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PRISONS, BOLOGNA
NOV. 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION
Liaison Office I.G.T.
Bologna.

23 NOV. 1945

17A

14202/9

22nd Nov. '45 R

Ref. AC-LG/PS/23.20-I

Subject: PRISONS. BOLOGNA.To: Public Safety Sub-Commission,
A.C.H.Q.

(through Lt. Col. Walters,
Liaison Officer,
Bologna.)

14202/9 PA

1. The attached report is a survey of prison conditions at the two prisons in Bologna, both being used at the present time as Carceri Giudiziarie.
2. Capt. Wadsworth visited both premises and discussed conditions at some length with the director.
3. The conditions described are equally applicable, in general, to all prisons in this Region.
4. Forwarded for information.

Andrew G. P. Way
ANDREW G. P. WAY, MAJOR
Public Safety Officer

Forwarded

T. W. J. Walters
T. W. J. WALTERS,
Lt. Col.
Liaison Officer.

AGPW/ls

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TO		
* DIRECTOR		Not 19/11
DEPUTY DIR.		
EXEC. OFF.		
* POLICE		16/11 29/11
US. & M. C.		
PROSEC.		
ADM. OFFICE		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		21/11

ALLIED COMMISSION
Liaison Office I.G.T.
Bologna

19th November 1945

Ref. AC-LG/PS/23.20

Subject: VISIT 16th NOV. '45 CARCERI GIUDIZIARIE DI
BOLOGNA. {Piazza San Giovanni in Monte,}
{Via Pratello.}

To: Major A. G. P. Way,
Public Safety Officer,
A.C. Liaison Group,
B o l o g n a .

GENERAL.

Sig. Aldo GHEDINI is the Direttore Superiore
and is responsible for both prisons.

Reference the correctional school now also be
ing used as a prison, the Ministero di Giustizia have
notified him that this building will at the earliest
again revert to its proper use.

At present holding eighty (80) minor offence
prisoners and thirty (30) juvenile offenders.

They are kept in separate parts of the build-
ing.

STAFF.

Carcere di S. GIOVANNI IN MONTE.

Direttore Superiore,

Assistant director,

Doctor (daily morning inspection both prisons) 387.

Priest (3 hours per day and special occasions)

Warders:- 44 di carriera

20 auxiliary (ex partisans)

The Direttore Superiore has requested that six-
teen of these ex-partisans be transferred to
another prison outside Bologna because they are
Bolognese.

Note:-

Request submitted to Rome middle of September;

and is responsible for both prisons.

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Direttore Superiore,

Assistant director,

Doctor (daily morning inspection both prisons) 387

Priest (3 hours per day and special occasions)

Warders:- 44 di carriera

20 auxiliary (ex partisans)

The Direttore Superiore has requested that sixteen of these ex-partisans be transferred to another prison outside Bologna because they are Bolognese.

Request submitted to Rome middle of September; no reply yet received.

Outside Guard:- CC.RR. total 20.

They work outside the main prison gate. They man three machine gun posts which could not be protected if rushed. Built up posts are in the process of being constructed.

- cont. -

- 2 -

PRISON ACCOMMODATION:- 300
NO. IN PRISON:- 540

MALE		FEMALE		JUVENILE
Convict awaiting trial.	awaiting death sent.	Convicted.	Awaiting trial.	
90	419	3	10	18

ELECTRIC LIGHT SYSTEM.

No alternative electric plant. Lamps held in stock out no petroleum.

RATIONS.

400 grams of bread per day.
 One mixed soup, vegetables, macaroni served at 1100 hrs once per day.

Prisoners are allowed to have two - three ki lo packages per week.

The food, in the writer's opinion, is grossly inadequate, and with winter upon us will swell the number of sick in the unheated cells.

EXERCISE.

Two hours per day - owing to large number of inmates is staggered.

HEATING.

None except in the prison hospital cells (accommodation:- ~~seventy~~ ^{twenty} five male prisoners, four female prisoners).

Two blankets and sheets on issue at present. Ministry has promised third blanket for winter issue. Blankets are of the poorest and thinnest material on issue. ³⁸ percent have iron beds, the remainder

in stock but no petroleum.

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EXERCISE.

Two hours per day - owing to large number of
inmates is staggered.

HEATING.

None except in the prison hospital cells (ac-
commodation: - ~~seventy~~ ^{thirty} five male prisoners, four female
prisoners). ³⁸⁰

Two blankets and sheets on issue at present.
Ministry has promised third blanket for winter issue.
Blankets are of the poorest and thinnest material on
the market. Sixty percent have iron beds, the remain-
der are sleeping on palliasses stuffed with straw on
the cement floor.

The building which is an old convent is very
damp and dark as all windows missing (fifty percent)
are covered with boards and paper. As the cold sets
in this prison will be unbearably cold.

MEDICAL.

Inspection carried out every morning.
First aid kit said to be sufficient for needs.

- cont. -

- 3 -

At present fifteen sick prisoners in hospital cell.

No issue of soap is at present given.

Only cold baths are available.

Disinfectants are however stated to be available.

FEMALE SECTION.

This section contrasts very pleasantly to its male counterpart.

It is run by religious sisters.

This part of the building is on the sunny side and would appear to have been in the past the dwelling apartments of the heads of the convent.

The windows now barred are however big and the cells are large and airy.

Whereas it cannot be said that a prison industry is established, the prisoners are kept busy working on the mending of sheets and making of prison clothing.

All female prisoners have prison *gown*. It should be noted that only the long-term prisoners working on the prison staff in the main section are in possession of prison issue clothes.

LIBRARY.

Only tomes of times gone by grace the library shelves collecting the prison dust with a wearied air of lost hope. No books printed prior to 1800 appear to have been allowed to enter the library portals.

CARCERE DI VIA PRATELLO.

This holds eighty short-term prisoners and thirty juvenile offenders as stated earlier in this report. It is hoped to get the prisoners away in the near future.

The prisoners are kept in four very large rooms accommodating twenty persons in each. The outside walls have suffered bomb damage and are being repaired.

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The prisoners are kept in four very large rooms accommodating twenty persons in each. The outside walls on one side have suffered bomb damage and are being repaired at present.

The CC.RR. guards patrol (singly) in the courtyard separating the actual prison and the outside walls. The whole place is very insecure.

When repaired, as a boys' institution, it might be adequate but is not by any means suitable as a prison for which it is at present being used.

- cont. -

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CONCLUSION.

As in all prisons visited there appears to be a distinct lack of any central body of organization which issues general directives to be followed.

No real effort appears to be made to build up a system which in time would show results and could in the light of experience be improved upon.

Prison industries, cultivation of prison grounds, outside labour, etc., would appear to be a thing unheard of.

No glimmer of any system or planning, in the writer's view, has been observed, no initiative to create a system that would either improve the security of the prisons or improve the moral standard of the criminal.

Until such time as a strong universal central policy is evolved for all prisons in Italy they may be considered a grave danger to the State.

C. I. J. Wadsworth

C. I. J. WADSWORTH, CAPT.
Public Safety Officer.

CIJW/lis

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