

ACC/14602/1/PS

10000/143/1424

10000/143/1424

TARANTO STRIKE
FEB. - APR. 1944

TARANTO STRIKE

3015 minute 2015-11-07	Referred to Data Adm. Sect.	26/11/44 28 Oct 44
------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------

43/1424

夏 日 之 風

© 2000 Blackwell Science Ltd

FROM FEB

to APP.

[illegible]

MINUTE SHEET

8a & 9a - 10a Col. Bain, Belmont St. Comm. improved by telephone
on 13th April 1944. bidwiden Naga 18th

bedmin. Section

Report on Toronto Trade

at foot of 11^B the Prov. Comm.

states that a meeting was arranged with Col. Boer on 17th April. Presumably the matter is in the hands of the Hebrew Sub. Commr.

Delivered Major
for Aug - 1 Pub. Supply

26th April 1944

IV

P.S. - *W. H. H.*

~~R. H. Briggs~~ C. O. 20th Ser.

28 Apr. 1951.

1053

0417

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety ~~Commission~~
Folio 12810 for action/information
C.P.S.....
D.C.P.S.....
Ex. Officer..... HW
Police.....
Prisons.....
Fire & C.D.....
Regn. & Licensing.....
Adm. Officer.....
REMARKS..... PA
.....
.....

1053

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
Folio 11 for action/information
C.P.S.....
D.C.P.S.....
Ex. Officer.....
Police.....
Prisons.....
Fire & C.D.....
Regn. & Licensing.....
Adm. Officer.....
REMARKS.....
.....
.....

1051

1st Ind.

HQ, ACC, Region II, APO 394, 21 April 44.

To: Executive Commissioner, R.O. and M.C. Section,
ACC Headquarters, Naples.(Copy: Vice-President, Administration Section) —
(Copy: Col. Adams, Internal Transportation S-Comm.)

1. The basic communication is forwarded for your information. In my opinion, the labor situation in Taranto will continue to be in a disturbed state so long as it is possible for one group to wheedle some concession out of one authority or another. Any such concessions are immediately followed by similar and supplementary demands from other groups. It is the conviction of several officers, including Captain Newkin, former Provincial Commissioner, that the Italian Naval Commanders, especially Admiral Fiorenza, at least tacitly encourage this state of affairs.

G. H. Mc Caffrey
G. H. Mc Caffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
R.O.



1050

SUBJECT: Tosi Workers, Sitdown Strike.

Regional Commissioner
HQ, Allied Control Commission
Region II Matera

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Palazzo del Governo

PARAG 10

T/A03/45

18 April 1944

In continuation of my T/A03/45 of 16 April.

I. The following attended the Conference:

Col. Bari, Capt. Secluno, Labour Sub Commission, Capt. Fraser, Capt. Botham, Regional Labour Directorate, Commodore Powell, Superintendent Dockyard, Prov. Commissioner.

Admiral Picrevante, Commander, Maritime Military Area (Ital.)
Admiral Corviale, Arsenal Commander, Engineer Bauer, Director, Tosi Dockyards, Commissary of local unions Lavoratori dell'Industria.

Three representatives of the Arsenal Workers.

Three representatives of Tosi Dockyard Workers.

2. Col. Bari called on Dockyard representatives to speak freely on their demands giving full reasons for making them.

3. They replied that they were anxious to cooperate with the Allies, that the sitdown strike was not intended as an act of hostility but as a simple protest for the precarious condition of the workers and families through low wages and lack of food.

4. Their minimum demands to improve the position were:-

(a) Allotment to each worker of a 'D' ration or an equivalent quantity of food.

(b) Monetary compensation to cover high cost of living during difficult period to workers of both sexes over 18 years, of 60 lire per day and under 18 years 35 lire per day from which 10 lire would be deducted in payment of rations.

The grant to effect:-

12,500 Arsenal Workers

3,000 Tosi Dockyard Workers

2,000 From Private firms working in the Arsenal

500 Porters operating in the harbour

18,000

litres

5. Col. Bari replied that the condition of the workers could not warrant a strike which was an act of sabotage. He explained that Gen. Macfarlane and Marshall Badoglio were against higher wages which led automatically to inflation, but experts were preparing a plan aiming at real benefits. The welfare of the Italian people was an important point in the Allies' programme, that food was a problem difficult to solve throughout the whole world, that food brought in to Italy was for the benefit of the whole population. He was aware that the black market had

2043

Col. Bari, Capt. Seciuna, Labour Sub Commission, Capt. Bracer, Capt. Botham, Regional Labour Directorate, Commodore Powell, Superintendent Dockyard, Prov. Commissioner.

Admiral Piaravara, Commander, Maritime Military Area (Ital.)
Admiral Corneale, Arsenal Commander, Engineer Baker, Director, Tosi Dockyards, Commissary of Local Unions Lavoratori dell'Industria.
Three representatives of the Arsenal workers.
Three representatives of Tosi Dockyard workers.

2. Col. Bari called on Dockyard representatives to speak freely on their demands giving full reasons for making them.

3. They replied that they were anxious to cooperate with the Allies, that the sitdown strike was not intended as an act of hostility but as a simple protest for the precarious condition of the workers and families through low wages and lack of food.

4. Their minimum demands to improve the position were:-
(a) Allotment to each worker of a 'B' ration or an equivalent quantity of food.

(b) Monetary compensation to cover high cost of living during difficult period to workers of both sexes over 18 years, of 60 lire per day and under 18 years 35 lire per day from which 10 lire would be deducted in payment of rations.

The grant to affect:-

12,500 Arsenal workers

3,000 Tosi Dockyard workers

2,000 From Private firms working in the Arsenal

500 Porters operating in the harbour

2049

16,000

16,000

5. Col. Bari replied that the condition of the workers could not warrant a strike which was an act of sabotage. He explained that Gen. Macfarlane and Marshall Badoglio were against higher wages which led automatically to inflation, but experts were preparing a plan aiming at real benefits. The welfare of the Italian people was an important point in the Allies' programme, that food was a problem difficult to solve throughout the whole world, that food brought in to Italy was for the benefit of the whole population. He was aware that the black market had almost become an institution but the workers' duty was to suppress it by forming as soon as possible Cooperative Societies in Taranto. He decided to consider the workers as on the same level as those directly engaged by the Allied authorities, but without fresh duties, and to recommend to the Food-Sub-Commission, Naples, the issue of the following extra ration for all workers:-

(a) 100 grams bread per day, to be added to the 300 grams already received by them as heavy workers.

- (b) 100 grams of Pasta
(c) 30 grams dehydrated soup.

