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SECURITY REPORTS AAT

DEC. 1944 - JUNE 1945

15 Army Group Security Summary
for the Month of May 1945

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DIRECTOR	10
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	10
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	10
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SECRET

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

1404/4/GSI (b)

16 Jun 45

PART I

GENERAL SURVEYA. ITALY:-

1. The German surrender at the beginning of May involved a radical change of focus for Allied Counter-intelligence, and during the month the main C.I. effort was devoted towards the elimination of the enemy Intelligence Service by means of rounding up the officers and N.C.O.'s by which it was staffed.

At the time of the surrender we were in possession of fairly complete information on the order of battle and personnel of the German Intelligence organisation operating in the area covered by C. in G. South-West, and it was therefore possible to proceed rapidly with the round-up and interrogation of the key personalities.

The task was tackled in three ways: firstly, by initiating the co-operation and assistance of both the SS, HQ and Army Group "C" HQ in locating and collecting the heads or representatives of the various G.I.S. departments and units; secondly by screening the PW and recalcitrants passing through Army Cages; and thirdly by enquiries, investigations and search in the areas not yet occupied at the time of the surrender, particularly in the BOLZANO-TERAMO area.

The combination of these methods produced good results and by the end of the month most of the key officials of the R.S.D.A. organisation in Italy had been identified and taken into custody: good headway was made with their interrogation by CSBIO who were able to extract a great deal of information of considerable value and interest; there is still a large number of minor officials unaccounted for, but it is likely that many of these are in fact already in custody, though so far unidentified. Approx 290 officials of the R.S.D.A. and affiliated organisations were accounted for during the month.

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Isolated cases were encountered by G.I.S. personnel seeking to conceal their identity by obtaining the issues of false documents and uniforms, but this practice does not appear to have been carried out on a widespread or organised basis.

2. Approximately 210 enemy agents were arrested during the month. This figure includes those who were trained as agents by the G.I.S. but who claim that the surrender overtook them before they were given any mission; roughly two thirds of the total fall into this category. Of the remaining third, virtually all allege that they had no intention of carrying out their mission, in view of the surrender, and this is in general believed to be true.

Among those arrested were members of two groups of special interest. The first was a sabotage group organised by Abwehr II; it was based on MILAN and an elaborate commercial cover had been prepared for it in the form of a bogus cosmetic firm. The second was a group organised by Prince FORTUNATI, with wide ramifications in N. ITALY; it was never actually briefed by its leader, but its purposes appear to have been partly military, in anti-allied sabotage etc. and partly political, in Italian Nationalist and anti-Communist activity.

3. Intensive interrogation of captured officers and agents of the enemy intelligence service, coupled with widespread enquiries and investigations in N. ITALY, have failed to reveal any evidence that the enemy has planned any post-surrender resistance movements or covert activities. Various plans for post-occupational espionage, sabotage and subversive activity have been uncovered, but all these were based on the assumption of a German withdrawal, not of a German defeat, and they all presupposed the continuance of some

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form of central direction or inspiration, if only from the limited confines of the "National Redoubt". It is believed that the enemy did NOT infect concern himself with any such plans designed to take effect in the event of the complete collapse of the German Army and the Nazi regime.

4. No hostile activity on the part of surrendered German forces against Allied troops or material has been encountered. Occasional and isolated reports have been received of groups of SS personnel in hiding in certain mountainous areas, but so far these have NOT shown aggressive intentions. There is little doubt that a considerable number of individual SS and other enemy troops are still scattered about in the general area of the Italian TROOP, mostly living quietly in civilian clothes. The round-up of these is proceeding gradually, but it is doubtful if it can ever be wholly accomplished.

5. As anticipated, little trouble has been caused by Fascists. Many hundreds of the more prominent and dangerous were eliminated by the Partisans immediately following the German withdrawal and/or surrender, and the main ambition of the remainder is not to attract attention.

In consequence of the rapid and comprehensive action taken by the Italians themselves against their Fascist compatriots, little has remained for Allied security agencies to do in this direction, and in spite of the large increase of territory overrun during the month, candidates for the Allied internment camp were found to be comparatively few.

A number of reports were received of armed Fascist bands operating in various localities, namely in IV Corps area and in the North-East, but such reports were seldom substantiated; it is probable that some were inspired or exaggerated by Partisans to further their own ends, and in any case such bands as may exist have yet to prove their aggressiveness as far as strictly Allied interests are concerned.

Although it is anticipated that certain elements of the population may well seek in due course to reconstitute Fascism, (and several cases have already been reported), it is thought unlikely that such efforts will meet with any appreciable success, or that they will constitute any serious threat to Allied security in Italy.

6. No sabotage of any significance was reported during the month. Wire-cutting continued on a minor scale.

7. The Partisan situation did not give rise to any unexpected developments or complications.

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7. The Partisan situation did not give rise to any unexpected developments or complications.

It was natural that many Partisans should feel reluctant to yield their temporary supremacy and their arms to the Allied authorities, and a certain measure of belligerence and truculence was displayed by the more extreme elements. On the whole, however, the leaders were willing and able to exercise a restraining influence, and the general willingness of both Partisans and C.A.L.M. to co-operate with the Allies has outweighed the isolated cases of obstruction and animosity.

The process of disarming partisan units continued throughout the month; everywhere it passed off smoothly, but almost everywhere it was evident that varying proportions of the arms held were NOT in fact surrendered.

In the counter-intelligence sphere, valuable co-operation has been received from the Partisans and C.A.L.M. in the tracing of suspects, the provision of information, and the planning of check posts etc.

Although the Partisan situation gave no great cause for anxiety during May, it still contains potential dangers and must continue to be carefully watched. There is no reason to expect from this quarter, any direct threat to Allied security, but the danger of public disorder and disturbances is inherent in the situation.

8. In the area of VENEZIA GHIARA occupied by our forces, very little security and counter-intelligence work was carried out during the month in view of the overriding political situation and the importance of avoiding "incidents". Similarly, considerable caution had to be exercised in FRIULI Province. The ISS were therefore mainly engaged in "observing", both from the I.A./O.I., as well as from the 10/01 points of view, in helping with defascist-

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isation, and in mopping up the EILDO network of Abwehr post-occupational agents. The co-operation of the Slovene authorities was neither sought nor offered in connection with counter-intelligence work.

9. Somewhat similar difficulties were experienced in the extreme North-West, where CIC were unable to operate effectively in the areas occupied by the French forces, although at the same time normal co-operation was afforded by certain French intelligence agencies in MILAN.

Some anxiety and a great deal of trouble was caused by the arrival or presence in E.W. ITALY of various French missions or individuals without the authorisation or knowledge of AFHQ or subordinate Allied H.Q's. A number of the personnel concerned were connected with French intelligence; some had come from ROME, others across the border from FRANCE.

In view of the tenseness of the French situation at the time, this uncontrolled influx of French agencies gave some cause for concern and efforts were made, without a great deal of success, to ascertain their function, to probe their credentials, and to clarify their position.

10. Radical changes were effected in the control of civilian movement. Restrictions on movement within ITALY were relaxed by stages until by the end of the month free movement within the country with the exception of a belt 25 km deep along the Northern frontier and of the area lying to the East of the River PIAVE. Passes are still required to enter these two zones.

The SWISS frontier was effectively sealed by Allied troops, assisted by Partisan patrols. It was not found possible properly to control the French frontier in view of the presence of French troops this side of the border and of the political complications involved: this frontier, however, was controlled by the French, and CIC were able to "observe" at the main crossing points. The Austrian frontier was closed by Allied troops in the course of the month. Crossing of these frontiers was permitted only for certain limited categories of persons such as allied ex-PW, allied diplomats, Red Cross officials and Displaced Persons returning home.

Port security work at GENOA and VENEZIA proceeded normally. At TRIESTE Port few security measures could be implemented owing to lack of co-operation on the part of the Yugoslav authorities.

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11. From the point of view of Allied security, the general temper and attitude of the Italian population was not unsatisfactory. There is an inevitable tendency for partial disillusionment to follow liberation, since the unreasonably high hopes entertained can never be satisfied, but in the past month this tendency has been largely offset by the Allied stand taken against Marshall TITO to ITALY's (at least temporary) advantage. The Italian attitude to the Allied forces and military government may not be flattering - it may be apathetic, disappointed or impatient, but on the whole it is not directly hostile, and a considerable measure of co-operation is readily forthcoming in all spheres of activity.

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B. AUSTRIA:-

During the first fortnight of the Allied occupation of SE AUSTRIA (Approx 10-25 May), it was difficult for security work to be carried out effectively, in view of the Yugoslav infiltration and the presence of vast numbers of surrendered personnel and displaced persons; the situation was such that administrative difficulties and requirements had to override counter-intelligence considerations.

Towards the end of the month, however, conditions improved considerably and, with the arrival of additional F.S. Sections, the implementation of the Security plan for AUSTRIA was begun in earnest.

By the end of the month 545 Security arrests had been carried out, and these included Gauleiters RAINER and LAUTERBACHER.

It is believed that a number of prominent Nazis, SS and other wanted persons have withdrawn into certain mountainous areas, where they are proving elusive rather than aggressive; searches and investigations are being carried out to locate them.

The attitude of the civil population and of German surrendered personnel has been docile and obedient.

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The general security situation has been remarkably free of incidents, apart from two minor cases of shooting at our troops during the first days of the occupation, and a moderate amount of wire-cutting. There has so far been no substantiated evidence of Nazi activity, either overt or covert.

5 Corps Security Intelligence Summary (AUSTRIA) for May has been forwarded direct to AEFHQ by Eighth Army.

PART II

1. ARRESTS

(a) Analysis of Arrests: - (excl enemy agents and members of German Armed Forces.)

(1) ITALY

	For trial for a specific security offence (Category A)	For Internment (Category B)	For detention pending investigation	TOTAL
Italian Armed Forces, Excl. CC.RR	4	1	13	18
Civil Officials (Incl. CC.RR)	12	6	5	23
Miscellaneous Civilians	135	55	73	263
TOTAL:	151	62	91	304

(11) AUSTRIA

	For trial for an offence against IG Ordinances, etc. (Category A)	For Internment (Category B)	Detained pending investigation. (Category C)	TOTAL
Restricted Nazi Organisations	NIL	329	1	330
Civil Govt	NIL	19	NIL	19
Police	NIL	83	NIL	83
Miscellaneous	2	110	1	113
TOTAL	2	541	2	545

Offices, Excl. CC.FR	4	1	13	18
Civil Officials (Incl. CC.FR)	12	6	5	23
Miscellaneous Civilians	135	55	73	263
TOTAL:	151	62	91	304

(41) AUSTRIA

	For trial for an offence against 13 Ordinances, etc. (Category A)	For Internment (Category B)	Detained pending investigation. (Category C)	TOTAL
reassigned NAZI organisations	NIL	329	1	330
Civil Govt	NIL	19	NIL	19
Police	NIL	83	NIL	83
Miscellaneous	2	110	1	113
TOTAL	2	541	2	545

(b) G.I.S. Officials (I.M.V)

Before the surrender of the German Forces in Italy, it had been realised that many of the uniformed members of the R.S.H.A. organization would be found in PW Cages and concentration areas where the existing C.I.F.S.S. organization would not be in a position to trace them. A number of officers with CI experience were therefore borrowed from AFHQ and, immediately following the surrender, were attached to Armies in order to assist at PW Cages and R.I.P.s in segregating for interrogation and evacuation to the CI Compound at ANCONA all surrendered personnel of CI interest.

Shortly after the GERMANY surrender took place, a good start was made in the rounding up of the R.S.H.A. organization in Italy by the collection and removal from BOLZANO of 12 senior officials including the R.d.S. himself, Oskar HARTER, and representatives of the principal departments and units of the G.I.S. in ITALY. A further 117 officials were shortly afterwards collected in the BOLZANO-TERAMO area, and despatched to CSBIC or to the CI Compound at ANCONA according to their importance.

From the interrogation of these officials, much information on the lay-out, and personalities of the R.S.H.A. organization has been obtained and disseminated through the G.I.S. Staff Bulletin. In the Army PW Cages and the Fifth Army PW Conc area the names of surrendered officials have been checked

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against CI records, while the units of OR/AM have been compared with the list of those classified as being of specific CI interest. CIC, PSS and SCI attached to formations in the field have continued to employ many of the methods of operation previously developed in the tracing of enemy agents.

It can be said that during the month the most important elements of the R.S.I.A. organisation have been taken into custody. A few key officials still remain to be accounted for, some of whom were probably already in Germany before the surrender, while others, as yet unidentified, have undoubtedly been killed by Partisans. It is thought that few are actually hiding.

In all, 291 identified members of the R.S.I.A. and its affiliated organisations fell into our hands from the date of the surrender until the end of the month. These can be summarised as follows:

RdS Italian	26
Russenkov and Janschnposten	49
Fuhrungstelle and Funkstelle Italian	88
FAX 150 and Sub-units	17
FAX 190	19
I (Marine)	7
FAX 212 and Sub-units	23
FAX 309 and Sub-units	12
SID and SLS	5
MEY 80 and 10 Flotman IP in	45
	291

(c) Agents (17-21)

During the month, 210 enemy agents were taken into custody - the largest number ever to fall into our hands in a single month. In view of the German Surrender and the opening up of the whole of Northern Italy, this figure is by no means surprising, particularly when it is remembered that before the surrender the CIS had in the North a large reserve of agents trained for eventual use, and two thirds of the number captured during the month were undoubtedly of this category, not having been briefed for any mission. The remaining third had been assigned stay-behind missions, but showed little evidence of intention to carry them out.

Three stay-behind groups in particular were of interest. The first was the "EADCO" network of post-occupational espionage and sabotage agents in N.E. ITALY, about whom considerable information had been collected during the preceding month, and a number of whose members were arrested in the course of May.

The second had been installed by FAX 211 in Milan under the cover of

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I (Marine)

FAK 212 and Sub-units

FAK 309 and Sub-units

SID and 2318

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Three stay-behind groups in particular were of interest. The first was the "Bulldog" network of post-occupational espionage and sabotage agents in N.I. ITALY, about whom considerable information had been collected during the preceding months, and a number of whose members were arrested in the course of May.

The second had been installed by FAK 211 in MILAN under the cover of a cosmetic firm known as the FIRM PRODOTTI Corporation. From documents recovered, it appears that the agents of the group were engaged as sales representatives and employees of the firm and even received letters setting out the terms of their engagement and the commission to which they would notionally be entitled. Of a probable 24 persons in the group, 11 were arrested during the month.

The other group was organised by Prince Valerio ROSSINI of 10 FLOMAS and consisted, as far as is at present known, of upwards of seventy persons. The HQ of the group was at MILAN and included propaganda, W/T, Transport and Quartermaster Sections while Sub-centres, provided with arms and sabotage material, were located at VIGEVANO, CREMA, VARESE and LEGNANO. The purpose of the group is a little obscure, but would appear to be in line with ROSSINI's policy, frequently reported in the past, of building himself up as the "strong man" of Northern ITALY, with 10 Fletilla MAS as a strictly nationalist organisation which would endeavour to save the North from total destruction at the hands of the Germans, and later perhaps to save ITALY from Communism. The group, however, was not briefed for any specific mission; it was to take no action until ROSSINI gave orders - and these never came. The organisation was penetrated by a certain Lt. ZALLESSI who had been sent North on a mission by an Allied agency, and who gave complete details of the group to Allied security shortly after the occupation of North ITALY. By the end of the month, approximately 30 members of the organisation had been rounded up, including Prince ROSSINI himself.

.....(3) Other

(a) Other Important Individual Cases(1) ITALYVAN BARTEN, Isaac

Subject was acting as International Red Cross delegate in MERANO, although according to the IRC itself he was not authorized to do so. His operations have been varied, as a Red Cross operator he performed meritorious services, and in the days immediately before the surrender was undoubtedly instrumental in saving several allied lives. However, his business dealings with Fritz SCHWEN, member of Amt II, RSHA, his connivance at the use of IRC cards as cover for enemy intelligence agencies, and his proved complicity in aiding the attempted escape of personnel wanted by allied intelligence agencies have warranted his arrest and probable internment.

GRAY, Ed: Mario

President of the Special Fascist Tribunal, MILAN; Chairman of the board of Directors of the Fascist newspaper, "Gazzetta del Popolo"; a leading Republican Fascist personality. Has been turned over to the Italian authorities for trial.

POUND, Vera

Well-known American poetess and Fascist propagandist, who has been indicted for treason against the United States. He was sent to the WFOUSA Disciplinary Center as ordered by AFHQ.

GASBINI Dino di Alessandro

Vice Secretary of Fascist Party from 1937 to 1939; 1943 President Azienda Minerale; Console della Milizia; Brigata Mera.

MISCHI Archimede di Uliano

Chief of Staff of the Italian Fascist Republican Army under GRAZZIANI. 4 Oct 43 was summoned by GRAZZIANI and named Commanding General of the Carabinieri. On 21 Nov 43 this group merged with the newly created GUARDIA NAZIONALE REPUBLICANA and Subject was made Commanding Officer of the Ufficio Straloro (liquidating office) to merge two Carabinieri into the GNR. On 12 Mar 44 he was made Chief of Staff of the Fascist republican army in which capacity he served until 28 Apr 1945.

SALBO (Actt) Bruno di Domenico

well-known American poet, and Fascist propagandist, who has been indicted for treason against the United States. He was sent to the AFHQ Disciplinary Center as ordered by AFHQ.

CARLINI Dino di Alessandria

Vice Secretary of Fascist Party from 1937 to 1939; 1943 President Aziende Minerarie; Console della Milizia; Brigata Mista.

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SANEO (detta) Bruno di Dornico

Federale, TRIESTE 1944-45.

HILGER Margarete

Wife of German SS Chief. Interned with her daughter Gudrun.

ANZBY John

Renegade Englishman. Dispatched to "new" internec camp.

LUOSALE Jean

Former Vichy Propaganda Minister. Handed over to French authorities.

MUTZMILLER-SUNDY Guido

Ex-Minister of Interior in Vichy Government. Handed over to Italian authorities.

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(44) AUSTRIA

RAINER, Dr. Friedrich

Gauleiter and Reichsstatthalter of KÄRNTEN. Former Gauleiter of SALZBURG. arrested 31 May area C 5694.

GLORONIG Otilio

HSSPF. päpstliches Kustenland, Stellvertreter Gauleiter of WIEN and later KÄRNTEN. Captured with RAINER (above) and committed suicide by taking poison shortly after capture, without having revealed his identity.

LAUTERBACHER, Hartmann

Gauleiter of SÜDHANNOVER and BRAUNSCHWEIG. Captured on 30 May with his family and two personal guards in house South of MAUTERNDORF X5054.

WOLSEGER, Ferdinand

Regierungspräsident of KÄRNTEN, Former Governor of CRACOW and Stellvertreter of Reichsstatthalter RAINER (above). An Austrian professional civil servant, was Ministerialrat at WIEN and BERLIN. Arrested in MATREI W9924 on 1 Jun.

FEISTRITZER, Peter Mathias Josef

Kreisleiter of KEMNAT, Assistant Gauleiter of KÄRNTEN prior to Anschluss, and member of German Reichstag. arrested in FERNLAGOR C5282 on 29 May.

WITTMANN, von Margarete

Gemeinschaftsleiterin KÄRNTEN, Kreisrätin KLAGENFURT. Former Leiterin des Arbeitskreises "Eltersaufklärung" in the Gau-Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Jugendbetreuung. Reported to have helped SS men hiding in hills by carrying food to them. arrested in MILLSTATT X6701 on 28 May.

2. SUBVERSIVE MOVEMENTS AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS OF SECURITY INTEREST(a) Fascist Groups

a few reports were received of small bands of German soldiers and Fascists still holding out in the more inaccessible parts of Northern Italy, but little positive information concerning their nature and activity has so far been forthcoming apart from a few instances of sniping by unidentified individuals. The Partisans have proved a fruitful source of information on "Fascists in the hills", and it is believed that in some cases these reports have been exaggerated by the Partisans in order to boost their own position and to justify their retention of arms. The only group about which anything very definite is known is the so-called "Banda SPOLIGO". This group, consisting

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FEISTRIEGER, Peter Mathias Josef

Kreisleiter of HERMAGOR, Assistant Gauleiter of KARNIEN prior to Anschluss, and member of German Reichstag. Arrested in HERMAGOR 05282 on 29 May.

MITTERWALLNER, von Margarete

Gauleiterschäftsleiterin KARNIEN, Kreisrätin in KLAGENFURT. Former Leiterin des arbeitskreis "Erbenaufklärung" in the Gau-Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Jugendbetreuung. Reported to have helped SS men hiding in hills by carrying food to them. Arrested in WILSDAU X6701 on 28 May.

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IV Corps reported the possible existence of two Fascist political groups in that area. The first, called the "Partito Fascista Repubblicano Segreto", was evidently founded in MILAN in Feb 45 in anticipation of an Allied advance. At that time it was envisaged that the Fascist leaders would be able to withdraw from Northern ITALY to the Southern Piedmont, and the P.R.F.S. was intended to control a number of Fascist partisan bands throughout ITALY. These bands were to operate by means of acts of sabotage and violence, and by the use of propaganda were to attempt to sow dissension between the Allies and the Italian people. The personalities behind the movement were to be EUGENIO Fucello and ROMUALDO Fino (Vice Secretary of the P.F.S.).

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at the present time, efforts are being made to penetrate the organization by means of two former members of the local Brigata Nera.

The second, under the name of "Organizzazione V", is an organization of the same type though its connection with the P.I.R.S. has not been established. Members were recruited from the ranks of the Republican army, the Brigata Nera etc, with instructions to join partisan groups, obtain arms from them, and keep their arms when the Partisans were disarmed. The headquarters of the organization is said to be at CREMONA with branches at TURIN, MILAN NOVARA and FLORENCE. The MILAN branch is known as "TUPIN" (Tutti Uniti per l'Indipendenza Nazionale). Arms and munition dumps are reported to exist at TERESA, where men are recruited, armed and posted. Members are said to have left MILAN for the hills above COMO and VARESE and to maintain contact with the "TUPIN" Headquarters in MILAN by means of women auxiliaries. The new DUCZ is said to be VEZZALINI, ex-Prefect of NOVARA. Efforts are also being made to penetrate this organization through the medium of a renegade member of the Brigata Nera.

(b) Tyrolean Movement

The political complexity of the situation in the Italian Tyrol, distorted as it is by a predominantly Austrian population, Italian Fascist control after World War I and more recently the Nazification of its administration since September 1933, has given impetus to the "Sudtiroler Volkspartei", ostensibly a movement purported to advocate reannexation of the area to AUSTRIA proper. This movement, though receiving fairly wide support among the German-speaking population, is of no serious security import except insofar as it may be used by Nazis to foment discontent and possible disorder at a future date. Rumors exist to the effect that the Germans are distributing arms among the more ardent members, though these may be largely discounted. Probably arms are being distributed and concealed by both Italians and Tyroleans, but there is little reason to believe that this is with a view to a planned insurrection. Of more security significance is the fact that the pro-German sympathies of the people have permitted numerous members of the SS and KSA organization to disperse among a friendly population for the purpose of concealing their identity until the heat of pursuit has abated.

(c) AUSTRIA

(1) Hostile Elements

From various sources, information has been supplied on areas in the British zone in AUSTRIA which contain hostile elements. Available evidence is that such centres are hideouts rather than bases for aggression. The existence of lockouts or warning stations is suspected.

Three main areas have been most frequently reported and the following is an analysis of present conditions:

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control after World War I and more recently the Austro-German Volkstraiton since September 1938, has given impetus to the "Sudtiroler Volkspartei", ostensibly a movement purported to advocate reunification of the area to AUSTRIA proper. This movement, though receiving fairly wide support among the German-speaking population, is of no serious security import except insofar as it may be used by Nazis to foment discontent and possible disorder at a future date. Rumors exist to the effect that the Germans are distributing arms among the more ardent members, though these may be largely discounted. Probably arms are being distributed and concealed by both Italians and Tyroleans, but there is little reason to believe that this is with a view to a planned insurrection. Of more security significance is the fact that the pro-German sympathies of the people have permitted numerous members of the SS and RSHA organization to disperse among a friendly population for the purpose of concealing their identity until the heat of pursuit has abated.

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Three main areas have been most frequently reported and the following is an analysis of present conditions:

(a) Area STOCHENROTH (C 6494). A sweep here resulted in the capture of RAIPER, Gaulleiter of KANZEN, and a number of his followers. Although the area is now thought to be clear it must still be considered a possible harbour for fugitives, as access to it is difficult and the local inhabitants have proved uncooperative towards our patrols.

(b) Area ST. GEMIN (Y 0909). At the end of May there appeared to be a considerable hastine band here. The escape on the night 28/9 May from S. SALVATOR concentration area (at that time unwired) of 150 SS men may have been assisted by this group, and the escaping men passed through CLONNITZ. Latest information is that the bulk of these elements have made their way northwards.

(c) S. JUDENBURG (S.M. of Judenburg 2465). Frequent reports of hiding and meeting places. Arrests have been made and there is no evidence of active resistance. Considered to be a hideout area.

.....(11) Yugoslav

(41) Jugoslav activities

(a) Investigations disclosed that a Yugoslav Committee for Repatriation in SPIRIT (X5202) originally sponsored by 78 Div to assist in repatriating Yugoslav nationals under MG direction, had been indulging in local politics and propaganda, and tending to intervene openly in local government affairs. The committee has been dissolved and all members returned to Yugoslavia.

