets seem to be widely read and discussed. They are hardly ever given up to the officers, though this seems still to be demanded. The new items in "Frontpost" and other leaflets are mostly considered reliable. Opinion on leaflets is divided between those who take them as propaganda and those who consider them as their best source of information.

A man captured in the MONTEDORI area claims to have seen leaflets fired on several occasions. He remembers that three times the shells burst about 10 yards from the ground and the leaflets were well dispersed; in four cases the shell burst on the ground; in two cases they penetrated about half a yard deep into the earth. They were then dug out by soldiers who wanted to read them.

A P/W from the MONTE POCCHIO area stated that he saw Frontpost and the daily news strips fired, the shells exploded in the air and the leaflets spread over a wide area.

One P/W considered that leaflets on guerilla warfare in Germany and on post-war intentions of the Allies would be very effective. (5th Army Interrogation Report)

POLITICS.

XVIII. Mussolini's Activities.

Mussolini discussed the problem of Italian coastal defences when he received the German Admiral Lowisch.
(Agence Telegraphique. Suisse 19.10.44).

Mussolini has received at his HQ the Japenese Admiral Abo, newly appointed Naval Attache to the Fascist Government.
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XIX. Low Morale.

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XIX. Captured Documents Reveal Low Morale.

Partisan surprise attacks often lead to the capture of confidential documents giving valuable indications of the state of mind in Republican Italy. A report dated early in October gives the following account of the situation in TURIN "Bands of terrorists continue to carry out their activities by aggressions and interruptions of the railway, road and tramway communications, nor is there any sign that the propaganda spread by the bands is diminishing. A rumour is being spread to the effect that the October sugar ration will not be distributed except in the case of sick children. This is causing dissatisfaction among the population, who are ready to recriminate, and lay the blame on the Germans, asserting that the sugar intended for the people is being sent to Germany."

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Another report, dated early in October, about the situation in the Province of FERRARA, states: "The political situation is a little shaken by the arrest of the Director of Public Assistance, CARPI, and his collaborators, DIRETTI, TARTARINI and BREVIGLIERI, as well as other lesser personalities accused of having appropriated to themselves vouchers for bicycle tyres and having sold for their own benefit objects confiscated from Jews. They have all been committed for trial. The report adds the following indications of the public's state of mind: "Demoralisation and uncertainty have been noticed with regard to Germany's future and her new weapons".

Another document dated the end of June, describes the general revolt of Fascist elements in VERCELLI against Party leaders. This is in the form of a letter with 87 signatures addressed to the Head of the Social republic, the Party Secretariat, the Minister of the Interior and the Head of the Italian Police. The letter says that the majority of the loyal Fascists of VERCELLI Province, "having examined the painful and tragic political, administrative and military situation of the Province have decided that, in the first place, they no longer wish to collaborate so long as arrogant personalities remain in power in spite of repeated complaints made to Pavolini, the Duce, Bufferini-Guidi and Tamburini. Secondly, not being able to tolerate further the tragic and harmful disillusionment of the past, and abuse of power in the Starace style, they will only collaborate with Fascists of the highest reputation. Thirdly, they do not wish to remain under tutelage, but desire to govern themselves in an honest manner for the defence of the honour of their families and of their martyred land.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 23.10.44).

XX. Exchange of Duce's Relatives for Democrats?

According to Catholic circles, the Vatican is trying to obtain facilities for the exchange of the families of prominent Democratic and Fascist personalities who are separated from each other by the fighting fronts. Members of the families of BADOGLIO, BONOMI and other Royalist Ministers, PAVOLINI, GRAZIANI and other Fascist leaders are being mentioned. Mussolini is reported to have offered to liberate several people closely connected with anti-Fascist leaders to obtain a visa from the Rome Government for certain members of his family so that they may reach neutral soil.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 24.10.44).

XXI. New Appointments.

After having assumed the office of Special Commissioner for PIEDMONT, DR. PAOLO ZERBINO has asked to be relieved of his post of Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of the Interior. His request has been granted and Dr. Giorgio PINI has been appointed in his place.
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(Italian Home Service 23.10.44).

The Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party has made the following appointments: Enrico (?Santori), Squadrist, who took part in the March on Rome, is appointed Director of the Federation of Republican Fasci in VENICE in place of Comrade Pio LEONI, who has resigned.

On the propcsal of the Regional Delegate for the Piedmont Republican Fasci, Comrade Zenn RICCI, Squadrist, who took part in the March on Rome, war volunteer, formerly Deputy Federal Commissioner of TURIN, is appointed Federal Commissioner of ASTI, in place of Comrade Guglielmo SACCHERO, who has been appointed to another post.

On the proposal of the Regional Delegate of the Republican Fasci of the VENETO, Comrade Raimondo (?Radiccioni) is appointed Federal Commissioner of VICENZA, in place of Comrade Innocenzo PASQUELLO.
(Italian Home Service 21.10.44).

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XXII. Death of the notorious Koch.

The following particulars are now known about the death of Lieut. KOCH and other fascist criminals who were with him. The day before Koch's last journey, one of the patriot chiefs succeeded in finding out, at TURIN, precise information as to the type, colour and number plate of the car which had to take the ill-famed torturer from TURIN to MILAN. He also found out the time of departure and itinerary of the journey. Taking what he considered necessary with him, the patriot chief waited, with some of his men, on the TURIN-CHIVASSO road. During the early hours of the next morning, the car carrying KOCH and three other Fascists, was attacked with hand grenades. All four passengers were killed on the spot. In this way patriot justice has been done to one of the worst Fascist criminals. (P.W.B. Special Service).

XXIII. Escape of Anti-Fascist.

The former Minister Plenipontentiary, Consul General in LUGANO, TITO CHIOVENDA, who was forced to resign owing to his refusal to join the Fascist Party, has succeeded in escaping abroad in order to avoid Fascist persecution. He lived in PREMOSELLO, near DOMODOSSOL., and was always a staunch anti-Fascist. (Basler Nachrichten 25.10.44).

ECONOMICS

XXIV. Food Situation.

TURIN. The Stampa, Turin 15.10.44 reports that the transport problem is more acute than ever and constantly confronts the food supply authorities. The situation is further agravated by the fact that the transport organisations charge excessive prices. For instance for the carriage of a parcel of 15 kg from MILAN to TURIN 122.5 lire has been paid, equivalent to 850 lire per quintal, while the railways charge much less. No control exists any longer because no way-bills are being issued. It appears essential to introduce severe control against speculation which is likely to increase further the already grave difficulties.

Sugar Ration The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests announces that the sugar beet campaign is developing so favourably that an unusually large supply of sugar is expected. Owing to the war situation and, above all, to the difficulty of transporting the beet to the sugar factories and the lack of coal, it is necessary to adjust consumption to the actual quantity of sugar available. By measures in course of enactment, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests will therefore ensure that consumers most in need of sugar will receive their requirements as follows: babies up to three years, boys and girls between 14 and

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(Italian Home Service 25.10.44).

A serious food shortage is predicted in the VENETO as soon as the Allies arrive as all stocks have been transferred to Germany.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I. 21.10.44).

The partisan Commander of BIELLA has reported that the enamy is moving heavy rail shipments of food and other goods into Switzerland via NOVARA with the result that famine conditions now prevail in the VAL D'AOSTA.
(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.A.I. 21.10.44).

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XXV. Fuel and Power.

TURIN The Turin power companies announce: The attention of users of electric power for domestic purposes is drawn to the necessity of reducing consumption to the strictly essential minimum for cooking (electric radiators being completely forbidden) during the hours of 11.00 to 13.00 and from 18.00 to 20.00 in order to avoid breakdowns due to excessive consumption. The power companies are no longer able to carry out repairs in case of accidents particularly in the evening.
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 20.1044.)

MILAN Many inhabitants of MILAN who have not yet had gas installed were hitherto entitled to some methylated spirits, firewood and charcoal. The last two are now totally unobtainable, whereas the distribution of methylated spirits has been suspended since July because it has been blocked. It is true that there are midday meals at the communal kitchens, but it is impossible to cook a hot dish in the evening, or even a drink. Whether blocked or not, there is alcohol for liqueur factories and anybody can obtain methylated spirits on the black market at 100 to 200 lire per litre which until June cost only 20 lire In these circumstances what is the situation of people who cannot enjoy even a limited gas allowance?
(Sera Milan 19.10.44).

XXVI. Industry.

The balance-sheets of the year ending 29.9.44 of the big Italian firms, including BREDA in MILAN, OFFICINE MECCANICHE at BRESCIA and NEBIOLO in TURIN, throw a significant light on Italy's industrial situation. The balance--sheets contain no dividends. The reasons given are the same for all the industries, as though the authors of the reports had agreed on them together beforehand. Decreased production owing to the growing shortage of raw materials; destructions due to enemy air attacks; together with temporary interruptions or final suspensions of some branches; the workers' reduced productive capacity (a nonchalent way of explaining the deportation of specialists to Germany and mass abstentions, of which the latest occurred in Milan on September 22nd when at least 200,000 workers, all in the main factories, struck in protest against the police persecutions and the removal of machinery to Germany); the rise in costs of production and over-heads (particularly due to wage increases necessitated by the increased cost of living); the disastrous increase in liabilities owing to the advance required from banks due to the delays in payments of government contracts ; the loss of large sums advanced on government orders cancelled without the slightest compensation. The directors' reports also contained references to the Damocles' sword of nationalisation and to the gloomy, though eloquent forecasts of the future whose "uncertainty" is stressed.

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(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 20.10.44).

During the first eight days of October the sugar factory of ALESSANDRIA produced 6000 quintals of sugar, which have been taken away by the Germans.
(Italian Official Source 20.10.44)

XXVII. Air Raid Damage.

A Censorship Intercept of 17.10.44 reads "I'll speak to you of BOLOGNA, such as I saw it before leaving: A word is enough massacre. Via Independenza from S. Peters to the railway station is no more in existence. The same can be said of Via Falliera, Via Dame, Via Rome, of a part of Via Saffi, Via S. Felice, of that quarter called the Bolognina from Corticella upwards, of Via Gioto, Via delle Lanitre and of the neighbouring streets, Via dei Mille included.
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XXVIII. Unrest behind the front line.

The situation in the towns of EMILIA behind the Italian front is very difficult. Martial law has been proclaimed in BOLOGNA, REGGIO EMILIA, PIACENZA and MODENA. German troops and Fascists patrol the streets day and night. Small armoured cars are concentrated in the most important squares for immediate action in theevent of a popular rising. Machine-gun nests have been built at the corners of streets. The black-out lasts from 18.00 to 17.00 hours.

Industrial and commercial life is practically at a standstill. In spite of the fact that the region is a rich food producing centre, the food situation is catastrophic. Recent air attacks on Bologna razed whole quarters to the ground, rendering 10,000 homeless. (Der Bund 19.10.44).

XXIX. Monza Province Closed to Refugees.

Since housing possibilities are totally exhausted in MONZA, the Prefectoral Commissioner has been authorised by the Head of the Province in future to reject all applications for residence until further notice, including those from refugees, bombed out persons and evacuees.
(Sera Milan 14.10.44).

LABOUR.

XXX. Fascists Aid Mass Deportations to Germany

Resistance circles declare that throughout northern Italy the occupying power has been capturing and deporting to Germany masses of workers. Blackshirts are assigned to seize the workers. Militia-men are granted a fortnight's leave for every ten workers delivered, which is very important because all other leave is suspended. In TURIN special worker capturing units have been formed and are commanded by 300 Fascist officers, under Lt. Col. Geja.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 22.10.44).

XXXI. Clandestine Appeal to Workers.

The Italian Socialist clandestine paper La Terra reports that in towns "the workers' guard of machines and public institutions" is ready to fight and die if only the industrial wealth of their country can be saved.

A similar organisation is being prepared among the country [illegible] in order to prevent the destruction of agricultural [illegible] proclamation to the

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A similar organisation is being prepared among the country population in order to prevent the destruction of agricultural installations. The same newspaper declares in a proclamation to the peasants "The life of our families, our sons, of our women lies in our hands. If we wish to save them and us, we must form our action committees and our fighting groups. The enemy respects us only when we make him respect us. The Anglo-US armies are advancing, but while awaiting liberation, we must consider how to protect ourselves...."
(Basler Nachrichten 19.10.44).

XXXII. Work in Germany for Wives of Internees.

The Stampa Turin 13.10.44 reports that the employment offices are authorised to accept applications for work in Germany presented by the wives of former interned Italian soldiers, converted into free workers. The wives will be given 5,000 lire as an engagement bonus and sent to the places where their husbands are employed. Employment in the same factory cannot be guaranteed, but the contract will ensure employment in the same locality.

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PRESS

XXXIII. Transport Shortage Causes Boom in Local Press.

New Dailies are springing up in Fascist Italy like mushrooms after the rain. A region which a year ago had only 31 papers now has 48. Every town with more than 50,000 inhabitants has its own paper. The large number of new publications in the provinces is indirectly due to transport difficulties. The big papers in MILAN TURIN and VENICE find it difficult to reach the smaller towns in time for early morning sale. Hence the provincial press is experiencing an unprecedented boom. The provincial cities are overcrowded with air raid refugees and thus the number of readers has grown.

Provincial papers with a former circulation of from 3 ,000 to 4,000 now sell between 10,000 and 12,000 copies. Newspaper prices have remained far behind the devaluation of the lire. The 50 centesimi paid for a newspaper are worth less than the sheet on which the paper is printed. No copies remain unsold.

All newspapers have been socialised. A paper of the VENETO in PADUA, anticipated the law and, on its own initiative, turned itself into a joint stock company with its staff as shareholders. The press is making good profits. Advertisements yield sufficient profits for the workers to receive normal dividends. Losses have up to now been met by the State.

The paper which has to make the greatest efforts to remain above water is Resto del Carlino of B[illegible]. It is produced in the front zone in a village near Bologna, as the city printing offices have been bombed out. The provision of paper, transport and news material is extremely difficult. The staff are constantly in danger. As previously/Giorgio PINI, the editor-in-chief narrowly escaped an anti-Fascist attempt on his life.
(Transocean 24.10.44).

XXXIV. Fiume Publications.

FIUME The publications of the local paper "La Vendetta d'Italia" continue. In the Resistance field the "Stella Rossa" which gives the Tito bulletin, comes out. The possibility of a clandestine press can be excluded, as Fiume possesses only three typographic machines, all controlled.
(P.W.B. Florence 18.9.44).

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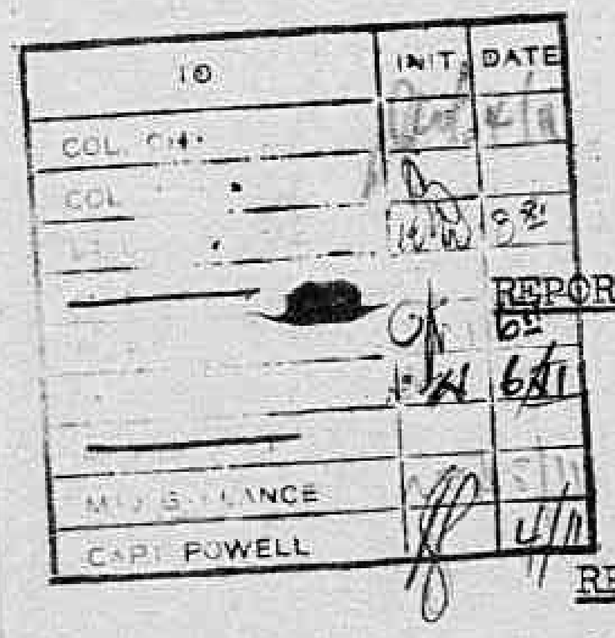
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"D" Section Italy (Ccc).

25th October, 1944.



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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 29.

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CAPT POWELL

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY

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"D" Section Italy (Occ) 25th October, 1944

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section
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RESISTANCE

I. Disposition of Partisan Bands.

Western Piedmont and North Western Liguria. An impartial observer who in August and September spent seven weeks with the patriots in north western Italy gave the following information regarding bands in that region.

The Langhe Division The 3rd Alpini Division)	non political.
The 9th Garibaldi Division	Communist, operating in territory adjoining the above triangle, to the north-west.
The 2nd Ligurian (Felice Cascione) Division	Communist, operating in western Liguria as far as the French frontier.

The Commander of the Langhe Division, who has since joined the Liberal Party, and officers of his unit, insisted that their forces were non-political and purely interested in fighting the Fascists and Germans. They admitted to a political colour in that they represented the party in power in the area, and were in opposition to the Communists. They were strongly critical of the Garibaldini, who, they said, were anarchists. They accused them of conserving their amms for use in a future coup-d'etat. The observer, who spent some time at the subsidiary headquarters of the 2nd Ligurian Division and at the headquarters of the 9th Garibaldi Division, did not confirm this impression. The officers of the latter division, and the political

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(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44).

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Bagni Di Lucca. The "PIPPO" Band.

The following details were furnished by a patriot who had belonged to the above band.
The "Pippo" band was formed during the first days of March and is commanded by a Lieut. who assumed the name of Pippo;.it numbered about 500,/but has been several times in contact with the enemy and has suffered several mopping-up operations, with the result that it now has not many more than 100 adherents. Apart from individual arms the formation has four machine guns, and has received as many as six lots of arms dropped by the Allies

The band recently took part in the liberation of MONTE FEGATESE, holding its position for 7 consecutive days and only relinquishing it to patrols of the 5th Army.
(P.W.B. Florence Di. L.).

Women Patriots.

A company of armed women patriots are operating in the PIACENZA area.
(P.W.B. Special Service 22.10.44).

The Italian Clandestine paper "Il Combattente" writes "Many women form part of the actual fighting formations. In the fourth "Piemonte" Division there is an entire detachment of young girl Garibaldians. In some cases women head partisan formations. In Emilia a woman is in command of the Garibaldi Brigade, and in Lombardy another is Deputy Commissar".
(Libera Stamps Lugano 17.10.44).

FORLI

A Garibaldi Brigade commanded by "PIETRO" is reported to be operating in the area SANTA SOFIA-CORNIOLO-STRABATENZA - south of FORLI. This brigade has been formed by elements of the Garibaldi Brigade which was led by "Libero" and was located in BAGNO DI ROMAGNA. According to various reports "Libero" ran away with the funds of the brigade amounting to two million lire.

Two patriots have roused the enthusiasm and admiration of the people of Romagna, and although a month has elapsed since their arrest and execution by the Germans, everybody still speaks with respect of their feats:

TONINO SPAZZOLI (Alias FRANCO JIM)
SILVIO CORBARA.

Spazzoli was engaged in anti-Fascist activities ever since the armistice; he organised resistance in Romagna, and several times crossed the lines to give valuable information to the Allies. He was in charge of a radio transmitter in RAVENNA and succeeded in [illegible] for the Garibaldi Brigade and Corbara's [illegible] after

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 17.10.44).

FORLI

A Garibaldi Brigade commanded by "PIETRO" is reported to be operating in the area SANTA SOFIA-CORNIOLO-STRABATENZA - south of FORLI. This brigade has been formed by elements of the Garibaldi Brigade which was led by "Libero" and was located in BAGNO DI ROMAGNA. According to various reports "Libero" ran away with the funds of the brigade amounting to two million lire.

Two patriots have roused the enthusiasm and admiration of the people of Romagna, and although a month has elapsed since their arrest and execution by the Germans, everybody still speaks with respect of their feats:

TONINO SPAZZOLI (Alias FRANCO JIM)
SILVIO CORBARA.

Spazzoli was engaged in anti-Fascist activities ever since the armistice; he organised resistance in Romagna, and several times crossed the lines to give valuable information to the Allies. He was in charge of a radio transmitter in RAVENNA and succeeded in getting arms and supplies for the Garibaldi Brigade and Corbara's band by air and by sea. He was arrested on 31st July 44 and after having been tortured was executed on 15(?) August.

Silvio Corbara was the leader of a band of about 200 partisans operating in the area TREDOZIO-MODIGLIA. This band has apparently been very active and had several clashes with the Germans. During the last one on MONTE TREBBO, the Germans suffered heavy casualties. Corbara is described as having been a gallant and strong minded man. He once entered the town of FAENZA dressed as a Fascist Milite, went into a public bar and seeing the picture of Ettore Muti on the wall he tore it down and threw it away. A console of the Militia who was present asked him his name, he replied "CORBARA", then disarmed the

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console and kicked him all round the main square of FAENZA amidst the laughter of the crowd. After that he halted a German car, disarmed the driver and disappeared with the car.

Another time in FORLI he went to the Fascist Federatiri; the Federale CAPANNA was absent, so he left a signed note saying that if any further atrocities were committed in the province Capanna would be executed. (Capanna was killed later by the GAP). Before the Fascist realised who he was, he disappeared. The roads were promptly blocked and all Fascists mobilised to try and arrest him. Two hours later CORBARI rang the Fascist HQ and told the Chief of Police not to worry anymore because he was well away in a safe place.

On 18th August CORBARI and Arturo SPAZZOLI, brother of Tonino Spazzoli, were rounded up in CASTROCORO. Seeing no possibility of escaping, after a fight to avoid being taken prisoner, they both committed suicide. Their bodies were hanged and exposed for two days in the main square.
(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41.).

II. Recent Partisan Activities.

UDINE. On October 5th 30 patriots drove a truck into a German ordnance depot at VISCO, UDINE province, disarmed the guard and German sergeant major, carried off 1000 rifles and 30 machine guns and four mortars.
(P.W.B. Special Service 221.10.44).

BRESCIA. In spite of constant German and Fascist mopping-up operations patriots in BRESCIA are maintaining their positions in a large zone including part of the BERGAMO district and seom of the TRENTINO valleys beyond LAKE GARDA. The partisans scored a number of successes including the capture of PONTE DI LEGNO, where they took a large amount of booty.

German and Fascist forces, 3000 strong, with some 50 armoured vehicles, recently attacked the Margheriti Brigade between LAKE ISEO and LAKE IDRO. The Fascists, working on information received from their spies, succeeded in surrounding the patriots in the CORNA zone, but the latter managed to escape through an almost inaccessible mountain route. During the encounter the Germans and Fascists lost several dead and many wounded, including a German officer of high rank, who was gravely wounded. The patisans lost four dead and one prisoner, who was hung in the main square after having been tortured.
(Popolo e Liberta 16.10.44).

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(Popolo e Liberta 16.10.44).

TREVISO The following is a list of activities carried out during September by patriots in Treviso province.
Night September 8th - patriots destroyed locomotive on the line between TREVISO and VICENZA.
Night September 10th- Disarmed a detachment of the Republican Navy at VEDELAGO, capturing 20 men.
Night of 13th Sept. Disarmed German garrison at NERVESA, killing two and wounding three.
Night of 15th Sept. Derailed train on TREVISO-VICENZA. line, destroying the engine and two trucks.
Night 18th Sept. Destroyed bridge in the locality of CORNUDA on the MONTE BELLUNA-FALTRE line.
During the month in patrol actions five Fascists were killed, six telephone lines and one centralino destroyed and 50 line interruptions caused. 3112
(P.W.B. Special Service 24.10.44).

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The Italian Home Service on 16th October announced the capture by Fascist and German troops of DOMODOSSOLA, and a German advance into the OSSOLA valley.

A report from Switzerland states: Contrary to other reports DOMODOSSOLA was occupied on the morning of October 15th after violent fighting a few km from the Swiss frontier. According to documents captured by partisans, the campaign was ordered by the Fascist High Command in order to occupy the Simplon line up to the Swiss frontier. The Giunta and the Domodossola authorities evacuated the town before the arrival of the Germans and Fascists. The partisans, who had been forced to retreat owing to the lack of heavy armements, withdrew to the valleys in order to continue the struggle. The exodus from the villages continues. Thousands of inhabitants are fleeing to the mountains with clothes, some furniture and a few head of cattle. Traffic on the Simplon line is completely interrupted. On the morning of October 15th aricraft bombed not only Domodossola, but also localities situated between Domodssola and ISELLE, notably VARZO. Bombs were also dropped on the roads to the Swiss frontier, which were filled with civilian refugees, causing dead and wounded. Hundreds of refugees asked for asylum in Switzerland. Other groups of refugees are reported to have reached GONDO . A total of over 3,250 children from the DOMODOSSOLA region recently reached BRIGUE through the efforts of the Red Cross.
(La Suisse Geneva 16.10.44).

Another report says: The German advance in the Ossola valley has been delayed through the action of the partisans, who blew up the PREGLIA bridge, four km north of DOMODOSSOLA. It is reported that the SS have not yet reached ISELLE. The partisans are trying to hold the roads converging on Domodossola. The FORMAZZA valley, stretching north between the TICINO and the VALAIS, is entirely in the hands of the partisans, who hope to maintain their position in the OLCIO gorge, at the mouth of the valley. They also retain control of the ANZASCA, ANTRONA and BOGNANCO Valleys. The VIGNEZZO valley is entirely in the hands of the Fascists. Some members of the anti-Fascist Giunta have taken refuge in Switzerland, but its leader, Dr. TIBALDI, is carrying on resistance on Italian soil. It is doubtful, however, whether resistance can go on owing to the scarcity of munitions.
(Tribune de Geneve 16.10.44).

The Germans and Fascists in the campaign against DOMODOSSOLA are reported to have used nearly 3,000 men, 25 light tanks, six batteries of medium artillery. The attack was mainly carried out by militiamen of the "Muti" Brigade who, after five days of fighting, suffered 485 dead and 371 wounded.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 17.10.44).

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Another report states: The Germans and Fascists in Domodossola are reported to have executed some Italian police officials and railway men already, who were accused of sympathy with the partisans. The occupying power, however, has not yet carried out reprisals against the population. Over 3,000 Fascist SS of the "Monte Rosa" Division, under Colonel Schwerz's command, his HQ being in BIELLA, were employed against Domodossola. There does not seem to be much chance that the partisans will be able to return to Domodossola, and further fighting in the mountains is anticipated, as the Germans seem to have decided to mop up the whole zone.
(La Suisse Geneve 17.10.44).

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It is reported that it was GRAZIANI who induced the highest German authorities to carry out the campaign against Domodossola. Contrary to rumours, discord in the partisan junta in no way influenced the military command of thepartisans. The set-back resulted from the partisans' inferiority in arms and numbers. The high morale of the partisans is shown by the fact that their units remained intact even after the fall of Domodossola. It is hoped that the Fascists will abstain from reprisals owing to the partisans' humane treatment of the Fascist prisoners.
(Basler Nachrichten 17.10.44).

VAL SABBIA-VAL TROMPIA.

The German military authorities in Italy have begun a large-scale offensive in several of the regions occupied by the partisans, mainly in the VAL SABBIA and the VAL TROMPIA, where the Wehrmacht is fighting the "Fiamme Verdi" partisan Division. Up till now, the patriots have succeeded in stemming the advance of the enemy, whose deployment of forces is officially characterised as gigantic. The partisans are retreating. Another big battle, already lasting a week, is being fought north of TURIN. There too the Germans and Fascists are superior to the partisans in armaments and numbers.
(La Suisse, Geneve 17.10.44)

AOSTA Valley

The Germans have occupied COL DU MONT connecting the VAL D'Issa with the VAL GRISANCHE. The Italian and French partisans, fighting together in this region, continue to hold some of the surrounding mountain crests. The Wehrmacht now controls all the entries into the Aosta Valley.
(Tribune de Geneve 10.10.44).

PIEDMONT

Piedmont partisans have occupied TORRE PELLICE, the entry into the Pellice Valley.
(Tribune de Geneve 10.10.44).

VARESE

In Varese the Fascist Commissioner of MILANTE was killed. The Fascists made several arrests and sentenced to death four people. The Fascist press reports that a special court-martial sentenced to death two partisans, who were immediately shot, and two others to 30 years imprisonment.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.10.44).

PADUA. The Proctor of PADUA University, the famous professor of [illegible] liberty has succe[illegible]

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of the Fascist prisoners.
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(.gence Telegraphique Suisse 9.10.44).

P.DU. The Proctor of P.DUA University, the famous professor of chemistry, EGIDIO MENEGHETTI, former fighter for liberty has succeed in escaping to a neutral country, although the Germans set a price his head.
(National Zeitung, Basle 10.10.44).

FASCIST FORCES

III. Disposition and Composition

LIGURIAN coast Most of the Ligurian coast is now reported to be held by the Italian S.N M.RCO Division.

TURIN .nti-partisan squads have been formed in Turin. They are reported to consist of 300 officers, but no troops and are commanded by Lt. Colonel G.L.. They are armed with pistols and hand-grenades.
(P.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44).

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CHISONE The TIR.N. Battalion of the MONTE ROSA Division has been withdrawn from Chisone on account of desertions.
(P.W.B. Special Service 24.10.44).

It is reported that Fascists and members of the Republican army will shortly leave for Germany. They want to take their families with them, but is is uncertain whether Germans will allow this. Possibly to check panic the German Embassy has put into circulation a rumour that a first batch of ten Divisions will shortly arrive in Italy, and that a gas which immobilises engines by solidfying petrol will soon be in use.
(P. W.B. Special Service 25.10.44).

COMO Neo-Fascist SS are everywhere taking over houses evacuated by the Germans. On the 10.9.44 part of BO[illegible] VICO, the northwest suburb of COMO was cleared of inhabitants to house neo-fascist SS arriving from Tuscany.
(P.I.D. 18.9.44).

Fascist regular and irregular forces.

The Monte Rosa Division and the San Marco Division are composed of regular troops, many of whom were interned in Germany and returned to Italy on condition of joining the Fascist army.

The Monte Rosa Battalions and the San Marco Battalions are composed of Fascists who have volunteered to fight the patriots.
(P.W.B. Special Service 18.10.44).

IV. Black Brigade activities.

Fascist Black Brigades with some Alpine and mountain troops recently attacked the communes of MULAZZO, APUANIA province, & SUVERO, SPEZIA province. The First Ligurian Division finally drove out the enemy who withdrew after burning houses and killing civilians.
(P.W.B. Special Service 19.10.44).

22nd Black Brigade "Faggioni" Vicenza. The important action carried out by the brigade, which called forth the Duce's praise and which was recorded in the Order of the Day of Fascism and the Social Republic, took place on a twenty five kilometre stretch of territory in the GRAPPA area. The object of the action, which was successfully achieved, was the clearing out of an area which was considered a stronghold of rebels.
(Axis Monitoring Report 15.10.44 P.W.B.).

V. Morale.

G.N.R. The following excerpts from documents found at the Provincial H.Q. of the GNR in AREZZO, gives an idea of the state of morale in the

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will soon be in use.
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V. Morale.

G.N.R. The following excerpt from documents found at the Provincial H.Q. of the GNR in AREZZO, gives an idea of the state of morale in the force.
1. "To my regret I am daily receiving reports stating that members of the GNR are allowing themselves to be disarmed without making use of their weapons. Weapons are issued for one purpose only, in order to uphold the dignity of the uniform and protect the person of those to whom they are entrusted. This state of things cannot be tolerated any longer. Members of the GNR must defend themselves to the last cartridge... A true soldier dies with his weapons in his hands. A man who fails to do this is a coward, and cowards will be brought before a court-martial."

(sig) Lt. Col. Girolamo BACCHE
Provincial OC.

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VI. Mussolini Receives "Muti" Commandant.

Colonel Franco COLOMBO, Commandant of the Ettore Muti Legion in MILAN, was received by the Duce at his HQ. Colonel Colombo, after having expressed to the Duce the allegiance of the Legion, spoke of the organisation and the effectives of the Legion itself.
(Italian Home Service 10.10.44).

VII. Disciplinary Measures in Milan Black Brigade.

Fascist Newspapers rarely fail to contain reports of executions. The readers of the newspapers have grown correspondingly indifferent, and propagandists hardly know how to succeed in intimidating the public. An exceptional event occurred on October 13th, however, when their own comrades executed in Milan four members of the "Aldo Resega" Black Brigade. The Commander of the Brigade, who has his own press bureau, announced that his unit was a politico military organisation, exclusively composed of irreproachable moral elements. He had therefore degraded and executed four members of the brigade, owing to repeated abuse of power. Repubblica Fascista said that they were criminals who had succeeded in finding their way into the "Aldo Resega" Brigade.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 16.10.44).

VIII. The Koch Band Released.

It is reliably reported that the Questore of MILAN arrested the group of Milan torturers, acting under the orders of BUFFARINI GUIDI. Through the intercession of Guidi he was then forced to release them and resign his job. They have since resumed their activities.
(P.W.B. Special Service 19.10.44).

GERMANS.

IX. Dispositions.

LIGURIA. Along the Franco-Italian frontier in LIGURIA the enemy is keeping what troops he has on the move to give the impression of greater strength than he actually has in the area. The enemy is short of transport. Against the partisans the usual weapons used by the enemy are MG 42s and 81 mm mortars and occasionally light artillery. Only a small percentage are equipped with MGs
(P.W.B. Special Service 21.10.44).

The German Command of the Wehrmacht and of the SS have been moved from ISTRIA to GRADISCA D'ISONZO (south west of GORIZIA) and to TARVISO. The evacuation of the civil population has been arranged along the coastal zone between LIGNANO and BELVEDERE excluding the localities [illegible] east of the Marano Lagoon and Grado.

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LA SPEZIA In La Spezia civil mobilisation of men aged 16 to 60 has been ordered for the preparation of defences. Officers of the German pioneer detachments at present being dispatched to GENOA have been ordered to defend the port and city to the utmost. (Libera Stampa Lugano 18.10.44).

MILAN The Fascist Ministry of Public Works has been transferred from TRIESTE to MILAN. Corriere della Sera's publicity offices in the Via Santa Margherita in Milan have been requisitioned by the Germans, who evidently found the adjoining Hotel Regina, where the SS Command had had their HQ since September 1943, inadequate. These and other 3107 indications confirm the intention of the Germans and Fascists to defend Milan to the utmost. All buildings housing commands or administrative

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offices are being isolated through the evacuation of the neighbouring houses. Inmates are given 24 hours to leave. The buildings thus isolated are being surrounded by barbed wire. Several streets have been closed to traffic by concrete barricades. The whole quarter round the Hotel Touring and the Via Parini between Piazzale Fiume and the public gardens have been evacuated..... reinforced concrete air raid shelters are being converted into strongholds. Almost all windows have been walled up, leaving only small loopholes. A number of barricades have been raised at exposed points. In fact, they are real forts, equipped for relatively long resistance. The same plans for defence to the utmost are reported from COMO, where the Via Milano zone towards CAMERLATA is being evacuated.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 17.10.44).

X. Evacuation Preparations.

It seems that the removal of the German hospitals which are in ALESSANDRIA to north of the Po is imminent.
(Italian Official Source 14.10.44).

REGGIO EMILIA The Germans are removing 30 million lire worth of raw material and machinery from factories in the Reggio Emilia area.
(P.W.B. Special Service 24.10.44).

Reports about the Germans' intentions in northern Italy are contradictory. Some indicate that the departure of the main German forces stationed in LIGURIA, LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT is imminent, whereas others hint at defence to the limit.

Three German divisions now in PIEDMONT would be withdrawn; part would return along the TONALE road, which special detachments of sappers keep constantly free of snow, while part would be sent to reinforce the troops in the VENETO. This tends to confirm the German intention to abandon the Emilian front and retire to the north.

On the other hand, during the last few days some German Commands have established themselves in COMO and BERGAMO. Possibly, however, the Germans really mean to withdraw and the Commands established in COMO and BERGAMO are charged with coordinating the evacuation via the Valtelline, where some 20,000 men are reported to be concentrated.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 7.10.44).

LAKE GARDA Further reports confirm that Germans east of Lake Garda intend to use the Fascist Forces to cover their eventual retreat and that of the Polizia Trentina which has been used to garrison this area.
(P.W.B. Special Service 25.10.44).

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XI. Morale.

During a recent rastrellamento in TUSCANY there were so many desertions from two companies of Alsatian troops that the remainder have been disarmed and are now awaiting trial.
(P.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44).

Germans captured recently in the Gothic Line complained of the lack of preparedness. One admitted that the general picture in Italy as elsewhere was gloomy - "in fact" he said "some men had named the green line (Gothic line) the "black line". But morale in his unit was still good, and as for himself "I still have hopes of victory".

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The attack appears to have been a surprise to most of the German troops. One said that they were much surprised when they saw Canadian troops; they had not known they were there. All they had been told was that the line must be held, but when it came to it, there was so much confusion that no-one knew what was going on. The attack was a real surprise. Another admitted that they were not sufficiently prepared for such a wave of tanks and infantry. But he believed that the new weapon would replace the GAF and would right everything; he was certain of German victory.

Considerable demoralisation seems to have resulted from the confusion of the attack. One Polish deserter when interrogated described an open act of insubordination which he witnessed at BIBBONA, when a Capt. ordered stragglers to assemble at a point which was exposed to artillery. An uffz. flatly refused to obey this order and a very loud row ensued in front of the men. Finally, the Capt. gave in and the Uffz took his men to a position of his own choosing.

An older prisoner, aged 38, when interrogated stated frankly "We are all very down, but no-one dares say anything". "There we were with rifles and hand-grenades against tanks - what can we do? Youngsters are still imbued with Nazi ideals and want to go on fighting, hoping for something to happen, he said, but all the older soldiers want the war to come to an end at once without knowing what to do to bring this about.

One prisoner said that the fighting on the Italian front is harder for the German soldier to take than in Russia, because of the concentrated Allied artillery fire and the Germans' complete lack of air support.

One non-commissioned officer thought the absence of the Luftwaffe was due to lack of petrol and believed that Germany still had plenty of planes.

A prisoner interrogated on 23rd August said that morale in his unit was depressed. "Everybody is in the dumps, and everybody grumbles, but still they all carry on stubbornly. Disengagement is the order of the day, and with our shortage of motor transport it's not so simple". Another said that his regiment was supposed to be motorised, but that was only on paper, in reality they had no M/T and had to march all the time.

Most prisoners are emphatic on the demoralising effect of the attacks by partisans. It is sufficient illustration of the Germans' state of nerves that on a stretch of road between AREZZO and SAN SEPOLCRO, where tress and shrub afforded cover for partisans and where there were notices "Achtung, Partisanen", machine-gunners sitting [illegible] drivers used to keep up constant fire from their weapons,

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(P.W.B. HQ A.A.I. 20.9.44).

XII. Behaviour and Atrocities.

An extract from a captured German letter dated 20th June 1944, written by a German officer to his parents, gives a lively picture of the devastation caused by German looting in Italy.

"We provision ourselves from the country. War must feed war, is our motto. If it rains, then we go on the hunt for umbrellas. If women with such an apparatus come tohand, then the Landsmers run after them and grab one. Not a chicken, not a goose is left behind. Oxen and waggons are taken out of their stalls, since otherwise there is no opportunity to carry away what little is left. Behind us is

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only a trail of devastation. The people run away or have already made themselves doubly safe against the enemy artillery and the plundering German soldiers on their way through. Not a cupboard that has not been broken open; you need only to open the drawers and you have everything.
(P.W.B. German Intelligence H.Q. A.A.I. 20.10.44).

Germans are buying up the last of Italian stocks. In COMO Italians were suspended from using their ration cards while the Germans emptied the shops, some using bundles of Italian ration cards at a time.

The German military authorities in MILAN have announced that no fuel will be distributed to Italians this autumn and winter. Quantities of wood are being despatched to Germany.
(P.I.D. 18.9.44).

In the Apuanian Alps the Germans have destroyed between thirty and forty villages, of which a large number were burned with flame-throwers, after being sprayed with petrol. A large part of the male population of these villages has been deported to Germany.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.10.44).

UDINE. Enemy attacks in the Udine area and in the Appenines continue. In CARNIA, Udine, the Germans issued an ultimatum to patriots to lay down their arms and return home on pain of reprisals against civilians in the surrounding countryside. The patriots refused to accept the ultimatum, which expired on October 6th and the Germans are now taking heavy reprisals, burning towns and villages.
(P.W.B. Special Service 20.10.44).

EMILIA and ROMAGNA. The Committees of Liberation of Emilia and Romagna denounced to the Allied authorities atrocities committed by Germans in their retreat from the Appenines. The Frazione of VADO, south of BOLOGNA, was completely destroyed and about 250 civilians killed. All cattle were carried away.
(P.W.B. Special Service 19.10.44).

XIII. Relations with Fascist Troops.

A captured German regimental order reveals the bad relations existing between German and Fascist Republican troops

"The following is a report on the state of affairs prevailing among Italian troops who have been trained in Germany.

It comes as an even harder blow to Italian officers and men when they discover that on Italian soil they are not treated by their German comrades with the respect they expected as a result of their experiences in Germany. Discourtesy on the part of German officers, tactlessness and lack of respect for military honour, and even in

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It is natural that those officers, NCOs and men who are attached to Italian units as liaison or training cadres treat their Italian comrades with the respect due to fellow warriors of the German forces. In the same way troops will be instructed as to the manner in which they must behave with particular reference to the order on the form of greeting to Italian soldiers of the Republican Army. It is not denied that the majority of Italian officers are regrettably guilty of not always returning the salute of German soldiers, but whatever effect

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this may have on the German soldier it is his duty as a member of the German army to set an example. The Commander in Chief Italy and the inspector of Italian Forces South West theatre are requested to take up this matter with Italian War Office and General Staff with a view to placing a similar responsibility on members of the Italian Republican Forces.

In the report of one of the Germans district hqs it is stated that German MT drivers are "accepting as gifts" the pistols, and even the watches of Italian officers in return for lifts. Such behaviour is bording on black mail and will be dealt with in the severest manner. Troops will be notified that the German Command takes an extremely serious view of this practise and further occurrences of this nature will meet with the strictest punishment. Furthermore German drivers are ordered to give lifts to any member of the Italian Forces in uniform, who is able to produce the proper authority for travelling.
(P.W.B. A.A.I. German Intelligence)

POLITICS

XIV. Mussolini urges defence in north.

Mussolini, not wanting to see his Government become a mere ghost, is reported to be urgently insisting with Hitler that northern Italy should be defended vigorously.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.1044).

XV. Mussolini's Escape Planned?

It is stated from reliable sources that about 200 m east of FALCONE (6 km north west of DESENZANO DEL GARDA) south of the DRUGOLO castle, there are three motor planes hidden among the trees, which seem ready for departure, and it is supposed that they are intended for the personal use of Mussolini.
(Italian Official Source 13.10.44).

XVI. Transfer of Ministries etc.

It is officially announced that the Directorate of the Fascist Republican Party has transferred its seat to MILAN. PAVOLINI and his staff will conduct affairs from the new Party office.
(NPD 17.10.44).

It seems that the reduced Africa Italiana Ministry must remove to MILAN. Various ministries residing now in VERONA, have already begun the dismissal of the casual employees, advancing six months' salary.
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(Italian Official Source 15.10.44).

The direction of the E.I.A.R. of MILAN has finished the preparations for an eventual removal. A transmitting wireless station will be made on the plateau of RENON (north of BOLZANO).
(Italian Official Source 6.10.44).

The Ministry of Finance has been moved from BRESCIA to MILAN where 15 rooms have been requisitioned for offices.

The General Direction of the State Monopoli has been moved from VENICE to COMO.

It was stated that the Foreign Office had been moved to CADENABBIA (Lake of Como), but it seems according to another source that only the section for the internees has been moved from GREZZANO Val PANTENA (North of VERONA) to COMO. 3107

In general from the information above mentioned a centralisation movement of the Republican Government organs towards Lombardy

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and particularly towards MILAN is confirmed.
(Italian Official Source 30.9.44).

XVII. Conditions in Brescia and Bergamo.

Severe German-Fascist repressive measures have made it impossible for political committees to function in towns in BRESCIA and BERGAMO provinces.
(P.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44).

XVIII. Appointments.

The Secretary of the Fascist Party has appointed Lt. Col. Leopoldo GAGLIARDI as Federal Commissioner of VARESE.
(Italian Home Service 9.10.44).