This extra ration to be a periodical issue and can be taken home.

6. In answer, some worker representatives expressed dissatisfaction and insisted on their previous demands declining any responsibility for the "steps that the deluded mass of workers might take". Others introduced a political flavor. All representatives got a fair hearing.
7. The Prefect thanked Col. Bain, adding that through the Colonel's active cooperation, the food problem of Taranto workers would be gradually solved.

8. Remarks.

I await confirmation of the proposed issue of extra rations. On the 18th it was rumored that the Communist Party would march on the Municipio to throw out the Fascist Officials but the Questura had already dismissed 16 officials. It was then thought they would do the same at the Prefettura but Italian Infantry were in position and it turned out to be merely another rumor. The workers are back at work and for the time being peace reigns.

Three classes of Fascist Officials - Squadristi, Fascio Littorio, Marcia su Roma - were removed from all public offices on 18th pending final decision from local or central committees for "de fascistizzazione". How this will affect the workers is not yet known.

RV/AM

Provincial Commissioner.

1043

0 4 2 3

146021 *3450808*
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

REGION 2. HEADQUARTERS *11A*

Your ref _____

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL POLICE OFFICER

My ref PS 12.

Subject Strikes.

18th April 44

TO : Chief, Public Safety Subcommittee, A.C.C.
Rear Headquarters. APO 394.

11B/c/d
The attached reports in connection
with the strike at Cantieri Tosi works on the
13th April 1944, is forwarded for your information.

108 refers
Roxhead
Captain.
Regional Police Officer.

1047

C O P Y

SUBJECT:- Tosi Workers, Sitdown Strike

Regional Commissioner,
Hq., Allied Control Commission,
Region 2, Matera

Allied Control Commission,
Palazzo del Governo,
TARANTO.

T/AUG/45

16 Apr. 44.

1. In accordance with the instructions in your ECA/2069 of 1st April and in amplification of Provincial Police Officer's report I now send you the whole sequence of events.

2. On the morning of 13 April about 2000 workers belonging to the Cantieri Tosi works had a sitdown strike because they were dissatisfied with the results obtained by their Mission to the Ministry at Salerno, and in consequence they now ask for an 80% increase in their wages.

3. The Director of Cantieri Tosi has stated that if this increase was granted it would mean a revision of all contracts to Allied Authorities and naturally a great increase in contract prices.

4. At the moment the apportioning of work is:-

1/3 for Italian Navy.
2/3 for British Navy.

5. The Committee of representatives from the workers talked the matter over with the Prefect and Admiral Fioravanza and said they were prepared to reduce their requests but were unable to decide on the minimum and would negotiate with the Manager of Cantieri Tosi, whereupon the Prefect pointed out that resumption of work must precede negotiations.

5. At 16.00 hrs. on 14 Apr. the workers went back to work.

7. A conference was held on 15 Apr. at 15.30 hrs. Those present were Provincial Commissioner, Provincial Police Officer, Prefect and Admiral Fioravanza. The latter stated that the Committee of representatives had spoken to the Minister of Marines (Admiral DE COURTEN) repeating their demands and the Minister had promised to take their requests - in person - to the Govt. for discussion and decision and he would probably return in a week or ten days, meanwhile he had wired explaining how matters stood to the Ministry.

8. Admiral Fioravanza also observed that the Tosi workers demands affected Arsenal workers and that this question was not a political one but purely an economic one and as such should be easy to settle. His proposals are either:-

- (a) An increase in salaries and wages
- (b) An issue of B Scale rations to all workers engaged at the Dockyards
- (c) A partial increase of salaries and wages plus a partial allotment of extra food.

450
CONFIDENTIAL

1. In accordance with the instructions in your BGA/2069 of 13 April and in amplification of Provincial Police Officer's report I now send you the whole sequence of events.

2. On the morning of 13 April about 2000 workers belonging to the Cantieri Tosi works had a sitdown strike because they were dissatisfied with the results obtained by their Mission to the Ministry at Salerno, and in consequence they now ask for an 80% increase in their wages.

3. The Director of Cantieri Tosi has stated that if this increase was granted it would mean a revision of all contracts to Allied Authorities and naturally a great increase in contract prices.

4. At the moment the apportioning of work is:-

- 1/3 for Italian Navy.
- 2/3 for British Navy.

5. The Committee of representatives from the workers talked the matter over with the Prefect and Admiral Fioravanza and said they were prepared to reduce their requests but were unable to decide on the minimum and would negotiate with the Manager of Cantieri Tosi, whereupon the Prefect pointed out that resumption of work must precede negotiations.

5. At 16.00 hrs. on 14 Apr. the workers went back to work.

7. A conference was held on 15 Apr. at 15.30 hrs. Those present were Provincial Commissioner, Provincial Police Officer, Prefect and Admiral Fioravanza. The latter stated that the Committee of representatives had spoken to the Minister of Marines (Admiral DE COURTEN) repeating their demands and the Minister had promised to take their requests - in person - to the Govt. for discussion and decision and he would probably return in a week or ten days, meanwhile he had wired explaining how matters stood to the Ministry.

8. Admiral Fioravanza also observed that the Tosi workers demands affected Arsenal workers and that this question was not a political one but purely an economic one and as such should be easy to settle. His proposals are either:-

- (a) An increase in salaries and wages
- (b) An issue of B Scale rations to all workers engaged at the Dockyards
- (c) A partial increase of salaries and wages plus a partial allotment of extra food.

9. The Admiral favours plan (b) for workers. The distribution would be made through military channels.

10. The Prefect agreed with this solution, adding that he on several occasions had ascertained that owing to shortage of food local workers had not the necessary stamina to do their work efficiently.

11. Tosi workers had often been promised an improvement in their position but nothing had been done about it. It was stated that the representatives of the workers and the local leaders of the Communist party.

...

wanted the food question settled as soon as possible because they cannot give any assurance about the future maintenance of public order.

12. The Provincial Commissioner then asked Admiral Fioravanza what arrangements he had made to keep law and order and if he had sufficient Troops and was assured by the Admiral he had sufficient and more were available at short notice.

The Provincial Commissioner again reminded Admiral Fioravanza and the Prefect that they were responsible for keeping law and order and that the Allied Authorities would take a poor view of any disturbance which hampered the war effort and that their own actions would be judged in this matter.

13. Provincial Commissioner was assured by Admiral Fioravanza that all workers were getting their normal ration and that heavy and extra heavy workers were getting the extra ration as laid down in the Ration Scales.