(41) Austrian Freikorps

This Austrian Partisan group, claimed by its leader to number 300 members but which apparently in fact did not exceed 100 - 200, was formed by KACHHJURT of REIMWITZ (DL379), according to his own statement, some 18 months ago for the purpose of carrying out raids on SS and Police HQs in the hills and woods north of the R. DRAU. The non-political but anti-Nazi character of the group has been constantly emphasized, though in their underground days they did in fact operate with TITO's partisans, claiming that there was no alternative way of obtaining food and arms. This collaboration continued until the Yugoslavs' withdrawal from CARINTHIA, when the FREIKORPS rebutted the Slovans territorial claims.

LUEGER, Heinrich, KACHK's Chief of Staff, former secretary of Dr. AHA-C, one time representative of TITO in CARINTHIA, states that the Movement was prepared to "sell out to the Russians" if the wants of its members were not satisfied. These appear to be government employment, possibly as an auxiliary police force, for all who had fought the underground fight, though it was later stated that the members refused on principle to be incorporated into the police, who they claimed had on many occasions taken part in action against them. They also claim that as they had played a large part in the fight for its liberation, AUSTRIA should be treated as a liberated rather than occupied country. The FREIKORPS has now been disbanded by MG and ordered to hand in all arms. So far, however, only 78 arms are reported to have been turned in to the Public Safety Office.

Certain members of this group are still active under the title of "Austrian Resistance Movement", but their leader KACHK has withdrawn, his place being taken by LUEGER.

3. CONTROL OF MOVEMENT(a) Within ITALY

In the course of the month restrictions on civilian movement were completely lifted in most of the area in Northern ITALY and the Security Control Line was moved forward to the PIAVE River. The main problem lay in the implementation of movement regulations east of this line where the ten kilometer rule is still in force, since the Yugoslav situation precluded anything more than a partial control. The embargo on the entry of

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In AUSTRIA initial steps were taken to establish check posts to control the movement of civilians. The main difficulty was that personal documents showing place of residence were either lacking or incomprehensible to the troops. Arrangements were initiated in conjunction with MG to issue Residence Certificates in English and German. Numbers of irregular travel permits issued by units were encountered, including three to men who proved, on FS investigation, to be members of the Abwehr.

The curfew in AUSTRIA has been shortened to 2000-0500 hrs, and appeared to be generally well observed.

(b) Frontier Control

Due to the complex political situation prevailing in Northern ITALY the task of frontier control was rendered extremely difficult and in places

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- 10 -

quite impossible. Control of the Italo-Jugoslav frontier was out of the question, and in the case of the Italo-French frontier it has been possible to effect only a limited degree of control. CIC agents have been established on the two recognized crossing places into FRANCE, but the frontier is manned by French troops and it has not yet been possible for political reasons to deploy the CC.34 and CC.35 earmarked for frontier control duties on that frontier. Present arrangements are that CIC recognise as valid passes issued by the French Securite Militaire for crossing the frontier and do NOT stop French military vehicles traveling either way, even if carrying civilians. This arrangement presents obvious hazards to our security and the role of CIC on the frontier is at present confined very largely to the observation of traffic as it passes through. Control by the Securite Militaire is reported to be effective but is of course based primarily on French interests.

No such political complications hindered the sealing of the Italo-Swiss frontier, however, and control here was satisfactorily maintained by Allied troops, assisted by partisans. At the very end of the month the special frontier CC.34 and CC.35 personnel began to arrive from the South.

The Austro-Italian and Austro-Jugoslav frontiers in the 5 Corps area were closed to uncontrolled traffic on 25 May. Controls in depth behind the frontier and patrols of the frontier area by troops have been started to a limited extent.

4. CIVIL POPULATION

(a) Italy

In the Tyrolean region, a non-cooperative attitude was adopted towards the Allies by predominantly pro-Austrian population while the German troops were still in the area. Following their evacuation a friendlier attitude was evidenced. However, the advent of the POLGORE and PRIULI Gruppi have caused them some concern. They fear that the harsh administration of the Fascist have will be reinstated, and that local partisans will be permitted to give vent to their personal grievances by arbitrary arrests. On the other hand, the minority Italian population has welcomed these troops with more warmth than it did the Allies.

In the rest of the Fifth Army area, civilian morale appeared to be at a relatively high pitch, attributed in general to the conclusion of hostilities, the relatively slight war damage, the availability of food, and the return of many refugees and forced laborers to their homes. The only variants to this was the cost of living in some of the large cities such as MILAN and BOLOGNA, where shortages of foodstuffs have created flourishing black markets, and the unemployment prevailing among industrial classes.

General anxiety over the political future of Italy was, however, manifested. Many hoped for a fairly long occupation of the country by Allied troops, with a light form of supervision over Italian affairs, chiefly as a means of preventing radical social disturbances. On the other hand radical political leaders and former Partisan elements were impatient at the slowness with which the Italian Government was being reorganized, and were awaiting the departure of Allied troops before taking stronger measures to restrain the

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In the Northeast the situation was complicated by the presence of the Jugoslav forces, and the civilian attitude towards Allied troops was on the whole more reserved. Jugoslav propaganda in the form of posters and slogans was much in evidence and there were one or two instances of Jugoslav inspired efforts to undermine public confidence in Allied intentions.

In general the attitude of the Partisans was co-operative. A certain amount of impatience was evident concerning the alleged slowness with which the process of de-fascistisation was proceeding, and reprisals against former Fascists and collaborators continued to occur in the form of robbery, kidnapping, blackmail and murder. This practice was particularly prevalent in the BOLOGNA area where it was estimated that since the arrival of the Allies at least four hundred persons have been killed by the application of lynch law.

Progress was made with the disarming of the Partisans but it was

...../evident

- 11 -

evident that only a proportional disarmament was being effected.

(b) AUSTRIA

The morale of the population was generally speaking, good. Relief was widely expressed that neither Russian nor Yugoslav forces were occupying the area.

Reaction to security arrests was difficult to assess, but they appeared to be accepted as normal procedure. Some criticism was heard of the Allies for failure to eliminate all the most ardent Nazis immediately. The rule regarding non-fraternisation was regarded with some disfavour by the troops, particularly as the general attitude of the civilians towards the troops was not unfriendly. There was a tendency, both on the part of troops and civilians, to feel that the Austrians should be treated differently from the Germans.

5. RUMOURS

Among troops speculation was rife concerning the possible future employment of units and individuals and rumours on this topic were many and varied.

Rumours among civilians were largely political in nature with speculation as to the intentions of the Communists, the Russians and Tito very much to the fore. 5 Corps reported that rumours suggestive of friction between RUSSIA and the Western Allies, while still current, were becoming less circumstantial and exaggerated than heretofore.

The following are typical examples of rumours from civilian sources:

(a) ITALY

"Foodstuffs for relief of the civilian population promised by the Allies have not arrived because of the necessity of using the available transport to carry troops and munitions to the TIFIN area." (Fifth Army).

"The Communist Party in MILAN is hiding arms, particularly small arms, with the thought of a coup d'etat." (Fifth Army).

"At MILAN the population has rioted in public squares, demonstrating against the Carabinieri because the Carabinieri is considered an organ of the monarchy. Large numbers of Carabinieri have been sent from SARDINIA to MILAN as reinforcements. The people of MILAN are preparing a strong insurrection to proclaim a republic." (Fifth Army).

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"The Allies will quickly abandon ITALY because they fear becoming involved in the coming Communist insurrection." (Fifth Army).

"Because the Allies favor the Communist Party, it is necessary to enroll in the Party in order to secure employment, secure travel permits and the like, from allied authorities." (Fifth Army).

"The Allies want disorder in ITALY so that they can retain control of the country under the excuse of maintaining order." (Fifth Army).

(b) AUSTRIA

"People crossing into the Russian zone are interrogated as to British Dispositions and strength." (5 Corps)

"Marshal TITO has left behind agents to report on the activities of the civilian population and the Freikorps." (5 Corps).

"Former Chancellor Kurt VON SCHUSCHNIG and Baron von FRANKENBERG are in INNSBRUCK attempting to form an Austrian Government in the

...../American

- 12 -

American and British zones." (5 Corps).

6. PORT SECURITY

The ports of GENOA, TRIESTE, and VENICE have been the chief pre-occupation under this heading during the month. In the case of GENOA the problem was fairly straight forward and the institution of normal security controls progressed smoothly.

In TRIESTE the situation was far from satisfactory so far as entry to the dock area and the control and vetting of dock labour were concerned. due to the fact that the security system was under the dual control of the Yugoslavs and British and to the apparent impossibility of achieving full co-operation. Hiring of the perimeter was in process, but it was not considered that this would prove an effective measure unless it could be supplemented by an effective and uniform pass and permit system. Some progress was made during the month towards the implementation of the latter but it was still not possible to commence the essential and considerable tasks of vetting civilian dock labour. In agreement with NOIC no significant on or off were permitted in TRIESTE save in most exceptional circumstances, and then only after approval by the local Port Security section.

The Port of VENICE was opened and contact was maintained with the Port authorities on security matters. The responsibility of issuing military dock passes has been accepted by the Port Commandant, but the question of responsibility for issue of passes to civilian workers was still under discussion. The number of persons to be vetted by PS for the port is expected to reach the not inconsiderable total of 2,000. Control of entry to the port is carried out by Ports Provost Coy, CMF with PS supervision.

7. OTHER MATTERS OF SECURITY INTEREST

(a) Security of Information

A potential source of leakage of information was found at TRIESTE in the course of the month. The civilian TELVZ automatic system was being used for military calls within the town, the exchange being operated by TELVZ employees and supervised and guarded by the Yugoslavs. A nucleus of British signals personnel were allowed into the exchange to supervise and operate British military lines, but it was apparent that no security control of the exchange by the British was possible. All units using lines through the TELVZ exchange were warned of the insecurity of the system.

(b) Security of Materials and Installations

A number of explosions involving enemy ammunition dumps were reported during the month. In no case did investigation reveal any subversive intent, the incidents being attributed variously to spontaneous combustion due to

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7. OTHER MATTERS OF SECURITY INTEREST

(a) Security of Information

A potential source of leakage of information was found at TRIESTE in the course of the month. The civilian TIVE automatic system was being used for military calls within the town, the exchange being operated by TIVE employees and supervised and guarded by the Jugoslavs. A nucleus of British signals personnel were allowed into the exchange to supervise and operate British military lines, but it was apparent that no security control of the exchange by the British was possible. All units using lines through the TIVE exchange were warned of the insecurity of the system.

(b) Security of Materials and Installations

A number of explosions involving enemy ammunition dumps were reported during the month. In no case did investigation reveal any subversive intent, the incidents being attributed variously to spontaneous combustion due to the hot weather, tampering by civilians, and other fortuitous causes. Cases of wire cutting were also reported but not on any considerable scale and with petty theft as the prime motive.

(c) German Surrendered Forces

The orderly surrender of German troops was largely satisfactory from the security standpoint, except for the anticipated attempt by some SS and other personnel to fade into anonymity by assuming the guise of civilians and settling down in the rural areas with the sympathetic support of the civilian population. This occurred mainly in the region of the Italian GYROL, as did the attempt by some troops, in instances successful, to cross into Austria before the border was effectively sealed. However, a concerted drive was underway to capture these individuals and by degrees they were being spotted and evacuated as prisoners of war.

The security coverage of the German concentration areas around GREDI

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was in the hands of CIC agents who have built up a network of informants in all the neighbouring communities and areas, and have secured the support of Partisan patrols. The area itself was adequately guarded by men of an Infantry Regiment, who were stationed in fifty posts on its outskirts. Civil-ians who might attempt to contact the internees for one reason or another were prohibited entrance to the area, and all would-be escapees were interogated by CIC in order to determine their motive and method. The average of such attempted escapees has been five a day, mostly by Italian Republican Fascists troops.

In the VERONA area, reports were received of the concealment of certain SS and SD personnel in German military hospitals. The commanding officers were ordered to procure the names of the inmates by a certain date, and in the interim to prevent their escape. This procedure, if it expected, will prove partially successful in their apprehension.

2. LOCATION OF CIC DELEGATIONS AND P.S. SECTIONS AS AT 31 May 45

<u>Fifth Army</u>	<u>Parent Formation</u>	<u>Location</u>
205 CIC Det	HQ Fifth Army	VERONA T. 6524
25 CIC Det	25 Inf Div	CORTINA D'AMPEZZO B. 5773
28 CIC Det	28 Inf Div	BOLZANO A. 9771
Tolgore Security Det	Tolgore C.G.	BOLZANO A. 9771
Triuli Security Det	Triuli C.G.	S. GIOVANNI-LUPATATO P. 6947
204 CIC Det	HQ IV Corps	MILAN K. 2453
85 PSS	"	GENOA O. 9748
37 PSS	"	BIELLA J. 3781
51 PSS	"	VARESE D. 9905
415 PSS	"	TURIN J. 0329
421 PSS	"	BORGAMO E. 387
427 PSS	"	MILAN K. 2463
Legnano Security Det	Legnano C.G.	BORGAMO K. 5387
52 CIC Det	92 Inf Div	GENOVA O. 9748
34 CIC Det	34 Inf Div	CUNEO N. 8754
501 CIC Det	1st Armd Div	BIELLA J. 3781
66 Sa PSS	6 Sa Armd Div	MILAN K. 2463
Brasillon CIC Det	B.T.P.	ALESSANDRIA J. 7505
<u>Eighth Army</u>	<u>HQ Eighth Army</u>	
291 PSS	"	VERONIA G. 3450
413 PSS	"	COMBOLIANO E. 6801
47 PSS	"	UDINE C. 4120
202 CIC Det	HQ II US Corps	CARPI G. 7222
10 CIC Det	10 US Armd Div	CLIVIANA G. 5604

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- 14 -

16 FSS
28 FSS
31 FSS
313 FSS

78 Inf Div
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LIEUT X.0605
VILLAGE C.8880
WILLSTATT X.6702
PARAU A.8755

W.D. Carlson Lt Col

Colonel, GSC,
Acting AG of S. G-2.

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SECRET

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

1404/4/GSI(b)

15 Mar 45

15 ARMY Group Security Summary No 23
646, the month of FEBRUARY 1945

PART I

GENERAL SURVEY

1. During February, security interest centred mainly round certain major operational moves affecting forces under command of Eighth Army. Elaborate and comprehensive measures were taken in the fields of both military and civil security to maintain maximum secrecy as to the nature of these moves. So far, there is no indication that any leakage to the enemy has occurred.

Among the troops involved, their destination appears to be fairly widely known or assumed, but, as far as it can be determined, it seems that such knowledge or assumption tends to be based on intelligent speculation or wishful thinking rather than on actual leakage of official information.

This speculation as to destination has to a certain extent communicated itself to civilians with whom the forces concerned were in contact, but, in view of the many previous rumours on this subject which have circulated throughout the past year, it is hoped that no very deep impression is being made on the civil population by such speculation at the present time.

Various breaches of security in connection with these moves have been reported, but on the whole there has been satisfactory co-operation on the part of all concerned in the maintenance of normal precautions and in the enforcement of special measures.

2. Thirty enemy agents were arrested during the month in the Army Group area. This figure, though slightly higher than that of January, was again below the monthly average during the earlier part of the winter. There is no evidence to show that the number despatched by the enemy was appreciably greater than the number arrested.

For the first time in many months, no post-occupational agents were among those captured, but this is not surprising in view of the absence of any appreciable advance, and it is fair to assume that all active agents left behind by the enemy in our present Army areas have by now been rounded up. Two of the thirty arrested had been parachuted, and the remainder were line-crossers.

Both infiltration routes across the lines and process of capture were

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Both infiltration routes across the lines and places of capture were evenly spread across the whole front, and in this respect 13 Corps threatened to challenge the long established supremacy of IV Corps as the most favoured crossing sector.

As usual, the missions of the majority of the espionage agents were concerned with the collection of tactical information in the forward areas. It is of interest that one short range agent was landed by parachute as far forward as TALO with instructions to return at once to the enemy lines on foot, observing concentrations and identifications etc en route: this is the first instance of airborne entry by a short range tactical spy, and it may well be an indication that the enemy is finding the line-crossing technique increasingly unsatisfactory.

Ten of the thirty agents captured were engaged on sabotage missions, but none actually committed any sabotage before their capture. Five of them were to penetrate in two groups as far as CAPUA and HOME and to obtain sabotage material from dumps left behind there by the enemy; their targets were in one case an airfield, which has in fact never been used by the Allies, and in the other whatever opportunity offered in the general area of HOME. Two others were given a reconnaissance task in the forward areas apparently in

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connection with future sabotage missions.

The residue of cases awaiting trial having been considerably reduced during January, only three agents were brought to trial last month. Two of these were sentenced to death, and the third was acquitted. One execution was carried out.

3. No incidents of enemy inspired sabotage were reported. Cases of wilful damage to signal lines continued to occur on a minor scale, and in particular a certain measure of inconvenience was caused through the interruption of railway telephone communications in the RIMINI area, and through the cutting of the underground State cable just South of FLORENCE. In those instances where no wire was removed, it is probable that local Fascist or other disgruntled elements were responsible for such damage, but the perpetrators were not discovered.

4. The general civil security situation remained quiet and steady.

There appears to be very little Fascist activity in the way of meetings and propaganda etc in the Army Group area, and no evidence of underground Fascist movements has recently come to light. Two Fascists of some prominence in FLORENCE Province were found to have small collections of arms and ammunition in their houses, but it is not thought that they belonged to any subversive group.

Nothing fresh of security significance has come to light in connection with the Communist Party, whose tendency towards increased power and boldness continues.

Some improvement was noted in the morale of the civilian population and its reactions towards the Allies, due mainly to Allied military successes on other fronts, the warmer weather, the increased bread ration in certain localities, and the MACCHIALLI - STONE declaration on increased Italian independence. Relations between Allied troops and local civilians were satisfactory, apart from the tendency of Italian youths to cut off the hair of girls consorting with Allied soldiers.

The number of persons interned during the month as a potential danger to security fell to seventy-one. This reduction can be accounted for by the fact that virtually no advance was made during the period, and that by now the majority of the more obviously dangerous elements in the area have already been disposed of.

5. The enemy was quick to seize upon the Crimean conference as material for his radio and leaflet propaganda to Polish troops. Though the latter were undoubtedly profoundly shocked by the news of the Crimean deliberations, there is no indication that enemy propaganda has as a result found greater credence among the Polish forces of the Army Group.

Nothing fresh of security significance has come to light in connection with the Communist Party, whose tendency towards increased power and boldness continues.

Some improvement was noted in the morale of the civilian population and its reactions towards the Allies, due mainly to Allied military successes on other fronts, the warmer weather, the increased bread ration in certain localities, and the MACKINIAH - STONE declaration on increased Italian independence. Relations between Allied troops and local civilians were satisfactory, apart from the tendency of Italian youths to cut off the hair of girls consorting with Allied soldiers.

The number of persons interned during the month as a potential danger to security fell to seventy-one. This reduction can be accounted for by the fact that virtually no advance was made during the period, and that by now the majority of the more obviously dangerous elements in the area have already been disposed of.

5. The enemy was quick to seize upon the Crimean conference as material for his radio and leaflet propaganda to Polish troops. Though the latter were undoubtedly profoundly shocked by the news of the Crimean deliberations, there is no indication that enemy propaganda has as a result found greater credence among the Polish forces or had an appreciably greater effect upon them.

6. Security in the Italian Combat Gruppo is developing satisfactorily. The special security detachments are now functioning with limited powers, and are devoting their main efforts to military security, chiefly to instilling Allied security principles into the minds of the Gruppo personnel as a whole: they are also employed to a limited extent on essential civil security duties, such as refugee control. Initial reports of progress are promising, and the detachments appear to be functioning with enthusiasm and a measure of success. A directive has been issued within each Gruppo setting out the charter of these special security detachments, the functions of unit security officers, and the main security points in which the co-operation of all troops is required.

7. CIC/ISS continued to pay particular attention to routine security control measures in connection with civilian movement, residence, registration, employment etc, and such work proved, as usual, very profitable and well worth the considerable time and effort expended thereon.

In these and their other duties, security/CI agencies continued to receive full co-operation from AMG officers, Civil police, Italian CS, and other organisations concerned.

...../PART II

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PART II1. MILITARY SECURITY(a) Security of Information

- (1) On the evening of 12 Feb 45 a TOP SECRET Signals Intelligence document was stolen on its way to this Headquarters from a unit situated a few kilometers outside FLORENCE. The driver of the jeep in which the despatch case containing the document was carried failed to report the theft, and consequently the loss was not discovered until a week later. The driver then admitted that he had stopped at a house in FLORENCE on the way and had left the jeep and the despatch case temporarily unattended outside. According to the driver's story the despatch case, together with his driving gloves, were stolen from the jeep by some children, who disappeared into the darkness before he had time to catch them. As soon as the loss became known an intensive investigation was initiated by FSS in FLORENCE, and a hundred PS agents were mobilized to comb the district house by house for traces of the tell-tale gloves or despatch case. Eventually a twelve year old boy was detained who admitted to stealing from a jeep outside the house in question at approximately that date. Interrogation has so far failed to extract from him an entirely consistent account of what he stole and how he disposed of it, though at various times he has admitted to the theft of both the gloves and the despatch case, and to have subsequently destroyed them by fire. Investigations are being continued in an effort to establish the true facts with certainty.

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- (11) The period was notable for troop movements of major importance carried out by certain Eighth Army formations. Careful and elaborate security precautions were enforced and appear on the whole to have achieved a fair measure of success. Discharged civilian employees were either found immediate employment elsewhere or concentrated at an AMG Reception Centre, while establishments such as hotels, clubs and rest centres were taken over as going concerns by the relieving formation without change of designation. In view of the keen speculation prevailing among units concerned over a period of several months it is difficult to assess with any exactitude the degree of security achieved, and to distinguish surmise, intelligent anticipation or wishful thinking from genuine leakage of information. During the move itself, however, all security precautions appear to have been observed with commendable assiduity. Among local civilians the move does not seem to

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(iii) It is as yet too early to judge the effectiveness of the security organisation and training laid down for the Italian Combat Groups. Initial reports on the CREMONA Group, the first in the line, were promising, although a number of security breaches, including some of a serious character, have occurred.

(iv) An investigation was made by Fifth Army CIC into the disappearance from APO 464 of WFOUSA Mail Distribution Scheme, giving details of all US units in the Theatre. There was no evidence to indicate that the Scheme had been removed by some unauthorised person and it was concluded that the document had either been put into the waste paper basket by mistake and burned, or else had found its way into an out-going mail

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665. All US APC's were alerted to be on the watch for the possible appearance of such a document in rail bags.

(b) Security of Personnel

As expected, the enemy lost no time in exploiting recent political developments in the Polish-Russian question as material for a radio and leaflet propaganda campaign directed towards the Polish Corps. The decisions reached by the "Big Three" came as a profound shock to Polish troops as a whole, and provided obvious opportunities for disruptive propaganda. One leaflet took the form of an attack on British press censorship, alleging, among other things, that the Polish troops newspaper "ORZEL BIALY" had been confiscated by TSS. Since the "ORZEL BIALY" continued to be published as usual this particular lie was quickly nailed. In general there has been little to suggest that enemy inspired propaganda has in any way found greater credence as the result of the decisions taken at the Crimean Conference.

Specimens of two enemy propaganda leaflets dropped on the Polish sector are attached (ARHQ only).

(c) Security of Material and Installations

(i) An investigation was made by Fifth Army CIC into the cutting of the main underground telephone cable between ROME and FLORENCE. The incident took place at night in the centre of the village of GRASSINA 0 9263, a few miles South of FLORENCE, at a landing pit where the cable emerges from underground to be passed through the rectifier. The exposed part of the cable had been almost completely severed, apparently by an axe or some similar instrument. Investigations failed to produce any positive results. Malicious damage by local civilians appeared to be the motive, and the possibility exists that the incident may have had some connection with a local campaign against a girl living near the damaged landing pit on account of her relations with Allied soldiers and with the repair crew of the telephone cable system.

(ii) In general, interference with Allied signals communications was on a minor scale, with petty theft as the established motive in the majority of cases, though railway telephone communications in the RIMINI area suffered several interruptions, due in some cases to wilful damage.

(iii) No cases of tampering with the petrol pipe line have been

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(ii) In general, interference with Allied signals communications was on a minor scale, with petty theft as the established motive in the majority of cases, though railway telephone communications in the RIMINI area suffered several interruptions, due in some cases to wilful damage.

(iii) No cases of tampering with the petrol pipe line have been reported during the past two months. This satisfactory state of affairs is largely due to the fact that this particular installation is well patrolled.

(d) Security of Ports and Coastline

The month passed without incident in this direction. Routine CIO/TSS controls continued to function smoothly and CS personnel, CC.FF, GC.FF and Allied units stationed on the coast rendered useful and effective co-operation.

2. CIVIL SECURITY(a) Analysis of Arrests

	For trial for a Security Offence	For Intern- ment	For Detention pending Inves- tigation	Total
Italian Armed Forces	2	7	1	10
				/Civil

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(a) Analysis of Arrests (cont'd)

	For Trial for a Security Offense	For Intern- ment	For Detention pending inves- tigation	Total
Civil Officials and CC.RR.	1	5	-	6
Miscellaneous Civilians	164	59	8	231
	167	71	8	247

Note: Of the above (a) 15 were Fascist Party Officials
(b) 16 were MVSN.

(b) Important Individual Cases(i) RAVINI

A brief analysis of agents arrested during the month is included in Part I. Detailed reports on these cases have been forwarded separately to AFHQ.

