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P.W.B. MEETINGS MINUTES

DEC. 1944 - MAR. 1945

NO OF QUEST	DATE	FILE NO.: O F SRS & JTR	FROM WHOM	SUBJECT
1	28 Dec.	-	-	PUBLICATIONS -
2	6 Jan 45	-	-	Joint Intelligence meeting
3	3 Feb.	-	-	" "
4	19 Feb.	-	-	SALVAREZZA -
5	3 MARCH	-	-	Joint Intelligence meeting
6	3 " "	-	-	" "
7	17 March	-	-	" "

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THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM

DEC.

1944

TO

MAR.

1945

CATALOGUE.

CONFIDENTIAL

JOINT INTELLIGENCE MEETING

Held at 27 Via Po

Saturday, 17 March 1945

Present : Lieut. Mengano OSS
Mr. Bullard OSS
Fl/Lt Nielson NAAF
Captain Bruno JICA
- Captain Ellis AC
Mr. Mooney CIG
Lieut. Caprio AMG
Lt. Pecci-Blunt JICA

Major Marley PWB
Mr. Wall "
Mr. Radford "
Captain Thomas "
Mr. Riegel OWI
Captain Dominguez PWS
Mr. Gnudi "
Mr. Hill "
Miss Abbey "
Miss Morris "
Miss Carroll "

Chairman - Major Greenlees

The following is a brief summary of some of the subjects discussed :

1. Major Greenlees opened with a description of the demonstrations arising out of Roatta's escape which took place at the Quirinale. It is thought that the dissident Communists may have been responsible for the trouble rather than the Communist Party, as it is not to the interest of the latter to back activities of this kind. It appears that a parallel demonstration was held in Bari on the same day and that the crowd invaded the offices of "Risorgimento." This took place previous to the time formerly scheduled for a demonstration at which the local Communist Party leader was to speak and for which a permit had been granted but later revoked.
2. The first copy of the clandestine paper "La Montagna" has appeared. It seems to be against pretty well everything - Anglo-Saxon capitalism, Stalinist tyranny, Vatican reaction, Fascism; is violently against the present Government; encourages men in the army to insubordination. Is possibly run by the same people as were behind "Il Partigiano" which was recently suppressed. Is thought to have offices at 5 Via Gregoriana.
3. The recent recrudescence of Fascism is important; it has been particularly noticeable in Rome and Palermo; there is nothing underground or secret about it, these elements are openly Fascist and proud of it. It is interesting in that it seems to have no particular centre of revival but is springing up in widely separated areas.

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Lieut. Caprio AMG

Mr. Gnudi

Mr. Hill

Miss Abbey

Miss Morris

Miss Carroll

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3. The recent recrudescence of Fascism is important; it has been particularly noticeable in Rome and Palermo; there is nothing underground or secret about it, these elements are openly Fascist and proud of it. It is interesting in that it seems to have no particular centre of revival but is springing up in widely separated areas.
4. Pio Torroni, a leading anarchist in Bari has been in contact with the mother of Signora Berneri who was recently arrested in London. Mr. Gnudi to investigate Torroni when next in Bari.
5. Regarding the position of the Government, one officer said he thought it might last another couple of months if nothing produced another crisis like the Roatta escape, though perhaps not in its present form, unless it wins some signal international success to

strengthen its internal position. Major Greenless said he was a little puzzled by the Communist policy which is contradictory - while proclaiming a policy of collaboration with the Government in its present form, it is playing up every possible pressure to demand a change.

The general feeling that once the North is liberated it can give new life to the Government is rather a forlorn hope as politeness of the first order will not be found there, the first class people having all made their way to liberated Italy. It is considered more advisable that the party leaders here consolidate their positions and face the North when once it is liberated, with a strong parties representative of the Government.

It seems that the Socialists are in rather a quandary as to who should represent them now that Saragat is gone to France. Nenni is not one to go into the Government unless he feels that he has tremendous support; he prefers his independence and freedom of action.