14. The Prefect mentioned that some twenty agitators had been dismissed and investigations were still being carried on to find others who might be active Fascists or of Nazi sympathies who had taken advantage of the food situation to cause the sitdown strikes.

15. On 16 Apr. Prefect calls on Provincial Commissioner to tell him he had forwarded the whole matter to his Govt. and he may go to Salerno himself to represent the case and get an answer.

16. Observations.

The Prefect drew my attention to an article in a Naples newspaper dated 11 Apr. which detailed certain privileges to workers in Naples. This may have influenced the workers here to some extent.

My T/ACC/29 of 5 Apr. enclosing a letter from F.O.T. 11045 to G.O.C., N° 2 District and with it a letter from Italian Minister of Marine to F.O.T.A.L.I. also has some bearing on the subject.

I have contacted all Naval and Military authorities concerned and made them aware of the situation.

Provincial Commissioner

FC/AM.

Capt. Frazer, Reg. Labour Director and Capt Bothan have just arrived I am arranging a meeting Between Col. Bain, Capt. Frazer, Capt. Bothan and the Prefect Admiral Fioravanza, Admiral Coerealle and representatives from Tosi works for 11.00hrs tomorrow (17th) in the Prefect's room.

SUPPLY OF FOOD FOR DOCKYARD WORKERS.

FROM... FLAG OFFICER TARANTO AND ADRIATIC.

DATE... 2nd April, 1944

No. T.A. 1030/20.

TO... GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING, No 2 DISTRICT

(Copies to: Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Station.

Commodore Superintendent, Taranto.

Headquarters, 52 Area, Taranto.

Flag Officer, Western Italy, Naples.

Commodore Palmer, Naval Sub-Commission, Salerno

Naval Officer-in-charge, Brindisi.

A.C.C. Liaison Officer, Taranto.)

With reference to my No T.A. 1030/20 of 3rd March, a worsening of the civilian food supplies can be foreseen in the near future, a state of affairs that is anticipated in the attached letter 312/F.O. of 30th March, from the Minister of Marine.

2. The food situation for the Dockyard workers has been perpetually on the brink of a crisis, and was in fact, the immediate cause of the strike and its attendant riots in February. Hitherto the Italian Authorities have not pressed for help in the matter from Allied sources, but now that they have made an appeal I feel it is the time to put the whole Dockyard question on a firmer footing.

3. The suggestion advanced by the Minister of Marine is that all Dockyard workers (inclusive of the non-manual type) should receive rations from the Allied on scale B. He has mentioned in his letter "the grave difficulties for the workers to keep their families supplied", which is liable to misinterpretation and I have pointed out to him that the rations, if approved, would be for the actual workers, not their families. If issued in bulk, no doubt it will go to augment the larger of the average family, but the real point at issue is that in ~~Taranto~~ ^{Palermo} alone the local resources would be relieved of the strain of providing for 12,00 men, with the resultant benefit to their families.

4. The financial aspect of conceding Ration B to the Dockyard workers cannot be considered in its entirety without knowing the monetary value of the ration. Assuming it to be in the nature of L. 24 a day, it is recognised that it is too heavy a sum to deduct from wages which are lower than those authorised by Administrative Instruction No 24. My T.A. 1149/16 of 24th February to Allied Control Commission refers to this, giving a table of comparisons, and is now under consideration by the Labour Sub-Commission. Pending an improvement in wages I am assured by the Italian Authorities that part of the cost of this ration "B" if granted, would be borne by the Navy, sufficient to ensure that the worker's family budget will not be adversely effected.

5. In forwarding this request from the Minister of Marine I wish to stress that I regard this concession as a matter of paramount importance, and one that I trust will be put into practice with the minimum of delay. It is obviously preferable to take immediate steps now than

Flag Officer, Western Italy, Naples.
Commodore Palmer, Naval Sub-Commission, Salerno
Naval Officer-in-charge, Brindisi.
A.C.C. Liaison Officer, Taranto.)

With reference to my No T.A. 1030/20 of 3rd March, a worsening of the civilian food supplies can be foreseen in the near future, a state of affairs that is anticipated in the attached letter 3/2/P.O. of 30th March, from the Minister of Marine.

2. The food situation for the Dockyard workers has been perpetually on the brink of a crisis, and was in fact, the immediate cause of the strike and its attendant riots in February. Hitherto the Italian Authorities have not pressed for help in the matter from allied sources, but now that they have made an appeal I feel it is the time to put the whole Dockyard question on a firmer footing.

3. The suggestion advanced by the Minister of Marine is that all Dockyard workers (inclusive of the non-manual type) should receive rations from the Allied on scale B. He has mentioned in his letter "the grave difficulties for the workers to keep their families supplied", which is liable to misinterpretation and I have pointed out to him that the rations, if approved, would be for the actual workers, not their families. If issued in bulk, no doubt it will go to augment the larder of the average family, but the real point at issue is that in ~~10,000~~ ^{10,000} alone the local resources would be relieved of the strain of providing for 12,000 men, with the resultant benefit to their families.

4. The financial aspect of conceding Ration B to the Dockyard workers cannot be considered in its entirety without knowing the monetary value of the ration. Assuming it to be in the nature of £. 24 a day, it is recognised that it is too heavy a sum to deduct from wages which are lower than those authorised by Administrative Instruction No 24. My T.A. 1149/16 of 24th February to Allied Control Commission refers to this, giving a table of comparisons, and is now under consideration by the Labour Sub-Commission. Pending an improvement in wages I am assured by the Italian Authorities that part of the cost of this ration "B" if granted, would be borne by the Navy, sufficient to ensure that the worker's family budget will not be adversely effected.

5. In forwarding this request from the Minister of Marine I wish to stress that I regard this concession as a matter of paramount importance, and one that I trust will be put into practice with the minimum of delay. It is obviously preferable to take immediate steps now than to await the inevitable crisis which will force the issue in any case. Furthermore I am convinced that the results will be a marked improvement in the output of the Dockyard workers and a far better spirit of co-operation will be achieved. If this larger scheme is adopted, the proposal forwarded under cover of my T.A. 1030/20 of 3rd March should be considered cancelled.

Signed.

Certified True Copy of the Original.

FROM : Ministry of Marine (Cabinet)

TO : T O L I

Date : 30.3.44

Ref : 212/F.O.

SUBJECT:- FOOD RATIONS FOR MILITARISED WORKERS.

Workers engaged in establishments and shipyards under I.R.N. were "militarised" and became subject to penal and disciplinary measures in June 1940.

On 1st February last, all Military-Naval personnel ashore, even if not living in messes, and the "militarised" personnel were given Type "E" rations supplied by the Allies.