(ii) Persons arrested other than Agents

BORGHESE Don Giovanni fu Mario and di Isabelle of SCARPERIA (FLORENCE Prov). Land-Owner.

1932-39 was a Communications Officer in the REGIA MARINA. Retired. Following the 1943 Armistice went to TUNIS as aide to Italian Admiral-in-Charge. Interested himself in the sorting out of Italian sailors who were willing to continue fighting with the Germans and those who wished to be repatriated. In Nov 43 reported to MUSSOLINI on the work. Later took an "unofficial commission" with the 10th FLOTILLA MAS with the approval of its Commander, his cousin, BORGHESE Valerio. Retired to SCARPERIA where he took office as the Republican Fascist COMMISSARIO PREPETIZIO till the arrival of the Allies. Interned.

RAVINI Aldighiero fu Dante of FLORENCE. Unemployed.

1925. Centurione in the MVSN in 1929. Perwent propagandist for Italian intervention in the war and wrote many anti-Allied articles. As Commandante of the VIGIL URSANI of FLORENCE, assisted the Germans to take over the city on 8 Sep.

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(ii) Persons Arrested other than Agents

BORGHESI Don Giovanni fu Mario and di Isabelle of SCARPERIA (FLORENCE Prov). Land-owner.

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BATTINI Alighiero fu Dante of FLORENCE. Unemployed.

PRF 1925. Contributions in the MVSE in 1929. Ardent propagandist for Italian intervention in the war and wrote many anti-Allied articles. As Commandante of the VIGILI URRANI of FLORENCE, assisted the Germans to take over the city on 9 Sep 45 and henceforward co-operated fully with the German and Italian Republican authorities. Forced his subordinates to join the PRF by threats. On the arrival of the Allies fled the city to REGGIO (Prov FLORENCE). Arrested for internment in that town on 3 Feb 45.

RENTI Gino fu Enrico of FARRICHE (LUCCA Prov). Electrical Engineer.

Has lengthy Fascist record. Joined PRF in 1921; Squadrista, Captain of Fascist Militia, Political Secretary etc. Suspended (because of his political record) from his appointment with the SELF-VALDARNO electric power firm. Interned.

DI BAGO Galenazzo Guidi fu Giuseppe of CASALE VASCOLO (FORLI Prov). Doctor-in-Law.

1939-43 Deputy of the CAMERA DEI FASCI E CORPORAZIONI. Member of PRF. 1941-43 President of MUNICIPIO PROVINCIALE TURISMO. A close friend of Conte Galenazzo CIANO and ENZO MUSSOLINI. Interned.

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1 SALVI Alvise di Giovanni of CESENA (FOGLI Prov. Clerk.

Known to have been an OVRA agent in FRANCE 1934-39, attempting to locate Italian anti-Fascist elements. Since arrestee SALVI was a close associate of the PRT leader and Black Brigades Commander, Guido GAZZONI. Interned.

(iii) Suspects

"Professor" CECCHARELLI Enrico of SIENA. Hypnotist.

CECCHARELLI is a Doctor of Commerce of SIENA University and also has a "degree in the study of hypnotism" at which he is an expert. He was an early Fascist, was wounded in a political bomb incident and received a Fascist pension. In 1930 he toured LIEYA and EAST AFRICA with a remarkable hypnotist act; in 1936 he worked as an entertainer in various German countries and acquired a German mistress. Later he settled down in SIENA with his family, and his old Italian mistress of that locality whom he had first met in AFRICA. According to local sources he believed in Fascism but was not an active propagandist. During the Republican period he was sometimes at variance with the party policy and when Dr. BELLUCI, a local anti-Fascist, was arrested by the Republican Militia, a Mar 44, CECCHARELLI helped in his release.

44, CECCHARELLI began to employ him, assisted by a French POC interpreter, as an entertainer and he provided a tremendous success in the Ror areas. He is now performing in an Army area.

His Fascist connections and his mastery of his subject (s) make him an obvious suspect: he is, however, under constant supervision and it is not considered that his security value exceeds his entertainment value.

(c) Subversive Movements and Political Organizations of Security Interest

(1) UNIONE PROLETARIA

This movement has never shown any signs of taking root anywhere in the Army areas, and such traces of it as have come to light have been confined entirely to the city of FLORENCE. Towards the end of last year it appears that SALVARELLA made a half-hearted attempt to get the party going in FLORENCE and sent a certain Count TREVINI from ROME for the purpose. This young man, who had been actively engaged in smuggling escaped Allied PW across the lines prior to the liberation of ROME, appears to have been easily taken in by SALVARELLA's industrial

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Army area.

His fascist connections and his mastery of the situation made him an obvious suspect: he is, however, under constant supervision and it is not considered that his security hazard exceeds his entertainment value.

(c) Subversive Movements and Political Organisations of Secondary Interest

(1) UNIONE PROLETARIA

This movement has never shown any signs of taking root anywhere in the Army areas, and such traces of it as have come to light have been confined entirely to the city of PLOMEL. Towards the end of last year it appears that SALVEMINI made a half-hearted attempt to get the party going in PLOMEL and sent a certain Count TEVINI from Rome for the purpose. This young man, who had been actively engaged in smuggling escaped Allied PW across the lines prior to the liberation of Rome, appears to have been easily taken in by SALVEMINI's influential connections and the high-sounding aims of the party and, being also urgently in need of funds, accepted the said post of "inspector of TUSCANY" on behalf of the party. On his arrival in PLOMEL in Sep 44 he presented himself to MAG who warned him that political activity in the Army areas was forbidden, and confiscated his propaganda pamphlets. This warning, together with an attack on the UNIONE PROLETARIA which appeared in Dec 44 in the Communist newspaper "AVANTI", served to dispel what little enthusiasm TEVINI originally had for his mission and even to raise suspicions in his gullible mind as to the true motives of the party. The result was that, although he stayed on in PLOMEL, he never made any serious efforts to get the party started. On hearing of the arrest of SALVEMINI and his associates in Rome, he immediately presented himself to PWS who in turn passed him over to FOS.

The IS opinion of TEVINI was that he was perfectly frank and sincere concerning his activities in PLOMEL and could be regarded as harmless. In view of his past services rendered to escaping Allied PW (he was sentenced to death by the Germans

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Germans for the part he played and was released from prison by the Allies on the fall of Rome), it was decided to take no action against him.

An interesting point in this case is the connection which apparently existed between the UNIONE PROLETARIA and the SESTO BRACCIO, an Italian welfare organization for the assistance of Italian victims of Fascism. It appears that TREVINI's first acquaintance with the UNIONE PROLETARIA was when he applied for financial assistance to the ROME office of the SESTO BRACCIO and was there given a membership card for the UNIONE PROLETARIA on paying a subscription of 15 lire. This aspect has been referred to BRAC for further investigation. Meanwhile the FLORENCE branch of the SESTO BRACCIO is being kept under close observation.

(14) FEDERAZIONE ANARCHICA ITALIANA

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This movement appears to have started in 1942 in ROME where it now boasts a strong party organization and a newspaper. In FLORENCE there is no party activity, but a few discussion groups meet regularly. The anarchists in FLORENCE claim to have played their part in the liberation of that city with a fairly large number of sympathizers dispersed among the Partisans, while they have a considerable following at present in the FIPPO Partisan band operating with Fifth Army. They declare that in order to forward the war effort they have shelved all political agitation till after the defeat of GERMANY, and they feel that other parties should do the same. They regret the free hand given to the Italian Central Government by the Allies, and are working towards the establishment of complete individual liberty based on a system of Communal autonomy. The Anarchists have a closer affinity, they claim, with the PARTITO D'AZIONE than with any other party, and are both anti-Russian and anti-Communist. On two occasions, AMG FLORENCE has taken action against members of this movement, once against a certain LATINI who was sentenced to one year's imprisonment for an article on Allied policy in an unauthorized journal, and once against seven anarchists for the illegal possession of arms. BOCCONE, a local leader, defended such possession as constituting a counter measure to the arsenals kept by the Communists. Despite these two brushes with authority, it is not considered that the local branch of the anarchist movement is any menace to Allied security, nor, to judge from its present rate of growth, is it at all likely to

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(iii) So far as political activity was concerned, February was on the whole a quiet month in both Army areas. There were isolated reports of bolder Communist activity such as outspoken support for the Greek ELAS Party or, as reported by sharecroppers in MARZINGO DI MUGELLE (Q 7895), attempts to create discontent with the existing policy of sharing the harvest equally with the proprietor by advocating that two-thirds of the produce be retained by the sharecropper. Arms in small quantities were discovered in the possession of certain individuals in the vicinity of EMPOLI, Prov. FLORENCE, and action was taken against the holders, who were all persons with long PNF records. One of the three involved was placed under town arrest because of his age and infirmity, but the other two, both Squadristi and collaborators with the Germans, were interned. It is not considered that the arms were held concealed for the purpose of future hostile action against the Allies.

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(d) Control of Movement

- (i) Control of civilian movement continued to operate effectively and no changes of any importance were made during the period. In the Fifth Army area control in the extreme forward areas was found to be considerably facilitated by the evacuation of the civilian populations described in Part II Section 2 (d) (ii) of our previous summary. The additional Italian Guard Bn allotted for movement control work in the Fifth Army area began its duties during the month. These troops have tackled the job with commendable enthusiasm and are proving a decided improvement on the CC.BN hitherto employed.

Control of movement in the Army areas has been unnecessarily complicated by the fact that, despite frequent representations, a considerable proportion of the personnel of the Italian Combat Gruppi were still without identity documents of any kind. In consequence, an Eighth Army order has now been issued forbidding leave in the Army area to ALL Gruppi personnel not in possession of identity cards.

- (ii) In the Fifth Army area (excluding Corps and Divisional areas) over twenty-thousand persons were checked at control points during the month, while another fifteen hundred were checked through the medium of hotel and boarding house registers, applications for ration cards, travel permits, identity cards, etc. An interesting development in the Fifth Army area was a new system of roving CI patrols manned by Italian CS personnel which operated in teams on the highways radiating from LUCCA, PISTOIA and PRATO under the direction of the CIC units in these towns. The teams were entirely concerned with checking strangers on the roads, whether in vehicles or on foot, bringing in suspects to CIC for interrogation. Small outlying villages in the locality were also visited for the purpose of spotting strangers staying in inns or with private families. Liaison was also maintained by the patrols with the local Carabinieri manning the roadblocks in this area, which is a very vital one in the Fifth Army movement control system.

- (iii) From 5 to 10 Feb FLORENCE newspapers carried notices reminding citizens of their obligations under AMG Proclamation to register all guests and lodgers residing in their homes immediately on their arrival. This drive to enforce the AMG proclamation was also carried out generally throughout the Fifth Army area and the services of the local Parish priests were enlisted in publicising the regulations.

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(iii) From 8 to 10 Feb FLORENCE newspapers carried notices reminding citizens of their obligations under AMG Proclamation to register all guests and lodgers residing in their homes immediately on their arrival. This drive to enforce the AMG proclamation was also carried out generally throughout the Fifth Army area and the services of the local Parish priests were enlisted in publicising the regulations.

3. Miscellaneous

(a) Italian Armed Forces

(1) Italian Combat Groups

During the month the CREMONA and VEROLI Gruppi moved into the line, together with their Sezioni di Sicurezza Militare, the newly formed Italian version of the Field Security Section. These Sections had been rapidly organized and trained in a subject comparatively strange both to them, and to the Italian Army in general, but satisfactory progress has been made and preliminary reports were on the whole encouraging, particularly with respect to the CREMONA Group. At this early stage the efforts of the Sections were concentrated on the enforcement of military security measures within the Gruppi and to the building up of a security consciousness among Gruppi personnel, their incursions into the field of civil security being confined to checks on civilian movement.

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There was little evidence of any notable enthusiasm among the civilian population of the forward areas over the presence of the Italian Gruppi in their midst. This comparative lack of interest was particularly apparent in FORLI on the occasion of a ceremonial parade of the PRULI Group held early in the month. The visit of HRH Prince Umberto to the CREMONA Gruppo is stated to have made a favourable impression on troops in that formation.

(ii) Italian Forces Generally

Among the Italian Forces generally, and those in static units in the rear areas in particular, there remained considerable discontent over such material matters as the lack of adequate clothing, rations and welfare facilities. Cases continued to occur of Italian soldiers threatening young women with hair-cutting for consorting with Allied troops, and showed some increase in the Eighth Army area with the arrival of the Italian Combat Groups. Recruiting for the Italian Armed Forces proceeded without major incident and received strong support from the Communist Party. Many recruits sponsored by the latter party arrived at induction centres after an organised political march, wearing red scarves and shouting party slogans. This zeal on the part of the Communists was construed by right wing elements of the population as part of a deeply laid Communist plan to pack the new Italian Army with Communist supporters in preparation for the coming political struggle for power in Italy after the defeat of GERMANY.

(b) Civil Population

Reports agreed that the morale of the civilian population showed general improvement during the month. Important contributory factors were the MACMILLAN - STONE declaration granting virtually complete sovereignty to the Italian Government in Southern ITALY, the increase in the bread ration and the Allied successes on both Eastern and Western Fronts. The advent of warmer weather also served to ease the problem of the domestic fuel shortage. Relations with Allied troops continued to be satisfactory, though there were occasional difficulties over such matters as the eviction of residents for troop-billeting. In certain localities sharp criticism was voiced of the relationships between Italian women and Allied troops. In RAVENNA the situation became acute and a special police drive was carried out to trace the perpetrators of a childish type of terrorism taking the form of anonymous threats to the females concerned. At the same time complaints by Italian civilians concerning their own men in uniform were also by no means lacking.

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(c) Rumours

Few rumours of any interest were reported during the month, and no significant trends were noticeable. Among troops, speculation was confined to the possibility of moves and reliefs and in this connection one rumour which gained wide circulation among Eighth Army troops is worth recording for the innocent way in which it arose. It appears that troops in 5 Corps were getting more M & V in their rations than usual. This gave rise to the story that 5 Corps stocks of tinned food were being "eaten down" and that 5 Corps was therefore moving. Wishful thinkers added that the destination was the UK, and yet another rumour was sent forth on its travels.

In spite of the important political developments of the past month, rumours among civilians were few and of no great originality. Hints of an Anglo-Russian difference of opinion on the question of the ISTRIAN PENINSULA were reported by Fifth Army, but otherwise

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inspiration appeared to be completely lacking. Troop movements in the Eighth Army area excited a certain amount of curiosity and speculation among civilians in the locality, but there was no positive indication of any genuine leakage of military information.

(d) Other matters of General Security Interest

(i) On 21 Feb, two American negro soldiers were accosted and fired upon near Sesto Fiorentino (Prov Florence). Investigations showed that the civilians in the neighborhood believed that troops in the district were responsible for several armed robberies and were consequently taking the law into their own hands. The attack was almost certainly not enemy inspired. Two civilians carrying firearms whom the military police apprehended in the vicinity are now being interrogated.

(ii) One of the most unusual cases encountered in this Theatre was that of a South African ex-PW who had been captured at TORRUX in Jan 42. After numerous escapes from PW Camps in North Italy and subsequent recaptures, he was finally offered the opportunity of crossing into AGF on a short-range espionage mission for the German Intelligence Service. He accepted and surrendered immediately to our forward troops; owing to the unusual and interesting nature of his story, he underwent intensive interrogation, as a result of which his story was accepted. It can only be presumed that the AIS, who knew him to be an escaped PW, calculated on his bona fides being accepted by the Allies as an unquestionable that he would immediately redespitch him to enemy territory; thus he would act as an unwitting penetration agent. He is being repatriated to SOUTH AFRICA through normal Allied ex-PW channels.

4. LOCATIONS OF CIO DETACHMENTS AND TS SECTIONS AS AT 28 FEB 45

	<u>Parent Formation</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>HQ 15 ARMY GROUP</u>		
127 FSS		FLORENCE
16 FSS		"
<u>FIFTH ARMY</u>		
305 CIO Det	HQ Fifth Army	CAMP VISENTIO Q 7074
92 CIO Det	92 Div	VIA REGGIO V 6984
202 CIO Det	HQ III Corps	CAMP DEL COSTA L 8716
91 CIO Det	91 Div	SAN BENEDETTO DI QUERCETO L 9021
501 CIO Det	1 Armd Div	CASTIGLIONE T21 PEROLE L 5811
34 CIO Det	34 Div	LOIANO L 9623

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intensive interrogation, as a result of which his story was accepted. It can only be presumed that the SIS, who knew him to be an escaped PW, calculated on his bona fides being accepted by the Allies as so unquestionable that we would immediately rededicate him to enemy territory; thus he would act as an unwitting penetration agent. He is being repatriated to SOUTH AF-ICA through normal Allied ex-PW channels.

4. LOCATIONS OF CIC DETACHMENTS AND PS SPOTIONS AS AT 29 FEB 45

	<u>Parent Formation</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>HQ 15 ARMY GROUP</u>		
427 FSS		FLORENCE
16 FSS		"
<u>FIFTH ARMY</u>		
305 CIC Det	HQ Fifth Army	CAMPI FISTIZIO Q 7074
92 CIC Det	92 Div	VIAREGGIO U 9934
202 CIC Det	HQ II Corps	CAMP DEL COSTA L 8716
91 CIC Det	91 Div	SAN REMEDIO DI QUERCETO
501 CIC Det	1 Arm'd Div	L 9021
34 CIC Det	34 Div	CASTIGLIONE DEI PEPOLE
95 CIC Det	95 Div	L 5811
98 CIC Det	98 Div	ICIANO L 9622
10 CIC Det	10 Mtn Div	VILLA DI SASSONERO L 9623
		MARONIA DI ROSCHI L 9720
		LIEZZANO L 5112
204 CIC Det	HQ IV Corps	TAVIANO L 5905
66 FSS	6 SA Arm'd Div	MOZZANE Q 1173
Brazilian CIC Det	REP	FORETTA L 5811
<u>EIGHTH ARMY</u>		
263 FSS	HQ Eighth Army	CESINA M 5907
47 FSS	"	RAVENNA M 5738
411 FSS	"	MININI R 8528
419 FSS	"	PESARO S 1280
291 FSS	"	No 1 District

...../3 Pol

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EIGHTH ARMY (cont'd)

Parent Formation	Location
2 Pol Corps FSS	CASTROCARO M 3612
3 Corp Div FSS	FARENZA M 3125
5 Kres Div FSS	PREMILUGOPE R 3290
TRIULI SSN	BRISIGNELLA M 2317

68 FSS	RAVENNA M 5734
35 FSS	RUSSI M 4333
98 FSS	FORLI M 4317
406 FSS	RUSSI M 4333
2 NZ Div FSS	FARENZA M 3125
CREMONA SSN	RAVENNA M 5734

278 FSS	MACERATA S 5312
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412 FSS	MACERATA M 0901
55 FSS	CASTEL DEL RIO M 0116
407 FSS	" " " M 0116

ADW

DISTRIBUTION:-

G-2 (CI), AFHQ
 CIO, IAF
 Public Safety, AC
 1 SSI Unit
 SSI Unit 2
 AFHQ Liaison Officer,
 LAI, HOME

HQ 16 Army Group -
 G-3 (Ops)
 G-5
 Historical Section
 Historical Section - ITALY
 (British)

W. J. Gibson. 1168

Brigadier,
 AC of S, G-2.

00357

✓ Col. Gripps.

Secret

Security

Security Branch of
P.D. Sub Com^o have forwarded
the attached Notes of an
Counter Intelligence. The
V.P. might like to see.

14 Feb.

J. Reales Maj.

To P.S.

00006

Extremely interesting.

Thank you

20 Feb.

Green

Director, Public Safety.

This is a most interesting security report,
especially paragraph 4 on enemy agents

" 8 trial statistics

" 9 Agents on Western Front

" 10 SS in Italy.

I think V.P. will be interested,
especially in 4 and 8.

13. 2. 45.

Stetson May

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SECRET

5. 15 ARMY GROUP

NOTES ON COUNTER INTELLIGENCE
IN ITALY 20.6

LIC4/20/BSI(b)

8 Feb 45

Security

Division

Rec'd ... 12/2

Book No. 4872

File No. 646...

Action.....

1. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIESGeneral

In ITALY as a whole the past month (January) has been eventful. The outstanding developments have been the infiltration of eighteen agents by parachute during the full moon period at the end of December and the beginning of January, the increased employment of women agents, greater attention to sabotage and subversion, and continued evidence of the increase in SD influence, which has lent a political colour to a larger number of missions than ever before. A total of 53 agents has been captured. There were virtually no cases of actual sabotage during the month, and fears that the outbreaks in the NAPLES area during the previous month might presage more widespread damage have not so far been confirmed.

Numbers

Of the 53 agents captured during the month in ITALY, it is of interest that nearly 30% were parachutists. Of the remainder, approximately 33% were line-crossers, and the rest "stay-behinds". Of all these, 8 were women, and there is some evidence that these 8 may be followed up in the future by a number more who are in training. Seven of the agents captured had been provided with W/T sets, which confirms to some extent a report that the enemy now intends to send in teams of three agents at a time, one of whom will be a radio operator, and the other two responsible for the collection of information. The majority were, however, to report to persons on their return.

Although virtually no damage attributable to saboteurs has been reported, 13 of the agents captured have had sabotage missions, and it has been thought worth while therefore to summarise what is known of part of the enemy's sabotage organisation in ITALY - Abwehrkommando 212 - in para 6 below.

Type

The tendency to increased persistence and boldness, noted in last month's Notes, has been maintained. Of the 53 agents captured, only 4 were women. The remainder remained concentrating on the same cases.

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Numbers

Of the 58 agents captured during the month in ITALY, it is of interest that nearly 30 were parachutists. Of the remainder, approximately 50 were line-crossers, and the rest "stay-behinds". Of all these, 8 were women, and there is some evidence that these 8 may be followed up in the future by a number more who are in training. Seven of the agents captured had been provided with W/T sets, which confirms to some extent a report that the enemy now intends to send in teams of three agents at a time, one of whom will be a radio operator, and the other two responsible for the collection of information. The majority were, however, to report in person on their return.

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TYPE

The tendency to increased persistence and boldness, noted in last month's Notes, has been maintained. Of the 58 agents captured, only 4 surrendered. The remainder required searching out and, in some cases, careful enquiry and diligent interrogation, before the real purpose of their presence in Allied territory was revealed. It is perhaps worth emphasising that up till recently the normal conception of counter-espionage as involving long and elaborate investigation has not generally applied in the Italian Theatre. A large number of agents have surrendered, while in other cases confrontation with an Allied CI representative has in itself been almost enough to induce a confession. The recent hardening in the type of agent encountered has, however, come at a moment when counter-measures have had time to develop, so that although the task has become more difficult, the tools with which to execute it are now reasonably adequate.

Means of entry

As indicated above, the number of agents infiltrated by parachute has been unusually high, and the proportion bears out the theory advanced last month that the enemy would probably make greater use of this method as a means of evading the ground controls in the forward areas. Although only 14 have been captured (the 15th was in fact parachuted in August 1944, and has only now been arrested) interrogation has revealed that a total of 18 were dropped.

...../Arrangements

1944

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arrangements for signalling the presence of enemy aircraft over allied territory are still imperfect, but it is not thought that any improvement can be effected at present owing to the difficulty of detecting low-flying aircraft, and the impossibility of any extensive observer system operating at night.

The line-crossers are still numerous, though proportionately less than last month, and the quote of "stay-behinds" comes to a very similar figure - 21 line-crossers and 22 stay-behinds.

Broadly speaking, the agents dropped have been concerned with sabotage, subversion, and strategic intelligence both political and military. While the line-crossers and stay-behinds have had short-range missions to secure tactical intelligence. This division cannot be accepted, however, as at all hard and fast.

Interrogation on routes chosen reveals that this month the enemy has, as was expected, included the Eighth Army front in his line-crossing operations.

The proportion of agents undetected is hard to estimate. It should be noted that only 3 of those captured had already been on successful missions previously, but even allowing for treble this figure of successes during the month it is still likely that some 80% of agents despatched have been captured.

Missions

The enemy's interest has been widely spread along the whole front, and has also embraced Rome and Sicily. The questionnaires have again been of all kinds, but there has been renewed emphasis on the acquisition of identity documents and passes, and one agent was instructed to obtain a copy of the Allied GI List of Suspected Agents.

Although the main preoccupation of the enemy has been with short-range tactical intelligence (15 agents are so far known to have had missions to acquire information of this type), 9 had longer-range missions involving the acquisition of politico-military information on the Lines of Communication and particularly in the Rome areas. The 13 saboteurs all had subsidiary political or military espionage missions; the remainder are either insufficiently known as yet or are not readily classifiable.

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Despatching Agencies

Just as missions are no longer so easily classifiable, so it is difficult in some cases to determine precisely the identity of the despatching agency. As far as this is possible, they are indicated below:-

Kdo 150	14
Kdo 190	4
Kdo 212	11
SD	2
WZLR	2
10 MAS	5
Fascist Republicans	1
1st 76 Corps	1
Fascist Group ROME	3
Not yet known	15
Total	58

Of the 18 parachutists dropped, Kdo 212 contributed 13, the SD 2, and 3 were sponsored by an Abwehr organization outside ITALY.

Future developments

It is anticipated that the effects of the Russian advance may well be

...../reflected

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reflected soon in the dispositions of the German intelligence organization in North ITALY. Experience has shown that they usually begin to move some time before the Military Headquarters which they serve, and close attention is therefore being paid to indications of such movement. So far there is nothing to report.