General Alberto TRENTO has been appointed Presiding Judge of the Supreme Court Martial of the Fascist Republic.
(Radio Monitoring Report 15.10.44).

ECONOMICS.

XIX. Food Situation.

The food situation has been considerably aggravated in recent weeks in northern Italy, particularly in VENICE, GENOA and TURIN. The distribution of meat has been suspended in several regions. The Venetians have become vegetarians. Water and medical supplies are very scarce. There is talk of a reduction in the bread ration. There is also a general scarcity of potatoes. The German requisitioning of agricultural products and cattle have considerably increased in spite of the opposition of the peasants. Rice has become very scarce and is mostly to be found on the black market, which is becoming more and more flourishing.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 9.10.44).

MILAN. The weekly meat ration, distributed on Saturdays has been converted in theory into 50 g of cheese, but as cheese is unobtainable with ration cards, people make their own arrangements. The stocks of soup ingredients are exhausted and the September ration was completed with an extra distribution of "white" flour. In fact the flour was 88% adulterated. The fat ration for October is 50 g of butter and one decilitre of oil (naturally seed oil). Milk, which completely skimmed, is reserved for children. There is no coal or firewood for heating. However, the Fascist authorities do not trouble much as they expect others to be there this winter.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 4.10.44).

VAL D'OSSOL. The food situation in the Val D'Ossola is still very serious and hunger is general.

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PADUA. Grain production in PADUA province is reliably calculated at 1200,000 quintals, of which 500,000 have been delivered to the pools. The Germans are calculated to have taken 150,000 quintals.

MILAN This year's harvest in the Milan area is excellent, but the exact figures are difficult to obtain, since German, patriots and peasants all prevent the grain from reaching the Ammassi.
(P.W.B. Special Service 17.10.44)

PIEDMONT In Piedmont food appears plentiful in the areas controlled by the partisans, and here it is shared out on a communal basis by the head of the band. Reports indicate that in the larger towns and in TURIN especially the position became really serious with the advent of the winter. Black markets seem to be encouraged in the towns

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occupied by the enemy. The partisans raid these towns and the enemy supply routes for such commodities as salt, sugar, tobacco and wheat. For several weeks to come fruit will still be plentiful. Flour in the area is white.

LIGURIA. In Liguria the position is totally different. Cut off from the fertile plains by the mountains, and with German forces along both the coast and the main supply routes, the average daily diet of the partisans and the civilian population is a potato soup, sometimes with a meat addition, approximately 300 grammes of brown wheat husk bread and fruit, while the season lasts. Some people have a little rice, but there is no pasta. The little milk there is is reserved for children. There is no butter, and a certain amount of goats milk cheese. Honey is 280 lire the kilo and oil more valuable than money. Tobacco is virtually unobtainable. Children are the main source of worry to the population and partisans alike.

The position of VENTIMIGLIA is especially serious, on account of shelling, which disorganises distribution.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44).

Clothes are obtainable, but all woollens are ersatz and give no wear. The partisans in their areas control the more essential items such as warm coats etc. Boots are also controlled in this manner and are obtainable only through partisan controlled channels. Good boots of the ski type cost from 1200 to 2000 lire. Bootmakers are extremely clever at repairing and studding of boots.

Soap is extremely scarce and expensive and completely ersatz when one can get it. Usually it is an abrasive such as sand or pummice.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44)

XX. Transport.

Metano Dump in the Province of BOLOGNA.

Since it is easy to get Metano gas, cars of all kinds use it. This gas is extracted in the following places

PORRETTA
FERRARA (S. AMBROGIO)
GAGGIO MONTANO
CASTIGLION DE PEPOLI
RIOLA
MIRANDOLA

About 10,000 cubic metres are extracted daily.
(P.W.B. Florence 19.10.44).

FERRARA. The latest date by which bicycles must be reported has been postponed until October 10th. Bicycles not reported by then will be confiscated.
(Deutsche Adrie Zeitung 8.10.44).

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PIEDMONT and NW LIGURIA. -Partisans' Transport.
The Langhe Division has a certain amount of transport. The 2nd Ligurian Division has not more than half a dozen vehicles. There is little or no petrol - sometimes the partisans capture it from the Germans and Fascists. In the area of the 2nd Ligurian Division there are about 100 mules in use. Mules in this area are valued at between 20,000 and 50,000 lire according to strength and training.
(P.W.B. Special Service. 23.10.44).

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XXI. Industry.

a. PIEDMONT and N.W. LIGURIA.

Little or no industry is being carried on in W. Liguria except for a certain quantity of oil pressing and wine making.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44).

XXII. Public Health.

Medical Supplies. Partisans in PIEDMONT area are relatively well supplied with medical supplies, though there is a shortage of bandages. In LIGURIA concentrated foods, many essential drugs and anaesthetics are unobtainable. The partisans in all these areas maintain small hospitals in the safe districts and doctors are attached to each band.
(P.W.B. Special Service 23.10.44).

XXIII. Situation in Milan and Bologna.

MILAN, where life is becoming daily harder, is assuming the characteristic aspect of a city behind the front line, like Rome before its fall. Thousands of refugees, almost all of them Fascists or collaborationists, ceaselessly flock towards Milan. Lodgings are extremely expensive, partly because most people detest this kind of refugee. Those unable to find a place in the city overflow into the countryside round and the COMO and VARESE regions are also packed. Many villas belonging to anti-Fascists have been requisitioned. Elsewhere, owners or tenants are obliged to place "superfluous" rooms at the disposal of the homeless, as Fascist fugitives are euphemistically called.
(Popolo e Liberta Bellinzona 8.10.44).

BOLOGNA. The war has come close to this city. Bombardment and incessant air attacks day and night are hampering business life and work, but public services are functioning and restaurants and food shops are open. The markets are supplied from rural districts although under great difficulties. The newspaper Resto del Carlino is still published, although greatly reduced in size. Street cars are running. There is water and electric light. Most shops selling other than daily necessities are closed. The oldest university in Europe is still open. Notices announce the beginning of the new term on November 1st. Fugitives from the Apennines have increased the population from a quarter of a million to roughly 300,000. All flats, houses and hotels are full, especially as many houses have been destroyed by bombs. There is great distress among the fugitives, and the people in general are depressed. They fear that the city will be destroyed by enemy bombardment and bombing, especially since the failure of the Cardinal Archbishop of Bologna, Naselli Rocca, to obtain a promise from the Allies through the Vatican that the city would be spared.
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LABOUR.

XXIV. Forced Labour.

Germans Enforce Labour Service in Cremona. All men in the CREMONA Province between the ages of 16 and 20 have received orders to report without exception at the local German HQ for compulsory labour service. Those failing to report or trying to escape to other provinces will be deported to Germany. If they join the maquis members of their families will be deported. All must report with picks and shovels.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 14.10.44).

VENICE According to an order issued by the Labour Section of the German Command in Venice young people between 14 and 16 are exempt

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from civil labour service. The daily pay for men over 16 is 50 lire and for women 40 lire. They are given, moreover, the following weekly extra rations; half a kg of flour, half a kg of sugar, 1.5 litres of wine, 50 g of salt and 21 cigarettes. Their former employer is obliged to continue paying the worker two thirds of his wages. Conscripted persons are only required temporarily and they are guaranteed to be able to return home at night.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 8.10.44).

XXV. Strikes.

Germans arrest GENOA workers. PAVOLINI has arrived in Genoa, where he conferred with the German military authorities on the situation in LIGURIA. The latter have succeeded in mastering the situation in GENOA, LA SPEZIA and SAVONA by means of mass arrests among the workers who were on strike. The patriots remain active outside the principal cities. In GENOA curfew has been advanced to 20,00 hours.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 5.10.44).

MILAN Strikes lasting for several hours took place in Milan as a protest against the political persecutions and the transport of machinery to Germany. The strikes occurred in the main factories of Milan involving 10,000 workers.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.10.44).

PRESS

XXVI. Clandestine Press.

The following clandestine papers are published and distributed in ROMAGNA:

Voce Repubblicana
Romagna Socialista
Italia Libera.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

PERSONALITIES.

XXVII. A spy in Brescia.

GUILIO TOGNI of Brescia, fled with his family to CASTENEDOLO Officer of the Republican Fascist army, spies for the Germans, giving military information and details about soldiers and officers of the district of Brescia who have not joined up. Stops young men in the streets and asks for their papers. Hated by the whole population of Brescia, by whom he is called the "Sansculottes of the Revolution".

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(Deutsche Adria Zeitung

XXV. Strikes.

Germans arrest GENOA workers. P.VOLINI has arrived in Genoa, where he conferred with the German military authorities on the situation in LIGURIA. The latter have succeeded in mastering the situation in GENOA, LA SPEZIA and SAVONA by means of mass arrests among the workers who were on strike. The patriots remain active outside the principal cities. In GENOA curfew has been advanced to 20,00 hours.
(Agence Telegrephique Suisse 5.10.44).

MILAN Strikes lasting for several hours took place in Milan as a protest against the political persecutions and the transport of machinery to Germany. The strikes occurred in the main factories of Milan involving 10,000 workers.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 18.10.44).

PRESS

XXVI. Clandestine Press.

The following clandestine papers are published and distributed in ROMAGNA:

Voce Repubblicana
Romagna Socialista
Italia Libera.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

PERSONALITIES.

XXVII. A spy in Brescia.

GUILIO TOGNI of Brescia, fled with his family to CASTENEDOLO Officer of the Republican Fascist army, spies for the Germans, giving military infirmation and details about soldiers and officers of the district of Brescia who have not joined up. Stops young men in the streets and asks for their papers. Hated by the whole population of Brescia, by whom he is called the "Sansculloties of the Revolution".

(P.W.B. Florence
9.10.44).

XXVIII. Bologna Fascists.

Spies.
ZANOTTI - he denounced many patricts to the SS.
TOGLIANI - father and son
SCHIOPPA - the consul's son
ALBERTI

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SECRET

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SECRET
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Republicans.

R. ZAMBONI - Head of the SS
TEN PIFFERI - Works against the partisans.
FRANZ PAGLIANI
BONINSEGNI
TORRI
COPPOLA RETTORE
PROF. RESTA - of the University
GUIDO GIORDANI
PERICLE DUCATI
AVV. DESTITO
(MARIO BERGAMO)
CHELINI (SABIEN I)
Ten. Col. ZOPPO and his two sons.

Suspected Persons.

Rag. BENSO
ANGELINI - Student
CORAPI - ex-O.C. G.U.F.
Avv. MARI. U.I.
PERICLE MARTELLI

XXIX. Spies and Fascists at FORLI

PAOLO SALIMBENI
TANCINI
ROSSI
LOGLI RANICIO
QUARTELLI ETTORE
BEDESCHI GUILIO
FATTOVICH - Surveyor of Studies
ROMUALDI Brothers
GARANDINI - Director
BONAROTTI - "CIT"
PESARESI PLINIO
DR. ALLEGRI - Ravenna
LOMBINI - Predappio
DE LUCCI - Fascist Secretary of PREDAPPIO
VIOLANI TULLO
BORDANDINI - Printer
JEAN - Evacuation Office
MACIAROL
GOFFARELLI - a criminal
DINDONATI SERGIO
Rag. BONORA ANTONIO
LARICE - Republican Questore
D. BROY EUGENIO
[illegible] DARIO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPPOLA RETTORE
PROF. RESTA - of the University
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LARICE - Republican Questore
DA BROY EUGENIO
VECCHI DARIO
Avv. PAOLO MARIA GUARINI
Dott. BOFONDI- Fascist Prefect
GIGLI
PESARESI ANTONIO
FOSSI
TESORIERI
Dr. FUZZI
VITALI - Viale Bolognese
NORCINI - a spy - Corso Garibaldi
Avv. CASAGLI - A great friend of the prefect Bofondi
Via Regnoli
Dr. NATALINI - a squadrist and spy
BONDI CAMILLO - Via Sant'Anna
LALLI SECONDO - spy
MILITE CRESCENTI - Via Palazzolo
BIONDI - a road milite
Sottotenente VENTURI - spy

(P.N.F. Files:

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XXX. Fascist Personalities at Ravenna and Bologna

RAVENNA

BOGASSI - 1st Republican Prefect
BARONE PAULUCCI DI CALBOLI - former Fascist Ambassador in Madrid
ANDREANI - Chief of Police
SPERO - Milite
CAPANNA - Milite

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

BOLOGNA

Prof. FRANZ PAGLIANI - Commissario Regionale
Prof. GOFFREDO COPPOLA - Rector of University - well-known German collaborator.

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

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C.PANNA - Milite

(P.W.B. 8th Army Intelligence Report No 41).

BOLOGNA

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy(Occ)

25th October, 1944

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 29.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

The Nazi-Fascist Reaction As was feared, the hard-won independence of the DOMODOSSOLA zone has been swept away by a determined advance of German and Fascist columns, supported by planes, tanks and artillery. Domodossola itself has been retaken by the Nazi-Fascists and thousands of inhabitants are fleeing to the mountains. Many refugees have asked for asylum in Switzerland and over 3000 children have been evacuated by the Red Cross. The patriots, under the leadership of Dr. TIBALDI are continuing the battle in the upper valleys, but this resistance cannot be long protracted in view of the lack of ammunition and food.

Another large-scale offensive is being made against the "Fiamme Verdi" Partisan Division in the VAL SABBIA and VAL TROMPIA. The patriots have been resisting valiantly against overwhelming forces, but are now reported as retreating.

In the AOSTA valley the Germans have occupied the COL DU MONT between the VAL D'ISERE and the VAL GRISANCHE and now control all the entries into the Aosta valley.

In spite of constant mopping-up operations the patriots of BRESCIA still maintain their positions in a large zone, including part of the BERGAMO district, and some of the TRENTINO valleys beyond Lake GARDA.

The Margheriti Brigade, between Lake ISEO, Lake IDRO, was attacked recently by large German and Fascist forces. After inflicting heavy losses the patriots were able to escape, through the mountains. They lost only four dead and one prisoner, who was tortured and hanged in the main square of CORNO.

Information is available regarding the Langhe Division, the 3rd Alpini Division, the 9th Garibaldi Communist Division, and the 2nd Ligurian "Felice Cascioni" Communist Division, operating in Western PIEDMONT and N.W. LIGURIA. The Langhe Division appears to be hostile to the neighbouring Communist Divisions, but the observer stated that

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The exploits of Tonino SPAZZOLI and Silvio CORBARA (killed in action) have now become legendary among the peasants of the ROMAGNA.

FASCIST FORCES

Morale. To check panic among the Fascists the German Embassy circulated a story that ten Divisions would shortly arrive in Italy and that a gas would be used which had the property of solidifying petrol.

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET 25th October, 44.

Report on Conditions in Enemy Occupied Italy, No 29.

SUMMARY 2.

The Milan "Aldo Resiga" Black Brigade. The Commander of the Brigade recently deposed and executed four members of his Brigade for abuse of power.

The Koch Band. The Koch Band, arrested by the Questura of MILAN, has been released through the intercession of BUFFARINI-GUIDI. A later report, not yet confirmed, says that KOCH himself was shortly afterwards ambushed and killed by partisans.

GERMANS

Dispositions. There is still uncertainty about probable German intentions. The general view seems to be that while, in the case of a general break-down, Liguria and Piedmont will be hurriedly evacuated, nevertheless centres like MILAN and GENOA will be defended to the bitter.end. In the meantime, northern Italy is being systematically despoiled of machinery, cattle, food and goods of every kind.

ECONOMICS.

The food situation. The food situation in the large N. Italian cities is becoming very serious. The excellent harvest this year has brought no relief as the Germans have increased their exactions and where the partisans are in control, the grain is not delivered to the Ammazzi. MILAN and BOLOGNA are reported to be very similar to Rome just before its liberation, ie. large numbers of refugees have swarmed in, the bulk of them Fascists.

LABOUR

Strikes. PAVOLINI has conferred with the Germans in GENOA, who have mastered the situation there and in LA SPEZIA and SAVONA by mass arrests among the workers.

TO	INIT.	DATE
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COL. YOUNG		
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[illegible]		
MAJ HARVEY		
MAJ BALLANCE		
[illegible] POWER		

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ALLIED HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
Psychological Warfare Branch.
Unit No.14. APO 512.

"D" Section. October 26th 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL ITALY, NORTH OF ROME.

REPORT No. 24.

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Source, (Reliability).

A. Always reliable.
B. Usually reliable.
C. Sometimes Reliable.
D. Frequently reliable.
E. A bad source.
F. Not possible to judge.

Report, (Probability).

1. Confirmed.
2. Probable.
3. Possible.
4. Doubtful.
5. Improbable.
6. Not possible to judge.

Eric Wolfe

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Eric Whelpton

Eric Whelpton, Major.
C.C. D. Section.

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Confidential.

THIS WEEK IN TUSCANY.

Public opinion in central Italy is very hard to gauge as there are so many entirely conflicting currents of thought. One thing is certain, here, far more than in the South, feeling is extremely bitter. The Fascists in this region were very powerful, and, although hidden, they still continue their flow of active propaganda against the Allies.

As in the South also, the Italians criticise Allied officers for associating with people whom they believe, rightly or wrongly, to have collaborated with the Germans, or at any rate to have supported the Fascist Republic. They also declare that in many of the Allied offices people who were avowed Fascists until a few weeks ago, are given confidential posts. Whether these rumours are legitimate or not, it is certain that they are materially affecting the prestige of the Allies.

In spite of these criticisms anti-German feeling is increasing as numerous and well authenticated stories of atrocities pour in from all sides, especially from the district of Lucca where entire families have been massacred, thousands of men deported and hundreds tortured. It seems now as if the worst horrors of Poland had been inflicted on the Italians. The people here not only call for revenge, but ask for some measures to restrain, if possible, the barbarity of the Germans.

Politically the scene is fairly quiet, though only in an academic sense, because the bitterness of the anti-Fascists is increasing and the problem of disposing of the Patriots remains more or less unsolved, if indeed

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Politically the scene is fairly quiet, though only in an academic sense, because the bitterness of the anti-Fascists is increasing and the problem of disposing of the Patriots remains more or less unsolved, if indeed anyone could solve it.

Winter is approaching; food, fuel and most of the commodities of life are very scarce. Whilst the Tuscans appreciate the technical skill with which the Allies have restored, or partially restored, so many essential public services, yet they are undoubtedly so pre-occupied with the shortage of food, that everything possible will have to be done to avoid disorders.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

POLITICS. Confidential.

1. FIRST MEETING OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY IN FLORENCE.

On October 8th 1944 the Partito Socialista di Unità Proletaria (Socialist Party) held its first meeting.

After a report by the Federal Secretary, Signor Lombardi, reviewing the activities of the clandestine period, the Assembly voted on the following points:-

a. Unconditional approval of the directive given to the Party from the Rome centre.

b. Institution of an Executive Commission of political-administrative character.

c. Appeal to the Allied Command to carry on an energetic and thorough purge of Fascists, which is urgently necessary both politically and morally. (A.1.)

2. PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLICAN PARTY IN FLORENCE.

The Republican Party has placed small propaganda posters on walls, calling for the collaboration of Italian youth.

Since there are few adherents of this Party in Florence little notice has been taken of the posters. The Party is not expected to have any future in Florence, nor has it entered into controversy with the Monarchist party (Italian Democratic Party) which has recently made its appearance in this city. (B.1.)

3. THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION AND DEMOCRAZIA DEL LAVORO IN FLORENCE.

Since the liberation of Florence the Democratic Labour Party

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3. THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION AND DEMOCRAZIA DEL LAVORO IN FLORENCE.

Since the liberation of Florence the Democratic Labour Party (Democrazia del Lavoro), one of the six great political parties of Italy, has been seeking representation on the Committee of Liberation. This has been repeatedly refused because the Party took no part in the clandestine struggle against Fascism. The C.T.L.N. has, however, agreed to reconsider the matter once the central control of the Party in Milan is free and the whole question can be fully discussed. This reply has not satisfied the Democratic Labour Party which has sent a protest to the Government in Rome.

As a result of this dispute, and also because it is not well known, the Democratic Labour Party's position in Florence, and in Prato and other Tuscan centres, is precarious. (B.3.)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

E C O N O M I C S. Confidential.

1. RECONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS, (Land Reclamation).

One of the principal and most urgent problems is that of land reclamation, especially in Tuscany which is devastated by war and where the season is already far advanced.

The work to be done falls into two main divisions:-

a. Agrarian.
b. Roads and Communications.

The destruction of the bridges and embankments has caused obstruction of the river outlets, hindering the normal flow of the water. As a result there is grave danger of floods, which would ruin the present crops and prevent cultivation for years to come.

The removal of debris from the river beds must be so arranged as to keep the roads open, especially for military traffic.

The extreme urgency of the matter does not allow time for the construction of cement bridges, which, even if begun at once, could not be completed for some months. The winter rains, if the obstructions are not removed, will cause extensive floods very soon.

It is therefore necessary:

a. To build temporary bridges on the roads destined for military traffic. These could be built by military or civilian labour and obstructions cleared away at the same time. The constructions of permanent bridges should also go forward.

b. Works of non-military importance should be planned decided upon and carried out by each commune. Those of a provincial nature could be examined by a special commission, and estimates made and presented, through Civil Engineers, to the A.MG. which would then authorise the work.

2. FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

The financial problem of reconstruction of public works and

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2. FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

The financial problem of reconstruction of public works also needs immediate attention.

The works are divided into

a. Communal.
b. Provincial.

In the first case the problem could be solved by the assignment of a definite fund to each Commune, according to the estimates presented. The Commune undertaking to carry out the work.

For provincial works the Government Engineers would present plans and estimates to A.M.G. , which would provide for the carrying out of the most urgent, especially those responding to military requirements.

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3. FINANCIAL POSSIBILITIES.

The Public Works could be financed as follows:-

a. Small communal work of special agricultural utility to be paid by contributions of the agriculturists themselves.

b. Military works to be paid by A.M.G.

c. Large scale agricultural works of less urgency to be paid by the Italian Government.

This implies collaboration among all concerned, and the "Commission for the Reconstruction of Works" has accordingly been formed. The Commission will be composed of:-

2 engineers of the Consorzi Idraulici (Hydraulic Society).
1 representative of the Commune of Empoli.
1 " " " " " Prato.
1 " " " minor Communes.
1 " " " Confederation of Workers.
1 " " " Confederation of Landowners.
1 Agrarian Inspector.
1 Secretary of the Commission.

The Commission will sit permanently so as to gather in and present estimates and plans from the various Communes as quickly as possible to the Allied Command.

4. AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS.

Tuscan agriculturists are faced with two vital problems, these concern wheat and olives.

Wheat.

The first problem is how to work the land for the future sowing. In view of the enormous shortage of oxen and horses owing to requisitioning or looting by the Germans. The plan, put forward by the inexperienced, of transferring oxen and horses from one farm to another is impracticable because the work is contemporaneous and must be done when the weather is suitable.

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The Public Works could be financed as follows:-

a. Small communal work of special agricultural utility to be paid by contributions of the agriculturists themselves.

b. Military works to be paid by A.M.G.

c. Large scale agricultural works of less urgency to be paid by the Italian Government.

This implies collaboration among all concerned, and the "Commission for the Reconstruction of Works" has accordingly been formed. The Commission will be composed of:-

2 engineers of the Consorzi Idraulici (Hydraulic Society).
1 representative of the Commune of Empoli.
1 " " " " " Prato.
1 " " " minor Communes.
1 " " " Confederation of Workers.
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Olives.

Within a month the olives will be ripe and must be be gathered and pressed. Should last year's system be adopted and the small presses not set going but only the more important ones, the problem of transport will become yet more complicated. Besides this the oil-pressing mills must be supplied with "fiscoli" (the rope baskets in which olives are pressed). It is said that these will cost 800 - 1000 lire. If so the cost of oil production will become enormous. An approximate estimate, based on last year's prices plus a possible increase, would set the outlay for each kilo of oil at 55 lire.

5. THE LIGNITE INDUSTRY.

The Italian lignite industry, especially at Valdarno, which is one of the most important, has been subject in the past to alarming crises of production.

The physical chemical characteristics of Xiloide lignite do not allow of a stable production for heating and industrial purposes; thus the full production, which can reach a total of 5000 to 6000 metric tons a day, drops at times to below 1000 tons; throwing 10.000 to 12.000 specialised workers out of work for long periods.

To counteract the effects of these crises the State in the past intervened with:

a. Large doles to the unemployed.
b. The purchase of lignite at uneconomic prices.
c. Exemption from taxes, etc.

This costly State intervention brought momentary relief to the working population, but could not remove the causes of these recurring economic crises.

It can be foreseen that the Tuscan lignite industry will pass in the future through far more serious crises, both in duration and intensity.

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Plans for the Solution of the Problem.

In 1937 a plan was under consideration for the establishment of a large plant in which all unsold lignite should be smelted, together with the lower qualities, (the necessary extraction of which considerably effects the cost price of the lignite destined for commerce). With such utilisation on the spot all the mines of the Valdarno and the Arezzo district would constantly maintain their full standard of production. The plan provided for the use on the spot (near San Giovanni Valdarno) of an annual output of about one million tons of lignite, largely waste and inferior

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quality for the production of:-

a. Azotic fertilizers (nitrates).
b. Fuel, solid, liquid and gaseous.
c. High grade gas (9500 cal. mc. (cubic metre).)
d. High grade lignite.

About half the available quantity of gas produced by the Plant would be sufficient to supply the whole city of Florence.

The Valdarno Society from July 1943 Onwards.

The developments of the Valdarno Society have been checked since the events of July 1943. Damage during the German retreat was not very serious as regards the buildings, but the loss of machinery and material has been very great. All the electric materials, machinery and vehicles were carried off.

Some Aspects of the Proposed Solution.

The Project, based on sound industrial principles, is of the highest social value for the whole of Tuscany.

Of the various products obtainable one part only, that of the carbohydrates (petrolic derivatives) could be considered as autarchical.

The total amount of these products does not however reach 1% of the prewar imports, while the number of workers who could directly or indirectly find steady work in such a plant represents 80% of the entire mining population of Tuscany.

On a total of about one million metric tons of products obtainable from the establishment, only 25% could be considered autarchical.

Were the anti-autarchical policy of the new Government carried to extremes, the practical possibilities of varying the round of production could be examined, with possible re-adjustment as follows;-

a. By giving up the production of synthetic fuel, and production of carbohydrates by treatment of imported unrefined mineral oil, leaving other productions unchanged;

b. By giving up the production of synthetic carbo-hydrates and increasing the production of azotic fertilisers.

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b. By giving up the production of synthetic carbo-hydrates and increasing the production of azotic fertilisers.

A decision with regard to this plan is urgent. The completion of the plant would require another 15 months, but everything should be done so that it may be in working order before unemployment increases. (B.2.)

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6. THE INDUSTRIAL SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE OF FLORENCE.

Most of the industrial activity in the Province of Florence is carried on by medium and small businesses. The war has, however, led to a great increase in the size of factories and to the employment of a greater proportion of labour in the large industries. While the smaller industries, generally linked with the activities of the larger firms, have also extended a great deal.

The Distribution of Workers in the Province of Florence.

The total number of industries is 4811, employing 79.920 workers. These are divided as follows:-

a) The manufacture of light machinery in Florence city, where the largest plants are established. Totaling 423 works employing 16.460 workers.

b) The wool industry in Prato and district only. Totaling 456 factories employing 13.460 workers.

c) The glass industry at Empoli, employing 2616 workers besides a large number of home-workers engaged chiefly in making straw covers for flasks.

d) The hat industry in the Signa district. Totaling 320 factories employing about 2000 workers, as well as a large number of home-workers engaged in the plaiting of straw and other materials.

e) Men's ready-made clothing industry: chiefly in the Communes of Florence and Empoli. Totaling 281 factories employing 6374 factory workers and a large number of home-workers.

f) Group of chemical industries distributed in various centres of the Province. Among these are some factories of national importance, such as the Dinamite Nobel (Nobel Dynamite Works), and the Società Toscana Azoto (Tuscan Azotic Society) of Figline Valdarno, as well as a large number of industrialists [illegible] acids. These

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Classification of Workers in Other Trades.

a.	Food supplies.	Totaling	569	firms employing	3300	workers
b.	Building.	"	628	" "	4778	"
c.	Mining.	"	110	" "	1696	"
d.	Wood.	"	306	" "	2437	"
e.	Textiles.	"	133	" "	2550	"
f.	Transport.	"	487	" "	3110	"
g.	Leather.	"	185	" "	3396	"
h.	Graphic Arts.	"	172	" "	4925	"

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E C C N O M I C S Continued. Confidential.

Of these firms, working directly or indirectly for war ~~purposes~~ purposes, many have been brought almost to a standstill, as for instance:-

a. Galileo Works almost totally transferred to North Italy.

b. Società Cipriani & Baccani, seriously damaged by air raids and looting of machinery.

c. Dinamite Nobel, practically destroyed.

d. Pignone Works, considerably damaged.

e. Società Toscana Azoto, seriously damaged.

The same applies to many large woollen mills in the Prato district, some of which have been completely destroyed.

Medium and Small Industries.

These may be considered to have suffered a 20% reduction of their productive efficiency; but it may also be assumed that, ~~when~~ when the problems of electric power and transport are solved, these industries will be able to resume work.

Attendant Problems.

There are many unemployed because so many factories are not in working order and are short of repair equipment. The employees of these factories, drawn largely from the building and engineering industries and agriculture, should return to their former trades. Present conditions may, however, cause a long delay before these can be reabsorbed.

Summary of the Present Situation.

a. Since the heavy industries are more or less paralysed there may be 25000 workers unemployed.

b. 80% of the productive capacity of the medium and small industries can be utilised with a fair probability of continuous

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b. 80% of the productive capacity of the medium and small industries can be utilised with a fair probability of continuous work.

c. There is absolute necessity for the removal, by the Allied Military Authorities, of the hindrances placed in the way of individual initiative on the part of the industrialists, many of whom are eager to repair war damages and resume work.

The Principal Causes of Friction With the Allied Control.

Friction between the Industrialists, ready to set their businesses in working order, and the A.M.G. arises over the following points.

a. Travelling restrictions prevent owners from visiting their factories in different parts of the Province, and also from maintaining the necessary contacts with the Government and the Allied offices in Florence. 3693

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b. The difficulty of securing permits for cars and of preventing these from being requisitioned by the Allies.
c. Rquisition of premises by troops.
d. Requisition of factory machinery by troops.

There have been such serious cases of this kind in other provinces that the Industrialists fear repetitions here in Florence. It is reported that in Leghorn the machinery of the Società Modo Fides, for the most part still fit for use, was carried away by American troops to fill in bomb craters in the streets.

Subdivision of Industrial Firms acoording to number of Employees.

Firms employing up to 10 workers.		=	3479.
" "	from 11 - 25 workers	=	676.
" "	" 26 - 50 "		277.
" "	" 51 -100 "		186.
" "	" 101 -250 "		140.
" "	more than 250 "		42.

7. TEMPORARY AND LOCAL MODIFICATIONS OF THE NORMAL SHARE-CROPPING CONTRACTS.(October 1944.)

The peasants especially in the south west of the Province of Florence, have been for some time declaring that they cannot possibly hand over to the proprietors the usual quota(half-shares) fixed by the share-cropping contracts.

This is due to the special expenses they have to meet; house repairs, purchase of new furniture and tools, of poultry, oxen etc).

At the outset the peasants had the idea of obtaining from the proprietors complete exemption for a certain number of years, (three or four, according to the damages undergone).-It was then decided to try and come to an agreement on the basis of three-quarters to the share-cropper and one quarter to the landlord. (B-3).

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L A B O U R. Confidential.

1. GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF ITALIAN LABOUR.

All the Tuscan Organisations of Workers, including the various Syndicates, have joined the General Confederation of Italian Labour, which is divided into three branches:-

Agriculture.
Industry.
Commerce.

Personnel, recruited from the various parties - Communist, Socialist and Demochristian, all belong to the General Confederation of Italian Workers.

Good results have already been obtained. The workers dismissed because of present conditions, are paid wages plus family allowances (from July to October 31st).

New contracts between employers and workers will come into force, dating from Oct. 1st, under the C.G.I.L. (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro). The employers and the C.G.I.L. are reported to be discussing the issue of a public loan for the industrial reconstruction of Tuscany. The Government will be asked to guarantee the interest. This attempt is considered to be the first instance of a possible participation by Labour in industrial profits.

Factory Commissions.

Factory Commissions have been established under the C.G.I.L. and Camera del Lavoro, These aid in the reorganisation of the factories (inventory-taking, repairs, etc.) and examine the possibility of reopening the factories. Theoretically non-political and designed solely for the protection of the worker's interests, these Commissions really act under the direct influence of the Political parties of the C.G.I.L. Their functions are:-

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To regularise the work.
To settle disputes.
To better the output and conditions of the Workers.
(Salaries, hygiene, etc.)
To study the collective contracts.

The ultimate aim of these Commissions is certainly the nationalisation of the industries.

The charge of the worker's pay will, as has been stated, lapse on October 31st, and it remains to be seen what the attitude of the Industrial Directors will be.

The Inside Factory Commissions will in all cases present lists of workers to be dismissed. The Prato industrialists are said to have decided to dismiss the whole personnel and close the factories although some of them could be worked.

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L A B O U R Continued. Confidential.

System of Agricultural Contract.

Share-cropper's contract as stipulated Dec. 21st 1928.

a. The Capoccia (legal male head of a peasant household) represents the whole family, which is pledged to work only on the land.

b. The farm stock belongs to the land-owner, (grain reserves, macinery etc.) and the share-cropper, when the contract expires, must return it complete in quality, weight, number and quantity.

c. The livestock is estimated according to the valuation of each head at current market prices. A subsequent contract of 31. 10. 38. allowed a half share between owner and farmer of the livestock capital in Tuscany.

d. Farmhouses and outbuildings are conceded rent free to the sharecropper.

e. Building repairs, safeguarding of the property, land reclamation or improvement are the owner's responsibility.

f. The same holds good for tree-planting.

g. The technical and administrative direction is the responsibility of the owner.

h. Small tools are provided by the sharecropper and kept in repair by both parties.

i. The sharecropper provides for maintenance of farm roads, irrigation channels and boundary ditches.

j. Land taxes are all paid by the owner, and agrarian taxes are divided between the two parties.

The two parties also share the expenses of:-

a. Fertilisers, seed etc.

b. Protection of crops from disease and damage.

c. Repairs and ordinary maintenance of machines and tools.

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a. Fertilisers, seed etc.
b. Protection of crops from disease and damage.
c. Repairs and ordinary maintenance of machines and tools.
d. Irrigation (with special regulations in particular cases).
e. The use of machines, ploughs etc.
f. The threshing and oil-pressing expenses are also divided between the two parties more or less equally. The crops are halved.
g. For the raising of industrial crops (tobacco, tomatos, beet etc) silkworm culture, mating of livestock, the cropper receives special grants.

There are special rules laid down to regulate the kitchen-garden, poultry yard and pig-breeding for the use of the peasant.

This farming contract has to be registered and, when revised must, among other points, keep in view the necessity of a minimum basic salary.

The sharecropping category ought also to be ensured the benefit of family bonus' from which it is at present excluded. 3090

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L A B O U R .(Continued). Confidential.

Wages and Salaries.

In the Province of Florence pay is according to the old tariff of the emergency period(previous to the 70% increase), and averages:

5.30 lire an hour for specialised workers.
4.00 lire an hour for unskilled workers.

The 70% increase will be applied from October 3Ist, but the Ministry is still debating the rate of indemnity for increased cost of living.

The Working Population of Florence.

The metallurgic industry normally employs I3.000 workers. At the present time 3600 persons are employed, 2500 of whom are at F.I.A.T., which is now requisitioned and working for the Allies. (This factory will probably absorb abother I000 workers in the future). The "Pignone factory, were it reopened, would employ about 3000 workers.

Unemployment.

Applications for employment exceed 2I.000. The employment Office has been able to place 3000 workers so far. There is a great demand for workers in the Building industry, the only industry that is really active: but these cannot be supplied, because almost all the men live out of town and have neither transport nor permits . The only industries actually employ a full staff are public utility companies; such as the S.E.L.T. Valdarno (electric) the Telephone company and the Gas-Works which will be working again shortly.

2. AGRICULTURAL SECTION OF GENERAL ITALIAN CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR.

The total number of landworkers(including families) amounts to about 2I0.000, divided as follows:

a). Labourers and share-croppers=25.70C families(I82.000 persons)

b).Day Labourers, skilled workers, employees of Agricultural Firms, farms,etc.=I3.000 units (25.000 persons)

These are subdivided as follows:-

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2. AGRICULTURAL SECTION OF GENERAL ITALIAN CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR.

The total number of landworkers(including families) amounts to about 210.000, divided as follows:

a). Labourers and share-croppers=25.700 families(182.000 persons)

b). Day Labourers, skilled workers, employees of Agricultural Firms, farms,etc.=13.000 units (25.000 persons)

These are subdivided as follows:-

1003 employees.
4750 at fixed wages.
815 share-croppers.
4739 day labourers?

/ over.

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L A B O U R Continued. Confidential.

Collective Contracts of Other Categories.

The Collective contracts of other categories of agricultural workers (overseers, skilled workmen and paid labourers) also require revision as regards increase of pay(already accorded to industrial workers); special indemnities for hard times should be conceded; indemnities for dismissal and holidays should be increased for some categories. There should be indemnities for long service, even in the case of dismissal or resignation of the worker. Family bonus should be increased, and the relief system further developed in order to bring the agricultural workers to the same level as the industrial.

3. THE RISE IN WAGES.

The system on which the rise in wages is based has caused considerable discontent, especially among the younger workers, who complain that the difference between the pay of older and younger workers is too great. Food prices are the same for all, and therefore the increase should have specially favoured those who, earning little, are unable to meet even ordinary expenses.

As the labour parties and especially the Movimento Giovanile Comunista(Young Communists' Movement) are fomenting discontent, complaints may presently lead to disturbances, especially in outlying industrial centres, such as San Giovanni Valdarno, Sesto, Figline etc., where 90% of the inhabitants are of the working-class.(B-3).

October 1944. From an Italian source.

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Collective Contracts of Other Categories.

The Collective contracts of other categories of agricultural workers (overseers, skilled workmen and paid labourers) also require revision as regards increase of pay(already accorded to industrial workers); special indemnities for hard times should be conceded; indemnities for dismissal and holidays should be increased for some categories. There should be indemnities for long service, even in the case of dismissal or resignation of the worker. Family bonus should be increased, and the relief system further developed in order to bring the agricultural workers to the same level as the industrial.

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October 1944. From an Italian source.

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LOCAL CONDITIONS. confidential.

1. ELECTRIC BUSES IN FLORENCE TO RESUME SERVICE ON SUBURBAN LINES.

A special service of electric buses has been organised, beginning October 20th and reserved for workmen employed by business firms working for the Allied Command.

The men will be provided with identity cards giving them the right to use the buses and to travel at a reduced rate. Application will be made through the employers, who will then secure the necessary permits from the Allied Command.

The buses will link up Greve, Cantone, Legnaia and those districts with the town.

(From Corriere di Firenze. 19/10/44.)

2. WINTER IN FLORENCE.

The population of Florence is awaiting the winter with dread. Fuel is almost unobtainable, the gas-works are not yet functioning and there is little electric power available. It is hoped that there will be sufficient transport to bring in wood and lignite from the country and also glass from Empoli to repair the many windows that have been broken.

Warm clothes are difficult to find and are sold at prohibitive prices. In addition a large proportion of Florentines are suffering from under-nourishment and epidemics are feared.(B-3)

3. SOUTH WEST REGION OF THE PROVINCE OF FLORENCE.

The following notes from an Italian source, relate to the South West part of Florence,(Cerbaia, San Casciano, Val di Pesa).

Normal Economic Situation

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Normal Economic Situation

The region draws its resources from agriculture, carried on chiefly on the share-cropping system, with a predominance of large farms.

The land is hilly, yielding grapes, oil, grain, vegetables and provides the farming families with almost all the necessities of life.

Present Economic Situation.

War damages have been extensive. In the San Michele a Torri district, almost all houses and more than 50% of the olives have been destroyed.

Throughout the district the livestock, especially oxen, cows, pigs, has been seized by the Germans. A pair of oxen is now sold for more than 200.000 lire, a couple of small pigs, total weight 50 kilos, costs 12.000 lire.

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L O C A L C O N D I T I O N S . CONFIDENTIAL.

The population still lives fairly comfortably, and carries on black market with the citizens who go out weekly in search of supplies at prices little lower than the black market in town: flour at more than 50 lire a kilo, leather more than 500 lire a kilo; beans at 60 lire a kilo.

Political Situation.

The peasants, especially in the Cerbaia district, are almost all Communist, as this, for them, is synonymous with anti-Fascism. They hardly know what the word means, and scarcely anyone has any idea of opposing the share-cropping system to which they are genuinely attached. The Christian Democratic Party is gaining ground. The population has a grudge against the Allies because it is not allowed to carry out a rapid political purge.

Last week in the Romola district a group of women assaulted an old Fascist and would certainly have killed him, had he not been protected by some passers by.

In the same district there are still some lurking groups of Fascists and Germans, which commit acts of sabotage and terrorism. A few days ago, someone placed a small mine on the road from Cerbaia to Chiesanuova, but it was rendered harmless by intervention of people of the district. (B-2).

4. GENERAL SITUATION OF THE S. GIOVANNI VALDARNO.-CAVRIGLIA DISTRICT.

Moral condition of the People.

The political situation of the working-classes of S. Giovanni Valdarno-Cavriglia, forming part of the lignite industry is critical. The Mayor of the place has defined it as "a barrel of gun-powder". Some days ago there were political demonstrations, the people shouting: "Long live the Red Army. We want social justice."

Causes of the Present Attitude.

a). San Giovanni is an industrial centre; (of 13.000 inhabitants, 7000 are workers). It has no agricultur-

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Causes of the Present Attitude.

a). San Giovanni is an industrial centre; (of 13.000 inhabitants, 7000 are workers). It has no agricultural resources, being surrounded by other mining centres. The bread ration of 200 grammes a day is considered absolutely insufficient.

b). There is much unemployment because the factories have been unable to reopen for want of electricity. At San Giovanni at least 500 men are out of work. Cavriglia has as yet few unemployed, but there will soon be 800 as the agricultural work in which they were temporarily employed, is coming to an end.

c). The workers, for the most part, belong to the left-wing parties, especially the Communist. They ask for a political purge, which has been obstructed up till now. The Committee declares it can hardly restrain the infuriated people.

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Action of the C.L.N.

The Committee of Liberation, both at S. Giovanni and at Cavriglia, do their best to maintain order, and have so far succeeded.

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LOCAL CONDITIONS. CONFIDENTIAL.

At San Giovanni all parties are represented in the Committee except the Labour Democrats. The Mayor, Sig. Rolando Cragnoli, is a Communist.

The Mayor of Cavriglia, Engineer Leonardo Lusanna, is non-political.

The Committee declares that, if urgent measures are not taken with regard to food supplies and political epuration, it will be unable to deal with the increasingly anarchical feelings of the population. (B-2)

5. PROBLEMS OF THE VALDARNO LIGNITE INDUSTRY.

Engineer Leonardo Lusanna, Mayor of Cavriglia, gave the following information in an interview:

The critical situation in the Lignite Industry of Valdarno (San Giovanni and Cavriglia) is due less to war damages than to difficulties of organization.

a). Almost all the mines supplying this industry are centered in Northern Italy, at present in German hands.

b). To ensure the future of the region the industry must be nationalized.

c).The monopolizing unit in charge of the mines should also undertake the chemical transformation of the lignite. Lignite should not be burned but transformed into fertilizers, dyes, etc. Unless these processes are undertaken on a large scale, the district will be ruined when the competition of foreign fuel supplies begines to be felt.

d). The multiple direction together with private interests, are responsible for present conditions. Private industrialists, in view of uncertain political situtation,(especially as regards the parties of the left wing), absolutely refuse to risk capital necessary for industrial revival.

