

ACC 10000/1143/2357

G10 / 06

SITUATION REPORT - VENEZUELA

JUNE - NOV. 1945

SECURITY DIVISION

FILE
JAMES EARL RAY

No. of pages	Date	File No. of report to be made	Subject
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3	3 AUGUST		" " " AUGUST 1964
4	4 "		BORE NICH. ROSS. OOTHA JACOBINA
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10000 / 1 43 / 2357

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM JUNE 1945

TO NOV. 1945

CATALOGUE.

A.C. H. 3
ROME

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZUELA REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394
(Security Section)

WHL/PA

SECURITY
DIVISION
ec'd... 10/11
Book No. 1015
File No. 610.00
Action.....

7th November 1945

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission (Security Division),
Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

: Regional Public Safety Officer, Venezuela Region.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for October 1945 - Security.

FILE NO. : RXII/PS/11 (S).

1. There is little change in the General Security position in this Region from that set out in the last Monthly Report from this Office. The facts as set out in para 1 of the last monthly report remain the same.

2. There is still much discussion and speculation as to the reason for the failure of the London Conference, and this is now being coupled with discussions respecting the Italian Amnesty terms.

3. The whole political world in this Region is engaged in what might be described as a battle of words, propaganda and counter-propaganda.

4. If it were not that the future of an important nation is at stake, the activities of the various political parties, as seen by an outside observer, would be comical, bearing in mind that each party spends most of its time destructively criticizing the others in a very childish manner instead of getting together for the good of Italy, at least for the time being.

5. The main political activities of the month have been threefold, the first was the meetings of the 14th of October, all in a very fashion, by Italian standards, the object

48J

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: Regional Public Safety Officer, Venezia Region.
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5. The main political activities of the month have been threefold, the first was the meetings of the 14th of October, all conducted in an orderly fashion, by Italian standards, the object of which was to discuss the formation of the Constituent. There were no untoward incidents as a result of these meetings.
6. It was only the Parties of the left that participated in these meetings, i.e. Communists, Socialist, Action Party and Republican Party.
7. The reason the Christian-Democrats and Liberals did not join in these meetings, was because of a divergence of opinion between these two Parties and the Parties of the left, as to whether the local elections should take place first, or the National Elections for the Constituent.

8. The Parties of the Left are desirous of holding the National elections first, their reason being that part of their programme is to consider a general reconstruction of national administration, and to give consideration as to whether or not the Monarchy should remain or not.

9. The Parties of the Left are of the opinion that if local elections are held first, the small-town 'bosses', which include the clergy, will get their delegates nominated and thereby undue influence will be brought to bear on the electors when the National Elections take place.

10. The two remaining main Parties (Christian-Democrats and Liberals) held their meetings on different occasions. The Christian-Democrats held their meetings on the 28th Oct. 1945. They called it the Day of National Solidarity, and whilst they kept away from the Communist meetings on the 14th Oct., the Communists attended these meetings on the 28th Oct.-

11. After setting forth their programme for the meeting, during which they advocated that local elections be held before the National General Elections, it was suggested that the people of Italy should get together and the more fortunate should help the less fortunate by subscribing a twelfth of their income to a fund, and any person having more accommodation in his house than he needed should register same at the Party H.Q. and thereby accommodation could be found for the homeless.

12. The Communists were quick on the up-take and agreed it was a very good idea and said they would join in on the scheme, but stated that their monetary contributions would be handed to the E.C.A. (Ente Comunale Assistenza), and not to any Party H.Q.-

13. Some days later Communist propaganda, by word of mouth, was pointing out that despite the fact that the backbone of the Christian-Democrats Party is the moneyed classes and the clergy ~~in~~ with their large houses, no offers of spare accommodation had been made. **4803**

14. The third important political activity during the month were the meetings of the Provincial Communist Party which were held on different dates in different Provinces to draw up the programme for the National Communist Conference, which is due to be held shortly in Rome.

15. The activities of the Liberal Party were pushed out of the picture they held their

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15. The activities of the Liberal Party were pushed out of the month of October, and to keep themselves in the picture they held their meetings on Sunday the 4th November. Their cry for unity appears to have been on the grounds that they were remembering the dead of the first world war by holding their meetings on Armistice Day.

16. What these two points have in common the undersigned is unable to understand, but apparently the Italian Liberal Party does. However the Liberal Party meetings were not too successful, and only some 200 people attended the one at Padova.

17. Despite the fact that the North of Italy has been liberated for 6 months the Italian seems slow to grasp that the Allies need factual evidence before adjudicating on a set of circumstances.

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But they continue their political propaganda by spreading the most ridiculous rumors.

18. All the Parties are the same in this matter, and on occasions even produce pamphlets alleged to have been put out as propaganda by the opposing political party.

19. How long it will be before the political parties of Italy realize that she has just been on the losing side in the greatest war in history and are dependent so much on out-side help for their economic existence, cannot be foretold. One would have thought that all the sufferings that they have so recently endured would have united them in a common cause instead of forming so many opposing groups, most of which are running round in circles, with no reconstruction plan that will be workable with Italy in her present economic conditions.

20. There have been no important Security arrests during the month of October.

21. The case of the Paganini brothers is still under investigation by J11 FSS in conjunction with this Office.

22. The state of civilian morale is much the same as reported in last month's Report, and the causes are the same.

23. Relations between civilians and military personnel are very good.

24. There have been no civil disturbances of any note in the Region during the month of October, but there has been the odd small demonstration, usually by house-wives, protesting against the high cost of living.

25. Continuing the reports received from Provinces under the heading a) to h) inclusive, below are the ones that were not included in last month's report.

26. VERONA

b) nil

c) nil

d) Communist Party 8000
Socialist Party 2000

4802
- MERCANTINO Idelmo
- TOMBA Tullio

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26. VERONA

b) nil

c) nil

d) Communist Party 8000
Socialist Party 2000
Action Party 700
Liberal Party 200
Christian-Democrat Party 12,000 - General CANTALUPI
Gastano

Working-Democrat Party - in course of information.

e) nil

f) does not apply

g) Unfortunately the Province suffered in the late spring and early summer from a serious drought, and at the time the crops should have been gathered, there was a succession of violent rain and hail-storms, which ruined large portions of them, but it is felt that they

can get through the winter except for a serious shortage of fats.

- h) As Verona Province is mostly agricultural there are very few industries. The F.P.S.O. reports they are not worthy of comment.

29. UDINE

- b) It is not felt that there are any elements of the Italian Political Parties who would resort to violence to obtain their ends, but there is a grave fear that the pro-Slav elements would. A close watch is being kept by the local Police on all such Suspects.

c) There is a large amount of propaganda infiltrating from Jugoslavia. This is being carried out by pamphlets and personally by persons entering the area from Jugoslavia.

- d) Communist Party

12,000

- BETHAME Gino

- MODESTI Creste

- COSATTINI Giovanni

- PIGNAT Carlo

- CHIUSI Melchiorre

- SOLARI Fermo

- CANDOLINI Agostino

- BARBINA Faustino

8,000

Socialist Party

3,500

Action Party

14,000

Demo Christian Party

- e) There is a long list of these people, all pro-Slovenian, and it is being kept at this Office for reference.

f) 95% Italians, 5% Jugoslavs, the majority of the Jugoslavs are residing in the N.E. corner of the Province, where the percentage of Jugoslavs increases as compared to the rest of the Province.

- g) The food situation for the coming winter is causing anxiety, mainly owing to the lack of grain, potatoes and beans.

h) What industries there are, and were not damaged during the war, are working, but owing to the lack of fuel and raw materials, many will have to close down in the near future.

28. Information has just come to hand that the alleged leader of the pro-Austrian movement in Certina d'Ampezzo, OHEDINA Valerio, has been arrested by the Carabinieri. The report goes on to say that he is being interrogated by the Italian Security services, and may later be dealt with as a Prisoner of War. No further particulars to 489.

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 - MODESSEI Creste
 Socialist Party 8.000
 - COSATTINI Giovanni
 - PIGNAT Carlo
 Action Party 3.500
 - CHIUSI Melchiorre
 - SOLARI Ferruccio
 Demo Christian Party 14.000
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29. A volume of information has been received in this Office respecting the position in Udine, but without going into many details it is a question of the Italian elements versus the Slovenian elements.

30. There appears to be a difference of opinion at the moment between the Italian Communist Party in Italy proper and the Venezia Giulia Communist Party in Trieste. There would appear little doubt but that the activities of the latter are being directed from Belgrade, and in the last week or so the Italian Communist Party is voicing its disapproval of this.

31. There is no doubt that Belgrade has a substantial espionage system

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infiltrating the whole of Udine Province, Venice Province, Padova Province and part of Treviso Province, and the agents are kept well supplied with funds. Reports continue to be received of persons in Udine receiving visits from Slav agents requesting them in terms which amount to menaces, to sign documents expressing a desire for annexation to Jugoslavia.

32. Fortunately there have been no reports during the last month of acts of violence for political reasons from Udine Province. It may well be that the Slovenian elements who have been responsible for many acts of violence in Udine Province during the last few months have decided to wait until the question of Venezia Giulia has been settled before attempting to disturb the peace of the Province again.

33. The five political Parties mentioned in para 45 of last Monthly Report, as being the Tyrolean Political Parties, are well known, except the OS Organization.

34. From enquiries made by this Office, it would appear that the organization started with internees in DACHAU, and was later used during the war by the Allies in Austria.

35. The existence of this organization was brought to the notice of the Allied Security Agencies of the Northern Provinces of the Region, by this Office, since when numerous enquiries have been made, and a person, who admits being member, has been traced in Trento Province, and it was from interrogation of this person that above information was obtained.

36. The member of OS organization who has been traced, is Baron Nicholas MARRBURG, and he was under open arrest in Trento Province at the disposition of C.I.C., who have now sent him to Salzburg for further investigation.

37. There is a suspicion that this organization is being used by the French, as this man entered Italy with French permits. He was also in possession of certain papers issued to him by C.S.S. in the American zone of Austria.

38. This matter is being investigated by the C.I.C. Detachment in the area, and Capt. Perkins S.O.I., at present stationed at Merano, Bolzano Province. Both have promised to keep this Office informed of any developments.

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39. As a matter of interest, the activities of the alleged Russian Mission at Bolzano were investigated by this Office, with the result that the Mission has been ordered from the area to report back to Rome. This matter is dealt with fully in correspondence file No. RXII/PS/117(6).
40. There is no doubt - despite any orders issued from A.F.H.Q., - that there are a number of unauthorized foreign Military personnel, mainly Jugoslavs, French and Russians, circulating in the Northern Provinces of this Region.
41. Quite a number of them are undoubtedly only participating in black-market activities, but the activities of the remainder is somewhat obscure.

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42. Complaints continue to be received respecting the activities of the Italian Felfers and Friuli Divisions. Even the Italian population, in the areas where they are stationed, are voicing disapproval of their activities, mode of life, and the large amount of money even the humblest private appears to have available.

W. A. HARR
W. A. HARR

Major,
Regional Security Office

4799

H.Q.A.C.
Rome

Security
Division
Sec'd ..
Book No 1919
File No 610.06
Action

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Secur Allied Military Government
APO 394

Security
14011
CH

WRH/PA

file

9th November 1945

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission att. Security Division,
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report October 45.

FILE NO. : RXII/PS/71 (3).

1. The enclosed return relating to hidden firearms etc. is forwarded for your information and should be attached to the report of my Security Officer for the month of October.

F.G. Green

F.G. GREEN
Lt. Col.

Regional Public Safety Officer.

4798

RETURN OF ARMS AS REPORTED TO P.P.S.O. 's
by CIVIL POLICE AGENCIES.

	RIFLES	REVOLVERS	AUTOMATIC ARMS.	HAND GRENADES.	OTHER WEAPONS.	
ROVIGO	NO	SUCCESSFUL	ARMS' RAIDS	DURING MONTH	OF OCTOBER	
PADOVA	57		7			2 boxes of 2 case "
VENICE	77		17	1	spare parts for pistols	32 cases of 1300 rounds
VICENZA			NO REPORT RECEIVED			
VERONA	619	3	22 18 machine-guns 4 automatic arms	176	1 mortar 2 mortar-barrels 4 flare-pistols	17.211 car 20 incendi 9 boxes of
TREVISO				7		15 kilos mortar bo ammunition
TRENTO	844	47	77		28 bayonets	
BOLZANO	2	2	27	23		6000 rounds
BELLUNO			NO SUCCESSFUL	ARMS' RAID DURING MONTH OF OCTOBER.		
UDINE	841 204 mod.38 108 235 mod.9 1 french 4 mauser	8 6-1-1	12 machine-guns 65 tommy-guns 77	1594-hand-grena- des-11 cases hand-grenades.	1 small anti-tank gun-7 flare-pistol 8 mortars, 8 Fiat machine-gun barre- ls.	491 mortar little sa projectil explosiv ve gelat

RETURN OF ARMS AS REPORTED TO P.P.S.O. 's
by CIVIL POLICE AGENCIES.