It is to be expected that so long as such Military Headquarters exist, the GIS will continue its efforts to help them. That these efforts may be on a somewhat more ambitious scale appears fully probable; on the other hand the present full moon period has not, at the time of writing, produced any of the anticipated parachutists, and it may well be that fears on this score are ill-founded.

Before the directing Headquarters of the GIS do eventually withdraw, they will clearly have much to do in the way of making final preparations for the establishment of stay-behind networks. It is satisfactory to note that, so far as N ITALY is concerned, a certain amount of information on this aspect is becoming available, and should provide for adequate counter-intelligence coverage.

2. NEW INTELLIGENCE METHODS

Helping the enemy

Information is still being received that agents are successfully obtaining lifts on military and civilian vehicles in Allied occupied ITALY. Two women agents were twice given lifts; another agent travelled frequently on Allied military vehicles on his mission to Southern ITALY during the autumn. These are only two examples from a number. It is clear that some drivers of military vehicles, though aware of the ban on carrying civilians, still do not realise the security aspect involved.

Women... Women...

The methods by which agents have been instructed to obtain information vary considerably. One was told to contact maids in hotels and officers' messes, and prostitutes who were associating with Allied officers; another was to treat Allied soldiers to meals and drinks, and buy them small presents. If the opportunity presented itself he was to accept employment in any Allied unit. One woman was encouragingly informed that it was easy to gossip with soldiers and "sleep" her way round her area.

Equipment

As has been noted for some time past, agents' equipment has become increasingly standardised. Alive to the dangers of Allied searches, one group of recent recruits was told to carry in their pockets nothing except

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Equipment

As has been noted for some time past, agents' equipment has become increasingly standardised. Alive to the dangers of Allied searches, one group of recent recruits was told to carry in their pockets nothing except one handkerchief and a pair of gloves - a circumstance which should at once arouse suspicion since, if left to themselves, most people usually carry a number of odds and ends of personal property. Italian torches of the small "dynamo" type are now being issued as standard equipment, as also is a leather brief case of German pattern for the transport of documents etc.

Identity documents

It is interesting that several recent agents, issued with false identity cards, have confessed themselves unable to recite the details appearing on them.

Some of the women agents now carry as means of identification a small piece of cloth, about 1" x 1", which is reported to have identity particulars written on it. The cloth is concealed by being sewn into either the elastic or hem of the (or) knickers (- or trousers). No examples of this type of identification document have yet reached this Headquarters, but photographs will be circulated when available.

An agent captured during the month reported that KOR, a leading figure in Abkko, 190, told him that the new well-known handkerchiefs embodying secret writing are no longer being issued.

...../3.

3. COUNTER INTELLIGENCE LESSONS

Reasons for capture

As indicated above, only 4 agents surrendered this month, and of the remaining captures 17 were the result of normal routine checking at the forward control points or elsewhere. 21 were effected on the basis of information received from other agents captured, and 6 from enquiries arising out of the information circulated in the CI Bulletin. One was arrested for loitering near an Allied unit, and one of the most important, a woman, owes her detection to the security-mindedness of an Allied officer. This officer reported to ZSS that a woman employed by a certain Allied unit was worth investigation as, although claiming to be an Italian subject, she spoke Italian with a German accent and had, from time to time, asked questions on military subjects; she had also, on one occasion, asked an Italian acquaintance where she could obtain certain radio accessories.

On referring to their records, ZSS found that, although an application for vetting had recently been received from the unit in question, certain unsatisfactory features of her past history had come to light, as a result of which security clearances for her employment had not been given, and further routine enquiries were being made. It was later found that the unit had already been employing her for two months before applying for her to be vetted.

Acting on these two leads, ZSS decided to search the flat in which she was living. This was done while she was out at an Allied officers' dance, and sufficient was found to justify her immediate arrest as an enemy agent on her return.

we have FBI

4. OTHER CASES OF SPECIAL INTEREST

One of the most interesting cases which has been handled recently is that of the priest BIONDI who came through the lines in company with another agent and was detained in a forward area. While his companion confessed comparatively quickly to being an enemy agent, BIONDI succeeded in persuading his interrogators that his only purpose in coming into AOT was to bring important letters and money from members of his religious order in the North to various religious dignitaries in Rome. His statements were believed to the extent that he was sent under escort to his Order in Rome, where his letters were examined and arrangements made to prevent his leaving Rome until the liberation of N ITALY. BIONDI, however, did not remain long in Rome and succeeded in making his way Northwards to STEA where he was re-arrested. In the meantime, his companion had made certain statements which threw suspicion on the priest, and BIONDI finally admitted that his passage through the lines had in fact been arranged by the SO, but that his principal purpose in coming was

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we have FOS

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The mission of another espionage agent, SHERIFF, is also of exceptional interest. He was to obtain answers in ROME to the following questions:-

- (a) Where is the Allied Command in ROME? Who is the Commander? Is he English, American or Italian? Where does he live and at what number?
- (b) Are any military police in residence there? English or Italian? How many?

...../(c)

- (c) What blocks or buildings are mainly occupied by the Allies?
- (d) Condition and size of airfields near Rome?
- (e) Who is now living at Corso Vittoria 25?
- (f) What measures of Allied control are in force at the points of entry to the Vatican City?
- (g) Is the boundaries of the Vatican marked off in any special way?

It is just possible that this may indicate that the enemy is considering some kind of SHUTTLE operation against Rome. SHUTTLE is, however, still only under preliminary investigation, and it is not by any means certain that he is not a penetration agent. If he is, the questionnaire is presumably enemy deception material.

5. SAROT-GE

General survey

A small guerrilla raid took place on the night of 9/10 Jan at a point on the Adriatic Coast South of ANCONA in the Porto San Giacomo area; the railway bridge was demolished, but the damage was in fact not great since the line is not in extensive use. Insufficient details are at present available to show whether or not any of the personnel were members of an enemy sabotage organization.

Despite the large number of saboteurs captured during the month, no damage was committed which could be attributed to them.

On 4 Jan an attempt was made to derail a train on the line between NAPLES and AVERSA. An obstruction had been placed on the track consisting of two steel rails, two buffers and a mortar shell, which might have exploded from concussion. Enquiry showed that the incident was one of several of a similar type; it appears that the motive in all cases was hold-up and robbery.

On 15 Jan a bomb was found amongst smoke canisters on Pier D at NAPLES Port by Military Police. The pin had been removed, and the bomb was therefore immediately thrown into the harbour. It is described as a rail fuse bomb, but it has not been possible to give it detailed examination, and its origin is not known.

The main targets given to the Mobile 212 sqd are captured in the period under review were petrol pipe-lines and dumps serving the areas. The question of the security of the former has recently been under review at this HQ, although the circumstances are not yet fully known. It is the same as the one at-

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The main targets given to the new 212 saboteurs captured in the period under review were petrol pipe-lines and dumps serving the Armies. The question of the security of the former has recently been under review at this Hq. although the pipes are obviously very vulnerable in the sense that they cannot be effectively guarded. It appears that damage to any section of the pipe itself would not have serious consequences, but that there are certain vulnerable points such as pumping stations etc to which serious damage could be done by saboteurs. Since such points are limited, it should be possible to ensure their adequate security and protection.

A report from GCS states that a factory at SETTIMO TORINESE, in ITALY, is manufacturing empty fountain pens in large quantities for the Germans, and in view of the well-known fountain pen camouflage used by Abwehr II for delay devices, it may be that the new supplies are designed for that end.

6. ARMY COMBAT 212

Introduction

Reference was made in the last issue of these Notes to a series of papers on the German Intelligence Service in ITALY. The first two of these have now been issued and more are now in preparation. However, the recent resurgence of sabotage activity in the shape of parachutists, line-crossers and small airborne

...../attacks

attacks sponsored by Kommando 212, together with certain modifications and developments in its methods, make it opportune to include here a brief summary of what is known of this principal enemy sabotage unit in Italy. What follows will in no way exclude the production of a further paper on this subject in the series referred to above.

General

Until the appearance and capture of a recent batch of parachute agents, Kommando 212 may be said to have conformed entirely to the normal Abwehr pattern. The establishment of a new school, the identification of an entirely new set of recruits, officers, and instructors, and the introduction of some novel features in the agents' missions to, however, suggest that the Kommando is coming under SD control as has been observed in the cases of several other Italian Abwehr units.

Of the Kommando 212 agents captured, the 14 in November 1944, the 17 in December 1944, and the 12 in January 1945 represent over 20% of the total number of agents arrested in the three months. A further 29 new agents of Kommando 212 were reported as being trained and at large in May and June of the same months.

Organization

The Kommando is organized, in accordance with normal usage, on the basis of a HQ, several subordinate Trupps, training schools and depots for sabotage material. These are as follows:-

- Kommando 212 - CO Major RHEIN (or HILMER) - 5 Piazza Duomo, Milan.
- Trupp 253 - CO Lt LORENZ (or LAURENT) (possibly Lt Lorenz Walter)
not heard of since May 1944, FLORENCE.
- Trupp 254 - Formerly Dienststelle KEISER (alias of the then-CO HILMER-NEH) now re-named Dienststelle FIDE, CO CLAUSEN, MUGLIA.
Last reports since Nov 44.
- Trupp 256 - CO Lt CHASSER, believed to have operated prior to June 1944 - no more recent reports - no location known.
- Trupp 257 - Or Pionier Versuchs Trupp 257 - CO Lt Hubert FRANKENSTIEL, ROSSON, near TREVISO. Recruits from NP En 10 MBS in collaboration with Lt Aloisio CONTACT.
- Schools - (a) Abwehrschule WAGNER or Klo-Klein - CO Capt Werner Klein; main source of Trupp 254, Lt Martin (or MARTIN) - Villa Farnese, Lombardy, near Serrano, near

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- Kio 212 - CO Major KEMM (or KEMMER) - 5 Piazza d'Armi, MILAN.
- Trupp 253 - CO Lt LORENT (or LAURENTE) (possibly Lt Lorenz MATTER) not heard of since May 1944. FLORENCE.
- Trupp 254 - Formerly Dienststelle KEISER (allies of the then-CO KOLETTNER) now re-named Dienststelle FIDE, CO CLAUSSEN, NOVARA. Few reports since Nov 44.
- Trupp 256 - CO Lt GRUSSEL, believed to have operated prior to June 1944 - no more recent reports - no location known.
- Trupp 257 - Or Flieger Versuchs Trupp 257 - CO Lt Hubert PFADENSHIEL, DOSSON, near TREVISO. Recruits from AF En 10 SAS in collaboration with Lt Roberto JUCCHIEL.
- Schools - (a) Benderstab MACHUS or Kio KLEIN - CO Capt Werner KLEIN; main source of Trupp 254, Lt KLEIN (or MARINI) - Villa BELDASSO, Longone al Segrino, near Ebro (Prov COMO). Reported Nov 44 to be moving to Mezzolambardo (Prov BRESCIA).
- (b) REZZATO - CO Lt NIKIS - Trupp not identified.
- (c) NOVARA - minor school for Trupp 254, until Oct 44 at Courmayeur.
- (d) S. Maria Island, VENICE - school for Trupp 257 - Aug/Oct 44, believed still functioning.
- (e) Villa "Biana", LONATE - Dec 44 - Trupp unidentified.
- (f) BRESCIA - late Nov 44 - connected with (e).
- (g) 7 Via Marzocco, MILAN - Nov/Dec 44 - possible direct connection with Kio 212.
- (h) MORTISE, near PAVIA - Nov/Dec 44 - Trupp unidentified.

...../Training

Training

The most active of the organizations listed above are Trump 254 (agents trained by Sonderstab W.ONS), Trump 257 (agents trained at S. Andres school), and the unnamed unit at RADA (agents trained at MORTISE).

The training given at these schools may be summarized very briefly as follows:-

SONDERSTAB W.ONS

Duration: 10 days to 1 month.
 Targets: All types of transport and industry.
 Method: Sabotage with and without explosives.
 Classes: All types explosives, TNT, plastic industrial explosives, time fuses, detonator devices, topography, firearms.

One agent states that training was for 54 hrs daily for 1 month.

S. ADRAZ

Duration: Over a fortnight.
 Targets: Fuel dumps, clothing stores, ammunition factories, bridges, transport, airfields.
 Methods: All types explosives.
 Classes: All types explosives, detonators, etc, 24 hrs daily.

MORTISE

Duration: Maximum 3 weeks, variable.
 Targets: Various.
 Methods: Sabotage with and without explosives, major and minor.
 Classes: Composition, use and concealment of all types explosives, incendiaries, detonators. Only reference to length states 2 hrs daily.

There is no evidence to lead to show that there are any courses in progress at the above schools or other dependencies of Kilo 212 at the present time, but it would be surprising if there were not.

Conclusions

On the evidence of the captured MORTISE Group it might be concluded that the new trend in Kilo 212 methods, the greater care shown in briefing, the choice of specific targets, and the threat of wider and more subtle attacks on Allied security in ITALY, call for greater vigilance and intensified defensive measures on the part of CI. While all normal precautionary measures should, of course, be taken, it may not perhaps be too optimistic to say that the lack of success achieved by the above groups is due to the lack

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WORMHOLE

Duration: Maximum 6 weeks, variable.
 Targets: Various.
 Methods: Sabotage with and without explosives, major and minor.
 Classes: Composition, use and concealment of all types explosives, incendiaries, detonators. Only reference to length states 2 hrs daily.

There is no evidence to hand to show that there are any courses in progress at the above schools or other dependencies of Kdo 212 at the present time, but it would be surprising if there were not.

Conclusions

On the evidence of the captured WORMHOLE group it might be concluded that the new trend in Kdo 212 methods, the greater care shown in briefing, the choice of specific targets, and the thrust at minor and more subtle attacks on Allied security in ITALY, call for greater vigilance and intensified defensive measures on the part of CI. While all normal precautionary measures should, of course, be taken, it may not perhaps be too optimistic to say that the lack of success achieved and the lack of spirit shown by the agents indicates that the WORMHOLE undertaking may well prove of little greater real danger to the Allies than have the other components of Kdo 212 in the past.

The wealth of information to be drawn from the reports of recent captures, when adequately analysed and exploited should in itself prove a sufficient safeguard against this new organization. The successes likely to have been achieved by Kdo 212 must be infinitesimal when compared with the work involved, the great number of officials employed, and the money spent in training agents, and one cannot but wonder why the Kommando should have persisted in despatching agents at such a cost over so long a period.

7. A PERSONALITY OF THE C.I.S. DR OTTO RAGEN ALIAS BEHNS OF THE SICHERHEITSDIENST, ART VI

(a) Dr Otto RAGEN, alias DRG, BECK, BECK, BECK, 1921, JARREL or BECK, by which name he is most usually known, and by which he will be referred to in these paragraphs, is believed to be the present head of ART VI (the SD) in ITALY, centred in VIENNA.

...../Dr BECK

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Dr REBUS was provisionally based at DUMFRIESVILLE 3000 in ATHENS. He there carried out the initial organization of a stay-behind Sabotage and Resistance Group. There is evidence that he is at present engaged in similar activities in Northern ITALY, and is in addition sending agents across the lines. The following summary of what is known about him may therefore be of interest, particularly as there appears to possess an original turn of mind.

(b) The Man

Dr REBUS is a native of PESTO, and aged 46. He fought in the last war as a Lieutenant. He became a Doctor of Law at INNSBRUCK University after the war, earning the money with which to pay for his studies himself, and subsequently practised law in INNSBRUCK.

In 1933 he became one of the original members of the Austrian Nazi Party and at some time before the ANSCHLUS was imprisoned as a Nazi agent. After the ANSCHLUS he was for a time a POLIZEIKOMMISSAR in VIENNA.

During the Abyssinian War he went to LEVASSINI at the instigation of the German Foreign Office and fought for the REBUS against the Italians, commanding 4,000 of the REBUS' bodyguard. For this the REBUS rewarded him after his return to AUSTRIA, and the Italians condemned him to death.

In 1939 he was called up into the SUPREME REBELLOUS and served first in the French and Polish campaigns, and later in ALGERIA and SALONIKA. He was then transferred to BELZONI as a FREISCHUTZ-KOMMANDO. In Feb 43 he received orders to return to ATHENS to build up DUMFRIESVILLE 3000 and 2000 of him VI F in ATHENS and SALONIKA respectively. He went to ATHENS and remained there until he was transferred to VERONA in Jun 44. Whilst in ATHENS he considered the funds given to him by WERLIE to be inadequate and augmented them by running two gambling dens and engaging in business deals - though possibly with the backing, and probably with the knowledge, of his superiors. It was suspected that he diverted some of the money so obtained into his own pocket.

He is said to be fiercely anti-Italian, an adventurer, and not only a full-time Nazi.

(c) Dr REBUS' Organization in GREECE

REBUS' organization in GREECE was divided into two parts. He had a sabotage group comprising about 100 saboteurs, mainly in the ATHENS area, and a resistance group with a total of 150 men.

the NUTS recovered him after his death. Italians condemned him to death.

In 1939 he was called up into the ARMEE PARABOLIZI and served first in the French and Polish campaigns, and later in ARMEE and SALONIKA. He was then transferred to ARMEE as a PRELIEUX.

In Feb 40 he received orders to return to ARMEE to build up DIRIGIBLES and 2000 of VI F in ARMEE and SALONIKA respectively. He went to ARMEE and remained there until he was transferred to ARMEE in Jun 41. Whilst in ARMEE he considered the funds given to him by ARMEE to be inadequate and augmented them by running two gambling dens and engaging in business deals - though possibly with the backing, and probably with the knowledge, of his superiors. It was suspected that he directed some of the money so obtained into his own pocket.

He is said to be fiercely anti-Italian, an adventurer, and not only a lake-romancer.

(c) Le NUTS' Organization in GREECE

ARMEE's organization in ARMEE was divided into two parts. He had a sabotage group comprising about 100 saboteurs, mainly in the ARMEE area, and a resistance group with a "hard core" of 150 men and a reported total membership of some 3,000, and mainly from the ranks of ARMEE (a Greek Quilish and Fascist organization, formerly working closely with the ARMEE against "Polakovism" and Anglo-Jewish Capitalism) in ARMEE, but inactive since 1942).

The sabotage group was intended as a post-occupation organization to destroy utilities, dams, harbours, facilities, Allied munition and equipment depots, and Allied officers' and troops' billets. Plans were also made to shoot British officers.

The core of the resistance group, 150 officers, was to withdraw into the mountains of the eastern of the island and from there do everything possible to hinder the Allied occupation. 4 further 5-600 members of the group, who were considered as likely to be compromised if they remained in ARMEE, may also have been intended to accompany them. They were to be equipped with 17/2 with which they would be in touch with ARMEE. The remainder of the 3,000 were simply told to "disappear".

...../A. GOTTEN

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4. German named August LUDWIG, alias HERTH, was to remain behind to direct the work of both groups. He had his own W/T set and four operators, one Greek and three Italians. He was not in direct contact with those whose activities he controlled, but worked through "cut-outs" (go-betweens).

The sabotage group was organized into three main parties. LUDWIG controlled two of these, one a party of 16 Italians and the other of 4 Greeks. The third party consisted of some 60 Greeks. There was also a fourth and subsidiary party on the West coast under the control of a Greek, about which comparatively little is so far known. These two last were either independent or came, as long as he was there, directly under the control of BEGUS.

LUDWIG had at his disposal 6 or 7 suitcases full of explosives for the use of the twenty men he controlled.

(Note: The important members of both groups have since been arrested; LUDWIG himself has been captured.)

(c) Dr BEGUS' activity in Northern ITALY

BEGUS was recalled from ATHENS in Jun 44. At the end of July he took charge of a newly-formed SE Sabotage School at Villa GRIZZANI, CASALETO, near VERONA. He has since moved to VERONA where, as stated above, he is believed to be head of ATT VI (SD) for ITALY. As such, he would direct the SD sabotage and espionage operations in ITALY. In the field of sabotage, he is believed to be organizing a stay-behind organization for Northern ITALY as well as despatching saboteurs into Allied territory. His espionage tasks have been mainly of the political and economic variety, although an effort to introduce penetration agents into our Intelligence Service has been directly traced to him. No doubt his activity in the penetration field will continue.

Further information on BEGUS will appear in our series of papers on the German Intelligence Service, as new facts are developed.

8. TRIAL STATISTICS

During the last six months approximately 200 enemy espionage or sabotage agents have been arrested in the Army areas. The following trial statistics relative to these agents may be of interest:-

Trials held	...	...	...	...	25
Sentenced to death	...	...	...	...	21
Sentenced to imprisonment (20 years or life)	...	...	...	...	3
Acquitted	...	...	...	...	1

Death sentences recorded

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REBUS was recalled from ATHENS in Jun 44. At the end of July he took charge of a newly-formed SD Sabotage School at Villa Grimaldi, CASALINO, near VERONA. He has since moved to VERONA where, as stated above, he is believed to be head of SD VI (SD) for Italy. As such, he would direct the SD sabotage and espionage operations in Italy. In the field of sabotage, he is believed to be organizing a stay-behind organization for Northern Italy as well as dispatching saboteurs into Allied territory. His espionage tasks have been mainly of the political and economic variety, although an effort to introduce penetration agents into our Intelligence Service has been directly traced to him. No doubt his activity in the penetration field will continue.

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Acquitted	...	...	...	...	1
Death sentences commuted	...	...	...	...	4
Death sentences awaiting confirmation	...	...	...	...	10
Executed	...	...	...	...	7

Following names are quoted for the benefit of those CI agencies who handled the cases concerned:-

Sentenced to death: LANCELOTI, PIACI, RENELLI, PIRAS, LENCIONI U., MARTINELLI, BONTI F., SEMINO, AGOSTINI, AGOSTI-PELLI, FABB, DIOMISIO, BARELLI, CHECCHI, VENTURINI, FERRARI S., GIATTI, BONTI T., BARAJDI, CONTA, CURELLI.

Sentenced to imprisonment: PARASOTTO, COSTA S., REVELLOQUA, SORGI.

Death sentence commuted: BONTI T., BARAJDI, CONTA, CURELLI.

Death sentence: LANCELOTI, BONTI F., SEMINO, AGOSTINI, AGOSTI-PELLI, FABB, DIOMISIO, BARELLI, CHECCHI, VENTURINI, FERRARI S., GIATTI, BONTI T., BARAJDI, CONTA, CURELLI.

The remainder of those sentenced to death are awaiting confirmation of the sentence.

...../s.

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8. ARMY DISRUPTION METHODS: MAFZ BUS ON THE WESTERN FRONT(a) Recruitment and Training

Documents captured on the Western Front have revealed that towards the end of October or in early November 1944, a call was issued from the Führer's HQ for English-speaking volunteers from the Army and SS to report to TRIERMUNDEL (AK SKORZENY) for "special tasks". In addition to showing this special interest in English-speaking personnel, reference was made by the Germans to assemble serviceable captured US equipment. The indication of this was a report that forty Allied vehicles captured in ARGENTY had been released by the 21st Panzer Division pool "to be used to infiltrate saboteurs and agents into the American lines". These captures gave warning of the possible use of US uniforms and vehicles in a project under the leadership of Obersturmbannführer Otto SKORZENY, the resourceful and energetic SS officer who had been responsible in Sep '43 for the rescue of MUSCULINI. Such a project was in fact eventually put into operation in support of the German ARONAUS offensive and the full story, based on PW interrogations, has now been placed together.

Officer and AM volunteers reported to Dieterstell SKORZENY, TRIERMUNDEL. Many of these volunteers, when captured, stated that they responded to the call, thinking that they would be used merely as interpreters. In any case they were first tested for their fluency in English by a band of three officers. This test resulted in the selection of suitable candidates for Operation "WREATH", and they were divided into the following groups: I (excellent), II (satisfactory), III (poor), and IV (very poor), according to language proficiency.

These four groups were then trained as follows:-

Group I

This consisted of the best linguists, who were sent to the SS DOMTSCHERSCHULE (Interpreters School) in TRIERMUNDEL, a suburb of TRIER. Here training was given in the identification and organization of the US Army, US Army along, vehicle markings, exact order dress, and the general appearance and behavior of the US soldier and officer. It should be noted that German Officer who were unusually proficient in English were called upon to masquerade as US officers, while German officers who were not as well qualified linguistically assumed the identity of US enlisted men.

IRFENDHIL. Many of these volunteers, when captured, stated that they responded to the call, thinking that they would be used merely as interpreters. In any case they were first tested for their fluency in English by a board of three officers. This test resulted in the selection of suitable candidates for Operation WRECKIT, and they were divided into the following groups: I (excellent), II (satisfactory), III (good), and IV (very poor), according to language proficiency.

These four groups were then trained as follows:-

Group I

This consisted of the best linguists, who were sent to the SS DOCTRINERSCHULE (Interpreters School) in TRIEDENHIL, a suburb of GRAMMERSBURG. After training was given in the identification and recognition of the US Army, US Army slang, vehicle markings, close order drill, and the general appearance and behaviour of the US soldier and officer. It should be noted that German GIs/POs who were unusually proficient in English were called upon to masquerade as US officials. While German officers who were not as well qualified linguistically assumed the identity of US enlisted men.

Groups II and III

Members of these two groups received their training in GRAFENBERG. This training included military identifications, US close order drill, general appearance and behaviour of US soldiers (the approximately the same subjects as Group I) and, in addition, close combat and specialised training according to the individual's prospective mission, eg reconnaissance, signals, or demolitions. For practical training in their assumed roles many of the students were sent to an American PW camp. Here they mingled with US soldiers, studied their customs and the pronunciation of American slang and "GI" terms. After a limited stay in the PW camp, the students returned to GRAFENBERG. During extensive training exercises the men were also given instruction in infiltrating across the front lines. Members of Group II were normally to sit in the rear of a vehicle; members of Group III, not being satisfactory linguists, were normally the drivers and tried to speak as little as possible, all the talking being done by a member of Group I who would be sitting next to the driver.