Thus unemployment, discontent and hunger are rife.

Problems to be faced.

Political unrest could be reduced if two problems were settled, electric power and transport.

a). Supply of electric power. In the San Giovanni district

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Problems to be faced.

Political unrest could be reduced if two problems were settled; electric power and transport.

a). Supply of electric power. In the San Giovanni district about 2500 kilowatts are required for the industrial plants.

b). Transport, formerly effected by Railway and Motor Transport . If the industrial plant could have electric power, in five or six months, they could produce a daily output of about 1500 tons.

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LOCAL CONDITIONS. (continued.) confidential.

6. SITUATION IN THE SAN MICHELE A TORRI DISTRICT.

At S. Michele a Torri, between Pian dei Cerri and the Val di Pesa,(South-West of Florence) all the farm houses have been badly damaged. The peasants are living in the few remaining outhouses.

The share-cropping system prevails. The soil is very fertile, yielding abundant olives, grain, vines, fruit and vegetables.

Now 50%(in some parts 80%) of the olives are destroyed, and most of the orchards(pears, figs, apples). The wheat and grape harvests were poor owing to occupation by the Germans, followed by the Allied troops.

The peasants say that, unless they are helped with the rebuilding of houses and distribution of crops, they will have to migrate to the towns. (B-3).

7. PROVINCIAL SITUATION OF THE VALDARNO.

The Lignite Industrial zone of San Giovanni and Cavriglia belongs to the Province of Arezzo. The Fascist Régime decided this for historic reasons, but from the economic standpoint the position is absurd for the following reasons:

a). Situated on the margin of the Arezzo Province, the district linked by the network of road communications, rightly belongs, geographically and politically, to the Province of Florence.

b). In accordance with orders from the Provincial authorities of Arezzo, all products must be sent to the centre of the Province, the Valdarno being on the extreme edge.

This impoverishes the region, and especially the Communes of S. Giovanni and Cavriglia.

For these reasons Valdarno repeatedly asked, during the Fascist times, to be transferred to the Province of Florence.(B-2)

(Information supplied in an Interview with the Mayors of San Giovanni and Cavriglia.)

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P U B L I C O P I N I O N . CONFIDENTIAL

1. REACTIONS TO RUMOURS OF GENERAL MOBILIZATION.

Rumours are current in Florence of a general mobilization. It is said that the soldiers called up will be sent against Japan. Popular comment has been very unfavourable. It is stated that:

a). The Italians(including the young)are weary of war and want peace.

b). The craving for adventure is less strong after the partisan struggle, carried on during the clandestine period.

c). The treatment of the Patriots by the Allies and by the Italian Government, leads many to believe that Italy's situation will not be bettered, even after a war fought against Japan. (B-2).

October 17th 1944.

2. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THE POLICE FORCES AND CARABINEERS.

Relations between the people and the Carabineers are by no means cordial. The Carabineers are considered to be hostile to the people who, return their hostility.

The Questura also, is regarded with extreme antipathy. It collaborated actively with the Nazi-Fascists, even in the Republic-anperiod, and the people do not forget this. It is felt that even if a political purge were carried out in its ranks, it would still be unequal ton its task.

It is hoped that other public security services may be created, drawn from different sources and comprisiong more acceptable elements.(B-3)

3. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ALLIED ARMED FORCES AND THE CIVIL POPULATION.

Relations between the civil population and the Allied Armed Forces are of the most cordial nature. The Allies have been welcomed in every family, whereas the Germans lived quite apart, and those who associated with them were severely criticised.

There have been many engagements between Florentine girls, even of the humblest rank, and Allied soldiers; some marriages have

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There have been many engagements between Florentine girls, even of the humblest rank, and Allied soldiers; some marriages have already taken place, others are set for early dates.

The Florentines greatly appreciate the behaviour of the English troops: the Canadians and Indians are also much liked. The latter have, in fact, been a"revelation" to the people as a whole. They are very strictly disciplined and prove themselves highly civilized and well bred.

4. RETURN OF THE FIRST ITALIAN PRISONERS FROM N. AFRICA.

The first Italian prisoners have returned from N. Africa. They declare they have no ill feeling against the Anglo-Americans, 3083

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by whom they have always been very well treated. This has made an excellent impression on the people. The attitude of the prisoners is less favourable towards the French.

Although the Florentines are badly off for food, there is little begging from the troops, such as there is in Naples. It is considered undignified to ask even for a cigarette.(B-2)

5. PROPAGANDA VERSUS REALITY.

German propaganda stressed the assertion that coloured troops, especially negroes, were very dangerous, and that women and children must be on their guard.

Florentines comment on the good behaviour of the coloured troops and their kindness to children.

6. REPORTED ARRIVAL OF SHOES.

It is reported that shoes have arrived, but that the Allies are selling them direct to the population and not giving them into the hands of the Italian shopkeepers, who would sell them at black market prices. The people fully approve.

7. FASCIST-REPUBLICAN RADIO AMUSES THE PEOPLE.

Many people listen in to the Fascist Republican Radio and find it"more amusing than any theatrical entertainment."

8. "THEY SAY".

"The Allies send car-loads of food to Florence, but don't unload it there because the city is inclined to be Communist; but Arezzo, Siena and Lucca have plenty of food".

"The Allies are tired of fighting and the Germans will win.

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"The Allies are tired of fighting and the Germans will win the war through resistance." (C-3)

9. ITALIAN COMMENTS ON COL. MICHIE'S SPEECH.

Lt. Col. T.J. Michie's speech has been, for the most part, warmly approved, but some Italians feel that a few points need elucidation, and especially his invitation to the people to go out into the country with all the means at their disposal and bring in food.

Landowners, small proprietors, and those whose contacts would allow of securing food from outlying districts, and who have individual means of transport, from cars to bicycles, are perplexed over the divergence between Col. Michie's speech and the regulations in force.

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They are encouraged to bring in food; but the regulations forbid the bringing in of any rationed foods.....flour, beans, potatoes, chestnuts and so on.

They ask whether these regulations are abolished and whether everyone may freely bring in whatever can be procured and transported.

They ask for a clear statement and a definite list of the commodities(if restrictions are still in force) which they may or may not bring in.

In short they declare that they are eager and able to cooperate in bringing in supplies, but are afraid of falling into bureaucratic traps.(B-2)

IO. INDIFFERENCE TO POLICITAL PROBLEMS .

Most Florentines keep apart from politics. The lower classes preoccupied with food problems, follow consciously or unconsciously the propaganda of extreme parties, but the middle and lower middle classes take for the most part, no political stand at all.

Reasons why Few Florentines Join the Political Parties.

a). Problems of daily living absorb the attention of all classes.

b). For twenty years the people, especially the lower middle classes, have lost the habit of taking any political stand.

c). These twenty years have disgusted the people with politics.

d). The actual political situation of the nation has completely disillusioned immense numbers of all ranks, who see the parties engaged in faction while the existence and future of Italy are at stake.

e). The conditions of the armistice, which the people instinctively feel to be hard, make them think that politics are futile, since the victorious Allies will continue to be the real masters of Italy. (B-2).

II. FURTHER COMMENTS OF LT.COL. MICHIE'S SPEECH.

Some of those who, owning no land and having neither suitable

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II. FURTHER COMMENTS OF LT.COL. MICHIE'S SPEECH.

Some of those who, owning no land and having neither suitable contacts nor means of transport, have no means of bringing in food from the surrounding country, express their fears that freedom to do so, may mean that quantities of uncontrolled supplies will enter the city and remain in private hands or pass on to the black market. This would mean that the food supplies on which the people count,... flour, chestnuts, potatoes and such essentials... would be monopolized by a privileged number, and the population as a whole get no share.

The people trust that a system may be established by which those who have means of cooperating in transport will do so, and the food brought in will then be fairly distributed. (B-2).

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P R O P A G A N D A . Confidential.

1. FILMS.

The news-reel of the United Nations are preferred by the public to all other films. Experts define them as perfect from the technical point of view and all find them most interesting. They have aroused the warmest sympathy.

It is significant that, during the showing of a news-reel of the "Liberation of Paris" a few days ago: the appearance of General De Gaulle before Notre Dame and the playing of the Marseillaise were greeted with enthusiastic applause. The spectators, having lived through the experiences of liberation, were deeply moved these French liberation scenes.

The film "The Great Dictator", with Charlie Chaplin, is eagerly awaited.

It is much hoped that the documentary film of the liberation of Florence, already shown in other cities of Liberated Italy, may soon be shown in the Florentine cinemas.(B-2).

2. ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

Much of the mutual distrust still evident between the people as a whole and the Allied Troops is attributed to the lack of the right kind of propaganda. Many Florentines are undecided whether to consider the Allies as invaders or friends. The chief cause of this lies in the apathy into which the people have sunk. Indifference, not hostility, holds them aloof from the life of the Allied troops.

The most popular forms of propaganda are:-

a). The P.W.B/ Radio Van, which gives the news without comment, and is listened to by large numbers, being preferred to the programmes of the Florence Radio or the BBC.

b). The PWB Propaganda shop in Via Calzaioli. Many frequent it, buying and disseminating its publications.

3. FURTHER NOTES ON THE CINEMA.

The first enthusiasm over the reopening of the cinemas has cooled on finding that the films are not reproduced in Italian. The complaints that almost all the dialogue is thus lost are justified: the films are over advertised, especially in the case of

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The news-reels are enthusiastically received. The appearance on the screen in some cinemas of German officers and soldiers has led to hostile demonstrations.

From an Italian source.

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V A R I O U S.

Confidential.

1. REVIVAL OF THE BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT IN TUSCANY.

News of the revival of the Boy-Scout Movement in Tuscany has been received from the Tuscan Regional Commission (Commissariato Regionale Toscano), of the Associazione Giovani Esploratori d'Italia (A.G.E. Italia), No. 6 Via S. Paolino, Florence.

As soon as Florence was liberated, preliminary steps were taken to revive the Boy Scout Movement in Tuscany, on the same lines as this had been done, with the approval and encouragement of the Roman Church, in Southern and Central Italy.

The results of the first month's work are very encouraging. Already there are more than twenty groups, comprising nearly two hundred boys, in the Florence district.

Courses for Scoutmasters have begun and will end about the middle of November: seventy former scouts applied to be enrolled in these.

Scout groups have also been formed in other Tuscan districts: six in Siena, five in Fiesole. The Association will shortly be re-established in Arezzo, Lucca and Volterra, and news of revived activity is expected from other parts of the provinces of Tuscany.

The outstanding needs of the Scout groups in this part of Italy, so much devastated and plundered by the Germans, are:

Uniforms.
Flags.
Recent literature on Scouting.
Translations (Italian) of any literature of this kind.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Public Affairs Sec Comm

1402/4 88 HW

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

6th September, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 23.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Bands near the Gothic Line.

Reports are now arriving of the location and strength of the Patriot Bands operating near the Gothic line. The PESARO Brigade and the 6th GARIBALDI Brigade in the URBINO district have now been absorbed and overrun for the most part by the Allied advance. Small bands are now reported north of PESARO in MONTAGNA (North of S. SEPOLCRO), in the VERGHERETO and the ALPE DI S. BENEDETTO, MONTRICOLI (West of S. MARINO), PONTASSIEVE (under a British officer), the ALPE TRE POTENZE and several around PISTOIA. MONTEFIORINO is the HQ of the 2nd(?) or GINO BOZZI Garibaldi Brigade, which appears to be numerous and well organised.

Activities in the North

Reports from the APPENINES indicate that the bands in the neighbourhood of PARMA and BOLOGNA have been active, In LIGURIA the patriots control large areas, and a Blackshirt Division has been forced to keep concentrated in the cities of GENOVA, SPEZIA and SAVONA.

The Repubblica Fascista states that in NOVARA Province the Germans have cut down all bushes and hedges along motor roads to deprive partisans of cover for their ambuscades. The Alpine valleys continue to be scene of much skirmishing and mopping-up operations. The Germans appear very anxious to keep control over the chief passes ie. M. CENIS, LITTLE S. BERNARD, the STELVIO and the BRENNER. Thy have not yet been able to dislodge the patriots from the LITTLE S. BERNARD.

FASCIST FORCES

It is officially announced that Fascist armed forces in Italy number

41,000 men under the German High Command
26,000 " " Marshal Graziani
43,000 " " H.Q. of the Republican Army.

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Employed outside Italy

60,000	in	France
1,000	"	Albania
50,000	"	Greece
6,000	"	Aegean Islands
3,000	"	Russia

Large units now in Italy are - MONTEROSA (Alpine) Division, S. MARCO Division, ITALIA Division, LITTORIO Division.

Morale

The Germans appear uneasy over the morale of the S. MARCO Division, and have arranged many propaganda lectures for the unit. The result is not very happy.

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The men are not allowed to possess ammunition. When Mussolini inspected the Division he was escorted by numerous S.S. officers with tommy-guns. Every day the officers have to report in writing that their units have not written subversive inscriptions on the walls.

Nazi-Fascist police in Milan

A victim reports the bestial cruelty of the Nazi-Fascist police towards political prisoners. While the German S.S. and the Italian UGO group (O.V.R.A. police headed by Dr. UGO ALBERTI) confine themselves to whips and truncheons, the Fascists of the Ufficio Speciale, headed by Lieutenant MILO COLOMBO and BRACCO indulge in every form of medieval torture.

GERMANS

Morale.

One source reports that a German soldier told him he would have been happy had that bomb killed Hitler. All the German soldiers he had met expressed strong anti-Nazi feelings. Another report states that though severe orders prohibit Italians from giving hospitality to German soldiers, this does not prevent almost every German soldier from having a civilian suit.

Atrocities.

More massacres and atrocities are reported from FORNO DI MASSA, PESARO - people burnt in their houses, FOSSOMBRONE - a passer-by compelled to hang fellow countryman with his own hands under pain of death, BAGNOLI (PADOVA province) - eight people killed with flame-throwers, SESTO FIORENTINO, VAGLIA, CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI and PONTASSIEVE.

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

It is reported that "Frontpost" has a good circulation among German troops.

ECONOMICS

The Food Situation

FERRARA German requisitioning of cattle is causing a shortage of milk, meat and cheese. Prices are still fairly moderate.

VERONA Life is very dear, and the Black Market is essential
PADOVA High prices in the Black Market for butter and oil were reported in July.
TURIN The quality of bread has much deteriorated.

Transport.

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TURIN. The quality of bread has much deteriorated.

Transport.

All reports indicate much interruption of traffic caused by the bombing of bridges, but the Germans are working indefatigably to restore communications.

Industries.

Output in northern Italy has only been reduced by about 5% as a result of air-raids (up to June 44) Textiles, sugar refineries and shoe factories are hardly affected, but most industrialists are keeping production as low as possible to conserve stocks. These are considerable, as export has ceased and internal distribution is hampered by transport difficulties.

SECRET

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SECRET

SUMMARY 3. 6th September, 1944.

Finance

Republican and Nazi officials are anxiously collecting gold. A gold sovereign has fetched 12,000 lire. Their object is to accumulate funds for their eventual flight. The inflation of currency has led to loss of confidence and to the buying of all kinds of goods.

Air Raid Damage

FERRARA, VERONA and PADOVA have all been extensively damaged. The stations have been wrecked, but as many non-military objectives have been hit, and there have been many complaints.

LABOUR

Owing to the complete corruption reigning in the T DT organisation in Italy, only about one third of the personnel on the pay-rolls is at work. Falsification of pay-sheets and ration strengths is the order of the day. Italian engineers sabotage their work, and the workers, if annoyed, desert to the partisans

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Public Safety Sub Comm.

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 6th September, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 23.

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SECRET
"D" Sectic Italy (Occ).

6th September, 44.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 23.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Dispositions.

In the Adriatic sector the main partisan units have been over-run by us, including the former PESARO Brigade. According to a reliable source the only units left behind were the so-called Patriotic Action Groups (GAP). These are small bands of varying sizes, which are formed, usually by the Communist Party, for isolated sabotage actions, propaganda etc. in large towns or in country unsuited for guerilla operations. They must be distinguished from the Garibaldi Brigades which are combattent guerilla units in the mountains. In PESARO there are stated to be 150 GAP members and two months ago there were also four small units of 30 men each which roamed around the countryside and took turns with the 10 carbines available. Source believed that an attampt would be made to constitute a brigade from these elements, and this has probably occurred, since a communication has recently been received, complete with official stamp, from a unit described as the BRUNO LUGLI Garibaldi Brigade which was operating in the MT. DELLE FORCHE area. Strength and armament are not known.

In the eastern Appenines (CAGLI-URBINO-SAN SEPOLCRO area) partisans are also for the most part on our side of the line. This was formerly the area of the 5 GARIBALDI Brigade and there are no indications that any considerable units have been formed to replace it. There is however a report of a small and not very effective band at MONTAGNA, north of SAN SEPOLCRO, and there are probably still partisans in the ALPE DELLA LUNA and the MERCATTELLO areas, both of which have previously been reported as partisan areas. On a captured German map the road SAN SEPOLCRO-PENNABILI and onwards is shown as dangerous owing to partisan activity. The map is undated, but from

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There is still no information as regards the fate of bands on either side of the Gothic Line in the VERGHERETO area and in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO further West except that the "STELLA ROSSA" band, formerly on MT. FALTERONA dissolved. A new small band, however, is reported west of SAN MARINO in the MONTRIOLO area. 3073

N. PONTASSIEVE -GALLIGA Here there is a band of 30 under a British Captain.

NE PISTOIA -MIGLIANA -end of July Members of a partisan band led by an Italian Army Captain were met here. All wear armbands and white cloths on their heads and carry white sticks. Their only arms are small arms. They have recaptured some livestock seized by the Germans

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and issued some meat to the locals. Source knew of no other exploits of this band, but they claim to control the road COLANO-FIGLIANE-MIGLIANO. No reprisals or punitive expeditions had taken place against them.

NE PISTOIA. In the hills around S. PELLEGRINO are said to be many partisans, many of them deserters from the Italian labour gangs employed on the Gothic Line.

N. PISTOIA - Nr. PRACCHIA. There is a partisan HQ at CAMPODIZOLO nr here. Many of thepertisans work in the SMI arms factory here, which is under German control; some of the produce finds its way to the patriot bands.

ALPE TRE POTENSE. Partisan HQ under Lieut "PIPO" here. Fairly well armed with automatic weapons and radios. - July.

N. PISTOIA - FANANO area - July The Commander of this band goes by the name of ETTORE, and has his HQ somewhere in the area of M. CIMONE.

The active strength of bands in this area is about 500, but many more could be put into action if they had arms. They are organised into groups of 35. They are armed with 12 Brens, many Stens, rifles, pistols etc. PIPO's band is the best armed, but more ammunition is required and they are expecting radios. They have had some clashes with the Germans, notably at OSPITALE, conducted by PIPO, but they are not very active for fear of reprisals, and need operation orders. The bands find it necessary to change the location of their HQ frequently. This band had received several "drops" of arms in the MONTEFIORINO area, and this area had been almost under partisan control. However, at the end of July, the arrival of a large number of Germans, who burnt three villages obliged the partisans to move further south.

The following bands come under the N. LUCCA Committee of Liberation:

1. Band of 300 needing arms on the mountains North of CORREGLIA
2. Band of 200, of whom 30 are armed, commanded by informant at NE of DANTA DELLA CROCE.
3. Band commanded by Allied ex PW officer, including some Mongols, 2km north of last mentioned band.

North of Gothic Line.
EMILIA

OSPITALETTO - August Partisans operating from MONTEFIORINO were seen here. The HQ of 2(?) or GINO BOZZO GARIBALDI Brigade is at M. FIORINO. The CC at OSPITALETTO is one Ten. LELLI. The partisans

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OSPITALETTO - August Partisans operating from MONTEFIORINO were seen here. The HQ of 2(?) or GINO BOZZO GARIBALDI Brigade is at M. FIORINO. The OC at OSPITALETTO is one Ten. LELLI. The partisans occupied SESTOLA, but a punitive expedition drove them out on 3/4 July. The brigade is up to 1,000 strong with small arms only. They want orders badly. They were on good terms with the population.

TERENZANO - August. It is stated that partisans in this area were successful in blowing the two bridges here. This means that they have secured their western flank. Their zone of influence now is bounded on the north by the R. SECCHIA from its source in the ALPE DI SUCCISO to the area of its confluence with the DRAGONE River; on the east very roughly by the road MONTEFIORINO -ALPE S PELLEGRINO In this area there are at least 8000 partisans. Their HQ is at MONTEFIORINO, which town, together with several others, they control completely. They have radio, but no RT. This they urgently require. They control two power stations which distribute light to their own area only.

S. BOLOGNA -CASTIGLIONE-VERNO -16th June. The patriots are very active in the area of CASTIGLIONE and VERNIO. On 10th June partisans

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asked all men in this area of the 1926 class to join them, which met with great success.

S. BOLOGNA Nr. VADO patriots assaulted the Fascist Military Camp and killedthe chief of them. SENIORE BERNINI of the 67th Legion of BOLOGNA.

S.W. PARMA At FORNOVE near PARMA patriots are very active. It is thought that they were commanded by COL. SALVATORE of the 6th REGT. BERSAGLIERI.

BOLOGNA Up till June there had been little overt partisan activity in the city of Bologna itself. An informant heard that there were many in the surrounding countryside. Their activities consisted of ambushing solitary German trucks and small bodies of soldiers as well as hiding crops etc. from German search parties.

NW. BOLOGNA -ANZOLA Mid June. At ANZOLA groups of partisans have been very active. In June groups of these partisans came down from the mountains into the village and took away Lt. MGs from an SS troup. There was ineffective German and Fascist reaction.

NW. BOLOGNA- LOIANO May/June. In the hills of LOIANO well organised groups of partisans are commanded by Italian Air Force officers. These partisans have been in contact with the Committee of Liberation of FLORENCE and BOLOGNA and were much assisted by the peasants.

TRIESTE Area.

NE TRIESTE -VILLA OPICINA A partisan brigade known as the BRIGATA TONCI is reported to be very active in the area of VILLA OPICINA. They are led by a Slav officer and number about 1,200. Originally Nationalists, they became Communists with the success of TITO's movement. A cinema at VILLA OPICINA was blown up during a show for German soldiers. The number of killed and injured is unknown. (8th Army Special Interrogation Report to 21.8.44).

Recent Partisan Activities.

Northern Appenines.

The Nazi Fascists have not been successful in the attempt to break the resistence of the Garibaldi brigades in the northern Appennines to make the rear of the Gothic line secure. The results have been negative of the punitive raids on a big scale in the provinces of PARMA and the VALLE LATERALI DELL'OSSOLA. On July 28th the patriots occupied MONTE CUANA and MONTE BRAMPA in the zone of CARPINETI, between the higher valleys of CROSTOLA and SECCHIA.
(P.W.B. Rome 30.8.44).

GAVI, OVADA and CAMPO LIGURE There are 1500 patriots in this region, but they are almost totally lacking in arms.
(Confidential source 17.8.44)

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LIGURIA Large areas in Liguria are controlled by the patriots. A Blackshirt Division, sent to the Riviera from Germany to maintain order, has been forced to retreat to large towns such as GENOA, SPEZIA and SAVONA.

3074

According to the paper Repubblica Fascists, the hard-pressed German troops in NOVARA province have been forced to remove all the bushes and hedges along the motor roads in order to prevent the partisans from using them as cover for their attacks.
(Aftonbladet 23.8.44).

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FERRARA ROMAGNA (CERVIA and FORLI) S MARINO URBINO In the above areas partisans are not numerous and their organisation is poor. The most important band is one led by CORBARA operating inROMAGNA near FORLI. It succeeded in advancing to FAENZA.
(Lt. Z. P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

SPEZIA and GENOA During the last 24 hours (21.8.44) thousands of workers from SAVONA, LA SPEZIA and GENOA have joined the partisans. Patriots operating in the VALTELLINA near BORMIO surrounded 100 Czechoslovak soldiers, who joined the maquis without a shot being fired.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 21.8.44).

ALPINE PASSES Although relatively neglecting the maquis in the Piedmontese and Lombard mountains the Italo-German Commands are making a considerable effort to retain control over the chief Alpine passes of MONT CENIS, the LITTLE ST BERNARD, the STELVIO and the BRENNER. MONT CENIS has been in the hands of the Germans since April. The partisans control the LITTLE ST BERNARD, but the Fascists are trying to extend their control to the AOSTA VALLEY, where, during May, they established colonies of refugees from central Italy. The Fascists never made much effort to dislodge the partisans from VALSESIA, but as soon as the latter appeared in the OSSOLA VALLEY, the Germans and the Fascists sent up to 8,000 motorised and armoured troops there. Mopping-up operations have taken place in the VALTELLINA up to the STELVIO pass, from where the maquis could not be expelled.
(Tribune de Geneve 19.8.44).

VALTIDONE and BELLUNO Partisans operating in the VALTIDONE in EMILIA and in the Province of BELLUNO are inexorably combating the activity of false partisans. Fascist spies and enemy Carabinieri were executed at FELTRE. A spy belonging to the infamous MUTI squad, which had been captured at EDOLO, was immediately executed. Patriots, in reprisal for the execution of two of their members by the GNR in BRESCIA and in VALTROMPIA, attacked the GNR barracks and disarmed the Militia, executing five on the same spot where they had shot the patriots. Patriots operating in SESTO CALENDE in VARESE blew up high tension pylons. A battalion in BELLUNO blew up a bridge between LONGARONE and CASTELLO LAVAZZO, seized a station and destroyed a train carrying goods. In FELTRE many German trucks were destroyed, while a railway bridge in PIAN D'ARTOGNE was blown up.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

The control kept by the Italian patriots on the strategical parts of the Alps has cost the Germans serious losses . The actions of the patriots have become so serious that they have been the subject of a discussion in a council of war held by the enemy in BERGAMO. The Military Commander (German) for LOMBARDY, General Diamonte, has

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(P.W.B. Rome 31.8.44).

S. UBALDO A battle took place at the S. UBALDO Pass after a strong enemy attack. The Germans were repulsed after having 30 killed and 50 wounded. The losses of the patriots were 12 men.
(P.W.B. Rome 28.8.44).

IVREA Patriots of the VAL D'AOSTA have blown up a locomotive laden with dynamite in a tunnel near Ivrea, causing its complete destruction and interrupting enemy traffic.

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VOGHERA In the VAL STAFFORA, near VOGHERA, a mixed battalion of Nazi Fascists were put to flight after a violent encounter, leaving 200 dead and wounded on the ground. In the zone of BELLUNO the Germans have repeatedly been attacked by the courageous JULIA and BERETTA brigades, losing on the whole about 500 men. A camp of the Fascist Republican Guard was attacked and dispersed at MONPIANO near BRESCIA, by a daring night attack.
(P.W.B. Rome 26.8.44).

PIACENTINO Mopping-up operations in the PIACENTINO appear at present to be suspended, though it is known that the Germans desire, at all costs, to keep the provincial road PIACENZA-BOBBIO-GENOA open. A German division is therefore being concentrated in PIACENZA. A clash with the first units, coming from PERINO to BOBBIO is imminent. Opposing these units is the "Giustizia e Liberta" Brigade, commanded by the famous "Fausto" whose effectives number nearly 5,000.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 22.8.44)

FAVALE DI MALVARO In fighting that took place on 12th and 13th August north of Favale di Malvaro the Nazis and Fascists lost a verified total of 150 men and also heavy arms at the hands of the Third Garibaldi Brigade. Losses of the Brigade were comparatively light.
(Confidential Source 17.8.44).

SWISS FRONTIER Seventeen Germans were recently stripped and booted over the Swiss frontier by partisans. Together with eight Fascists, they formed a patrol attached to a group of 300 men engaged in mopping-up operations, when they fell into an ambush. The partisans killed one Germans and three Fascists with their first burst of fire, after which a German captain, previously captured by the partisans, shouted, ordering the soldiers to lay down their arms, as they were completely surrounded. The Germans and Fascists obeyed, whereon the patriots informed the German Command that the mopping-up must be suspended if the prisoners' lives were to be saved. This took place. The partisans, who numbered 11 operating in the frontier zone thought that the action described above was the best way of disembarrasing themselves of the prisoners, though the Fascist militiamen were kept as hostages.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 22.8.44).

PADOVA By 10th July 1944 5000 armed men were operating in this zone. They only received their first supplies from the Allies at the beginning of March. The movement was not, however, very enthusiastically supported. Centres of resistance were at ZOVON DI VO, MONTAGNA, CAMPOSANPIERO, GALSIGNANO, TREPONTI, PRAGLIA. Many acts of sabotage were carried out. The railway lines PADOVA-VICENZA, PADOVA-CAMPO S. PIERO,-BELLUNO were interrupted, also the viaduct VICENZA-COLO.

The principal localities for parachute drops were CAVARZERI, PATRIARCATI (Zona MONTAGNA-BOVOLENTA) ZOVON DI VO, MONTAGNA (Prati Region).
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Almost all the students of the University and the Professors took part in the patriot movement in PADOVA. Their activities were such that the Republican authorities gave orders that no professor or student could approach the University unless accompanied by a German or member of one of the Black Brigades
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

The OSOPPO Brigade. - (Operating in N.E.Italy - exact location not known)

During the last two months of its now long and intense activity the "Osoppo" Brigade has killed about 500 Germans, interrupted important railway lines in 33 different places, blown up 8 railway bridges, derailed several trains, destroyed 12 road bridges, captured, destroyed or damaged many convoys of vehicles belonging to the invader.
(P.W.B. Rome 31.8.44).

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FASCIST FORCES

II. Total Effectives of Fascist Forces, and Dispositions

Under the German High Command - 41,000 men
Under Marshal Graziani - 26,000 men
" the HQ of the Republican Army. 43,000 "

Forces employed in Italy

The MONTEROSA Division 16,000 men and 600 officers, of whom 450 are already employed in LIGURIA.

The S. MARCO Division (3a) 4,000 men and 170 officers, employed in LIGURIA

The ITALIA Division (4a) 10,000 men and 500 officers, of whom 200 are still at HEUBERG (GERMANY); assembly zone NOVARA -VERCELLI.

The LITTORIO Division. 13,000 men and 460 officers, of whom 160 are still at SENNELAGER (GERMANY)

Republican Forces employed outside the country.

France: 60,000 men
Albania: 1,000 "
Greece: 50,000 "
Isle of Egeo: 6,000 men
Russia: 3,000 "

(Italian Official Source25.8.44).

VERONA In June the old PASUBIO Division which used to be stationed at VERONA, was being reconstituted there.
(P.W.B. Advanded C.J. 19.8.44).

PADOVA The only Fascist Forces in the city were a battalion of the MUTI who (with the exception of some members who were in league with the Committee of Liberation) were responsible for all the brutalities carried out in the city and for setting up a torture chamber for political prisoners.

The Carabinieri, on the whole, behaved in a friendly fashion to the resistance movement. Only some members of the officers and NCOs remained faithful to the Army, among them COL SALVATORE PACETTI, who became commander of the B.N.R. there.

In the Questura there were very few anti-fascists. A notorious persecutor of patriots was Questore NINO PALMIERI, another was the Rlico Commissar Dott. BARILA, and the Brigadiere of the Political Squad BINOTTO.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

General Staff of the Republican Fascist Forces.

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(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

General Staff of the Republican Fascist Forces.

The Secretariat of the Chief of Staff, Mobilisation Departments and the Recruiting Office have been moved from BERGAMO to FERRARI near BRESCIA.

General Staff Signal Battalion was formed about mid-December from civilian personnel, who were later militarised. Location is BERGAMO.

ETTORE MUTI Battalion It consists of about 15,000 volunteers. The HQ is situated in MILAN in a building bounded by Via SAN PROSPERO, Via DANTE and Via BROLETTO.

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28 OTTOBRE "M" Battalion consisting of about 1200 men, located at MASSAROTTI Barracks at CREMONA. Functions are police duties and fire-watching.

9th BERSAGLIERI Battalion located in the L.MARMORA barracks in CREMONA; consists of about 900 men, whose morale is very low.

Republican SS Company HQ in MASSAROTTI barracks in CREMONA; has three detachments quartered in various parts of the town.

Two battalions of the Italian African Police are quartered in the MANFREDINI barracks in CREMONA. The men go about the town unarmed. Most of them are former Fascist Squadristi and their morale is high. There are two other unspecified units in CREMONA.

Training Schools. The Post OCTU School and Infantry Academy were transferred to ALESSANDRIA during last winter. About half of the officers on the permanent staff of these schools have joined the Republican Army; of the others some have been deported to Germany and the rest who tried to escape deportation have gone into hiding. The Pioneer Training School in the MONTANARA barracks at MANTUA started functioning on April 1st 1944 and is attended by both Germans and Italians. There is also a Training School for Wireless Operators at ESTE and a Glider Pilot Training School on the OSSALENGO airfield.
(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

II. The San Marco Division.

It is known that the SAN MARCO Division is at present employed on coastal defence work in the SAVONA area west of GENOA. Until the middle of March 1944 the Division consisted of about 3500 ex PW from camps in Germany. After the arrival of numbers of Naval Reservists, recruits and volunteers, the Division was classified as Marine Inf. Division and given the name of SAN MARCO. Despite certain privileges they enjoy, the Germans appear to be worried about the morale of the Division, and they do everything they can to raise it. Specially selected German officers and NCOs who pretend to have complete faith in victory give many propaganda lectures, but it is said that the result of this propaganda is NIL. The men are not allowed to possess ammunition, and when Mussolini inspected the division he was escorted by numerous SS officers holding MGs at the ready. The men cannot express their sentiments freely and even the officers are daily given a one hrs pep talk by a senior German officer. Severe measures are taken against deserters and every day unit commanders have to render a return in writing that on the walls of their men's quarters there are no subversive inscriptions.
(P.W.B. Adv. A.A.I.)

III. SS. Bn. S. Grato.

At 9th June 44 the Battalion was about a thousand men strong and was quartered in the new seminary about 100 m. ssw of S. GRATO church. The men are drawn from

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(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

IV. Nazi-Fascist Police in Milan.

An interesting statement has been received on the organisation of the Nazi-Fascist police in MILAN, on its methods and the identity of executioners and spies who are at the head. Source was imprisoned in the political prisons of MILAN for

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more than three months, luckily under a false name, before crossing the lines.

The Commander of the SS in LOMBARDY is Captain SAVECKE (GERMAN) and has his headquarters in MILAN at the Hotel Regina.

The following are under him:

1. The German SS in rather scanty numbers, and they could do little if Fascist Collaboration were missing.

2. The so-called UGO group, headed by a Doctor UGO ALBERTI; is composed of policemen and graduates of the police force already in the OVRA Service.

3. The special office (U.S.) ex. U.P.I. (Ufficio Polizia Italiana) from the Republican National Guard, and in theory autonomous, but in reality absolutely controlled by the SS.

Reports and accusations are presented for the consideration of German functionaries by Italian spies. These functionaries give a judgment against which there is no appeal, and the person sentenced has no right of defence. The concentration camp where Italians who have escaped being shot are sent is at FOSSOLI, in the province of MODENA; they are afterwards deported from there to Germany. As regards the Germans and the UGO group, their methods are well-known but they do not generally go farther than the whip and the truncheon. These, however, who are known for their bestial cruelty are the Fascists of the U.S., headed by three officers Lieut MILLI, Lieut. COLOMBO, Lieut BRACCO. There is not a medieval torture which they have not used on the unfortunate Italians who have fallen into their hands. (P.W.B. Rome 28.8.44).

GERMANS

V. Disposition.

FERRARA There is no German command in the town. All the offices have been transferred to the villas situated in the immediate vicinity, and there are few German troops stationed there. All the fortifications towards the sea along the Adriatic have been suspended since the occupation of ANCONA seemed imminent two months ago. At GAMBETTOLA there is a big fuel dump. SANTARCANGELO and its surroundings swarm with Germans. All the bridges between RAVENNA and RIMINI have been bored for mines. There are also many Germans in the zone of VERRUCHIO and VERGIANO. There are none in the Republic of S. MARINO, of which the neutrality has recently been confirmed by Kesselring. Beyond the Republic the country on the way to CARPEGNA is full of German troops. In the zone of SASSO CERVARO there are 2,000 militia of the Battaglione "M". Source was told that in CARPEGNA the Germans have worked hard preparing fortifications, particularly towards BADIA TEBALDA, which has been completely evacuated by the civilian population. There are Germans in the neighbourhood of URBANIA but in smaller numbers
(P.W.B. Rome Ten. di V. 25.8.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome Ten. di V. 25.8.44).

VI. Morale.

Lt. Z. spoke with one German near FERRARA who said "I should have been pleased if that bomb had hit Hitler". He noticed a strong anti-nazi feeling among all the German troops he met.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

In the LUCCA and PISTOIA zones the Germans have already begun retreating, and have obliged the peasants to cut all the olive trees and have been requisitioning every kind of foodstuff. Farmers of the district around LUCCA assured source that they had been without bread for days. Very severe orders forbid the Italians to give hospitality to Germans, but this does not prevent almost every German soldier

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from having his civilian suit ready.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

The diary of a Viennese soldier in the Germany, recently captured, shows how little sympathy he and his countrymen have with the Nazis. The diary starts -

"When I came back from my leave into hospital and was released from there, I thought: "Well you've got to go back to the front as cannon-fodder again. Oh, no my dear Hitler, Austrians arn't so stupid! We don't need to fight for our freedom, for we shan't get it as long as Germany't still alive. For us it's : Down with the Nazis, for they will never be satisfied as long as they live"..... I'm still only a young chap, but this much I know; until Germany is wiped off the map there will be no peace in the world, for these people want to conquer the whole world".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 31.8.44).

VII. Atrocities.

FORNO DI MASSA
The Germans massacred 60 persons at FORNO DI MASSA because Partisans had been there.

PESARO The Germans burnt some people in their houses as a reprisal for the killing of two Germans

FOSSOMBRONE A passer-by was compelled to hang a fellow-countryman with his own hands in order to avoid being hanged himself. The victim's crime was not known to him.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z 20.8.44).

PADOVA There were as many atrocities here as in other provinces, among them one at BAGNOLI, where a whole family of 8 people were killed for having harboured two English parachutists. They were burnt in their home by the Germans with flame-throwers The Fascists in this region however behaved even more cruelly than the Germans.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44)

SESTO FIORENTINO 10 April. A search for partisans was made, and although none was found, six people were dragged from their beds and killed in cold blood.

VAGLIA Five people were killed here for the same reason.

CASTELNUOVO DEI SABOIONI 4th July. According to the anti-fascist clandestine press the Germans massacred 70 persons here on the above date.

PONTASSIEVA Thirteen persons killed here on the 20th June in reprisal for the killing of one German soldier. Among them was a child of 4.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

VIII. "Frontpost"

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for we shan't get it as long as Germany't still alive. For us it's : Down with the Nazis, for they will never be satisfied as long as they live"..... I'm still only a young chap, but this much I know; until Germany is wiped off the map there will be no peace in the world, for these people want to conquer the whole world".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 31.8.44).

VII. Atrocities.

FORNO DI MASSA
The Germans massacred 60 persons at FORNO DI MASSA because Partisans had been there.

PESARO The Germans burnt some people in their houses as a reprisal for the killing of two Germans

FOSSOMBRONE A passer-by was compelled to hang a fellow-countryman with his own hands in order to avoid being hanged himself. The victim's crime was not known to him.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z 20.8.44).

PADOVA There were as many atrocities here as in other provinces, among them one at BAGNOLI, where a whole family of 8 people were killed for having harboured two English parachutists. They were burnt in their home by the Germans with flame-throwers The Fascists in this region however behaved even more cruelly than the Germans.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44)

SESTO FIORENTINO 10 April. A search for partisans was made, and although none was found, six people were dragged from their beds and killed in cold blood.

VAGLIA Five people were killed here for the same reason.

CASTELNUOVO DEI SABOIONI 4th July. According to the anti-fascist clandestine press the Germans massacred 70 persons here on the above date.

PONTASSIEVA Thirteen persons killed here on the 20th June in reprisal for the killing of one German soldier. Among them was a child of 4.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA

VIII. "Frontpost"

"Frontpost" is well circulated among German soldiers. A P.W. interrogated was very much impressed by the factual tone.
(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

POLITICS

IX. Administration in CREMONA

The political and administrative organisation of the province of CREMONA centres round ROBERTO FARINACCI. With him he has Republican and military personalities who work in an atmosphere of perfect harmony with the Germans.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

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X. Parties in Trento and Bolzano.

In the cities the strongest parties are the Communist and Socialist. In the country the priests have enormous influence according to the local tradition. There is a strong desire for local automomy in the TRENTO.
(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

XI. Feeling in FERRARA.

The spirit of the population is anti-German, but there is a strong Fascist nucleus in the province, supported by the middle classes.
(Lt. E. P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

XII. Treatment of Jews.

A search was carried out among the Jewis prisoners of the S. VITTORE prison in MILAN during the afternoon of July 31st. The inspection, which included women, was exacting and ruthless. A Polish Jew who concealed a sum of money, was kicked to death, after being subjected to blows and 80 lashes. The head of the Jewish group was shut in an underground punishment cell after the search, being left five days without food and three days without water.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 21.8.44).

ECONOMICS.

XIII. Food Situation.

FERRARA Cattle requisitions carried out by the Germans are now causing a certain lack of milk, meat and cheese. Prices are still moderate:

Eggs 8 lire each, butter 300 lire a kg, Meat 160 lire per kg.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. Z. 20.8.44).

VERONA June Life is very dear and the population has to resort to the Black Market to live.

Bread is 4 lire the etto, and a pair of shoes cost 2,500 lire.
(P.W.B. Advanced C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA In July butter on the black market was 350 lire the kilo, oil was 500 lire the litre. Milk could only be obtained by bartering other goods for it. Sugar, pasta and rice were distributed every three months on a ration of - sugar 1.5 kg, pasta and rice 3 kg. The bread ration, of the worst quality and without salt, was 200 grams per day. Jam was rarely distributed.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

TURIN During the recent period a deterioration in the quality of bread has been noted. This is due mainly to the need for using large quantities of

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(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

TURIN During the recent period a deterioration in the quality of bread has been noted. This is due mainly to the need for using large quantities of rye, which has been mixed with the grain in the proportion of 40 parts rye to 60 parts grain. Added to this there have been transport difficulties and some bakers have received consignments of pure rye which they have used up. Another cause of the deterioration can be ascribed to the fact that some bakers have had to use natural yeast instead of balm and the bread could not be worked with the necessary scrupulousness".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 9.8.44).

XIV. Transport.

The tram services of the big towns, although reduced are mainly working.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

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FERRARA Ferrara station is completely destroyed. The railways in the zone are in the following condition:

Venice line. not working at all because of the interruption of the PONTELAGOSCURO bridge. Between the station of Ferrara and that of Pontelagoscuro there are hundreds of waggons that cannot be moved either in one direction or the other. Source had heard that TODT workers were reconstructing three of the bridges in the zone of FRANCOLINI (FERRARA). At the moment the columns cross the PO at night by means of pontoon bridges, which are taken away in the day time and placed on the banks of the river. The vehicles which have to be taken across by day are moved on large boats.

Rimini line. This is interrupted in several places (a month ago at five points) and previous to the last attack was only taking military traffic.

Modena line. Begins two stations beyond Ferrara, and source did not know how far it went.

Bologna line. Source did not know at what point it commenced, but he did know that all the traffic of the Romagna for Lombardy went on the MANTUA line.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

CHIVASSO The railway bridge on the river PO south east of CHIVASSO is being used. Traffic passes over it.

The MILAN-TURIN line is in full function. It is thought that the interruption between CHIVASSO and BRANDIZZO (south-east of CHIVASSO) has been mended.

On the MILAN-USMATE-BERGAMO line the railway bridge on the ADDA at PADERNO ROBLATE is interrupted The traffic is deviated from USMATE on the line for LECCO and at CALOLZIOCORTE (7 km south south east of LECCO) on to the BERGAMO branch.