It is generally believed that the position of the Christian Democrats will be substantially reinforced now that women have the vote and though some Communists are worried about this, the Communists as a whole seem to be prepared to wait, confident that sooner or later there will be a swing to the Left.

6. Regarding the Italian radio broadcasting situation, there is a growing dissatisfaction with the centralization in Rome. Under the present system the stations at Bari, Naples, Palermo etc. are fed from Rome. News, political talks, and other programs are all provided by Rome, and there is much bitter feeling among the local parties that speakers cannot be broadcast for the reasons that 1) the lines only run one way - Rome out (with the exception of Bari), and 2) the stations' policy and programs are so controlled by Rome that they cannot even broadcast for their own local listeners except what Rome approves. Sometimes musical programs from Bari may be broadcast from Rome but so far neither political talks or news.

Bari has a great deal of time requisitioned by the Allied Forces for FWE Balkan broadcasts etc.; when the radio is turned over this time will become available to the Italians but will be still subject to Rome.

Mention was made of a new Italian transmitter of high frequency which it is hoped will be in service before long. At present, however, there is only a fraction available of the current required for 100% efficiency.

7. It was asked if the supervision and protection of Italian prisoners of war in England and America has been taken over by the re-

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7. It was asked if the supervision and protection of Italian prisoners of war in England and America has been taken over by the respective embassies, and what had been done by British and America for the prisoners welfare.

Sometime ago the Italian Government asked permission to send missions to London and Washington in order to engage in propaganda and welfare activities on behalf of prisoners in England, America, India etc. who the Government felt were very much out of touch with the Italian situation. However, to date these missions have not been carried out.

In England, P.I.D. publishes a paper for Italian prisoners of

war - Corriere del Sabato - which is circulated in the camps. In

French North Africa the Italian edition of the United Nations News is distributed to the 50,000 prisoners there.

The problem of repatriating these prisoners is very great. For one thing many are doing important work replacing labour services in England, North Africa, India and South Africa; in the Middle East and India they also act as mess orderlies and in similar capacities - contributions to the war effort which cannot be dispensed with as yet. Besides the Italian Government itself realizes that, distressing as it is to have them so long away, they would not know what to do with them should they be returned now. Another thing which cannot be ignored is the political effect that repatriated Fascists and those disillusioned are bound to have on the country. The majority have been away so long that they have no idea of the discontent that had grown up against Fascism; nor have they any idea of the extent and amount of destruction.

In India, Egypt and North Africa there are a considerable number of Italian Fascist prisoners. The percentage of Fascists in England is very low, not as high as 500 in 80,000, this being due to the fact that England in 1940 and 1941 was not in a position to risk bringing in a number of Fascist elements, and prisoners sent there were chosen for agricultural work. A few were captured in submarines and a few got in deliberately under false pretenses by saying they were anti-Fascist so that they could carry on propaganda work among the others, but on the whole very few.

A great many prisoners were agricultural workers and there is probably a need for them on the land; it is observed that the women working in the fields number four or five to every man. So far however only certain specialists and protected personnel have been returned, and some on compassionate grounds. The few who have been repatriated seem to have returned in a friendly spirit and to remember only the more pleasant aspects of their captivity.

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D SECTION
Psychological Warfare Branch

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CONFIDENTIAL

JOINT INTELLIGENCE MEETING

Held at 27 Via Po

Saturday, 3 March 1945

Present : Lieut. Mengano	OSS	Mr. Radford	PWB
Pl/Lieut. Nielson	MAAF	Mr. Bernard Wall	"
Captain Bruno	JICA	Captain Dominguez	"
Captain Ellis	AC	Captain Proctor Thomas	"
Captain Lamb	G-2	Mr. Hill	"
Mr. Nitti	CIC	Miss Abbey	"
Mr. Niegel	CWI	Miss Carroll	"
		Miss Morris	"

Chairman - Major Greenlees

Discussion was very general. The following is a brief summary of some of what was said :