In the computed figures, this Ministry did not include the "militarised" workers, as it considered this concession could not be extended to personnel not militarised as above.

Subsequently it has become known that:-

a) The "militarised" civil workers in Italian Army and Italian Army and Italian Air Force establishments receive the above food ration;

b) The Naval-Military Command at Brindisi, in accord with Allied Authorities and in view of the local difficult food situation, on 15th inst. commenced the distribution of the above food ration to workers at the La Maddalena Naval Base.

c) Workers under Marina Naples are in a state of ferment with the object of obtaining the daily distribution of the food ration on a par with the distribution which is already practiced in that Base in regard to the Italian Army, on orders issued by the Allied Forces Command in Campania (Province).

On the other hand, it is necessary to bear in mind that the Naval-Military Administration has up to now, issued a mid-day ration of thick soup to the workers, the cost of which has been borne in large part by the Administration; but to-day it is extremely difficult to continue doing so, as the ingredients for its preparation are unobtainable.

The difficulty of obtaining food for the civil population causes grave difficulties for the workers to keep their families supplied so that the desire to receive the daily ration is very strong indeed.

All this finally reduces itself to a lowering in production (to the detriment of I.R.N. and Allied Navies alike) and to a discontent the outcome of which cannot be foreseen.

For example, at Brindisi, the serious situation of the food market has occasioned a strong movement among the operatives at the Mixed Naval Works, who threaten to abstain from work if this situation is not improved, but the Political Authorities are not in a condition to take the necessary steps because of the small stocks of food and the

Given Type "B" rations supplied by the Allies.

In the computed figures, this Ministry did not include the "militarised" workers, as it considered this concession could not be extended to personnel not militarised as above.

Subsequently it has become known that:-

- a) The "militarised" civil workers in Italian Army and Italian Army and Italian Air Force establishments receive the above food ration;
- b) The Naval-Military Command at Sardinia, in accord with Allied Authorities and in view of the local difficult food situation, on 15th inst. commenced the distribution of the above food ration to workers at the La Maddalena Naval Base.
- c) Workers under Marina Naples are in a state of ferment with the object of obtaining the daily distribution of the food ration on a par with the distribution which is already practiced in that Base in regard to the Italian Army, on orders issued by the Allied Forces Command in Campania (Province).

On the other hand, it is necessary to bear in mind that the Naval-Military Administration has up to now, issued a mid-day ^{10.43} plate of thick soup to the workers, the cost of which has been borne in large part by the Administration; but to-day it is extremely difficult to continue doing so, as the ingredients for its preparation are unobtainable.

The difficulty of obtaining food for the civil population causes grave difficulties for the workers to keep their families supplied so that the desire to receive the daily ration is very strong indeed.

All this finally reduces itself to a lowering in production (to the detriment of I.R.N. and Allied Navies alike) and to a discontent the outcome of which cannot be foreseen.

For example, at Brindisi, the serious situation of the food market has occasioned a strong movement among the operatives at the Mixed Naval Works, who threaten to abstain from work if this situation is not improved, but the Political Authorities are not in a condition to take the necessary steps because of the small stocks of food and the well-known transport difficulties.

With the object of obviating agitations and abstentions from work, which would have repercussion totally disadvantageous to the establishments of the I.R.N., and to regularise the situation, it is considered an absolute necessity that an urgent concession of "B" rations should be given to all civil "militarised" workers who depend from the Administration of the Military Maritime Authorities.

.../...

I consider that this provision would not meet with serious difficulties, on the other hand it would cause a reduction in the consumption by the civil population of the localities concerned.

The number of rations involved daily would be the following:-

TARANTO	12.000
NAPLES (including Castellammare)	700
LA MADDALENA (including Cagliari, where distribution already takes place)	1.000
BRINDISI	500
Total	14.300

(Signed) THE MINISTER.

H/DG).

Translator's Note: Postscript in the Minister's handwriting
"I strongly beg you to take this important
problem into the most attentive consideration".

Certified True Copy of the Original.

1043

32506,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2. HEADQUARTERS *14602/10A*

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL POLICE OFFICER

Your ref _____

My ref PS 12Subject Strikes.14th April 1944

TO : Chief, Public safety Subcommission, A.C.C.
Rear Headquarters. APO 394.

In confirmation of my telephone communication to HQ this day, a strike occurred in the Tossi shipyards Taranto on 13-4-1944, work ceased.

Workers demand 80% wage increase.

They returned to work 14-4-1944 pending negotiations.

2000 workers affected.

Situation, calm.

Roxhead
Captain.

Regional Police Officer.

1041

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONT'L COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

Folio 101 for action/information

C.P.S. *PLK*

D.C.P.S. *PL*

Police

Prisons

Fire & C.D.

Regn. & Licensing

Adm. Officer *W*

Remarks:

*Col. Young: - Re SA & 9A. Brig
Lusk called expressed concern that
he did not know of this; also that
Labor/C not informed. Content of
messages indicate negotiations went
forward, presumably w. labor rep's.*

PLK
PA 20/4

SUBJECT:- Sitdown Strike in Shipyard.

Public Safety Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission, Salerno.

Regional Police Officer,
Hq., Allied Control Commission,
Region 2, Matera.

1750
Allied Control Commission,
Palazzo del Governo,
Taranto.

T/PPS/1.

14 Apr. 44.

Further to report ~~on~~ my telegram of April 14, 1944.-At 8.45 a.m., April 13, 1944, approximately 2000 workers in the Tosi Shipyard and 300 workers belonging to Tosi but loaned to the Arsenale shipyards, went on a sitdown strike at the yards, because they were dissatisfied with the negative results achieved by their Committee who had gone to Salerno to present their demands to the Ministry. Reason for strike is a desire for increase of wages. Average wages paid now are 80 liras daily for men, 60 for women and 40 for boys. Demands asked are increases of 60 liras daily for men, 45 for women, and 30 for boys. Negotiations are being conducted and at 1600 hrs., April 14, 1944, work was resumed by the strikers pending outcome of negotiations.

Public order was not threatened at any time and all necessary precautions had been taken by local authorities to ensure the maintenance of good order.

WJO/AM.

41.57.

William J. O'Neill
1040.
William J. O'Neill.
2nd Lt., C.M.P.
Provincial Police Officer.
Taranto.

Received
15-00 16/4/44
 16 APR REC'D
 (8/11/74)
 146021

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION INCOMING

MESSAGE /msr

SVC/RELAY NO.