On the BERGAMO-ROVATO-BRESCIA lines the railway bridge has been reopened.

The MILAN-TREVIGLIO-BRESCIA-VERONA line has been re-opened. On the ROVATO-VERONA (VENICE) line only military convoys are allowed.

The railway bridge on the MINCIO at PESHIERA DEL GARDA, many times attacked by the Allied airforce without success is in full working order.
(Italian Official Source 20.8.44).

XV. Industry.

The output of factories in northern Italy has only been reduced by about 5% as a result of air raids (up to June 44). The textile industries, sugar refineries, and shoe factories have hardly been affected at all. Most industrialists in the north are keeping their production as low as possible and conserving their stocks. These are considerable, as export to foreign countries has ceased and distribution in Italy is hindered by transport difficulties. As regards the distribution of

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MILAN The FALK steelworks at SESTO S. GIOVANNI, employing more than a thousand workers, have suffered no bomb damage up to June 44.

The MARELLI factory at the southern extremity of SESTO S. GIOVANNI has never been hit. It employs about a thousand workers (June 44).

The TECNOMASIO ITALIANO BROWN -BOVERI works have not been hit in any raid (up to June 44) They at present employ about a thousand workers.

The INNOCENTI factories in the eastern suburbs of MILAN had not been hit up to June 44. They employ from 1,500 to 2,000 workers.

CREMONA

The ARMAGUERRA factory produces ORLANI MG, BERETTA MP and various types of ammunition. It employs about 1,500 workers, working three eight-hour shifts.

The OFFICINA MECCANICA ALDIGHIERI produces engines and chassis for trucks. It employs about 500 workers in three shifts of eight hours each.

The OFFICINE MECCANICHE FERRABOLI produce tractors and agricultural machinery, employing about 200 workers in one nine-hour shift.

The OFFICINA SALVATORE DOTTI is working exclusively for the Germans. It produces methane gas. Source could give no details concerning number of workers and output.

The OFFICINA DOTT. MARIO STORTI produces varnishes, methylated spirit, tincture of iodine and other pharmaceutical products. Most of its output goes to the Germans.

CASTEL MAGGIORE

The firm of BUINI and GRANDI employs about a thousand workers and produces electrical equipment.

CESENA

The Cesena Sulphur refinery, a subsidiary of the MONTECATINI concern, lies immediately north of the railway station, with which it is connected by a siding. Since early January the refinery has been practically unproductive, owing to the lack of raw material caused by the bombing of RIMINI station and by the shortage of [illegible].
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XVI. Finance.

Republican and Nazi officials are anxious to get hold of gold and as much as 12,000 lire has been paid for a gold sovereign. The object of this is to accumulate funds against the evil day when flight to Switzerland will be imperative.

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BRESCIA. June 44. Owing to the inflation people have lost confidence in paper money and are endeavouring to buy goods of all kinds. For some time past, depositors have not been allowed to withdraw more than 30% of their accounts in cash, and to do even this a permit from the Provincial authorities is necessary.
(C.S.D.I.C. Report).

XVII. Agriculture.

MILAN. June - Chemical fertilizers were practically unobtainable and could be bought on the black market only in very small quantities at very high prices.

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Agricultural machinery in the factories and warehouses of Milan had been requisitioned and taken away to Germany, but source believed that machinery belonging to the farmers has not been requisitioned.
(C.S.D.I.C. report).

XVIII. Social Conditions and Public Health.

MILAN Citizens who have been bombed out receive assistance from the authorities. Last January source received 10,000 lire as a first payment for the value of a house of his which had been destroyed. In the early days those who had been bombed out were accommodated in the elementary schools, but this is no longer possible (May 44) and they are now evacuated to BONIROLA, ABBIATEGRASSO, VIGEVANO, BUSTO ARSIZIO, VARESE, COMO, GALLARATE etc.

Health conditions are still good (May 44), and most kinds of medical supplies can be obtained. Both the old and the new OSPEDALE MAGGIORE, as well as the military hospital is still functioning.
(C.S.D.I.C. report).

XIX. Air Raid Damage.

FERRARA Damage has been pretty extensive, especially to industry and communications The railway hardly works at all any more. Mail service is almost everywhere carried out by courriers on foot. A letter takes an average of 15 days even for short distances.
(P.W.B. Acme Lt. Z. 20.8.44).

VERONA In the Allied raid on 7th July the central station was hit, the industrial quarter and the railway damaged. The civilian hospital was also hit, causing 50 casualties. Another raid on the same districts was made on the 8th July, and railway traffic was brought to a standstill.
(P.W.B. Advanced C.U. 19.8.44).

PADOVA There have been eight raids up to 10th July. A good many non-military objectives have been hit, with corresponding effect on civilian morale.
(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

LABOUR.

XX. Corruption in the TODT Organisation.

A Polish PW, formerly of the Todt organisation, recently interrogated, confirmed that the organisation is corrupt from top to bottom. Senior officials are interested only in lining their own pockets and assist each other in misusing the high priority which the organisation enjoys and in falsifying accounts.

The favourite means of falsification is that of time sheets and ration strengths In order to get the required number of bodies, the O.T. is willing to take anyone and as a consequence it attracts a great many undesirable elements (from a German point

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The favourite means of falsification is that of time sheets and ration strengths In order to get the required number of bodies, the O.T. is willing to take anyone and as a consequence it attracts a great many undesirable elements (from a German point of view) Having got the desired numbers, slacking and absenteeism on the part of the worker is welcomed rather than checked, because of the gains which accrue to individuals.

In Italy only about one-third of the personnel on the firm's payroll were at work. The remaining two thirds had only joined to get the necessary O.T. pass. Rations and clothing were, however, always drawn for the full number and the surplus could then be disposed of to the civilian population for private gain. In spite of this absenteeism, total working hours were always ballooned up in order to draw increased pay.

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ANTON DI SPERANDIO, for example, would make out a false receitp from Italian labourers - ostensibly hired for special work- and would so pocket ten thousand lire, less the rake-off claimed by the Lagerfuehrer who obtained the necessary signatures. Thanks to language difficulties, bookkeeping was a farce anyway.

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With corruption abroad, it was too much to expect good work, and the Italian technicians had a happy knack of building defences incorrectly and not in the intended places, by way of revenge or as an attempt at sabotage. Several were threatened with prison because of this.

The Italian workers had their own form of revenge, for as soon as conditions became hard they deserted to the partisans. The Germans supplied a guard of ten German and ten Italian soldiers under a German Cpl over the PRATO ALEONIC camp where source was working, but before long the NCO concluded a non-agression pact with the partisans. The understanding was that he should not be molested and that he would help to get the outstanding balance of wages for some of the workers who had been cheated of it for a long time. He succeeded in getting it on the same day of asking (13 June 44) because he pointed out that otherwise the men would desert. The Italians concerned lasted out only 24 hours for a rumour came round that the firm was to retire and build fortifications in the ALPS and they deserted en bloc.
(C.S.D.I.D. Report 10.8.44).

XXI. Fascist Syndicates.

The Fascist Syndicate is a mere myth and works only as a police imposition. The working classes are controlled from the clandestine front, which organises strikes on a large scale, among which was a recent one in TURIN (in the second half of July). A fact worthy of note is that the industrialists are bound up with the C.N.L. to which they look for future government. The C.N.L. supplies a subsidy of 2000 lire per month to the families of partisans or deported workers.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXII. Fascists in Ferrara.

Dott NINI ZANARDI - Via Romei (Todt)
Ing. MARI (one of the founders of the F.R.)
OLAO GAGGIOLI - Cons le Generale M.V.S.N. ex-member of the Fascist Grand Council.
GIULIO and ARRIGO RIVANI - Via Palestro- collaborators with the Germans.
Ing. ZACCARINI - collaborator of the Todt.
TONINELLI
Rag. CAPPI - Vice Fiduciario of the G.R.
The brothers BONETTI, Spies of the O.V.R.A., torturers.

The Prefect is VEZZALINI, and is assisted by the Chief of the Fascist Gestapo in Ferrara (name unknown) who is a real criminal.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

XXIII. Founders of the Fascio of Padova.

Capt. DUMAS SOGLI, Squadrist - now a member of the German SS.
[illegible] Squadrist - guilty of the death of a boy in Padova, stupid

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DIEGO - squadrist - guilty of the death of a boy in Padova, stupid type.

Prof. CARLO ANTI, late Rector of the University.

ALLEGRO ALFREDO - squadrist, ex-commander of the Muti, ex-director of the UDA
ALLEGRO NELLO - squadrist, Political Commissar of Camposanpiero, wears the uniform of a Lieutenant.
ALLEGRO TONINO - squadrist, spy
CALAFATTI ENZIO, of the German SS - blond with a moustache

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CROPPI ORESTE - officer in the GNR of Padova.
RINALDI - spy, employee at the town hall of Padova.

SACCHETTO ALEARDO
SIMEONI ATTILIO
CARENZA SAVERIO — Fascists of long standing who have used their political position to reach the highest posts in the educational world.

VIVARELLI — President of the Special Tribunal of BOLOGNA, now Federal Commissioner of PADOVA

CAPT. DINO PRISCO - Squadrist.

(P.W.B. Advanced 27.8.44).

XXIV. Fascist Chiefs in Veneto.

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA.

Dr. GIMBERLE

Prof. VELO

DE FACCI

BERTIZZOLO

(P.W.B. Advanced 18.8.44).

XXV. Carita's Assistants in Florence.

BIAGGINI
CHIAROTTI — Members of Carita's SS
Also a railwaymen named CASADEI (torturer).

(P.W.B. Advanced)

XXVI. Genova collaborator

A certain BASILE is the principal collaborator with the Germans in GENOVA now.
(P.W.B. Memo 30.8.44).

XXVII. Military Personalities.

Brig. JALLA — O.C. Regional Military HQ ALESSANDRIA (March 44)
Gen. MOSCA — Inspector of GNR MILAN (May 44)
Gen CASTRIOTA — " " " TURIN "
[illegible] GNR Leader TURIN (May 44)

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Col. MISSIALE OC GNR Legion TURIN (May 44)

(C.S.D.I.C.)

XXVIII. Well known Fascists at Bologna.

GIUSEPPE AMBROSI , Proprietor of the "Nuova Italia" who asked German authorities to be allowed to be present when 10 Italian patriots were shot.

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CAPT AIELLO
CAPT LEMBO of the Political Police.

PROF. COPPOLA, Director of the University, who would not allow non-Fascist students to be admitted to examinations.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary 21.8.44).

SECRET

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

Folio for action/information

D.P.S.....

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POLICE

~~Civil Affairs~~.....

~~Capt. Mas Brodsky~~.....

Prisons.....

Fire & C.D.....

Regn & Licensing.....

Adm. Officer.....

REMARKS.....

.....

.....

PUBLIC SAFETY

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

30th August, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY-NO 22.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans

Considerable information has reached us regarding the formation and distribution of partisan brigades in N. Italy. It is reported that the movement is not so strong in LOMBARDY. This is not surprising in view of the fact that the low-lying country does not afford good cover for guerrillas. On the other hand, strikes and sabotage have been more successful in that region than in PIEDMONT.

Civil war appears to be raging in N. Italy. The offensive taken by Black Brigades, Fascist Divisions and German SS formations is encountering an obstinate resistance, and the partisans have inflicted heavy losses even on German forces. The Fascists have now officially adopted the German system of reprisals against hostages, though they content themselves with a more modest quota of victims. For example, the Prefect of NOVARA on 18th July decreed that for every Fascist killed three hostages would be shot, and for every Fascist kidnapped, five hostages would be taken.

Assassinations

Mussolini's ex-private secretary OSVALDO SEBASTIANI, was captured by partisans at PASSIRANO (PRESCIA Prov.) and executed.

Co-operation with Yugoslavs.

The Italian Committee of Liberation and the Yugoslav Committee have agreed to publish a joint newspaper for mixed partisan forces.

Allied Recognition.

The Allied Control Commission paid a tribute to the efforts of the partisans in Tuscany and to the work of the Italian Navy. General Sir Oliver Leese also praised the work of the Italian Corps of Liberation.

FASCIST FORCES

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FASCIST FORCES

According to a decree of the Duce, the G.N.R. will cease to function as police after 31st December and will become part of the fighting arm of the Republican Army.

RICCI resigned the command of the G.N.R. and Mussolini has taken over the temporary command

Desertions. The recently arrived Monte Rosa Alpine Division has lost large numbers of its men by desertion. 3067

Propaganda Companies. The Italian Divisions trained in Germany have followed the German example and installed propaganda Companies in their midst.

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SUMMARY 2.

Guardia di Finanze. These were to be disbanded on August 15th and were to join the G.N.R. or go to Germany. 2,000 Customs Officers who refused to join the Militia were deported. En route, however, half of them escaped.

Black Brigades. These claim successes in their fight with the partisans but their victories seem according to their own account, to have been won over isolated individuals or small groups.

GERMANS

Kesselring has imposed martial law on BOLOGNA, FERRARA, FORLI, MODENA, PARMA, PIACENZA, RAVENNA and REGGIO EMILIA, and threatens to repress sabotage with the greatest severity. Other security measures are the blowing up of certain bridges in the TICINO valley, the evacuation of villages on the Swiss frontier and the prohibition of electric current in a zone 120-130 kilometres from the front.

Atrocities Intercepted Italian letters mention many horrible incidents which may possibly be exagerated, e.g. (OVINDOLI (AQUILA) 2 Indian P.Ws. burnt alive; FLORENCE, children's hands cut off; S. MINIATO, people locked in a Church and blown up with mines.

POLITICS

It is reported from the North that the Action Party is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, but that the Communists complain that they are too keen on politics and do not co-operate with the extreme Left in the fight against Nazis and Fascists.

Fascist Ministries. Ministries/hitherto have been quartered between which VENICE and BRESCIA are to be moved further West towards BERGAMO, MILAN and COMO. The COMO region, it is said, will be considered the chief centre of Fascist Government.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The food situation in the big cities is becoming acute. MILAN is without milk, TURIN complains of the bad quality of the bread.

Finance From August 15 Bank Rates are to be generally redueed. There is a great shortage of coins and low-priced currency in Italy. Street car companies, shops etc, issue their own tokens. In TRIESTE newspaper boys have issued a token currency of their own.

LABOUR

The Junkers aircraft factories advertise further facilities in the Fascist press for workers going to Germany. Raids to obtain impressed [illegible] from the VALTELLINA and VAL SESIA

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LABOUR

The Junkers aircraft factories advertise further facilities in the Fascist press for workers going to Germany. Raids to obtain impressed workers still continue. It is reported from the VALTELLINA and VAL SESIA that the latest enormity is to seize workshippers as they leave Churches after Sunday services. Priests who protested were arrested.

Strikes. New strikes are said to have begun again in MILAN. BRESCIA workers also struck from July 24th to July 29th.

THE CHURCH

The "Crociata Italica" (Fascist clerical paper) protests that in some MILAN churches the faithful pray to be delivered from the sword of the German, and also asks the Fascist authorities to prevent the Bishop's of LOMBARDY from suspending priests who work for the "Crociata Italica".

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 30th August, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 22.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 30th August, 1944.

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This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

The "Carlo Rosselli" Brigades. The following brigades of patriots have been organised by the Action Party in Tuscany:-

Rosselli Brigade No 1. (about 650 men) operating in the area BAGNI DI LUCCA, VAL DI LIMA (eastwards), ALPE TRE POTENZE since December 43. It sustained many encounters with enemy troops coming from LUCCA and PISTOIA. The Brigade HQ has been in contact with 5 Army agents and received many supplies by parachute. About July 14 when German units were occupying the Gothic Line positions in the area, it was forced to dissolve through mopping up operations. Some elements moved towards PRATO and PISTOIA. A very efficient unit under the command of a certain Ducceschi intended to reach LIVORNO and put itself at the disposal of the Allied Armies. No further news has since been heard of it.

Rosselli Brigade No 2. operating in the MUGELLO region; armed with Italian weapons (light MG, and also some Mausers and Parabellum) No exact news has recently been heard of it, but it seems that it sustained a considerable fighting period with German units.

Rosselli Brigade No 3. with three companies of about 100 men each. Operated previously in the area of MONTESPERTOLI, where 100 men have been left under the command of Capt. DEL MONACO (battle name BERTINI) 100 men (including a very efficient squad commanded by a certain BERTO) in the FLORENCE area, under the command of Capt VIVARELLI (HQ at MONTICELLI). Another 120 men are spread along the Northern perimiter of FLORENCE in the area of PONTE ALLE MOSSE: well armed with lt. M.G. they moved there a few days ago from the area SCANDICCI BELLOSGUARDO (9.8.44).

Rosselli Brigade No 4. being constituted under the command of Major NARDI, who already has 150 men. HQ at le due Strade. Possibly this unit will include the reorganised men of Cap. Vivarelli coming from Rosselli Brigade No 3.

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Rosselli Brigade No 5. About 1000 men distributed in the 4 areas of FLORENCE (OLTRARNO is one of these areas). They are included in a stronger force of about 3,000 men (most of them Communists -200-300 of other parties), armed and with amunition for two hrs.

The Action Party also has an autonomous unit of about 150 men at CAGGIO MONTANO operating behind the Gothic Line. Because of its location it will probably fall under the jurisdiction of the Partisan

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Military HQ of EMILIA,
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 9.8.44).

Allied Instructions to Partisans.

Instructions are being issued to partisans by the Allied radio and by the "Italia Combatte" programme, particularly to those who fought in FLORENCE , urging them to continue their fight towards the north and to look out for certain divisional signs of the Germans. The enemy will be forced to use the roads and will be hampered by patriot activity from the hills on either side. Out of the whole of Italy the Appennines will probably afford the best situation for patriot revenge on the enemy.

Warnings have also been given to the patriots of MILAN and TURIN not to let their enthusiam at the success of the patriots in PARIS run away with them, but to await instructions from the Allied Command.
(P.W.B. Rome 25.8.44).

Partisan organisations in the north

The Garibaldi Brigades, 3 to 4000 strong, operate under the control of the C.D.L. and are intended to be apolitical; it seems, however that they are all of Communist tendencies, and are in close touch with the Communist party.

TUSCANY Mountains of CARRARESE: One Garibaldi Brigade has just been formed. In the same locality operates a small but active group commanded by a British Captain.

Three months ago there were three Garibaldi Brigades in the mountains south of the road FORLI* FAENZA. One brigade only exists now owing to severe German reprisals.

In the provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA the G.A.P. are so numerous that they have formed two G.A.P. Brigades.

BOLOGNA Prov. of BOLOGNA: 1 G.A.P. Brigade with its H.Q in VADO South of MODENA and
Reggio EMILIA 1 Garibaldi Brigade very strong and efficient. HQ in ABETONE.

EMILIA Prov. of PARMA: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "BICCELLI" not very efficient.

Prov. of PIACENZA: 1 strong military organisation.

LOMBARDY

The partisan movement has been rather weak. The great

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LOMBARDY The pertisan movement has been rather weak. The great majority of partisan groups is controlled by the Party of Action. Great activity is deployed by the Communist Party among the workers and the organisation of strikes and sabotage has been more successful in LOMBARDY than in PIEDMONT.

PIEDMONT There are seven Garibaldi Brigades in Piedmont.
VAL DI LANZA : 3
VAL DI SUSA : 2
BIELLESE : 1
NOVARESE : 1
Two new brigades are being formed in the Province of TURIN. In addition to these formations there are several groups of the Party of Action and monarchist bands commanded by regular officers.

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VENETO Mountains of SCHIO VAL D'AGNO: 1 Garibaldi Brigade "FRATELLI BANDIERA"
Province of VITTORIO VENETO : 1 Garibaldi Brigade "NINO NANETTI"

FRIULI 1 Garibaldi Brigade.

TRIESTE 1 Garibaldi Brigade who works in close liaison with the Jugoslavs.

TRENTINO In the Trantino the German influence is very strong and therefore it is extremely difficult to organise resistance. An Austrian Catholic Party exists in TRENTO and contacted some time ago the Communist Party. Several meetings took place, but a base of agreement could not be reached because of the strong nationalist feeling of the Austrian Catholics.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

Appeal by "Green Flames".

The "Green Flames" (Fiamme Verdi) have issued a patriotic appeal to the partisans and others containing the following paragraphs:

"Men of the valleys - we count on your collaboration, we are sure that you are all our friends. We nevertheless give you the following counsel and directions: The "Green Flames" are part of the regular army of the Italian Government. Each member, before he joins, takes an oath not to do anything against liberty or justice, nothing that will be contrary to moral and religious laws or military honour. Whoever breaks this oath is punished according to martial law. Those who, using threats and violence, commit crimes of various kinds in the mountain districts are not partisans; they are true brigands and robbers

The "Green Flames" will defend you against such people, they will fire and justice will be done. Do not let yourselves be deceived by the astuteness of the Republicans, who come to you pretending to be partisans, ragged and famished, making insolent declarations against Fascism. Be on your guard! Many have fallen into this trap. Make a note of all the wrongs you endure for having given aid to the King and the partisans; if possible have the statement witnessed and signed by persons of repute. Make a note of anyone who secretly works against the "Green Flames", who reaps unjust profits, who gives unnecessary help to the Germans or the Fascists. When liberty is restored Justice will be done. Collect small stocks of food and put them in a safe place. They will be useful to you in the critical moments that may come during the German retreat. Do not hide these stores near your houses, because there they would be easily detected. Anyone who helps the Germans or the Republicans will also be considered a traitor. If you are forced to collaborate, find some means of doing damage.
("Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

Patriots Incite "Wehrmacht" to Mutiny.

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Patriots Incite "Wehrmacht" to Mutiny.

An appeal has been issued by the partisans which has been widely distributed among German troops in Italy: It is addressed "To the officers, N.C.Os and men of the German Armed Forces;" and begs them to "listen to the words of truth addressed to you by the Italian patriots in your own interests and in those of your country and your families". It continues "Hitler's mad adventures are leading Germany to utter disaster. You are losing the war because your cause is unjust.... Events are changing from one moment to another. The Soviet Armies, in their victorious advance of liberation, are nearing the German frontier; the invasion of Europe by the armies of Britain and the U.S.A. has been victoriously begun. In Italy, the soldiers of General Alexander, bravely supported by Italian patriots who now

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form an army, are victoriously advancing up the peninsula driving the German troops, whose fate is irremediably sealed, towards the north. .... The fate of Nazism has been sealed. There are plain and striking signs that the end is near. There are, in the first place, the events of July 20th. Hitler escaped death by a mere chance. .... It is a case of organised revolt... Terror reigns in Germany.. The Nazi leaders are only able to govern by proclaiming a state of siege. The SS has begun to attack the Wehrmacht..... Give up the useless fight. Hand over your arms to the Italian patriots, or turn them with decision against the SS and the Gestapo, the true enemies of the German people..... Our cause is the same as yours... liberation Death to Nazism! Long live Liberty! Long live peace!
National Liberation Committee of northern Italy".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

Partisan activities in general.

LIGURIA Will the Allies land also in LIGURIA? The entry into PIEDMONT from the sea is open owing to present partisan activities there. From IMPERIA the Germans attempted mopping-up operations in the direction of the partisan-occupied coast. The partisans, however, repelled the Germans at DIANO CASTELLO, capturing a considerable amount of war material, as well as at the port of DIANO MARINA and several other localities. A German and Fascist motorised column consisting of 1000 was ambushed at PIEVE DI TECO, and 100 men were lost. In the NERVIA Valley, Germans and Fascists pillaged and burned villages, but were finally chased away. Partisans captured the GNR barracks at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and BARGONE, including an arms depot, and large food stocks ready to be sent to Germany. At BORDIGHERA, partisans captured a wheat truck ready to leave for FRANCE. At BARGAGLI they captured three German NCOs and liberated a group of 60 men who were about to be sent to Germany. At PIANDEPRE they overpowered the garrison.
(Tribune de Geneve 15.8.44).

PIACENZA In an encounter near FARINI D'OLMO in the Province of PIACENZA, the patriots have killed 22 German soldiers and taken much booty in the way of arms and amunition. There have been patrol actions on the Via Emilia, especially in the district of FIRENZUOLA. Near CIRIE, in the Province of TURIN patriots have interrupted an electric cable which served the war industries used by the Germans. The railway TURIN-MODANE has been damaged for a long distance near GOLLEGNO. Sabotage has also been committed near TORTONA against the lines of communication and some highway bridges have been damaged. Other attacks against the enemy lines of communication have been made at NARZOLE in PIEDMONTE Important factories which were working for the Germans have been rendered useless after the damage inflicted by theG.A.P. to the electric installations, also at SESTRI LEVANTE and TRIGOSA.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

CHERELE An enemy convoy was drawn into an ambush near CHERELE.

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The Nazi leaders are only able to govern by proclaiming a state of siege. The SS has begun to attack the Wehrmacht..... Give up the useless fight. Hand over your arms to the Italian patriots, or turn them with decision against the SS and the Gestapo, the true enemies of the German people..... Our cause is the same as yours... liberation Death to Nazism! Long live Liberty! Long live peace!
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(Libera Stampa Lugano 19.8.44).

Partisan activities in general.

LIGURIA Will the Allies land also in LIGURIA? The entry into PIEDMONT from the sea is open owing to present partisan activities there. From IMPERIA the Germans attempted mopping-up operations in the direction of the partisan-occupied coast. The partisans, however, repelled the Germans at DIANO CASTELLO, capturing a considerable amount of war material, as well as at the part of DIANO MARINA and several other localities. A German and Fascist motorised column consisting of 1000 was ambushed at PIEVE DI TECO, and 100 men were lost. In the NERVIA Valley, Germans and Fascists pillaged and burned villages, but were finally chased away. Partisans captured the GNR barracks at CASTIGLIONE, CHIAVARI and RAPALLO, including an arms depot, and large food stocks ready to be sent to Germany. At BORDIGHERA, partisans captured a wheat truck ready to leave for FRANCE. At RAPALLI they captured three German NCOs and liberated a group of 60 men who were about to be sent to Germany. At PIANDEPRE they overpowered the garrison.
(Tribune de Geneve 15.8.44).

PIACENZA In an encounter near FARINI D'OLMO in the Province of PIACENZA, the patriots have killed 22 German soldiers and taken much booty in the way of arms and amunition. There have been patrol actions on the Via Emilia, especially in the district of FIRENZUOLA. Near CIRIE, in the Province of TURIN patriots have interrupted an electric cable which served the war industries used by the Germans. The railway TURIN-MODANE has been damaged for a long distance near GOLLEGNO. Sabotage has also been committed near TORTONA against the lines of communication and some highway bridges have been damaged. Other attacks against the enemy lines of communication have been made at NARZOLE in PIEDMONTE Important factories which were working for the Germans have been rendered useless after the damage inflicted by theG.A.P. to the electric installations, also at SESTRI LEVANTE and TRIGOSA.
(P.W.B. Rome 20.8.44).

CHERELE An enemy convoy was drawn into an ambush near CHERELE. During the encounter which lasted two hours, the Germans lost 7 big motor vehicles. A Nazi Major was killed. The patriots also made 59 prisoners, 14 of which belonged to the TODT organisation.
ASIAGO Enemy troops fell into an ambush near Asiago, losing, between dead and wounded 59 men, many arms and a great quantity of ammunition. Only one patriot was killed and five were wounded
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FOSSANO Thirty men from the Garibaldi Brigade carried off from Fossano powder factory 15 quintals of explosives, and subsequently used it to blow up the prison gates and liberate 75 political

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TURIN Life in TURIN depends on the partisans, as even Stampa is forced to admit. The newspaper complains that the city's entire electricity supply is controlled by patriots who have seized all the power plants and are able to deliver or cut off power as they like. Thus the large factories in Turin working for the Wehrmacht have stopped work. Stampe furtner accuses partisans of hindering Piedmontese farmers from delivering cattle and cereals and admits that the Germans are unable to take anything because of the partisans who control the countryside around the city.
(Arbeiter Zeitung, Basle 18.8.44).

MILAN In spite of advanced curfew hours in MILAN, owing to recent disturbances, two members of the Black Brigades have been shot by cyclists, who escaped. Other cyclists seriously wounded a marine. According to Fascist reports a pitched battle south of PAVIA cost the partisans 15 dead. German SS detachments arrived for the first time in VALSOLDA and the frontier region north of LAKE LUGANO, where the maquis has been established for a long time. Numerous arrests have been made and several executions are reported.
(Tribune de Geneve 12.8.44).

PISTOIA Behind the German ranks in the neighbourhood of PISTOIA, big patriot units, with the help of the Allied aviation, have given open battle to the enemy, inflicting notable losses of both men and means. The activity of the patriots has upset all the German communications and the supplies from the north to the front lines.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

BRESCIA Mussolini's ex-private secretary OSVALDO SEBASTIANI, who became the President of the Corte dei Conti Republicani, has been captured by the patriots at PASSIRANO; in the province of BRESCIA. After a brief trial he was executed.
(P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44.)

RAVENNA, FORLI and BOLOGNA The patriots who were operating in the RAVENNA zone, FORLI and BOLOGNA, in a month of activity have inflicted serious damage on the enemy. They have blown up 5 bridges, interrupted 16 railway lines, destroyed 4 armoured cars, and 43 other motor vehicles, damaged 60 other motor vehicles, burnt two trains loaded with paraffin, destroyed an electric station and damaged seven others, killed 212 German soldiers and 10 Fascist militia, disarmed 165 Fascists, captured 15 machine guns, 279 rifles, 16 quintals of ammunition, 53 revolvers and hand grenades.
(P.W.B. Rome 21.8.44).

Italo-Yugoslav Co-operation. A new agreement has been reached between the Italian Committee of National Liberation and the Yugoslav Liberation Committee, which provides for the publication of a joint newspaper for mixed brigades etc. On the frontier zone a single Committee has been formed from Italian and Yugoslav partisans.
(Suisse 18.8.44).

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(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 13.8.44).

Reprisals.

LAKE MAGGIORE According to well-informed sources at FONDOTOCE on Lake Maggiore ten days ago the GNR shot 42 people, including one woman, accused of having sheltered partisans. The bodies were buried in a field. For the same reason a whole family was condemned to death at the end of July. The control along the 3 km frontier strip has been tightened: all persons found beyond a fixed line are now shot without trial.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 9.8.44).

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No pardon is given to partisans taken prisoner by the German army. They are shot without exception, and even hostages in a concentration camp must often expiate their sympathy with the partisans in the same way. Owing to the shortage of men, the German Army's punitive expeditions to the mountain valleys are now rather unsuccessful. As soon as a punitive expedition has left the area, partisans re-occupy the position.
(News Digest 15.8.44).

The Fascist campaign against the partisans has now been launched in the SOLDA and CAVARGNA valleys between the eastern arm of LAKE LUGANO and the Swiss TICINO and GRISON frontiers. German SS are being employed. Several villages are already occupied , and numerous executions have been carried out. Partisans have withdrawn to the higher valleys. Further south Fascists try to prevent partisans approaching the Swiss frontier by felling the woods along the border. This measure is still in its initial stage.
(Gazette de Lausanne 15.8.44).

NOVARA A decree was issued on July 18th by BARBERA, Prefect of Novara under the heading "Reprisals for acts of brigandage". The following instructions were given - for "the maintenance of public order".

1. Firstly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic killed by the bandits, three members, chosen from the lists already compiled, of families of deserters, defaulters or maquis elements in the region in which the crime occurred will be immediately executed.

2. Secondly for every Republican Fascist or member of the Armed Forces of the Republic abducted by partisans, five of the aforesaid relatives will be seized as hostages.

3. Thirdly, for every act of plunder, sabotage of destruction perpetrated to the detriment of the Fascists or members of the Armed Republican Forces, the property and goods of the above-mentioned will be confiscated.

4. Fourthly, for every act proved under any of these categories the population of the Commune or region where the crime was committed will, failing information being received or assistance given within 24 hours, leading to the aprehension of the culprits, be liable to a fine, varying from 100,000 lire to one million lire, according to the gravity of the offence.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 14.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

Transocean, reporting from VENICE on 13.8.44, declares "Police

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Transocean, reporting from VENICE on 13.8.44, declares "Police investigation of the bomb outrage at the Palazzo Giustiniani, HQ of of the GNR, led to the discovery of a central organisation which directed several groups of partisans and saboteurs. Among those arrested are members of Venice society. The number of people killed in the outrage has now risen to 13.

Nothwithstanding the recent mopping up operations carried out by Fascists, partisan bands gather throughout the VALTELLINA, one of their tasks being the hindering of the destruction of the dykes, and electrical power houses serving MILAN and the vast surrounding region.
(Popolo e Liberta 17.8.44).

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III. Allied Recognition of Partisans.

At the first meeting in Rome, the Allied Commission of Control has given ample recognition to the war contribution of the patriots and the Italian Navy against the common enemy.

Colonel Shipp has declared that, particularly in the battle for the liberation of Florence, the Tuscan patriots have given proof of great courage and have proved themselves of great help to the Allies. Rear Admiral Morgan expressed high praise for the proofs furnished by all the Italian Navy since her participation in the war at the side of the United Nations. He also said that he had proposed an officer of the Italian Navy for one of the highest British awards of valour.
(P.W.B. Rome 23.8.44).

At the side of the Polish troops and under the command of the 8th Army the C.I.L. has taken part in numerous actions on the Adriatic sector. From the hard and victorious battle for the liberation of the Filottrano, to the forcing of the river Musone, from the part taken in the battle for Ancona to the occupation of Jesi.

The fight for FILOTTRANO, in which the NEMBC took part, was the most violent of the last operations of the C.I.L, which gained on this occasion fresh praise from General Sir Oliver Leese. He sent the following message to General UTILI. "My very best congratulations to you and your troops for the success of the conquest of FILOTTRANO after hard fighting -"
(P.W.B. Rome 24.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Organisation.

G.N.R. The Gazetta Ufficiale publishes the following Decree of the Duce:

Article 1. The GNR becomes part of the first fighting arm of the National Republican Army. Its present police tasks will cease from December 31st 1944.
(Italian Home Service 14.8.44).

For reasons that are strictly personal General RICCI has asked to be relieved of the Command of the GNR and his request has been granted. The Duce has expressed his gratitude to him for his work during the first phase of the organisation of this armed formation, and has confirmed him in his office as president of the ONB. From today (20.8.44) the Duce himself has temporarily taken over command of the guard and has issued instructions to officers of the GNR which, in accordance with the law, ranks as the first fighting service of the National Republican Army.
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V. Recruitment.

As from September 1st, voluntary enrolment in the Air Force AA will be re-opened. All Italian citizens between the ages of 17 and 50 are eligible for enrolment.
(Italian Home Service 20.8.44).

The recruiting centre for the second instructional course of the Women's Auxiliary Service for the 10th MAS Flotilla will open in VENICE between August 20th and 30th. All women between 16 and 35 will thus be able, if suitable and physically fit, to join the glorious 10th Flotilla. (Italian Home Service 19.8.44). 3062

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A special recruiting campaign for the 9th Assault Detachment has been inaugurated. Recruits, who must belong to the 1927-1909 classes inclusive, are to report to the recruiting centre for Bersaglieri volunteers in SAVONA.
(Sera Milan 7.8.44)

A large number of the 8,000 soldiers belonging to the "Monte Rosa" Division vanished in transit from the BRENNER to MILAN.
(Tribune de Geneve 11.8.44).

The Italian Armed Forces have followed the German example by establishing Propaganda Companies, whose members, both officers and men, report for the Italian press and radio and take photographs and films. Their first reports, just published in the newspapers, describe the journey of Italian divisions to the front. Italian war reporters were formerly employed by publishing houses on a private salary basis. Most of them wore Party uniforms and did their journalistic work without actually taking part in operations.
(Transocean 13.8.44).

It is announced that the "Corpo di Guardia di Finanza" will be disbanded on August 15th. Officers and men will be given the choice of enlisting in the GNR or of being deported to Germany.
(Popolo e Liberta 11.8.44).

Deportation of Disobedient Officers According to a reliable source, 2000 Italian Customns Officers who refused to obey the recently issued order either to join the Militia or enrol for labour service were deported to Germany. Half their number, however, succeeded in escaping and joined the partisans.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 16.8.44).

VI. Black Brigades in Action.

All the directors of the Federations take turns in commanding the Black Brigades. Amongst the numerous brigades which went into action during the last few days, are the 31st Brigade of GENOA and the 7th Brigade of VERCELLI.

On the 9th of August, the 1st Black Brigade "Ricciarelli" captured several partisan bandits, among whom was the son of General PAGLIERI. The bandits were shot. One company of the same brigade captured three rebels on August 21st.

The 7th Vercelli Brigade captured a group of deserters, who did not answer the call to arms. It then carried out a mopping-up operation, organising reprisals against the murderers of a Fascist.

The 6th Novara Brigade, on the 11th of August, engaged rebel forces near BRIANA. In the course of the fighting, three rebels were

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A member of the 18th PADUA Black Brigade, on the 17th of August attacked a truck carrying ten armed bandits. The outlaws fled, but two were captured by the Fascists, together with the truck. On the 18th August, a patrol encountered the well-known rebel GALVANI. When ordered to stop, Galvani fled. The patrol opened fire, wounding Galvani, who later died in hospital.

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On the 18th of August, members of the 22nd VICENZA Black Brigade carried out mopping-up operations in the village of NALO. The village was at first encircled with the cOoperation of the National Republican Guard. Then began the mopping-up operations in the village houses. Fifteen men were arrested to account for themselves, and eight hostages were taken. On the 9th of August the 22nd RAVENNA Black Brigade shot five anti-Fascists, responsible for the murder of the Fascist GUSTAVO SOLDOLI.
(P.W.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

GERMANS

VII. Security Measures.

Martial law has been imposed on the following towns: BOLOGNA, FERRARA, FORLI, MODENA, PARMA, PIACENZA, RAVENNA, and REGGIO DI EMILIA. Kesselring announces that all acts of sabotage will be repressed with the greatest severity. Families of men who have passed over to the resistance movement will be executed.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 13.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that in the Italian TICINO valley the Germans have blown up bridges in order to control the region. Only some bridges were spared.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

After the bombardment of SPEZIA the Germans during the Spring and early Summer of this year removed large quantities of material from the naval dockyards at SPEZIA to various places in the CARRARA area for safe keeping; this material consisted chiefly of copper, nickel, tin, rubber and electric cables. Since then all these materials have been sent away by train to Germany.
(8th Army Report 13.8.44).

The village of MASLIANICO, three km north of PONTE CHIASSO, was evacuated on the afternoon of August 17th on the order of the Wehrmacht. The village is one km from the Swiss village of VACALLO. From Swiss territory a large number of the inhabitants could be observed leaving with suitcases. This exodus caused great distress in the region. The evacuees will be deported to Germany, a measure taken in accordance with the decision made for the occupation of the three km frontier strip by the German and Fascist Armed Forces.
(Gazette de Lausanne 15.8.44).

TheGerman authorities have forbidden the use of electric current by the civil population in the operation zone, in a strip of about 120-130 km from the front.
(Italian Official Source 21.8.44).

VIII. Behaviour.

The Nazis and Fascists use the following system in order to discover whether the inhabitants of a district are in favour of the

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(News Digest 21.8.44).

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"Not only do they plunder the peasants' cottages, stealing or burning or smashing whatever they find, but moreover they kill all the men they find. Yesterday for example they killed near here (Volpaia) fully 150 people and burned them after killing them.

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Among these were three priests, engineers, old men and children.
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

"Squilla Italica" reports that the German Command in northern Italy has ordered the requisition of bicycles, radios and sewing machines.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

IX.
Germans V. Mussolini- Industrialist Arrested.

The German authorities are reported to have arrested in BRESCIA BERRETTA, an important industrialist and owner of machine-gun factory working for the German Army, and also his son. The main charge against them was that they had delivered 1,000 rifles to the Republican Army on Mussolini's personal order. The son, who is an eminent engineer, was deported to Germany.
(Gazette de Lausanne 18.8.44).

X. Propaganda.

An appendix to a communique of the O.K.W. of the 19th June 1944, captured in Italy shows what German troops in Italy are told by their officers concerning the use of V-1. It begins:

"As we learn from London through neutral reports, the English Prime Minister has appointed a special commission, composed of technicians, engineers and chemists, whose task it will be to find ways and means effectively to counter the new German explosive-weapons.

In the meantime, the attack on the English capital, after three times 24 hours, continues without a pause. According to reports from a Swedish newspaper, work in the large factories in the London area is at a complete standstill"..... "Robot, the mechanical man, is what Reuter calls the weapon whose effects the English island, to start with, is now beginning to feel and the employment of which caused Parliament to be convened at once.".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

XI. Atrocities.

CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI Following the killing of two Nazi soldiers the Nazis erected 17 gallows in PREMARIACCO, seven in ORSARIA, both hamlets near CIVIDALE DEL FRIULE, hanging 24 political prisoners from the region whom they had informed that they were going to work in Germany. The population was forced to watch the execrable spectacle.
(Libera Stampa 12.8.44).

OVINDOLI (AQUILA) The German troops burnt alive two Indian prisoners who had escaped. In spite of petitions by the parson and the mayor the German Command did not even allow their identities to be ascertained.
(Civil Censorship Summary 3.8.44).

GUARDISTALLO (LIVORNO)) The Germans shot 71 innocent people in cold blood before they left.

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In the meantime, the attack on the English capital, after three times 24 hours, continues without a pause. According to reports from a Swedish newspaper, work in the large factories in the London area is at a complete standstill"..... "Robot, the mechanical man, is what Reuter calls the weapon whose effects the English island, to start with, is now beginning to feel and the employment of which caused Parliament to be convened at once.".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 24.8.44).

XI. Atrocities.

CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI Following the killing of two Nazi soldiers the Nazis efected 17 gallows in PREMARIACCO, seven in ORSARIA, both hamlets near CIVIDALE DEL FRIULE, hanging 24 political prisoners from the region whom they had informed that they were going to work in Germany. The population was forced to watch the execrable spectacle.
(Libera Stampa 12.8.44).

OVINDOLI (AQUILA) The German troops burnt alive two Indian prisoners who had escaped. In spite of petitions by the parson and the Mayor the German Command did not even allow their identities to be ascertained.
(Civil Censorship Summary 3.8.44).

GUARDISTALLO (LIVORNO)) The Germans shot 71 innocent people in cold blood before they left.
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

FLORENCE "Many poor little children had their tiny little hands cut off by the retreating Nazis. This is no exageration but a cruel truth, not to mention other heart-breaking crimes".
(Civil Censorship Summary 17.8.44).

CICALAIA LARI(PISA) At S. MINIATO they availed themselves of the Bishop's authority, and had all the population gathered in the Chiesa Maggiore; when it was full of innocent people they locked the doors and

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set the mines to work. The result was : 60 dead and 300 wounded!"
(Civil Censorship Extract. 16.8.44).

POLITICS

XII. Friction between anti-Fascist parties in north

Constant friction appears to exist between the two most important parties in northern Italy: Communist and Azione. The Partito d'Azione is very strong in LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT; it has the support of several regular officers, who are very much disliked by the Communists. It is said that while the main task of the Communists is to fight the Germans and Fascists the Partito d'Azione does not cooperate and is more keen to deal with politics, thus hampering the resistance movement.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 12.8.44).

XIII. Special Commissioners for threatened zones.

The Duce, in view of the growing difficulties of liaison between central and provincial offices, and in consideration of the particular nature of certain territories of the Social Republic that have become zones of operations or are in the immediate rear of the front, has set up two Special Commissions, one for EMILIA and ROMAGNA, and the other for LIGURIA. The Commissioners are entrusted with all tasks of government connected with measures which must be taken immediately for the sake of the populations. They are: Dr. Armando ROSSI for EMILIA and ROMAGNA and Dr. LUIGI SANGERMANO for LIGURIA.
(Italian Home Service 15.8.44).