ERS	AUTOMATIC ARMS.	HAND GRENADES.	OTHER WEAPONS.	AMMUNITION.
FOL	ARMS' RAIDS	DURING MONTH	OF OCTOBER	
	7			2 boxes of small arms & ammunition 2 case " " " " "
	17	1	spare parts for pistols	32 cases ammunition 1300 rounds Italian machine guns
	NO REPORT RECEIVED			
	22 18 machine-guns 4 automatic arms	176	1 mortar 2 mortar-barrels 4 flare-pistols	17.211 cartridges-1 box ammunition 20 incendiary bouls-19 mortar bouls 9 boxes cartridges-2 cases mortar-bombs.
		7		15 kilos British explosive - 39 British mortar bombs - 4000 rounds small arms ammunition.
	77		28 bayonets	
	27	23		6000 rounds of ammunition.
	NO SUCCESSFUL ARMS' RAID DURING MONTH OF OCTOBER.			
	12 machine-guns 65 tommy-guns 77	1594-hand-grena- des-11 cases hand-grenades.	1 small anti-tank gun-7 flare-pistol 8 mortars, 8 Fiat machine-gun barre- ls.	491 mortar-grenades, 67433 cartridges, 400 little sacks extra-charge, 53 anti tank projectiles, 3 barrels explosive, 39 rolls explosive, 9 sabotage mines, Kg. 30 explosi- ve gelatine, 18 cases cartridge-ribbon.

WRH/pa

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394

10th. October 1945.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission (Security Division),
Headquarters Allied Commission, APO 394
(Thru R.P.S.O.).

SUBJECT : Monthly Security Reports (Correction of file
reference number).

FILE NO.: RXII/PS/71 (S).

1. It is regretted that owing to a clerical error the monthly Security Reports from this Office have borne the file registration No. RXII/PS/44 (S). This file reference number should read RXII/PS/71 (S).

2. Please correct on all copies in your possession and any future correspondence respecting Monthly Security Reports should refer to the file reference number quoted at the top of this letter.

Security
Division
Rec'd. 12/10
Book No 1426
File No 610.05
Action

W.R. HARE

Major,

Regional Security Officer.

4796

Security

Division

CONFIDENTIAL

Sec'd.

Book No.

File No.

Action

10/10

362

610.06

HEADQUARTERS

VENEZIE REGION

Allied Military Government

APO 394

(Security Section)

-9 OCT. 1945

6 October 45.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission (Security Division),
Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

: Regional Public Safety Officer, Venezia Region.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for September 1945 - Security.

FILE NO. : RXII/PS/7(S)

1/ The persistent story that AMG is about to hand over administration of the greater part of this Region to the Italian Government has lead to something of a deadlock. It is rather difficult to describe more definitely the atmosphere that prevails but I refer to it as a deadlock for want of a better expression.

2. This situation does give the opportunity of sorting matters out a little easier from a Security point of view because political parties are rather more sedate in their activities not feeling sure what the future holds for them in view of the hand-over and the lack of information from London as to the actual terms of the Peace-Treaty.

3. As is already known this Region can be divided from a political point of view into two areas - i.e. Po Valley and the Frontier Provinces. The general situation will be dealt with first as it is seen from information received in this office.

4. Throughout the Region there are the main Italian political parties as generally known in Italy - but in the Northern part of the Region there are other Parties and Organizations which will be dealt with separately.

5. The main preoccupation of both the Italian and Allied Authorities is whether or not there is likely to be an ~~armistice~~ ^{armistice} in the country at some future date. This office

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5. The main preoccupation of both the Italian and Allied Authorities is whether or not there is likely to be an ~~any~~ ^{any} political rising in the Country at some future date. This office has made many enquiries in an endeavour to ascertain if any of the political parties have official party arms dumps. The result of the enquiries is that there are no such official dumps.

6. This does not mean that there are no arms dumps because it is quite obvious from other enquiries that there are. These dumps are not under the control of the political parties, but of individuals scattered throughout the Region.

7. It will be seen from this that there is the wherewithal for an armed rising. The political leaders state quite emphatically that they have no arms hidden away, but they forget to state

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that it is an old Italian custom of which they are well aware to walk about with at least one revolver tucked away, and that certain Italians seem to have a natural tendency to collect arms of all types. The collection of arms by these people has been made easy by the arms and ammunition supplied to the Partisans by the Allies and the sudden collapse of the German Army in the North of Italy abandoning and selling their equipment.

8. Consequently if one side starts firing the other side knows full well that they are armed and can fire back.

9. The undersigned has put this as the true position to several Italian politicians in the Region who all agree that the position is as stated above and when it was suggested that they were knowingly sitting on a volcano likely to go up at any moment for no reason at all and that they should make personal appeals to their followers to hand in their arms the answer was: 'which party starts first' and 'if all parties but one hand in their arms, and the remaining one endeavours to rule by mob-law, where is the organization that will keep law and order'.

10. It was pointed out that there are Allied troops in the country and that the Questura and Carabinieri are functioning. The reply to this was that they have no fears whilst Allied troops remain, but no faith in the Police-agencies, whether Allied Troops are here or not.

11. A representative of the Communist Party went even further, and stated that in the opinion of his Party the Carabinieri are the legalized armed force protecting the aristocracy and capitalists. He described the aristocracy and capitalists as a kind of dormant political party who have no interest in Italy from a national point of view, but an interest solely in what they can get out of it personally.

12. Despite the distrust by the politicians of the Italian Police-forces, recent parades of Carabinieri in the Region when they were inspected by Senior Allied Officers, not only tended to raise the morale of the Carabinieri, but they were most enthusiastically acclaimed by the population.

13. The position appears to remain thus - that the ^{majority} of Italians desire to live normal law-abiding lives but the professional politicians want allow them to do so and trade on the simple-mindedness of the average Italian working-class person to cause

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14. Life in the Region generally accepts the black market prices as the correct cost-of-living figure - this is in fact true as almost anything, whether it be food or merchandise, can only be obtained through the black market, which is run quite openly with no attempt to control it by the Italian Authorities.

15. Every town of any size has its public restaurants where anybody can go and feed provided they are prepared to pay an average of 1000 lire per-head.

CONFIDENTIAL

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16. This state of affairs cannot go on without causing trouble. During the last six months there has been quite a lot of work for the Italian working-classes to do. There have been Allied troops whose rations have been bartered and stolen, and generally speaking a reasonably free distribution of food-stuff has been made both by legal and illegal means which has enabled the average Italian family to live without being crippled by the black market - what is going to happen with winter drawing on, Allied troops and their rations not coming into the country, difficulty in transport of food owing to weather-conditions etc., leaving the man in the street in a position of having to go to the black market restaurants and pay a colossal price for his food or get little or no food at all. Here indeed is fertile ground for professional politicians.

17. The foregoing is a bird's-eye view of the situation as seen in this Region by this Office - more details will be given later in this report.

18. There have been no important security arrests at the instigation of AMG during the month of September.

19. Referring to para 8 of monthly report of August from this Office, the case of the Paganini Brothers is now being investigated jointly with GSI no. 2 District.

20. The state of civilian morale appears to be quite good on the surface, but when responsible members of the Community are contacted they are apprehensive as to the future of Italy. The persistent postponing of the elections is not helping civilian morale and is being viewed with grave suspicion. The break-down of the London Conference has caused great disappointment. In Udine the Jugoslavs are positively undermining civilian morale, and what might be described as a silent and on occasions not too silent, reign of terror exists. In Bolzano and Trento and the northern part of Belluno, civilian morale is being shaken by the efforts of the Italian and Basic-national political parties all pulling in opposite directions and using the "Uomo Qualunque" as the rope for their political tug-of-war game. The situation in Trento and Bolzano will be dealt with in more detail later in this report. The enquiries as to the situation in Udine are not quite complete and a supplementary report will be submitted when they are.

17. The foregoing is a bird's-eye view of the situation as seen in this Region by this Office - more details will be given later in this report.

18. There have been no important security arrests at the instigation of AMG during the month of September.

19. Referring to para 3 of monthly report of August from this Office, the case of the Paganini Brothers is now being investigated jointly with GSI no. 2 District.

20. The state of civilian morale appears to be quite good on the surface, but when responsible members of the Community are contacted they are apprehensive as to the future of Italy. The persistent postponing of the elections is not helping civilian morale and is being viewed with grave suspicion. The break-down of the London Conference has caused great disappointment. In Udine the Jugoslavs are positively undermining civilian morale, and what might be described as a silent and on occasions not too silent, reign of terror exists. In Bolzano and Trento and the northern part of Belluno, civilian morale is being shaken by the efforts of the Italian and Basic-national political parties all pulling in opposite directions and using the "Uomo Qualunque" as the rope for their political tug-of-war game. The situation in Trento and Bolzano will be dealt with in more detail later in this report. The enquiries as to the situation in Udine are not quite complete and a supplementary report will be submitted when they are.

21. Relations between civilian and military personnel are very good. The only case of any note that has come to the notice of this Office is an instance in Padova when an American soldier was shot dead by two carabinieri as a result of which the two carabinieri now await trial before an AMG Court. The situation mentioned in the last monthly report from this Office as existing in Verona appears to have improved - no further incidents have been reported.

22. There have been no civil disturbances in the Region during the month of September. There have been one or two minor strikes and demonstrations, directed mainly against the high

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cost of living and the SUPRAL organization. All passed without incident and the largest appears to have taken place in Trento on the 26th of September, when some 5000 people demonstrated against the high cost of living.

23. No further information has been received at this Office respect the activities of the International Communist Party.

24. The trial of the seven people in connection with the Schio massacre passed off without incident. Two of the prisoners who were charged with being accessories before the fact were acquitted. Three of the five charged with participating in the massacre were sentenced to death and two to life-imprisonment. Confirmation or otherwise of the sentences is awaited.

25. As will be remembered the undersigned ceased active interest in this matter early in the month of August, so is unable to make a complete report of the investigations.

26. Two Security Reports which arrived at this Office stated that three of the men who took part in the massacre had been recommended for decorations for valour, which were to have been presented by General Clarke. One report stated it was the three men who were condemned to death and the other report stated it was three of the seven wanted men. Enquiries have been made in an endeavour to ascertain which of these reports is correct, but to date it would appear that there is no truth in either of them.

27. Efforts are being made in the Schio district to have the sentences at least reduced, using as a lever the argument that all the convicted men did excellent work as partisans, and it may well be that the story of the three men to be decorated has been circulated in an effort to give weight to the appeal.

28. It will be remembered that in para 36 of the last monthly report that this office had asked PPSOs to report on a number of points of Security interest, lettered a) to h) inclusive. This report will now deal with information received from PPSOs with the exception of a) (concealed arms dumps) which will be dealt with in an appendix to this report.

29. ROVIGO

b) Nil

c) no infiltration of foreign propaganda.
d) no Japanese Severino

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acquitted. Three of the five charged with participating in the massacre were sentenced to death and two to life-imprisonment. Confirmation or otherwise of the sentences is awaited.

25. As will be remembered the undersigned ceased active interest in this matter early in the month of August, so is unable to make a complete report of the investigations.

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29. ROVIGO

b) Nil

e) no infiltration of foreign propaganda.

d) Communist Party - 8000 - Bolognese Severino
(Professional politician)

Socialist Party - 12,000 - Matteotti Giancarlo
(Lawyer)

Christian Democrat Party - 10,000 - Giudani Francesco
(Lawyer)

Action Party - 1500 - Degan Mario (Lawyer)

Liberal Party - 1500 - none at present.

e) Nil

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- f) Does not apply.
- g) General outlook, fair - The grain crop has been reasonably good but the target figure for amassing is not expected to be reached. The figure set by the authorities for export of food to other Provinces tends to leave Rovigo deficient of its own products. There is a shortage of fats and fuel, and as Rovigo produces little timber there is a critical shortage for fuel and reconstruction.
- h) Almost 60% is functioning but the remaining 40% cannot hope to function for the time being owing to lack of fuel and war-damage to factories. During recent months most of the 40% of the workers not able to be employed in the factories have found work on the land. This is about to stop with obvious unemployment for the winter.

30. Comparing Rovigo Province with the other Provinces it's prospects from a public safety and economic point of view are considered to be good.

31. PADOVA

b) Ital

- c) It is reported there are numerous Yugoslavs doing either espionage or propaganda for Tito. Many of them are students at the local University.
- d) Communist Party - 8,500 - U. Clocchiatti.
Christian-Democrats - 15,000 - Ing. Ceschi
Socialist Party - 4,500 - A. Carinati
Action Party - 1,700 - G. Comezzatti
Liberal Party - 700 - G. Benettin
Mazziniani Republicans - 500 - Voltan
Labour Democracy - 200 - Parenzo
Monarchic Democracy - 75 -

In addition to the above Parties a new political front has appeared, following the policy of the new weekly paper, "L'Uomo Qualunque" - When this paper first appeared in the district it was reported to

able to be employed in the factories have found work on the land. This is about to stop with obvious unemployment for the winter.

30. Comparing Rovigo Province with the other Provinces it's prospects from a public safety and economic point of view are considered to be good.

31. PADOVA

b) Nil

c) It is reported there are numerous Jugoslavs doing either espionage or propaganda for Tito. Many of them are students at the local University.

d) Communist Party - 8.500 - U. Clocchiatti.
 Christian-Democrats - 15.000 - Ing. Geschi
 Socialist Party - 4.500 - A. Carinati
 Action Party - 1.700 - C. Connezzatti
 Liberal Party - 700 - G. Benettin
 Mazziniani Republicans - 500 - Voltan
 Labour Democracy - 200 - Parenzo
 Monarchic Democracy - 75 -

In addition to the above Parties a new political front has appeared, following the policy of the new weekly paper, "L'Uomo Qualunque" - When this paper first appeared in the district it was reported to this Office that copies were being sold and re-sold for prices varying from 500 to 1000 lire. At the present time, a copy can be obtained for 12 lire, and it undoubtedly has a very large circulation.

e) Nil.

f) Does not apply.

g) The forecast for the food situation for the winter is not too good, owing to the lack of transport, to export foods that they have in abundance, such as grain and to import such things as oil. There is

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also a serious shortage of wood for fuel in the winter.

h) There are a large number of unemployed in the Province and the position is more or less the same as stated for Rovigo - cause and effect.