1. Recently an Italian newspaper man asked one of the officers present if he could borrow a particular copy of "Foreign Affairs" as there was an article he wanted to read; later this same article appeared in translation in one of the home magazines. It was asked if something couldn't be done to make the better American and British periodicals more easily available to Italians as it is a very good thing that worthwhile articles from our magazines should be as widely read as possible in Italy. However, P.W.B. no longer has any responsibility in matters of this kind but it is hoped that CWI and MOI will do what they can in this respect, and that the embassies to whom the copy-right question has reverted will succeed in smoothing out this complicated problem.
2. One of the officers said that a reliable source had told him that he had actually seen a number of people die in the streets of Palermo from exposure and lack of food, and asked what information was available on the subject.
3. It appears that the second edition of the clandestine paper "La Trusta" has come out. It is circulated quite widely and fairly openly at the universities. It is not thought to be very widely ready by the Roman public as a whole though there is a certain section who is disillusioned and disgruntled with the allies and who finds in it an outlet for their grievances.

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2. One of the officers said that a reliable source had told him that he had actually seen a number of people die in the streets of Palermo from exposure and lack of food, and asked what information was available on the subject.
3. It appears that the second edition of the clandestine paper "La Frusta" has come out. It is circulated quite widely and fairly openly at the universities. It is not thought to be very widely ready by the Roman public as a whole though there is a certain section who is disillusioned and disgruntled with the allies and who finds in it an outlet for their grievances.
4. The question of the physical conditions of the Romans under German occupation as compared with their lot under the allies gave rise to a divergence of opinions. It seems to be the opinion of a number of Italians who are certainly not Fascist that actual physical existence was better under the Germans - there was light every day, enough heating and hot water most days, you could get a better loaf of bread, etc. Prices have gone sky high for nearly every commodity since we came. Whether there was the widespread terror among the people that many speak of or if it only touched the politically compromised is not established. Parents speak of having lived under a continual fear of their house being raided, their sons being carried away; others say that unless you were a Jew,

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a Communist or a Socialist you had no cause to worry. The Germans were much less apparent to the average Italian than are the Allies, however, they behaved more brutally on various occasions and it is quite clear there was a great feeling of relief when we came.

4. An estimate on the unemployment situation with figures was asked for and Mr. Cochrane has been asked to investigate the question here and in Naples and his findings will be published later in one of the Consolidated Reports. It is not considered of any value to obtain figures for the forward areas as employment in those regions is dependent to such a great extent on the Allies.

5. Regarding the political situation, Major Greenlees said he felt that the Government's position had been strengthened recently by such factors as the concessions announced by MacMillan, Churchill's speech which was friendly and helpful, the re-establishment of relations with France, and the increase in the bread ration. The abolishment of the political price of bread was considered to have been carried out very skilfully when it is remembered that a Government crisis was created in 1919 over the same question.

The Socialists are more anxious than ever to get into the Government and even some of the Action Party members feel they can accomplish more in than out. Both parties feel that their prestige would be much higher if they joined, and the local party organizations find it exceedingly difficult to have things put right when not accredited members of the Government. Also there are certain privileges such as an automobile etc.

Nenni has gone to London again with two labour representatives, one from the Socialist Party in the North. They intend to discuss the formation of an international Socialist Federation.

6. It is understood that Finocchiaro-Aprile spoke recently in the Province of Viterbo urging the youth not to respond to the call-up. Voce Repubblicana has had some violent articles on the subject and also Il Tempe. It appears that Rosario Midiri, one of the leading figures of the Sicilian Separatist Movement in Syracuse, who was the writer of these articles, is acting as the Separatist propaganda agent here in Rome, and is directly inspired by Finocchiaro-Aprile who evidently keeps in close touch with him. Midiri has several letters signed by Finocchiaro containing the same statements as articles of his appearing in Voce Repubblicana, which he showed to a JICA official on being asked for the basis for his statements.

