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CALABRIA
OCT. 1943 - JAN. 1944

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RESTRICTED
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
(Rear Detachment)
APO 512
Education Sub-Commission

ED/GRG/tjr

AMG 8660/ED

1 January 1944

SUBJECT: Undersecretary of Education.

TO: HQ A.M.G., Naples.
(Attention of Chief of Staff).

1. Reference letter RCA/M52/6, dated 22 December 43 of which a copy was forwarded to you by RCAO, Region II.
2. A report has been received from Educational Director, Region II of which a copy is attached. This contains several references to the Under secretary for Education and the Badoglio Government, to which it is desired to draw attention.
3. If there is, in fact, the likelihood of officials appointed by A.M.G. being removed from office on the Badoglio Government taking over, it is suggested that they should be legally protected.
4. Reports on Signore Cuomo by officers of this Division who have met him have been unfavorable and suggest that he is a lethargic and weak man who is out of touch with reality and unlikely to be successful in his office.
5. Immediately after completion of the work which is drawing to an end in Sicily it will be essential to carry out a tour of Region II including Salerno as it is clear from Reports from this Region that the educational position concerning the removal of Fascists is not satisfactory despite the excellent work being done by Captain VESSELO. It would be convenient and economical of transport and fuel to carry out this inspection on the way from here to Naples and if you approve of this it is suggested that the rear party of Education, consisting of Lt. Colonel GAYRE, Major SHERWOOD and one clerk be allotted a car from the rear pool and make their way independently to Naples on the conclusion of the Sicilian work, completion of which is expected about 10th January.

4018
G. V. GAYRE
Lt. Col., AEC
Educational Adviser

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION 2

ECA/42/N/270
27 Dec. 1943

SUBJECT: Scuole Medie Inferiori
TO: Educational Adviser, H.Q., A.C.G.-A.M.G., PALERMO

Reference my report ECA/42/N/1 of 23 Dec. 1943, App. C,
para E (a):

On careful consideration I have decided that the method therein suggested of dealing with the Scuole Medie Inferiori situation is not apposite, and have therefore substituted the attached orders, which appear to me to be more in line with the spirit of Major Koopman's directive.

Owing to the slowness of communications I have had to issue this interpretation without previous reference to you. I hope it is in accord with your intentions.

A. Vesselo
A. Vesselo Capt. A.E.C.
Acting Director of Education
Region 2

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION 2

ECA/42/N/270
27 Dec. 1943

SUBJECT: Scuole Medie Inferiori

TO: Provveditori (through S.C.A.O.'s)

✓ Copy to: Educational Adviser, H.Q., A.C.C. - A.M.G., PALERMO

Reference ECA/42/72/B of 21/12/43:

As stated in the above order, the old Scuole Medie Uniche have been abolished, and four types of Scuole Medie Inferiori are replacing them. A specimen syllabus covering all four types, but allowing for variations in detail between one type and another, has already been forwarded to you, and further copies (approximately one per teacher) will follow.

In relation to the organization of these new Schools, the following points should be observed:

- (1) Each new School will be considered as independent, and under its own Preside.
- (2) In general, each old Scuola Media Unica will be converted into one or another of the four new types, whichever is most suitable for the locality.
- (3) In special cases, conditions may arise where it is desirable to convert an existing School into more than one of the new types (e. g. where only one Scuola Media Unica has been in existence in a large town which has both a Liceo Superiore and an Istituto Magistrale Superiore: in this case it will be ^{probably} desirable to convert the old Scuola Media into both a Liceo Inferiore and a Magistrale Inferiore). In such cases, the necessary division should be made, but the new types may temporarily continue to function side by side in the old single building and under one Head, until such time as more normal conditions are established and it becomes possible for the two Schools to find separate buildings and to have separate Heads.
- (4) Schools which include more than one grade of instruction (eg. Asilo, Elementary, Scuola Media) may continue to function in the old way, provided that the Scuola Media section be altered in accordance with para 2 above.
- (5) A report must be made of all changes which are contemplated in accordance with the above, and this report forwarded to the Regional Director of Education for approval (through the S.C.A.O.)

By order of the R.C.A.O.

A. Vesselo

1016

A. Vesselo Capt. A.E.C.
Director of Education
Region 2

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION 2

MOA/42/B/270
27 Dec. 1943

OGGETTO: Scuole Medie Inferiori

Al : Provveditori

Copia a: Educational Adviser, H.Q., A.C.G. - A.M.G., PALERMO

Con riferimento alle "Norme e Istruzioni per la Riapertura e il funzionamento delle Scuole" (MOA/42/72/B della data 21/12/1943).