32. VENICE

- b) None known in particular.
- c) None known by P.P.S.O. but FSS is dealing with this in the Province.
- d) Communist Party - 8000 - Giuseppe Gavganin
Spino - Giuseppe Gaddi.
- Socialist Party - 6500 - Giovanni Tonetti
- Action Party - 11000 - Casilli - Prof. Morin
- Christian Dem. Party - 20000 - Avv. Gatto - Prof. Ponti
- Italian Democ. Party - 300 - Conte Casabella
- Liberal Party - 1200 - Prof. Angelo Tursi

e) Nil.

f) Does not apply.

g) Fair

h) Full particulars not known by PPSC but he reports that lack of fuel and essential materials are the cause of industries not working at their full capacity.

33. The report that arms were being smuggled in at Chioggia from Yugoslavia is still being investigated by the FSS in Venice. Result is not yet known.

34. VICENZA

b) Nil

c) Nil

d) Christian Democrats - 14,000 - Cementi Firenze

Communist Party - 6,000 - Tosin Bruno

Socialist Party - 3,000 - Segala Mario

Action Party - 2,000 - Gallo Ettore

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Spino - Giuseppe Gaddi.

Socialist Party - 6500 - Giovanni Tonetti
 Action Party - 11000 - Casilli - Prof. Morin
 Christian Dem. Party - 20000 - Avv. Gatto - Prof. Ponti
 Italian Democ. Party - 300 - Conte Casabella
 Liberal Party - 1200 - Prof. Angelo Turci

e) Nil.

f) Does not apply.

g) Fair

h) Full particulars not known by PPSO but ~~he~~ reports that lack of fuel and essential materials are the cause of industries not working at their full capacity.

33. The report that arms were being smuggled in at Chioggia from Jugoslavia is still being investigated by the PSS in Venice. Result is not yet known.

34. VICENZA

b) Nil

c) Nil

d) Christian Democrats - 14,000 - Cementi Fiorenzo

Communist Party - 6,000 - Tosin Bruno

Socialist Party - 3,000 - Segala Mario

Action Party - 2,000 - Gallo Ettore

Liberal Party - 700 - Volpato Andrea

e) Nil

f) Does not apply

g) Reasonably good.

h) The situation here appears to be much the same as in the three Provinces already dealt with.

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35. VERONA No report received to date.

36. TREVISO

b) Mil

c) It is reported there are numerous Yugoslavs and some Russians in the northern part of the Province carrying out propaganda for Tito.

d) Communist Party - Piero del Pozzo

Democr-Christian Party - Zorzi Sivio

Socialist Party - Caesaris Carlo

Action Party - Enrico Opocher

Republican Party - Tessari Rodolfo

Social-Christian Party - Italo Cappellotto

Liberal Party - Semini Carlo

Strength of Parties not supplied.

e) Mil

f) Does not apply.

g) Not supplied

h) Not supplied.

Information has come to hand that all Partisans, persons and who have actively cooperated with the Allies have received letters stating "The day is near when you too will meet your death". The local theory is that an underground fascist movement of the old order exists in the Province. To date no serious notice is being taken by the recipients of the letters, further moves are awaited.

37. TRENTO

Before dealing with the points b) to h) inclusive I would point out that Trento has its national political problems, bearing in mind that prior to 1918 it formed part of the Austrian Empire - and in addition to the usual political parties which will be dealt with later on there is the party known as the ~~488~~ 488. Although this Party cannot be

Demo-Christian Party
 Socialist Party - Cesaris Carlo
 Action Party - Enrico Opocher
 Republican Party - Tessari Rodolfo
 Social-Christian Party - Italo Cappellotto
 Liberal Party - Semini Carlo

Strength of Parties not supplied.

e) Nil

f) Does not apply.

g) Not supplied

h) Not supplied.

Information has come to hand that all Partisans, persons and who have actively cooperated with the Allies have received letters stating "The day is near when you too will meet your death". The local theory is that an underground fascist movement of the old order exists in the Province. To date no serious notice is being taken by the recipients of the letters, further moves are awaited.

37. TRENTO

Before dealing with the points b) to h) inclusive I would point out that Trento has its national political problems, bearing in mind that prior to 1918 it formed part of the Austrian Empire - and in addition to the usual political parties which will be dealt with later on there is the party known as the ~~4789~~ ⁴⁷⁸⁸ Separatista Trentino. Although this Party cannot be described as a subversive Party its propaganda which is asking for an autonomous Alpine Republic is directed, printed and distributed in such a manner that certain of its activities on the propaganda side are carried out clandestinely. Its propaganda is printed in and directed from Innsbruck, which will be remembered is in that part of Austria governed by the French. One man has been arrested and found in possession of certain of the propaganda, copies of which are attached (one original for HQ A.C. Rome and one for GSI no.2)

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District - translations attached to other copies of this Report.) This man admitted having brought this from Innsbruck, and it is contemplated charging him under proclamation No.3. More will be said about propaganda emanating from Innsbruck later in this report.

b) Only as mentioned above.

c) Only as mentioned above.

a) Communist Party

Doc. Ottolini - Visentin
Bruno - Andrea Mascagni -
Scottoni Carlo - Lubich
Gino.

Socialist Party

- Mantovani - Battisti Gino -
Ferrandi - Groff, Lucchi
and Fani.

Action Party

-- Perini Ivò - Russolo Buger-
nio - Pappini Disertori -
Pantovani - Vichner.

Christian Demo. Party

- Bonomi - Unterwiescher -
Benedetti - Zucchelli.

Liberal Party

- Renzo Zadra.

Strength of Parties not supplied.

(3) $\mathbb{I}^{\text{tr}}$.

f) In the ten Northern communes of the Province 70% of the population are of German-Austrian descent. The remainder are Italian. These numbers are inclined to reverse further south. The descendants of the German-Austrian are desirous that Trento should again be placed under Austrian administration.

g) The Province is entirely dependant on outside sources for its food supply, with the exception of fruit. It depends entirely on supplies available from other Provinces, and the transport situation, which look very hopeful for the moment.

neither of which took very popular. The largest food-demonstration in the Region took place in Trento recently. The P.P.S.O. goes so far as to say "There are sure to be food riots if the food does not get through for the winter".

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Socialist Party - Mantovani - Battisti Gino -
 Ferrandi - Groff, Bacchi
 and Fani.

Action Party - Perini Iva - Russolo Eugenio -
 Pappini Disertori -
 Mantovani - Aichner.

Christian Demo. Party - Bonomi - Unterwichter -
 Benedetti - Zucconelli.

Liberal Party - Renzo Zadra

Strength of Parties not supplied.

e) Nil.

f) In the ten Northern communes of the Province 70% of the population are of German-Austrian descent. The remainder are Italian. These numbers are inclined to reverse further south. The descendants of the German-Austrian are desirous that Trento should again be placed under Austrian administration.

g) The Province is entirely dependant on outside sources for its food supply, with the exception of fruit. It depends entirely on supplies available from other Provinces, and the transport situation, neither of which look very hopeful for the moment. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ The largest food-demonstration in the Region took place in Trento recently. The P.P.S.O. goes so far as to say "There are sure to be food riots if the food does not get through for the winter".

h) There is little or no unemployment in the Province - in fact there is a shortage of labour which is being imported from the south - but this will only aggravate the position should there be a food shortage during the winter.

38. ROIZANO

b) Nil.

c) There is definite evidence of infiltration of foreign propaganda from Innsbruck. Persons have been arrested crossing the Frontier with this propaganda in their possession. Copies attached

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to AC. HQ Rome - other copies available at office of FPSO Bolzano. One man is being prosecuted under proclamation No.3 for bringing this propaganda into Italy from Innsbruck.

d) Volkspartei - 70% of German population - Erich Ammon.

Christian Democracy	-	11,000	-	Ziller Lino
Socialist Party	-	6,000	-	Bonaffini Ugo
Action Party	-	700	-	Bonomi Enrico
Liberal Party	-	500	-	Villa Raimondo
Democrats	-	100	-	Apuzzo Vito
Republicans	-	100	-	Coglitore Plinio

e) Nil

f)

	<u> Germans </u>	<u> Italians </u>	<u> Austrians </u>
--	------------------	-------------------	--------------------

Merano & Western District.	8%	25%	67%
Bolzano & South District.	5%	40%	55%
Bressanone to Brennero.	4%	33%	63%
Brunico & Eastern District.	3%	15%	82%

g) P.P.S.O. reports the country-districts are fairly well supplied with food, but in the town areas food will be scarce this winter. However, it is not believed that the shortage is so serious as to cause public disorder. (Note by undersigned) - unless there are large stocks of food already in the area the position set out above is difficult to appreciate as owing to the mountainous nature of the country the P.P.S.O. is not self-sufficient in food supplies).

Liberal Party - 500 - Villa Raimondo
 Democrats - 100 - Apuzzo Vito
 Republicans - 100 - Coglitore Plinio

e) Nil
 f)

	<u>German</u>	<u>Italians</u>	<u>Austrians</u>
Merano & Western District.	8%	25%	67%
Bolzano & South District.	5%	40%	55%
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(Note by undersigned) - unless there are large stocks of food already in the area the position set out above is difficult to appreciate as owing to the mountainous nature of the country the Provinces is not self-supporting in food supplies).

h) The industries are working to such capacity as is allowed by the supply of raw materials, but not up to pre-war capacity standards. There is no unemployment in the Province, in fact labour is being imported from the South, (note by undersigned - the question of labour being imported from the South of Italy will be dealt with later in this report.)

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39. BELLUNO

b) Mil

c) There is certain evidence, but not conclusive, that certain propaganda is reaching the Ampezzo Valley area from Innsbruck via Bolzano, agitating that part of Belluno Province be returned to Austrian administration.

d) Demo-Christian Party	-	3,500	-	Colleselli - D'Inca - Corona.
Communist Party	-	1,500	-	Banchieri and his son, Mussio - Bertolissi - De Meda.
Socialist Party	-	700	-	Serraggiotto - Loregana - Tramonti.
Action Party	-	700	-	Dalle Mule - Tattoni-Tissi.
Liberal Party	-	100	-	Prosdocimi - Da Val - Pietriboni.
Republican Party	-	-	-	Da Rold.

e) Mil.

f) In the Northern part of the Province, around the Ampezzo Valley which prior to 1918 was part of the Austrian Empire, between 70 and 80% of the population are of German or Austrian origin. South of that area they are all Italians. The 70 or 80% referred to as being of Austrian or German origin are not as thoroughly German and Austrian as the people of Bolzano as the community originally belonged to the Venice Republic and in 1511 it was annexed by Austria and remained part of the Austrian Empire until 1918, and although of original Italian stock lived under Austrian administration for so long that in 1918 they were more Austrian than Italian.

g) It is anticipated that the food situation will be difficult this winter, unless the transport situation improves, as all the more essential foods have to be imported into the Province.

h) Local industry is absorbing almost its normal manpower - but is liable to close down wholly or in part at any moment, owing to the hand-to-mouth system of supply of raw materials and fuel. 4286

Communist Party	-	1,500	-	Mancheri and his son, Mussio - Bertolissi - De Meda.
Socialist Party	-	700	-	Serraggiotto - Loregana - Tramonti.
Action Party	-	700	-	Dalle Mule - Tattoni-Tissi.
Liberal Party	-	100	-	Prosciocini - Da Val - Pietriboni.
Republican Party	-	-	-	Da Rold.

e) Nil.

f) In the Northern part of the Province, around the Ampezzo Valley which prior to 1918 was part of the Austrian Empire, between 70 and 80% of the population are of German or Austrian origin. South of that area they are all Italians. The 70 or 80% referred to as being of Austrian or German origin are not as thoroughly German and Austrian as the people of Bolzano as the community originally belonged to the Venice Republic and in 1511 it was annexed by Austria and remained part of the Austrian Empire until 1918, and although of original Italian stock lived under Austrian administration for so long that in 1918 they were more Austrian than Italian.

g) It is anticipated that the food situation will be difficult this winter, unless the transport situation improves, as all the more essential foods have to be imported into the Province.

h) Local industry is absorbing almost its normal manpower - but is liable to close down wholly or in part at any moment, owing to the hand-to-mouth system of supply of raw materials and fuel. ^{4,500} ~~4,800~~ though industry is absorbing its usual quota of manpower, there are a great many unemployed, as men not employed in local industry usually emigrate to other parts of Italy, and as this has not been possible for some time, all these men are now unemployed and living in the Province.