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8. Mr. Radford stated that private news agencies are taking over the full responsibility for supply of news to the Italian press and radio south of the Army Control Line. PWB will continue to supply news north of the Army Control Line and will also supply specialized items for the whole of Italy and certain special news to the papers in the North. Mimeographed news and monitoring bulletins will continue to be issued for ATHQ but they will not be open to Italian press or agencies.

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Of the private news agencies Reuters is by far the most popular single agency, INS coming next and AP slightly lower. American agencies taken as a whole are about 50% higher than Reuters, whose lead is accounted for by the fact that it has a complete monopoly on British news. Italian agencies are hardly in the running with British and American as they give purely Italian news. There is a small French agency, a Polish, and Tass. It is believed that Tass has been operating clandestinely outside Rome for past six months or even longer to provincial Communist press. Until January no private news agency was permitted to operate in Italy and it was illegal to operate outside Rome until March.

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D SECTION
Psychological Warfare Branch

Major Hanvey

CONFIDENTIALJOINT INTELLIGENCE MEETING

Held at 27 Via Po

Saturday, 17 February 1945

Present : Major Heath AMG
 Captain Ellis AC
 Captain Herd G-2
 Lieut. Mengano OSS
 Pl/Lieut. Pine MAAF
 Mr. Mooney CIC

Mr. Radford
 Major Manley
 Lieut. Dominguez
 Mr. Gnudi
 Miss Abbey
 Miss Carroll
 Mr. Cochrane
 Chairman - Major Greenlees

1. Major Greenlees asked for information concerning the full list of OVRA agents; is it available here or did the Fascists take it north? It is believed that there has been no new list since the armistice. The most up-to-date and complete issue that we have was taken from the post book in the Ministry of the Interior.

2. Major Greenlees announced that a 50-page report on the growth and organization of the various parties in liberated Italy has been put out as an appendix to this week's Consolidated Liberated Italy Report, extra copies being available on request.

A detailed study on epuration is being prepared giving the results and set-up as it exists today, the numbers of people epurated and particulars on them. Also a document on the history of the Salvarezza case, tracing it from the beginning up to the present moment is ready for distribution. A detailed account of the clandestine press in German occupied Italy, besides an investigation into the Fascist press in Northern Italy has been prepared. Copies are available of the clandestine Fascist newspaper L'ONORE.

3. Major Manley was asked to give his impressions of the situation in Sicily. He said that the Sicilians are inclined to exaggerate their problems out of all proportion. It is true that they have never suffered as they are suffering now but they are unwilling to make any sacrifices and don't seem to realize the conditions that a world war imposes on everyone. The large majority of people can get along, things cost more but at least they have the money and can buy on the black market. There are a small proportion of the people - black-coated workers, those out of work, etc. who are the real sufferers. In Palermo and the larger towns conditions are bad.

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There was a question as to whether rolling stock, automobiles and trucks were being brought here from Sicily to any great extent. It appears that railway cars have been and will probably continue to be shipped from Sicily as they are needed here more than they are there, particularly now that services are being resumed on many lines. It is doubted however if many automobiles are brought over as cars with Sicilian license plates are seldom seen in Naples and Rome.

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It was remarked that the increased use of coastline schooners could considerably ease the transport problem in Sicily. A very small percentage of them have been destroyed; about 9000 tons it appears are lying idle in Sicilian ports.

Major Manley gave a brief summary of the situation in the sulphur mines in Sicily. In Gaitanisetta, he said, there are 2000 miners unemployed, about 4500 employed. The smaller mines with the more primitive equipment are working for the most part but the problems of the larger mines are more difficult, many being flooded and only the ones on high levels are workable; electricity is only gradually being made available; there is a great shortage of explosives - A.C. have produced a certain amount. Some of the large mines are not prepared to reopen without some assurance of the future of sulphur. In Enna there are about 1500 men employed in two large mines.