...../Group IV

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Group IV

Members of Group IV, the very poor linguists, were sent to a reserve company in GRATENTZ. Members of this Group were not contacted by the US forces during the German offensive in December, but were probably intended as reinforcements, had these been required.

Until the middle of November, when the men were issued with US uniforms and the American vehicles began to arrive, the nature of the intended mission had been concealed as far as possible; in fact, two men are said to have been shot for giving information on some details of the enterprise in their letters home. When the true nature of the operation became apparent, many of the students, especially the officers, were reluctant to continue, and a delegation of officers is alleged to have approached two of the leaders, Lt Commander Von BEIR and Major LREYER, for the purpose of being relieved. They were told that this was impermissible, and that any further protest would be considered treason. According to a captured member of the Brigade, one officer who insisted on being transferred was tried by court-martial and probably shot. In an attempt to boost morale, speeches were made by Assistant Gauleiter HOLTZ and by SKURZYNY himself. The men were told that modern tactics called for infiltration of enemy lines in enemy uniforms and that the Allies had used this ruse on a number of occasions. Nevertheless, the victims, especially the officers, realized that the mission was contrary to the Rules of Warfare and that their honour would be compromised.

(b) Binnett STUBLEY

- (i) Members of Groups I, II and III were formed into a unit known as Binnett STUBLEY, part of 150 Panzer Brigade, command of which had been given to SKURZYNY. It should be noted here that only members of Binnett STUBLEY of 150 Pz Bde are of particular CI interest. The other elements of 150 Pz Bde generally enjoyed no special training, their headquarters being in the nature of a tactical unit assigned for deception en masse at a distance, and not intended to pass close scrutiny. From a CI viewpoint, the main threat came from small teams of specially trained personnel of the Binnett STUBLEY who could circulate within our lines speaking good English.

- (ii) The unit had three companies, one of which was commanded by 1st Lt STUBLEY. The original plan was to employ the unit as one entity, but this plan was later abandoned, and the unit was

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transformation was tried by court-martial and probably shot. In an attempt to boost morale, speeches were made by Assistant Gauleiter ROLIZ and by SCHROEDER himself. The men were told that modern tactics called for infiltration of enemy lines in enemy uniforms and that the allies had used this ruse on a number of occasions. Nevertheless, the victims, especially the officers, realized that the mission was contrary to the Rules of Warfare and that "their honour would be compromised".

(b) Einheit STEINLU

- (i) Members of Groups I, II and III were formed into a unit known as Einheit STEINLU, part of 150 Panzer Brigade, command of which had been given to SCHROEDER. It should be noted here that only members of Einheit STEINLU of 150 Pz Bde are of particular CI interest. The other elements of 150 Pz Bde generally enjoyed no special training, their assignment being in the nature of a tactical ruse designed for deception en masse at a distance, and not intended to pass close scrutiny. From a CI viewpoint, the main threat came from small teams of specially trained personnel of the Einheit STEINLU who could circulate within our lines speaking good English.

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- (ii) The unit had three companies, one of which was commanded by Lt STEINLU. The original plan was to employ the unit as one entity, but this plan was later abandoned, and the unit was divided among the three Kampfgruppen of 150 Pz Bde.

- (iii) The CO of the Einheit STEINLU was successively Lt Cdr (Navy) von FAHR, Major (GAF) von SCHROEDER, and Major LOHMEYER.

- (iv) The unit was composed of three types of troops, viz:-

F - Troops (Führungstruppe), similar in purpose to Rangers or Commandos

These troops were equipped with approximately 30 jeeps and a liaison staff car. Their mission was infiltration, long-range reconnaissance, and the elimination of Allied Commanders and their Headquarters.

G - Troops (Nachrichten or Signal troops)

These were equipped with approximately 10 jeeps with radio transmitters. Their mission was to circulate behind the Allied lines, transmit information at regular intervals, and monitor and destroy communications.

...../PI - Troops

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Pi - Troops (Pioneer or Demolition troops)

Their mission was to destroy bridges and other vulnerable points. They were equipped with approximately 10 jeeps and the following special equipment:-

- An explosive called PHOLIN or NEOLIN, previously reported by the sabotage agents captured in the Seventh US Army sector.
- A plastic explosive, olive drab in colour and consisting in substance.
- Smoke grenades.
- Big grenades and small cylindrical grenades.
- Pistol with shoulder rest for launching a type of armour-piercing hand grenade.
- Pull detonators and time schedule.

(v) It was also reported that the following items were available to members of Binnet STELL:-

- Time bombs disguised as American canteens.
- Capsules of ELUSALIN (Hydrocyanic acid, HCN), which can be hidden in a match box or a cigarette lighter and used, if necessary, as an aid in escaping or overiding capture. When a capsule is broken by being hurled against the ground, the contents are said to evaporate immediately in sufficient potency to kill the opponent and permit the user to flee while holding his breath.
- Glass capsules of sulphuric acid to be thrown at the guard in an attempt at escape.
- Large sums of British or US currency "for purchases or emergencies"; in one case a long-range team had 900 dollars and 1,600 pounds sterling. No special instructions were given as to the use contemplated for the money, nor were reasons given as to why such large sums were issued. One of the purposes may have been to acquire recently issued Belgian currency. Another possibility, although less likely in view of the tactical nature of the mission, may have been cash payments to agents or sympathisers who might be over-run.
- US identity cards of the AGO 65-4 series, which carry an officer's counter-signature below the holder's

can be hidden in a match box or a cigarette lighter and used, if necessary, as an aid in escaping or avoiding capture. When a capsule is hidden by being buried against the ground, the contents are said to evaporate immediately in sufficient potency to kill the opponent and permit the user to flee while holding his breath.

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US identity cards of the 400 45-4 series, which carry an officer's counter-signature below the holder's signature.

(c) Organization of 150 Pz Dss

In addition to EINHART STELLAU, 150 Pz Dss also included a group known as "3rd SOLAR". It appears to have been the code word for the HQ of 150 Pz Dss, although there are indications that it may also have included an assassination party alleged to have been directed against General EISENHOWER.

Steb SOLAR had under command three KAMPGRUPPEN, all motorized. The second consisted of 700-1,000 men, with approximately 100 jeeps, and American trucks, in addition to German vehicles commandeered to replace US transport. Also included were Panzer troops, 1000 engineer and signal platoons, a supply unit with English-speaking personnel, several units assigned for special tasks such as air protection, radio and engineer teams, and elements called SONDER-KOMMANDOS whose function was to destroy communications. The first and third Kampgruppen appear to have been similar in composition, though somewhat larger. Elements of the Einheit STELLAU were attached to each Kampgruppe.

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(a) Mission or Plan

The overall plan for Operation "WIEBE" called for regular SS formations to accompany the breakthrough. When this initial penetration had developed a certain measure of stability in the battle area, the leading elements of 150 Pz Div were to penetrate the Allied positions by passing as US units pursued by enemy German forces. Their first task was to cause confusion and panic by all possible means, including wild shooting, the abrupt surrender of various groups, the dissemination of false reports etc. During the confusion which was to result from this activity, elements of the 150 Pz Div were to secure strategic points to be exploited later by the regular SS units, with time to follow. This type of infiltration is referred to by the Germans as "Durchschlagen".

Several missions fitted into this overall plan, the first of which was for the 150 Pz Div to secure the bridge over the Moselle River between LIES and KLEIN, with LIEBE as the final objective. The first stages of the plan were to follow the route taken by 150 Pz Div. Among the missions to be carried out as complementary to the above were the reporting of dispositions and locations of elements; the demolition of strategic routes and bridges, likely to be used by Allied reinforcements; and the destruction of headquarters and signal lines.

Further, it also appears to have existed to assassinate General BIEBER. The first substantial report of this plan was given by Lt (Col) Gerd SCHULZ, captured in LIEBE on 19 Dec 44. He stated that SCHULZ had been given the mission to attack 3 armor divisions' headquarters near PARIS and to kill the principal staff officers found there. For this purpose SCHULZ was to pass through PARIS with 50 men, most of them in American uniforms. Some of the men, however, would wear the uniforms of German officers in an attempt to simulate the transport of German prisoners to PARIS. The five officers who were to take part in this mission, were to assemble in PARIS at the Café de la Paix on 19 Dec 44. Then, there were collaboration would join them. Lt SCHULZ stated that this information was obtained during a meeting at BRUNNEN early in December 1944. Another PW stated that, on or about 5 Dec 44, while at the SS Interpretation School in WILHELM, he overheard the CO of the School and the high-ranking SS officers discussing the SCHULZ undertaking. He gave the above outline of the mission as Lt SCHULZ.

(c) Intelligence Signals

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The reconnaissance methods described upon the members of the 150 Pz Div are being in Allied territory appear to have varied considerably. The following were reported by PW:-

Further, a plan appears to have existed to assassinate General ELSENBERGER. The first substantial report of this plan was given by Lt (ALF) EUGEN SCHULZ, captured in LIECH on 19 Dec 44. He stated that SCHULZ had been given the mission to attack General ELSENBERGER's headquarters near PARIS and to kill the principal staff officers found there. For this purpose SCHULZ was to pass through FRANCE with 30 men, most of them in American uniforms. Some of the men, however, recall that the uniforms of German officers in an attempt to simulate the transport of German prisoners to PARIS. The five officers who were to take part in this mission, were to assemble in PARIS at the Café de la Paix or at the Café de l'Europe, where collaborators would join them. Lt SCHULZ stated that this information was obtained during a meeting at CRATONVILLER in December 1944. Another PW stated that, on or about 5 Dec 44, while at the SS Interpreters' School in FRIEDENSBURG, he overheard the CC of the School and two high-ranking SS officers discussing the SCHULZ undertaking. He gave the same outline of the mission as Lt SCHULZ.

(c) Recognition Signals

The recognition methods decided upon for members of the mission are in Allied territory appear to have varied considerably. The following were reported by PWs:

Foot and arm signal, first blue, then changed to red-white, and later green.

During the day the original signal was to be a rifle held vertically in the right hand, answered by the left fist placed upon the helmet. This was later changed to the weapon held vertically in both hands and answered by the same signal.

A PW from 12 SS Div stated that, on 14 Dec 44, an officer had told him that Germans in territory unknown could be recognized by the following:-

Pink or blue scarves.

Blouses or sweaters unbuttoned (unlikely in view of the weather).

Protruding neckties or collars.

Letter "G" or "H" on off side of heads of vehicles.

Reversing the steel helmet and wearing partial head bandages. Yellow rectangular patch on left shoulder.

...../Tanks

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Tanks arrived with letters "X", "Y" or "Z".
 At close range, Germans could identify themselves by means
 of their German Solbuch, German identification tags and,
 in some cases, by German uniform worn underneath American
 coats.

(c) German Weapons

The main defense against long-range infiltrators of this nature is
 clearly the constant application of stringent military security
 measures and keen vigilance on the part of all military personnel.
 The following notes on the weapons taken by 12 Army Group to
 counter this latest enemy maneuver are however worthy of study.

Good shock pistols were distributed, and all military vehicles were
 stopped and scrutinized. Special attention was given to jeeps and
 staff cars. As some of the Germans were suspected of smuggling
 as General, they were not allowed to interfere with the effective-
 ness of identity controls. In the case of trucks, the rear of body
 of the vehicle was always inspected to ensure that no passengers
 were being carried without to the driver. Watch was kept for
 American helmets without the prescribed white stripe which design-
 ated officers and sergeants, as the Germans were known to be wearing
 helmets without their markings. All persons who did not have the
 current passbook were carefully investigated. In this connection
 the importance of safeguarding the personnel was stressed, as it was
 discovered that a guard in Mainz had actually given away the pass-
 book to a long-range scout. When vehicles were halted, the drivers
 were cross-questioned closely, if bogus, these were more probably the
 present illegals; attempts on the part of an "officer" acting
 next to the driver to appear for him were to be rebuffed. In rear
 areas, a strict check was maintained on all body-bags, in order
 securing of all vehicles containing fuel, food, oil and baggage
 in all instances was enforced, as some of the enemy jeeps were found
 to be carrying no fuel, and some of the army jeeps were found
 one German jeep group was captured as an ordnance maintenance unit,
 where they had pulled in for repairs to their vehicles.

The following special pointers were observed, but in connection with
 administration and checking of identity documents.

The Germans were not to present pay books for identifica-
 tion purposes.

The 12 Army Group was formed at the 15/4-4
 series, which carried on 15/4-4 series.

American soldiers without the prescribed white stripe which designated officers and non-coms, as the Germans were known to be tearing labels without this marking. All persons who did not know the current password were carefully investigated. In this connection the importance of safeguarding the password was stressed, as it was discovered that a group in Italy had actually given away the password to a long-range team. When vehicles were halted, the drivers were cross-questioned since, if caught, these were more probably the poorest linguists; attempts on the part of an "officer" sitting next to the driver to answer for him were to be rejected. In rear areas, a strict check was instituted on all trip-tickets. Greater scrutiny of all vehicles obtaining petrol from units and supply installations was enforced, as none of the enemy jeeps were found to be operating on fuel obtained from US Army sources. In fact, one German jeep group was captured at an Ordnance maintenance unit, where they had pulled in for repairs to their vehicles.

The following special pointers were brought out in connection with examination and checking of identity documents:-

The Germans were apt to present pay books for identification purposes.

The AGO identity card form used was of the 65/-1 series, which carried an officer's counter-signature below holder's signature. (The 65/1 series is the form normally carried by US officers.) The cards carried by the Germans were brand new, unexpired and signed by the individual himself and then slightly dirtied, though the stamps were equally detected as being new.

A lot of the Germans captured carried American "dog-tags", which they had acquired on their own initiative. Since it was likely that Germans would be unable to remember their assumed personal numbers CID/PSS were instructed to ask suspects for their personal number and then check it against the identification tag. A further check was to ask unqualified men in that Service Command he had entered the Army, in order to see if this corresponded with the second digit of the social number on the tag. In the documents the products seemed satisfactory in themselves but there was still doubt about the holder, simple questions from American files and military life were asked, such as:-

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"What is the capital of your home State?"
 "Who was the 31st?"
 "What is the first name of DEWEY, SMITH etc?"
 "What is the name of the 'Windy City'?" (San
 German can pronounce CHICAGO correctly, even
 if they know the answer.)
 "Name your highest unit and describe its shoulder
 patch."

Finally, in case of continued doubt, questions were
 carried out. Experience showed that the Germans were
 apt to carry on their person some identification
 tags and a Goldbuch. Star cases were discovered of
 German boys killed with German uniforms, and under Ameri-
 can, or parts of them. Any soldier in possession of
 American or British equipment was automatically suspect.
 Thus, anything out of character of any and anything it was
 stressed that discipline and vigilance were required
 as "such men, facing our main attack, are probably
 dangerous".

(r) Trade Intelligence

As the German offensive in the RHINE area under way in late
 December, the following would be made at in French and British was
 repeated every ten minutes every on interval period. Working back
 to the tactics of 1918, and underlined by the mention of new
 infantry weapon, it shows an enemy intent to clog the roads in
 front of the German penetration of the First US Army sector and
 thus to hinder the shift of Allied reserves, and generally to
 create confusion on the Allied L of C.

TRADE INTELLIGENCE !!

You will hear this broadcast every ten minutes. (Here
 a frequency band was given.) You are not in the zone
 of operations. At the moment we cannot say anything
 definite. TRADE INTELLIGENCE, your life depends upon
 your listening! This is to know a SECRET, it is
 terrible! We know our enemy's weapons. No one will
 live where there are TRADE INTELLIGENCE weapons and employed.
FLY! TRADE INTELLIGENCE are trying to get back to the
 front on all fronts. Don't let a single TRADE INTELLIGENCE truck
 through. Grab the TRADE INTELLIGENCE trucks by force if necessary.
 Get out of danger - your life depends on it. TRADE INTELLIGENCE
 of all possible means of flight. TRADE INTELLIGENCE on all roads

As the German offensive in the ARDENNES got under way in late December, the following radio broadcast in Flemish and French was repeated every ten minutes over an antenna pointed. Marking back to the tactics of 1940, and modernized by the addition of new informal weapons, it shows an enemy attempt to block the roads in front of the German penetration of the First US Army sector and thus to hinder the shift of Allied reserves, and generally to create confusion on the Allied I of C.

GERMAN CRYPTONYMS !!

You will hear this broadcast every ten minutes. (Have a frequency band-aid given.) You are not in the zone of operations. At the moment we cannot say anything definite. GERMAN CRYPTONYMS, your life depends upon your listening! This is no longer a LITZKE, it is total war! We have new surprise weapons. No one will live there where new informal weapons are employed. Pure! American conveys the fact we get back to the road on all roads. Don't let a single American truck through. Great the American trucks by force if necessary. But out of range - your life depends on it. Make of all possible means of flight. Fly on all wings - bicycles, auto-cycles, motorcycles. Goas working - Pure! The German soldiers will kill you. Take your own machine gun with you. Representatives of MAAS, FLORENCE, WATERS, EXETER, LIVER, WATSON, GUTHRIE, PHILIP, VALL, FLEMING - WRE! Yes, FLAMES must be used again. A gas bottle is in preparation. You must flee on all roads, HELSINKI OPERATIONS, for your wife, your children, even the old and the sick. The new informal weapon will be used in your sector. Everything will be blown. Pure! Nothing will be left, even the plants will die. After this you will be nothing. You will be dead. Hello BRITAIN, HELLO BRITAIN -- this broadcast will be sent every ten minutes every day from 1230 - 1430."

As adaptation of the new technique might well be employed should the enemy ever launch an offensive in the Italian front.

10. TYPED DURING THE NIGHT

(8) A report dated 1 Jan 46 has been received from an Allied agent, described as "of average reliability", concerning a circular dated

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1 Nov 44 alleged to have been addressed by HIMMEL to the SS in Italy. This circular is said to order the immediate establishment in every Italian Province of a Fifth Column personnel center to be composed entirely of first-rate German officials and to be responsible for a number of small groups in the area. These groups, who were to be composed of Italian drawn from outside the FFF or GR and particularly from the clergy, were to start work on the disputation of the Germans, organizing sabotage and propaganda and operating on information services. The German guerrilla commander was to leave behind a list of persons to be liquidated by a bullet in the back of the head. Every center was to be given sufficient Italian money to last three years. SS HQ TRIESTE was also to provide each center with a specially trained Israeli staff for work of spy and sabotage and their staff was to be lodged with the host families in order to facilitate their work. Information was to be passed up to Centro HQ's at frequent intervals by personal courier; at least four W/F's stations were to be established in each provided capital and one in every town of more than 5,000 inhabitants.

This ambitious plan, if indeed it exists, is unlikely to prove as formidable in practice as it sounds now in theory. It is more than likely, however, that some form of post-occupational subversive network, inspired by HIMMEL, will be encountered in N ITALY.

- (c) Early in January a somewhat similar report was received from an OSS source. According to this report, FIVUMINI, Secretary of the Fascist Party, has directed that extreme Fascist elements should make preparations for humanity and harassing activities against the Allied forces after the latter's arrival in N ITALY. They are to prepare a newspaper and civilian suit, and, when the time comes, to escape to the mountains from which a revolt will be organized. These Fascists are said to have been divided into units and provided with a cash reserve and six months' advance of pay for men. It is not known where the new organization has its headquarters, but the town of MONZA (MILANO Province) has been suggested as a likely center.

The content appeared to more (a) above is equally applicable to the latter report.

11. "COMA DELLA CE.M." (CLOCK SHIRT CODE)

(c) General

This ambitious plan, if indeed it exists, is unlikely to prove so formidable in practice as it sounds now in theory. It is more than likely, however, that some form of post-occupational subversive network, inspired by RUMELIN, will be encountered in N ITALY.

- (b) Early in January a somewhat similar report was received from an OSS source. According to this report, PAVOLINI, Secretary of the Fascist Party, has directed that extreme Fascist elements should make preparations for brutality and harassing activities against the Allied forces after the latter's arrival in N ITALY. They are to prepare a knapsack and civilian suit, and, when the time comes, to escape to the mountains from which a revolt will be organized. These Fascists are said to have been divided into units and provided with a cash reserve and six months' advance of pay per man. It is not known where the new organization has its Headquarters, but the town of MONZA (MILANO Province) has been suggested as a likely centre.

The comment appended to para (a) above is equally applicable to this latter report.

11. "CORPO DELIBER CO.MAN" (BLACK SHIRT CORPS)

(z) General

The CORPO DELIBER CO.MAN or BRIGATA NERA organization is one of the several ugly growths springing from the grave of the MVSN. It is in fact a re-formation of the former MUTI Sections, which, unlike the commander of the MVSN, have not been absorbed into the GUARDIA NAZIONALE REPUBLICANA.

It has as its chief Alessandro PAVOLINI, Secretary of the Republican Fascist Party, who sometimes handles in person operations of units of the Corps. It is, however, to be noted that, although PAVOLINI is a civil minister, the Brigades, so far as can be ascertained, form part of the Italian Army, and their members can presumably claim to be soldiers. On the other hand, it is not to be inferred that they normally play the role of soldiers, their duties thus far having consisted almost entirely of an aggressive type of police work. The sole known exception to this is an appearance of Black Brigade elements in the battle of FLORENCE, and there are indications that the "EUGENIO PAVOLINI" Brigade is scheduled to appear in the battle for BOLOGNA. The Corps was in fact formed primarily to help the Germans in fighting Partisans and conscripting labour. Unfortunately in neither of these functions can they be said

...../.....

similarly to have failed. The Corps consists of several thousands of the most unscrupulous individuals in Europe. Their handling of captured prisoners is confirmed by many sources as being more viciously sadistic than in that of their German hunting-companions. The numerical strength per province being estimated at about one thousand, it would at first sight seem probable that such a large number of fascist thugs should be available to be sent to leave their homes for long periods, in order to accept the discomfort and danger of bitter guerrilla warfare, waged against communist. In analysis of records of the various membership indications an explanation of this extreme "unneighborliness", in that, for the most part, the list is made up of local men who have originated from the Southern Provinces, which have thus emptied their areas of the unfortunates who escaped.

(b) Composition

The Provincial Federal Commissioner of the Fascist Republican Party is the responsible head of the provincial Brigades. However, according to an informant who has worked in a position of trust in a Brigade, the Commissioner has not a great influence in the planning of his Brigade's activities, the deciding factor being the will of the SD. The SD exercises, for example, a veto power on planned punitive operations. In an expedition of importance, SD officers and NCOs usually participate, and important prisoners are handed over to the SD, who have power to decide as to their release, imprisonment or execution.

(c) Organization

Every Brigade has its permanent or standing HQ, organization and its troops, but the main body of its members are thought to serve in a part-time basis and are selected from the more able-bodied and enthusiastic fascists of a district, who are available when called upon.

Following is a list of Black Brigade units as far noted, with districts in which they were last reported as operating:-

<u>Designation</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Last Reported</u>
"MILITARI"	SARREVALLE SCARLE	early Dec 44
"MOSLE", probably region	(0 9100)	
West of		
TRIPPE (MOSLE) (PLONZ)	RENNES (2 3901)	

26 Dec 44
early Dec 44

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according to an informant who has worked in a position of trust in a Brigade, the Commissioner has not a great influence in the planning of his Brigade's activities, the deciding factor being the will of the SD. The SD exercises, for example, a veto power on planned punitive operations. In an expedition of importance, SD officers and NCOs usually participate, and important prisoners are handed over to the SD, who have power to decide as to their release, imprisonment or execution.

(c) Organization

Every Brigade has its permanent or standing IC, organization and IC, troops, but the main body of the Brigade is brought to serve on a part-time basis and are collected from the more able-bodied and enthusiastic Fascists of a district, who are available when called upon.

Following is a list of Black Brigades units as far noted, with districts in which they were last reported as operating:-

Designation	District	Last Reported
"LIFIGRI"	SEMPRILE-SORTIL (S 5432)	early Dec 44
"LOCHI", probably region West of		
"LUPO ISTORI" (PUBINZI)	TURIN	20 Dec 44
"LUBOS (S) CAPILLI"	RIVERCINO (X 5301)	early Dec 44
"LUDRINO ALCHINI"	TURIN	26 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (POLOMI)	BOLOGNA	29 Nov 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ)	CRILL (K 4450)	3 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ)	DELLI STIVINE (F 0530)	15 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) Called:		
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus)	ORERO	24 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) Group		
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	TURIN Area	17 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	SALO (F 2974)	early Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	IS MONTI	Nov 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	PICERAZ Area	3 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	throughout North Piedmont	mid Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	Near MILANO (J 5881)	
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	SARCA (S 2873)	5 Jan 45
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	Near FIVENTINA	3 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	TURIN	26 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)	SAVIA Area (J 3681)	3 Dec 44
"LUDRINO" (CERAZ) (Taleo Bus) (Nov 44: Cer formation)		Nov 44

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Designation	District	Last Reported
"FANTINI" reported arrested sent to TRIESTE, Commander A. BURNIAC		
"ALDO RUSSO"	GENOVA - TURIN - MILANO (N 3599)	Dec 44
"ALDO RUSSO"	MILAN ALCA SILESSOL (J 4367) SILESSOL (J 3492)	5 Jan 45
"TONZIGHI" etc		
"L. BRIZZI" Commanded by BULLO Morea		
"BARDI" Commanded by ALBERTO Gino		

(d) The ROMA Brigade

The following account of the Black Brigades in ROMA gives in general terms a typical picture of such units.