40. UDINE Report not yet to hand.

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41. It will be seen from the foregoing that the Provinces in the Po Valley, i.e. Rovigo, Padova, Venezia, Vicenza and Verona are in a reasonably good situation for the winter, provided transport is maintained for exchange of food-stuffs and fuel. The Province of Treviso, whilst being on the northern outskirts of the Po Valley has a similar outlook to the actual Po Valley Provinces, but its economic life is being disturbed by the Yugoslav elements.
42. The frontier Provinces have two types of problems - Udine with its infiltration of Yugoslavs, which ties up with the troubles of Treviso - Bolzano and Trento with their demands to return to Austrian administration. The situation of Belluno has already been dealt with, and whilst it has no outside influences affecting its economic life, except in the Impezzo area which ties up with the Trento and Bolzano problems, it is so dependant on other provinces for food that a serious situation will arise if food does not reach the province during the winter - and it must be remembered the Province is full of partisans who took a most active part in the liberation of the area.
43. As already stated, detailed enquiries are not yet complete to enable a proper picture of the position in Udine to be given at the moment - but a further report will be submitted when the enquiries are complete.
44. The situation in Trento and Bolzano appears to be as follows:-
The history of this Region is well known to any person likely to be interested in this report, so it will not be given here. The position is that the Italian elements - mostly imported from the south during the last twenty years or so - are endeavouring to persuade the population that it will be better for them to remain under the Italian Government. The Basic-nationals, i.e. those who are the descendants of the old families of the Tyrol, and in consequence of Austrian or German descent, do not want to have anything more to do with Italy or her administration.
45. The Italian elements have the usual Italian political parties operating in the area, whilst the Tyrolese have their political parties, such as:-
S.T.V.P. - Sud TirolerVolks partei
"Andreas Hofer" Movement
Austrian Free World Movement

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S.T.V.P. - Sud TirolerVolks partei
 "Andreas Hofer" Movement
 Austrian Free World Movement
 "Heimat" Association
 "OS" Organization

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46. It would appear from enquiries already made that the activities of these parties are directed from Innsbruck, and that their object is to separate the Tyrol from Italy.

47. There are some moderates in the district, who, remembering Austrian administration and the more recent Italian administration, are quite prepared for the area to remain under

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the Italian flag, provided it can have autonomous administration.

48. There is no unemployment in the area, in fact there is a shortage of labour, and the Italian Government is encouraging people from the south of Italy, where there is unemployment, to go to the Tyrol to find work. This is causing dissention amongst the Tyrolese, who state that this action is being taken by the Italian Government to provide votes for them should there be a plebiscite.

49. It was reported to the undersigned whilst visiting the area that these immigrants from the south arrive armed with documents instructing local authorities to find accommodation for them. This information was passed to the Provincial Commissioner, who stated that he was aware of the influx of Italians from the South, but had no knowledge of the allegations re. the finding of accommodation - a matter he said he will take up with the Prefect.

50. A further allegation was made that these Italians from the South, having once established themselves, do not seek employment in local industry, but become operators on the black market.

51. Rightly or wrongly this state of affairs is being used by the Tyrolese in their propaganda for separatism or autonomy.

52. On the other hand the Italians are accusing the Tyrolese of importing people from Austria who in 1939 voted for the Reich. Enquiries are still being pursued on this point, and a report will be submitted when they are complete.

53. There is no doubt that it is much easier to enter the Tyrol than it is to leave the Tyrol by the Brenner - a point that will be dealt with later in this report.

54. Another means that the Tyrolese are using to increase their numbers in the area are released prisoners of war. As far as could be ascertained by the undersigned, the system appears to have been as follows:-

When the German armies collapsed and the Allies arrived in the Tyrol, the German military were gradually rounded up and placed in prisoner-of-war cages. At a certain point owing to the shortage of labour in the area it was decided to release those military German personnel whose homes were in the Tyrol, to enable them to return to their homes and their civil employment to help

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54. Another means that the Tyrolese are using to increase their numbers in the area are released prisoners of war. As far as could be ascertained by the undersigned, the system appears to have been as follows:-

When the German armies collapsed and the Allies arrived in the Tyrol, the German military were gradually rounded up and placed in prisoner-of-war cages. At a certain point owing to the shortage of labour in the area it was decided to release those military German personnel whose homes were in the Tyrol, to enable them to return to their homes and their civil employment to help the economic position of the area.

55. This situation was seized on by the Tyrolese as ~~484~~ ⁴⁸⁴ of augmenting their population. Before a prisoner could be released the authorities at the prisoner-of-war cage endeavoured to satisfy themselves as to the honesty of the applicants who had to submit as much documentary proof as was possible. It would appear that these applications were channelled through a certain Father Patrick of Bolzano. If any of the allegations are true it would appear that this Reverend Gentleman is knowingly taking part in obtaining forged documents to obtain the release of German military in the area.

56. The Italians are now making allegations that this is being done to increase the vote for the Tyrolese in the case of a plebiscite.

57. There is no doubt that the Roman-Catholic Church in the Tyrol is playing politics on the side of the Tyrolese, and propagandises the case for the Tyrolese from the pulpit, to such an extent that a few weeks ago the Provincial Commissioner called on the Bishop of Bolzano and pointed out to him that such action was not helping any of the parties to come to a fair decision.

58. The question of frontier control is of great importance to this area. The S. Candido pass which leads into the area from that part of Austria administered by the British, appears to be very strictly controlled - but the Brenner Pass, leading from that part of Austria administered by the French, appears to be an open door.

59. The official French directive on the procedure to be adopted by persons desiring to enter Italy from their area, i.e. Innsbruck district, states quite plainly that before the French Military Government will issue a permit the applicant must be in possession of a visa from the Italian Government.

60. This procedure was not adhered to and in fact from all practical points of view, as previously reported, the frontier is an open door. This information was obtained by the undersigned when he visited the frontier control-points at Brennero on the 30th Sept 1945. The information was passed to the Provincial Commissioner Bolzano who stated his intention of taking the matter up direct with the French authorities in Innsbruck. This he has done in company with Capt. Toes acting PPSO Bolzano, and a report from the latter is attached, which is self-explanatory.

61. In addition to the incidents already referred to in respect to the German prisoners of war it was reported to the undersigned, whilst in Bolzano Province, that German prisoners of war who claimed to have relatives living in the area are allowed leave to visit them. This is causing great dissatisfaction locally and the matter was reported to the Provincial Commissioner who said he would take it up with the responsible Army Authorities.

62. There is no doubt that there are still large numbers of enemy personnel, military and civil, still hiding in the mountains and attempting to locate them not only by success

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62. There is no doubt that there are still large numbers of enemy personnel, military and civil, still hiding in the mountains and despite every possible effort to locate them not much success is being attained.
63. Unfortunately the contadini will not denounce these people as they are getting cheap labour from them, but it is hoped with the coming winter when the contadino will no longer be able to work on the land and have barely sufficient food for himself and his family, that the majority of these enemy personalities will

CONFIDENTIAL

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be driven to giving themselves up.

84. The French influence in the area is very strong but it is difficult to judge why the French are so interested unless it is that they are desirous of complicating the position in the area even more than it is now. They assist any propaganda or party that has for its object the separation of the Tyrol from Italian control.

85. It has come to the knowledge of this office that the French are recruiting an espionage system in the area and are selecting as their agents persons they knew who collaborated with the Germans or the Vichy Government, blackmailing these people into acting as agents for them by threatening to reveal what they know of their collaborationist activities to the Allied authorities. This situation is being watched by the CIC detachment in the area.

86. The presence of the Italian Folgore and Triuli Divisions is causing some concern - these two Divisions are composed of Southern Italians who swagger around the country-side, reminding the German-Austrian population that the latter lost the war. They have been mixed up in many incidents and it is the opinion of this Office they are a bad advertisement for the Italian Government if the latter intends sincerely to court the friendship of the Tyrolese.

W. B. HARE
W. B. HARE
Major,
Regional Security Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL

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LIST OF ARMS HANDED IN BY
PATRIOTS UP TO 31st. AUGUST,
1945.

STENS and SIMILAR TYPES.	1124
SUB-MACHINE GUNS	102
MACHINE GUNS.	1590
RIFLES and CARBINES.	54194
MORTARS - various.	240.
VEERY PISTOLS.	8
PISTOLS.	719
AUTOMATIC PISTOLS.	2138
AUTOMATIC RIFLES.	27
SHOT GUNS.	111
L.A.A. AUTOMATICS.	24
CANNON.	54
BREN MACHINE GUNS.	8
ANTI-TANK WEAPONS.	622
HANDGRENADES.	15509
KNUCKLE DUSTERS.	25

RETURN OF ARMS AS REPORTED TO PPSO's BY
CIVIL POLICE AGENCIES.

PROVINCE	RIFLES	REVOLVERS	AUTOMATIC ARMS	HAND GRENADES	OTHER WEAPONS
ROVIGO	10	3	5	11	
PADOVA	57	58	14	34	
VENICE	120		22	105 & 20 cases.	4 cannon 8Imm.
Vicenza	Report not to hand.				
VERONA	Report not to hand.				
TREVISO	1819	5	60	100	2 anti-tank g 10 land mines.
TRENTO	Report not to hand.				
BOLZANO	1411	62	92	482 & 1 case;	2 mortars, 8Imm.
BELLUNO	148	11	50	120 & 2 cases.	1 mortar 8Imm.
UDINE	159	11	89	234 & 2 cases.	1 mortar 45.

In addition to the arms set out above, there were boxes of various types of explosives and a substantial amount of ammunition.

0817

RETURN OF ARMS AS REPORTED TO PPSO's BY
CIVIL POLICE AGENCIES.

REVOLVERS	AUTOMATIC ARMS	HAND GRENADES	OTHER WEAPONS	REMARKS
3	5	II		
58	14	34		
	22	105 & 20 cases.	4 cannon 8Imm.	
t not to hand.				
t not to hand.				
5	60	100	2 anti-tank guns. 10 land mines.	
t not to hand.				
62	92	482 & I case;	2 mortars, 8Imm.	
II	50	120 & 2 cases.	I mortar 8Imm.	
II	89	234 & 2 cases.	I mortar 45.	

arms set out above, there were boxes of various types of explosives recovered,
nt of ammunition.

-CONFIDENTIAL-

BOLZANO PROVINCE
VENEZIE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

5 Oct 45.

TO : R.P.S.O. Venezia Region (att.Reg.Sec.Officer)
For information only:-
Provincial Commissioner, Bolzano.
O.C. 68th (SM) Field Regt RA.

SUBJECT : Frontier Control - Italo-Austria Frontier.
FILE NO. : RXII/EZ/108/49.

1. Reference your RXII/PS/11.17 of 15 Sep 45.

2. I beg to report that on 3 Oct 45, in company with my Provincial Commissioner (Lt Col J.B. Thompson), I visited the control point at the Brenner Pass (MR W1125) and later the French Military Government officials at Innsbruck.

3. At the Brenner there are two small military detachments, one British of the 68 Pd Regt RA in charge of a Lieutenant, and the other Italian of the Folgore Division also commanded by a Lieutenant. The British detachment is responsible for the checking of American, British, French, German and Russian military personnel whilst the Italian detachment checks military personnel of nationalities other than those allotted to the British, and all civilians. There is also a small number of Carabinieri who, in addition to their normal duties of policing the town, patrol the hills on either side of the control point.

4. The officers in charge of the detachments were contacted and their views upon the situation obtained.

The officer/c British Detachment stated that in his opinion the number of French military personnel entering from Austria was excessive, consisting of from 10 to 15 vehicles per day each containing on an average 4 passengers. This is far

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4. The officers in charge of the detachments were contacted and their views upon the situation obtained.

The officer/c British Detachment stated that in his opinion the number of French military personnel entering from Austria was excessive, consisting of from 10 to 15 vehicles per day each containing on an average 4 passengers. This is far greater than the number of Allied military personnel entering Austria from Italy, excluding of course British personnel simply passing through in convoy on the overland leave scheme.

The Italian detachment commander stated that ⁴²⁹about 150 civilians of all nationalities approached the control post daily but of that number he only allowed approximately 20 to enter. These civilians were mostly in possession of passes issued by French Military Government officers in Austria and the reasons for issue, as stated on same in writing, included many such as "Affaires", "seeking lost baggage", "health reasons" etc. There were also a number of displaced persons of nationalities such as Greek, Turkish, and South American countries, etc. who sought repatriation but for whom no prior arrangements had been made with the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission.

to sheet 2.....

-2-

5. At Innsbruck interviews were obtained with the Military Governor and the Director of Public Security for the whole of French-occupied Austria (Monsieur Voizand and Lt Col Andrieu respectively).

It was explained that we were perturbed at the large number of civilians being issued with passes to enter Italy. The regulations governing the issue of Allied Force Permits to enter Austria were detailed and it was pointed out that these were authorized only for journeys "in the Allied interest" and that the number issued was extremely small.

6. Col Andrieu stated that they had only that day had a conference at which it was decided to revise their instructions on this subject. In future, detachments would not be authorized to issue passes to cross the frontier and only those issued by his office and signed by himself would be valid. A copy of this pass is attached. In addition, the number of passes would be severely reduced and strictly limited to reasons equivalent to those for which Allied Force permits are issued. A copy of their revised instructions were promised to be sent to the Provincial Commissioner, Bolzano.

7. Upon the return journey to Bolzano, a call was made at the Brenner and the Italian officer i/c Folgore Detachment was acquainted with the result of our interview and furnished with two copies of the new French "Laissez Passer" bearing Col Andrieu's signature and official stamp.

8. With all due respect to the Italian Lieutenant at the Brenner who is doing an excellent job under difficult conditions, it is the opinion of the Provincial Commissioner and myself that it would be far more satisfactory if an American CIC or British FSB section be detailed for the checking of civilian traffic.