4. It was announced that a reactions to Allied propaganda report will commence publication shortly - any reactions to press, radio, films, publications etc. which might be of interest for this report should be sent to D Section.
5. It was stated that a Trieste society is being formed in Bari. This is not surprising as feelings on this subject seem to run high and can be observed in the press, at the cinema, at political meetings etc. The Yugoslaves are now beginning to denounce the Italian press for making claims on Trieste.
6. The shortage of newsprint in Naples which reached a crisis this week when, as a consequence, the dailies had to forego publication for two days; and the Rome press which increases in quantity - there now being 22 authorized newspapers - was discussed, and it was asked why, in view of the grave shortage of newsprint, the Press Office continue to allow all these papers to exist. Is it a lack of understanding, is there no one person to take strong action, no one to say where to cut the number down? There has been a great deal of criticism in the southern press and the meeting held in Rome this week may bring changes in the present procedure.
7. Mr. Radford said that certain P.W.B. functions in liberated Italy would cease south of the Army Control Line about the beginning of March. Basic news will cease to be available to the Italians and AAI; broadcasts on the transmitter at Bari will continue for outside liberated Italy, the North, and to the Balkans. Long term features will revert to the embassies and normal press. P.W.B. will continue film distribution and production of the Italian part of newsreels which go to America and Great Britain. The present intelligence functions will continue.

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- Regarding the press, the title of RASCRIMENTO will change; GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO will be allowed to continue; the position of two Sicilian papers present difficulties about titles - Catania's paper will retain present title which is a pre-Fascist one; Palermo's GIORNALE DELLA SICILIA is compromised with Fascism.
- Private news agencies will take over. Intercable and ANSA will have complete responsibility for distribution of news. It was stated that Intercable will have a complete monopoly on news but Mr. Redford said that steps have been taken to prevent any abuse of this kind.

D SECTION

Psychological Warfare Branch

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JOINT INTELLIGENCE MEETING

CONFIDENTIAL

Major Harvey

Held at 27 Via Po

Saturday, 3 February 1945

Present : Major Heath AHC Mr. Hill PWB
 Lieut. Mengano OSS Mr. Rowe "
 Captain Bruno JICA Lieut. Dominguez "
 Mr. Zullo CIC Mr. Grudi "
 Mr. Radford PWB Mr. Cochrane "
 Maj. Robertson " Miss Carroll "
 Mr. Wall " Miss Abbey "
 Capt. Thomas " Mr. C.W. Riegel GNL

Chairman - Major Greenlees

1. Mr. Radford announced that the Personalities Section will remain in Rome as long as the position in the North continues static and in response to the request of other Allied organizations that it do so.

D Section, he said, will continue to function as before as no other Allied agency here seems to be prepared to take over the work of P.W.B. intelligence or willing to dispense with its services.

2. Salvarezza and the Unione Proletaria

Major Greenlees said he thought the more interesting aspects of the above case were the implications behind the denunciation of Salvarezza and later his escape after the warrant for his arrest had gone out. He asked if anyone had any information on his background. Various bits of information were given, most of which have already been publicized - the man was obviously a blackmailer; he said he had documents on Venni, Togliatti and Luini which would break them if they appeared and which he wanted to sell, and it appears he threatened others with blackmail. It is clearly established that he was responsible for the clandestine publication "La Trusta," and admitted responsibility for the posters "Martyrs of the North." He claimed to have partisan connections. He may have connections with the monarchists - was known to have visited the Luogotenente. There are various rumours about him - that he is being protected by the Allies; that he is hiding in the Vatican; that he has fled North, etc. He was evidently not connected with the Movimento Comunista. The Unione Proletaria was nothing more than a facade for a flourishing blackmailing business.

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Mr. Wall " Miss Abbey
Capt. Thomas " Mr. C.W. Riegel CWI

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3. Labour Congress in Naples

Major Greenlees asked for opinions on the Labour Congress and Liut. Mengano who had attended gave his impressions. The Congress was conducted with some semblance of

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parliamentary procedure which was very encouraging after twenty years. Di Vittorio talked at great length, twice for three hours at a stretch, and with his energy and personality he seemed to dominate the proceedings. Delegates from the various regions spoke, laying stress on their particular local problems.