The head of the ROMA Brigade is the Federal Scout, Franco VITTORINI, ex-member of the Special Tribunal of BOLOGNA. He is directly responsible in theory to the Chief of the Province, Dr. BURNIAC, and has under him the Vice-Scouts, Dino BIRISCO, Alberto SILESSOL and GUSTINO, who form a permanent and violent trio. The Brigade is divided into the formations, one for the city, commanded by Dino BIRISCO, with HQ in the Via GIROLAMO BRUNO, and the other for the Province, commanded by Alberto SILESSOL, with HQ in the Via Rolando Rolando.

Detachments are located throughout the Province: at FORTI DI ARRETO under a certain BIRISCO; at CALO SILESSOL under GUSTINO; at GIAN SILESSOL under BIRISCO; at FORTI DI SILESSOL under Antonio SILESSOL (younger brother of ALBERTO above mentioned); at FORTI DI SILESSOL under SILESSOL; at FORTI DI SILESSOL under SILESSOL; at FORTI DI SILESSOL under SILESSOL. The total strength of the Black Brigades throughout the Province is rather over one thousand. Some of the most notorious and violent members are residents of, and have their families in, ROMA City. The head of the Political Office of the ROMA Brigades was in Major BIRISCO. He is assisted in his work of spotting victims for the ROMA Brigade, who assists in its office.

Detachments and located throughout the Province; at FORTI DI BRUNO, under a captain BATTOLI; at CALIO SAN PIRO under MILVI; at GRAN RIERO under BRACCIOLI; at VICI DI LATO under TOMASO LEBRERO (younger brother of LIBERO above mentioned); at FOSCARICHE under BARRIERI; at MONTICCI under PICCO; at COSSATA under CUSKOTTO. The total strength of the Black Bands throughout the Province is rather over one thousand. Some of the most notorious and violent members are residents of, and have their residences in, PADOA City. The head of the Political Office of the F.F.I. Benito More is Major BOZZI. He is assisted in his work of executing victims by the SS in his life, who operate in his office.

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More specifically, concerned the identity card was found to contain certain information which would have a good suspicion as to whether examination of the records will show a suspect.

The following are:

A report was then received describing a new and effective method used by the Germans to tighten control of civilian movements in certain parts of Northern Italy. The Germans are said to place placards on the front doors of each house showing the number of regular residents; new houses are identified by a number and the placard is prescribed. If, at any time, a check is made and the placard is incorrect, the house is searched. If, at any time, a check is made and the placard is incorrect, the house is searched. If, at any time, a check is made and the placard is incorrect, the house is searched. If, at any time, a check is made and the placard is incorrect, the house is searched.

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Enemy Use of Enemy Uniforms in Italy

A German PW, who was on the MEDIONE (L 3311) sector in Nov 44, has stated that a German officer made a practice at that time of crossing the lines together with another soldier on reconnaissance missions. He remembers the pair returning from one trip, in which the officer wore the uniform of an American officer, while his companion was dressed as a Staff Sergeant. The officer, who was a good linguist, is alleged to have reported, on his return to the German lines, that the troops opposing the Germans on that sector were Brazilian, that the lines were thinly held, that morale was low and many were drinking heavily, and to have then described the location of four Allied batteries.

It has also been reported that another German in American officer's uniform was expected back in the enemy lines on or about 20 Dec 44. This individual was to have a white handkerchief with light blue dots on it as he approached, and he would then be taken at once to Coy HQ.

Note

For convenience of reference future issues of these Notes will be numbered. The present edition is No 6. Previous issues were dated 25 Aug 44, 29 Sep 44, 27 Oct 44, 28 Nov 44, 29 Dec 44: these may be regarded as numbered 1 - 5 respectively.

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15 ARMY GROUP SECURITY SUMMARY No. 21
for the month of DECEMBER 1944 Security

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Action

PART I

GENERAL SURVEY

1. In general, December differed little from the previous two months as far as security and counter-intelligence were concerned. The enemy's line-crossers continued their offensive on a considerable scale, and there was a fresh development in the field of sabotage. The general civil security situation remained quiet and reasonably satisfactory.

2. Forty-eight enemy agents were arrested during the month. Of these, thirty-three had crossed the lines, eleven had been left behind on the enemy's withdrawal, and four were dropped by parachute. As usual, the great majority were apprehended in the Fifth Army area, mainly because the most popular crossing routes are located on the IV Corps sector, and because FLORENCE City is a natural centre of gravity for espionage agents.

An analysis of the month's total reveals two features of interest. Firstly, eight female spies were arrested, which constitutes a higher proportion than usual; and secondly, the Sicherheitsdienst appears to be becoming more active, as thirteen agents despatched by this Service were arrested during the month.

Once again, the greater part of the enemy's espionage effort was directed towards the collection of short-term tactical information in the forward areas: on the whole he appeared to display a greater interest in the II and IV Corps sectors than in any other part of the front.

Two agents among those despatched by the SD were of particular interest. One was a priest who was ostensibly carrying letters to the Vatican and funds to his Religious Order in Rome. The other was an agent who had completed two political espionage missions before being arrested at the start of his third; on each of his previous missions he had been briefed by MUSSOLINI and had reported to him personally on his return.

The four sabotage agents captured during the month were all despatched by the Abwehr. Two of them were instructed to dig up a sabotage dump near CASSINO and to damage a petrol pipe-line near VIMAFRO, while the other two, who were members of the MGIR (a young Fascist movement), were to contact members of this movement in

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Seven enemy agents were brought to trial during the month. All were convicted. Six were sentenced to death, and one to twenty years imprisonment. Two of those sentenced to death were women, but their sentence has not yet been confirmed. Two executions were carried out.

3. Two parties of saboteurs from 10 MAS Flotilla, dressed in enemy uniforms (SAL MALCO Regt), were landed by small boat on the Eighth Army coast during the nights 18/19 and 19/20 Dec. The parties consisted of all of 2 officers and 11 men. Their missions were to destroy a bridge over the River RUBICONE on Route 16, and MT or AFVs found parked near the coast. The only damage actually inflicted was the destruction of four RAF trucks at BELLARIA. Airfield. Eleven out of the thirteen saboteurs were later apprehended, and ~~and another was killed~~; it is possible that the

~~remained in the area~~ may have returned across the lines. A swimming saboteur of 10 MAS Flotilla was apprehended in the LIGURIAN dock area on the night of his arrival (14/15 Dec): he had

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swam into the port with explosive devices which were intended to re-equip his colleagues who had been despatched (and arrested) the previous month.

Four cases of willful damage to important signal lines were reported in the Eighth Army coastal area; the circumstances suggested sabotage intent, but no clues as to the perpetrators were discovered.

A minor train collision occurred at FABRIANO (Prov. ANCONA), due to faulty points. Sabotage was suspected, but not confirmed.

4. There has been no marked change in the general civil security situation, the civilian attitude to the Allies, or the position regarding potential subversive activity. The daily needs, disappointments and tribulations of the Italian population tend to dominate its outlook, and on the whole its mood seems to be somewhat restless, critical and unsympathetic, but to a moderate, not an alarming, degree.

A few minor disturbances and demonstrations occurred during the month, but as usual these were concerned more with Italian administration and domestic squabbles than with hostility towards the Allies. There were several incidents of hooliganism by irresponsible young Communist elements, such as the "beating up" of alleged Fascists and the shaving of girls' heads: the latter pastime appears to be increasing in popularity. In LUGNOR the general situation became considerably more stable, largely as the result of improved food and labour conditions. In FLORENCE, and throughout this Command as a whole, there appeared to be rather less general apathy than hitherto, and a growing political consciousness: this more active mood was typified by some increase in the display of provocative posters and slogans.

5. At the beginning of December two Allied soldiers, on separate occasions, were murdered in the vicinity of BOVADOLA, in Polcorps area. One was a DR carrying despatches of no particular secrecy: the other belonged to a Mule Coy. They were both robbed of clothes, and the DR's motor-cycle was taken. Both were beaten to death by blows on the head. Neither the identity of the assailants, nor their true motive have yet been determined.

6. Security arrests and internments continued to be effected on the normal scale. Approximately 400 persons were arrested for trial for security offences, and 151 were interned as a potential danger to Allied security.

At the end of December, the first weekly meeting of a Review Board was held at 'B' Internes Camp, FICHI, to consider the release of internees confined there. The Board consisted of the Commandant, an officer of the security branch,

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At the end of December, the first weekly meeting of a Review Board was held at 'B' Internes Camp, TERNI, to consider the release of internees confined there. The Board consisted of the Commandant, a Staff Officer of the Security Branch, Allied Commission, and an officer of GSI 1 District.

7. Considerable efforts were devoted to the enforcement and improvement of the security control of civilian movement. Particular attention was paid throughout the Command to the checking of hotel and boarding-house registers, ration-card applicants, current Questore records, etc., all names being checked against the CI List published by this HQ and held by every PS/CIC NCO.

The extent of movement control measures is illustrated by the following figures relating to the Fifth Army area in rear of Corps boundaries during December: Approximately 70,600 persons and 5,900 vehicles were checked at road control posts, and 1,100 persons and 350 vehicles by roving patrols. 755 of these were held for interrogation by CIC, and another 1,050 persons were interrogated as a result of hotel checks, etc.; of those interrogated, 4 were interned, 14 were sent to the RIF, and 44 were prosecuted for violation of AMG security regulations.

Certain weaknesses and difficulties encountered in this work include the issue of irregular travel permits by both military and civil authorities; the occasional issue of bogus duty passes by Italian Service authorities; and the poor standard of clothing and

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footwear provided for Italian personnel (incl CC.NR) who man road controls; their inadequate protection against cold and wet leads a number to desert their posts.

8. Efficient security measures are in force in the main supply ports of LEGHORN and ANCONA, and the security precautions organised at the minor ports appear adequate.

The security of intervening coast-line against clandestine landing of agents presents a more difficult problem. The undetected arrival of the SAN MARCO saboteurs on the Eighth Army coast revealed the existence of certain weaknesses, and steps have been taken to tighten up coastal security measures: a co-ordinated scheme of guards, patrols and coast-watchers is now in force, involving all units located close to the beaches, and the CG.FP have been impressed with the urgency of developing their network of coastal informants: a speed boat used by one of the recent SAN MARCO parties has been taken over for use as a coastal patrol boat manned by SIM/CS personnel. The Fifth Army coast-line appears to be adequately protected from the security point of view, and the measures taken include frequent aerial patrols during daylight.

9. Plans and preparations were made in December to give training in security and counter-intelligence to the CREMONA and FRIULI Combat Groups, and the actual instruction began in earnest at the beginning of this month.

10. A small "S Force" was formed for Ravenna. Security agencies were grouped under the GSO.3 I(b) Cdn Corps. The group, known as BASPENCE, set up its HQ in the city on the morning of 5 Dec. apart from normal 'target' work, which was not very heavy, the force effected prompt liaison with the Partisans, provided for the immediate organisation of movement control points, and set up a collection and interrogation centre. It was considered useful and successful.

11. Intensive and widespread investigations began at the end of December into an unusual case involving the use of a civil telephone line for espionage purposes. The line in question, a private circuit serving an electric power co., runs between FLORENCE and the CERCHIO Valley North of LUCCA. On 27-29 December the line was used for the transmission of information about Allied forces from the battle area to FLORENCE. Comprehensive enquiries are in progress, and a number of arrests have been made, but the culprits have not yet been discovered. A special report is being prepared for AFHQ.

PART II

I. MILITARY SECURITY

9. Plans and preparations were made in security and counter-intelligence to the CHREOLA and PHILMIL Combat GROUPS, and the actual instruction began in earnest at the beginning of this month.

10. A small "S Force" was formed for HAVENHA. Security agencies were grouped under the 300.3 I(p) Cdn Corps. The group, known as BASFERGE, set up its HQ in the city on the morning of 5 Dec. apart from normal 'target' work, which was not very heavy, the force effected prompt liaison with the Partisans, provided for a immediate organisation of movement control points, and set up a collection and interrogation centre. It was considered useful and successful.

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PART II

1. MILITARY SECURITY

(2) Security of Information

(1) There was little to report during the month under review. Security discipline of troops remained generally on a high level and the security of such troop movements as took place during the period (mainly to CHREOLA) appeared to have been adequately safeguarded. The chief danger to security lay in the close contact between troops and civilians resulting upon the quartering of units in winter billets in or near populated areas. Under these conditions preparations for departure are difficult to conceal completely and items such as the discharge of civilian employees, settling of accounts, etc., when considered in the mass are liable to give the local population cause for gossip and speculation unless carried out with the utmost discretion. This point has been particularly stressed to Unit Security Officers in the Eighth Army area where certain leakages of a vague and General nature attributable to these causes were reported.

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(11) A strong rumour current during the last week of December among civilians in SAN SEPOLORO R. 4944 to the effect that ADG had been sent to ADHOC was traced to two men who had formerly worked as guides for that unit. These men stated that they had been told by a KDG officer that the unit was moving to EARL and then, a few days later, to ORHOC. The men had also undertaken to deliver three letters from soldiers of the unit to girls in SAN SEPOLORO. One of the letters made reference to ORHOC but the writer's surname or unit was not shown. This case was passed to the "A" Branch for disciplinary action.

(12) At the end of the month an intensive investigation was begun in the Fifth Army area into the alleged use for espionage purposes of a private telephone system belonging to an electric power firm. Monitoring of one of the lines leading from PLENOC to FIAK DELLA RUCCA S. 8327 disclosed that it had been used, probably by means of a "tap" in by persons so far unidentified, in order to pass military information from the forward area back to PLENOC. Inquiries are proceeding in various parts of the army area and a number of persons have been arrested. This case is to be made the subject of a special report to ARHQ.

(b) Security of Personnel

(i) Reports from the Polish Corps area showed that Radio WANDA has been making a special effort to divide the Poles and the British. The intention appears to be to promote political distrust between Polish and British troops by saddling the British Government, and in particular the Prime Minister, with the responsibility for the political difficulties in which Poland finds herself. As a secondary theme the effort to create dissension between the Poles and Italian Partisans was also in evidence. On the other hand the "Orange Propaganda" leaflet campaign directed against Polish troops appears recently to have abandoned its throughcare political theme in favour of one designed to arouse sexual interest presumably in the hope of a consequent weakening in military efficiency. Results appear to have been negligible.

(ii) A special leaflet effort was directed during the month against the 3rd Div area. The leaflets played with considerable skill upon various alleged differences existing between British and the Dominions and were intended to persuade the latter that the mother country is sacrificing "colonial troops" in its own selfish interests. Div USI reported that the leaflets were of interest to NZ troops only as souvenirs.

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(ii) A special leaflet effort was directed during the month against the E K2 Div area. The leaflets played with considerable skill upon various alleged differences existing between Bahrain and the Dominions and were intended to persuade the latter that the mother country is sacrificing "colonial troops" in her own selfish interests. Div GSI reported that the leaflets were of interest to NZ troops only as souvenirs.

(iii) 1 District reported a growing uneasiness among British troops generally at rumours concerning associations of British women in the UK with members of the various Allied Forces. Part of the blame is attributed to certain sections of the British press for using such relationships as a vehicle for humour. A typical specimen is attached at Appendix "A" (AFHQ only).

(c) Security of Material and Installations

(1) Two groups of EAK and CO personnel dressed in uniform were despatched by sea on the nights 18/19 and 19/20 Dec respectively on sabotage missions against targets on the Eighth Army coast. Both parties with their sabotage equipment had been brought by motorboat from Porto Garibaldi M. 6086, completing the last kilometer of the journey by rubber dinghy.

The first party of eight (divided into two groups of four) had as their target a bridge carrying Route 16 over the R. RUBICON. Faulty navigation took the party too far to the South and the original mission was abandoned. Instead it was decided

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to lay charges in some RAF vehicles parked on the BELLARIA airfield M.7896 which was not far away. This task was successfully completed, four trucks being almost completely demolished. A multiple signal line serving the airfield was also cut at the same time. Both groups immediately re-embarked in their motor dinghies, but after searching fruitlessly for the motorboat finally returned to land and attempted to pass through the lines. One of the groups was captured on 22 Dec at CESANARULO M.7115 and the other on 26 Dec at SANTARNO M.4370.

The second party, numbering five, landed near Vismara M.3401 with the task of sabotaging WD transport and AFVs located in the area. This party decided to abandon its mission even before landing, dumped its explosives into the sea, and set off overland for LOT. Three of the party were arrested by FS at Ravenna on Christmas Day, having been brought in for questioning by the Partisans. The remaining two are not accounted for and may have succeeded in crossing the lines.

Both parties were drawn from X Flotilla MAS: detailed interrogation indicates that these operations were probably Abwehr undertakings, possibly directed by Trupp 267 of Kdo 212. All prisoners are to be treated as military PW.

Advantage has been taken of these incidents by Eighth Army PS to impress on units the necessity for efficient local defence particularly in the vulnerable coastal sectors, where physical security has been tightened up generally.

(ii) The situation with regard to signal line cutting was satisfactory on the whole, though incidents of this nature in the Eighth Army area showed an increase over the previous month. Several cases were reported in the SANTARNO M.7898 - CISENA M.5307 area and were the subject of a special investigation. No evidence of organised sabotage was established, petty theft appearing to be the most likely motive. Four cases in the Eighth Army coastal areas showed evidence of malicious damage with possible sabotage intent, since no wire was removed. These incidents took place at BELLARIA airfield (see (i) above) and in the neighbourhood of RHO and RUSARO (two cases). The perpetrators were not discovered.

(iii) On 19 Dec a minor collision occurred between a leave train and a banking engine at PABIANI (Prov. ANCONA) due to faulty operation of the points. Preliminary investigations indicated that the points may have been tampered with since a

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(iii) On 19 Dec a minor collision occurred between a leave train and a banking engine at FERRARINO (Prov. ANCONA) due to faulty operation of the points. Preliminary investigations indicated that the points may have been tampered with since a lock on the points was found to be broken. Five witnesses, however, testified that no stranger was in the vicinity prior to the incident. Further investigations were without result and arrangements were made for the points to be guarded as a precaution.

(d) Security of Ports and Coastlines

(i) As mentioned in our previous summary (Part II 1 (d) (iii)) a fourth member of the LIGURIA Limbiter party, Sette TONCATEFAVOLE, arrived in the Port in the early hours of 15 Dec after a nine hour swim, towing ten inches of sabotage equipment behind him. The latter he abandoned on the beach together with his rubber fins and oxygen apparatus. He was arrested by an alert US Military Guard whilst attempting to leave the port area, allegedly on his way to his former home in FERRARINO.

(ii) Routine port security measures were in effective operation in the ports of BELLARIA, LEBANO and ANCONA. At BELLARIA the CG.FF were maintaining a 24 hour watch at the mouth of the ARNO River and cases of illegal movement of water were

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being turned over to CIC. No security incidents were reported from the minor ports of ILOILO and PANGLOSS. It is considered improbable that the minor port of KAVENHUA will be used, at least for a considerable time. PHOTO CONSULT M.9347 had not yet been cleared of the enemy during the period under review.

(iii) A feature of Fifth Army's coastal security scheme was the arrangement with Divisional Artillery, 32 Inf Div, for an aerial patrol of the coastline at intervals of one and a half hours during daylight. The course of unauthorized or suspect craft was being relayed to artillery headquarters, which in turn passed the information at once to CIC. On the eastern coast a slight increase was noted in the number of refugees arriving by water.

(iv) As mentioned in para 2 above, recent enemy sabotage activity on the Adriatic coast has served to awaken units stationed on the coast to the reality of this danger. The effectiveness of the coastline control, never an easy problem where long stretches of deserted coast are involved, will be substantially increased once the projected seaward security patrols are established in Northern waters.

2. CIVIL SECURITY

(a) Analysis of Arrests

	For trial for a Security Offence (Category A)	For internment (Category B)	For detention pending investigation (Category C)	Total
Italian Armed Forces	-	1	-	1
Civil Officials and CO.MA	-	7	-	7
Miscellaneous Civilians	595	123	102	820
TOTAL	595	131	102	828

(b) Important Individual Cases

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2. CIVIL SECURITY

(a) Analysis of Arrests

	For trial for a Security Offense (Category A)	For internment (Category B)	For detention pending investigation (Category C)	Total
Italian Armed Forces	-	1	-	1
Civil Officials and GCHQ	-	7	-	7
Miscellaneous Civilians	385	123	102	620
TOTAL	385	131	102	620

(b) Important Individual Cases

(1) Agents

A brief analysis of Agents arrested during the month is included in Part II. Detailed reports on these cases have been forwarded separately to AFHQ.

(II) Persons arrested, other than Agents

2/Lt3 KUMMER and ZANETTI

Both leaders of unsuccessful X Flotilla MAS sabotage raids by gunfire on the Eighth Army coast. KUMMER and his party of seven were captured at OCEANOLOGO on the 22 Dec. Several days after landing, whilst endeavouring to get back across the lines. ZANETTI and two of his band of five gave themselves up to partisans at Villa Nuova on the 26 Dec after abandoning arms. Both groups are being treated as PW.

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PIRA Saverio

Member of PIR from 1921 onwards. Fascist Deputy 1924-43. Consigliere Generale in MSN since 1936. Prominent member of the Fascist 'Commissione dell'Educazione Nazionale', and President of the 'Istituzioni Nazionali Italiane', both bodies responsible for installing Fascist principles into the young. During the League of Nations debate on the Abyssinian Question at GENEVA, PIRA was the Italian representative. Interned.

REGIO Giuseppe
 (formerly)

Segretario Federale 1922-24. President of the 'Opera Ballila Lucila' 1930-34. President of the 'Istituto Culturale Fascista' 1933-39. Member of the 'Direttorio Federale' 1940. Member of Provincial Commission of Discipline 1940-41. Interned. 26 Feb 41.

SOPRICI Ardengo

Joined the PIR in 1922. A personal friend and great admirer of MUSSOLINI, whom he has known since 1917. Admits he welcomed Republican Fascism as a means of establishing a 'Purer doctrine'. Increased his journalistic activity during the Republican regime in favour of the Government and the Germans. Interned.

SOMMERING Albin
 (formerly) (formerly) (formerly)
 (formerly) (formerly) (formerly)

A constant companion of high German officials, military and Gestapo. Germanophile to the extent of being the mistress of Captain ALBERT of the Gestapo in WILHELM, KINSTATT of foot and Captain GULD. Also mistress of PAVOLINI, PIR General Secretary. Now anxious to associate with high Allied Military personnel. Interned.

(111) Suspects

WOLFF

Subject bears the same name as a noble family which has in the past engaged in international espionage work for Germany. WOLFF appeared at the officers club of the 8th Replacement Regiment near PONTA A GOLO and quickly made friends owing to his engaging manners and fluent English. CIC says

Republican Fascism as a means of establishing a "newer doctrine". Increased his journalistic activity during the Republican regime in favor of the Government and the Germans. Interred.

Stefano S. Sperti
Matella
(Formerly Princess
Doria)

a. constant companion of high German officials, military and states. Germanophile to the extent of being the mistress of Captain Alberti of the Gestapo in Florence. Kinstall of Toff and Captain Gold. Also mistress of Ruvolini, the National Secretary. Now anxious to associate with high Allied Military personnel. Interred.

(all) Suspects

Romualdo Wolff

Subject bears the same name as a noble family which has in the past engaged in international espionage work for Germany. Romualdo appeared at the officers club of the 8th Replacement Regiment near Rome a Gold and quickly made friends owing to his engaging manners and fluent English. CIO have discovered his residence to be in Florence where he is reported to be working for an Allied agency. His father is allegedly a German Staff officer now serving in the North. and Subject appears, therefore, to be a German citizen. Investigations continue.

Enrico Matella
Serie

Enrico Matella of the Jacobo Fominali. Enrichi, whose group for Mussolini has not been affected by the receipt of a Partisan badge. This is not considered too dangerous, but may prove of use in bringing to light others of like sentiment.

(c) Subversive Movements and Political Organizations of Security Interest

(1) Manifesto, issued in the name of a "Comando Generale Legioni Nazionali 103.1", appeared in walls at Florence. The Legion, the posters state, seeks the dictatorship of the Fascist through armed insurrection and by use of the strike

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reason. All who have suffered during Fascism and especially those who have belonged to the partisans are urged to join the ranks. So far the authors, their headquarters and the extent of their revolutionary movement remain unknown. The Florence Communist Party later issued a statement to the effect that they neither had any affiliation with this "Red Band" nor did they approve of its aims.

(ii) Some difficulties arose in Florence and LOGON over the relationships between local women and allied soldiers. While at first there appeared to be merely local jealousy as a motive for "hair-cutting" threats, etc., later evidence in the form of typewritten notices on the walls showed signs of a deliberate campaign to discredit the allied generally. A group with political motives is thought to be at work and investigations are being carried out.