I/C NO :

CLASS: NOT GIVEN

REF NO : ACC/52

PREC : NOT GIVEN

FILED : APR 141545B

FROM : ACC TARANTO PPO

REC'D : APR 161415B
 Via DRLS

TO : For Action: P SAFETY SUBCOM ACC SALERNO
 For Info- : REGIONAL POLICE OFFICER H. ACC MATERA

Apr 13 1944. 2,000 workers in Tosi shipyards went on sitdown strike for increase in wages. Negotiations being conducted by proper authorities. Rumored will resume work Apr 15 1944 pending final decisions. Public order is calm. Report follows.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - AG File
- 1 - DSG Info
- 1 - DCC "
- 1 - P Safety ACTION

1039

Mont. State

to J.P.

1/1/68

① The action of the evening letter ~~attaches~~ ^{is} brought to my attention the necessity for action to para. 3.

② The Subcommittee has made any contact on this. The evening letter wish to bring it up at your meeting this morning (Monday).

③ The priority of office also applies to ACC. and is a very specific the Chief Clerk to setting up such a Subcom.

1/1/68
 (Received from
 address file)

1038

CSA

Sub Comd have seen

The letter will require reply
suggested to be discussed at
confce

Has Safety my comment
on § 2

What are Intercom and Safety's
views on § 2.

Alvin
22 Oct 44

CONFERENCE

from Admin Sec 17 Feb

GRW To Legal Sub-Committee
DRT Interview " "
PST Public Safety " "

/

See S. 17 2. 6. 44

Ref: 15/33/CA.12th February 1944.

Subject: Taranto Disturbances.

To : Vice President, Administrative Section.

1. I forward a report on the Taranto disturbances compiled by Lieut. Colonel Farley Smith of the Civil Affairs Branch of this Section.

2. I refer in particular to his recommendations made in para.4. It has been the custom to use CAPO's in a general rather than in a police capacity. This has been due chiefly to scarcity of personnel. Now that the Italian Government have taken over I think that these police officers should be used more in their special work and I will so direct Regional Commissioners.

3. The paucity of competent administrative officials is a very serious problem for the Italian Government and I suggest to you the possibility of setting up a short course on administration or perhaps forming a school for administrators, to which reputable young men could be admitted. Thus, the junior posts in the administrative services at any rate could be filled in the future. The school, of course, would have to be under Italian control with Allied supervision.

4. I am in the process of issuing a directive with regard to para.4(c) and am taking up the matter of arrests of Italian officials with H.Q., A.C.M.F. 1037

M. S. JUSH,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

MEL/JC.

SEEN		
ADMIN. DIV.		
CHIEF STAFF O.		
STAFF O 1		
STAFF O 2	✓	148
STAFF O 3		
C		

1482

REPORT - TARANTO DISTURBANCES.

Executive Commissioner.

The following is the brief report on recent events at TARANTO for which you asked.

1. The reports which you have already seen give an accurate account of events. In no case did they amount to more than demonstrations which would not have called for outside interference had the Italian authorities been anything near efficient. I agree with the statement made in the reports that the demonstrators were organised for political motives. Food shortage is an ever present and sure method of raising a demonstration under existing conditions and will probably be used again.

2. Capt. Harding (L.O. Taranto), Lt. Col. Wynne (C.I.L.O) and Capt. Stone were at all times in full touch with the situation, in complete harmony with the Sub-area Commander and in contact with the Italian authorities.

3. As I see it, the factors contributing to these demonstrations are as follows:-

- (a) Large industrial population particularly susceptible to agitation.
- (b) Lack of food as compared to normal times.
- (c) Lack of appreciation by average working man in S. Italy that times are by no means normal.
- (d) Inability of the people to understand what "freedom" means after being without it for so long.
- (e) Unpopularity of and lack of respect for the present Italian Government.
- (f) Uncertainty by the Italian Government as to how far the people should be given "freedom".
- (g) Loss of prestige by the Italian police and armed forces.
- (h) Too many Fascists still in office.
- (i) A combination of the above factors causing doubt and indecision amongst the subordinate Italian officials who, in general, are either distrusted by the people as being tainted with Fascism or are second class men not trained for their positions.

4. In order to improve the position I would recommend the following in addition to the recommendations made by Capt. Stone:-

- (a) Greater attention to improving the prestige of the Italian police forces by the use of more C.I.P.O's in their real job.

(b) Demand more from Italian Government in respect for

account of events. In no case are they shown to have taken demonstrations which would not have called for outside interference and the Italian authorities been anything near efficient. I agree with the statement made in the reports that the demonstrators were organized for political motives. Food shortage is an ever present and sure method of raising a demonstration under existing conditions and will probably be used again.

2. Capt. Harding (L.O. Taranto), Lt. Col. Wayne (C.L.O.) and Capt. Stone were at all times in full touch with the situation, in complete harmony with the Sub-area Commander and in contact with the Italian authorities.

3. As I see it, the factors contributing to these demonstrations are as follows:-

- (a) Large industrial population particularly susceptible to agitation.
- (b) Lack of food as compared to normal times.
- (c) Lack of appreciation by average working man in S. Italy that times are by no means normal.
- (d) Inability of the people to understand what "Freedom" means after being without it for so long.
- (e) Unpopularity of and lack of respect for the present Italian Government.
- (f) Uncertainty by the Italian Government as to how far the people should be given "Freedom".
- (g) Loss of prestige by the Italian police and armed forces.
- (h) Too many Fascists still in office.
- (i) A combination of the above factors causing doubt and indecision amongst the subordinate Italian officials who, in general, are either distrusted by the people as being tainted with Fascism or are second class men not trained for their positions.

4. In order to improve the position I would recommend the following in addition to the recommendations made by Capt. Stone:-

- (a) Greater attention to improving the prestige of the Italian police forces by the use of more C.L.O.'s in their real job.
- (b) Every assistance to Italian Government in search for competent men able to replace Fascist officials.
- (c) Every effort to do all that can be done through the Italian Government, thus bolstering up its prestige. The arrest of the Taranto venture is a good example of how not to do things.

1947
I realise.../

-2-

I realize that the above recommendations are not new, in fact they are part of AGC policy - all that can be done is to keep them even more in view.

Lastly to find some middle way by which the Italian Government will get the maximum of prestige and yet ensure that the people will always see that AGC is behind it. The people respect Allied Military Government and we are in the happy, if wrong, position of gaining credit for all the good and leaving our failures or blunders on the Fascist personnel whom the people still see, or think they see, in office. Lessons taken to see that the war effort is not impaired will, I believe, always be respected by the peoples leaders. This puts us in a very strong position and I think that insures Italy is a co-belligerent, the Italian war effort could be linked to ours by propaganda. I do not believe that the people think of it as being one effort at present.