Some of the main points brought out were the need for further agrarian reform; the full participation of labour in the national plans for reconstruction (for instance in Siena labour took the lead in local reconstruction plans); further rigorous measures for combatting the black market. Representatives from the Rome area pointed out that the Allies and the Italian Government could not solve the financial problem simply by continuing to add to wages, which could only be a temporary stop-gap, while the congress as a whole urged the equalization of salaries by adopting a sliding scale. The formation of cooperatives in factories and elsewhere was urged. Better liaison was proposed between the C.G.I.L. and local chambers of labour, syndicates, labour organizations, etc.

One point emphasized by Di Vittorio and others was that the C.G.I.L. looked to the Government to see to it that decrees adopted in the interests of the working masses as a whole are enforced and carried through and that if the Government failed to do this and allowed reactionary forces to prevent the application of these decrees then they would have to take matters into their own hands. (It was mentioned that Gallo had made the same point sometime ago).

Delegates from Sicily and Sardinia showed very strong regionalistic tendencies (not separatist) but these were brought into line and the delegates were assured of the sympathy and understanding of the labour movement as a whole.

Sicilian delegates complained at not having any daily papers and drew comparisons with the Roman press. (Major Greenloes said that there were many weekly papers in Palermo and that a Communist daily was shortly to appear there.

CENTRAL D SECTION
Psychological Warfare Branch

MC

JOINT INTELLIGENCE MEETING

Held at 27 Via Po

Saturday, 6 January 1944

Present: Major Hughes CSS Major Robertson PWB
 Lt/Lieut. Nielson MAAP Lieut. Welsh "
 Captain Ellis AC Lieut. Dominguez "
 Captain Bruno JICA Miss Carroll "
 Captain Wessels PSS Mr. Gnudi "
 Lieut. Benguno OSS
 Mr. Mconey CIC
 Lieut. Caprio AMG

Chairman - Major Greenlees

1. It was announced that P.W.B. will give up some of its functions in the area under the Italian Government administration. The United News Service will be handed over to the Italian news agencies, and domestic and world news agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press and International News Service will begin distribution of news directly to the Italian newspapers beginning January 15. Radio will be handed back to the Italians and will be free except for military censorship. P.W.B. controlled papers such as CORRIERE DI ROMA, L'ESPRESSO, Naples, etc. will be given back to their respective owners.

As far as D Section is concerned only a skeleton staff will remain. The Liberated Italy Report will cease this month or next; outposts in Bari, Naples, Sicily etc. will close down but intelligence files from these outposts will remain available to the British and American organizations. Personalities will remain here; the Weekly Summary and the Occupied Italy Report will go on as before. A.A.I. Florence Report will continue.

2. Regarding the question of Italian correspondents going to London, P.W.B. put up the proposal sometime ago but so many difficulties arose that the plan fell through. Canard suggested in an interview that correspondents of the newspapers here should go to London and it is expected that he will take some back with him when he returns.

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Captain Vessels TSS Mr. Guadi
Lieut. Mengano Q33
Mr. Looney CIC
Lieut. Caffio AMG

Chairman - Major Greenlee

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3. Seven new dailies are expected to appear in Rome shortly - 535
IL MORDO - Ciance behind it; INDIPENDENTE - Cole; MARCHIA - Misuri; IL PAESE - Bercivenga; IL GLOBO; L'ORA D'ITALIA; and a C.S.I.L. publication.

4. Further to the question of the CIBS News Agency raised at last meeting, the following information was supplied:

Manager - Dr. Gino ROVANO
Administrator - Prof. Giorgio FOLIAL

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The agency serves American, English and French newspapers. It is issued twice a day and in four languages - Italian, French, English and Russian.

One source lists Dr. Itore S. XVI as one of the directors; another that he says he is not connected with the agency, however it is known that he attends all the administrative meetings and is usually to be found around the agency.