It must also in fairness be pointed out that whilst there are explicit instructions upon the movement of civilians out of Italy into Austria, no similar instructions respecting traffic in the reverse direction have been received by this HQ or the Folgore Div. It is respectfully requested that this point be taken up quickly with higher authority.

9. It should not be forgotten that the frontier control at the present is a purely military responsibility. Enquiries I have made of the local Questura reveal that the latter are not yet in a position to take over efficient control even though we should request them to do so. In normal times a force of 40 agents was necessary;

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10. I trust the foregoing has given you a picture of the situation sufficiently clear to enable representations being made to higher authority with a view to improving control on the civilian security side.

L.W. TOES

Capt.

Acting Provincial Public

Safety Officer.



Südtirol zu Österreich!

Das neue Österreich fordert gerechte Grenzen, damit es mit allen Nachbarn in Friede und Freundschaft leben kann. Darum erheben wir Österreicher die kompromißlose Forderung auf die

Rückkehr Südtirols

des Juwels unserer Alpenländer, durch 600 Jahre mit Österreich verbunden, zu einem notwendigen Bestandteil seines Wirtschaftslebens geworden und gegen unseren flammenden Protest von seinem Herzen gerissen!

Die Bergheimat des großen österreichischen Volkshelden Andreas Hofer und der todesmutigen Dolomitenkämpfer aus dem ersten Weltkrieg strebt nach bitterer Leidenszeit, nach faschistischer Unterdrückung und nationalsozialistischem Verrat zurück ins Vaterhaus.

Die Österreichische Widerstandsbewegung steht geschlossen zu Südtirol! Die Männer des tapferen Widerstandes gegen den Nazismus in Südtirol rechnen auf uns.

Darum rufen wir es in die Welt hinaus, daß Völker u. Staatsmänner es hören sollen:

Gibt Südtirol die Freiheit wieder!

Südtirol zu Österreich!

4777

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Südtirol zu Österreich!**

4777



South-Tyrol back to Austria!

The new Austria demands just frontiers that she can live in peace and friendship with all her neighbours. Therefore we make established claims upon the

return of South-Tyrol

the pearl of the Alps, tied-up since 600 years to Austria she has become an indispensable part of her economic life. 1919 torn away from her heart despite our passionate protests.

The homeland of our great national hero Andreas Hofer and of all the valiant defenders of the Dolomites in World War I. now she desires to come back to us after bitter sorrow and pains, after Fascist oppression and national-socialist betrayal.

The Austrian Liberty Movement backs the cause of South-Tyrol with all her strength. The fighters for South-Tyrol's liberty reckon upon our assistance.

Therefore we call it out into the world that everyone may hear it, peoples and politicians:

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South-Tyrol back to Austria!**

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477v

Österreichische Volkspartei

Landesparteileitung Tirol · Stadtparteileitung Innsbruck

Museumstraße 12, Ecke Erlertstraße · Telefon 3061

Tiroler! Südtiroler!

Zu der am Dienstag, den 4. September 1945, um 17 Uhr stattfindenden Großkundgebung für Südtirol sind alle Südtiroler, Tiroler sowie alle Österreicher gebeten, recht zahlreich teilzunehmen. Es ist sicher, daß sich niemand ausschließen wird, denn jeder Tiroler, ob von Nord- oder Südtirol, hat nur einen Wunsch:

Südtirol zu Österreich!

Mit welchen Mitteln das Problem Südtirol nach dem ersten Weltkrieg gelöst wurde, ist jedem einzelnen Tiroler nur allzu gut bekannt. Wieviel Leid und Enttäuschungen waren damit verbunden. Dafür sind unsere Brüder im Süden als Leidtragende selbst Zeuge. Das erstemal in der langen und schweren Zeit ist uns nun die Gelegenheit gegeben, unsere Verbundenheit mit Südtirol öffentlich vor der Welt unter Beweis zu stellen. Österreichler! Tiroler! Am 10. September 1945 treten die Außenminister der Alliierten Mächte zur Beratung und Lösung der Südtiroler Frage zusammen. Stellt inzwischen Euer persönliches Ich zurück und wünscht aus ganzer Seele und mit ganzer innerer Kraft, daß die Alliierten Mächte ihrer Aufgabe und ihrem Vorhaben, einen dauernden Weltfrieden zu gestalten, schon in ihren ersten Entscheidungen gerecht werden.

Am 10. September 1945 werden in London ernste und gewissenhafte Männer über Südtirol zu Rat sitzen und Entscheidungen treffen. Auch das furchtbare Zeitalter der Lüge und Verantwortungslosigkeit, das große Unrecht, das durch die zwei niederträchtigsten Schurken Hitler und Mussolini verübt wurde, muß aus der Welt geschafft werden.

Iuch, Brüder und Schwestern jenseits des Brenners, laßt uns heute zu: „Harret aus, bald werden auch für Euch die Friedensglocken läuten!“

Heil dir, Südtirol!

4775

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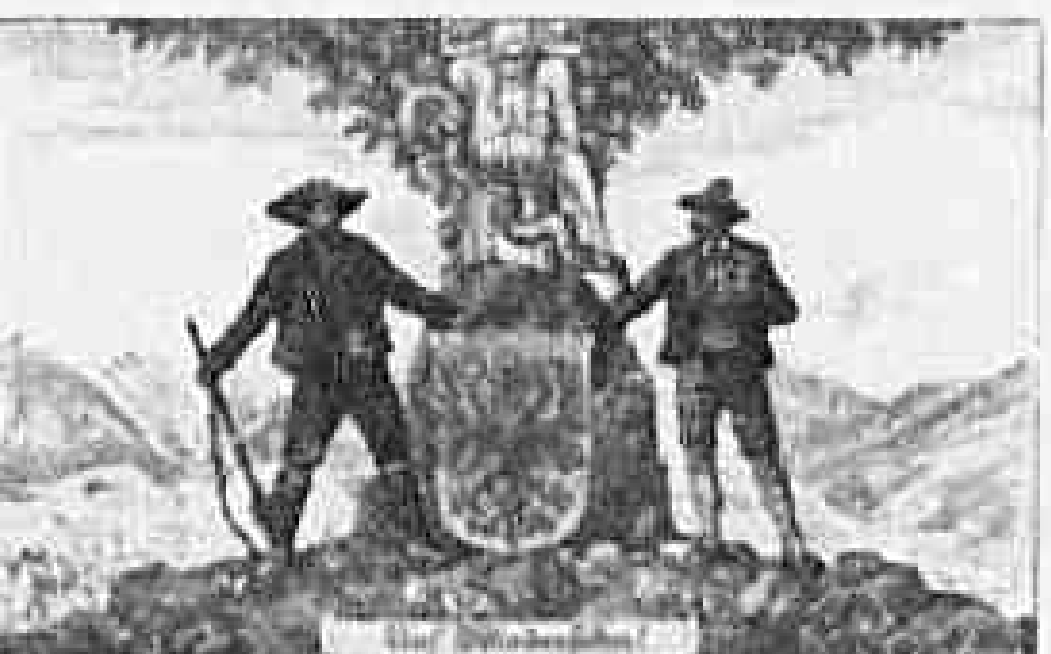
Stadtparteileitung der
Österreichischen Volkspartei

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016



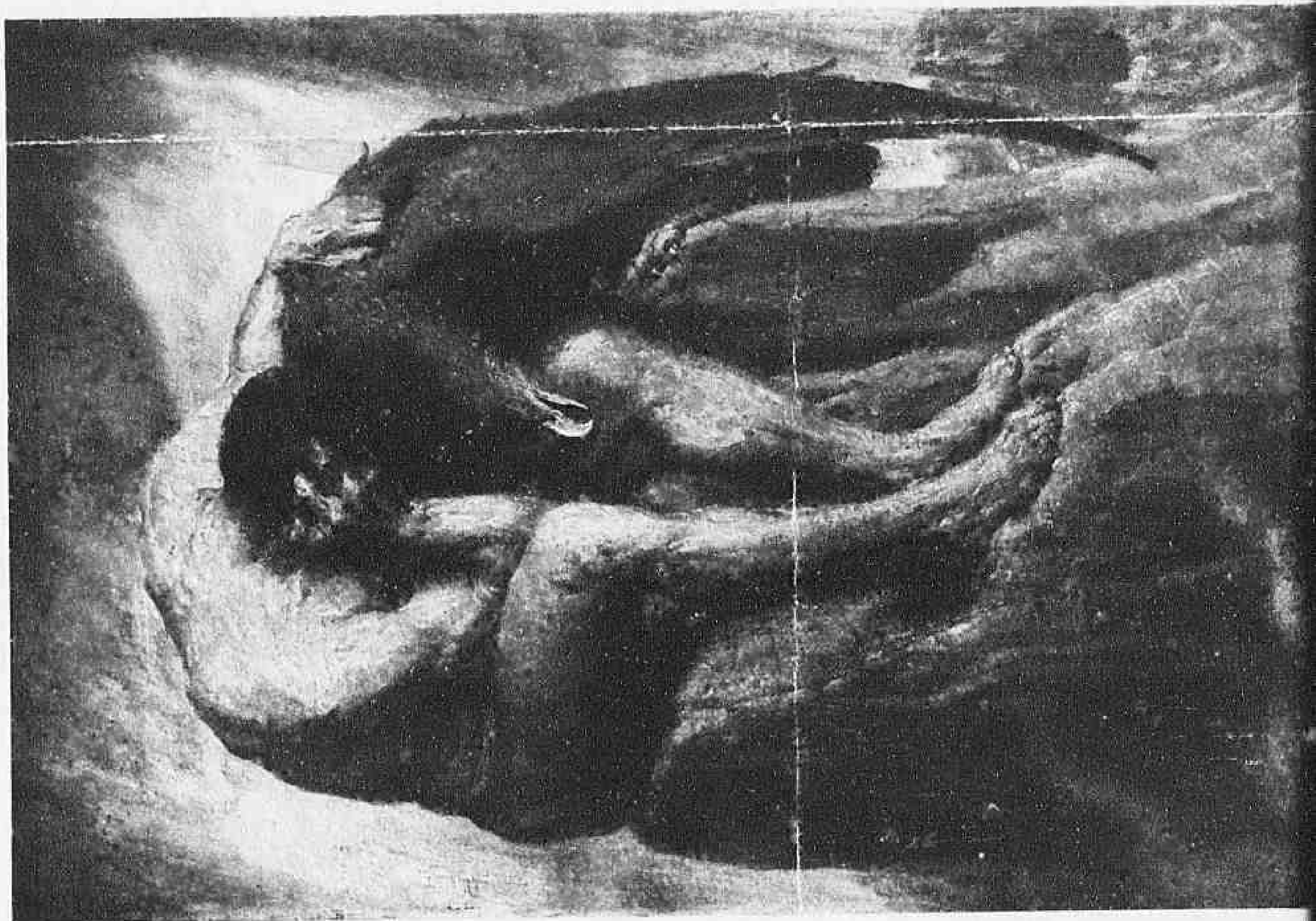
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Vogliamo il Plebiscito!

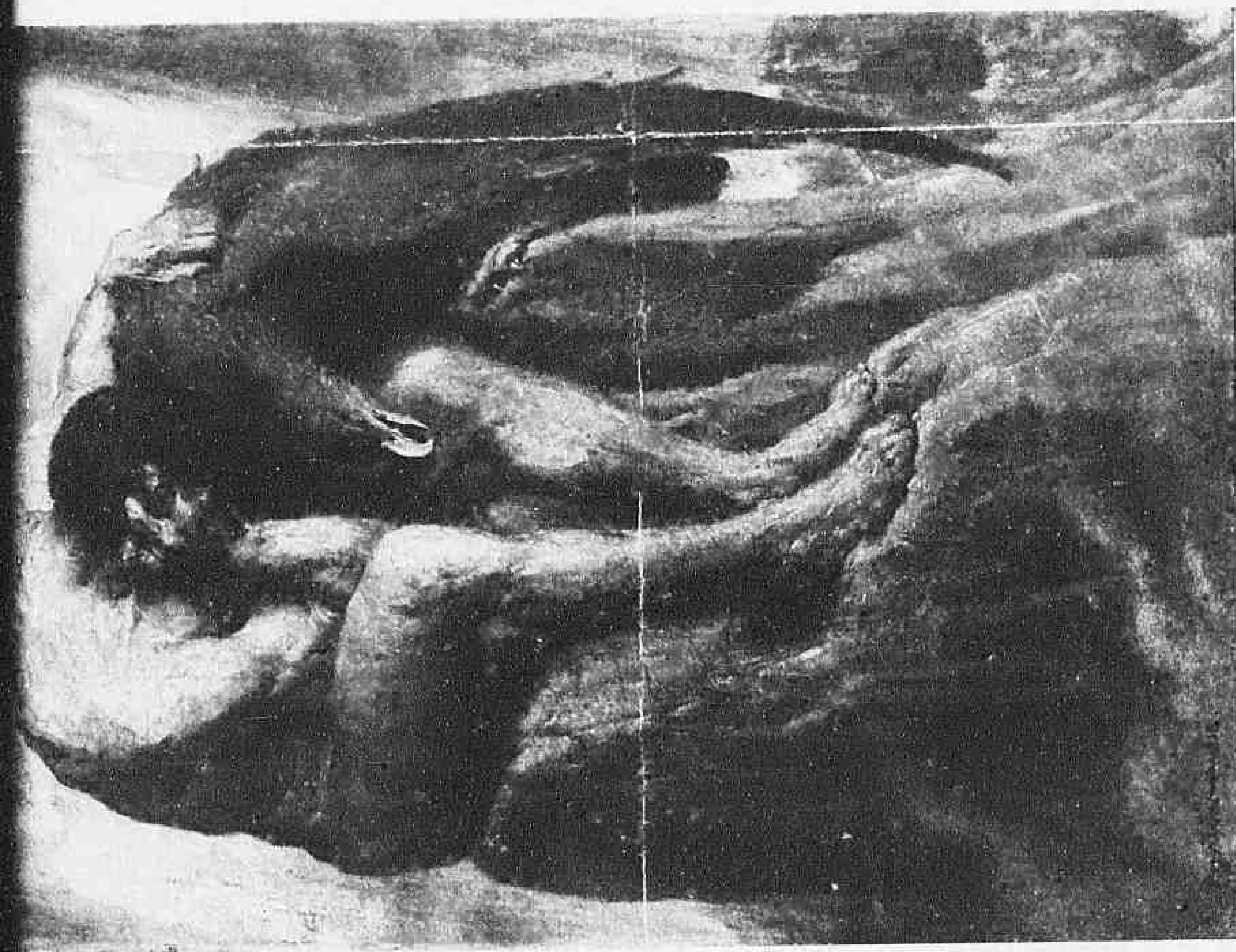
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7-3-5 2/10



Il Partito Separatista Trentino

Vuole: Una **REPUBLICA ALPINA INDIPENDENTE**
comprendete la provincia di **TRENTO**
o un **PROTETTORATO AUSTRIACO TRENTINO**
avente la più ampia Autonomia amministrativa.