Come dichiarato nel suddetto documento, le Scuole Medie Uniche vengono abolite, e quattro tipi di Scuole Medie Inferiori le sostituiscono. Un programma d'esemplare, unico in base per tutti i quattro tipi, ma lasciando la possibilità di variare i dettagli fra un tipo ed un'altro, vi è già stato mandato, e ulteriori copie (alla rata di una pro insegnante approssimativamente) seguiranno.

In quanto all'organizzazione di queste nuove scuole, i seguenti punti devono notarsi:

- (1) Ogni nuova Scuola sarà considerata come indipendente, sotto un proprio Preside.
- (2) In generale, ogni vecchia Scuola Media Unica sarà cambiata in uno od un altro dei quattro nuovi tipi, qualunque sia il più adatto per la località.
- (3) In certi casi, le circostanze possono esigere cambiamento da una Scuola esistente, in più di uno dei nuovi tipi (per esempio, quando c'è stata una sola Scuola Media Unica in una grande città dove ci sono un Liceo Superiore ed un Istituto Magistrale Superiore: in questo caso bisognerà probabilmente cambiare la vecchia Scuola Media in un Liceo Inferiore e un Magistrale Inferiore, tutti e due). In tal caso, la necessaria divisione deve farsi, ma i nuovi tipi possono temporaneamente continuare a funzionare accanto l'uno all'altro nell'unico edificio di prima e sotto un solo Capo, finché si stabiliscano condizioni normali e divenga possibile che si trovino due edifici separati e due Capi separati per le due Scuole.
- (4) Scuole che a presente danno più d'un grado d'istruzione (per esempio quelle che contengono Asilo, Scuola Elementare, Scuola Media), possono continuare a funzionare come sono, purché sia cambiata la parte Scuola Media secondo il paragrafo n. 2 di sopra.
- (5) Dovrete fare un rapporto di tutti i cambiamenti che contemplate secondo quanto sopra, e mandarlo al Direttore Regionale dell'Educazione (per mezzo dello S.C.A.O. della Provincia) per la sua approvazione.

Per ordine del R.C.A.O.

A. Vesselo

A. Vesselo Capt. A.M.G.
Direttore dell'Educazione
Regione 2

5 1015

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

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Subj. Attempted Usurpation of the Powers of AMG, Region II.

To: Liaison Officer,
Allied Military Mission,
Brindisi.
(thru: HQ, 15 Army Group)

Ref. HQ/MS2/6
AMG HQ, Region II
22 Dec 43

1. Attached is a copy of a letter delivered to the Provveditori Agli Studi of Matera Province on or about 2 Dec, ordering a certain Dr. Nicola Minervini to assume the presidency of the Liceo Sismario of Matera on 1 Jan. This order was issued without prior consultation of any sort with any AMG official in Region II. It is one of a series of similar actions taken by various officials of the Saloglio Government.

2. Because of the number of these incidents, I am forced to the conclusion that these officials are either totally ignorant of the fact that Allied Military Government, rather than the Saloglio Government, is in charge of public administration within Region II, or they choose deliberately to ignore that fact.

3. I will be obliged if you will inform the Saloglio Government that all communications from it with regard to public affairs in Region II must be handled through the A.C.S. of Region II if they expect the slightest attention to be paid to them. Any official acting upon instructions received directly from the Saloglio Government will be severely punished.

4. The order in question will be ignored, as have all those which have preceded it, and Dr. Minervini should be informed that if he enters Matera Province, he will be escorted back to Apulia.

G. H. Mc Caffrey
U.S. Army
Lt. Col., Inf.
A.C.S.

\$ 1014

Copy to: Chief, AMG, PROV. Provincia Sismi, Naples
Educational Advisor, A.C.S., AMG HQ, Palermo

file

COPIA

MINISTERO DELL'EDUCAZIONE NAZIONALE

Pret.n.24/O.Cl.

P.M.151,11 14 dec. 1943

OGGETTO: Preside MINERVINI Dett. Nicola
 Trasferimento.