9th Feb 1944.

(Signed) T. FARLEY SMITH,
LT. COLONEL.

1035

0 4 4 3

SECRET

File

FARGO 788

FARGO
SECRET
PRIORITY

7 FEB 44
10050 MACFARLANE

FREEDOM (ACTING) HQ ARMY (INFO)

IN CONNECTION WITH RECENT PROBLEMS AND THREAT
OF THREATS AT TANGENT IN POSSIBILITY OF SIMILAR DIFFICULTIES REED-
WHERE I THINK THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF
ESTABLISHMENT IF AND WHEN NECESSARY OF LOCAL ARBITRATION COMMITTEES
TO DEAL WITH CONDITIONS AFFECTING LABOUR CONDITIONS PD FERGUSON FARM
FARGO FROM MACFARLANE PERSONAL FARM TO AFTER FOR HIS FOR GENERAL
CAREER FOR MACFARLANE AND CIVIL AFFAIRS REED HQ ARMY ^{File Info} PD SITE FARGO
SEVEN EIGHT EIGHT PD PLEASE LET ME KNOW EARLIEST POSSIBLE IF YOU
AGREE TO MY APPROACHING ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ON THIS QUESTION 1034

*Copy to:
Admin V.P.*

Political Sec.
Legal Sub Comm.
Admin V.P.
Secn V.P.

L.F. NICHOL
Lt. Col. AGD
Adjutant General

SECRET

SECRET

FARCO 786

FARCO

7 FEBRUARY 44

SECRET

10050 MACFARLANE

PRIORITY

FREEDOM (ACTION) HQ ACMT (INFO)

I RECEIVED WARNING LAST NIGHT OF POSSIBILITY OF SIT DOWN STRIKE IN TARANTO DOCKYARD TODAY PD FENBASE PAREN FARCO THOU MACFARLANE PERSONAL PAREN TO AFHQ FOR HGS CMA GENERAL GAMMEL CMA MINISTER MACMILLAN AND CIVIL AFFAIRS FOR ACTION RPTD HQ ACMT FOR INFO PD CITE FARCO SEVEN NIGHT SIX PD I SENT MESSAGE TO BADOGLIO THROUGH BOTH JUNG AND STONE IMPRESSING ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR PREVENTION DISLOCATION WORK IN DOCKYARD PD ALTHOUGH WAGES AND BREAD RATION ARE THE OSTENSIBLE CAUSES OF DISAFFECTION THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT POLITICAL AGITATORS ARE STIRRING UP TROUBLE IN TARANTO TO EMBARRASS BADOGLIO GOVERNMENT AT THIS RATHER CRITICAL MOMENT PD I HAVE SENT MONTFORT TO MAKE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION AND AM HOLDING AMO TEAM READY TO PUT INTO TARANTO IN CASE I HAVE TO IMPOSE MILITARY GOVERNMENT PD WHILE DICTATING ABOVE MESSAGE ARRIVED FROM STONE AT BRINDISI TO SAY THAT ALL WAS QUIET AT TARANTO PD THAT BADOGLIO HEND A SPECIAL MEETING LAST NIGHT WITH REALE CMA DE COURTES CMA AOSTA AND OTHERS AND THE SITUATION APPEARS TO BE WELL IN HAND PD THE MINISTER OF MARINE MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT HE INTENDED

Copy to P.
MacFarlane V.O.
admission V.O.

(page 1)

L.F. NICKEL,
Lt. Col. AGP
Adjutant General

868

SECRET

SECRET

continued

FARGO 786

FARGO

7 FEBRUARY 44

SECRET

10050 MACFARLANE

PRIORITY

FREEDOM (ACTION) HQ AGMP (INFO)

TO TAKE THE FIRMEST POSSIBLE LINE IN DEALING WITH ANY THREAT OF
DISLOCATION OF WORK

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION

7 February 1944

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike at Taranto

TO : Vice President, Administrative Section

I have the honor to report as follows:

1. I was Duty Officer at ACC Salerno during the night 6th-7th February, 1944.

2. At 2300 hours, Signor Grillo, Legation Secretary of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that he had just returned from a meeting at HQ Naples of ACC and Italian Government representatives, presided over by Lt General Mason MacFarlane.

3. General MacFarlane had intimated that he had information regarding a threatened strike by Dock workers at Taranto to start today (Tuesday). Signor General MacFarlane had requested the Italian representatives to inform Signor Reale, Minister of Interior, that all necessary action should be taken by their Government to avert the strike. If it took place, it might involve the introduction of AMG in the area, and further, that such an occurrence would seriously interrupt vital war work and adversely affect the transfer arrangements which were shortly due for completion.

4. Signor Grillo had unsuccessfully tried to contact Signor Reale at Lecce by telephone from the Provincia Building and had arranged with Minister Jun and Philipson to continue his efforts on return here.

5. Signor Grillo spoke to Lecce but was unable to contact Reale. He eventually spoke to Major Pagliano (Vice Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of War). Signor Brillo afterwards informed me that on behalf of Minister Jung and Philipson, he had repeated General MacFarlane's remarks with the direction that the message was to be conveyed by Reale or the Minister of War to General Badoglio.

I have the honor to be, sir,

*Memorandum for the President
with General
Mason MacFarlane*

052330A

R- 3

TWX

Adm. Sec. 2542

RESTRICTED OPERATIONAL PRIORITY TELEGRAM

RESTRICTED

RECEIVED AT

FBI SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER

6 FEB 1944

RESTRICTED

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

FAMCO, FATIMA REAR DISTRO REGION TWO

NOTE

HQ AND REGION TWO

0300Z

052330A

KCHZ

NOTE



FOR REPORT FROM SMITH. SITUATION FARLITO SUNDAY MORNING
 NORMAL. NO NEED FOR EMERGENCY MEASURES. STRONGLY RECOMMEND
 REGION TWO STAND DOWN. YOUR 689 REFERS. MAYHE AND FATIMA REAR
 HAVE ALWAYS BEEN IN COMPLETE CONTROL SITUATION. REGION TWO
 AND DISTRO INFORMED.

REL DISTR:

ACTION AND HQ
 INFO SECY
 CG

ACC DISTR:

(ACTION) RC & MC SEC
 (INFO) ADM SEC

1032

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

		W. H. G.
HA		RECEIVED FAMCO
		6 FEB 1944
		1 01 11 PM
		3 01 11 PM
		1 01 11 PM
		1 01 11 PM
		1 01 11 PM
		1 01 11 PM
		1 01 11 PM
		1 01 11 PM
		1 01 11 PM

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION

File: ACC/27/Int

6 february 1944

SUBJECT: Taranto Riot

TO : Vice President, Administrative Section

1. The attached report from Interior Liaison Officer Major J. McSweeney, received today is forwarded for your information.