Per ottenere questo è però necessario che i **Trentini** lascino da parte quel certo senso di paura nell'esprimere i propri sentimenti, paura che in un regime di libertà non ha ragione di esistere e che giustamente può venir chiamata viltà.

Tra poco si passerà di paese in paese alla raccolta autorizzata delle firme la cui per cento dimostrerà e darà agli Alleati la possibilità di raggiungere la meta. **Pergine** che sta ora all'avanguardia con l'85% ci sia di esempio.

Questo, o **Trentini**, è il momento di agire, di essere uniti e concordi per raggiungere con mezzo l'ideale prefissoci, onde non essere per sempre **oppressi**.

IL POPOLO TRENTINO

Partito Separatista Trentino

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IL POPOLO TRENTO

THE SEPARATIST TRENTINO PARTY

WANTS

An Independent Alpine Republic,
including Trento Province or an
Austrian Protectorate of Trentino
with absolute administrative autonomy.

To obtain this it is however necessary that the TRENTINI put aside any sense of fear in expressing their ideas, fear that in a regime of freedom has no reason to exist and that can rightly be termed cowardice. Soon we will go from village to village with an authorization to collect signatures, the percentage of which will show the Allies and give them the possibility of reaching their goal - PERGINE, now at the vanguard with 85%, must set us an example. This, oA Trentini, is the moment to act, to be united and unanimous so as to obtain our ideal, and not to be always oppressed.

The TRENTINO POPULATION.

4222

WRH/bc

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS
 VENEZIE REGION
 Allied Military Government
 APO 394
 (Security Section)

Security
Division
109
Book
File
Action

6 September 45.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission (Security Division),
 Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

: Regional Public Safety Officer, ~~Venezie~~ Region.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for August 1945 - Security.

FILE NO. : RXII/PS/44(S)

1. The month of August has shewn a marked improvement in the Security position of this Region. Life is returning to normal. Most of the shops in the big towns are open and well stocked with supplies. The prices of course are another matter but even they have not reached the high level that we encountered in the South.

2. In fact it would appear that the majority of the belligerent elements who were undoubtedly present when A.M.G. took over the administration of this Region have decided to lead a normal and more or less law-abiding life.

3. The political situation has resolved itself in the Southern part of the Region to a more or less straight fight between the Christian-Democrats and the Italian Communists. It is difficult to say at this juncture which is the stronger party, although the Communists appear to be the better organised.

4. The general political situation in the Northern Provinces is somewhat different owing to the mixed nationalities residing there and will be dealt with later in this report, Province by Province.

: Regional Public Safety Officer, Venezia Region.

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3. The political situation has resolved itself in the Southern part of the Region to a more or less straight fight between the Christian-Democrats and the Italian Communists. It is difficult to say at this juncture which is the stronger party, although the Communists appear to be the better organised.

4. The general political situation in the Northern Provinces is somewhat different owing to the mixed nationalities residing there and will be dealt with later in this report, Province by Province.

5. The undersigned thinks it quite safe to say that with the Italians' traditional short memory they have forgotten many of the things they made such a noise about in the early days of the liberation, even to the point of paying very little interest in the workings of the Special Courts of Assize and the sentences they award. Persons are sentenced to death and the death-sentence carried out, but the life of the communities is carried on quite peacefully without making any demonstrations for or against the action of the Courts.

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6. As against this, in one or two of the Provinces the Special Courts of Assize are not operating quickly enough for some of the more hot-headed political leaders, who use it as a means of propaganda, but it is felt that this type of criticism will soon cease when the authors see that little or no notice of it is being taken by the Public.

7. There have been no important security arrests at the instigation of A.M.G. during the month of August.

8. A special report has been submitted on the PAGANINI brothers who might be described as important suspects, but this will not be known definitely until a reply is received from London. In the meantime they are being kept under as much observation as is possible.

9. Generally speaking the state of civilian morale is reasonably good, having been bolstered up by the sudden collapse of Japan and the knowledge that A.M.G. is to continue administering the territory for an indefinite period. Rumour has it that A.M.G. is to remain for another six months and the more responsible elements of the Community got great happiness out of just hearing the rumour and appreciating it as such.

10. The relations between civilians and Military personnel is very good, with the exception of VERONA where the Provincial Public Safety Officer reports almost nightly disturbances between Allied troops and Italian youths. The P.P.S.O. goes on to say that a strong Military Police formation could deal with this matter quite easily, but despite his efforts to get the backing of the local Military Police, he has met with little success.

11. There have been no civilian disturbances in the Region during the month. There was a general strike of State and para-Statal employees on the 10th inst. on a question of a wage-dispute but there were no disturbances.

12. There have been several demonstrations in the Region against the high cost of living; demanding quicker epuration of fascist officials; and the like, but all passed off without incidents.

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12. There have been several demonstrations in the Region against the high cost of living; demanding quicker epuration of fascist officials; and the like, but all passed off without incidents.

13. There have been no outward signs during the month of further activities of the International Communist Party.

14. Another interesting development is that there can be no doubt that the crimes of violence which are now being committed, fortunately not so many as in the early days of liberation, are being committed by the criminal elements in the various districts and have no political significance at all.

- 3 -

15. The SCHIO massacre, on which two reports have been submitted by this office, is now being dealt with entirely by the Provincial Staff of VICENZA, assisted by the two CID agents from Fifth Army. The undersigned ceased active interest in this matter early in the month of August owing to security matters requiring his personal attention in other parts of the Region. Six persons have been arrested and their trial commences before a General Allied Military Court sitting at VICENZA, commencing on the 6th September 1945. The undersigned will attend the trial in case any points of security interest arise.

16. The gang of hooligans arrested by C.I.C. in VERONA whom it was alleged had threatened the lives of Capt. BEAN, P.P.S.O., and Major STEVENS the C.A.O. of VERONA, as mentioned in para. 19 of the last monthly report from this office, has boiled down to nothing more than black marketeers who are being dealt with locally. No further threats have been, and it is not anticipated will be, made.

17. ROVIGO Province reports that during searches made by the P.P.S.O. and CC.RR. three cases of possessing arms were brought to light and will be dealt with by A.M.G. Courts.

18. PADOVA Province reports small arms are still being collected and numerous arms-cases are being presented to A.M.G. Superior Courts. Quantities of explosives and hand-grenades are still widely scattered throughout the Province.

19. The information in paras 17 and 18 has been obtained from the monthly reports of the Provincial Public Safety Officers. But a more detailed report is being applied for and will be forwarded as soon as received.

20. VENICE Province draws attention to the futility of the control of civilian movement in and out of VENEZIA GIULIA and suggests that the control be lifted or properly enforced. This office is aware that the control is not enforced and the only people who are affected by the order are those wishing to comply with the rules and regulations and thereby hinder their own travel, as it takes some ten days to get applications approved, whilst the persons the order

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21. It has also been reported that arms are being smuggled from Yugoslavia to CHIOGGIA in grain-carrying vessels. This matter is being dealt with by the P.S.S. in VENICE.

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22. VICENZA Province reports nothing of particular security interest. It may well be that the recent activities of A.M.G. assisted by troops investigating the SCHIO massacre has kept matters under control. It is reported from Vicenza however that a freak thunderstorm and high wind on the 8th of August did so much damage to crops that the food situation will be seriously affected for the winter.
23. VERONA Province reports several cases of wire-cutting as having come to the knowledge of the C.I.C., but there is no evidence at the moment to shew whether it is deliberate sabotage or larceny. The circumstances point to it being the latter. The freak storm mentioned in Para.22 also struck Verona and will have the same results.
24. TREVISO Province reports nothing of security interest.
25. Having dealt with the security situation of the Provinces in the plains we now come to those in the mountainous areas with their problems which are mainly those of the basic nationals.
26. These Provinces are inhabited by Italians, Germans, Austrians and Yugoslavs. The German and Austrian population have not resorted to violence to obtain their ends but are relying on propaganda in which they ask to be returned to either Austrian or German administration or to be allowed autonomy.
27. The Yugoslav elements who are to be found mainly in the North-east Region are prepared to back the more unruly elements and it is difficult to understand what they hope to obtain from such efforts.
28. TRENTO Province reports that the population openly state that they would prefer German or Austrian administration and show obvious contempt for the Italians. On the 12th August 1945 an Austrian flag was found flying from the bell-tower at Rovere della Luna. There is a rumour in the district that this foreign propaganda is being

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29. The following slogans can be seen, on the walls of most of the Communes of TRENTO Province :-

"Viva il Tirolo"
 "Viva il Tirolo Libero"
 "Viva il Tirolo senza Italiani"
 "Morte alla Monarchia"
 "Vogliamo il Plebiscito"
 "Noi siamo Tirolesi"
 "Votate per la Libertà"
 "Votate per la Libertà del Tirolo"
 "Viva i Tiranni Zulù"
 "Vogliamo l'Austria"

30. There is a strong political movement in the smaller Communes agitating for a plebiscite to enable the people to vote for a return to the republic of Austria. This movement is known as "Sud-Tyroler Folkspartei". It is this movement that it is rumoured is directed from INNSBRUCK.

31. BOLZANO Province reports that there appears to be a political plan by the French to create a sphere of influence but the Provincial Public Safety Officer does not say why he is of this opinion. The undersigned intends to take the matter up with him. There are still ex-German soldiers in the mountains in Bolzano, three having been recently arrested for participation in a serious case of robbery.

32. Outwardly the political situation appears to be quite calm and has developed into Italian elements versus the Tyrolean elements.

33. BELLUNO Province reports that as the result of information received a large raid was carried out by Carabinieri, Questura Agents and Italian Troops in the S.W. of the Province, to recover hidden arms, which resulted in the recovery of three rifles, three pistols, a number of hand-grenades (actual number not stated), small arms ammunition, one machine-gun, eleven car-tyres and three radio sets. The Provincial Public Safety Officer

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34. The political situation in the South of the Province is normal, i.e. Christian-Democrats versus Italian Communists, but in the North, especially in the Ampezzo valley, which prior to 1918 was Austrian territory, there is a movement afoot agitating return to the Austrian regime. On the 25th August the Austrian flag was seen flying from the top of Monte Tofana (Cortina d'Ampezzo) and the Italian Troops stationed in the area hauled it down.

35. UDINE Province reports that armed bands are still active in the district sponsored mainly by the Yugoslavs. A Captain SPRAULICH, a Yugoslav, has been arrested by the GSI(b), 13 Corps, and the matter is being dealt with by 13 Corps direct with A.F.H.Q. It is understood that he is wanted by the Italian Authorities and he is believed to be the chief Yugoslav propagandist in the area.

36. In view of the continually changing scenes from security point of view and also bearing in mind that A.M.G. may close down in the near future, this office has sent out a letter to all Provincial Public Safety Officers requesting information on the following points :-

- (a) Concealed arms-dumps.
- (b) Subversive activities of any particular political party likely to use force to obtain their own ends.
- (c) Infiltration of foreign propaganda.
- (d) Names and strength etc of political parties.
- (e) Names of party-leaders and main points of party policies.
- (f) Particulars of any agitator whom it is thought might urge people to use violence.
- (g) Percentage of German, Italian, Austrian and Yugoslav Basic Nationals residing in any particular district, and the political reaction of each at the present time.
- (h) Forecast of the local food situation for the winter.
- (i) State of any local industry, whether or not it is working, giving the number of persons normally employed. If local industry not working or only partially working, state reasons.

This enquiry is being followed up personally by the undersigned and it is hoped that the result will be a security picture of the Region at the present time.