It was registered as a company on 27th November 1944 with a capital of 100,000.

5. There was a question as to who the owners of OFFICE DI ROMA, FISCALMENTO etc. will do when they no longer receive the extra newsprint now granted these newspapers under P.W.B., which amounts at present to three or four times as much as any other paper. It is understood that they will receive the maximum amount allowed to any one paper.

It seems that the owners of Messager hope to build up an ostensibly non-political paper but which will have great influence politically later on. It is not known yet whether the paper will retain the present name or revert to Messagero but it was stated that a change in name is unlikely.

4. A general discussion ensued on the question of what will happen when we reach Turin and Milan; whether the Partisans may take the same attitude as was taken in Greece. The Partisans are refusing to disarm and it is not unlikely that there will be clashes between them and the Carabinieri and the Army which is almost entirely Monarchist.

Also there is the question as to whether the Communists in the North will take orders from the leaders in liberated Italy. It was pointed out that the Communists who are more or less cut off from contact with the leaders in liberated territory are very often not in harmony with the official Communist policy at the time. In France it was found advantageous to bring a responsible party leader to the spot immediately a Communist community was freed as it tended to have a unifying and steadying influence, and it was urged that responsible chiefs of not only the Communist Party but the other main parties should be sent North to take over command just as soon as the different centres are liberated. It was stated that Turin has a strong Communist element being a centre of heavy industry, whereas Milan is predominantly Socialist being composed mainly of the small worker, almost on the edge of Bourgeoisie.

It was suggested that the Socialist Party has been pulled away from its original party lines by Nenni and that it will probably not be in full accord with the Socialists in the

5. There was a question as to whether the owners of *OPPIERE*, *DI VOIA*, *DISCANTO* etc. will do when they no longer receive the extra newsprint now granted these newspapers under P.W.D., which amounts at present to three or four times as much as any other paper. It is understood that they will receive the maximum amount allowed to any one paper.

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It was suggested that the Socialist Party has been pulled away from its original party lines by Nenni and that it will probably not be in full accord with the Socialists in the North. It is interesting to note that the main party leaders such as Togliatti, Nenni, De Gasperi, are Northerners and will probably be more readily accepted in the North.

MG

ROME D SECTION
Psychological Warfare Branch

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.P.C. 394
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION

REF : SD/705.1

28 December 1944

SUBJECT : Publications

RE : Room D, Section P&E

1. With reference to the minutes of the Joint Intelligence meeting held on 23rd Dec. 44.
2. It will be appreciated if 2 copies of each of the a/w publications referred to therein could be forwarded for use in this office, please.

"The Fascist watch List"
"List of OVRA Agents".

CH.

JOHN W. CHAPMAN,
Colonel J.A.G.D.,
Director Public Safety,
Sub Commission.

CH/nb

JOINT INTELLIGENCE MEETING

Held at 27 Via Po

Saturday, 23 December 1944

Present: Major Hughes	Major Greenlees	PWB
Pl/Lieut. Nielson	Major Robertson	"
Captain Bancroft	Major Hanley	"
Captain Bruno	Mr. Bernard Wall	"
Captain Ellis	Lieut. Welsh	"
Mr. Mooney	Mr. Gnudi	"
Lieut. Caprio	Lieut. Dominguez	"

Chairman - Mr. Radford

Mr. Radford gave a brief outline of the set-up of the P.W.B. Italian Intelligence:

Liberated Italy - Major Greenlees in charge
 Occupied Italy - Major Robertson in charge

Both these sections issue weekly reports -

"The Consolidated Liberated Italy Report"
 "The Occupied Italy Report"

Local Rome "D" Section, under the direction of Mr. Bernard Wall, covers the Rome area and is divided into -

Political Sub-Section - Mr. Wall
 Economic Sub-Section - Lieut. Welsh

Lieut. Dominguez is in charge of Personalities
 Mr. Signorini is in charge of Security

A report on Florence and area is issued by the P.W.B. Intelligence section in Florence.