AL R.PROVEDDITORE AGLI STUDI	- LECCE
AL R. PROVVEDITORE AGLI STUDI	- MATERA
ALL'UFFICIO PROVINCIALE DEL TESORO	- LECCE
ALL'UFFICIO PROVINCIALE DEL TESORO	- MATERA
e, per conoscenza:	
ALL'ECCELLENZA IL PREFETTO	- LECCE

Il Preside Prof.MINERVINI Dett. Nicola del R.Liceo Ginnasio di Gallipoli è trasferito per servizio alla presidenza del R.Liceo Ginnasio di Matera dove dovrà assumere l'Ufficio il 1° Gennaio 944.

L'Ufficio Provinciale del Tesoro di Lecce è pregato di trasferire a quelle di Matera il ruolo di spese fisse relative al preside Minervini Nicola.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO

P/te Giovanni Cuomo

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION II

12 Dec 43

Ref: BGA/42/60

Subject: Non-receipt of correspondence.

To : Director of Education, AMR, APO 512

1. Ref AMR letter, Subject: Authorizations and Orders for Provveditori agli Studi, dated 6 Dec 43, addressed EOAO Region 2, attention Director of Education and signed by Major Washburne.

2. It is regretted that no copies were enclosed of the general decree mentioned in Para 1. It would be much appreciated if the requisite number of copies could be forwarded.

A. Venebo

Capt, A.M.C.
For EOAO

Will send. HPR

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
ACTION SHEET

27 Dec.
Dts

Suspense _____

FROM	TO
C.O., A.M.G.	
C. of Staff	
D.C. of Staff for (OSI)	
D.C. of Staff Admin.	
Industrial Plan	
Mil. Sec.	
Pol. Sec.	
Econ & Admin Sec.	
Communications Sec.	
Economic Director	
✓ Administrative Dir.	
Executive Off. Admin.	
G-1	
G-4	
Adjutant General	
Personnel	
Publications	
Miscellaneous	
Supply Officer	
Billeting Officer	
Transportation Off.	
Hq Commandant	
Camp Commandant	
Message Center	
Sub-Commission on:	
Education	✓
Rear Echelon	

For: Signature _____
 Recommendation _____
 Information _____
 Approval or Disapp. _____
 Appropriate Action _____
 Investig. & Rept. _____
 File _____
 Return to Comd. Files _____
 Transmission _____

Remarks:

1011

file vouchs
with Capt. Vouchs
personnel
rept.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORATE
APO 512.

28 December 1943.

Refer to:
AWO/OL4.12/AD.

SUBJECT: Appointments of Alleged Fascists.

TO: Advanced Command Post, Allied Control Commission,
BRINDISI.

1. Attention is invited to attached copy report from Acting Advisor on Education for Region 11, ECA/42/71 dated 19 December 1943.

2. It is requested that the matter be investigated.

3. May this HQ., please be advised of any action taken, in order that R.C.A.C. Region 11 may be informed.

For the Commanding General:

CHARLES M. STOFFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Acting Chief of Staff.

\$ 1010

1085-0855-1425
SECRETHEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION II

19 Dec 43

Ref: ECA/42/71

Subject: Appointment to positions on Badoglio Government of Persons
dismissed by AMG

To : Educational Adviser, HQ., ACC-AMG

Reference your letter (not at the moment in my hands) on above
subject.

(1) In forwarding to you reports that I had heard of dismissed personnel being appointed to positions on the Badoglio Government, I deliberately abstained from giving names, or sources of information, or from making any comments, as I did not know if you wished me to make any investigations, and was expecting to hear from you on the matter. As you now say that the matter is being taken up on a higher level, I feel that it is necessary for me, in order to avoid misunderstanding, to explain the matter further.

(2) The allegations, with names and specifications, were made to me by an Avvocato Milillo, who is sometimes employed by the Legal Staff here, and considered by them as a very reliable source, during the course of an official conversation on other matters. He stated the allegations as facts, which he said were causing much unrest locally. I made no comment whatever to him, but took a note of the statements after he had gone.

(3) In the one case which pertained to my field, I later made further investigations. I discovered that the dismissed Provveditore of Matera (by name Cassano Vito Felice) had returned to Matera for his belongings and had stated to the Provveditorato Staff, including the new Provveditore, Luciano Nello, that he had interviewed the Ministry of Education of the Badoglio Government and that he was about to be put on the Ministry of Education himself. He stated this as a fact.

(4) I have made no further investigations, since I did not know if I was authorized to do so. I did, however, pass the reports on to you for your information, in a Personal and Confidential letter.

(5) Will you please say if you wish me to take any further action.