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HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP

STATION BOLZANO
RECORD No. 564
ITA 11049-45

From:

BORENICH ROSE
Villnoss, Bolzano, Italy

To:

DOMA Josephine
Via Ottone Huber 28
Merano, Italy

Give place of Postmark where there is no address

Date of communication or post-
mark if letter is un-dated

8 August 1945

Type mail

Ordinary
Surface

Reg. No.

Language

German

Previously
censored by

Previous relevant record

Station allocation

CIC BOLZANO

C. C. G. Allocation

G-2 (CC) AFHQ

AC HQ

FILE

DIR. INT. AFFS WASH

IRB LONDON

PIB AFHQ

Disposal of original
communication

Hold
Excised
Photographed
Sent with
comment to:

Passed P
Condemned
Return
to sender

Enclosure

COMMENT

CROSSING OF ITALO-GERMAN FRONTIER

"I will leave for GRAZ tomorrow instead of coming to see you....
At 7 o'clock in the morning FLOR and I will go to GRAZ to see what
has happened to SEPP.... We must cross the frontier clandestinely.... On
the return journey I shall be alone. It is easy to come in from
INNSBRUCK."

FROM: NOTHEDUETER Albert
Via Argenteria 16
Bolzano, Italy

TO: PEER Mariel
Botengasse 7
Cortaccia, Bolzano, Italy

Date: 5 August 1945

"I came to BOLZANO to see my mother with whom I shall stay a
few weeks to rest and, then, I will return in the neighborhood of
MUNICH."

FROM: CENETT Tonino
St. Pancrazio Ultimo,
Bolzano

TO: COMOLLI Ines
Cova Cisano,
Bergamo

"Tomorrow I must return to INNSBRUCK. Since I have no Italian
papers I cannot come to see you. This time everything went alright,
next time I will try to come as far as CISANO."

Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation	Disposition of original communication
	CIC BOLZANO	G-2 (CC) AFHQ AC HQ FILE DIR. INT. AFFS WASH IRB LONDON PIB AFHQ	Head Excluded Photographed Sent with comment to:
			Passed P Contaminated Return to sender

C O M M E N T

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Botengasse 7
Cortaccia, Bolzano, Italy

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EXAMINER Italian Censor REVIEWER A.V. EXAMINATION DATE 10 August 1945

SPECIAL NOTICE - The attached information was taken from private communications, and is extremely confidential; character must be preserved. The information must be confined only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or comes made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Civil Censorship Officer, Allied Commission.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS
 VENEZIE REGION
 Allied Military Government
 APO 394
 (Security Section)

WRH/bc



3 August 45.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission (Security Division),
 Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.
 (Thru R.P.S.O.)

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for August 1945 - Security.

FILE NO. : PXII/PS/44(S)

1. This is the third Monthly Security Report from this Region and it might well be described as the third phase.
2. It will be remembered that the report from this office for the month of May described a rather fluid situation due mainly to the collapse of the German Armies, and the fact that Allied Troops had not taken up static positions for the control of the area. As result of this the population got rather out of hand.
3. The Monthly Security Report from this office for the month of June reported a steady improvement in the security position, but four disturbing elements were thought to be responsible for some lawlessness that did exist and which had to be eradicated for the benefit of the security of the Region.
4. These four elements were dealt with in para. 3 under headings (a) to (d) inclusive.

5. Referring to para. 3(a), the Foreign Nationals complained of, have not been so active during the past month although there is ample evidence of their presence. It may well be that they have decided that it is not safe to

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4. These four elements were dealt with in para. 3 under headings (a) to (d) inclusive.

5. Referring to para. 3(a), the Foreign Nationals complained of, have not been so active during the past month although there is ample evidence of their presence. It may well be that they have decided that it is not safe to continue their previous unlawful operation of looting and blackmail, whilst Allied Troops are in the vicinity, but this office feels that at the first opportunity they will recommence their activity as before - even to a greater degree.

6. The items dealt with under (b) and (c) are now ~~4269~~ practically non-existent, except for a few isolated incidents in the Northern Provinces of small bands of German soldiers robbing the peasants etc. As far as is possible this is being taken care of by the P.P.S.Os concerned, with Allied Military assistance and Carabinieri when necessary.

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7. I think it can now be safely said that the main danger to security in this Region is the element mentioned under 3(d), of the Security Monthly Report, from this office, for the month of June, i.e. the bad elements of the various political parties.
8. Unfortunately the undersigned has not been able to make personal enquiries into the various information that has reached this office. This is owing to the fact that the first week of the month was spent at Trieste conferring with the Allied Security Agencies there, and since the 12th of the month has been engaged solely in assisting in the investigation of the massacre at the "Mandamentale" Prison at Schio in the Province of Vicenza. Separate reports have been submitted on this matter.
9. Broadly speaking there are two main security difficulties in the Region.
10. The first is the efforts of the International Communist Party, as distinct from the Italian Communist Party, to stir up disaffection in the outlying country districts in the Southern part of the Region. This in particular in the Provinces of Rovigo, Padova, Venezia, Vicenza and Verona.
11. The second is the efforts of the various basic Nationals in the Northern part of the Region to bring to the notice of the Authorities their desire for autonomy.
12. By "Basic Nationals" I mean those persons living in the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano who, prior to 1918, were part of the Austrian Empire.
13. The remaining Northern Province, Udine, although basically Italian, is receiving close attention from the Yugoslav propagandists. These propagandists work in the main through the Patriots.
14. The first question, that of the International Communist Party, is a very serious one, and it is doubtful if it can be dealt with by other than armed force. This office is of the opinion that the recent murders are being organised locally and as news of them spreads, so does the idea, and the result is such incidents as the Schio massacre, and the result is such incidents as the Schio massacre, is a purely local

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15. It is difficult to understand what it is hoped can be achieved by such activities, except to terrorise the population, because having committed these crimes, the perpetrators go to ground, apparently quite satisfied with their efforts. To give some idea of the futility of these murders, victims of the Schio massacre included an old woman of seventy against whom the undersigned has been unable to discover a denunciation of any kind; two young girls of seventeen, one being held as a hostage for her father and brother whose only crime appears to have been that they belonged to an Alpini regiment of the Fascist Republican Army.
16. From other than official sources reports reached the undersigned of almost nightly hold-ups in places bordering the Alps and Dolomites. Every effort has been made to get the victims to make an official denunciation, but without success. They seem to be quite happy that they got away with their lives.
17. To give some idea of the extent of what is happening where matters have been officially reported, twenty-one cases of armed robbery are contained in the Monthly Report of the P.P.S.O. in Venezia Province. In the same Province the C.L.N. organised a general strike on the 18th July as a demonstration against the dismissal of the Commission of Epuration by the P.P.S.O., who found they were engaged in corrupt practices. In fact, the P.P.S.O. prosecuted one of their members, and an associate of his, for demanding 800,000 lire for the release of a prisoner. Each was sentenced to five years.
18. In the same Province, at Portogruaro, there was a riot when elements of the population entered the Municipio, smashed the furniture and disarmed the carabinieri.
19. In the Province of Verona the C.I.C. arrested a gang of hooligans who had made it known that they intended to take the lives of Capt. Bean, P.P.S.O., and the C.A.O. of Verona. How serious this threat was cannot be ascertained, but the idea was obviously there.
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20. The political elements in the Provinces of Trento and Bolzano have not resorted to armed force, but are relying on propaganda. For instance, on the 28th July six handwritten posters were found on the walls of houses in Cortina D'Ampezzo, which read as follows :-

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"Citizens of Ampezzo, the hour has come to keep your eyes open and to look reality in the face, and therefore, before it will be too late, spring up and chase the hated enemies away, and every word you utter will be good, and it will help those who want your beautiful Cortina to become anew as it was in the beautiful times of your fathers, and no more of the gloomy flag which always betrayed, but the beautiful Tyrolean flag. Here, to the Ampezzo people - have faith, and Cortina in a not far day will be Austrian and all will come again to give joy to you who did not hope in vain."

21. The Ampezzo Valley is now in Belluno Province but prior to 1918 was part of Austria.

22. It is very difficult to assess the position as a whole in the Region, as the undersigned is of the opinion that the more intelligent of the extremist elements are refraining from acts of violence whilst the Allies remain in the country, hoping that shortly after the 1st September we shall have left.

23. As a sign of things to come, it is interesting to note that about ten days ago the C.A.O. of the town of Asiago, Vicenza Province, left that town on seven day's leave. He left at 0200 hours, and the same afternoon members of the C.I.N., who had been informed that they had no other position than an advisory one to AMG, caused to be arrested some 20 people, who had earlier been released by the C.I.N. because of lack of denunciations.

24. It was quite by accident that this incident came to the knowledge of the Provincial Headquarters of Vicenza, when Capt. Baker, P.P.S.O., took the matter in hand personally, and the latest information is that Capt. Baker is still unable to find the persons responsible for issuing the orders for the arrest.

25. The undersigned cannot pretend to assess the value of the Carabinieri and Questura as Security Agencies or of the various agencies of quite good

Here, to the Ampezzo people - have faith, and Cortina in a not far day will be Austrian and all will come again to give joy to you who did not hope in vain. " "

21. The Ampezzo Valley is now in Belluno Province but prior to 1918 was part of Austria.

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25. The undersigned cannot pretend to assess the value of the Carabinieri and Questura as Security Agencies or guardians of the peace as there are instances of quite good work by these agencies, but unfortunately many instances of either incompetence or cowardice.

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26. To give instances of the latter, I would refer to the prison-raids at Udine, where, as far as can be ascertained, an armed Carabinieri Guard was overpowered by some ten or fifteen armed men without firing a shot.

- 5 -

27. Whilst conducting enquiries respecting the Schio massacre I instructed the Marshall of Carabinieri of Schio, to arrest a person strongly suspected of being concerned in the massacre. Without a blush he said he did not like to do it as he had to live there, and requested me to employ Carabinieri from some other place to make the arrest.
28. Everybody realises that AMG intends closing down on the 1st September, and it is thought that those who intend to cause trouble are waiting for that day to come, and it would appear that the whole Region is "standing on ice", which as the Allied Armies and AMG move out gets thinner.
29. The Patriots refuse to return to normal life and keep their organisation together under what would appear to be peaceful heading A.N.P.I. (Associazione Nazionale Patrioti Italiani). The stated object of this association is the welfare of those who fought as Patriots, but it is undoubtedly an excuse to keep the patriots together for action after the Allies have left.
30. The undersigned notes that at a recent meeting of Regional Commissioners, in Rome, an officer of A.C.H.Q. stated that Regional Security Officers know the location of all the dumps of arms. I would here make it quite clear that such is not the case, as far as this Region is concerned. The only arms dumps that this office has knowledge of are those that were too large to be taken away by certain elements of the Patriots during the interval between the collapse of the German Armies and the taking over of Northern Italy by the Allied Armies. The presence of these arms-dumps has been reported to Army who have removed some, but there are still others under Italian guards, in some cases Carabinieri and in some cases Italian Army. It has been reported to this office that ammunition from the dumps not collected is fast disappearing.
31. However there are other arms-dumps up in the mountains the whereabouts of which this office has no knowledge, despite every possible enquiry having been made. From time to time information has come to hand as to where an arms-dump could be found, but when the area has been searched the searchers found nothing. Despite these negative results the undersigned is

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32. No important Security Prisoners have been arrested in this Region at the instigation of AMG in the month of July. Civilian morale is not good. From reports reaching this office and from conversations the undersigned has had with various people, one and all are very apprehensive as to the future.

The Carabinieri and the Questura talking amongst themselves show a willingness to work with the Allies whilst they are here to back them up, but, they say, what is going to happen when the Allies are gone. This is undoubtedly the state of mind which brings about the results mentioned in para. 25.

33. The P.P.S.O. of Udine Province reports the suspected presence of German and Yugoslav political elements who might be termed "political spies". Six undesirable Yugoslavs have been arrested in Udine Province, and escorted back to Yugoslavia, under the existing agreement between AMG and Tito.

34. No further information has been received respecting the activities of Lieut. GALLON of the French Mission, who was mentioned in the Monthly Report from this office for June.

35. Reports from S.I.M. attached to the Italian Army Divisions in the Region bear out the suspicions of this office that there are elements who are prepared to use violence once the Allies have gone. They also report the presence of Yugoslavs whose activities they are keeping a watch on.

36. The recent election results in Great Britain have caused surprise to the land-owners and industrialists but the workers have expressed great satisfaction. There have been reports from several Provincial centres of demonstrations or processions of the working classes on the day the election results became known. Members of the processions carried banners carrying such inscriptions as "Viva Attlee" and "Viva l'Inghilterra". The procession at Padova stopped outside the Officers' Club and cheered the officers as they sat taking refreshments on the balcony.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS

VENEZIE REGION

Allied Military Government

APO 394

Security

Division

Rec'd

Book

File

Action

5/7

8605

6/12-4

2 July 45

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission (Security Division),
Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.
(Thru R.P.S.O.)

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for June 1945 - Security.

FILE NO. : RXII/PS/44(S)

1. A general survey of the security position for the month of June 1945 in Venezia Region shews that it is much the same as last month, except that the items mentioned are gradually being dealt with and brought under control.

2. Life generally has become more normal, and there is a growing tendency on the part of the population to return to as normal conditions as possible, but there are still some disturbing elements to be eliminated.

3. These disturbing elements are :-

(a) foreign nationals who fought with the Partisans and now that the fighting is over refuse to be amenable to law and order. These are mostly Yugoslavs and Russians.