XIV. Parini re-enters the Foreign Office.

The Head of MILAN Province, Dr. PIERO PARINI, has asked to be relieved of his office and to reassume his grade and relative functions in the Foreign Office. His wish has been complied with and Dr. Mario BASSI, at present Head of VARESE Province, has been appointed Head of the Province of MILAN in his stead.
(Italian Home Service 18.8.44).

XV. Evacuation of Government Offices.

The Fascist Ministries and Government offices which have hitherto been quartered in the cities and spas of northern Italy between VENICE and BRESCIA will now be moved further to the west. Some of these offices will be moved to BERGAMO and localities in the provinces of MILAN and COMO. Several offices of the Ministry of War Economy will in future be situated in MILAN. Offices specially interested in maintaining contact with the German Embassy, particularly the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will at present hardly leave the Lake GARDA region. Those diplomatic representatives with the Fascist Government, however, who have been conducting their affairs from

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 19.8.44).

XVI. Deportation of Jews to Germany.

It is reported that arrests and deportations of Jews are still continuing, and they are trying vainly to evade these measures. The apprehended persons, regardless of age or sex, are sent to Germany and from there to an unknown destination. During the past few days 600 Jews left FOSSOLI concentration Camp. (Agence Tel. Suisse 12.8.44)

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XVII. Appointments.

AOSTA. Mario CAVALERO has been appointed Prefect Commissioner of Aosta. The post of "Podesta" is thereby cancelled.
(P.W.B. Radio Monitoring 27.8.44).

ROVIGO The former prefect of AREZZO, Dr. Melchiorre MELCHIORRI, has entered upon his duties as prefect of Rovigo.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 31.7.44).

ALESSANDRIA, REGGIO EMILIA, TREVISO The Party Secretary has appointed the following Federal Commissioners: Pietro SAU to Alessandria, Mario VIZZI to Reggio Emilia; Francesco BAYER to Treviso.
(Italian Home Service 16.8.44).

CUNEO The Secretary of the Fascist Republican Party today appointed Comrade Secondo RONZA Federal Commissioner for Cuneo.
(Italian Home Service 17.8.44)

PADUA At a Government building in PADUA, the Prefect PRIMO FUMEI, appointed to the Foreign Ministry, installed his successor FEDERICO MENNA, former Prefect of Rovigo in office.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 5.8.44).

NOVARA. Enrico VEZZALINI has been nominated Head of the Province of Novara in place of GASPARE BARBERA who has been called to other duties.
(Corriere della Sera Milan 9.8.44).

TURIN Ingeniere Lorenzo TEALDY and Squadrista Carlo POLLONE, lawyer have been nominated Vice-Federal Commissioners for TURIN.
(Italian Home Service 12.8.44).

ECONOMICS

XVIII. Food Situation.

Italian early potato supplies are abundant, and the demand is not particularly great. The price is about 12 lire a kg. As the time approaches when the winter crop will be lifted the situation in the potato market becomes less stable. While the Government did not fix a maximum price for early potatoes, growers of winter potatoes are prohibited from charging over 140 lire per quintal. As growers are able to obtain 600 lire or more, it is doubtful how the Government will enforce the above price. Prospects for the crop are good, but dry weather is now necessary.
(Marktbericht des Reichsnahrstandes 3.8.44).

Milan Milk Shortage. The food situation, especially as regards essentials is becoming particularly acute in the big urban centres. In MILAN, there is a scarcity of milk. Pomeriggio discusses the alarming situation.
(Deutsche Bolligone 14.8.44).

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(Dovere Bellinzona, 14.8.44).
Sera complains that while many parents are unable to obtain milk for their children, cafes and bars sell ice cream at black market prices.

TURIN Stampa points out that lately the quality of bread has greatly detericrated and explains that large quantities of rye flour are used; the newspaper also complains that many bakers sift flour and sell white bread on the black market.
(15.8.44)

A decree in course of preparation permits, in addition to the production, the free sale of salt produced by private individuals

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with plants having a producing capacity not exceeding ten quintals per month.
(Italian Home Service 11.8.44).

XIX. Finance.

It is officially announced that from August 15th Bank Interests will be generally reduced. The interest rate of the Banca d'Italia as well as the discount rate, has been 4.5% since May 1936, while private credit concerns, including publicly owned banks charged 7.5% for loans.
(DNB 14.8.44)

In FIUME the police put an end to a flourishing illicit traffic in gold coins, arresting a dozen persons and confiscating coins amounting to 1,000,000 lire.
(Europa Press 10.8.44)

TRIESTE The first newspaper boys to issue their own money are doing a thriving business in this town. But they are not the only ones. The great shortage of small change in Italy has induced many businesses to issue their own additional currency. Street car companies have issued little bits of tin stamped with the value and the name of the company. Some shops have adopted bits of cardboard which they will accept in payment for future purchases. New and old postage stamps are also being used, but these have proved of little use owing to their stickiness when moist. Newspaper boys hand out their own money in exchange for legal currency and are willing to take it back again in payment for the next day's newspaper.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

XX. Air Raid Damage.

VENICE Thousands and thousands of Italian fugitives from Allied bombs are camping on the numerous small islands in the lagoons north and south of VENICE. It is as if history is repeating itself. Venice was built by people who escaped to the impassable lagoons from the horrors of the war. Living conditions are extremely primitive on the islands. The supply question is most difficult, but the fugitives are glad to have found this refuge, primitive as it is.
(Transocean 19.8.44).

RIMINI Rimini has been bombed and the front line towards the sea has been evacuated. At RICCIONE, air-raid alerts are being sounded pretty often; part of the town must be evacuated.
(Censorship Intercept 9.11.43).

RASSINA Bad news from Rassina - The cement factory was blown up owing to war reasons. The town has suffered heavy damage (28.7.44)
(Civil Censorship Intercept).

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FIGLINE As I write, the factories are being blown up. 26.7.44
(Civil Censorship Intercept 16.8.44).

LABOUR

XXI. Forced Labour.

The Junkers aircraft factories publish advertisements in the Fascist press announcing further facilities for workers going to Germany, besides the previously stated 5,000 lire bonus and family allowances, namely: the possibility of workers' families being able to accompany workers to Germany, declaring that such an opportunity would hardly be available in the future.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 11.8.44).

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In order to procure men and women for Germany, razzias are carried out on Sundays after Mass. These razzias were started in the villages. Trucks arrived in front of the churches when the faithful were about to come out. All able-bodied men up to 60 years old and the strongest women were arrested and loaded on to the trucks. Razzias are reported from the VALTELLINA and from VAL S[illegible]SSINA. Several priests who attempted to interfere, were arrested.
(Popolo e Liberta, Bellinzona 11.8.44).

XXII. Conditions of work in Germany.

The following letter was written from a woman worker in Germany to her mother in Italy: "I have been feverish for the last fortnight, but they make me work 12 hours a day all the same. I am earning 12 to 14 RM a day, but my food costs me six RM a day and then they only give me enough bread and jam for a child. Don't have any illusions about my sending you money and don't expect any. I could earn more, but my self-respect matters to me. You have no idea of the work I have to do. I can't describe it. My hands are unrecognisable.... If you know any people leaving for Germany, tell them to throw themselves under the train rather than come here. I am only allowed to write once a month and I have got to say I am well. I have been taken in by the Germans. I thought that, going as a volunteer, I should be given better , more humane, more civilised treatment, according to the promises they made me before I left. At the age of 18 I have unwittingly found death at the hands of barbarians".
(Libera Stampa Lugano 14.8.44).

XXIII. Strikes.

MILAN It is reported that the MILAN situation is most critical Further hostages were shot after fresh sabotage. New strikes have broken out and the Germans have intensified the deportation of workers to Germany.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 15.8.44).

BRESCIA Brescia workers were on strike from July 24th to July 29th. The strike is reported to be in protest against insufficient salaries, but was really in order to sabotage production.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 11.8.44).

CHURCH

XXIV. Pro-Allied Clergy Attacks.

Crociata Italica draws the attention of the Fascist authorities to the fact that in some churches in the MILAN archdiocese at every decade of the Rosary after the doxology, the following ejaculation is always uttered "Deliver us Lord from the sword of the German". The newspaper adds that it

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The same newspaper requests the Fascist authorities to intervene against the decision of the LOMBARDY Episcopates, by which priests cooperating with the newspaper Crociata Italica are threatened with suspension.
(Dovere Bellinzona 11.8.44).

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XXV. Fascists of Ferrara.

Head of the Province VEZZALINI, responsible for the killing of 11 citizens (hostages) following the execution of Federale GHISELLINI by the patriots in November 43.

Ing. Girolamo SAVONUZZI
Avv. [illegible]ZI
Avv. ZANATTA
Avv. TEGLI
Sost. Proc. del Re Pasquale COLAGRANDE
Rag. TORBOLI
HANAU - father and son

ROSSI
MIRANDOLA, young son of the best tailor in the city
MELCHIORRI, a florist who has a shop in Corso Roma
ALBERTO VERDI, Mayor of Ferrara
Console GIULIO DIVISO, head of the O.V.R.A. (local branch)
Avv. Count RONCHI
Signore CASAI TUMIATI (O.V.R.A.)
DEL FANTE (O.V.R.A.)
The brothers LUBERGNANI.

(G.B. P.W.B. Rome 22.8.44).

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To: Public Safety

PWR

23rd August, 1944.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ).

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans Information is beginning to reach us about the organisation and activities of patriot bands in the Appennine zone north of the Arno. A "Corps" of about 6000 men with H.Q at MONTEFIORINO controls an area between MODENA and MASSA-CARRARA. This corps is in touch with bands in the GARFAGNANA, organised by a British officer, and on the other flank with the bands in the PARMA district. The first two groups are well armed as they have received many weapons and much ammunition from the Allies.

In northern Italy a veritable civil war is raging between partisans and "Black Brigades", supported by German punitive expeditions. It seems that in spite of losses, and savage German reprisals on defenceless villages, the Patriots on the whole appear to be holding their own and inflicitng heavy casualties. Close contact seems to have been established with the French Maquis.

Sabotage Reports up to the end of July indicate that sabotage is widespread. Briges and trains appear to be the chief objectives.

Assassinations The removal of Fascists is proceeding steadily. The principal victims this week are GIOVANNI TULLO, former Mayor of TALMASSON, and the industrialist PEGHETTI of MILANO.

FASCIST FORCES

The S.MARCO Division was last reported in ALESSANDRIA, and elements of the BERSAGLIERE "ITALI" Division were observed in PAVIA It is said that towards the end of June two Italian Divisions coming from Germany killed their officers and dispersed, a great part joining the patriots. It is not yet known to which of the new Italian divisions this report refers, but one is believed to be operating in PIEDMONT on the side of the patriots, and the other in the VAL CAMONICA, VAL TROMPIA and SABBIA valley.

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Desertions Up to 24th July desertions from the Fascist Army and police to the patriots are estimated at 1,245 officers and N.C.Os and 3768 other ranks.

A Milanese source reports that Fascist soldiers recently arrived in MILAN thought they were destined for the ANZIO front. When they heard that the front was now at FLORENCE, about 25% deserted.

GERMANS

Behaviour From the north it is reported that the behaviour of the occupying troops, hitherto correct, is becoming more undisciplined. In COMO officers are said to be letting themselves go in the matter of food and drink.

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SUMMARY 2.

Atrocities The sorry tale of reprisals continues. The latest incidents come from CUMANIA, VAL SESIA, CRISPINI, TRIESTE (where in April 100 hostages were shot and 51 hanged for 2 bomb incidents), CALUSO (AOSTA Province) CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI, MELETO, S.MARTINO (VALDARNO). In the M. SACIARI area two wounded partisans had their eyes put out and were finished off with knives.

In AREZZO province from 17th June to 3rd July 224 persons were massacred in various localities.

At TANCIA near M. S. GIOVANNI, it is said that even children of two years of age were killed, being stood on chairs as they were not tall enough for the height of the Machine Gun fire.

POLITICS

A press polemic is raging between GIOVANNI PREZIOSI, High Commissioner for racial questions in the Corriere della Sera and FARINACCI, in Regima Fascista. PAVOLINI was forced to intervene.

PAVOLINI, the Secretary of the Party, was himself wounded recently in a clash with the partisans.

Political tendencies. The VALDARNO The prevailing tendency in the industrial zone is Communist. The peasants are indifferent.

TRIESTE While the whole city is violently anti-German, the active propgganda is carried on by Slav refugees and is Communist. Trieste has been annexed by the Germans and the Fascist Party has no voice there. In fact, on 20th September the notorious squadrista SALERNO, appointed Prefect of Trieste, was expelled by the German SS in 12 hours.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The situation in N. Italy is deteriorating rapidly, as the peasants, for fear of the Germans removing their grain, are refusing to thresh their wheat.. The situation in TRIESTE is very bad, as the city is entirely dependent on the hinterland and the Germans systematically export all they can to Germany or to German troops in Italy.

Fuel and Power. Electric power in TURIN has again been reduced.

Transport The situation is quite chaotic. Petrol stocks are almost exhausted owing to air raids and tyre shortage is likely to cause the cessation of motor transport. The railway system has almost entirely

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Political tendencies. The VALDARNO The prevailing tendency in the industrial zone is Communist. The peasants are indifferent.

TRIESTE While the whole city is violently anti-German, the active propaganda is carried on by Slav refugees and is Communist. Trieste has been annexed by the Germans and the Fascist Party has no voice there. In fact, on 20th September the notorious squadrista SALERNO, appointed Prefect of Trieste, was expelled by the German SS in 12 hours.

ECONOMICS

Food Situation The situation in N. Italy is deteriorating rapidly, as the peasants, for fear of the Germans removing their grain, are refusing to thresh their wheat.. The situation in TRIESTE is very bad, as the city is entirely dependent on the hinterland and the Germans systematically export all they can to Germany or to German troops in Italy.

Fuel and Power. Electric power in TURIN has again been reduced.

Transport The situation is quite chaotic. Petrol stocks are almost exhausted owing to air raids and tyre shortage is likely to cause the cessation of motor transport. The railway system has almost entirely broken down.

Finance Inflation grows daily. The Gazzetta del Popolo estimates the public Debt at 600 milliard lire. Certain MILAN banks are refusing to pay cheques issued in VENETO and LIGURIA

Industry. More factories are reported to have had their machinery removed to Germany.

LABOUR

Hitler and Mussolini have recently agreed to put all Italians interned in Germany at Himmler's and Goebel's disposal for forced labour. Although many Italians are seized for labour in Germany, most succeed in escaping en route and few reach their destination.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 23rd August, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 21.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye-witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Further information has recently been received on partisan bands in the neighbourhood of the Gothic line from two Italian naval officers who crossed the line shortly before July 31st.

The most important and best organised band has its HQ at MONTEFIORINO and is organised as a "Corps" covering the area SAN MARTINO-PIAN DELAGOTTI-PASSO DELLE RADICI-PASSO DELLE FORBICI-MONTE GIOVARELLO-MONTE SCALOREDOLO-high ground between CEREDOLO and MONTE SANTA GIULIA.

Patrols from the "Corps" cover the surrounding areas reaching by day and by night, the latter in particular, to a distance of 25-30 Kms from the above line. Other bands occupy the area of SESTOLA and FANANO in the MODENA area. The patrols operating in the area of REGGIO are in contact with the bands in the PARMA area. The "Corps" has a strength of about 6,500 men, of which 1,000 are at present without arms.

These bands were confining their attention to the garrison of the above mentioned areas and to raids on the GIARDINI DEL CERRETO road, attacking the Germans on the march. There were also occasional raids on the EMILIA road

Results obtained through the destruction of bridges included the interruption of transport on the GIARDINI road and of motor convoys for about one week on the CERRETO road. During June about 15 bridges were destroyed on the secondary and main roads. The German telephone line between MODENA and BOLOGNA has been cut.

The electric power stations at LIGONCHIO, FARNETA, PIETRAVOLTA, GAZZANA and STARTARA were in the hands of the partisans who limited productivity to the needs of the civilian population.

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Around BISENZIO bands of partisans were forming, already equipped with enough explosive to blow up the road parallel to BISENZIO and to the main railway line (direttissima) FLORENCE-BOLOGNA (a road carrying a great deal of German military traffic). The carrying out of such an operation would be made possible by dropping arms in the area sufficient to enable the partisans to block the road, which is closely guarded, for the time neeessary to destroy it.

The two Italian officers interrogated gave the following list of partisan bands whom they had encountered on their route:

APPELLA (TAVERNELLE) about 50 men armed with Tommy guns, Italian

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hand grenades, pistols, 2 L.M.Gs and 1 Hvy M.G. They had sent away many volunteers through not having arms for them.

RIGOSO About 150 men, fairly well armed. As was generally the case this band could have increased its personnel if it had the means of of arming them. It lacked also medical supplies and money.

MONTE TONDO DI GARFAGNANA A band commanded by a British Major J from the Commandos, dropped by parachute together with a British W/T operator and five Italian Officer Specialists. It is amongst the best organised and equipped as regards arms and means of communications. It was not yet in contact with the more distant band in the same zone. Sources established contact for it with the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO. So far it has only about 85 men.

CAPANNE (GARFAGNA) A band of about 50 men, adequately armed. In touch with Major J for receiving parachute supplies.

CORTE A band of about 30 men armed with British automatic weapons. In touch with Major J.

Area surrounding CIVAGO Bands in this area are under command of the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO.

OSPITALE (beyond the GIARDINI road and out of the area of the "Corps" at MONTEFIORINO.) A point of contact between the mobile forces of the "Corps" and the roving bands depending on partisan commands in TUSCANY Generally these were about 30 strong. The bands in TUSCANY generally had a better armament than those in the area of MODENA or LIGURIA, having receive d supplies more regularly by parachute; while their means of obtaining food were worse.

L'ALPE TRE POTENZE A well-armed band (about 250 men) with many Russians and some English who had escaped from prison camps, together with two wireless operators.

MANDROMINI A band of about 40 men, adequately armed. With them was an Italian woreless operator, without radio, lost during descent.

PORTAFRANCE (Near ORSIGNA) A well-armed band of about 30 men. In contact with MANDROMINI and the bands of TUSCANY.

DONNA MORTA (Near ORSIGNA) Well armed band of about 30. In contact with MANDROMINI and bands in TUSCANY.

ORSIGNA Occupied by the "Buozzi Brigade" under the MONTEFIORINI "Corps" H.Q., who were carrying out raids about 15 July 44 on the PORRETTANA road and in the area of PRACCHIA.

MACEGLIA Well armed band of about 35 in contact with MANDROMINI and L'ALPE TRE POTENZE.

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Supplies for these bands by parachute were generally received fairly regularly even though often, after being warned by radio and with good weather conditions, nothing is dropped. In one area peasants nearby reproduced the flares and received the supplies instead. Source recommended frequent changes of layout flares to avoid this. Radio sets were frequently received disassembled without technical personnel or instructions.
(G.2 Advanced Intelligence 13.8.44).

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Another source gave information about the partisan bands in the CARRARA area.

In the zone MASSAROSA-CARRARA and APUAN Alps immediately behind there is a well organised band which is well armed and kept supplied by regular parachute drops; it consists of about 50 men who all come from the district. It was formed in May, and the leader of the band is W/O Domenico AZZARI, aged 23/24 an ex ardite who has plentiful supplies of money, but who is probably rather an adventurer. The band was considered by source to have a strong communist tendency.

In the MONTE SOGNO-TAMBARA-PISANINO zone there is a band of about 300 mixed refugees. They are reported to have occupied the town of FORNO on the day of the allied landing in France. After this attack two Pls of the M.S Flotilla from SPEZIA and some Germans in three trucks came to FORNO and assassinated 62 men and women in the village, who were taken at random from their houses as a reprisal for the action of the band. Among the victims were the Maresciallo and the Appuntato of the Carabinieri.
(P.W.B. Advanced 8.8.44).

TRIESTE

The patriots are active in the whole province, and organisation is very good. TRIESTE is the centre of organisation for UDINE, GORIZIA, CIVIDALE DEL FRIULI, MONFALCONE. There is strict collaboration too with partisan forces of MONTE GRAPPA and with the DIVISIONE ALPINA JULIA.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M.)

BREUIL

A French civilian source who crossed the lines on July 22nd stated that the highway connecting BREUIL with CHATILLON is entirely under the control of Italian partisans. Large contingents of partisans who are operating under the command of an Italian army captain, are concentrated in this region. They largely outnumber German garrisons in this sector. Despite a lack of weapons, equipment and ammunition the partisans supposedly have the situation well in hand, due (1) to their numerical superiority, and (2) to the fact that most WEHRMACHT troops garrisoned in this region are CZECHS, who, to a certain extent, co-operate with the partisans. The German garrison of BERUIL is a detachment of 10 men only, who maintain a daily courier service with their unit at CHATILLON. The partisans, it is claimed, have made an agreement with the Germans in this sector, which permits them to control the courier service on highway BREUIL-CHATILLON. According to this agreement no armed German or Fascist military personnel is allowed to travel on this highway. Partisan strong point on Highway BREUIL-CHATILLON is VALTOURNANCHE. Source states that the partisans intend to occupy

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(G2 Fifth Army Report No 698. 26.7.44).
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The "Gruppi Gappi" and"Squadre d'Azione".

Partisan activity in the city of FLORENCE was carried on by the "Gruppi Gappi" and the "Squadre d'Azione". The former were small detachments of trained men, including Carabinieri, who did the more dangerous work of dispatching Fascists or carrying out sabotage. These groups had been responsible for the deaths of GENTILE, COL. INGARANO, COL. GOBBI, and a colonel in charge of the Istituto Geografico all notorious Fascists and collaborationists with the Germans. On instructions from "Italia Combatte" from Rome they had also killed VOLPINI, who had fled north to Florence after the fall of Rome. Volpini was held responsible for the deaths of ten English people. The "Squadre d'Azione" were groups of young men whose principal task was to help the civilian population by personal service, maintain morale, transport Allied news and information, and act as informants.

The Committee of Liberation considered that the main value of partisan activity in the town had been to deny to the Germans the services of the Republican Fascists. The Fascists were the instruments through whom the Germans exercised control over the civilian population. By shadowing them, and rendering their actions void, or if necessary by dispatching them for good and all, the Germans were deprived of these tools. Partisan activity was not so much directed against the Germans (because of the discrepancy of arms, which made this impossible) as against the Fascist traitors.

The hold-up of the Allies on the CASSINO front greatly reduced partisan activity. The long wait sent people into hiding. Many would have risked taking part in active anti-German operations even with the very limited means at their disposal had the Allied advance been more rapid or at least continuous.
(P.W.B. advanced)

German Precautionary Measures against partisans. In May partisan activity in the area of BERGAMO and north of MILAN was on the increase. A PW was told in May by an Italian engineer of the (destroyed) MACCHI works at VARSI that a number of German troops had been killed by snipers. It was known to PW that certain roads in the above mentioned areas were declared out of bounds to German troops.

In BRESCIA itself a revolt in the town was thought possible and 256 AA Bty worked out firing charts, showing about 100 keypoints in this location, on which fire would be directed in case of an open outbreak.
(SSDIC 8th Army Report 1.8.44).

Anti-Fascist Activities in MILAN An Allied source who escaped from German-occupied Italy after being in MILAN and other districts reports that anti-Fascist activity often took the form of Caricatures of

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Anti-Fascist Activities in MILAN An Allied source who escaped from German-occupied Italy after being in MILAN and other districts, reports that anti-Fascist activity often took the form of Caricatures of Fascist slogans against Allied air-raids. Three examples of this type of propaganda were:

1. Writing upon bombed-out German Headquarters "10 German officers killed in this Kindergarten".

2. After a raid at LAMBRATE, a burnt trainload of aircraft engines was inscribed "English cowards; our war effort is ruined".

3. In the same place, half-destroyed truck-loads of paper for newspapers were inscribed "toilet-paper for Farinacci" and other kindred remarks.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 26.6.44).

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Various partisan activities.

EMILIA The latest National Resistance Communique announces a big battle which is taking place in EMILIA between 6,000 partisans and German forces, superior in number and material. In spite of their inferiority the partisans inflicted considerable losses on the enemy and captured three artillery batteries. After several days' fighting the partisan brigades received orders to withdraw in small groups, taking their captured booty with them. Several bloody clashes with the enemy are reported from the ABETONE district. The insurrectional movement in the LA SPEZIA zone is spreading. In the province of PADUA partisans attacked the 18th Blackshirt Brigade, from which a number of desertions are reported, in spite of German control. COMO partisans challenged the Second Blackshirt Division.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 10.8.44).

MILAN On the morning of August 8th a time bomb exploded on a German army truck in MILAN. Five people, including a woman, were killed and four others died of injuries. Thirteen were wounded by splinters. The Milan Commander of the German Security Police stated in the press that the attack had been carried out by members of the GAP organisation (Gruppi Azione Partigiani), which was composed of ordinary and political criminals. On August 10th in Milan a Fascist Captain was killed and some soldiers were severly wounded. As a reprisal for these two attacks 26 previously arrested GAP members were sentenced to death. Fifteen were shot on August 10. The same fate will be ordered for the others if sabotage reocurs. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 11. 8.44).

VAL DI TARO In the Val Di Taro the operations continue on a vast scale between groups of patriots and Nazi Fascist troops. The Germans have more than 500 men, a considerable amount of war material, means of transport and food reserves. A Nazi Fascist Battalion has been attacked and dispersed in the high valley of the STAFFORA. The enemy has left 200 dead and many wounded.
(P.W.B. Rome 10.8.44).

BEDONIA About 1000 partisans in the BEDONIA region repulsed an energetic mopping/up operation, causing notable losses to the Germans, capturing 88 guns and many machine-guns. Patriots of the Garibaldi Brigade from the provinces of MODENA and REGGIO disarmed garrisons occupying FRASSINORO, TOANO, VILLA MINOZZO, LIGONCHIO, BUSANO, GOLLAGNA, RAMISETO and CEREDOLO. The Fascist replied by attempting strong mopping-up operations, supported by tanks and morters, but were repulsed, losing 90 killed and wounded. The same Garibaldi Brigade also clashed near VILLA with 200 Germans and 300 Fascists who suffered 100 dead and 40 wounded after two days' fighting. The Brigade occupied the MONTEFIORINO locality, arresting 60 Fascists.

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(P.W.B. Rome 10.8.44).

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(Stampa Turin 5.8.44).

MEINA Piedmont partisans have carried out a daring coup de main against the SIMPLON line, interrupting the same in the MEINA region.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

MILAN Squads from groups of the Azione Patriottica are energetically operating right inside Milan, attacking a German motor column on July 11th in the station square. A big German truck was completely destroyed and several Germans were killed and many wounded.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

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PIEDMONT The Italian clandestine newspaper "Il Partigiano Alpino" reports numerous actions carried out by partisans in northern Italy. In PIEDMONT, partisan troops occupied the villages of PONZONE, VALLE MOSSO and (?SESSERA) and, still holding them, are forcing the textile factories in the region to increase workers' salaries. A German detachment was attacked at STAFFARDA and suffered 20 dead and 15 wounded.
(Gazette de Lausanne 9.8.44).

PARMA It is announced from PARMA that 400 German SS stationed in PALANZANO were engaged in mopping-up operations against partisans operating in the Parmesan Apennines.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 8.8.44).

UDINE The Questor of UDINE, together with the principal municipal officials, were arrested by the SS and deported to Germany for not collaborating sufficiently with the occupation authorities. The Gold Medallist and Fascist BARBA, former deputy Mayor of UDINE was imprisoned in the local goal for refusing to collaborate with the fascist authorities. A call-up in Udine of the 1912-1926 classes was ordered by the occupation authorities, but resulted in a farce, as the only person presenting himself was a hunchback.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 9.8.44).

German motor columns were attacked by the patriots near ARTA in the Province of Udine. Three German soldiers were killed, three wounded, many vehicles damaged and destroyed. The same group afterwards attacked another enemy convoy of supplies near ESEMON, near CADORE, capturing five motorised courrier, killing three German soldiers and taking others prisoners.

PASSO DI SAN UBALDO On 20th July a patriot group holding the PASSO DI SAN UBALDO was attacked in force by German soldiers. The Germans were repulsed with 30 dead and 50 wounded while 12 patriots were killed.
(Confidential Source 14.8.44).

VERONA Having heard that a German SS Battalion some distance from TURIN had to transfer to LAKE MAGGIORE, some patriots who work near VERONA blew up a viaduct on the way. The result was that the train which carried the German soldiers fell down the ravine with nearly all the waggons. The enemy losses were 30 dead and 200 wounded. For reprisal the German command sent two battalions of SS into the provinces of BOLZANO and TRENTO, which ravaged the countryside for more than ten days.
(P.W.B. Rome 8.8.44).

II. Sabotage.

VERONA On the night of July 24th, following an agreement made bet... the heads of the patriots and the allies, the first act of sabotage ... into action, in the zone of VERONA. Not less ... delay the enemy

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VICENZA to VERONA, PADOVA, CITTADELLA, SCHIO and RECOARO
CASTELFRANCO to TREVISO, CITTADELLA, BASSANO, MONTEBELLUNO CAMPOSANPIERO and TRENTO
CITTADELLA to CAMPOSANPIERO, BASSANO, GRISIGNANO and OSTIGLIA

The damage done to these lines caused interruptions of various lengths of time, from a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 40 hours, completely blocking the communications for 10 days.

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The important powder factory of ROSSANO VENETO was blown up by a group of patriots.

During a plucky attack against the station of VICENZA two locomotives and a high tension line were destroyed. The patriots also damaged railway bridges at CITTADELLA.
(P.W.B. Rome 15.8.44).

UDINE At FORGARIA a train full of ammuniction was blown up. At VEZONE a certain piece of the railway has been interrupted and at BORDANO the electric plant has been completely destroyed.
(P.W.B. Rome 12.8.44).

III. Assassinations.

Seven members of the "Black Brigade" composed of Blackshirts were killed by guerrillas at MONCALIERI while they were guarding the body of the town's Federal Commissioner who was killed a few days ago.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 2.8.44).

The former Mayor of TALMASSON, GIOVANNI TULLO, was shot in the street while walking with friends. Two unknown men on bicycles managed to escape.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 26.7.44).

In MILAN two patriots have executed in his home the Fascist industrialist airman PEGHETTI, collaborator with the Germans.
(P.W.B. Rome 17.8.44).

FASCIST FORCES

IV. Disposition.

According to reliable sources elements of the S. MARCO Division have arrived recently in the zone of ALESSANDRIA. As is known from previous reports, it seems that this G.U., commanded by General PRINCIVALLE, is composed of very young elements from concentration camps in Germany and would have a strength of about 12,000 men. The division finished its training in the camp of GRAFENWOHR.

Elements of the Bersaglieri division "Italia" have arrived in PAVIA. The division possesses the normal armament of a German infantry division. As was already known, this G.U. is commended by Gen. CARLONI and finished its training in the HEUBERG camp.
(Italian Official Source 8.8.44).

There is a training camp at ALESSANDRIA for junior infantry officers. The Commander of the school was Major ZURLETTI, helped by

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TURIN The Provincial Command was headed by Colonel MARZOCCHI (according to previous reports the provincial commander was General VALLETTI BORGNINI), assisted by Lt. Colonels LORI and BOERIS and Capt. VETERE.
(Italian Official Source 8.8.44).

VARESE The measures which the Republican authorities have been obliged to take in VARESE Province prove the fact that the Fascists do not feel sure of the Province, where the activity of the patriots is particularly strong, and where the population also openly show their hostility. In MARZIO on the VARESE-LUINO railway, barracks have been prepared for 1000 Italian SS, charged with the maintenance of order in the region. In GAVIRATE, 150 parachutists of the "Nimbo" Legion have

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arrived from LAZIO, where they say they fought against the Allies. Their morale is very low and they are unable to hide their dissatisfaction.

The morale of the PAI (Italian African Police) living in BUSTO ARSIZIO, is no better. Everywhere there is fear of being sent to German camps for a period of training. The same fear exists among the survivors of the "San Marco" Battalion, who were sent from the Cassino front to rest at VENTIMIGLIA. The Battalion, which originally contained 1000 men, has been reduced to 250. Some were killed and others deserted.
(Popolo e Liberta 7.8.44)

TRIESTE The only Fascist forces there are elements belonging to the SS, who do not number more than 50, and have been well chosen for their spy work and collaboration with the Germans.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

RIVOLI In the zone of RIVOLI TORINESE there was an SS Command headed by a Colonel; it occupied a villa opposite to a seminary which was being built near the church of S. Grato. In the seminary was billeted about a thousand SS who belonged mostly to the 1920 and 1925 classes. The individual armament consisted of a rifle model 38. Morale was very low, and many showed a wish to desert as soon as they were sent into the zone of operations.
(Italian Official Source 13.8.44).

MARRADI At BRISIGHELLA there is an Italian garrison of the Republican Military Board of Health, composed of 100 men.

At MARRADI and in the neighbourhood there are only Fascist Militiamen who always appear together with the Germans, as they would not dare to do anything alone. At MARRADI, BRISIGHELLA and district no carabinieri has been seen recently. At TRADOSSIO there are only a few Fascist Militia. At SELAVAPIANA as well as at BADIA PRATAGLIA there are many Fascists. In the MANDRIOLO Passes there are about 20 carabinieri, paid by the Germans, who are in very low spirits, knowing what their end will be.
(P.W.B. Rome-Lt. C.)

GNR. General RICCI, Commander of the GNR, reviewed a Blackshirt detachment on August 7th, near VENICE. These Militiamen will leave for Germany, where they will be trained for ARP service.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 7.8.44).

V. Desertions.

MILAN An industrialist who met Italian soldiers arrived at Milan from Germany noted that they had expected to be going to the Anzio front and were startled to hear that the front was now at FLORENCE. The [illegible] was that about 25% deserted.

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(P.I.D. Intelligence Summary 7.8.44).

ALESSANDRIA It is reported that about mid-June the entire force of Carabinieri of ALESSANDRIA deserted.
(P.I.D. Italian Region 17.8.44).

Two Fascist Divisions, after being trained and fitted out by the Germans, were sent to Italy about the end of June. As soon as the train which carried them had passed the frontier the soldiers of the two divisions stopped the convoy and killed the officers. A great

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part of the soldiers joined up with the patriots. It is reported that one of these divisions now works in PIEDMONT and the other in LOMBARDY, where they help with the control of the CAMONICA, TROMPIA and SABBIA valleys.

Desertions from the Fascist army have continued during the last weeks. Up to the 24th July the following number of soldiers have surrendered - In LOMBARDY 245 officers and non-coms, and 986 ORs.- in PIEDMONT 330 officers and non-coms: and 765 ORs. - in LIGURIA 131 officers and non-coms: and 544 ORs. The total is 706 officers and non-coms: and 2695 ORs. Adding to this number elements from the police, militia, air force and navy one arrives at the total of 1245 officers and non-coms: and 3768 troopers.
(P.W.B. Rome 16.8.44).

VI. Evasion of oath of allegiance by Reserve Officers.

Several thousand reserve officers of all service classes living in MILAN, have received written orders from the military KOMMANDANTUR to take the oath of allegiance to Mussolini and the Republic. The oath has been under discussion for some time. The Fascist press reports that many of these notices were returned because persons had departed leaving no address.
(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 10.8.44).

VII. Fascist forces in action against partisans.

A regular civil war is reported to be raging in the Italian northern Provinces since two Fascist divisions arrived from training centres in Germany, where recently Mussolini inspected them. The decision to use Fascist troops against partisans was taken at the last meeting with Hitler and Mussolini. Italian partisan HQ reports that numerous deserters from Mussolini's divisions have arrived at their lines, where they are now fighting against their former comrades.
(Svenska Dagbladet. 5.8.44).

VIII. Collapse of Fascist Navy.

The Fascist Navy is practically non-existent. In SPEZIA there are only a few MAS and anti-submarine craft. The construction of two cruisers has been suspended. Almost all the sailors compulsorily enlisted in the Fascist Navy have fled, some to the maquis and some to Switzerland.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 2.8.44).

IX. Atrocities.

In GENOA in the middle of July about 70 political prisoners were taken from the MARASSI gaol to the hills near the town. The

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(Libera Stampa Lugano 1.8.44).

GERMANS

X. Disposition.

MARRADI There are more than 2000 German infantry near MARRADI between BRISIGHELLA and BORGO S. LORENZO. Near Marradi there are also two anti-aircraft posts with 5/6 guns.

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At TRADOSSIO there are many Germans, also at GALEATA and at S. SOFIA various German Commands and anti-aircraft posts
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.)

TRIESTE The city is garrisoned by a small force, about 1000 and about 1000 SS, with about 10 tanks.
(P.W.B. Rome. U.M. to end of June).

PWs from the Inf. Lehr Regt. say that their CO has indicated that the line of the ARNO will not be defended "to the last man". A recent bulletin signed by HITLER has been distributed to German soldiers telling them that the defensive phase of the war will be over in six weeks and that from then on the German Army will once more take the offensive. PWs. agreed that morale in the regiment was high and that it was considerably bolstered by this proclamation from Hitler.
(5th Army G.2 Report 11.8.44).

XI. Behaviour.

It is reported from COMO that German behaviour has become less correct and more aggressive. Officers now drink, sing and overeat with rather forced gaiety. Fresh fruits, such as cherries, are all seized by the Germans who sell things they receive from Germany, especially in exchange for civilian clothes. They often consume large amounts in restaurants, and then refuse to pay more than a fraction of the bill.
(P.I.D. 10.7.44).

After strenuous efforts the German Waffen-SS has carried out a successful mopping-up operation in the PARMA APENNINES between the UPPER PARMA Valley and the ENZA valley, sacking and burning down all the villages in the region, including RUSINO and MORAGNANO. The following is the method of procedure: The first group deported all the able-bodied men; the second group removed furniture and linen; a third removed all the cattle, and the last group burned the houses. In one village eight people were hung by the feet.
(Gazette de Lausanne 7.8.44).

Three deserters captured by the allies stated that they turned themselves in rather than obey the following orders given on withdrawal of their unit over the ARNO;

1. Poisen all wells.
2. Kill or steal all cattle.
3. Shangai all males between ages 18 and 45 for work in GERMANY.

(XIII Corps Intelligence Summary 11.8.44).

Italian prisoners are interrogated at three consequetive times and in three different places. During the interrogation the Germans induce the prisoners to talk with coercive measures as well as threats with arms.

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The concentration camp for Italian prisoners is at BOLOGNA.
(Italian Official Source)(13.8.44).

About one thousand Italian workers and a score of Germans soldiers were killed during an Allied bombardment of DALMINE steelworks which are producing for Germany. Large numbers of casualties were caused owing to the fact that the Germans did not allow workers to leave the factory during an air raid in order not to lessen production. Even when it became clear that planes were directly attacking plant German

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guards prevented the arms workers from the leaving the factory. (P.I.D. 17.7.44).

With reference to the German propaganda drive in German-occupied Italy during May 1944, the following secret document from the Chief of the SS in Italy exposes the falsehood of promises that partisans who gave themselves up and surrendered their arms would not be punished.

1) The DUCE has issued a decree which gives assurance that all partisans or fugitives will not be punished if they present themselves within the 24 hours of the day 25.5.44 at an Italian or German Police Command or at an Italian or German Military Command and deliver up their arms.

2) In the chief cities of the Province, attached to the police posts, collection centres will be instituted for those reporting and for the arms they turn in. The Police stations should place themselves in contact with the Military Commanders and the Prefects in order to establish in each Province a camp, in which those reporting can be houses until their transport to Germany..... The transport to Germany of those who report will be undertaken by the Chief of military administration - Chief Labour Division and by those responsible in each sector.....
(P.W.B. German Intelligenee).

XII. Morale.

According to a reliable observer in north LOMBARDY all members of the German army continue to give the military salute, to the exclusion of the Nazi salute now ordered by Hitler.

Two middle-aged Field Security Policemen and a young Luftwaffe soldier, all Bavarians, were conversing in German in a north Italian public vehicle and supposed that no one could understand them. Discussing how long the war would continue one of the F.S.Ps. said "If only what was attempted last Thursday were to succeed, it would all be over". The other observed that "If we still try to win, it will take a year to lose, but naturally it should be finished in two months". The young airmann as lacking in enthusiasm as his elders, observed of the new weapons that "The others will know the answer always, and then everything will be destroyed".
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

During July the Germans ordered the fields in lower FRIULI to be ploughed as they fear the possibility of a landing of Allied airborne troops.
(Libera Stamps, Lugano 9.8.44).

The Germans are much afraid of the partisans. For example on [illegible] crossed the CONSUME. They were

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(Libera Stamps, Lugano 9.8.44).

The Germans are much afraid of the partisans. For example on the 12th July two partisan companies crossed the CONSUME. They were seen by the German patrols, who fled immediately.

On July 26th source spoke with a German Lieutenant who said that it was too bad that Hitler was still alive, as the war would have to go on. Nevertheless in spite of their low morale the German soldiers still fight well.
(P.W.B. Rome, P.A., P.V. and S.M.).

A P.W. who deserted to the Allies on August 15th said that on his last leave in BERLIN in January 44 he found people generally depressed, and hoping that war would soon be over one way or the other. But he found the morale generally better in Berlin than on the front in

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Italy, particularly since the Allied offensive began in May.
(P.W.B. Advanced 16.8.44).

Many prisoners have arrived from Germany, some of whom were near PEPPINO, and we hope to see him arrive from one day to the other, unless he has remained in GORIZIA or BRESCIA awaiting events, that is to say the collapse of Germany. These prisoners, among whom a friend of Peppino, have been released through lack of food...
(Censorship intercept 7.8.44).

XIII. Atrocities.

CUEANIA As a reprisal for a partisan attack all the men between 14 and 70 were taken and 68 were condemned to death. As the Fascists refused to execute the sentence a German officer killed the prisoners in cold blood one by one with a shot through the neck.
(P.W.B. Rome 7.8.44).

VAL SESIA Yesterday, in order to show that they intend to carry out their threat of shooting 25 persons for each one shot by us, they themselves carried out the shooting, and then massacred 28 citizens as hostages. They took men, women and children at random and killed them where they found them; even one sick person was assassinated in his bed.
(Libera Stampa, Lugano 20.7.44).

CRISPINO 16 persons were killed at Crispino (reprisal for action by 4th Garibaldi brigade). As usual the victims were obliged to dig their own graves and then they were killed with M.G. fire. Amongst this number was the parish priest of Crispino who had always been considered by the population as Fascist, but his Nazi Republican ideas didn't save him.
(P.W.B. Rome Lt. C.).

TRIESTE On 15th April 10 Germans were killed in a cinema. 100 hostages were taken and immediately shot. After a fortnight another attempt was made in a house at Via Grega 15, ex Italian officers' club, transformed after September into a German non-com. club. A time bomb was taken in at one oclock in the morning by a man disguised in German uniform. It went off at 13.30 causing the death of 5 German soldiers. At 17.00 hrs on the same day 51 Italians were hanged in the same house and were then exposed at the windows, where they remained for two days. Terrible atrocities were also committed against the Jews.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M. to end of June).

CALUSO - province of AOSTA A contingent of German SS and Italians took 14 political prisoners from the new prisons of TURIN, massacred them and threw them into a ditch.
In the CONTRADE S. PANCRAZIO, in the same municipality the Germans took every inhabitant from the houses and killed them with revolver shots; there were about 70 persons. Then they set fire to the village immediately afterwards.
(P.W.B. Rome 16.8.44)

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(Censorship Intercept 7.8.44).

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(P.W.B. Rome 16.8 44).