2. 2nd Lt B. Ziegler was Interior's Liaison Officer, Region II, but no longer is, since he has been transferred.

R. G. B. Spicer

R. G. B. SPICER
Lt Colonel
Acting Director
Interior Sub-Commission

Incl: Extract from Maj McSweeney's report

105

SEEN	FILED
ADMIN DIRECTOR	
STAFF SIA	
STAFF O 1	
STAFF O 2	
STAFF O 3	
STAFF O 4	
STAFF O 5	
STAFF O 6	
STAFF O 7	
STAFF O 8	
STAFF O 9	
STAFF O 10	
7 FEB 1944	

784.
79.

1/2 11

R1 Altitude 1/2 CR Trenches in Italy

Re (a) 150 grams was the return received previously
with regularity some days without.

(b) Return in Nov 200 grams, found.

(b) (c) Egypt acting Capital Trenches were for details
as to the

P.P.C.

L. C. Cripps

1. This type of report seems to be just what should be discussed at our Director's Conference please raise on Tuesday
2. No date of the form is given
3. Can we be told by Tuesday
 - (a) what bread was ~~was~~ actually distributed at the time
 - (b) what was his scale of wages
 - (c) what were the market prices.

13.2.64

S

0451

Sp. for the front
I propose to circulate the to
all let on this one. R.M.

11. February, 1944.

Subject: Taranto Disturbances

Memorandum to: Vice-President, Administration Section.
Vice-President, Economic Section.

The attached copy of Lieut. Colonel Farley
Smith's report on the recent disturbances at Taranto
is forwarded for your information.

I. E. Carr
I. E. CARR,
Captain,
P.A. to Brig. Insp.

SEEN	
ADMIN. DIRECTOR	
CHIEF STAFF O.	
STAFF O 1	
STAFF O 2	✓ <i>md</i>
STAFF O 3	
CLERK	

1016 1

COPY

REPORT - TARANTO DISTURBANCES.

Executive Commissioner.

The following is the brief report on recent events at TARANTO for which you asked.

1. The reports which you have already seen give an accurate account of events. In no case did they amount to more than demonstrations which would not have called for outside interference had the Italian authorities been anything near efficient. I agree with the statement made in the reports that the demonstrators were organised for political motives. Food shortage is an ever present and sure method of raising a demonstration under existing conditions and will probably be used again.
2. Capt. Hawking (L.O. Taranto), Lt. Col. Moyne (C.I.O) and Capt. Stone were at all times in full touch with the situation, in complete harmony with the Sub-Area Commander and in contact with the Italian authorities.

3. As I see it, the factors contributing to these demonstrations are as follows:-

- (a) Large industrial population particularly susceptible to agitation.
- (b) Lack of food as compared to normal times.
- (c) Lack of appreciation by average working man in S. Italy that times are by no means normal.
- (d) Inability of the people to understand what "Freedom" means after being without it for so long.
- (e) Unpopularity of and lack of respect for the present Italian Government.
- (f) Uncertainty by the Italian Government as to how far the people should be given "Freedom".
- (g) Loss of prestige by the Italian police and armed forces.
- (h) Too many Fascists still in office.
- (i) A combination of the above factors causing doubt and indecision amongst the subordinate Italian officials who, in general, are either distrusted by the people as being tainted with Fascism or are second class men not trained for their positions.

4. In order to improve the position I would recommend the following in addition to the recommendations made by Capt. Stone:-

- (a) Greater attention to improving the prestige of the Italian police forces by the

1028

and the Italian authorities been anything near efficient. I agree with the statement made in the reports that the demonstrators were organised for political motives. Food shortage is an ever present and sure method of raising a demonstration under existing conditions and will probably be used again.

2. Capt. Hawking (L.O. Taranto), Lt. Col. Moyne (C.L.O.) and Capt. Stone were at all times in full touch with the situation, in complete harmony with the Sub-area Commander and in contact with the Italian authorities.

3. As I see it, the factors contributing to these demonstrations are as follows:-

- (a) Large industrial population particularly susceptible to agitation.
- (b) Lack of food as compared to normal times.
- (c) Lack of appreciation by average working man in S. Italy that times are by no means normal.
- (d) Inability of the people to understand what "Freedom" means after being without it for so long.
- (e) Unpopularity of and lack of respect for the present Italian Government.
- (f) Uncertainty by the Italian Government as to how far the people should be given "Freedom".
- (g) Loss of prestige by the Italian police and armed forces.
- (h) Too many Fascists still in office.
- (i) A combination of the above factors causing doubt and indecision amongst the subordinate Italian officials who, in general, are either distrusted by the people as being tainted with Fascism or are second class men not trained for their positions.

4. In order to improve the position I would recommend the following in addition to the recommendations made by Capt. Stone:-

- (a) Greater attention to improving the prestige of the Italian police forces by the use of more C.I.P.O.'s in their real job.
- (b) Every assistance to Italian Government in search for competent men able to replace Fascist officials.
- (c) Every effort to do all that can be done through the Italian Government, thus bolstering up its prestige. The arrest of the Taranto Questore is a good example of how not to do things.

I realise.../

028

I realise that the above recommendations are not new, in fact they are part of ACC policy - all that can be done is to keep them even more in view.

Lastly to find some middle way by which the Italian Government will get the maximum of prestige and yet ensure that the people will always see that ACC is behind it. The people respect Allied Military Government and we are in the happy, if wrong, position of gaining credit for all the good and having our failures blamed on the Fascist personnel whom the people still see, or think they see, in office. Measures taken to see that the war effort is not impaired will, I believe, always be respected by the peoples leaders. This puts us in a very strong position and I think that insofar as Italy is a co-belligerent, the Italian war effort could be linked to ours by propaganda. I do not believe that the people think of it as being one effort at present.

9th Feb 1944.

(Signed) T. FARLEY SMITH,
LT. COLONEL.