Mr. Radford announced that there were copies available

of:
 The Fascist Watch List, covering practically all of Italy; and a

List of OVRA Agents up to November 1943

500

Major Hanley



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SUBJECTS DISCUSSED -

1. A news agency under the name of CRBIS has recently been started in Rome; some of its articles have been very biased, to say the least; ... a man by the name of Pasetti may be behind it; it may be unauthorized.

Any information on this agency is desired and can be discussed further at next meeting.

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2. Three problems in areas outside Rome which now present a propaganda problem but which may become a security one:

- i) Sicily - riots in Palermo and Catania.
Situation seems more serious than had at first been thought.
Root of matter may be food situation due to -
 - a) General economic conditions and poor harvest;
 - b) Unsatisfactory results achieved by Granalo del Popolo. These in turn being due in part to the target being set too high and in part to the lack of support given by local Prefectures - the great discrepancy in figures for different regions (Mazusa 90%; Siracusa 36%) suggesting that results may depend to a large extent on their support.

The call-up may also have a great deal to do with these disturbances.

The question is -

How much are these disturbances due to food shortage? And how much is the food shortage due to a poor harvest, and how much to deliberate withholding of grain?

How much due to the call-up?

- ii) Insecurity in Southern Italy.

Banditage increasing for two reasons mainly -

To escape the call-up - the fear of being sent to China is dominant;

To evade excessive punishment for minor crimes. Instances given of fines and imprisonment out of all proportion to offence committed.

Allies seem unpopular in Apulia; Russians create good impression. In Bari the Allies unpopularity due mainly to misbehaviour and tendency to requisition apartments on 24-hour notice. Also much Italian irritation at Yugoslavs whom they say run Town Major's office in Bari.

Mention was made of the fact that one of largest flour mills in Italy is located at Bari but that it is requisitioned by the Allied Military and about 200 men are stationed there. All grain from Bari has to be shipped to Naples for

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Mention was made of the fact that one of largest flour mills in Italy is located at Bari but that it is requisitioned by the Allied Military and about 200 men are stationed there. All grain from Bari has to be shipped to Naples for milling and then shipped back again as flour, thus creating an additional strain on an already serious transport problem.

Mention also made of large-scale transport racket being carried on in Italy and Sicily where huge sums of money over and above the regular fee are charged.

- iii) Unrest in country areas.

The Mezzadria system will be coming up for discussion in February when it is expected that the peasants will make a stand for much larger concessions as they have been most dissatisfied with results of previous years.

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- 3 -

There may be attempts to seize land, and it is possible that there will be trouble between the peasants and the Carabinieri which might have repercussions on the position of the Government.

To what extent is this unrest due to suspense and uncertainty in connection with the Mezzadria question?

3. What are the current relations of the Bonomi Government with the C.L.N. in North?

Bonomi's rather non-committal statement that the C.L.N. would be recognized as the "Delego del Governo" does not clarify the situation.

Relationship between Committee and Bonomi Government will depend very considerably on what recognition will be given it by A.F.H.Q. Exactly what agreement was made between A.F.H.Q. and President from Milan?

4. Full text of Mussolini's speech printed in CANTACHIARO strongly protested by the Communist paper UNITA'.

Seems out of place in so-called comic paper; provides handle for Fascist propaganda; printed all on one page which could be distributed or sold.

Editor not a Fascist sympathizer; possibly printed in protest against dailies who failed to give any of the text, it being argued that a democratic press prints the statements of its enemies and that the Roman people have a right to know what Mussolini said.

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Mr. Radford emphasized the fact that we cannot hope to form a satisfactory propaganda policy unless we know more fully the answers to some of the questions raised, particularly in (2) and (3), and that any further information or sidelights on the situation can be discussed at the next meeting which will be held on 6 January at 0930 hours.

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ROME D SECTION
Psychological Warfare Branch

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