VALDARNO When the miners of the VALDARNO zone refused to accompany the Germansback to Germany the Hermann Goering Division, on the 7th July attacked the villages of CASTELNUOVO DEI SABBIONI, MELETO, SAN MARTINO. They took 40 hostages, made them burn houses and crops. Then they shot more than 200 civilians, among whom were women and children. To end up they destroyed the corpses, turning flame throwers on the dead and wounded. On June 20th in the MONTE SCARAI an old peasant of over 70 years of age, and a boy of 13 were captured by the Germans. They were accused of having helped the partisans and were hanged, together with 17 of the latter

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who had been taken on July 20th. In the MONTE SACLARI also two wounded partisans captured in a house had their eyes put out and were finished off by the Germans with knife thrusts. On July 19th in MONTE MUGNAIO eight civilians were killed and a boy of 14 was castrated. (P.A., P.V. and S.M. P.W.B. Rome).

AREZZO In 15 days alone from 17th June to 3rd July 224 persons were massacred in various localities. Among the victims was the parish priest of CHIANA, killed by the Germans whilst giving absolution to 45 hostages.

CONTIGLIANO COLLE BACCARO At TANCIA in the vicinity of MONTE SAN GIOVANNI they even killed children aged 2, and as they did not reach the height of machine gun fire they were stood on chairs. (Censorship Intercept. 3.8.44).

MARCELLINA 9 men disfigured and murdered.

MECAURI I can only tell you that they put the people in line and urged them to double time and brutally whipped one poor blind woman unable to hurry, who was shot, together with her brother who came to her defence.

VIGNANELLO For one dead German they killed 35 inhabitants, just taking anyone from the streets.

GIOVANNI VAL D'ARNO For the death of one German and wounding another they turned the guns on the town; then they went through the houses and took all the men they found; they took 62 and shot 40. The other 22, after being forced to dig the graves of the 40 were held as hostages, in order to keep the population under control.

OFFAGNA 7 people were killed point blank by the German soldiers; the killed people were all of the same family and among them there was a little girl two years old.
(Civil Censorship intercepts).

ALLIED PROPAGANDA.

XIV. Reception at Trieste.

Propaganda very efficacious. The most listened to programmes are those from London at 22.30 and 23 on short waves - 31 and 49 metres. Every slav and Italian family listens to these two transmissions. Medium wave transmissions are very disturbed.
(P.W.B. Rome U. M. to end of June).

POLITICS.

[illegible] Fascist Party

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POLITICS.

XV. Another rift in Fascist Party

New press polemics have started between two Fascist leaders. The High Commissioner for Racial Questions, GIOVANNI PREZIOSI, attacked FARINACCI, accusing him/Corriere della Sera of being a liar. Farinacci replied with violence in Regime Fascista which provoked a new polemic between the two, who were formerly known for their friendship. PAVOLINI intervened, uring the adversaries to devote their energies to "grave problems" of the present hour.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 8.8.44).

XVI. Pavolini wounded in action against the Partisans.

The Secretary of the Party, Minister PAVOLINI was wounded in a fight against bandits in the mountains of PIEDMONT.

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As commander of the newly founded Blackshirt divisions the Minister and his staff visited the area of operations and participated in an action which was just being carried out. The Minister, who personally led a patrol party, was wounded, together with a few comrades of the 10th Italian MTB Flotilla, among them the Federal Secretary of BRESCIA and the Federal Vice-Secretary of TURIN.

Immobilised by his injury PAVOLINI had to remain lying for four hours under fire, until he could be rescued by a German patrol party. His state of health does not give any cause for anxiety.
(T.P. 12.8.44)

XVII. Political tendencies in Trieste and Valdarno.

The prevailing tendency in the industrial zone of VALDARNO is Communist. The peasants are non-political. The Clergy do much propaganda in the villages.
(P.M., P.V., and S.M. P.W.B. Rome).

TRIESTE is the centre of the LITORALE ADRIATICO and since the 10th September has been entirely under German control. Besides the province of TRIESTE proper there are also included UDINE, GORIZIA, FIUME, POLA. Trieste is the headquarters of the High Commissioner, DOTT. RAINER (no judgment made by the civil tribunals is valid unless countersigned by him). Only the Communist party exists, but the population is united in its hatred of the Germans. There are many slav refugees there and the anti-Fascist and anti-German propaganda is carried on entirely by them, although the people of the city are Italian in outlook.

The Fascist Party has no power and no authority there. On the 20th September the Fascist Party sent there as Prefect the notorious Squadrist SALERNO, but the SS gave him 12 hours to get out of the city on pain of being sent to Germany.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome).

XVIII. Concentration Camp Atrocities.

It is reported that 73 prisoners, all political suspects, were massacred in the concentration camp at FOSSOLI. Among the victims were men from every party, officers, professional men, old and young people, guilty only of being the children of other persons who had been assassinated. The reports have caused the widest consternation in cities in LOMBARDY, especially in MILAN, where the majority of the victims belonged.

XIX. New Appointments.

Lt. Col. NICOLA BRUNI, who fought valiantly on various fronts, has been nominated Chief of Police in UDINE.

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(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 28.7.44).

CLAUDIO FOGOLIN has been appointed Prefect of SAN VITO AL TAGLIAMENTO.
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 28.7.44).

ECONOMICS.

XX. Food Situation.

COMO A young Italian from COMO reports that ordinary people there are now so tired and starved that they wonder if they can hold out. Everything is still available on the Black Market, but at fantastic

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prices. Shops selling textile goods in COMO have been ordered to remain open with full staff, though they are forbidden to sell. (P.I.D. 10.7.44).

In LOMBARDY food prices are rising at an increasing pace, sugar fetching 150 lire per kg and soap 170 lire per kg. (Libera Stampa Lugano 4.8.44).

TRIESTE. For four months the city has been very hungry, particularly because it is so dependent o n the Italian hinterland. What food is to be found is extremely expensive. Fat and meat are practically non-existent. Oil costs 1,200 lire a litre, butter 1000 lire a kilo. The German controlling power, which at first appeared to afford some protection is now compltely disinterested. Fish is seized and is sent off every day to Germany or to German messes in Italy. The people of Trieste occasionally - about every fortnight- get some at a ration of about ½ a kilo per family. Trieste is one of the cities of Italy which is suffering most. (U.M. · P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

VENETO According to a report of mid-July the grain throughout the VENETO was harvested, but still in the fields; the Germans were having the greatest difficulty in getting it threshed. (P.I.D. 7.8.44)

LOMBARDY According to a reliable source seen in late June the Italian local authorities in LOMBARDY have been doing everything possible to hasten the harvesting in order to distribute grain to individuals, and save it from German requisitioning and destruction due to fighting. Some people have gone into the country to hargest on their own; partisans have burnt some crops. (P.I.D. Italian Region 17.8.44).

An urgent appeal to the peasants, published in Repubblica Fascista, indirectly confirmed the unsatisfactory delivery of the present wheat crop. The Fascist newspaper tries to convince the peasants that by their attitude "they weaken the national resistance power at one of its most delicate and important points, thus helping the enemy!" Behind the enemy, however, lurks Bolshevism which, if the enemy were victorious, would dispossess the peasants of all their land. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 7.8.44)

In agreement with the local German Command, the MILAN Provincial Farmers' Union will distribute 3,000 pairs of shoes of three types and 4,500 pairs of light walking shoes to farmers who have shown themselves to be the worthiest contributors to the pooling centres. Four thousand supplementary tobacco retions will be distributed per two quintals of the product contributed. Another [illegible] be distributed to those farmers who have

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(Sera Milan 2.8.44).

The German Command has offered 2,000 tobacco ration cards which will be given as prizes to farmers delivering the greatest amount of produce to the State depots.
(Provincia di COMO 4.8.44).

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XXI. Fuel and Power.

TURIN Electric power is again rationed in TURIN. In the upper parts of the town power will be supplied from 08.00 until noon, and in the lower parts from 14.00 to 18.00. Owing to lack of coal, gas distribution has ceased entirely.
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 29.7.44).

XXII. Transport.

TRIESTE is cut off by partisan action as regards rail communications. either with LUBLANA or FIUME of POLA. The line TRIESTE-VENICE is continually attacked from MONFALCONE to the junction of OPCINA.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

According to reliable Milanese sources it was impossible for a private individual to get permission to travel from BOLOGNA to FLORENCE. A manufacturer from PIACENZA had both his automobile and his chauffeur seized by Germans last week while journeying thence to MILAN. Except where prevented from doing so by the Germans, the Fascist authorities have mostly deserted the villages and small towns of Tuscany. The refugees arriving in MILAN, for whom money is being collected, are mostly small Fascist officials of this kind.
(P.I.D. 10.7.44).

The traffic situation in the area of the military command 1019 continues to remain extremely strained. The shortage of petrol and tyres has particularly serious consequences. According to the report of the local command of PESARO the fuel reserves in that province have been completely exhausted, since emergency measures following the continual enemy air attacks speedily used up stocks of petrol. The entire situation is so bad that, failing new distributions, vehicles still on the roads will be laid up at the latest in two months because their tyres will be compltely useless. Assistance in this matter is urgently required because otherwise owing to the complete failure of railway connections the supply of military centres with war-essential goods and that of the population with the necessities of life will become impossible.....
(P.W.B. German Intelligence 10.8.44).

XXIII. Finance.

Inflation grows daily in Italy. The war contribution imposed by the occupying Power in northern Italy has recently been raised from six to ten milliard lire per month. According to the Gazzetta del Popolo, the State's obligations towards the Bank of Italy have probably raised the public debt to some 600 milliards whereas the loss of territory, and consequently of receipts, represent a gap which the Treasury will find hard to fill. Metal coins have disappeared. Hoarding has assumed vast proportions, and prices have risen astronomically.

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(Journal de Geneve 8.8.44).

The Corriere della Sera Milan 4.8.44 writes "It has been brought to our notice that certain important MILAN banks are provoking serious disturbances in the industrial and financial domain by arbitrarily rejecting all cheques issued in the VENETO and LIGURIA, and particularly at GENOA. It seems to us that this is a deliberate move to disorganise and sabotage in view of the fact that failure to accept the currency chiefly on circulation has, as its logical reaction, the immediate suspension of relations with all the areas affected by this timid ostrecism imposed by our banks.

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XXIV. Industry.

The CMASA aircraft factory at MARINA DI PISA, which employed almost 800 workers, ceased work about mid-April. In May the Germans moved all the machinery to BORNAGO, nr NOVARA, with 2-3 engineers (names of two are ODDONE and ANGIUS) and 300-400 specialist workers, who were not heard of again. The remainder of the workers were paid 75% of their wages for 3 months. In June the CMASA factory had not yet resumed production at BORNAGO. The installations there belong to FIAT, of which CMASA is a subsidiary, and were at the time occupied by the "Aeronautica d'Italia" aircraft factory evacuated from FLORENCE. The FIAT personnel were very successfully "going slow".

The Ammunition factory of FORNACE DI BARGA is now closed. The machinery has been transferred to Germany and the employees engaged by TODT (beginning of June).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary).

XXV. Air Raid Damage.

MACERATA Following increased enemy air attacks war weariness among the people continually increases. The population is greatly worried, leave their occupations and fly at the first alarm, or retreat to the country with their most essential belongings. The behaviour of by far the greater part of the population during air attacks is bewildered and undisciplined. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 10.8.44).

MILAN The latest air raid on MILAN was most effective. The goods yards at LAMBRATE station were ruined and trains are now forced to halt 20 km away. The INNOCENTI factory at Lambrate also received a direct hit.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 2.8.44).

BRESCIA The bombing of BRESCIA in mid-July involved buildings housing the Ministries of Finance and of the Interior and the Headquarters of the National Republican Guard (Palazzo di Broletto), all near the Cathedral. These buildings had been destroyed, while only one bomb hit the Cathedral. The result was to create fairly complete administrative chaos in and around Brescia and to increase popular admiration for the accuracy of the Allied bombing.

It is interesting to compare the account of the BRESCIA raid transmitted by TRANSOCEAN to the Far East on 14.7.44:-

"BRESCIA was attacked twice within the past 24 hours by Anglo-American aircraft. Considerable damage was done to residential quarters. Several hospitals were destroyed. The Cathedral, dating back to the seventeenth century, was on fire on Friday morning (14.7.44).

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MILAN While it was reported in late July that those MILAN factories which were supplying German war industry were still at work, an overseer at PIRELLI's observed that on 27.7.44 only half an hour's work was done there all day owing to the increased number of alerts. The workmen pilfer badly when the alerts are sounded.
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

PARMA "Old PARMA was not damaged, but the other part, especially the centre is flat; via Mazzini, the piazza, via Dante, Pilotta, Cavour, Farini and adjacent streets, as far as the entrance to the city, have all been hit.
(Censorship Intercept 21.8.44).

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TRIESTE suffered an air raid towards the end of March. No military objective was hit. All the latter are spread round about the station of Campo Marzio (railway to Pola) as far as the naval wharfs Apart from the "idrascolo" there are no military objectives near the Piazza Unita . This air raid caused about 1200 dead and 1000 wounded. The second raid, which took place at night from 0.30 to 1.30 was very accurate and completely destroyed the great refinery at AQUILA. The losses among the civilian population were very few - 22 dead and 50 wounded. Three other small raids on the docks at MONFALCONE were more in the nature of nuisance raids; a small boat was sunk and a submarine under construction was destroyed. The airoplane factory was badly damaged.
(U.M. P.W.B. Rome to end of June).

PIACENZA. The railway bridge in PIACENZA, together with the bridge across the Enza on the Via Emilia, were both destroyed during an allied air raid.
(Gazzetta Ticinese, Lugano 7.8.44).

LABOUR

XXVI. Forced Labour.

By a recent agreement between Hitler and Mussolini all Italians, military or civil, interned in Germany, have been put at Himmler's and Goebels' disposition for forced labour.
(P.W.B. Rome 9.8.44).

MILAN On July 2nd early workmen's trains into Milan from the north west were stopped at NOVATE MILANESE and all males were taken off by the Germans. When this was noised abroad people left the train at SARANNO and disappeared into the fields. Only a few girls finished the journey.
(P.I.D. 7.8.44).

VERCELLI Out of the first half of the July group of 220 men from a harvest centre in VERCELLI en route for a German camp, only 80 have arrived at their destination.
(Popolo e Liberta 7.8.44).

PRESS

XXVII. Clandestine Press.

A source from MILAN expressed a great admiration for the Clandestine Press. He regarded it as the most efficacious propaganda, and told the story that the German officer commanding in MILAN is, to his annoyance, generously supplied by anti-Fascists with their papers.
(P.I.D. 26.6.44).

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PERSONALITIES

XXVIII. Dangerous elements at Trieste.

Prefect COCEANI - ex Fascist consigliere - collaborator
Avv. PAGNINI - Mayor of Trieste
FUMAI - Head of the squadrace - spy - ex-dancer, kept by prostitutes.
Dott. REINER (Austrian) High Commissioner - Nazi.
(P.W.B. Rome U.M. to end of June).

SECRET

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SECRET
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XXIX. Fascists of Treviso.

Lawyers

CHIRELLI IGNAZIO (Consigliere Nazionale)
BENETTI (ex Federale)
FARAONE LUIGI (ex Segreterio Provinciale ex Mayor)
MONICO
NIZZOLI

Engineers

ANTONIUTTI

Doctors

ANTONIUTTI
BOCCAZZI CINO (It appears that he is now with the Information Branch of the Comando Supremo)

CRANIO

Professors

BAZZO
BOCCASSI ISOTTO (Inspector of Schools)(retired)
Signorina PENE (Inspector of provincial schools)

Various Personalities.

Cav. ZOPPELLI (owns an anonimous printing house)
Dott. MASOTTI
Comm. Dott. MARASCIULLO (Vice Questore)
Dott. BERTOLI (Vice President of the Canale della Vittoria)
CAVEDAL (of the Comando G.I.L)
Rag. SEGANTINI
Rag. FURLANETTO
Dott. DEL GRECO (Vice Federale, Console della Milizie)
Rag. SAIBENE (Vice Federale)

Squadrists

FRASCOGNA (Factotum G.I.L.)
BELLIO (Usciere at the Civilian Hospital)
FUGALLI PAOLO (Employee of the Sindaciti)

Young Men belonging to the Squadre Giov. d'Azione.

FANNI (belongs to the Federazione fascista)
ARDITO (Volunteer with the Germans)
AZZOLA (" " ")

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BENETTI (ex Federale)
FARAONE LUIGI (ex Segretario Provinciale ex Mayor)
MONICO
NIZZOLI

Engineers

ANTONIUTTI

Doctors

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ARDITO (Volunteer with the Germans)
AZZOLA (" " ")
SCHIAVON FERDINANDO (Student)
SCHIAVON EMILIO (Student)
The brothers ANTONIUTTI (Students)
DE VIDE (Student)
NICOLETTI (Student). (P.W.B. Bari 28.7.44).

XXX. Fascists north of the Arno

Piero PIEROTTI of SAN LORENZO A PAGNATICO A well known Fascist Propagandist. At SAN CASCIANO and at SAN GEORGIO himself threw bombs at the local population who were asking for food.

SECRET

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Vice Brigadiere of the G.N.R. MOSCHINI of SAN FREDIANO A SETTIMO
Constantly arrested patriots. Assisted Germans in manhunts in VOLTERRANO and in LUCCHESIA

Tanente BENNENI of PISA
Commands an execution squad composed of fascists of the 80th Legion.

The following fascists fled the city of CRESPINA

PAUDOLF LEOPOLDO Sec. Politico. Fascist Republican Party. Squadrist. Collaborated with German SS.

PETTINELLI ORAZIO, Squadrist. Fascist Republican Party

The following Fascists fled COLLE SALVETTI:

LEPORI UGO Republican Fascist. Squadrist. Marshal in Rep. Guard and in MVSN.SS. collaborater May be in VERSO MANTOVA

VIRGILI, Carlo fu Olinti Aged 42, Fanatical Republican Fascist.

(P.W.B. 5th Army 11.8.44).

XXXI. Officer collaborator at Viterbo.

"I was left with a few men and a 2nd Lt., an ardent squadrist, and I had a machine gun with me. A few days later, 2nd Lt. FIORINI went to VITERBO in order to call the Germans".
(Censorship Intercept 19.7.44).

XXXII. Personalities at Montecatini.

"Concerning the political situation, she says that as from last October, the PRINCE was the Prefect Commissioner and since May 1st Mayor. The Secretary of the New Republican Fascist Government is Avv. MARIANI . At MASSA? where dott. PANENTI was the Commissioner, the position has been taken over by GOSTINO INNOCENTI since October.
(Censorship Intercept 6.7.44).

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub Commission

√folio for action/information

D.P.S.....

~~D.D.P.S.~~.....

Ex. Officer.....

POLICE

Col. Meaney.....

Capt. Mastroianni.....

Prisons.....

Fire & C.D.....

Regn & Licensing.....

Adm. Officer.....

REMARKS.....

.....

.....

To: Public Safety

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ)

16th August, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 20

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisans The recent advance towards the Arno and consequent over-running of regions largely occupied by partisans, has given us a clearer view of the strength, ubiquity and determination of the patriot movement.

In Florence partisans played an important part in the operations and allied officers present have paid tribute to their courage and discipline, and recognised the heroic character of their leader "Potente" who was killed in the city he had helped to liberate.

From all over Italy come reports of bands of patriots raiding and operating. German punitive expeditions and assaults by Fascist militia seem to have no other result than the burning of villages and the massacre of innocent people in return for heavy losses.

The whole partisan movement is so wide-spread that it almost takes on the aspect of a general rising. A German source admits heavy losses among troops employed against partisans.

FASCIST FORCES

Eight Fascist Divisions appear to have been formed - 2 Alpine Divisions under Graziani are reported to have started operations against the patriots in the mountains west of M. Maggiore.

Desertions. Up to July 15th the utmost chaos prevailed among the Army and police owing to continual desertion.

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GERMANS

Swiss sources report that Germans are fortifying two lines of defence in N. Italy, one is the Padova-Sette Comuni plateau line and the other, a little further back, runs from M. Grappa to the mouth of the Piave. It is also thought that the arrival in Italy of Italian Divisions is meant to relieve German troops, who are badly needed in France and Russia.

Behaviour As usual the German retreat is signalised by savage atrocities and massacres of civilians. A bad case occurred at Guardistallo. Other reports come from Cerbaiola and Cornione, Colle Val D'Elsa, Gubbio , San Cascieno, Farnese, Anna, Lanciano and S. Savino.

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SUMMARY 2.

ECONOMICS

Industries. From the north come reports of great falling off of production due to lack of materials, air raid damage, removal of machinery by the Germans and sabotage.

Air Raid Damage. Intercepted letters from May to July report extensive damage in Rimini, Ferrara, Milan, Genova, Pesaro, Bologna and Viareggio.

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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

16th August, 1944.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Section.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 20

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V. No Leave to places south of Bologna and Spezia .. " 8.
VI. Duce's letter to Graziani .. .. " 9.

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VII. Dispositions.. .. .. " 9.
VIII. Evacuation of Civilians and anti-partisan measures " 10.
IX. Behaviour .. .. " 10.
X. Atrocities .. .. " 12.
XI. Treatment of Jews .. .. " 12.
XII. Propaganda .. .. " 13.
XIII. Morale.. .. .. " 13.

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XV. Location of Ministries in northern Italy.. .. .. " 14.

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XVI. Food Situation .. .. " 14.
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SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ). 16th August, 1944.

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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - No 20.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Partisan formations appear to have played a large part in the final liberation of the city of FLORENCE. All these formations depended on the Tuscan Committee of National Liberation (C.T.L.N. of Florence) which was connected with the C.L.N. of MILAN. Under it worked a military Junta responsible for organising GARIBALDI Brigades throughout TUSCANY. Garibaldi Brigades, being active guerilla units, did not function in the city itself. However, for such purposes as liquidation of Fascists, propaganda etc. the town was divided by the Committee into four zones, each under an inspector. The area South of the ARNO was Zone 4, under a professor called DAMI. Each zone controlled a Patriotic Action Group (Gruppos Azione Patriotica or GAP).

The partisans were composed of elements of every party and also of apolitical elements. They elected their own military leaders and their own political commissioners. Their choice fell on individuals notable for courage and organising capacity. The C.T.L.N. only sent information and general directives to the Command HQ of the Division. The Division which operated in the Florence area was called the ARNO Division (not to be confused with the A.R.N.O Division which was in the IMPRUNETA area). It numbered about 2000 men operating in the zone PRATOMAGNO-MONTEGIOVE-MONET MORELLO-MONTE SCALARI.

Commando Divisione d'Assalto
Garibaldi "ARNO".

22nd Bde "Lanciotto"	22nd Bis Bde "Sinigaglia".	10th Bde "Caiani" Pratomagno	"Fanciullacci" Bde M. Morello.

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"Lanciotto"	"Sinigaglia".	"Caiani"	M. Morello.
Pratamagno	M. Scalari.	Pratomagno	

The Division was divided into Brigades as above. It was formed at the beginning of June 1944.

When our troops arrived in the southern part of FLORENCE some 400 partisans of 22 Garibaldi Brigade (ie. the "Lanciotto" Brigade) together with the Brigade Commander Lieut Adige BARDUCCI, alias POTENTE, were found there. The bulk of this unit had been compelled to retire from the PRATOMAGNO area owing to the severity of German reprisals. The Brigade drifted into the town as the allied troops approached and POTENTE, with two companies, established himself in a villa overlooking the BOBOLI Gardens. Other partisan elements, already in the city brought their numbers up to 6/800. It was decided to employ them in clearing up the snipers which the Germans and Fascists had left in the town. By Agreement with the commander

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the partisans handed in their arms, which were stored in an armoury under partisan guard and issued as required. Unfortunately POTENTE was recently killed on a sniper hunt; he will shortly be given a public funeral.

In the hills north and east of FLORENCE the CAIANI and FANCIULACCI Brigades are reported to be still operating. The CAIANI (20 Garibaldi Brigade) Brigade of four companies operates in the FIESOLE-SETTIGNANO area. It is said to be well armed with automatic weapons, but short of ammunition. Its leader is "BRUNETTO". In the MT. MORELLO area the FANCIULACCI Brigade of three companies under "OTTONE" is operating. The brigade suffered heavy casualties when attacked by the Germans about 20 July, and its present strength is probably not more than 300. It is also known as 8 Garibaldi Brigade. The SENIGALLIA Brigade, which formerly operated in the SAN GIOVANNI VAL D'ARNO area, has been over-run by our troops and the former commander DANIELE DOLFI, or "GICEE" is now political commissar of the LANCIOTTO Brigade.

FLORENCE has given an opportunity of seeing from close quarters a Garibaldi Brigade in action. The British officer responsible for organising the partisan patrols reports that he was very impressed by their keenness and discipline. Though his men wore gay red scarves and the red star on a white and green background POTENTE himself maintained that his band was non-political and these were not the Communist emblems, but merely the local national signs of the partisans in his area. He himself was a former clerk in the Ministry of Finance branch at COMO and served in SICILY as a lieutenant in an Italian paradhutist regiment.

POTENTE's statements, even if possibly not entirely accurate, at least show the lengths to which he was prepared to go to make it possible for men of other political opinions to serve under him. It is probably also the case in other effective partisan bands that politics are not allowed to play a considerable part while the unit is still fighting. The LANCIOTTO Brigade was quite prepared to accept as Chief of Staff a parachutist Italian colonel, a regular staff officer whose experience had been gained as Chief of Staff of the Fifth Italian Army. The Colonel himself was quite happy to serve under a former minor civil servant, and in the partisan headquarters military salutes appear to be interchangeable with clenched fists.
(8th Army Summary No 23 and P.W.B. News of Partisans north and south of Gothic Line. Rome).

North of FLORENCE little fresh information about partisan activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men, including British and Russian ex-PW and German deserters, is

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News of Partisans north and south of Gothic Line.

North of FLORENCE little fresh information about partisan activity has been received. A well-armed band of some 100 men, including British and Russian ex-PW and German deserters, is reported in the RAZZOLO area. Further east along the GOTHIC LINE there is still no information about the powerful bands which formerly operated in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO on either side of the FLORENCE-FORLI road, except that the leader LIBERO is believed to have been killed. The fate of partisans to the South West in the VERGE REPO area is also obscure at the moment. In the PRATOMAGNO and ALPE DI CATENAIA the withdrawal of the bulk of the LANCIOTTO Brigade and the disbandment of the PIO BORRI Brigade (23 Garibaldi Brigade) has left only isolated groups of partisans.

SECRET

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SECRET
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S. OF LUCCA A large body of Russians on horse-back enquired at SAN FREDIANO. A SETTIMO for information about partisans on the VERRUCA. They were in the area more than 8 hrs and then rode towards the Pisan hills. (10 or 13 July)

N OF LUCCA There is intense partisan activity in the SERCHIO valley NW Of BAGNI DI LUCCA and the LIMA valley to the NE as far as ABETONE There are SS garrisons in GARFAGNANA (UPPER SERCHIO valley) (June)

NW of PISA- In May it was reported that partisans are active in this area. A young and energetic Air Force officer, LT. LOMBARDI is in command.

SW FIRENZUOLA, MONTECARELLI Many TODT workers have escaped from MONTE CARELLI, which has been occupied by partisans. In spite of German control, partisans hadpreviously succeeded in capturing many of the TODT workers' tools. Resistance units of the area had thus obtained trucks and weapons. (13 June).

N.E. TREVISO An informant had heard that there were partisans active in the hills W of AVIANO, who had raided several German columns. Despite German attempts to round them up, they were still operating successfully in May.

SW. PARMA -FORNOVO (June) A large band of partisans who wear German or Republican uniforms are operating in the hills to the south of this town. From all accounts they are well armed and well disciplined.

NW. of BRESCIA The Fascist Republican authorities have put a price on the head of a BRESCIA industrialist BERETTA, owner of the steel works here, alleged to have supplied weapons to the partisans of the area. GARDONE VAL TROMPIA.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

MARRADI In the Marradi area there was and probably still is a band belonging to the 10th "Firenze" Brigade, composed of 80 men, commanded by a Sardinian specialist in sabotage whose name was "Angelo". He had been dropped by parachute from an English plane at the end of April. In the MARRADI-BRISIGHELLA area, in the direction of FAENZA, besides this band there were other bands operating, but it is not known whether they belonged to the "Firenze" Brigade or to the "Bologna" Brigade, as they acted along the border of the two provinces. In the period from May to the end of July the 10th Firenze Brigade had had 10 clashes with the Germans, in which they had lost 8 dead and 10 wounded, whilst it is believed that the Germans lost 200 dead and about 60 wounded.
(Lt. WC. P.W.B. Rome).

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the Pisan hills. (10 or 13 July)

N OF LUCCA There is intense partisan activity in the SERCHIO valley NW of BAGNI DI LUCCA and the LIMA valley to the NE as fer as ABETONE There are SS garrisons in GARFAGNANA (UPPER SERCHIO valley) (June)

NW of PISA- In May it was reported that partisans are active in this area. A young and energetic Air Force officer, LT. LOMBARDI is in command.

SW FIRENZUOLA, MONTECARELLI Many TODT workers have escaped from MONTE CARELLI, which has been occupied by partisans. In spite of German control, partisans hadpreviously succeeded in capturing many of the TODT workers' tools. Resistance units of the area had thus obtained trucks and weapons. (13 June).

N.E. TREVISO An informant had heard that there were partisans active in the hills W of AVIANO, who had raided several German columns. Despite German attempts to round them up, they were still operating successfully in May.

SW. PARMA -FORNOVO (June) A large band of partisans who wear German or Republican uniforms are operating in the hills to the south of this town. From all accounts they are well armed and well disciplined.

NW. of BRESCIA The Fascist Republican authorities have put a price on the head of a BRESCIA industrialist BERETTA, owner of the steel works here, alleged to have supplied weapons to the partisans of the area. GARDONE VAL TROMPIA.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

MARRADI In the Marradi area there was and probably still is a band belonging to the 10th "Firenze" Brigade, composed of 80 men, commanded by a Sardinian specialist in sabotage whose name was "Angelo". He had been dropped by parachute from an English plane at the end of April. In the MARRADI-BRISIGHELLA area, in the direction of FAENZA, besides this band there were other bands operating, but it is not known whether they belonged to the "Firenze" Brigade or to the "Bologna" Brigade, as they acted along the border of the two provinces. In the period from May to the end of July the 10th Firenze Brigade had had 10 clashes with the Germans, in which they had lost 8 dead and 10 wounded, whilst it is believed that the Germans lost 200 dead and about 60 wounded.
(Lt. WC. P.W.B. Rome).

[illegible] and ROMAGNA

[illegible] months ago "Garibaldi" Brigades were organised in the ROMAGNA. After a severe round-up for men these brigades [illegible] period [illegible] about a month and a half ago one of the brigades was reformed, and another two were reorganised in the zone between FORLI and the MARCHE. There exist also brigades of G.A.P., one at FORLI and one at RAVENNA, with a strength of about 120 to 150 members. There is one brigade GAP at BOLOGNA and one at REGGIO EMILIA. There is also a partisan detachment at VADO, a Garibaldi Brigade on the MODENESE APENNINES. In the zone of PARMA there has been a Garibaldi Brigade "PICELLI" organised. At PIACENZA the partisan movement organised by officers was very strong.

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SECRET

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SECRET
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LOMBARDY The Communist Partisan movement in LOMBARDY found serious difficulties on account of the great diffusion of the Partito d'Azione which appeared to want to control the movement itself. A month and a half ago there only existed detachments and discussions were proceeding to constitute a common Military Command in order to be able to form proper Garibaldi Brigades.

PIEDMONT In Piedmont there already exist 7 Garibaldi brigades ie.

1 Division in the VAL DI LANZO of 3 brigades.
2 Brigades in the zone of BIELLA
1 " " " NOVARA
2 " in construction in the Province of TURIN

The partisan movement of the Partito d'Azione is strong in PIEDMONT.

VENETO The following brigades have been organised in VENETO.

1 Brigade known as the "Fratelli Bandiera" at SCIO and VALDAGNO.
1 Brigade known as the "Nino Nanetti" at VITTORIO VENETO.

Besides these there also exist

1 Partisan Brigade in the FRIULI
1 Brigade known as the "Trieste" operating in ISTRIA, but composed of officers and men of different provinces.
(P.W.B. 8th Army).(10.8.44).

Up to now there appears to have been little penetration of Communism in the ALTO ADIGE. Groups are found as far as RIVERETO and no further. There is some contact between Italian and Austrian Catholics in the BOLZANO for common work of anti-Nazi propaganda. (P.W.B. 8th Army).

The following report of partisan activities in the PIACENZA Province is given in the Fascist official report.

"It is confirmed that for some time past bands of partisans have been moving towards the province of Piacenza or in the frontier districts from Tuscany and Liguria. They can be divided into three categories -Badoglian, activist bands (bande d'azione) and Communist bands. While at one time groups of rebels were operating on the frontiers of the province, recently they have stationed their command HQs in the following localities: MORFASSO as the HQ of the Communist bands; GRUPPO DI PIOZZANO, PRAGNA and (NALE?) as those of the Garibaldi Brigade, [illegible] and BOBBIANO DI TRAVO as those of the Badoglian bands. A group of 100 men appear to be in the Provincial Park and the Albergo Provinciale, while the bands patrols are thrusting towards SELVAVENNA and CASTELL'ARQUATO above TAVASCA.

[illegible] the following bands are

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In the neighbourhood of FARINA D'OLMO the following bands are operating "Red Star" 120 men, "Istiliano", 100 men, "Montelaura" 200 men, "Captain Gaspare", 200 men, "Captain Selva" 200 men. Thus in a radius of a few km 820 armed men are stationed. Discipline in the bands is strong, they are generally composed of defaulters of the 1920, 1921, 1924, 1925 and 1926 conscript classes.

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"Every band is exceedingly well-armed; for example the "Captain Gaspare" band has eight heavy machine guns and 80 ordinary machine guns and the "Istriano" eight automatic sub-machine guns and 32 ordinary machine-guns.

Our armament is simply negligeable as compared with this abundance of automatic weapons, and this has a great influence on the morale of our soldiers.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 27.7.44).

Activities of Various Bands.

After hard fighting the patriots succeeded in throwing the Nazi Fascist troops out of the VALLE DEL LYS, inflicting severe losses on them.

PEROSA, near PINEROLO has been occupied by the Patriots.

German attacks on nuclei of resistance as SESTRIERES have been repulsed, notwithstanding the numerical superiority of the enemy.

The patriots have taken under their control the valleys of GRANA, STURA and GESSO. The roads leading to them are blocked to prevent the enemy from sending supplies and returning to the attack.

There have been violent encounters in the Modenese Appanines. The Germans have plundered and burnt 14 villages as reprisals. Following sabotage against the stations and plant of the electricity in the north of Italy, only 50% of the electric energy can now be used by the enemy.

Groups of Italian patriots which are fighting in the LIGURIAN ALPS and in particular along the coast line SPEZIA-GENOA have attacked barracks at CHIAVARI, capturing big dumps of arms, munitions and food. Following this the patriots have advanced as far as BORGOTARO, from where they have chased the local garrison and captured all the harvest which was distributed amongst the people and the rest destined for the necessities of the patriots.

A patriot brigade attacked a party of Fascists near MODENA, north of the Appenines, killing 100 Militia and wounding 60. Immediately afterwards the patriots occupied MONTEFIORINO, half way between MODENA and LA SPEZIA.

500 Fascist Militia that advanced on VARZI and BRALLO, to commit acts of reprisals against the civil population, were met and routed by patriots. The Fascists left 70 dead and as many wounded on the spot together with some vehicles and a notable number of heavy and light

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In the VALLE DEL NURE a strong enemy attack against a nucleus of patriots has been repulsed with the efficacious help of the Allied Air Forces. A considerable contingent of German troops is preparing to renew the attacks against the patriots in the zone of the ABETONE. The Germans have already had considerable losses in this locality. Apart from the number of dead and wounded, which is not yet ascertained, the Germans have left 250 prisoners in the hands of the patriots.
(P.W.B. Rome 3.8.44).

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In the Tuscan-Emilian Appenines a Romagnolan Brigade of patriots has developed a series of efficacious operations which finished, amongst other things, in the temporary occupation of SANT'AGATA, FELTRE, and of FREGHETTO. Many political secretaries of the zone were executed.

The patriots have interrupted the SEMPIONE line at MEINALINA, at CORTINA and at DOBBIACO, the line from CADORE to CASTELLAVAZZO, the UDINE-TREVISO line at CASARZA.
(P.W.B. Rome).

At RIVA in the TRENTINO the German police have discovered a subversive organisation working against Germany. It had taken the name CESARE BATTISTI.
(Squilla Italica Basle 29.7.44).

The Gazetta del Popolo Turin reports from VERCELLI. G.N.R. Assault Battalion units, collaborating with the German police and supported by the "Leonessa" Tank unit and Italian SS and artillery, pressed an attack against bandits in the mountainous regions of VERCELLI and NOVARA. Many captured in thepossession of arms were executed and others, famished, demoralised and in rags, surrendered without fighting. Many prisoners were allowed to serve their country in labour camps. The struggle was pursued unremittingly. The Commander of this particular unit imposed a fine of 50,000 lire on the industrialists and tradesmen in the region for their mildness towards bandits, which sum will be handed over to the families which had lost relations killed by outlaws.
(27.7.44).

The policy of reprisals has now entered a new phase in Fascist Italy. Today hostages are taken from among offenders arrested long before the crime for which they are punished occurred, and they are executed at the scene of thesubsequent crime. In GENOA, five "Terrorists" were shot as a reprisal for the recent murder of General PARODI, the local Federal Commissioner.
(Tribune de Geneve 1.8.44).

Recently Razzias in northern Italy were extended to the trains as the Fascist police have begun to stop and search local trains in the middle of the country. In an article entitled "Wild West in MILAN" Republica Fascista deals with the nightly shooting in Milan streets, which has now become the rule. The Milanese, awakened by the noise of wild revolver, rifle and machine-gun fire and bursting hand grenades, receive the impression of pitched battles being fought in front of their houses. The following morning they learn that it was the Fascist

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(Neue Zurcher Zeitung 2.8.44).

A correspondent in a letter from GENOA writes "GENOVA is like hell; a never ending fight is raging between nazi-Fascists, besides Anglo-American planes are continually bombing the town".
(Censorship intercept. 3.7.44).

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In VENICE 20 nazi fascists were killed and 50 wounded in the collapse of the Giustinian palace caused by the patriots.

A German P.W. from 162 Inf. Div. stated that while his regiment (236 Tank Destroyer Coy) was employed against partisans in NE Italy the Regiment suffered considerable losses through killed and deserted. 3rd Battalion had 80 dead in 4 months, 45 being killed in one engagement. Heavy losses were also suffered during fighting in Dentral Italy in June. At the time of his capture (2nd July) the fighting strength of his regiment had shrunk to 500 men. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I.).(5.8.44).

Dangerous activity by partisans is reported in the vicinity of MODENA by a PW officer of 4 Para. Div. where many vehicles had been attacked during the night. Special orders were issued demanding that not less than three vehicles travel at a time. Partisans use German and Austrian deserters, order them to stop vehicles demanding a lift. When the vehicle is stopped the partisans attack it. In many cases German deserters or stragglers were being asked by Italian farmers to lay down their arms and change uniform for civilian clothing. If they decided to do so representatives of the partisans would visit them and ask them to join their groups. (P.W.B. Advance A.A.I. 5.8.44).

Partisans report enemy positions. There are an increasing number of reports of partisans who report enemy positions to our patrols. For example :

5th Army report dated 27.7.44 mentions partisans in 2 corps sector reporting a line of MG positions. Other partisans reported emplacements of 2 large guns, having been told by the gun crews that they were to fire on LEGHORN.

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II. Sabotage.

NOVARA In a daring raid patriots destroyed the airoplane factory and the deposit of propellors at ARMENO in the Province of Novara.

CARPI Other patriots attacked a train full of German troops near Carpi, inflicting severe losses on the enemy.

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At the beginning of July the German authorities made a disagreeable discovery. The trains coming from the north of Italy with cattle, had neither escort nor fodder. The lack of escort facilitated the stealing of the horses and mules along the way; the lack of fodder provoked the death of those which remained. Afterwards it was found that this was the result of clever acts of sabotage carried out by the deliverers of the beasts and the railway staff. The German attempts to remedy this were useless, and so the enemy finds it ever more difficult to take the animals away from the Italian agriculturists to Germany. Rather than allow the animals to arrive in Germany the Italians prefer that they should die on the way. (P.W.B. Rome 28.7.44).

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FASCIST FORCES.

III. Organisation

There now appear to exist eight Fascist Divisions: the Monteviso and Monte Rosa Alpine Divisions, the San Marco, Marine Divisions, the Italia Littoria and Mussolini Motorised Infantry Divisions and the Vesuvia and Etna AA Divisions. The two Alpine Divisions, under Graziani's command are reported to have recently started operations against the "Maquis" in the mountains west of Lake Maggiore. Others are reported to have been sent to the Tuscany front. Some, however, have not yet crossed the Brenner.

The Corriere della Sera, Milan reports that two companies of the "Muti" Legion left on July 27th for operational zones. They were the Ferrara company and the motorised company "Baragiotto" with full fighting equipment.
(Gazette de Lausanne 2.8.44).

IV. Desertions from Army and Police in Tuscany.

The clandestine paper "Ribelle" published the following extracts from a report on the situation in the Military Commands in Tuscany, received on July 15th from a reliable source.

"Province of AREZZO", Provincial Command. Almost all the personnel employed ran away some days ago, some to their own homes, some to increase the rebel ranks. The members of the command have received orders to fall back on BOLOGNA.

Province of Florence 201st Regional Command 60 members of the "Security Company" who were under the orders of the Regional Command have deserted to the Maquis. It was found necessary to keep the remainder of the troop in barracks in order to avoid further desertions.

Province of Pistoia. The position is practically the same as in Florence and Arezzo. Powerful bands of rebels are established in the mountains overlooking Pistoia.

Province of Lucca. Many bridges, already mined by the Germans, have been blown up by the rebels at night, no watch having been kept on them by the Germans.

Province of Apuania. The same as for Lucca.

In conclusion the utmost confusion and chaos prevails in the Military commands throughout Tuscany. The Regional recruiting for the

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In conclusion the utmost confusion and chaos prevails in the Military commands throughout Tuscany. The Regional recruiting for the army has shown that the system is unsuitable in all respects.
(Squilla Italica Basle 29.7.44).

V. No leave to places south of Bologna and Spezia.

An intercepted letter reads "... and if they refuse to send me where I asked to go I will go to any Convalescence camp they choose for me, and I will then know what road to take. However, leaves are not granted to points beyond BOLOGNA and SPEZIA, but you will realise that all I need will be to get one day away from here for me".
(Censorship intercept 25.7.44).

SECRET

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SECRET
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VI. Guce's letter to Graziani

The following is an extract from a letter sent by Mussolini to Graziani after he had announced his resignation "Dear Graziani, The struggle against the bandits must be organised in such a way as to make a strong impression on the population and fill our united supporters with enthusiasm. The organisation must involve the effort of the whole Social Republic against this "Vendee insurrection" and extend to all provinces, radically cleaning them up". This letter is regarded as evidence that Graziani opposed the utilisation of the Fascist Army against partisans.
(Gazette de Lausanne 1.8.44).

GERMANS

VII. Dispositions.

It has been reported that the Wehrmacht is rapidly fortifying two defence lines in northern Italy, one running between PADUA and the SETTE COMUNI PLATEAU, well known from the last war, and the second slightly further back between MONTE GRAPPA and the mouth of the PIAVE river, the line held by the Austrians in the Spring of 1918. Both lines are destined to defend the routes to Yugoslavia. Having abandoned the construction of fortifications on the plain of the PO the Germans confine themselves to preparing positions on the southern Alpine slopes.
(Gazette de Lausanne 2.8.44).

It is reported that the withdrawal of German troops from Italy, conforming with the agreement reached at the Hitler-Mussolini meetings, has already started. During the last few days "the Hermann Goring Division re-crossed the Po to the Veneto, while five Italian Divisions which have returned from Germany have been sent to the firing line. It is affirmed by well-informed circles that the Germans, once they have abandoned LIGURIA, PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY, which, it is predicted, will be soon, will resist for some time along a line crossing the regions of MANTUA and VERONA, in order to assure the retreat of the majority of their forces over the BRENNER, after which the VENETO will be evacuated. Destructions in TRIESTE confirm this hypothesis.
(Popolo e Liberta 31.7.44).