(iii) Generally speaking, Communism continued to grow in influence, particularly where economic conditions are particularly bad, developing successfully in some localities but in others to the accompaniment of acts of hoodluminism by its more unruly supporters. In Leghorn the Party has been active in a most proper manner and now claims sixteen thousand members. A reliable observer, however, estimates that this figure includes a large number of mere "party contacts" and puts the actual membership figure at about five hundred. In contrast to this orderly race was the beating up of an alleged former Fascist by six Party members in the RIVIERINO area. All the offenders were rounded up and sentenced to three months imprisonment by an Italian court shortly afterwards, on 5 Dec. in the same district an Italian bare grenade was thrown into the town office at GOSIGNANO attributed to the Communists. Further disturbances occurred at GOSIGNANO. Here various acts of hoodluminism, including the cutting of hair of girls accused of having associations with the Germans, and assaults on public officials, notably the manager of the local Barchi Hotel, were reported and two individuals, employees, all with unobjectionable political records, were committed by bands of youths calling themselves Communists. The matter has been raised with the local Party officials, who appeared to approve of these actions and who resented the "interference" in arresting the ringleaders. Unhappily, these acts of violence served locally to increase the prestige of the movement and class are now reported of citizens with a political conscience calling at their doors for intervention, their object being to

primary supporters. In Leghore the Party has been active in a most proper manner and now claims almost thousand members. A reliable observer, however, estimates that this figure includes a large number of mere "party contacts" and puts the actual membership figure at about five hundred. In contrast to this orderliness was the busting up of an alleged former Fascist by six Party members in the FIORENTINO area. All the offenders were rounded up and sentenced to three months imprisonment by an Italian court. Shortly afterwards, on 5 Dec, in the same district an Italian band entered was thrown into the SS. an office at FIORENTINO attributed to the Communists. Further disturbances occurred at FIORENTINO. Here various acts of hoodlums, including the cutting of hair or limbs, caused a number of having associations with the Communists, and assaults on public officials, notably the manager of the local Banca del Credito del Lavoro and two carabinieri employees, all with considerable political records, were committed by bands of youths calling themselves Communists. The matter has been raised with the local Party officials, who appeared to approve of these actions and who resented and "interfered" in arresting the ring leaders. Unhappily, these acts of violence served locally to increase the prestige of the movement and added to the reported of citizens with a political conscience calling at the Party HQ for voluntary intervention, their object being to obtain, after due consideration, abolition and a certificate of political parity. At FIORENTINO, the Party was busy watching another group of young Communists who, it was said, were gathering arms and explosives and concealing them. Some of these individuals were described as mobilized Partisans who had retained their arms.

Finally as an example of both peaceful and unlawful activity representatives of the Party were sent around the FIORENTINO district to persuade country folk, including known Fascists, to sign forms of adherence to the Party. At the same time and in the same area, the CCG abolition band to close the local Communist premises as a measure against certain unauthorized political activity and illicit traffic in mail.

(d) Control of movement

(1) A necessary check on the illegal transportation of Italian Navy leave personnel into the LEGHORE area both by sea and on land with passes issued by various Italian naval establishments was instituted after energetic protestations by the local Port Security Officer. Such an and official intervention

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with the Italian Ministry of warms over this widespread and undesirable practice. The Italian Navy at Ancona also offends in this respect, and the assistance of FM was again sought. PS also reported the appearance of an increasing number of bogus "duty passes" issued by other Italian service authorities to enable their personnel to enter the army area on leave.

(11) Fifth Army, in concert with PMS and 12th Air Force, were taking all appropriate steps to enforce the directive which limits severely the categories of civilian to be carried in military vehicles. Through the medium of SIM/CS, Fifth Army, efforts were also made to indoctrinate Italian civilian drivers of military vehicles who have frequently in the past assisted civilians in breaches of the regulations.

Indicative of the large numbers of Italians who are monthly affected by the movement control regulations, in the Fifth Army area, as opposed to Corps and Divisional areas, approximately 70,000 persons and 5,000 vehicles were halted at check points in December and 1,100 persons and 350 vehicles by moving patrols. Checks at hotels and boarding houses led to the interviewing of 1,050 persons.

(12) Temporary residents were also the subject of careful and continuous scrutiny in Eighth Army area. PS were active in checking travellers against municipal records, whilst in Ravenna a special law order, issued at PS request, covered the registration of all persons living at an address other than their own. This step was taken immediately on the fall of the city. Again, at the capture of Pohl and P. ENZA vigorous measures for the control of civilian movement were introduced and had arrangements for the handling of displaced persons were co-ordinated under PS supervision with security requirements. Recommendations for security improvements in rearward evacuation camps were also made to AMG.

(13) In general, the supervision of the Rear Army Security Control Line continued smoothly. Favourable reports on the Italian military meeting the check points continued to be received though there were occasionally marred by stories of desertions at night from control points. These lapses were almost entirely due to the bitter weather against which these men are hopelessly ill-equipped. CG. All under command Eighth Army were reported to be greatly deficient in overcoats and boots and as a result their morale and effectiveness have fallen considerably.

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(v) Further to the case reported in this summary for November, Section 3, Para (a) (iii), when three Italians were stopped at a RAVENNA radio clock and found to be in possession of forged AMG documents and rubber stamps, extensive investigations were completed by FS and Public Safety Division, AMG 1216 region. No evidence of espionage activity came to light, black market activity appearing to be the probable motive. It was, however, definitely established that the persons were part of a cross-bordering organization which extended from Rome via TRENTO and LARCHEN to the ADRIATIC coast. The case is now in the hands of AMG.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Italian Armed Forces

Trouble occurred at GAMBETTA (A. 6604) between troops of the 215 CARACALLO LAVOGLIO and local civilians, culminating in the throwing of some grenades. Political disagreements were said to be the main cause of this outbreak. Drastic measures

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by both the Unit CC and the SLMBO restored the situation to normal.

(b) Civilian Population

(i) All reports agreed that a certain feeling of passive hostility to the Allied occupation was growing, mostly as a result of dire shortages and difficult living conditions. Doubtless the numbers of Christmas parties organized by troops are something to improve the situation, but it was a very temporary relief. There is now a general tendency to believe that the Allies have lost interest in the Italian scene, and are making no efforts to control the black market, food supplies and rising prices. Such speculation was used as to what effect the success of the Greek revolt might have upon the course of affairs in Italy. Mussolini's speech in Milan appeared also to have created a certain amount of interest.

(ii) In April, a minor disturbance including a demonstration by two hundred women against the evacuation of certain areas of the town may be considered typical of the general unrest, which at present, however, only occasionally shows itself openly.

(iii) On the political scene, the reconstruction of the Italian Government inspired little trust faith in the coalition. Expectations of the Christian and Socialist Party predictions for another crisis during two months. All parties, it may be said, view with concern the increasing membership and funds of the Communist Party.

(c) Summary

Many rumors reflected civilian fears of a German "come back" in Italy and elsewhere, especially when the news of the abortive German attack on the Alpine front circulated. The following were typical:

"The Germans have recaptured ARONA, VARESE and LUCCA." (Civilians in Polish army area.)

"The Germans are soon heavily bombed." (Civilians in Polish army area at the end of November.)

"The enemy will soon make a strong counter-attack against the front in the Eastern Front." (General in German army area.)

(11) On the political scene, the Italian Government inspired little real faith in the coalition. Supporters of the dissident action and Socialist Party predicted another crisis inside two months. All parties, it may be said, view with concern the increasing membership and funds of the Communist Party.

(c) conclusions

Early rumors reflected civilian fears of a German "come back" in Italy as elsewhere, especially when the news of the abortive SAATCHI valley offensive first circulated. The following were typical:-

"The Germans have recaptured ANCONA, VIAREGGIO and BOLOGNA." (Civilians in Fifth Army area.)

"GIRONDE has been heavily bombed." (Civilians in Eighth Army area at end of December.)

"The enemy will soon make a strong counter-attack similar to that on the Western Front." (General in Reserve - VIII area.)

It is interesting to note that the move of 15 ARMY GROUP from SENA was strongly rumored locally to be a hasty withdrawal to the Seine before the advancing Germans. Use of the "V weapons" against Italian towns was also widely predicted, a report which had also been widely described as being located south of VERONA and MILAN.

Among troops, no definite threats were ascertainable, but the following are noteworthy:-

"A concentrated Allied effort to take BOLOGNA will be made in January 1945, with the brunt of the push falling on Fifth Army, probably troops of IV Corps taking the initiative." (US troops in Fifth Army area.)

"Two Italian divisions were activated for immediate use on the 21st Army area front. The commanding General of one of these divisions requested a clarification.

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of the status of all troops under the armistice terms and of their future status. When told the soldiers were unknown the General stated that he could not ask his men to fight. Subsequently four thousand men went back and the remainder of the division had to be disarmed by the British." (US troops in Fifth Army area.)

(a) Other aspects of General Security Interest

During the month the season of murder occurred in the DOVADOLA area (M. 0106) with Allied soldiers as the victims. The first involved a Polish Dr whose naked body was found on 7 Dec 44 in the river, death having been caused by violent blows on the head. The Dr had been missing since 1 Dec and his body had been in the water at least three or four days when discovered. No trace was to be found of his motorcycle, clothing or documents, including an important despatch which he was carrying. On 9 Dec a second body was found, also battered about the head. The body was identified as that of a soldier in a Cyprus mule Coy who had been stripped of his trousers but who was otherwise clothed.

Thorough investigation has been made by PG and SLB into both of these murders and a number of persons were detained. At first it was believed possible that members of the Brigata Nera were responsible for the crimes, but this theory is now largely discounted and little progress has as yet been made towards tracking down the murderers.

4. LOCATION OF PG SECTIONS AND CIB DEMONSTRATIONS AS AT 31 DEC 44

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP
15 FEB

FIFTH ARMY

305 CIC Det
427 PSC
32 CIC Det

202 CIC Det
91 CIC Det
301 CIC Det
34 CIC Det
93 CIC Det

HQ Fifth Army
" " "
" " "

HQ 2 Corps
51 Div
1 Arm Div
24 Div
55 Div

Parent Formation Location

SIENA

CAMP BILANZIO Q.7074
FLORENCE
VIAREGGIO U.0554

Campal CCSPA L.9715
BOIANO L.0523
SAN MARCELLO L.7910
BOIANO L.0523
CAGLIARI L.5435

785016

-12-

Recent Formation	Location
11 Can FSS	RAVENNA M. 5739
7 Can FSS	RAVENNA M. 5739
5 Can FSS det	CESENATICO M. 7113
9/10 Can FSS det	COCCOLIA M. 4925
1 Can FSS	ROSSI M. 4333
2 Police Corps FSS	ROCCA S. CASCIANO R. 2705
3 Corp div FSS	PREMILCHORE R. 2890
5 Area div FSS	CRISTICHELLA M. 2217
35 FSS	RAVENNA M. 5124
68 FSS	FORLA M. 4317
407 FSS	PARMA M. 3124
2 M2 div FSS	PARMA M. 3125
31 FSS	PARMA S. 7095
275 FSS	PARMA R. 6993
1 DISTRICT	PARMA S. 6993
12 FSS	PARMA M. 7092
310 FSS	PARMA S. 6993
314 FSS (plus det 5 M2 FSS)	PARMA S. 6993
417 FSS	PARMA S. 6993
418 FSS	PARMA S. 6993
FSS	PARMA S. 6993
10 FSS	PARMA S. 6993
30 FSS	PARMA S. 6993

W.D. Gibson M.C.

for information,
to of S. 3-2.

DISTRIBUTION:-

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AMCOMA E. 6060
 AMELZO R. 2955
 C. SPICILICA FIORAMINO
 R. 3119

FIOMBINO, LIVORNO
 LIVORNO

W. D. Gibson H. 68

*for Brigadier,
 G. 5 E. 8, G-2.*

Liaison Office HQ 608 E.
 CS in Rome
 HQ 15 Army Group
 G-3 (Ops)
 G-3
 Statistical Section
 Historical Section - Italy
 (British)

PBS
 CIC Dots
 36 PSS

Det 5 (M. 355)
 417 PSS
 419 PSS

AMC

DISSEMINATION:-

G-2 (CI) AMHQ
 G-2 AMHQ/ATO
 G-2 AMHQ
 Executive Commissioner, AG
 Public Safety, AG
 G-2 (SI) AMHQ c/o FOINT
 1 SCI Unit
 SCI Unit 2

785016

SECRET

SUBJECT:- 15 Army Group Security
Summary No. 21

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

1404/4/GSI(b)

17 Jan 45

To:- Distribution below

The following amendments should be made to 15 Army Group Security Summary No. 21 for the month of December 1944:-

- (a) Part I, para 3.
Delete last sentence of first sub-para.
Substitute "Eleven out of the thirteen saboteurs were later apprehended; it is possible that the remaining two may have returned across the lines."
- (b) Part II, para 1 (b) (i).
Delete first five words of line 6.
Substitute "in her own selfish interests."

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Public Safety, AC
Sec (cy) and c/o POW/AF
1 SCI Unit

Liaison Office,
HQ 608 Lt. CS En HOME
HQ 15 Army Group -
G-3 (Ops)
G-5
Historical Section

File in bag
for Brigadier,
AC of S, G-2.

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remaining two may have returned across the lines.

- (b) Part II, para 1 (b) (11).
Delete first five words of line 6.
Substitute "in her own selfish interests."

Shawcross Major
for Brigadier,
AC of S, G-2.

ABW

DISTRIBUTION:-

- G-2 (ci) AFHQ
A-2 AFHQ/AFHQ
A-2 AFHQ/AFHQ
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Public Safety, AC
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1 SCI Unit
SCI Unit 2
- Liaison Office,
HQ 308 Lt. CS En Route
HQ 15 Army Group -
G-3 (Ops)
G-3
Historical Section
Historical Section - ITALY
(British)

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TO	NOT
COL. CHAPMAN	
COL. VENTURA	
LT. COL. WILSON	
MAJ. LUCKMAN	
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HENBURY	
MAJ. BALANCE	
CAPT. POWER	
CHIEF OF STAFF	

Security
Division
Rec'd .. 25/1
Book No 4400
File No 646
Action

785016

HEADQUARTERS
8 JAN 1945

Security Div 8257

SECRET

To Army Group Security Summary No. 21
for the month of DECEMBER 1944

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

1404/4/GSI(b)

Security

Division

20 Jan.

4261

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GENERAL SURVEY

1. In general, December differed little from the previous two months as far as security and counter-intelligence were concerned. The enemy's line-crossers continued their offensive on a considerable scale, and there was a fresh development in the field of sabotage. The general civil security situation remained quiet and reasonably satisfactory.

2. Forty-eight enemy agents were arrested during the month. Of these, thirty-three had crossed the lines, eleven had been left behind on the enemy's withdrawal, and four were dropped by parachute. As usual, the great majority were apprehended in the Fifth Army area, mainly because the most popular crossing routes are located on the IV Corps sector, and because PLORANCE City is a natural centre of gravity for espionage agents.

An analysis of the month's total reveals two features of interest: firstly, eight female spies were arrested, which constitutes a higher proportion than usual; and secondly, the Sicherheitsdienst appears to be becoming more active, as thirteen agents despatched by this Service were arrested during the month.

Once again, the greater part of the enemy's espionage effort was directed towards the collection of short-term tactical information in the forward areas: on the whole he appeared to display a greater interest in the II and IV Corps sectors than in any other part of the front.

The agents among those despatched by the SD were of particular interest. One was a priest who was ostensibly carrying letters to the Vatican and funds to his Religious Order in Rome. The other was an agent who had completed two political espionage missions before being arrested at the start of his third; on each of his previous missions he had been briefed by MUSSOLINI and had reported to him personally on his return.

The four sabotage agents captured during the month were all despatched by the Abwehr. Two of them were instructed to dig up a sabotage dump near Bassano and to damage a petrol pipe-line near VIMARCO, while the other two, who were members of the NSR (a young

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file in 646

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Two agents among those despatched by the SD were of particular interest. One was a priest who was ostensibly carrying letters to the Vatican and funds to his Religious Order in Rome. The other was an agent who had completed two political espionage missions before being arrested at the start of his third: on each of his previous missions he had been briefed by MUSSOLINI and had reported to him personally on his return.

The four sabotage agents captured during the month were all despatched by the *Avversari*. Two of them were instructed to dig up a sabotage dump near VASSILLO and to damage a petrol pipe-line near VALLARRO, while the other two, who were members of the AGIR (a young Fascist movement), were to contact members of this movement in FLORENCE and SIMLA and to sabotage military targets as opportunity offered.

Seven enemy agents were brought to trial during the month. All were convicted. Six were sentenced to death, and one to twenty years imprisonment. Two of those sentenced to death were women, but their sentences have not yet been confirmed. Two executions were carried out.

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Two parties of saboteurs from 10 and Plotilla, dressed in enemy uniform (SAN MARCO Regt), were landed by small boat on the Ligurian coast during the nights 18/19 and 19/20 Dec. The parties consisted in all of 2 officers and 11 men. Their missions were to destroy a bridge over the River RUBICONE on Route 16, and MT or AFVs found parked near the coast. The only damage actually inflicted was the destruction of four half trucks at BELLARIA Airfield. Eleven out of the thirteen saboteurs were later apprehended, and another was shot dead. It is possible that the thirteen were the last of the line.

SEE

APPENDIX

A swimming saboteur of 10 HAS Plotilla was apprehended in the LEGHORN dock area on the night of his arrival (14/15 Dec): he had

W. Eleven out of the thirteen saboteurs were later apprehended; it is possible that the remaining two may have returned across the lines.

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swam into the port with explosive devices which were intended to re-equip his colleagues who had been despatched (and arrested) the previous month.

Four cases of wilful damage to important signal lines were reported in the Eighth Army coastal area: the circumstances suggested sabotage intent, but no clues as to the perpetrators were discovered.

A minor train collision occurred at FABRIANO (Prov. ANCONA), due to faulty points. Sabotage was suspected, but not confirmed.

4. There has been no marked change in the general civil security situation, the civilian attitude to the Allies, or the position regarding potential subversive activity. The daily needs, discomforts and tribulations of the Italian population tend to dominate its outlook, and on the whole its mood seems to be somewhat restless, critical and unsympathetic, but to a moderate, not an alarming, degree.

A few minor disturbances and demonstrations occurred during the month, but as usual these were concerned more with Italian administration and domestic squabbles than with hostility towards the Allies. There were several incidents of hooliganism by irresponsible young Communist elements, such as the "beating up" of alleged Fascists and the shaving of girls' heads: the latter pastime appears to be increasing in popularity. In LEGHORN the general situation became considerably more stable, largely as the result of improved food and labour conditions. In FLORENCE, and throughout this Command as a whole, there appeared to be rather less general apathy than hitherto, and a growing political consciousness: this more active mood was typified by some increase in the display of provocative posters and slogans.

5. At the beginning of December two Allied soldiers, on separate occasions, were murdered in the vicinity of NOVADOLA, in Polcorps area. One was a DK carrying despatches of a particular secrecy: the other belonged to a Mule Coy. They were both robbed of clothes, and the DK's motor-cycle was taken. Both were beaten to death by blows on the head. Neither the identity of the assailants, nor their true motive have yet been determined.

6. Security arrests and internments continued to be effected on the normal scale. Approximately 400 persons were arrested for trial for security offences, and 131 were interned as a potential danger to Allied security.

At the end of December, the first weekly meeting of a Review Board was held at 'B' Internee Camp, TERNI, to consider the release of internees confined there. The Board consisted of the Commandant, an officer of the Security Branch, Allied Commission, and an officer

the Allies. There were several incidents of hooliganism by irresponsible young Communist elements, such as the "beating up" of alleged Fascists and the shaving of girls' heads: the latter pastime appears to be increasing in popularity. In LECHORNI the general situation became considerably more stable, largely as the result of improved food and labour conditions. In PIEMONCE, and throughout this Command as a whole, there appeared to be rather less general apathy than hitherto, and a growing political consciousness: this more active mood was typified by some increase in the display of provocative posters and slogans.

5. At the beginning of December two Allied soldiers, on separate occasions, were murdered in the vicinity of NOVADOLA, in Polcorps area. One was a DR carrying despatches of no particular secrecy: the other belonged to a Mule Coy. They were both robbed of clothes, and the DR's motor-cycle was taken. Both were beaten to death by blows on the head. Neither the identity of the assailants, nor their true motive have yet been determined.

6. Security arrests and internments continued to be effected on the normal scale. Approximately 400 persons were arrested for trial for security offences, and 131 were interned as a potential danger to Allied security.

At the end of December, the first weekly meeting of a Review Board was held at 'B' Internee Camp, PERMI, to consider the release of internees confined there. The Board consisted of the Commandant, an officer of the Security Branch, Allied Commission, and an officer of GSI 1 District.

7. Considerable efforts were devoted to the enforcement and improvement of the security control of civilian movement. Particular attention was paid throughout the Command to the checking of hotel and boarding-house registers, ration-card applicants, current Questore records, etc., all names being checked against the CI List published by this HQ and held by every FS/CIC MCO.

The extent of movement control measures is illustrated by the following figures relating to the Fifth Army area in rear of Corps boundaries during December: Approximately 70,600 persons and 6,900 vehicles were checked at road control posts, and 1,100 persons and 350 vehicles by roving patrols. 785 of these were held for interrogation by CIC, and another 1,050 persons were interrogated as a result of hotel checks, etc.: of those interrogated, 4 were interned, 14 were sent to the RIF, and 44 were prosecuted for violation of AMG security regulations.

Certain weaknesses and difficulties encountered in this work include the issue of irregular travel permits by both military and civil authorities; the occasional issue of bogus duty passes by Italian Service authorities; and the poor standard of clothing and

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footwear provided for Italian personnel (incl CG.RR) who man road controls; their inadequate protection against cold and wet loads. A number to desert their posts.

8. Efficient security measures are in force in the main supply ports of LEGHORN and ANCONA, and the security precautions organised at the minor ports appear adequate.

The security of intervening coast-line against clandestine landing of agents presents a more difficult problem. The undetected arrival of the SAN MARCO saboteurs on the Eighth Army coast revealed the existence of certain weaknesses, and steps have been taken to tighten up coastal security measures: a co-ordinated scheme of guards, patrols and coast-watchers is now in force, involving all units located close to the beaches, and the CG.RR have been impressed with the urgency of developing their network of coastal incursions: a speed boat used by one of the recent SAN MARCO parties has been taken over for use as a coastal patrol boat manned by SIM/CS personnel. The Fifth Army coast-line appears to be adequately protected from the security point of view, and the measures taken include frequent aerial patrols during daylight.

9. Plans and preparations were made in December to give training in security and counter-intelligence to the CREMONA and FRIULI Combat Gruppi, and the actual instruction began in earnest at the beginning of this month.

10. A small "S Force" was formed for Ravenna. Security agencies were grouped under the USG.3 I(b) Gdn Corps. The group, known as EASFORCE, set up its HQ in the city on the morning of 8 Dec. Apart from normal 'target' work, which was not very heavy, the force effected prompt liaison with the Partisans, provided for the immediate organisation of movement control points, and set up a collection and interrogation centre. It was considered useful and successful.

11. Intensive and widespread investigations began at the end of December into an unusual case involving the use of a civil telephone line for espionage purposes. The line in question, a private circuit serving an electric power co., runs between FLORENCE and the SERCHIO Valley North of LUCCA. On 27-28 December the line was used for the transmission of information about Allied forces from the battle area to FLORENCE. Comprehensive enquiries are in progress, and a number of arrests have been made, but the culprits have not yet been discovered. A special report is being prepared for ATHQ.

PART III

1. MILITARY SECURITY

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Plans and preparation in security and counter-intelligence to the CHENONA and FRIOLI Combat GRUPI, and the actual instruction began in earnest at the beginning of this month.

10. A small "g force" was formed for RAVENNA. Security agencies were grouped under the USO.3 I(b) Can Corps. The group, known as BASEFORCE, set up its HQ in the city on the morning of 5 Dec. Apart from normal "target" work, which was not very heavy, the force effected prompt liaison with the partisans, provided for the immediate organization of movement control points, and set up a collection and interrogation centre. It was considered useful and successful.

11. Intensive and widespread investigations began at the end of December into an unusual case involving the use of a civil telephone line for espionage purposes. The line in question, a private circuit serving an electric power co., runs between FLORENCE and the BARCHIO Valley North of LUCCA. On 27-29 December the line was used for the transmission of information about Allied forces from the battle area to FLORENCE. Comprehensive enquiries are in progress, and a number of arrests have been made, but the culprits have not yet been discovered. A special report is being prepared for AFHQ.

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PART II

I. MILITARY SECURITY

(a) Security of Information

(1) There was little to report during the month under review. Security discipline of troops remained generally on a high level and the security of such troop movements as took place during the period (mainly to GABONE) appeared to have been adequately safeguarded. The chief danger to security lay in the close contact between troops and civilians resultant upon the quartering of units in winter billets in or near populated areas. Under these conditions preparations for departure are difficult to conceal completely and items such as the discharge of civilian employees, settling of accounts, etc. when considered in the mass are liable to give the local population cause for gossip and speculation unless carried out with the utmost discretion. This point has been particularly stressed to Unit Security Officers in the Eighth Army area where certain leakages of a vague and general nature attributable to these causes were reported.

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(ii) A stroke ran out current during the last week of December among civilians in SAN SEPOLERO R. 4944 to the effect that KAG had been sent to Wanda was traced to two men who had formerly worked as guides for that unit. These men stated that they had been told by a kid officer that the unit was moving to GARI and then, a few days later, to GREGOR. The man had also undertaken to deliver three letters from soldiers of the unit to girls in SAN SEPOLERO. One of the letters made reference to GREGOR but the writer's surname or unit were not shown. This case was passed to W. Branch for disciplinary action.

(iii) At the end of the month an intensive investigation was begun in the Fifth Army Area into the alleged use for espionage purposes of a private telephone system belonging to an electric power firm. Monitoring of one of the lines leading from PLUMAGE to FIA DELLA RUCCA 2.2307 disclosed that it had been used, probably by means of a "tap in" of persons so far unidentified, in order to pass military information from the forward area back to PLUMAGE. Inquiries are proceeding in various parts of the Army Area and a number of persons have been arrested. This case is to be made the subject of a special report to AFHQ.