(b) small bands of German soldiers who are living in the hills and robbing the peasants to get food, and in some cases murdering the peasants to get civilian clothes and false identity documents.

(c) German prisoners and surrendered armed forces still in the region with little or no guard, and, as far as the Italian "black in the street" can see, living a

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 - (c) German prisoners and surrendered armed forces still in the region with little or no guard, and, as far as the Italian "man in the street" can see, living a perfectly normal life, well supplied with food and cigarettes.
 - (d) the bad elements of the various political parties who commit serious offences in the name of various political parties.

- 2 -

4. As far as (a) is concerned this office has recommended that strong action be taken under General Order No. 27 which, if this course were adopted, would soon eliminate from circulation most of the people under Category (a). This matter is still being pressed by this office.

5. The local police agencies are doing all in their power to round up the roving bands of ex-German soldiers, mentioned in (b), who are to be found mostly in the provinces in the North of the Region, but owing to the type of the country the Germans are hiding in, it is very difficult to ferret them out, and some time may elapse before they can be completely eliminated. D.A.P.M., No. 1 District, is being approached to assist in this matter.

6. The question of dealing with (c) is a purely military matter, and the attention of No. 1 District is being called to this state of affairs which is seriously affecting the civilian morale in the areas concerned.

7. It is well known how difficult it is to investigate and prove such allegations as are dealt with in (d) and the various Questori have been instructed to deal with such allegations as ordinary crimes, and to prosecute to the utmost any offender who is arrested. This office feels that this type of offence will continue as long as the present squabbling goes on in higher Italian political circles.

8. The shootings reported in the last monthly report, although not completely stopped, have appreciably diminished, and there are indications that in the near future they will cease completely.

9. The Patrioti situation is well in hand and as a result of the excellent work of Capt. EIMS, Regional Patriots Officer, the "wheat" is being sorted from the "chaff". I would mention here that the "chaff" consists mainly of the persons mentioned in (a) of para. 3.

10. It will be remembered that in the last monthly report from this office, paras. 8 to 18 inclusive, dealt with the points which, although not in themselves security matters, did in fact affect the security of the Region. With the exception of para 11, the other points have either

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10. It will be remembered that in the last monthly report from this office, paras. 8 to 18 inclusive, dealt with the points which, although not in themselves security matters, did in fact affect the security of the Region. With the exception of para 11, the other points have either been cleared up, or are in the process of being cleared up.

11. No important security prisoners have been arrested in this Region at the instigation of AMG in the month of June.

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12. Since making the last report this office has been able to contact Major L. LANDY, GSI(b), No. 1 District, who is most cooperative and with whom this office liaisons very closely. This office is now able to check all suspects on the spot with the exception of those who are wanted only for "War Crimes", but it is now known where a "wanted index" is kept of these latter persons, as a result of a recent communication from your office.

14. In an effort to get money out of these people, letters, some of which clearly demand money by menaces, and others containing veiled threats, are sent by various C.I.N., and in other cases by self-appointed jurists to business men and land-owners, demanding sums varying from several millions to several thousands, to be paid to a Fund administered by the authors of the letters. Whilst it is appreciated that this is a purely Italian matter, and can be dealt with under Italian law, it can hardly be countenanced under AMG, and where such cases have come to light, the authors of such letters have been ordered both personally and in writing to stop such practices, and warned that any repetition will result in a prosecution under Proclamation No.1, Part 2, Article 5, para. 42. This order seems to have had the desired effect.

15. The relations between civilians and Allied Military continues to be very good, and no instances have come to the notice of this office of any incidents such as were reported in paras 28 to 32 inclusive, in the monthly report for May. There have been one or two civilian disturbances such as strikes which occurred in Venice, which lasted only one day, and the incident at the Special Court of Assize at Padova where the crowd was overcome by mob-hysteria, as a result of evidence given against 6 members of the "Brigata Nera" execution squad.

16. The incident at Padova resulted in 6 prisoners being released from the Dock, one being shot dead, and the other 5

as the Communist elements are alleging that money earned during the war was earned by collaborating with either the Fascists or the Germans, or both.

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16. The incident at Padova resulted in 6 prisoners being released from the Dock, one being shot dead, and the other 5 injured. Rumour has it that this occurrence was ordered by the Communist Party HQ in Milan, but this office does not believe this to be the case, as all the surrounding circumstances point to mob-hysteria, as the result of the revolting evidence.

17. The foregoing is security as seen on the surfaced ~~and~~ there is no doubt that, as a result of AMG being backed up by the presence of Military, the more dangerous elements have been driven to ground, and it is these elements this office is endeavouring to keep track of.

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18. One very serious matter which came to the knowledge of this office is a Yugoslav espionage organisation. Owing to pressure of time and duties it was not possible to report the matter direct to you before now, but the information was passed immediately to Major L. LANDY, GSI(b), No. 1 District, who forwarded same direct to AFHQ. It is now known that this information has been circulated to all security units, including your office.

19. Every possible enquiry is being made to locate these agents and should any further information come to hand; the necessary action will be taken, and your office informed immediately.

20. In the Northern provinces of this Region, i.e. Bolzano, Belluno and Udine, several organisations are functioning which this office is not at all happy about and enquiries are being made in an effort to ascertain whether or not their alleged mission is in fact a cover-mission or not.

21. For instance, in the Province of Bolzano, in the town of Merano, there is a Lieutenant Max GALLON, of the French Mission, whose HQ are at Milan. Lt. GALLON is alleged to be looking after the interests of Frenchmen in the area, looking for French political suspects, and generally serving the interests of France.

22. His activities were such that they soon attracted the notice of Capt. GARDNER, of the Mermaid Detachment, C.I.C., 5th Army, who investigated his activities. Apparently GALLON made no record of arrests or prisoners' property, but Capt. GARDNER has now insisted on controlling GALLON's activities.

23. A difficult thing to understand is, that although GALLON is an accredited member of the French Mission in Milan, this Mission has now decided that GALLON is not a fit and proper person for the position, owing to his alleged association and collaboration with German SS and Gestapo during the German occupation of France. I have been informed, but unable to confirm, that GALLON is in fact a member of the Second Bureau de France.

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24. GALLON has 10 Frenchmen working with him in Merano, and the last information I received was to the effect that if he does not return to Milan and resign his position, the French Officers at Milan intend to arrest him. How much further this matter has developed I am unable to say at the moment.

25. The area in which GALLON is operating is under the control of 5th Army, the G-2 of which is fully aware of his presence and activities, and have promised to keep me informed of any major developments.

26. Information has come to hand of the existence of a political party known as the "South Tyrolian Party", the object of which is autonomy for that part of the South Tyrol which was the subject of the 1939 Plebiscite.

27. As far as is known this party has no subversive activities and is making its desires known to A.C.H.Q., through 5th Army.

28. As from 0001 hours, Saturday the 30th June 1945, the Rear Army Control Line moved East from the Piave Line to the Western boundary of Venezia Giulia, but UDINE Province is not yet under full Regional Control owing to the presence of 8th Army HQ.

29. In anticipation of this move I sent an agent to ascertain the Patrioti position in Udine Province and he only returned to this HQ today, 2nd July. As I only returned to this HQ yesterday, I have not been able to receive a full report from my agent, but briefly he reports the existence of 25,000 Patrioti, some of which have just returned from Yugoslavia, where they have been fighting with Tito's Army, most, very strongly Communistic, and some pro-Yugoslav.

30. Should a full report from this agent reveal anything that it is thought should be dealt with at A.C.H.Q. level, a further report will be submitted in a few days, otherwise I will deal with the matter in my next monthly report.

Copy to - R.C.

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS

VENEZUE REGION

Allied Military Government

APO 394

WHI/WSM
Division
Sec'd... 8001
Book No. 610.0
File No. 610.0
Action... 45.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission (Security Division),
Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394
(Thru R.P.S.O.)

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for May 1945 - Security

FILE NO. : RXII/PS/44(S)

1. It is very difficult to give a true general survey of the Security position at the moment, as tempers are still somewhat strained and the Army has not as yet settled down to static positions

2. To enlarge on the two points mentioned, I would explain it is only recently that nightly shootings have abated.

3. In a number of cases these shootings are the culmination to private quarrels, but the excuse is always a political one.

4. Arms are being collected gradually, but in some parts of the Region they are for the present not being collected as there are still a number of Germans wandering about, and also armed Fascists hiding in the hills.

5. The Patrioti as a whole are more amenable to law and order than in the early days of liberation, but there is still a general feeling of - wondering what is going to happen, and who will AMG place in positions of authority.

6. The position has not been helped by the attitude of the Communists and the Socialists towards the Jugo-Slavs. The other political parties are not at all sure what is going to happen.

7. This position was eased somewhat when the policy of London and Washington respecting Trieste was published, but with time passing and no apparent change in the situation, a certain doubt is creeping back into the minds of the population.

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8. As time passes tempers are simmering down and provided tact and discretion are shown, I feel that the position should be much better in a few weeks time.

9. During this last month the military have been on the move the whole time, which has made it difficult to liaise with them to any great extent, but it is expected that the position will become more or less static within the next few days.

- 2 -

10. This will enable a closer liaison and the civilian problems will be better appreciated by the Military Commanders in their respective areas.

11. It is also expected that the German troops still at large will be taken out of the area in the near future.

12. Another difficulty from a Security point of view, is prison accommodation. At the moment the prisons are full of all kinds of prisoners - criminal, political, POW's, and those who have been thrown in for reasons of personal spite.

13. Every effort is being made to clear up this situation by PPSO's, CMP's, FSS, and Italian Police Agencies, and it is hoped than in a week or so the position will be clearer.

14. In a further endeavour to clear this situation, Concentration Camps are being set up in the Region - solely for Political Prisoners.

15. Some difficulty is being experienced in the setting up of these camps owing to the lack of suitable guards.

16. The question of guards for Concentration Camps could be overcome if the Italian Ministry of War could be induced to supply soldiers for these duties, or at least make them available where proper guards cannot be obtained. As it is an Italian Government matter, I suggest the Italian Ministry of War be approached as suggested in this paragraph.

17. It will not be a duty that should last very long, as when the Epuration Committees have finished with the prisoners they should either have been executed, serving prison sentences, or set at liberty.

18. Generally speaking - providing there are no unexpected developments - the position should be much clearer by the end of June.

19. As far as I have been able to ascertain to date, there have been no Security Prisoners arrested at the instigation of AMG so far.

20. Important suspects is a matter that needs closer liaison with GSI (E). No list of such suspects has been received at this office.

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21. Whilst on this point I would mention that FSS have such large areas for which they are responsible that they cannot possibly cover the ground properly, and an inter-change of information through a central office, would not only help FSS but all Security Agencies.
22. For instance, the authorities who are dealing with the investigation of War Crimes at AFHQ. I feel they must have completed many enquiries as a result of which persons still at liberty are now "wanted".

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- 3 -

23. If a list of these "wanted persons" could be supplied to Regional Security Officers, it is more than likely that through the PPSO's and Italian Police Agencies, some of the "wanted persons" could be arrested.
24. There is a rumour of a Fascist subversive movement, particulars of which were supplied by GSI(B) 15 Army Group, but there has been no evidence of any activity to date. All PPSO's have been informed.
25. Taking all these things into account the state of civilian morale is good. It is shaken occasionally by the brigand element of the Patrioti taking the law into their own hands. However, such instances are getting fewer in the towns and it is hoped they will cease completely in town and country in the near future.
26. I have instructed a special vetting be done of all the Sindaci in this Region, especially in country districts. I ascertained that the Sindaco in a country village had two criminal convictions, one for armed robbery, and one for attempted murder with intent to rob. This information was passed to the PPSO concerned, who is causing the necessary action to be taken.
27. The relations between civilians and Allied Military personnel is very good indeed.
28. There have been three unfortunate incidents as far as I know where British soldiers have been shot. One was in the town of Padova where there was discussion between two British soldiers in company with two Italian girls, and some Patrioti in company with two CC.RR.
29. The result was that one British soldier was shot in the stomach by one of the CC.RR. The whole matter was investigated by SIB, and the CC.RR. is now in prison awaiting trial by a General Allied Military Court.
30. The second incident took place at Mestre in the province of Venice, when at about 2200 hours one evening two British soldiers were proceeding from one billet to another. One fell to the ground having been struck in the heart by a bullet. This soldier died shortly afterwards.
31. The companion of the dead soldier states it was very dark at the time, he heard the shot but saw no person. Up to date no person has been arrested in connection with this incident.

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instances are getting fewer in the towns and it is hoped they will cease completely in town and country in the near future.

26. I have instructed a special vetting be done of all the Sindaci in this Region, especially in country districts. I ascertained that the Sindaco in a country village had two criminal convictions, one for armed robbery, and one for attempted murder with intent to rob. This information was passed to the PPSO concerned, who is causing the necessary action to be taken.

27. The relations between civilians and Allied Military personnel is very good indeed.

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32. The third incident took place in Ponte di Brenta, Province of Padova. At about 0100 hours one morning tracer bullets were seen coming from a private house and passing over a military camp. A sergeant and a member of the guard went to investigate. As a result the guard was shot in the leg. The culprit was arrested and now awaits his trial by a General Allied Military Court.

33. There have been no civilian disturbances reported to date.

34. There are no other points of Security interest that have come to my notice.

Copy to - R.C.

W.H.HARE, Major
Regional Security Officer.

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