VIII. Evacuation of Civilians and anti-partisan measures.

A civilian reported notices posted by Germans in NOCE and CUCIGLIANA, saying in part:

"Because there have been actions against German soldiers and [illegible] wines all towns on M. PISANO between ASCIANO

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"Because there have been actions against German soldiers and cutting of the telephone wires all towns on M. PISANO between ASCIANO and BUTI north of the ARNO River must be evacuated of all men between the ages of 16 and 50; otherwise, they must present themselves to the first German CP to be enrolled for work in LUCCA Province, where they will receive pay and food. All men between the ages of 16 and 50 found in this area, after 2nd August 1944 may be considered as partisans. Italians, for the benefit of your Fatherland, obey this order or be considered traitors of your country".

By order of the German Command.

(P.W.B. Advance HQ A.I 10.8.44).

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An order found in the SUBBIANO area in mid-July, after stating that all persons found in possession of arms or hiding partisans etc. would be shot, continues:

"Any village where it can be proved that there are bandits, or where attacks against German or Italian soldiers have been made, or where acts of sabotage intended to damage or destroy warlike stores have taken place, WILL BE BURNT TO THE GROUND. Moreover, male inhabitants of the village over 18 years of age WILL ALL BE SHOT. Women and girls will be interned in labour camps.

. ITALIANS.

The well-being of your country and the fate of your families are now in your hands. The German Armed Forces will carry out the above orders justly, but without mercy, and with all the severity and the consequences of the case.

THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE
GERMAN ARMED FORCES.

(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

IX. Behaviour.

An extract from the diary of a German deserter reads as follows, showing that the Germans themselves are sometimes shocked at the behaviour of their fellows:

"Yesterday we met in a small pub, as so often, a drunken "LANDSEER" who in spite of repeated warnings would not give up trying to steal several bottles of wine from the very nospitable landlord. We were able in the end to frustrate his intentions, but what a slight such conduct throws on the mentality of the German soldier. I think we must ascribe a major part in the earning of this title to ourselves, for unfortunately such types are only too well represented with us". (P.W.B. German Intelligence Report 29.7.44).

X. Atrocities.

A terrible atrocity was committed by German troops at the end of June as they retreated through GUARDISTALLO, a village some 6 miles east of CECINA.

In mid-June the Germans, knowing that partisans were operating in the Guardistallo district, came to an agreement with the priest and the communal-secretary of the village whereby they should discourage the villagers from hostile acts against German troops.

On June 29th, however, a band of Garibaldi Brigade partisans, from another district, clashed with a column of German artillery,

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or where attacks against [illegible] or where acts of sabotage intended to damage or destroy warlike stores have taken place, WILL BE BURNT TO THE GROUND. Moreover, male inhabitants of the village over 18 years of age WILL ALL BE SHOT. Women and girls will be interned in labour camps.

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On June 29th, however, a band of Garibaldi Brigade partisans, from another district, clashed with a column of German artillery, which was taking up positions on the Guardistallo-Cecina road. After a pitched battle, in which several Germans were killed the partisans withdrew. The Germans, as a reprisal, began by shooting out of hand three inhabitants from an adjacent farm, in addition to a woman refugee who was living there. In another farm they killed a woman and her daughter (who was in bed), and near the same place a man and his wife who were refugees. Eight of the partisans, who had been taken prisoner, were made to dig a large pit at the edge of a thicket

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near a farm; they were then machine-gunned and thrown into the pit, together with a dog which had also been machine-gunned.
(P.W.B. 5th Army). (6.8.44).

CERBAIOLA and CORNIOLA 25 civilians massacred as reprisals for resistance. (P.W.B. Rome 5.8.44).

COLLE VAL D'ELSA Some villages near Colle Val d'Elsa were raised to the ground.
(Censorship Intercept 24.7.44).

GUBBIO A German officer was killed, so 40 persons were taken from their houses and shot.
(Censorship Intercept 2.8.44).

SAN CASCIANO.

Another name to add to the long list of priests, victims of the blind, bloody nazi fascist barbarity is that of Fra Narciso, of the Capucine order who lived in a monastery near SAN CASCIANO, which has been recently liberated by the Allies. Brother Narciso was killed without any reason whatsoever whilst he was watching quietly, without any particular intention in view, some Germans putting mines in the road. All at once a German soldier shot at him. Fra Narciso in dismay asked why they had shot at him, but the German soldier was not yet satisfied and discharged another two shots at him until he saw his victim motionless and covered with blood on the ground.
(P.W.B. Rome 4.8.44).

Another priest was the witness of an incident of ferocity at CEDOGOLO in VAL CAMONICA. Arriving in BRENO, whence many people had fled to escape the reprisals which the Germans were carrying out at Cedegolo, the priest heard that there was a young man in his death agony in the hospital and asking for the Last Sacrament. He asked to be allowed to go and administer it. The Militia consented, but accompanied him to the bedside of the boy. On arrival there, suspecting that the boy was a partisan and had been wounded in the recent clash, they prevented the administration of the sacrament and massacred the youth in his bed under the eyes of the priest.
(P.W.B. Rome. 4.8.44).

CARNESE Two British P.Ws were given away to the Germans by some spy, captured, put in jail and shot three days later by machine gune fire

[illegible] As a reprisal for the killing of some Germans twenty

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PARNESE Two British P.Ws were given away to the Germans by some spy, captured, put in jail and shot three days later by machine gune fire

ANNA As a reprisal for the killing of some Germans twenty persons were put into a house and shot, among them women and children and then the house was burnt.
(Censorship Intercept 3.7.44).

LANCIANO The Germans rounded up all the young men here and shot them. One young man who was found in possession of arms had his eyes put out, his arms bound and was then shot.
(Censorship Intercept 3.7.44).

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S. SAVINO. Prov. Arezzo

At a villa in S. SAVINO Germans set up an "Inquisition Room" to try and obtain information about partisans in the district The owner of the villa was accused of being the leader of the local partisan movement, was tortured, but managed to escape. His family were also tortured and his son later found killed and horribly mutilated.
(F.S.S. 13.8.44).

XI. Treatment of Jews.

The following letter indicates that in spite of other preoccupations the Germans are still occupied in trying to carry out in Italy their campaign against the Jews.

"I request details of the number of Jews arrested by the Italian officials in accordance with the order of 30.11.43, divided according to men, women and children, and at the same time information as to whether these Jews can be taken over by the Security Police and the Security Service.

If not, I should like the reasons given which prevent this.

SS Sturmbannfuehrer.

(P.W.B. German Intelligence) (12.8.44).

XII. Propaganda.

The strongest theme of the German Propaganda is that the Allies bring with them hunger and devastation.
(P.W.B. 5th Army report 6.8.44).

The following is the text of a leaflet issued by the Germans as propaganda to their own troops.

LEAFLET FOR ALL SOLDIERS OF THE COMMAND-ZONE OF THE GERMAN MARINE-COMMANDOS IN ITALY.

Soldiers and members of my command-zone.

The fifth year of total war confronts us with new and difficult assignments. We can and shall master them if we concentrate our physical and material energies combined with a fanatical will-power to victory. Our enemies know that they cannot match or surpass us. either on the battle-field or in the economical realm. Therefore they try to undermine the morale of the German people. For this purpose they use bomb-terror, propaganda and agitation by radio, and

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You must obey the following six commandments:

1. Do not listen to any enemy broadcast even if there isn't anybody round to watch you. Subdue your curiosity and desire for sensational news. Remember that the enemy has only one objective in mind, to make you falter and to weaken your resistance. It is also forbidden to listen to musical programs of the enemy. Penitentiary punishment will not only be given to subversive elements, but to anybody disobeying this order.

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2. Don't spread rumours. The majority of unfavourable news originates from enemy agitation. Spreading of rumours will be punished by penal servitude even if the instigator did not hear the broadcast himself. Personal comments also are forbidden.

3. According to the will of the Fuehrer, the Party and the Wehrmacht must lead the German people to victory. Resent therefore the attempt of dissidents to split the Wehrmacht and the NSDAP. You not only have the right, but it is your duty to silence immediately those who try to make mischief or originate discord. Make them ashamed by your example. Remember that total warfare asks for everybody's help and therefore accomplishments cannot be perfect always. Good will has to make up for certain lapses.

4. Never discuss military matters in railroads, streetcars, or restaurants. The enemy listens. In total war the enemy is interested in everything; armament, supply, food, morale, discipline, and the relationship between leaders and subordinates. Don't discuss military topics even in your own family circle. Be extremely cautious when talking to other soldiers. Keep in mind the Fuehrer's order that nobody should receive more information than is necessary in order to carry out his mission.

5. Don't burden the folks at home with your own worries. They suffer sufficiently. It is neither manly nor chivalrous to tell unfavourable news to the weak ones; instead, console them when writing home.

6. Observe yourself and your comrades to note whether or not the impression you make is correct. Remember at all times that you are the model for many others and that you are responsible-together with them- for the final victory of our people.

MEENDSEN-BOHLKEN
Admiral.

(Confidential source 28.7.44).

XIII. Morale.

E of S. MARCELLO -COLLINA German soldiers here complained of lack of weapons and were much discouraged by the fact that the positions they had built were still empty.

Some informants who are Senior Officers in the Italian Navy, state that special Staff Officers were sent from Germany to spread reports among units of the German Navy at VENICE about the efficacy of secret weapons.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report to 8.8.44).

POLITICS

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POLITICS

XIV. Pavolini's last instructions in Florence.

One informant stated that PAVOLINI was known, before leaving Florence, to have organised 400 men with orders to shoot or enter on a Black List, all those who collaborated with the Allies. He also left behind him one of his secretaries PUCCIO PUCCI, believed to be living at the Savoy Hotel. Another Fascist reported to have been left behind is the Marchese SANTIANI, via Italo Balbo 9.
(P.W.B. 8th Army 8.8.44).

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XV. Location of Ministries in Northern Italy.

"The Board of Education is at PADOVA and the War-Department has moved to several small villages on MONTE GRAPPA. I asked a soldier for the name of one of them, and he told me that the "Direzione Generale" for officers is located at PATERNO, on the MONTE GRAPPA.
(Censorship Intercept 13.7.44).

The Republican Fascist Ministry of Justice is located at CREMONA, Corso Garibaldi 25.
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

ECONOMICS.

XVI. Food Situation.

Conditions in the PISA district during June and July.

Economic conditions were not too bad. Here are the typical Black Market prices:

Bread	Lire	25 to 50	the kilo
Beans	"	40-60	" "
Pasta	"	30	" "
Rice	"	30	" "
Wine	"	50	" litre
Olive oil	"	1200	the litre.

Meat became very plentiful in the last few weeks as the peasants were slaughtering their stock clandestinely (to avoid German requisitioning) and selling it privately.
(P.W. B. 5th Army Report 6.8.44).

Regime Fascist CREMONA 29.7.44 reports: From the month of February until June fines of over 224,000,000 lire have been imposed by the Provincial Price Commissions for breaches of food regulations.
(4.8.44).

Life in PADUA The children perhaps would not exist without dreaming of dishes of "pasti" meat, etc. We are not afraid of the alerts and the bombardments: it was this that was lacking: Nerves are very solid and I have no desire to be evacuated".
(Censorship Intercept 3.5.44).

XVII. Transport.

Lack of Car Tyres in northern Italy.

A circular letter of the O.M. (a motorcar factory in Brescia)

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XVII. Transport.

Lack of Car Tyres in northern Italy.

A circular letter of the O.M. (a motorcar factory in Brescia) reads as follows:

"Owing to lack of standard measure tyres, many vehicles must adopt wheels of different size from the normal one:"
(Censorship Intercept 31.7.44).

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XVIII. Industry

MILAN The "Compagnia Generale di Elettricita" factory in MILAN Via Borgognone 34, constructs engines for electric locomotives It employed about 5,000 workers, but production has been hindered by lack of material and the attitude of the workers and most of the Italian managers. There is a German control commission.

APUANIA The Factory of the same society in APUANIA has been dismantled. The machinery has been partly taken to pieces and hidden, partly removed by the Germans.

MILAN The Pirelli firm in MILAN was working on a small scale owing to damage by bombing and shortage of material (May)

PONTE S. PIETRO and TRESEZZO The Caproni aircraft works at PONTE S. PIETRO and TRESEZZO employ about 6,000 workers. Junkers aircraft are repaired there

SW. BERGAMO-DALMINE Torpedoes, shells and bombs are produced in factories here (Mid May)

NOVARA The refining plant of the ANIC factory of LEGHORN had been removed to NOVARA, where there is another ANIC factory (July).

An informant who was a technical worker of PIAGGIO firm in PONTEDERA said that Piaggo factories had left Pontedera in May and were distributed among the following localities:

TRINITA (close to railway station) manufacture of parts for the wings of FW 190.

BIELLA HQ manufacture of parts for german aircraft engines.

CEVA Large storage depots

ALBA (SW ASTI): MONDOVI
FINALE LIGURE (SW SAVONA)

The managing Director was Eng. COLOMBELLI, from PONTEDERA, who co-operates with the Germans. About 1,000 workers had been compulsorily transferred from PONTEDERA: many others were engaged in the new area. (8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

XIX. Public Health.

"... There is a severe epidemic of typhoid, scabes and other infectious diseases.... We are just stunned and don't understand anything, not even a purge can be found and falling ill one must per force die". (CHIETI 4.8.44).
(Censorship Intercept 5.8.44).

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XX. Air Raid Damage.

BOLOGNA

Although Bologna is to a large extent destroyed, the DUCATI factories there for producing radio sets for the German Air Force have not been bombed.

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RIMINI Trains for the south for civilians go as far as RIMINI, where the Officine Mecanniche Reggiane" mechanical works have been entirely destroyed by heavy bombing.

PRATO, SESTO and CASTEL FIORENTINO stations, as well as the locomotives there, a total of 140, have been destroyed.

ROVIGO is intact, but FERRARA is greatly damaged by bombing. The district around PADUA has been hit and MESTRE even more so LAMBRATE, near MILAN has been badly hit.

In a letter dated 17.7.44 a correspondent writes "Air raid alarms are more and more exasperating, but there were few bombardments on MILAN, which particularly aimed at the railroad. In EMILIA, on the contrary, which represents the back area, life is rather hard on account of the continuous air attacks. The towns are being destroyed systematically and reduced to deserts. We cannot understand how such terroristic raids, as the recent one over BRESCIA, are possible; the city was heavily hit, chiefly in the centre. PIACENZA, CREMONA, MANTOVA and mainly BOLOGNA were repeatedly bombed".
(Censorship Intercept 3.8.44).

Another writer states "If you could see what LA SPEZIA is reduced to, you would no longer recognise it. The beautiful avenue LUNGOMARE, via Piave, viale Garibaldi... are only a heap of rubbish.
(Censorship Intercept 1.8.44).

GENOA May 19th. On Friday 19th, we had another terroristic air raid. Many churches and houses were hit. The Pittalunga Cinema was half demolished... it seems that the whole section around the Cinema was the particular target. Buildings in Via Casaregia were damaged too, as well as the Church of S. Zita just in the middle of the Corso Buenos Aires, many blocks in Via Trento, the "Carabinieri" Barracks in Via Trieste, the Fiat premises, the Upim stores in Via XX Settembre, the firemen's Barracks, and many other places all over the town. It was really terrific".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

PESARO " Here the bombardments have greatly damaged the City, especially TREBBIO and PANTANO. The 2nd Artillery Barracks were hit, the soldiers have gone; in the city nothing is left; if you could only see the disaster and desolation!".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

BOLOGNA "Just imagine in BOLOGNA, owing to the repeated attacks, the sewers were damaged and the other pipes overflowed.".

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(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

PESARO " Here the bombardments have greatly damaged the City, especially TREBBIO and PANTANO. The 2nd Artillery Barracks were hit, the soldiers have gone; in the city nothing is left; if you could only see the disaster and desolation!".
(Censorship Intercept 22.7.44).

BOLOGNA "Just imagine in BOLOGNA, owing to the repeated attacks, the sewers were damaged and the other pipes overflowed.".
(Censorship Intercept 25.7.44).

VIAREGGIO Viareggio is bombed every day ... Some days ago a very heavy raid smashed the dockyard, the Varignano, via S. Francesco, via Ravia, the townhall, the pivot bridge, the old Fascist Headquarters, the Commissariat, the Unica stores etc."
(Censorship Intercept 21.7.44).

RIMINI "... Rimini does not exist any more. Even the workshops have disappeared. This is the 20th bombardment she has gone through we call her the "great wounded". The hospital, the Suffragio Church, Castellaccio, the building of poor Mr. Trozzolini, all razed to the ground. So many places don't exist any more...
(Censorship Intercept 2.8.44).

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SECRET
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PRESS

XXI. Clandestine Papers.

MILAN A number of clandestine Italian newspapers appear in MILAN, but not in BOLOGNA, although newspapers printed elsewhere are circulated there. "La Nuova Italia", and "La Liberta" are among the underground newspapers in MILAN.

The FRONTE DELLA GIOVENTU, a youth organisation depending on the Comitato di Liberazione, has published an underground sheet called the RISCOSSA since May 1st 1944. Only about 8 numbers of this sheet were produced under extreme difficult conditions. One secret publishing centre was Villa delle Rose.
(P.W.B. 5th Army 26.7.44).

PERSONALITIES.

XXII. Dangerous Fascists north of the Front.

RAVENNA The prefect of the Province of RAVENNA is BOGAZZI, Franco. MONTANARI is the Fascist Federale.

AREZZO. MELCHIORE MELCHIORI, Prefect of the Province of Arezzo since April is alleged to have escaped with 18 million lire belonging to the Bank of Italy.

Capo Manipolo VEGOLI and a certain DEBATECOLA are alleged to have carried out several murders in Arezzo.

ROVIGO Informant drove about 65 prominent Fascists by truck from CAMPIGLIA to ROVIGO. At Rovigo, which seems to be a concentration point for Fascists, at least of TUSCANY, the evacuees were received by the chief of the province, MENNA, Federico, his assistant GNESI of S. GIULIANO TERME, one of the worst Fascists of PISA Province, and a professor from VOLTERRA (Name unknown). Their reception was very cold and the exiles were sent to three little villages (one was POPOZZE), each about 10 km from ROVIGO.

E of PISA - CALCI Another driver brought Fascists from VOLTERRA to CALCI and then nr ROVIGO. The passengers were cheerful and insolent. They included Capt DELLE MURE of VOLTERRA. The organisers of the expedition were a certain Capt RUSSO(?) and a veterinary surgeon of CAMPIGLIA (latter in civilian clothes)

PISTOIA Capt ENZO ORIOLO, son-in-law of the well-known writer GIOVACCHINO, is an enthusiastic member of the Republican Army, and was serving nr PISTOIA as ADC to a German General.

[illegible] in PISA, Lt. Col. CUNEO, was strongly

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PISA CO of the Carabinieri in PISA, Lt. Col. CUNEO, was strongly pro-German. One of his officers, however, Capt ARENA, seems to have been most helpful to patriots recently.

VOLTERRA. Republican officers in command of mopping-up operations around VOLTERRA were DE RENZIS, LT TREZZI, Maresciallo APPIOTTI.

LUCCA In January last the Military Provincial HQ of LUCCA was commanded by Col Cesare CHIARI, and the Discipline and Personnel Bureau by Lt. Co. Mario ARCAMONE.

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VOLTERRA Dangerous Fascists escaped from Volterra are

Cons. OLIVIERI
Maj. MARCHETTI (Militia)
PAGLIANTI

and from POMARANCE-

BACCI (Mayor)
2/Lt. FONDI (Militia).
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary to 8.8.44).

XXIII. Dangerous elements in the Fascist Republican Army.

Capt RENATO BILLI and Capt MASTRANGO - two officers of the so-called Fascist army. Both have served their German masters very zealously.

MARINO ROTELLI, paid spy of the Germans and member of the O.V.R.A. He had many captures, tortures and executions of patriots on his conscience.

Maresciallo GINO OLIVIERI, who increased his salary by aid to the Nazis.

BRUNETTO ROSSI offered to go volunterily on the so called punitive expeditions against the patriots. Has numerous murders on his conscience, thought out and committed in cold blood, of which he boasts to his companions.

GINO TURCHI, squadrist, sciarpa littorio, agent of the O.V.R.A, paid for his cruelty.

FROSINI, sadistic executioner, squadrist of 1921.

MARIO SOLDI, sergeant of the "Death Battalion".

ARTURO ALMI who apart from the usual executions, asked for and obtained permission to take part in a Fascist execution platoon which assassinated 19 patriots in the locality of MONTE MAGGIO.

XXIV. Active Collaborators in anti-partisan operations.

OC. SS. in North Italy - Gen. ASTER
OC. SS. for LOMBARDY, PIEDMONT and LIGURIA -COL RANK
DR. SALERNO: Head of TURIN Province.
GIUSEPPE SOLERO PRF Commissar.
CONSOLE RY MILITIA - GIOVANNI PERINI
1 Siniore Ry - ALESSANDRO CAZZANI
Centurione GIOVANNI PERINI
Maresciallo ALBINOLO

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Maresciallo ALBINOLO
Centurione GIOVANNI PONZETTI
Capo Manipolo - PIETRO GIOLITO
CISTERNINO AMILCARE - Head of FFSS.

(Confidential Source 12.7.44).

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To: PUBLIC SAFETY

SECRET
"D" Section Italy (Occ).

9th August, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

SUMMARY

RESISTANCE

Partisan Bands On the immediate front of the Allied Armies news of Partisan activity has been rather meagre. There are two reasons for this - (1) The powerful and active bands in the ANCONA-MACERATA-CAGLI-URBINO area have now been absorbed by the Allied advance and (2) The bands in the Florence zone find themselves in the midst of the German army and the population is subjected to the most savage reprisals for any guerilla activity in the neighbourhood.

It is to be expected that a further Allied advance will have the effect of bringing these groups into action against German rear-guards.

In the various Alpine valleys radiating round Turin, bands totalling some 13,000 men were reported up to the end of June, and the following areas were known to be under their control at that date: LANZO, LANGHE, UPPER PINEROLO valley, VAL SESIA and some of the OSSOLO valleys. Of the bands along the Gothic line in the vicinity of Florence, there are a few weak groups still south of the line. A band of 250 is reported in the ALPE DELLA LUNA, and the TANI battalion of the PIO BORRI Brigade in the ALPE DI CATENAIA. In the PRATOMAGNO the "Sandro" Battalion (late Bruno) is much disorganised after it had been disarmed by the Communist "Lanciotto" Brigade. This latter has moved back to N.E. of Florence on MONTE GIOVE.

Another band under a Russian Lt. Colonel has left M. MORELLO and moved east of Florence. They left behind them another band of about 400 Carabinieri.

The only news of bands behind the Gothic line is a report that the 6th Garibaldi Brigade is near VILLAMINOZZO, S.E. of MODENA.

The Black Brigades. Fascist radio has claimed successes for their new Fascist Party patrols in PAVIA, MANTOVA, VERCELLI, NOVARA, VARESE There can be little doubt that a strong Fascist offensive is on the way and that Patriot forces will be hard put to it for the next few weeks.

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FASCIST FORCES

Rumours of GRAZIANI's resignation are now denied and Transocean declares he will take command of the new German-trained Italian divisions and probably also of the Black Brigades.

Fascist Divisions. The "Monte Rosa" Alpine Division is reported now in ALESSANDRIA, and believed to be en route for TURIN. The "21st April"Group is also in Turin. It is expected that the new Fascist Divisions will join in the offensive against the partisans.

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SECRET SUMMARY 2.

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Morale. Letters written by Fascist soldiers reveal the harassing nature of their service in connection with the guerrillas.

GERMANS

Increased Severity of Reprisals. The highest testimony to the efficacy of the partisans has been the great increase in the severity of the reprisals inflicted. The Germans are said to have announced that they will shoot 100 civilians for every German killed. In some areas their savagery seems to have attained its purpose, as the local population has become quite hostile to the partisans.

Behaviour Even Germans themselves admit they cause senseless and wanton destruction. From every side come reports of cities plundered, villages burnt down, and mass murders of civilians.

Propaganda. This seems to be concentrating entirely on the V.1. flying bomb.

POLITICS

A reliable account of the political tendencies in recently liberated areas comes from LIVORNO. The mass of the population is politically apathetic after 20 years of Fascism. At the present moment many are attracted to Communism. The Christian Social, and Democratic Parties are said not to have much influence, though the Clergy has gained great popularity for its resistance to Fascism and assistance to P.Ws. and Patriots. The prestige of the monarchy is very low.

Transfer of Fascists to Germany It is reported that all Fascist functionaries and their families must transfer themselves to Germany For the moment they are staying in N. Italy, but must be prepared to be evacuated at a moment's notice.

ECONOMICS.

Food Situation. From MILAN it is reported that prices in the Black Market have reached new heights and are still rising.

Transport. From VALENZA comes news of the inconvenience and loss of time caused by damage to one of the Po railway bridges.

Fuel and Power. In TURIN further restrictions in the use of electricity are reported.

Exports. New regulations prevent all free exportation. All contracts must be submitted to the central authority set up to control exports.

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Air Raid Damage. The MACCHI airoplane factory in MASNAGO has suspended all work owing to serious damage.

LABOUR

At the end of June a leaflet to encourage workers on strike was circulated jointly by the Socialists and Communists.

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"D" Section Italy (Occ). 9th August, 1944.

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

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY -NO 19

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REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

This report does not in any way represent the political views of the compilers, but is an effort to present an accurate picture of conditions in enemy occupied Italy, and of the state of public opinion there, compiled from Italian eye witness accounts and other information. Sources of information are quoted in brackets. The information is released by Military Censorship for all propaganda except for items side-lined.

RESISTANCE

I. Guerrillas and Partisans.

Up to the 30th June 1944 partisan strength in northern Italy was estimated as follows:-

In the VAL D'OSSOLA and the VAL SESIA	3,000
In the CUNEO Province:	5,000
In the VAL D'AOSTA	1,500
In the VAL DI SUSA:	1,500
In the VAL D'ENSA	900
In the LANZO and CANAVESE valleys:	900

The following areas were known to be under partisan control at that date:

LANZO
LANGHE
The upper PINEROLO valley
VAL SESIA
Some OSSOLA valleys

There are some 20 groups in the region north of latitude 45 30 and between Lake ORTA and MONT BLANC, the strongest of which controls the region from LAKE ORTA to MONTE ROSA and from BIELLA to COLLEMORO. Only 1,000 men are armed, but

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It is everywhere reported that the Partisan members would be greatly increased if more supplies were made available. This is particularly true in the TURIN area, where the enemy is expected to begin mopping-up operations, partly with the purpose of securing the harvest for the Reich.

The Bohemians and Ukrainians who have been incorporated into the Wehrmacht and stationed in PIEDMONT and LIGURIA show a marked desire to work with the patriots. (Confidential source).

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On the immediate army front partisans are not at present very active. In the Adriatic sector the powerful bands operating in the MACERATA -ANCONA area have now been overrun. Further west, the CAGLI-URBINO SAN SEPOLCRO area was formerly a centre of partisan activity directed from CAGLI. The main bands were 5 Garibaldi Brigade (theoretically communist) in the Mt. NERONE area and its liberal counterpart 1 PROLETARIAN shock brigade at PIETRALUNGA. Both units are now south of the line. The Proletarians were over-run when we entered PIETRALUNGA in the first half of July. On the following day the Garibaldini received a message to come down from the mountains to help our troops at PIETRALUNGA, who were being counter-attacked. After some discussion and under the impression that they would be allowed to continue fighting with us as ordinary infantry, they tardily obeyed and arrived at PIETRALUNGA to find we had evacuated. They held the village for a time and then retired to the surrounding hills, where they found themselves in no-man's land and had eventually to be disarmed. Partisan elements further north were subsequently contacted, but proved uncooperative, alleging dissatisfaction at the disarming and treatment of 5 Garibaldi Brigade (echoes of this dissatisfaction have even spread as far south as Rome where it has appeared in editorial columns of the Roman press.) There are thus virtually no partisans in an area suited to their activities and very lightly held by the Germans.

In the area from SAN SEPOLCRO to south of FLORENCE partisans have been kept in check by savage German reprisals. The cumulative effect of this systematic destruction, combined with indiscriminate shooting and hanging of civilian hostages or organised massacres such as those perpetrated at S. POLO and CIVITELLA, has been to cause a rift between the civilian population and the partisans which in some areas has approached actual enmity. Such bands as remain south of the Gothic Line are of little account. In the ALPE DELLA LUNA there are reported to be some 250 men and in the ALPE DI CATENAIA elements from the TANI Bn of the PIO BORI Brigade may still remain. The only unit left on the PRATOMAGANO is the "SANDRO" Batn of the same "brigade" which is, however, very disorganised after having been more or less disarmed by the more powerful communist LANCIOTTO Brigade before the latter left for the FLORENCE area. Finally, on either side of the INCISA-FLORENCE road there are rather ineffective partisan elements in the Pt. VOMO DI SASSO and MT. MOGGIO areas.

Further back along the Gothic line and in the hills round FLORENCE partisans have been very active in the past. No recent information has been received of the strong bands which existed some time ago in the area of Mt. FUMAIOIO and it is possible that they have gone to ground as German forces concentrate on the Gothic line. The same may be true of the Garibaldi Brigade commanded by a certain LIBERO in the ALPE DI SAN BENEDETTO further west.

To the north ~~west~~ east of FLORENCE a strong body of partisans has collected round Mt. GIOVI. They have recently been joined by the LANCIOTTO Bri gade from the PRATOMAGNO, which is now south of BORGO SAN LORENZO. According to one report the band based on MT. MORELLO, north of FLORENCE, which is commanded by a Lt. Col. BORRUSKI a Russian ex member of the International Brigade in SPAIN, has now moved East of the town to the area north of the FLORENCE-PONTASSIEVE road, where a band of some 250 men was previously reported. It is not known whether they have been followed by their ideologically not very sympathetic neighbours on MONTE MORELLO, a band of some 400 Carabinieri, complete with officers, which was reported on the properties of GEN INFANTE, former M.A. London and Washington, and a prominent personality of the Italian High Command in Liberated Italy.

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July. On the following day the Garibaldini received a message to come down from the mountains to help our troops at PIETRALUNGA, who were being counter-attacked. After some discussion and under the impression that they would be allowed to continue fighting with us as ordinary infantry, they tardily obeyed and arrived at PIETRALUNGA to find we had evacuated. They held the village for a time and then retired to the surrounding hills, where they found themselves in no-man's land and had eventually to be disarmed. Partisan elements further north were subsequently contacted, but proved uncooperative, alleging dissatisfaction at the disarming and treatment of 5 Garibaldi Brigade (echoes of this dissatisfaction have even spread as far south as Rome where it has appeared in editorial columns of the Roman press.) There are thus virtually no partisans in an area suited to their activities and very lightly held by the Germans.

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Little information is available on bands behind the Gothic Line except for a recent report from a reliable source that 6 Garibaldi Brigade is in the area of VILLAMINOZZO, south east of MODENA.

The fate of bands along the Gothic Line depends on the extent to which the Germans continue their policy of reprisals, to which there are indications that they

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have now added the weapon of infiltration of partisan bands by agents (a member of the Brandenburg Regiment has been reported to be engaged on this work) and of disruption by a "Department of Crypto-Propaganda". This institution is said to publish leaflets ostensibly emanating from a partisan band and designed to set the bands against each other by claiming for one band the credit for achievements which belong to another.

An informant was told by a certain Captain T in TURIN that the LANZO VALLEY is largely controlled by a partisan band composed mainly of men from the former Italian 5th Army. They are well organised, and equipped and their relations with the civilian population are good. The commander is said to be Gen. VERCELLING, former GOC of the 4th Army. Activity has taken the form of active resistance to German punitive expeditions, which as a rule are now the only German types to be seen in the area. This active resistance includes instigating strikes in TURIN, purging the local Fascists and occupying such towns as CORIO and BARANGERO.

CUROGNE. At Cuorgne in the Province of AOSTA there is a band of Partisans under the leadership of Capt NinoQUERIO, which is thought to be about 400 strong. It has successfully repulsed Fascist punitive expeditions, as for example on December 8th when 78 Fascists were killed. It is under an unspecified central command, which supplies arms, funds and orders. The informant had heard of other bands at RONCACANAVESE and BARDONECCHIA, the latter being said to number about 1000 ex-soldiers. The civil population and the Carabinieri were very cooperative the latter even giving passes to the partisans to be out after curfew in order to collect rations.

VALSESIA There are very active bands of partisans in the Val SESIA area, led by a certain MOSCATELLI. The strength is between 3000 and 3,500, plus 150 to 200 British and American prisoners of war. The headquarters were formerly at RIMELLA, but are now at RIMASCO. It is stated that at one time these bands took BIELLA, and held it for several days.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary No. 22 to 28th July).

BORGO SAN LORENZO The "Potente", Lanciotto and "Molle" groups are operating in the area of BORGO SAN LORENZO. They belong to the First Brigade Garibaldi; their strength is about 1500 men. They are under the control of the Committee of Liberation of Borgo San Lorenzo, which is in liaison with the Committee of FLORENCE. The informants belonged to the "Molle" group, which is smaller than the other, having a strength of about 150 men. It has been recently formed. The groups were very active in the past months. A village (VICCHIO) was occupied in February for one day and during a mopping up of Hermann Goering Division they fought for 36 hours. Another mopping-up was organised by Germans with Italian troops of the "San Marco" and "Muti" Battalions, without any results. The partisans cannot act now because of German reprisals. They are waiting for the Allied attack on Florence in order to harry the Germans from the other side. It is not difficult for the partisans to find supporters because the peasants are friendly to them, but they are in need of weapons, having only five or six St.1, an Italian LMG, some German and Italian rifles and revolvers.
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(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary No 22 to 28th July).

VOGOGNA The Fascist press reports that strong bands of partisans stopped a train on the Milan-Domodossola line near VOGOGNA, and demanded the soldiers controlling the line to surrender. A short clash occurred, during which the partisans fled leaving two dead. The Fascists lost two wounded.

TURIN Turin newspapers publish the following communique issued by the German Command "On Friday morning in Turin, an outlaw attacked a German officer with a

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knuckleduster and wounded him in the face. Onlookers did not stir and did not try to prevent the attack, either through fear of, orsympathy for, the partisans. The population is urgently requested to participate to the utmost in the destruction of, and the hunt for, partisans, in order to avoid severe reprisals. Owing to the attitude of the population, the curfew is fixed at 20.30 hrs, from today (24.7.44) (Neue Zurcher Zeitung.)

Mopping-up Operations. - Use of Black Brigades.

Three bandits were killed during mopping-up operations carried out by an Action Squad of the Blackshirt "Augusto Cristina" Brigade in Verbania. A fourth bandit, captured wearing the uniform of a Lt. Colonel of the Republican Air Force, is now in prison in NOVARA.
(Stampa Turin 17.7.44).

PADUA As a consequence of the activity of partisan groups, who commit all sorts of crimes against peaceful citizens, peasants and workers, the Command of the 18th Black Brigade has begun large-scale operations against these bandits, which will continue until the total mopping up of the bandits and the re-establishment of public order.

The first results of these operations are the following: In the SANTOCAMPARIO sector, the rebels have been attacked and dispersed. Their meeting places have been destroyed. In CONSELVO, groups of rebels have been captured. Arms, ammunition, food and enemy explosives have been seized.

In the MONTENA sector, Fascist groups, in co-operation with the National Republican Guard and a German unit, have attacked an important partisan unit, strongly armed. The fighting which took place in the area occupied by the rebels lasted many hours, and ended with the total destruction of the band. Ten rebels have been killed. The others dispersed, escaped towards the Cremona and Rovigo Provinces.

PAVIA In ORTI, thirty-six volunteers of the 14th Black Brigade, under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel BIANCHI, have carried out mopping-up operations against rebel groups. This operation, carried out in collaboration with the Germans, has brought about excellent results. Ten militiamen of the N.R.G. were killed; six others were seriously wounded. It is estimated that the rebels sustained much heavier losses. Colonel OLIVER(?) Commander of Pavia expressed his satisfaction at the results achieved.
(P.W.B. Monitoring - Axis Radio 6.8.44).

MANTUA and VERCELLI The Fascist press reports that Fascist Guard patrols [illegible] troops terminated mopping up operations in the MANTUA and VERCELLI regions and are estimated to have killed 110, and arrested some 200 partisans. The latter will be tried by the Tribunal. Italo-German losses are estimated at 12 killed and 30 wounded.

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(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 27.7.44).

VAL SESIA New prisoners are now being executed by the thousand. Mopping-up operations have been carried out in the Val Sesia, where an independent Republic had been proclaimed, and in many other valleys of PIEDMONT and LOMBARDY. In the Province of NOVARA, after only one expedition 350 prisoners were executed. After the recovery of VARESE, which had been occupied by partisans, 210 prisoners were shot. Expeditions are now being undertaken in the APENNINES, south of PARMA and PIACENZA. At BETTOLA, whence certain Ligurian harbours can be reached such as RAPALLO and SESTRI, the partisans are reported to have lost an important battle, and 60 of their men were executed. Repression is becoming collective. At

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BUGLIO, in the VALTELLINA, 500 men attacked the partisans by surprise. The inhabitants of the village fled with the patriots, and they had good reason. The Fascists set fire to the village of 1,400 inhabitants, completely destroying it. The same measures have been taken in Tuscany.
(News Digest 24.7.44).

Hanging of Hostages.

The hanging of hostages instead of shooting has created an unfavourable impression on Italians, as it recalls the martyrdom suffered by numerous Italian patriots during the Austrian domination. In TURIN, on July 23rd, two further hostages were hanged following sabotage, the nature of which was not specified, at the railway station.
(Gazette de Lausanne 27.7.44).

Rumours of Trouble in MILAN.

Reinforcements of the GNR have arrived in MILAN, consisting of picked troops parachutists, and motorised battalions. These troops are intended for use against the threat of a general revolt, which is increasing in the city.

II. Sabotage.

Towards the end of June a large patrol of patriots entered the experimental section of the ALFA-ROMEO works, which had been evacuated to ARMENO on LAKE ORTA, and was working to full capacity for the Germans and destroyed delicate machinery which will not be easily replaceable.
(Libera Stampa Lugano 20.7.44).

III. Assassinations.

BRESCIA On the 5th July at about 5 oclock, while he was travelling towards BORGO SAN GIACOMO, the Republican Fascist Lt. LIBERO AICARDI, was captured by an armed band. As Aicardi stated that he had always worn the Fascist badge, he was compelled to get into the bandits car, and was taken to COLLE SAN BERNARDO.
(P.W.B. Monitoring Axis Radio 6.8.44).

BIELLA On July 7th the Mayor GIUSEPPE BERTOTTO and the Secretary of the Commune GIROLAMO BENEDETTI, who was also the veterinary surgeon of Vegliomesso were kidnapped from outside their homes, and were recently found shot dead, their corpses showing signs of ill-treatment prior to death.
(Regime Fascista 7.7.44).

GENOA The 80 year old Fascist CARLO MADRAN was killed in his villa near RECCO on July 7th. (Corriere della Sera Milan 6.7.44).

MILAN At Castel Nuovo, Milan the Fascist Secretary was shot by an unknown person.

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LECCE Two partisans assassinated a German customs officer on July 2nd at GAGIO, near LECCE. The murderers fled with their families. Although the inhabitants knew what had occurred nobody denounced the perpetrators. As soon as the Germans left their names, however, they fired the houses and compelled all the inhabitants to do forced labour for not denouncing the murderers.
(Provincia di Como.)

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FASCIST FORCES

IV. Reorganisation of the Army - Italian troops on front.

An announcement that new Italian formations are being employed at the front is expected daily. Current Italo-German discussions are believed to be dealing with this matter, and the Fascist press in general is preparing its readers for the future tasks of the Italian troops. A report from Mussolini's H.Q. published in the evening edition of the Corriere della Sera, states that an extensive regrouping of Italian troops is now taking place as the prelude to large-scale employment of the newly formed Italian units. The report adds that all Italian volunteer formations which have been employed at the front in Italy have been withdrawn, to return to the fighting line later regrouped with the new units. It is also stated that Italian troops will be employed at the front as well as in fighting against partisans. Italian troops have been formed partly as battalions and partly as divisions. Volunteers who reported for front line service in Italy after the armistice have been formed into battalions, while troops trained in Germany have been formed into divisions.

Italian airmen have not been withdrawn from the front. In July they repeatedly scored successes as fighters and torpedo-pilots against superior U.S. bomber formations and strongly protected convoys

Italian troops outside Italy continue to be employed in different tasks. In Germany and France, special Italian smokescreen commandos are operating. In Budapest, Italians are employed in air defence and in Montenegro, Greece and on the Aegean Islands, German and Italian units are closely cooperating.
(Transocean 20.7.44).

Seidlitz reports from Venice "The mobilisation of the Fascist Party runs parallel to the employment of the Italian divisions trained in Germany. The far-reaching internal political measures to be expected after the Duce's trip to Germany are thereby not exhausted. These internal problems have been in the foreground of the Italian press since the Duce's return from his talk with Adolf Hitler.

The total mobilisation of the Fascist Party, whose male members between 18 and 60 will be incorporated in Black shirt Brigades, will result, the authorities hope, in purging of the hinterland of bandits who of late have become more active. The Blackshirt brigades will in practice be police in the rear of the Italian divisions fighting at the front.
(Transocean 28.7.44).

V. Graziani to command Black Brigades.

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(Transocean 28.7.44).

V. Graziani to command Black Brigades.

According to news from a wireless source, General GRAZIANI has assured the command of the Army, composed of German and Republican forces and working under the dependency of Field Marshal Kesselring. This measure on the part of the German Command can be interpreted as a consequence of the return into Italy of the Republican forces trained in Germany.
(Italian official source).

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Foreign reports alleging that Marshall Rodolfo GRAZIANI has resigned are refuted by competent Italian quarters - reports Seidlitz from Venice - In fact, the Marshal is now more than ever the centre of Italian military reconstruction. His functions are not merely those of a Minister of War. For some time it has been an open secret that Graziani would assume command of the newly-trained Italian divisions. Now Regime Fascista announces the fact. It writes: " Graziani will assume command of all the Armed Forces. He will also lead the fighting against the rebels." This formula indicates that the new "Black Brigades" are also under Graziani's command. (Transocean 29.7.44).

VI. The 1st Battalion "Raggruppamento 21 Aprile".

This unit was formed from Fascist volunteers during the latter part of December. Under the personal direction of Gen. GAMBERA the unit was organised in TRIESTE and in January moved in the vicinity of TORINO where it has since been employed in police duties and combat against the partisans. The RAGGRUPPAMENTO 21 APRILE are 2 battalions fully equipped and trained for combat duty and may possibly be employed along the defenses of the GOTHIC line. Desertions have been very few since the personnel are volunteers who still firmly believe in defending Italy against the "Allied agressor".

The Reggruppamento consists of two infantry battalions with approximately 450 men in each. The battalion has 4 companies plus a headquarters detachment. The 4th company is designated as the heavy company.

Weapons	1st. Co.	12 LMGs, model BREDA.30. Rifles Model .91
	2nd Co.	(same as 1st co)
	3rd Co.	9 mortars, 45mm and rifles model .91
	4th co.	6 HMGs, model .37 plus 2 AT guns model 47/32

Personalities. C.O. RAGGRUPPAMENTO 21 APRILE - Gen GAMBERA
1st Bn. 1st Co. C.O. Capt SPERANDIA
" " 1st Lt. FERRARI
1st Lt. CHILASTRI.

(G.2. 10.7.44).