•(b) Security of Personnel

(i) Reports from the Polish Corps area showed that Radio Wanda has lately been making a special effort to divide the Poles and the British. The intention appears to be to promote political discord between Polish and British troops by saddling the British Government, and in particular the Prime Minister, with the responsibility for the political difficulties in which POLAND finds herself. As a secondary theme the effort to create dissension between the Poles and Italian Partisans was also evidenced. On the other hand the enemy propaganda leaflet campaign directed against Polish troops appears recently to have abandoned its threadbare political theme in favour of one designed to arouse sexual interest presumably in the hope of a consequent weakening in military efficiency. Results appear to have been negligible.

(ii) A special leaflet effort was directed during the month against the 2 NZ Div area. The leaflets played with considerable skill upon various alleged differences existing between GALLI and the Dominions and were intended to persuade the Allies that the latter country is secretly using "Colonial troops" in HER own selfish interests. Div GSI reported that the leaflets were of interest to NZ troops only as souvenirs.

(iii) 1 District reported a growing uneasiness among

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be made the subject of a special report to AFHQ.

(b) Security of Personnel

(i) Reports from the Polish Corps area showed that Radio Gdansk has intensively been making a special effort to divide the Poles and the British. The intention appears to be to promote political discord between Polish and British troops by saddling the British Government, and in particular the Prime Minister, with the responsibility for the political difficulties in which Poland finds herself. As a secondary theme the effort to create dissension between the Poles and Italian Partisans was also in evidence. On the other hand the enemy propaganda leaflet campaign directed against Polish troops appears recently to have abandoned its threatware political theme in favour of one designed to arouse sexual interest presumably in the hope of a consequent weakening in military efficiency. Results appear to have been negligible.

(ii) A special leaflet effort was directed during the month against the 2nd Div area. The leaflets played with considerable skill upon various alleged differences existing between Gdansk and the Dominions and were intended to persuade the latter that the mother country is sacrificing "colonial troops" in ~~her~~ own selfish interests. Div GSI reported that the leaflets were of interest to NZ troops only as souvenirs.

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(iii) 1 District reported a growing uneasiness among British troops generally at rumors concerning associations of British women in the UK with members of the various Allied Forces. Part of the plan is attributed to certain sections of the British press for using such relationships as a vehicle for humor. A typical specimen is attached at appendix "A" (AFHQ only).

(c) Security of Material and Installations

(i) Two groups of 500-600 personnel dressed in uniform were despatched by sea on the nights 18/19 and 19/20 Dec respectively on sabotage missions against targets on the Eighth Army coast. Both parties with their sabotage equipment had been brought by motorboat from POB 00 Gdansk to M. 8066, completing the last kilometer of the journey by rubber dinghy.

The first party of eight (divided into two groups of four) had as their target a bridge carrying Route 16 over the R. RUBICON. Faulty navigation took the party too far to the South and the original mission was abandoned. Instead it was decided

to lay charges in some RAF vehicles parked on the BELLARIA airfield M.7898 which was not far away. This task was successfully completed, four trucks being almost completely demolished. A multiple signal line serving the airfield was also cut at the same time. Both groups immediately re-embarked in their rubber dinghies, but after searching fruitlessly for the motorboat finally returned to land and attempted to pass through the lines. One of the groups was captured on 28 Dec at CASANALICO M.7113 and the other on 28 Dec at SANTILIANO M.4370.

The second party, numbering five, landed near VISUMOR M.3401 with the task of sabotaging RD transport and AFVs located in the area. This party decided to abandon its mission even before landing, dumped its explosives into the sea, and set off overland for EOT. Three of the party were arrested by PS at RAVANNA on Christmas Day, having been brought in for questioning by the Partisans. The remaining two are not accounted for and may have succeeded in crossing the lines.

Both parties were drawn from X Flotilla MAS: detailed interrogation indicates that these operations were probably Abwehr undertakings, possibly directed by Trupp 237 of Koo 212. All prisoners are to be treated as military PW.

Advantage has been taken of these incidents by Eighth Army PS to impress on units the necessity for efficient local defence particularly in the vulnerable coastal sectors, where physical security has been tightened up generally.

(11) The situation with regard to signal line cutting was satisfactory on the whole, though incidents of this nature in the Eighth Army area showed an increase over the previous month. Several cases were reported in the SANTARCANGILO M.7598 - CASENA M.5907 area and were the subject of a special investigation. No evidence of organised sabotage was established, petty theft appearing to be the most likely motive. Four cases in the Eighth Army coastal areas showed evidence of malicious damage with possible sabotage intent, since no wire was removed. These incidents took place at BELLARIA airfield (see (1) above) and in the neighbourhood of SANO and PISARO (two cases). The perpetrators were not discovered.

(111) On 10 Dec a minor collision occurred between a leave train and a banking engine at PABIANNO (Prev. ANCONA) due to faulty operation of the points. Preliminary investigations indicated that the points may have been tampered with since a lock on the points was found to be broken. Five witnesses,

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(11i) On 12 Dec a minor collision occurred between a leave train and a banking engine at FABBARO (PROV. ANCONA) due to faulty operation of the points. Preliminary investigations indicated that the points may have been tampered with since a lock on the points was found to be broken. Five witnesses, however, testified that no stranger was in the vicinity prior to the incident. Further investigations were without result and arrangements were made for the points to be guarded as a precaution.

(12) Security of Ports and Coastlines

(1) As foreshadowed in our previous summary (Part II 1 (d) (11i)) a fourth member of the LEGHORN limpeteer party, Sotto Tenente RAVONE, arrived in the port in the early hours of 12 Dec after a nine hour swim, towing ten inches of sabotage equipment behind him. The latter was abandoned on the beach together with his rubber fins and oxygen apparatus. He was arrested by an alert US Military Guard whilst attempting to leave the port area, allegedly on his way to his former home in TARANTO.

(11) Routine port security measures were in effective operation in the ports of LEGHORN, PESARO and ANCONA. At ANCONA the 66th Airborne were maintaining a 24 hour watch at the mouth of the ARNO River and cases of illegal movement by water were

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being turned over to CIC. No security incidents were reported from the minor ports of PLOMBINO and RENO. It is considered improbable that the inner port of LIVORNO will be used, at least for a considerable time. PORTO CONSOLE M. 9347 had not yet been cleared of the enemy during the period under review.

(iii) A feature of Fifth Army's coastal security scheme was the arrangement with Divisional Artillery, 92 Inf Div. for a serial patrol of the coastline at intervals of one and a half hours during daylight. The course of unauthorized or suspect craft was being relayed to Artillery Headquarters, which in turn passed the information at once to CIC. On the Western coast a slight increase was noted in the number of refugees arriving by water.

(iv) As mentioned in para. 2 above, recent enemy sabotage activity on the Adriatic coast has served to awaken units stationed on the coast to the reality of this danger. The effectiveness of the coastline control, never an easy problem where long stretches of deserted coast are involved, will be substantially increased once the projected seaward security patrols are established in Northern waters.

2. CIVIL SECURITY

(a) ANALYSIS OF INCIDENTS

	For trial for a Security Offense (Category A)	For Intern- ment (Category B)	For detention pending in- vestigation (Category C)	Total
Italian Armed Forces	-	1	-	1
Civil Officials and CO.MA	-	7	-	7
Miscellaneous Civilians	395	123	102	620
TOTAL	395	131	102	628

ATTACHES ATTACHED

(a) Analysis of assets

(b) Important Individual Cases

04.03.2017 (ЧП)

A brief analysis of Agents arrested during the month is included in Part I. Detailed reports on these cases have been forwarded separately to AUSA.

(ii) Persons arrested, other than agents

2/1 to KUMARA and ZANELLI

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PERRA SAVONIS

Member of MP from 1921 onwards. Fascist Deputy 1924-25. Console Generale in MVSN since 1935. Prominent member of the Fascist Commission dell'Educazione Nazionale, and President of the 'Educativo Nazionale Italiano'. Both bodies responsible for instilling Fascist principles into the young. During the League of Nations Debate on the Abyssinian Question at Geneva, PERRA was the Italian representative. Interned.

FASCI Giuseppe Fu
rompo

Segretario Generale 1922-24. President of the 'Opera Gallia Lancia' 1930-34. President of the 'Istituto Cultura Fascista' 1933-37. Member of the 'Direttorio Federale' 1930. Member of Provincial Commission of Discipline 1940-41. Interned.

SOFICI Angelo

Joined the FIR 25 1922. A personal friend and great admirer of MUSSOLINI, whom he has known since 1917. Admits he welcomed Republican Fascism as a means of establishing a 'purer doctrine'. Increased his journalistic activity during the Republican regime in favour of the Government and the Germans. Interned.

SCONZANI d'Aneri
Katella
(Formerly Princess
Lorini)

A constant companion of high German officials, military and despots. Germanophile to the extent of being the mistress of Captain ALBERT of the Gestapo in WURZEN, KIRSTEIT of 1907 and Captain GOLD. Also mistress of F. VOLINI, the General Secretary. Now anxious to associate with high Allied Military personnel. Interned.

(iii) Subjects

ROMANLORE Wolfi

Subject bears the same name as a noble family which has in the past engaged in international espionage work for Germany. ROMANLORE appeared at the officers club of the 8th Independent Regiment near HOTEL A GOLO and quickly made friends owing to his engaging manners and fluent English. GLO have

003, *

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joined the PNF in 1932. A personal friend and great admirer of MUSSOLINI, whom he has known since 1917. Admits he welcomed a republican Fascist as a means of establishing a 'purer doctrine'. Interested in journalistic activity during the republican regime in favour of the government and the Germans. Informed.

MUSCOLINI, Gennaro
Maurilio
(Formerly Princess
Bertha)

A constant companion of high German officials, military and states. Germanophile to the extent of being the mistress of Captain General of the Gestapo in Florence, KINSTAIR of IGDF and Captain GOLF. Also mistress of FAVOLINI, RAF Colonel Secretary. Now anxious to associate with high Allied Military personnel. Interested.

(III) Suspects

MUSCOLINI, Gennaro

Subject bears the same name as a noble family which has in the past engaged in international espionage work for Germany. MUSCOLINI appeared at the officers club of the 8th Regiment Regiment near PONTA A ZOOLO and quickly made friends owing to his engaging manners and fluent English. CIC have discovered his residence to be in Florence where he is reported to be working for an Allied agency. His father is allegedly a German staff officer now serving in the North, and subject appears, therefore, to be a German citizen. Investigations continue.

MUSCOLINI, Gennaro
Maurilio

Ex-principles of the Fascio Fiaminile, LAVORI, whose archive for MUSSOLINI has not been affected by the receipt of a partisan haircut. She is not considered too dangerous, but may prove of use in bringing to light others of like sentiment.

(c) Subversive movements and political organizations of Security Interest

(1) Manifestos, issued in the name of a "COMANDO GENERALE LEGIONE GUARDIA ROSA", appeared on walls at FLORENCE. The Legion, the posters state, seeks the dictatorship of the Proletariat through armed insurrection and by use of the strike

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weapon. All who have suffered during Fascism and especially those who have belonged to the Partisans are urged to join the ranks. So far the authors, their headquarters and the extent of their revolutionary movement remain unknown. The Fascist Communist Party later issued a statement to the effect that they neither had any affiliation with this "Red Band" nor did they approve of its aims.

(41) Some difficulties arose in Florence and LUCCA over the relationships between local women and Italian soldiers. While at first there appeared to be merely local jealousy as a motive for "hair-cutting" threats, etc, later evidence in the form of typewritten notices on the walls showed signs of a deliberate campaign to discredit the allies generally. A group with political motives is thought to be at work and investigations are being expedited.

(42) Generally speaking, Communism continues to grow in influence, particularly where economic conditions are particularly bad, developing peacefully in some localities but in others to the accompaniment of acts of terrorism by its more unruly supporters. In LECCE the party has been acting in a most proper manner and now claims sixteen thousand members. A reliable source, however, estimates that this figure includes a large number of mere "party contacts" and puts the actual membership figure at about five hundred. In contrast to this orderly mass was the beating up of an alleged former Fascist by six party members in the FIORENZO area. All the officers were rounded up and sentenced to three months imprisonment by an Italian court. Shortly afterwards, on 6 Dec, in the same district an Italian band of 111-1111 which the Carabinieri, at least, attributed to the Communists. Further disturbances occurred at LUCCA. Here various acts of terrorism, including the cutting of hair of girls accused of having associations with the Germans, and assaults on public officials, notably the manager of the local bank, LUCCA and two railway employees, all with unquestionably political motives, were committed by bands of youths calling themselves Communists. The matter has been raised with the local party officials, who appeared to approve of these actions and who resented any "interference" in harassing the ring leaders. Unhappily, these acts of violence served

[illegible]

Finally, as an example of both peaceful and unlawful activity representatives of the Party were sent around the World district to persuade country folk, including many Fascists, to sign forms of adherence to the Party. At the same time and in the same area, the Cao family had to close the local Communist premises as a measure against certain unauthorized political activity and illicit traffic in mail.

(g) Control of movement

- (c) Continued
- (1) a necessary check on the illegal transportation of Italian Navy recruits transported into the Adriatic area both by sea and on land with passes issued by various Italian naval establishments by the Italian Government. The Italian naval establishments by the Italian Government are authorized to issue permits for the transport of Italian naval recruits into the Adriatic area.
- The local Security Officer.

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with the Italian Ministry of Marine over this widespread and undesirable practice. The Italian Navy at Asmara also offended in this respect, and the assistance of RN was again sought. FS also reported the appearance of an increasing number of bogus "duty passes" issued by other Italian service authorities to enable their personnel to enter the army area on leave.

(ii) Fifth Army, in concert with FBS and 12th Air Force, were taking all appropriate steps to enforce the directive which limits severely the categories of civilian to be carried in military vehicles. Through the medium of SIM/CS, Fifth Army, efforts were also made to incoincidentally Italian civilian drivers of military vehicles who have frequently in the past assisted civilians in egresses of the regulations.

Indicative of the large numbers of Italians who are heavily affected by the movement control regulations, in the Fifth Army area, as opposed to Corps and Divisional areas, approximately 70,000 persons and 3,000 vehicles were halted at check points in December and 1,100 persons and 350 vehicles by rolling patrols. Checks at hotels and boarding houses led to the interviewing of 1,050 persons.

(iii) Temporary residents were also the subject of careful and continuous scrutiny in Eighth Army area. FS were active in checking travellers against municipal records, whilst in Asmara a special and order, issued at FS request, covered the registration of all persons living at an address other than their own. This step was taken immediately on the fall of the city. Again, at the capture of FOHL and FALMA, vigorous measures for the control of civilian movement were introduced and all arrangements for the handling of displaced persons were co-ordinated under FS supervision with security requirements. Recommendations for security improvements in rearward evacuation camps were also made to AMG.

(iv) In general, the supervision of the Rear Army Security Control Line continued smoothly. Favourable reports on the Italian military meeting the check points continued to be received though these were occasionally marred by stories of desertions at night from control points. These lapses were almost entirely due to the bitter weather against which these men are hopelessly ill-equipped. CC.MR under command Eighth Army were reported to be greatly deficient in overcoats and boots and as a result their morale and effectiveness have fallen considerably.

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1,050 persons.

(iii) Temporary residents were also the subject of careful and continuous scrutiny in Light Army Area. PS were active in checking travellers against municipal records, whilst in ANKARA a special AMG order, issued at PS request, covered the registration of all persons living at an address other than their own.

This step was taken immediately on the fall of the city. Again, at the capture of ADLI and FAHRA vigorous measures for the control of civilian movement were introduced and AMG arrangements for the handling of displaced persons were co-ordinated under PS supervision with security requirements. Recommendations for security improvements in rearward evacuation camps were also made to AMG.

(iv) In general, the supervision of the Rear Army Security Control Line continued smoothly. Favourable reports on the Italian military handling the check points continued to be received though these were occasionally marred by stories of assassinations at night from control points. These lapses were almost entirely due to the bitter weather against which these men are hopelessly ill-equipped. CO. AR under command Light Army were reported to be greatly deficient in overcoats and boots and as a result their morale and effectiveness have fallen considerably.

(v) Further to the case reported in this Summary for November, Section 3, para (d) (iii), when three Italian were stopped at a TEHMI road block and found to be in possession of forged AMG documents and rubber stamps, extensive investigations were completed by PS and Public Safety Division, AMG LAZIO region. No evidence of espionage activity came to light, black market activity appearing to be the probable motive. It was, however, definitely established that the arrestees were part of a mass-forging organisation which extended from Rome via Fiume and ANKARA to the ADRIATIC coast. The case is now in the hands of AMG.

3. MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Italian Armed Forces

Trouble occurred at GABRIELLA (M. 6604) between troops of the 215 GABRIELLA LAVAROTI and local civilians, culminating in the throwing of many grenades. Political disagreements were said to be the main cause of this outburst. Lestie measured

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by both the Unit 60 and the SBM-80 restored the situation to normal.

(b) Civilian Population

(i) All reports agreed that a certain feeling of passive hostility to the Allied occupation was growing, mostly as a result of air shortages and difficult living conditions. Doubtless the numbers of Christmas parties organized by troops did something to improve the situation, but it was a very temporary relief. There is now a small tendency to believe that the Allies have lost interest in the Italian scene, and are making no efforts to control the black market, food supplies are rising in prices. Much speculation was made as to what effect the success of the Greek revolt might have upon the course of affairs in Italy. Mussolini's speech in Milan appeared also to have created a certain amount of interest.

(ii) In Rome, a minor disturbance, including a demonstration by four hundred women against the occupation of certain areas of the town may be considered typical of the general unrest, which at present, however, only occasionally shows itself openly.

(iii) On the political scene, the reconstruction of the BONAI Government inspired little fresh faith in the coalition. Supporters of the dissident action and socialist Party predicted another crisis inside two months. All parties, it may be said, view with concern the increasing membership and funds of the Communist Party.

(c) Remarks

Many remarks reflected civilian fears of a German "come back" in Italy as elsewhere, especially when the news of the abortive Salerno landing offensive first circulated. The following were typical:-

"The Germans have recaptured RACCHI, VIAREGGIO and LUCCA." (Civilians in Fifth Army area.)

"Florence has been heavily bombed." (Civilians in Eighth Army area at the end of December.)

"The enemy will soon make a strong counter-attack similar to that on the Western Front." (General

(HIF) On the political scene, the reconstruction of the BOLONI Government inspired little fresh faith in the coalition. Supporters of the dissident action and socialist party predicted another crisis inside two months. All parties, it may be said, view with concern the increasing membership and funds of the Communist party.

(c) Summary

Early rumors reflected civilian fears of a German "come back" in Italy as elsewhere, especially when the news of the abortive Salerno valley offensive first circulated. The following were typical:-

"The Germans have recaptured RACCHIA, PIACOGGIO and LACCA." (Civilians in Fifth Army area.)

"MONTECASSINO has been heavily bombed." (Civilians in Eighth Army area at the end of December.)

"The enemy will soon make a stroke counter-attack similar to that on the Eastern Front." (General in FESARO - FANO area.)

It is interesting to note that the move of 16 army group from GELA was strongly rumored locally to be a hasty withdrawal to the South before the advancing Germans. Use of the "V weapons" against Italian towns was also widely predicted. A report which has since appeared describing V2 stations as being located both at VIMON, and ALLE.

These rumors, however, have definitely been disproven, but the following are noteworthy:-

"A concentrated allied effort to take ROLLO, will be made in January 1945, with the front of the push falling on Fifth Army, probably troops of IV Corps being the initiative." (US troops in Fifth Army area.)

"Two Italian divisions were solicited for immediate use on the left wing front. The command, issued at the end of these divisions demanded clarification.

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of the status of his troops under the armistice terms and of their future status. When told the answers were unknown, he stated that he could not ask his men to fight. Subsequently, four thousand men went AWOL and the remainder of the division had to be disbanded by the British. (US troops in Fifth Army area.)

(d) Other Matters of General Security Interest

During the month two cases of murder occurred in the DOVADOLA area (M. 3106) with Allied soldiers as the victims. The first involved a Polish Dr whose body was found on 7 Dec 44 in the river, death having been caused by violent blows on the head. The Dr has been missing since 1 Dec and his body had been in the water at least three or four days when discovered. No trace was to be found of his motorcycle, clothing or documents. Including an unimportant receipt which he was carrying. On 9 Dec a second body was found, also battered about the head. The body was identified as that of a soldier in a Cyprus mule Coy who had been stripped of his trousers but who was otherwise clothed.

Thorough investigation has been made by 89 and 91B into both of these murders and a number of persons were detained. At first it was only possible that members of the Brigata Nera were responsible for the crimes, but this theory is now largely discredited and little progress has as yet been made towards tracking down the culprits.

4. LOCATIONS OF RE SECTIONS AND CIO RETAINERS AS AT 31 DEC 44

Parent Formation	Location
5TH ARMY	
HQ 18 Army Group	
305 CIO Det	CAMP BICENZIO Q. 7074
427 PSC	FLORINCE
92 CIO Det	VIAREGIO U. 9584
202 CIO Det	
21 CIO Det	
301 CIO Det	
34 CIO Det	
35 CIO Det	
HQ 2 Corps	
31 DIV	
1 Army Div	
34 Div	
35 Div	
36 Div	
37 Div	
38 Div	
39 Div	
40 Div	
41 Div	
42 Div	
43 Div	
44 Div	
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discounted and little progress has as yet been made towards tracking down the kidnappers.

4. LOCATIONS OF PS SECTIONS AND CIC PERSONNEL AS AT 31 DEC 44

HQ 15 Army Group 16 PSS

FIFTH ARMY

305 CIC Det
427 PSS
92 CIC Det

202 CIC Det
21 CIC Det
801 CIC Det
34 CIC Det
85 CIC Det

204 CIC Det
66 PSS
Brazilian CIC
Det

412 PSS
38 CIC Det
405 PSS
55 PSS
38 PSS
3 PSS

SEVENTH ARMY
263 PSS
47 PSS
411 PSS
413 PSS

Parent Formation

HQ Fifth Army
" " "
" " "

HQ 2 Corps
VI Div
1 Arm'd Div
34 Div
85 Div

HQ 4 Corps
8 SA Arm'd Div
338

HQ 13 Corps
38 Div

3 Ind Div
6 Brit Arm'd Div
73 Brit Div
1 Brit Div

HQ Eighth Army
" " "
" " "
" " "

Location

ITALY

CAMP BIANZIO Q.7074
FLORENCE
VIAREGGIO U.9834

CAMP BOSTA L.8716
LOLONE L.8623
SAN MARCELLO L.7913
TOLANO L.8623
GALLIANO L.8495

SANBUCA L.5305
CASTIGLIONE L.7209

FORTE TERE L.5811

FLORENCE
SAN MARCELLO DI QUINCE
L.9021

SARADI M.0801
CAMP DEL RIO M.0016
Rear L.8618
VILLA DI SASSONARO L.8632

CESINA M.6007
A.VERBA M.5733
RILIT M.8635
FASARO S.1220

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	<u>Parent Formation</u>	<u>Location</u>
11 Can FSS	HQ 1 Can Corps	RAVANA M. 5733
7 Can FSS	" " " "	RAVANA M. 5733
8 Can FS has det	" " " "	CESARATICO M. 7115
9/10 Can FS has Det	" " " "	COCCOLIA M. 4925
1 Can FSS	1 Can Div	RUSSI M. 4333
2 Fd Corps FSS	HQ 2 Fd Corps	ROCCA S. CASCIANO R. 2735
3 Corp Div FSS	3 Corp Div	FREILICQUE R. 2290
5 Area Div FSS	5 Area Div	BRISIGHELLA M. 2217
35 FSS	HQ 5 Corps	FAENZA M. 3124
33 FSS	" " " "	FORLI M. 4317
407 FSS	1st Inf Int Div	FAENZA M. 3134
2 K2 Div FSS	2 K2 Div	FAENZA M. 3134
61 FSS	HQ 10 Corps	PERNO S. 7633
273 FSS	" " " "	PERUGIA R. 6933
1 DISTRICT		
12 FSS		PERUGIA M. 7092
310 FSS		
314 FSS (plus		
Det 3 K2 FSS)		
417 FSS		ANCONA S. 6030
413 FSS		ANCONA S. 2935
		CASTIGLIONE FIORENTINO
		R. 3119
FSS		
010 Data		
36 FSS		PIOMBINO, LIVORNO
		LIVORNO

W. J. Gibson Lt Col

for origination,
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REMARKS:-

3-2 (01) 14514

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ANCONA S. 6080
LIVORNO R. 2958
C-STIGLIONE FIORENTINO
R. 3119

PIONERO, LIVORNO
LIVORNO

W. D. Gibson H. Col

for Delegation,
H. Col S. 3-2.

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HQ 15 Army Group

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G-2 AFHQ

G-2 AFHQ

Executive Commission, AC

Public Safety AC

S-2 (G) AFHQ

1 SCI Unit

SCI Unit

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SUBJECT:- 15 Army Group Security
Summary No. 21

SECRET

8366

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

1404/4/GSI(b)

17 Jan 45

To:- Distribution below

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The following amendments should be made to 15 Army Group Security Summary No. 21 for the month of December 1944:-

- (a) Part I, para 3.
Delete last sentence of first sub-para.
Substitute "Eleven out of the thirteen saboteurs were later apprehended; it is possible that the remainder two may have returned across the lines."
- (b) Part II, para 1 (b) (2).
Delete first five words of line 8.
Substitute "in her own selfish interests."

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