1027

EXTRACT

from Maj J. McSweeney's report
of 3 February 1944

B. Laboring men in the arsenal and ship-building yards at Taranto struck for higher wages, or it would be better to say, for food. Dott. Innocenti went over. I could obtain no transportation. I had a long talk with Dott. Innocenti, who was there. I wanted to get his reaction and to report them to Col Spicer. It happens that Prefetto Soprano had come through with some prejudices against him. His official acts in Naples had not been approved by the people of Taranto. This fact together with the food shortage caused these laboring men to move against the Prefect. Dr. Innocenti reported that the military and police forces failed to take proper action. Dott. Innocenti feels that in some instances, there is a general resentment when a Prefetto of a larger city is sent to a smaller community. In the affair, Prefetto Soprano was rather seriously hurt. Dott. Innocenti reported that the conduct of Lt. Ziegler was remarkable. It is my pleasure and duty to transmit to Lt Col Spicer the estimate that Dott. Innocenti had placed upon the conduct of Lt. Benj. Ziegler on this occasion. Lt. Ziegler spoke frankly but firmly to these people; presented a fine picture of conditions and at all times had his part in this serious affair well in hand. According to Dott. Innocenti, Lt Ziegler acted promptly, intelligently, and effectively. Dr. Innocenti was chiefly concerned by the laxity of the law enforcing group. No final report was given by him, nor did he say what could be done.

1020

030 hrs. 19 March 44

From: Capt. Lockhead.

To: Col. Kirk. C.P.S.

6A
File 1092
14602/1

On 15th March, dock workers at
TARRANT, indicated that they were
going to strike. They were employed
on contract work and requested same
pay & conditions as the Bari dockers
employed under Allied Authority.

This is an Army civil labour matter.
About 150 came out for a short period,
dispute quickly settled.

Full report follows.

W. R. Kirk
J. L. C.

7.

1025

#2 Dist
Calabria - Power Sta.

War on
Interrupted 1240.
Sabotage
Death
Prisoners and captives

whole.

Sila.
Calabro.

Cercola.
Massa destroyed
evacuated
no casualties

Relations between CCRP and police
release of civilians previously
arrested by MP's
arrest of civilians w/o charges
(Conf must be given in mind).

LDT Dist are under pursuit
Hareto.

File 14602/1

51X
Phone message from Capt. Coheael 1000hrs 28 Mar 44

Sarato strike settled on 19 Mar 44

10-4

CONTROL COMMISSION
~~Allied Air Staff Government~~ *HA 43-62*
 Region 2. Headquarters *P. Sup. (P. H. H.)*

Your ref. _____
 My ref. PS/12
 Subject Strike - Taranto
 To : Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission,
 Allied Control Commission,
 Rear Headquarters. APO 394

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL POLICE AND PUBLIC
 SAFETY OFFICER
14-602/1
 9 Mar 44
680

The following copy report is forwarded for your information.

"On March 3, 1944, it was learned that a ten minute sit-down strike was to take place on March 4, 1944 at 1000 hrs. in the Tosi shipyard and Navy Arsenal by the workers, as a protest against the Badoglio Govt. I was present in the Navy Arsenal that morning and saw no sign of a strike. Later the Vice Questure informed me the strike had been called off. A passage in Prime Minister Churchill's recent speech pertaining to the present Govt. was the occasion for calling of the sitdown strike as a protest against the present Italian Govt. regime. They were to work overtime at the end of their tour of duty to compensate for the ten minutes loss. Reason for cancellation of original plans is not known as yet. "

PEC/GAS

Roxhead
 for Lt. Col.,
 Regional Police Officer.

1023

Copy

U.S. SECRET EQUALS BRITISH SECRET

CLASS: SECRET

PREC: PRIORITY.

FROM: PES (FARGO)

TO : 2 DIST FOR AMG REGION II REPTD FATIMA FWD FOR
INFO CITE FARGO 688

M/C NO :

REF NO. 7137

Fargo 688

FILED: FEB 030945A

RECD : FEB 051325A

Minister of Interior reports rioting in Taranto. Am sending officer investigate circumstances. If rioting continues may be necessary place Taranto Province under Allied Military Government. You should make immediate plans to send necessary provincial staff there if so ordered by this HQ. Personnel to be formed from Region 2. Acknowledge earliest.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files.
- 1 - Admin. Dir.

PA $\frac{1}{2}$ 8/2
1022

FC INFORMATION ONLY

051916A

N-763

RADIO

SECRET

SECRET PRIORITY TELEGRAM

Adm Sec. 2546

2A

RECEIVED AT
FBS SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER

5 FEB 1944

SECRET

PRIORITY

TO CG FBS FOR FARGO PERSONAL FOR MACFARLANE COPY
TO SPOFFORD

NONE

FATIMA REAR FROM STONE SIGNED MACFARLANE

051150A

051916A

2273

NONE



CONFIRMING TELEPHONE REPORTS OF YESTERDAY TO GUSTERBOOK
AND YOUR PA, THE FUNERAL PARADE AT TARANTO YESTERDAY 4 FEBRUARY
PASSED OFF WITHOUT INCIDENT. FUNERAL WAS FOR 1 WORKER WHO DIED
AS RESULT OF FALL INTO DITCH. SEE PARAGRAPH 2 CAPTAIN HAWKINS
REPORT SENT YOU BY COURIER FEBRUARY 3.

FBS DISTR:

ACTION AMG HQ
INFO SECY
CG

ACC DISTR:

(INFO) PA TO CG

" CHIEF ASSISTANT

" RC & MG SEC

" ADM SEC

1021

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

SECRET

833

7 February 1944

TO : Vice President, Administrative Section

I have the honor to report as follows:

1. I was Duty Officer at ACO Salerno during the night 6th-7th February, 1944.

2. At 2300 hours, Signor Grillo, Delegation Secretary of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that he had just returned from a meeting at HQ Naples of AGO and Italian Government representatives, presided over by Lt General Mason MacFarlane.

3. General MacFarlane had intimated that he had information regarding a threatened strike by Dock workers at Toronto to start today (~~Friday~~ *Monday*). General MacFarlane had requested the Italian representatives to inform Signor Peale, Minister of Interior, that all necessary action should be taken by their Government to avert the strike. If it took place, it might involve the introduction of AMG in the area, and further, that such an occurrence would seriously interrupt vital war work and adversely affect the transfer arrangements which were shortly due for completion.

4. Signor Grillo had unsuccessfully tried to contact Signor Reale at piece by telephone from the Provincia Building and had arranged with Minister Jun and Philipson to continue his efforts on return here.

5. Signor Grillo spoke to Lecce but was unable to contact Heale. Eventually spoke to Major Pagliano (Vice Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of War). Signor Grillo afterwards informed me that on behalf of Minister Junc and Philipson, he had repeated General MacFarlane's remarks with the direction that the message was to be conveyed by Heale or the Minister of War to General Badoglio.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Herbert Lewis (left), brother. C. and S.
Lewis (right) - C. and S.

0 4 6 4