VII. The Monte Rosa Division

The Italian division "Monte Rosa" has been transferred from Germany to the north of Italy. It is at the moment at ALESSANDRIA and destined for TURIN. The enemy, in its despair, hopes to use this division against the patriots in the north of Italy, where the always increasing proportion of the clandestine fighting creates grave anxiety.

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" " 1st Lt. FERRARI
1st Lt. CHILASTRI.

(G.2. 10.7.44).

VII. The Monte Rosa Division

The Italian division "Monte Rose" has been transferred from Germany to the north of Italy. It is at the moment at ALESSANDRIA and destined for TURIN. The enemy, in its despair, hopes to use this division against the patriots in the north of Italy, where the always increasing proportion of the clandestine fighting creates grave anxiety.

The Nazis think that the morale of this division is rather good. as the soldiers and the officers have been kept in complete ignorance of the present situation in Italy. The division knows almost nothing of what has happened in June and July. They think blindly that the line of resistance is still across the middle of Italy. They do not even know of the defeat and retreat of the Kesselring army, the liberation of all central Italy, of Rome, Perugia, Arezzo, Siena, Livorno Ancona etc. They do not know that the capital of Tuscany is about to be snatched from the nazi-fascist oppression.

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How could they know these things? The "MONTE ROSA" division has been until now in Germany, obliged to remain there, not as an allied troop, but as a blind instrument, destined to be used only when needed for the exigencies of war by the Germans. The enemy thinks in this way to deceive the soldiers and officers of the "Monte Rosa" division, pushing them into a fratricide war against their own compatriots.
(P.W.B. Rome).

VIII. Fear of Partisans.

An Italian soldier writes in June "I do not feel quite well - on account of the rebels' increasing activity. Believe me, this province is pretty infected (Grosseto). You know I am a "squadrista", "marcia su Roma", and these merits of mine mean crimes to them, and might lead me to the end you imagine. May God help us! If there should be any place for me in TURIN, try to let me know. I am ready to leave even my family."

Another writes "I am on guard this evening and foresee a bad night; we must be on the alert, because the rebels are near us and we may expect an attack any minute".
(Censorship extracts. 24.7.44 and 19.7.44).

IX. Mopping up by the "Legione Guerrigliatori".

An Italian soldier writes saying he belongs to the "Legione Guerrigliatori" at BASSINA and takes part in operations for the capture of patriots hiding in the mountains. "We are always taking trips into the mountains, hunting for deserters, often walking entire nights and days and only after a week or two, we return to the barracks and can rest. Now I am resting as I have just returned from one of these pleasure-trips".
(Censorship intercept" 18.7.44).

X. Italian soldiers sent to Germany in German uniforms.

"We have for five days today "writes one soldier " had the honour of wearing the uniform of our German camarades who are treating us not only like friends, but like brothers. We shall leave within a few days for a training period in GERMANY by the side of our German comrades".
(Censorship intercept 31.7.44).

XI. Temporary officer's complaints.

"The official order about temporary officers arrived this morning. We are going to be sent away because other officers, those who (in the Government's opinion) have done much more than we did, will take our places. After having spent 8 years on military service (half of which have been passed overseas), it is very bad to be treated like that. What shall I do? This is how the Government show their gratitude to [illegible] it is an enormity".

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(Censorsnip intercept 28.7.44).

XII. Fascist Forces side with partisans.

Occasionally events occur which show that even the small Fascist forces which still serve the occupying power are no longer reliable. Many fascists, dreading the future, betray their friends of yesterday

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and help the partisans. At BOBBIO, for instance, not far from BOLOGNA, the Luftwaffe had an important aircraft observation post. Thanks to help from some Fascists, the partisans were ablt to take the post by surprise, capturing 76 rifles, 370 hand grenades, 15,000 cartridges and the barrack funds amounting to 13,000 lire (News Digest 24.7.44).

GERMANS

XIII. Dispositions - rumours.

There are rumoured to be three fresh divisions arriving to hold the line of the river FOGLIA at PESARO.
(8th Army Special Intelligence Summary -early June).

XIV. Increased severity of reprisals.

Perhaps the most important development in the past few weeks has been the increased severity of German reprisals, of which the massacre at CIVITELLA, is only an example. British sources confirm that for any German killed the Germans are threatening to shoot up to 100 civilians, and are carrying their threats at least partly into effect. There is no doubt that this indiscriminate butchery has been to a large extent effective in the area north of AREZZO, and after exceptionally savage incidents, as at SUBBIANO, it is reported to have resulted in open hostility on the part of the peasants towards the partisans, as a result of whose activity they have seen their homes burnt and their relations shot.
(8th Army Special Interrogation Summary).

On 22nd July the Italian Home Service stated that Field Marshall Kesselring had just issued the following orders to his troops:-

1. To take action in the most energetic manner against armed rebel bands, saboteurs and criminals whose activities in any way affect the conduct of the war and disturb public order.

2. To establish a percentage of hostages in localities where the existence of armed bands can be proved, and to shoot these hostages every time there is an act of sabotage, in the said localities.

3. To carry out acts of retaliation, even to the point of burning down civilian houses, in those areas where attacks have been made against German military detachments.

4. To hang in public squares all persons guilty of homicide and all leaders of armed bands.

5. To hold responsible the inhabitants of those places where

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4. To hang in public squares all persons guilty of homicide and all leaders of armed bands.

5. To hold responsible the inhabitants of those places where telephone or telegraph communications have been broken, or where there have been acts of sabotage aimed at interrupting road traffic by spreading glass splinters, nails etc, damaging bridges or in any way obstructing roads.

This is brought to the notice of all citizens, who must contribute so that criminal acts against the nation can no longer be committed by elements in enemy pay.
(News Digest 24.7.44).

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XV. Appeal for "Security Companies.".

The German Military Command in BERGAMO published in the press an appeal addressed to the male population exhorting them to join "Security Companies" now being formed. The appeal states that the enemy stands before the door, and the fatherland is threatened. Inside the country paid agitators and rebels in mountain districts are active. Everything looks as though the fatherland will fall into a whirlpool of indescribable misfortune. On the southern front the brunt of the battle is born by German troops; it would be unfair to burden them also with the task of looking after internal security. The invitation to join the Security Companies applies especially to the 1918 and 1921 classes. Every Italian, regardless of his Party, may join the Companies. He will only be used in Italy for internal security services and will receive the same treatment as German soldiers. (Neue Zurcher Zeitung 27.7.44).

XVI. Morale.

Extracts from a captured German diary show the low state of morale which ignorance of the general situation gives rise to in the German soldier. Excerpts in early June indicate their surprise when ordered to retreat.

4 June. From retreating troops we heard that ROME had been evacuated, the Tommies are only two km away from it. So we're too late.

5. June. The inhabitants of Rome greeted the Tommies with flowers and shot at us. One infantry battalion deserted! One can hardly believe it. Fighter-bombers, fighter bombers and more fighter bombers!

6. June. Retreating columns only can be seen. The invasion has apparently begun. Landings in CALAIS, LE HAVRE and on the German border. Now we know why we're so weak here. The main issue is in the West...

29 June. At 1800 I destroy my rifle and -- with explosive and am caught at it by the Tommies. No opportunity to get away. Italians try to do away with me, but the Tommies stop them. The Tommies make a very good impression. Decent, clean and correct. (P.W.B. German Intelligence 1.8.44).

The food situation of the troops appears in most cases to be poor. One excerpt from a diary states:

"The food is still as bad as one can imagine (June 10). The sergeant major and the other NCOs constantly eat meat, they have [illegible] for them and enjoy all sorts of special issues, whilst

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"The food is still as bad as one can imagine (June 10). The sergeant major and the other NCOs constantly eat meat, they have cakes baked for them and enjoy all sorts of special issues, whilst the private soldier must make do with the fare put before him. Many of them simply go and plunder and you can see lots of them spending the whole day over the cooking range.".

Again "The food is worse than when we had rations Class II. Corruption is flourishing in every nook and cranny. Even out of the little bit which reaches the company the sergeants and so on get their extra chow besides the normal fare. And it is all the same all

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the way along the route which our rations take from regiment to battalion, supply service, company. Everywhere there are so many who take their little bit. When the food finally arrives here, its half spoiled if it has spent several days in the Quartermaster's store as for example, the bread or the margarine, from which half the company was recently ill...

..." then the first reconnaissance car of South Africans came clattering along the road and I packed my kit on it. They immediately offered me something to eat, cheese and white bread spread thickly with butter the like of which I have seldom enjoyed during the war. One of them gave me his last bar of chocolate. I was particularly glad to be able once more to taste some real tea. By way of comparison I was able to offer the Tommies some of our German army coffee.

Their entire equipment and supplies etc. exceeded my expectations If you make comparisons with our situation, the result is devastating for us. My only wish is that all our dour fanatics might "come over" just for a day".
(P.W.B. German Intelligence).

The following information is derived from the owner of a villa west of PERUGIA where General EIDRICHT had his HQ from the 9th to the 20th June.

"The behaviour of the officers towards the owner was perfect until their departure, when a motor car and a water colour were stolen. In general the officers were very distressed by the odds against which they were fighting. "one tank against a hundred". They said that the services had broken down so far that the division had been ordered to live on what they could find on the country side. The only enthusiasm was raised by the news of the flying bombs, and the informant was proudly shown the special bulletin announcing their employment. The officers believed that another secret weapon had been used on the Russian front.".
(8th Army Special Interrogation Report 23.6.44).

XVII. Relations with Italians.

LIVORNO. "For about an hour we wandered round among ruins rather than inhabited houses, and always with our heavy rucksacks on our backs. We vainly attempted several times to ask for the Army hostel, but the Italians are in the mass a distrustful, cowardly people. As soon as we knocked on the door and announced ourselves as German soldiers, doors were simply not opened on principle, and after a time we would hear the opening of a window on the first floor, only to be told that we must go further in the opposite direction. In the end we gave it up in a fury."

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(German Intelligence Report 29.7.44 P.W.B.).

XVIII. Behaviour.

Extracts from another German diary run as follows:-

"As everywhere else, our soldiers here have behaved like savages. Many rooms are in disorder; antlers have been knocked off and boar's heads lie between books torn and trampled to bits.

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All around lie utensils kicked to pieces and articles of clothing torn out of cupboards --- and to think that I have to fight alongside such people!"
(P.W.B. German Intelligence)

June 26th.- originally our regimental staff ran amok here - you cannot really call it anything else; everywhere you go you get the same picture of melancholy desolation; even here our soldiers have not restrained their lust for destruction and loot. I prefer not to go into the matter too closely, for it grieves one to see the wanton destruction here....
(P,W.B. German Intelligence).

XIX. Atrocities.

LA CHIASSA 18th July. The whole village of La Chiassa was burnt by the Germans.

BIBBIENA The Germans burnt the following villages in the area of Bibbiena as reprisals for partisan attacks - TALLA, SALUTIC, ORTIGNANO, RAGGIOLO, VILLA, CHIUSI DELLA VERNA, PONTENANO, DAGNENA. The last named village was completely destroyed. (8th Army).

SIENA was plundered throughout by the Germans. (Censorship Intercept)

VICOVARO The German brigands before they left plundered and sacked all the houses in the village including my own, and killed 28 people, women, children and old people in the most atrocious way".
(Censorship Intercept 27.7.44).

PALOMBARA SABINA "Those brutal cowards who fled away, achieved real slaughter; they killed 35 persons, the best ones in the village.
(Censorship Intercept 26.7.44).

MONTEPULCIANO(SIENA) "Vile, murderous Germans, who, losing the war, vented their rage; like the criminals and barbarians they are and always have been. They tore out the eyes and tongue of a poor woman, leaving her like that. They cut off the breasts of another. Horrors, unbelievable horrors.".
(Censorship Intercept)

PERTICANO Plundering and burning.

CONTIGLIANO On the 12th June when the German columns had all passed, sections of sappers destroyed everything, burning some of their own wooden houses, which in turn set fire to the houses of civilians. They set fire to a hamlet and then threw into it four men injured by them.".
(Censorship Intercept).

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XX. German Propaganda.

Leaflets written in English and issued by the German Military Command Office, were captured at AREZZO on the 17th July. The following is a typical example:-

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HOW THE ALLIES ARE GOING TO WIN THE WAR

What good are all your planes, warships and tanks against that new German weapon.

V. NUMBER I.

Are you still convinced that you are winning?

Your armchair strategists have always claimed that the new dreadful weapon is an invention of German "propaganda". But out of a clear sky it struck.

Since June 16th, London and southern England are being continuously blasted day and night by those mysterious flying meteors.

The entire British press was immediately muzzled by rigid censorship. What a nice job your politicians do have now in hiding the truth about the disastrous effect of

V. NUMBER I.

But YOU will learn the truth just the same. You will also find out that Germany has just begun to play one of her trump cards.

HOW ABOUT V NUMBER 2 TO V NUMBER X?

POLITICS

XXI. Politics in recently liberated areas.

The President of the Committee of Liberation in LIVORNO recently expressed what appeared to be an unbiased view of the political and economic state of the city. This description might readily be applied to a number of the recently liberated areas. The mass of the people, he stated, after 20 yeers of Fascist domination, were politically apathetic. Many at the moment were attracted by communism. This tendency, he felt, needed to be counterbalanced by the propagation of an intelligent form of socialism, not that he was a socialist, but that/as swing to the left is inevitable, it is important that it should take a rational form. The present communist Sindaco was a capable and sincere man, and it was therefore to be hoped that an accomodation between the parties of the left will take place. The Christian parties (Christian Socialists and Christian Democrats) do not have much influence, though the clergy, by and large, are extremely popular on account of all they have done in recent months for the population. The prestige of the monarchy was at a low ebb, mainly on account of the "sterility" of the House of Savoy. (P.W.B. Fifth Army 31.7.44).

XXII. New Species of Deportation.

The Germans have begun a new kind of deportation to Germany.

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The Germans have begun a new kind of deportation to Germany. This time it is not a question of Italian workers or soldiers changed into reluctant slaves of the Nazi war, but of Fascist Gerarchs and functionaries. In fact, by orders given from the German High Command in Italy, all Fascist functionaries must transfer themselves quickly from north Italy to Germany. Not only themselves, but also the families of these functionaries must go. These families have had order to stay temporarily near the Italian German frontier in order

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that they can be evacuated into Germany at a moment's notice. Many families of the members of the pseudo Republican government are already in Germany and have been there a month. First of all those of PAVOLINI, GRAZIANI, BUFFARINI and MEZZASOMA, who were evidently very proccupied in chosing a settlement worthy of the personality and renown of the respective heads of the families.
(P.W.B. Rome 2.8.44).

XXIII. Pavolini in Milan.

The Secretary of the Party presided over a meeting of the commanders of some of the "Black Brigades" from LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, held at the Casa del Fascio, MILAN. He received many Fascists from invaded Italy and from Milan. He also visited the HQ of the Muti Legion.
(Italian Home Service 21.7.44).

XXIV. Refutation of Reports about Mussolini.

Seidlitz reporting from Venice refutes foreign reports that Mussolini has remained in Germany, declaring that a week ago he returned to the seat of the Italian Government in northern Italy.
(Transocean 29.7.44).

XXV. Fascist Treatment of Political Prisoners and Convicts.

The cruel treatment of political internees in Fascist prisons can be explained by the fact that the secret police uses prisoners for obtaining denunciations and tries thereby to discover the various "Committees of National Liberation" whose activity remains powerful and which remain elusive. This last fact goes to the credit and honour of those Italians who, despite tortures, have betrayed nothing. As far as is known only two committees have been caught, one in MODENA and another in TURIN, which latter case led to the trial of General PEROTTI and his collaborators, which began in April.

The Fascists committed the imprudence of liberating all the ordinary criminals and recruiting them en masse for the police force and the Republican Guard, and SS youths, aged between 15 and 18, are now interspersed among them. This creates a most unfortunate situation, and the Fascist newspapers are full of the exploits of bogus policemen who shamelessly rob civilians. In reality they are real policemen who often cannot be caught, but who are naturally severely punished when arrested. This is one of the most terrible evils of this regime, reborn by the will of the occupying power, who all too often is obliged to seek its most faithful servants in the underworld.
(Feuille d'Avis Neuchatel 19,7,44),

XXVI. Orders concerning material dropped by enemy aircraft.

"The Head of the Province of COMO, in view of the fact that [illegible] might be dropped by parachute from enemy aircraft,

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The Secretary of the Party presided over a meeting of the commanders of some of the "Black Brigades" from LOMBARDY and PIEDMONT, held at the Casa del Fascio, MILAN. He received many Fascists from invaded Italy and from Milan. He also visited the HQ of the Muti Legion. (Italian Home Service 21.7.44).

XXIV. Refutation of Reports about Mussolini.

Seidlitz reporting from Venice refutes foreign reports that Mussolini has remained in Germany, declaring that a week ago he returned to the seat of the Italian Government in northern Italy. (Transocean 29.7.44).

XXV. Fascist Treatment of Political Prisoners and Convicts.

The cruel treatment of political internees in Fascist prisons can be explained by the fact that the secret police uses prisoners for obtaining denunciations and tries thereby to discover the various "Committees of National Liberation" whose activity remains powerful and which remain elusive. This last fact goes to the credit and honour of those Italians who, despite tortures, have betrayed nothing. As far as is known only two committees have been caught, one in MODENA and another in TURIN, which latter case led to the trial of General PEROTTI and his collaborators, which began in April.

The Fascists committed the imprudence of liberating all the ordinary criminals and recruiting them en masse for the police force and the Republican Guard, and SS youths, aged between 15 and 18, are now interspersed among them. This creates a most unfortunate situation, and the Fascist newspapers are full of the exploits of bogus policemen who shamelessly rob civilians. In reality they are real policemen who often cannot be caught, but who are naturally severely punished when arrested. This is one of the most terrible evils of this regime, reborn by the will of the occupying power, who all too often is obliged to seek its most faithful servants in the underworld.
(Feuille d'Avis Neuchatel 19,7,44),

XXVI. Orders concerning material dropped by enemy aircraft.

"The Head of the Province of COMO, in view of the fact that various materials might be dropped by parachute from enemy aircraft, and as it is considered necessary on the ground of requirements of a military nature, and for reasons of public security in such an eventuality, to prevent such materials from being handled by civilians - orders that it is absolutely forbidden to all citizens not only to remove but also to touch materials of any kind whatsoever, dropped by, or falling from enemy aircraft. Anyone who finds them

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must at once notify the nearest Italian or German military command or police post. Persons who infringe this order, provided their offence does not constitute a more serious crime, are punishable by detention up to three months and a fine up to 2,000 lire. Those who furnish indications leading to the recovery of the above-mentioned materials will receive as a reward a sum of money proportionate to the importance of the materials in question".
(Provincia di Como 18.7.44).

XXVII. Fascist Propaganda.

Repubblica Fascista, Milan 12.7.44 contains a loose pamphlet showing a poster nailed to the wall on which is written "Who sells himself to the enemy? The Saboteur. Who deprives his own comrades of work? The Saboteur. Who casts innocent families into misery? The Saboteur. Who makes the peaceful population pay for the consequences of his own crimes? The Saboteur.".

In Milan Fascists spread propaganda leaflets on July 25th representing the symbolic figure of Italy resting her hands on Mussolini's Fasci as if to protect the. Over the picture is written in red: "July 25th", and underneath "Fatherland's dishonour". The leaflets also contain cartoons showing Victor Emmanuel and Badoglio vainly trying to demolish Lictors and Fasci. The Fascist press devotes enthusiastic articles to these leaflets, emphasising the symbolic significance of this "work of art and policy".
(Agence Telegraphique Suisse 26.7.44).

ECONOMICS

XXVIII. Food Situation.

The following were the prices of foodstuffs etc. in GENOA at the end of June:-

Olive oil	Lire 1000 per litre
Flour	Lire 50 per kilo
Beans	" 30 " "
Cigarettes ("Af ca")	lire 80 per pkt of 20.
Wine	Lire 80 per litre.

No Curtailment of Grain Quota for Pools. The Prefecture announces "Certain farmers have been faced with various difficulties (theft etc) in connection with the handing over of the prescribed amount of grain to the pools. No curtailment of this amount can be conceded. Any producers guilty of irregularities or abuses will receive the appropriate exemplary punishment. The grain belongs not only to the

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(Corriere della Sera Milan 17.7.44).

Black Market Prices In Milan. The prices in the black market in MILAN have reached new heights and are continually rising. Meat costs 250 lire per kg, butter 450 lire per kg, cooking salt 100 lire per kg, eggs 120 lire per dozen and oil is unobtainable. Owing to the increasingly precarious transport problem stocks of fruit and vegetables in LIGURIA went bad.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 21.7.44).

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Twenty nine bakeries have been closed in MILAN for selling white bread. As the report does not say that they will be replaced by other bakeries, their clients will be doubtless obliged to resort to communal kitchens.
(Gazette de Lausanne 27.7.44).

XXIX. Transport.

Railways. The railway bridge on the PO at VALENZA (MORTARA-ALESSANDRIA line) has been struck by two bombs. The railway traffic continues normally; the lines have been moved where the bridge is damaged, to the highway bridge which is coupled to the railway bridge and was also hit) allowing in this way, with maneeuvres, the transit of half a train at a time. In the province of PAVIA the Germans have requisitioned about 300 head of cattle, which they have taken to VALENZA, probably to use them for the carts used to clear away the rubbish and for the transport of repairing material.

In the bombardment of 23rd June on the railway viaduct of VILLAFRANCA D'ASTI (18 km west of ASTI) two arches were destroyed and the road underneath was interrupted for some time by the heaped up ruins. The railway was also damaged near the viaduct of Villa Nova d'Asti (north west of Villafranca d'Asti).

Restrictions on bicycles in TURIN The Prefecture announces "In view of the repeated criminal attempts on the part of bicyclists, from today (July 22nd) until furtner notice, all bicycle traffic is suspended within the toll gates of the city of Turin, even for persons previously in possession of permits. Exceptions will be made only for members of the Armed forces and the police, when in uniform. Trade cycles will be allowed, with the exception of bicycles with trailers. Infringements of this regulation will be punished by the usual penalties, and in addition, the immediate confiscation of the bicycle".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 22.7.44).

Registration of car parts in Adriatic zone. To insure the transport necessary for warfare and for supplying the population with essential goods, the High Commissioner of the Adriatic Coastal zone has issued the following decree regarding the registration of motor cars: "All motor cars and trailers, spare parts, tubes and tyres available in the Adriatic Coastal Zone on June 1st, 1944, or owned by people residing within that zone on that date, must be reported to the Prefect by the owners or holders by July 25th at the latest. The sale, utilisation, or other means of disposalof the aforesaid articles will in future only be allowed with the permission of the Prefect, and illegal transactions are declared void. Articles not reported, or illegally disposed of, will be confiscated. Infringements will be punished with a fine, the amount of which is not limited, or imprisonment for at least six months. These reporting in due course will not be punished for previous contraventions in this respect.".
(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 12.7.44).

XXX. Fuel and Power.

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(Deutsche Adria Zeitung 12.7.44).

XXX. Fuel and Power.

Electricity Restrictions. Further restrictions in the use of electricity in TURIN are reported "In view of the present situation, which makes the normal production and distribution of electric power precarious because many transport lines are frequently interrupted

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Long live working class solidarity
Death to the Nazis.
Death to the Fascists.

The Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity.
The Turin Federation of the Communist Party.

(P.I.D. Italian Region 11.7.44).

PRESS.

XXXIV. Increase in Clandestine Press.

Libera Stampa Lugano 26.7.44 publishes the following extract from the clandestine newspaper "Avanti" no 36. July 10th. "New newspapers have come to join "Avanti" in the battle, and to fight on the right side. Edited by the Italian Socialist Party, under difficulties and with sacrifices which it is easy to imagine, there are "Rivoluzione Socialista and Giornale della Federazione Giovanile, "La Terra"is the newspaper of the agricultural workers, "La Citta Nuova" that of the professions, technical workers and clerks, "Operaio" that of the the proletariat and industrial workers, and "Il Partigiano" that of the Matteotti Brigade".

CHURCH

XXXV. Continuation of attacks on the Church.

Regime Fascista, Cremona, 25.7.44 continuing its attacks against the Church, claims that the Vatican is responsible for the terrible bombing of Italy, and adds "Vatican circles told Cardinal Spellman that if Italy were submitted to terrorist bombing, it would collapse".

Cardinal of Venice Condemns. The Patriarch of Venice, Cardinal Adeodate Piazza, in a pastoral letter sharply condemns an attempt against the HQ of the GNR at Venice, which has so far resulted in ten deaths and 40 injured "It is necessary for blind passion to be replaced in Italian hearts by the condemnation of such crimes".he says

PERSONALITIES.

XXXVI. Fascists of Udine and Provincia.

PISENTI avv. on. PIERO	1st Prefect (Fascist) of Udine Deputy of the First Fascist Legislature and Consigliere Nazionale of the Camera dei Fasci e delle Corporazioni.
PAGANI dott. RAFFAELLO	Ex. Presidе della Provincia.

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PAGANI dott. RAFFAELLO	Ex. Preside della Provincia.
ZOCCOLARI	Member of the Direttorio di Udine employee of the Ditta Luigi Spezzotti

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and some plants are out of action, it has been necessary in the first place to obtain the greatest use of the power available, and subsequently, when the situation deteriorated, a reduction in the total consumption of power".
(Gazzetta del Popolo Turin 22.7.44).

XXXI. New Regulations for Exports.

The Ministries responsible for Italian Foreign trade issued new instructions regarding Italian exports by which the period of free exportation is closed. In future all export contracts must be submitted to the central authorities controlling exports, and the exportation of a great number of articles will only be allowed if their sale on the home market encounters difficulties. Other goods may only be manufactured for exportation. Some important branches of the Italian export business have been subjected to considerable production restrictions during the last few days. Three months ago the utilisation of metals in manufacturing toys has been stopped entirely. The manufacture of musical instruments by Italian retailers is prohibited and the present production is nearly all destined for exportation.
(Europa Kabel 7.7.44).

XXXII. Air Raid Damage.

Aircraft Factory Damaged. The "MACCHI" aeronautical factory near MASNAGO has suspended all war work owing to serious damage caused by air raids. The few workers remaining have, by irregularity, reduced the production programme to/one of secondary importance.
(Libera Stamps Lugano 21.7.44).

LABOUR.

XXXIII. A Socialist-Communist Joint Leaflet in Turin.

The following is the text of a leaflet circulated, during the last week of June among strikers in TURIN:

"Workers of Turin. You have risen of your own will against the new pillaging of the Nazi-Fascist rule, which wants to rob you of machines which you feel to be your own because they are wet with the sweat of your brows.

Workers! You are thus not merely defending your own right, but you very properly want to stop the machines, when moved, from serving to prolong the last hours of the Nazi-Fascist wild beast, now at its very last gasp.

Workers of Turin! Nazi-Fascism has replied to your protest with further brutal reprisals intending to starve you and your families.

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Workers of Turin! Nazi-Fascism has replied to your protest with further brutal reprisals intending to starve you and your families.

The Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity and the Turin Federation of the Italian Communist Party, representing the working classes, bound by a past of united action, are resolved to help and defend you in the present struggle which you are waging with such pride and courage against Nazi Fascism so as to stop their new act of brigandage.

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SAMBO ALFREDO	Federal Inspector. Employee of Dazic in the commune of Pasian di Prato - thug.
GORASSINI RENZO	Native of Pasian di Prato, living at Udine.
CUTTINI	Ex mayor of Pasian di Prato
BARNABA PIER ARRIGO	Ex Fascist Deputy Mayor of Udine until the Armistice.
CAINE	Senicre of the Milizia
GAMBERINI	Cavaliere. Spy. Employed by the Consiglio dell'Economia
~~MARINO dott.~~ ALBERTO	Vice Commissar of the Squadra Politica della Questura of Udine. Ferocious persecutor of anti-fascists. After the fall of Fascism he gathered together numbers of fascists for the reconstitution of the party.
LINDA	Violent squadrist, trader, member of the Direttorio, Federale of Udine. Spy by profession.
DELLA MAESTRA cav. ASSUERO	Udine, Piazza Umberto 1. Ex political secretary of BASILIANO (UDINE). Political informer of the Questura.
MODOTTI cav.uff. GIOVANNI	Retired inspector of schools. Ex Mayor and Political Secretary of Basiliano. Ferocious fascist. Real despot for many years in his commune.
RAINIS MANLIO	Founder of Fascism in Basiliano. Thug, organiser of punitive expeditions
DEL GUIDICE ROMANO	Squadrist - Thug - Major in the Militia at TIVOLI.
PICCO RICCARDO	Ferocious squadrist and spy.
POLESELLO	State doctor of Basiliano, ex vice secretary of Basiliano. Spy
BONANNI	Elementary schoolmaster of Udine Ex Major in the Alpini. Fanatical Fascist.

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CASTELLETTI GIUSEPPE	On e ' the most violent and ferocious thugs of the province of Udine. Journalist of the "Gazzettino" of Venezia.
MIGLIORINI	Segretario Ragioniere of the Province of Udine.

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BONORA GIOVANNI	Casa delle Uniforme Fascistd, Udine, Via Cavour.
ROLATTI Comm. GINO	Squadrist, Ex Consigliere Nazionale Agent of the "Montecatini".
TAVANO avv. ARTURO	Native of Lestizza (Udine) Ex Mayor of Lestizza and Commissar of Campo-formido
PANTALONE	Head doctor of the Psychiatric Hospital of Udine.
MARCHETTI	Son of the trader Romeo. Fascist spy
FORTUNATI	Ragioniere of the Banca del Friuli. Fanatical Fascist. Teacher of young Fascists.
SPIVAK GINO	Fascist spy
SZILAGIJ FRANZ	Ladies Hairdresser, via Paolo Sarpi, Udine. Of Hungarian origin. A noted fascist and spy of the Ovra.
MASSARUTTO rag. GIOVANNI.	Squadrist. Notorious Fascist secret agent. Friend of the ex secretary of the fascist party of Serena.
MONTERISI	Cavaliere. Trader in coffee.
MURATTI BOBBO	
RUSSO LUIGI	Ex prefect of Chieti, ex. Capo di S.M. della Milizia, ex Secretary of the Presidenza di Mussolini.
RUSSO	Brother of the above.
ZECCA	Squadrist and dangerous spy
PISCHIUTTA	Doctor of Commercial Sciences, but a professional fascist and brother of a fascist martyr (Pio Pischiutta) Violent by nature.
SANDRINO	Municipal functionary.
LIZZI	Cavaliere. - Martigecco (Udine)

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SABBADINI geom LIVIO?	Codroipo
SGOBARO (geometra)	Basiliano - ex Fascist mayor.
DE CECCO geom ELIO	Basiliano.

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LEONE dott. FRANCESCO	Veterinary surgeon - from Basiliano. a stupid fanatic - in the confidence of the Questure
ZANINOTTO·MICHELE	Basiliano
CIRIO	Employee of the Litografia CHIESA of Udine - madly pro-German
ALLATERE avvocato	(not to be confused with avv. Antonio Allatere).
MATTIOLI GALLO	squadrist, gangster, racketeer.
MATTIOLI	Brother of the above
PLACEREANI	Doctor of law. Secretary of the Workers' Union. Embezzler.
PREINDL	Doctor of Udine. Ex Federal Secretary - violent- profiteer
ALVERA	President of the Liceo Ginnasio of Udine. At the school he used a hidden microphone to check on the beliefs of his professors.
ACCORDINI	Medico di reparto
DE ZORZI	Accountant. ex employee of the Banca Cattolica del Veneto. Centurione della Milizia - one time capo of the guardie di citta of Udine. - violent - embezzeler
ROTELLA	Lawyer - squadrista
RECCARDINI	Ex bankrupt - squadrist, a fascist of 20 years standing.
VERITTI	Lawyer - director of the fascist paper "Il Popolo del Friuli".
CHIESA PARIDE and brother	Owners of an anonimous firm of printers. Violent squadrists

(P.W.B. Bari 19.7.44).

XXXVII. Various dangerous elements.

2/Lt. FULGENZI AUGENIO of FABRIANO, S.W. of IESI DOMO, together with a German captain formed a tribunal for the interrogation of

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BIONDI, FALINI, BARINDELLI and INNOCENTI, all of RASSINA, worked with the Germans and hanged four partisans at CASTEL FOLOGNANO. (8th Army Intelligence summary no 22).

LT. SCOTTI (Neapolitan) who commanded No 2 company of TAGLIAMENTO battalion of the Republican Guard is believed to have escaped to

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FLORENCE. His unit was engaged in operations against patricts in the CITTA DI CASTELLO area and included two Lieutenants FARO of SALERNO and sgt. GAMBACORTA; the latter commanded the firing squad responsible for shooting partisans.
(8th Army Intelligence Summary No 22).

GENOA

CARLO EMMANUELE BASILE is Prefect of the Province of GENOA. He was formerly Fascist Federale of TURIN and NOVARA. His headquarters are in the PALAZZO Hotel (formerly Bristol) in Via XX Settembre.

FLORENCE

Two lawyers called MACCA and PICCHI, are President and Prosecutor respectively of an extraordinary Tribunal set up by the Republicans in Florence to judge political offences.

The Commander of the Fascist Republicans in the barracks which are near S. MICHELE EXTRA is a Consul of Militia named MARCHIORI

A certain ORLANDI Carlo of GENOA was always with the German troops in this area. He is described as a sailor and a cruel Fascist.
(8th Army Intelligence Summary No 22).

FLORENCE

South of Florence at PALAZZOLO the following Republican Officers are serving in 113 Engineer battalion.

Commander	Major FACCIABENE
Adjutant	LT. DE MICHELI
Oc. 3 coy	Capt FRANCESCHETTI
OC. 4 coy	Capt. MARINO
Other officers	LTS. IMPARATO, DAL MEDICO, PATTI
	2/Lts. GUCCIONI, DE SIMONE ,
	MALORNI DI CORRADO, INDACO.

(8th Army Intelligence Summary July 21st).

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9th August, 1944.

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN ENEMY OCCUPIED ITALY - NO 19.

APPENDIX

Italian Partisans in Action.-16.6.44 - 20.7.44

A British Captain, with other British soldiers, was dropped by parachute in the middle of June and landed in the plain NW of AREZZO. He was quickly captured by the Germans and equally quickly escaped from them. At the suggestion of two young men he joined a partisan band operating in the vicinity, where he was soon afterwards joined by two more of the parachutists. The area where they worked was the southern sector of the PRATOMAGNO massif between FLORENCE and AREZZO.

The band was an independent unit called by the name of its commander, Lieut RAOUL, and based on two farms on M. ROVERAIA.

Strength. 60 Italians, 2 Germans, some French and Russiens, 2 S. Africans, 2 British parachutists, 1 British parachutist officer (informant); later joined by 1 British officer and 2 O.R.s.

Weapons. 1 Sten.
Italian and German rifles and revolvers.
Amn. in abundance.
German explosives.
This was increased by a parachute drop of
8 Brens
45 Stens
100 lb. of explosive.
Booby traps
Battle-dress and boots.
) in the plain N of LATERINA; took 3 days to collect and had very stimulating effect on morale.

Transport Donkeys and mules. (A donkey costs as much as 21000 lire).

Food. 2 hot meals a day. Peasants being friendly, food was never scarce. Payment was always made except to known fascists or the unsympathetic.

ACTIVITY AND METHOD OF ACTION:

1. For 4 months Raoul's band had been attacking German transport on the road CASTIGLION FIBOCCHI-S. GIUSTINO. Their method was as follows:-

20 men station themselves at the road-side under cover of darkness. After first light, a grenade is thrown at the first isolated vehicle to pass, and fire is directed at the driver's cab.

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20 men station themselves at the road-side under cover of darkness. After first light, a grenade is thrown at the first isolated vehicle to pass, and fire is directed at the driver's cab. When the truck stops, they close in, kill any survivors, and remove the contents. In this way, and by occasional attacks on Italian Listening Posts (which never resisted) and on German AA sites, Raoul had succeeded in arming his whole band. No attempt, however, was made to destroy the truck's engine or remove the wheels. In this period they had had only one casualty, when the truck attacked proved

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APPENDIX 2.

not to be isolated, being followed by another armed with MG and riflemen riding on the mudguards.

2. After the arrival of the Englishmen and the finding of the parachute supplies it was decided to begin laying mines on the roads. The method devised by informant was as follows:-

6 lb of plastic were laid in the middle of the road on a moonless night at 2230 hrs after a careful recce of the position. This was attached by Cortex to a release spring-switch on the road-side, thw spring being kept depressed by means of a heavy stone which was itself attached to a trip-wire stretched across the road to a tree at a height such that it would be missed by a pedestrian, a cyclist or a small car.

The work took 20 minutes, including interruptions due to passing traffic, and was completely successful.

This method was sometimes varied in that 10 lb of 808 were used instead of Plastic, and string was used instead of wire which caused delay by getting entangled.

On another occasion 10 lb of Plastic were used instead of 6 lb and time-pencils (1½) were attached to neighbouring telegraph-poles. Both were very successful.

On the last occasion, the vicinity of a German camp and German patrols made a pressure-switch desirable instead of a trip-wire. The result was equally satisfactory.

When it was a question of destroying a bridge, lack of explosive suggested the cratering of the road over the bridge with 25 lb. of 808 and getting the villagers to continue with digging.

THE LEADER. Lieut. RAOUL enjoyed the confidence and respect of his men without being able or without wishing to enforce discipline. Lacking in judgment rather than courage, he was sometimes with difficulty dissuaded from foolhardy moves that would have cost severe casualties and achieved nothing. He was jealous of his position as Commander and proud of his quality of partisan. This made him slightly difficult as a colleague and caused friction with other bands. Once a fortnight he would mysteriously disappear, and return with 50,000 lire, possibly received from the Florence Committee of Liberation. The last informant heard of Raoul, shortly before rejoining the allies, was that he had attacked the Germans at PIEVE and, having been wounded in the ensuing mopping-up operations against ROVERAIA and PONTENANO, had ordered the band to bury its arms and disperse.

THE ARMY. The only useful members of the band, in informant's opinion,

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THE MEN. The only useful members of the band, in informant's opinion, were four of the Italians, 2 frenchmen from the Foreign Legion, 2 Russians, and the British. The rest were so much worse than useless, that it was risky to have their company in an operation. Most of them were from the 1926 class, which had been called but had largely disbanded itself after receiving its arms. Informant had the impression that they had been attracted to the Partisans by the good meals. There was no sapper among them. The two Germans (one an Austrian) had been captured and enrolled in the band. They worked in the

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APPENDIX 3.

kitchen and were well liked; but after the shooting of three German prisoners later on, they took fright and made off.

DISCIPLINE AND TACTICAL SKILL

Military discipline as we know it was absent. The leader had to contend with much "back-chat" in making known his plans. The rudiments of tactics were neglected to the point of endangering the whole band. Thus when the Band had begun its move to a new area near CIVITELLA south of the plain, the four parties lost contact and much calling and shouting ensued. Time was lost and the move had to be abandoned. It was later learnt that the Germans in the plain had been warned by the noise and were waiting for them. Before fire was opened to take "cover from view" was to expose oneself to the taunt of cowardice; once fire was opened after an exploit it was "sauve qui peut". Though Raoul himself was never among the stampeders, he was sometimes unable to see that a proposal was tactically impossible. Nor was the notion of military security any better developed; in an area known to be subject to German combing, they would boast of their exploits to the local population.

POLITICAL COLOUR

The Band considered itself Communist, but had only the primitive conception of Communism that consists of the spoliation of the rich. They wore the Italian colours on the collar-patch and the Red Star on their caps. Their poor discipline may have been the deliberate application of a misconceived idea of Democracy.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER BANDS.

Other bands in the area were:- 301

(1) BRUNO'S BAND: TALLA 30 men
(2) BOBBY's Band: ANCIOLINA 30 men.

These two bands were about 8 miles apart, were composed, like Raoul's of men from the 1926 class, and had been completely inactive. The arrival of the equipment by parachute and its finding by Raoul's band roused them to action, and they asked for a share of the arms. Raoul lent Bobby a Bren gun and a Frenchman to fire it, the target to be a truck on the road. Bobby's patrol of 10 men, however, got drunk in the village, were attacked by Germans on the way back, and made their escape under the covering fire of the Frenchman with the Bren gun. It was not part of the plan that this fire accounted for 15 German dead. Later on Raoul quarrelled with Bobby, accusing him of abusing his partisan rank by looting houses, and mobilised his band to attack him.

This desire on the part of one band to disarm another was not

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This desire on the part of one band to disarm another was not an isolated case. Informant had gone to TALLA in response to a message from BRUNO requesting arms, and also in order to see about a wireless set said to be in Bruno's possession (which turned out to be an unserviceable German one). Bruno had occupied TALLA after the departure of the Germans and had posted flamboyant notices signed by himself as "Commandante". He was now in hospital, having been wounded by a bomb dropped by a German plane to which he was signalling in the belief that it was British. While lunching with some of Bruno's men informant and his companion were surprised to see the room invaded by

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armed men, who ordered them to hand over their weapons. When the shouting had died down, it appeared that the men were a patrol commanded by a Canadian officer sent from UOMO DI SASSO (E OF REGELLO) by the 22 Garibaldi Brigade to disarm a band of men whose prolonged inactivity encouraged the suspicion that they were really fascists masquerading as partisans. Bruno's men were content to be disarmed and to go off with the men of the Garibaldi Brigade. The Canadian officer preferred to attach himself to informant's band and returned with them. He stated that the 22 Garibaldi Brigade was 1000 men strong and had been inactive for a month.

RELATIONS WITH BRITISH PERSONNEL.

The knowledge that the Allies were interested in them was a great stimulus to the Partisans. The union of British Captain and Parachutist in informant won him a prestige that even his ignorance of the language could not impair. He was allowed a free hand by Raoul, who was ready to follow his example and even sometimes his advice. The exact mutual relationship between Partisan Band Leader and attached British officer is however a delicate one. Informant strongly disapproved of the preparations to attack and disarm Bobby's band. This, combined with minor irritants such as flies, dysentery and the partisan's eating habits, finally convinced informant that he would achieve more by breaking loose from Raoul and operating with his own band. Raoul had no objection, allowed him to select the two parachutists, the two other British soldiers, the other British officer, one S. African, three Italians, two Frenchmen and a donkey or two, and provided him with 10,000 lire With this band informant moved 5 miles SE to GELLO and began operations on his own.

LESSONS

From his experience with the partisan band, informant considers that the following lessons may be drawn:-

(1). Small bands of not more than 50 men are much more effective than large ones. In any one area there should be several small bands located according to the road system. One reason is that the Germans tend to ignore small bands; another is that a small band can more easily get away from the scene of its exploit without leaving a trace. Existing large bands should therefore decentralise and split up into autonomous units.

(2) A radio receiving and transmitting set is indispensable both for the reception of allied orders and for keeping in touch with the course of events. Initiative is blunted by ignorance of what is happening elsewhere; and as Partisan activity changes in character according as the Allied line approaches, they must know exactly how far away the Allies are

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(3) Partisans should be warned not to embark on operations of too ambitious a scale. Small-scale attacks, if continued over a long period and at varying points, inflict just as much damage on the enemy in the end, are far more wearing to his nerves and cost the Partisans fewer casualties. Moreover being frequently repeated, they are made with ever increasing skill.

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(4) Partisans should be told to use their eyes and make mental note of everything of military importance, against the day when they can report it to an allied HQ. When the Allied line is close to their area, the Band should not wait until they are actually liberated, but should send an emissary across at once to give the information while it is still of value and capable of being exploited. Mortar and gun positions and O.Ps are targets on which early information is especially desirable.

(5) The only way to prevent reprisals against civilians is to have the villages in the partisan area evacuated. As German savagery succeeds in its purpose of creating an atmosphere hostile to partisand, it is necessary to warn civilians that the Allies have means of finding out who has betrayed any partisan to the enemy.

Source - 8th Army Special Interrogation Report 22.7.44.

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