~~For the Regional Civil Affairs Officer~~

N. Versace

A. Versace
Capt. MC.

for Regional Director Education.

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION II

9 Dec 1943.

Ref: DGA/42/53

Subject: Report on a tour through Calabria

To : Lt. Col. E. R. Gayre, AEC, Educational Adviser, HQ, ACC, AMG.

1. Route Followed.

On Nov 26 at 0700 hrs I left Matera for Cosenza, where I arrived at 1400 hrs. On Nov 27 at 1400 hrs I left for Crotone (Compartimento HQ) which I reached at 1900 hrs. On Nov 28 at 0900 hrs I left for Catanzaro, returning the same evening to Crotone. I remained at Crotone on 29th & 30th Nov. Early on 1st Dec I left for Reggio, stopping at Catanzaro on the way. I arrived at Reggio at 1930 hrs, remained there during 2nd Dec, and on 3d Dec at 0615 hrs left for Crotone again (again stopping for a short while at Catanzaro). I arrived at Crotone at 1530 hrs. At 0730 hrs on 4th Dec I left for Cosenza. I left Cosenza at 1900 hrs. Owing to a breakdown I spent the night in Tarsia and arrived in Matera on 5th Dec at 1800 hrs.

Distance travelled, approx 1000 miles. Number of vehicles used, fourteen.

2. Persons interviewed.

- (a) All relevant AMOT personnel, including the SOAO and his 2 i/c and all Provincial Officers.
(b) The Prefect of Catanzaro and Cosenza.
(c) The Provveditore of Cosenza.
(d) At Cosenza, the Col of Carabinieri and various other persons.
At Catanzaro, the Questore.
At Reggio, the Questore, the Sindaco, & the Capo Gabinetto
(All these persons were interviewed for information)

3. Facts obtained.

(a) Compartimento System

I understand that this system is likely shortly to be revised. To date, it has operated rather differently in Calabria from elsewhere. Compartimento HQ is at Crotone, where are stationed the SOAO, the 2 i/c, and a group of Specialist Officers. PCOs were abolished a few weeks ago, and in each Provincial Capital is merely a "Liaison Officer", the functions of PCOs being carried out by travelling officers, who report back frequently to Crotone as a base. The idea is in part to overcome the shortage of suit-

on 4th Dec. I left for Cosenza. I spent the night in Tarsia and arrived in Matera on 5th Dec at 1800 hrs.

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3. Facts obtained.

(a) Compartimento System

I understand that this system is likely shortly to be revised. To date, it has operated rather differently in Calabria from elsewhere. Compartimento HQ is at Crotona, where are stationed the SCAO, the 2 i/c, and a group of Specialist Officers. PCAOs were abolished a few weeks ago, and in each Provincial Capital is merely a "Liaison Officer", the functions of CAO's being carried out by travelling officers, who report back frequently to Crotona as a base. The idea is in part to overcome the shortage of suitable officers by referring everything back to a central HQ.

From the educational point of view the system presents difficulties. I was compelled to treat "Liaison Officers" as though they were fully-empowered PCAOs.

(b) Education proper.

(1) Provveditori

The Provveditore at Cosenza is an ex-Professor of 1008 from Bari, moved to Cosenza, so he says, for political reasons. He is named for by the Prefect (a Socialist,) but I should say that the Provveditore has no strong political complexion, and I am acting on the principle that he is to be retained.

The Provveditore at Catanzaro has Fascist connexions, and is reputed to be incompetent. I have had views on him from the Prefect at Cosenza (of which he is a native), from the Questore at Catanzaro, and from various others. I am waiting for a report on him from the Colonel of Carabinieri at Cosenza. There has been a violent Press campaign raging against him in Cosenza. I am investigating the case carefully, in order not to be unjust, but it is likely he will have to go.

The Provveditore at Reggio has also had Fascist connexions, but reports (from the Questore, the Sindaco and the Capo Gabinetto at Reggio) suggest that his Fascist background is less important than it seems and that he is quite efficient. If final investigations are satisfactory, I am prepared to retain him, and for the sake of speed am treating him provisionally as approved. (Reggio Province in general is a difficult case, and there are allegations that it is still Fascist-ridden).

(ii) Committees

No committee had been set up in Cosenza. I obtained a list of suggestions from the Prefect, and provisionally ratified them.

A Committee had very recently been set up in Catanzaro, with the Prefect at the head (this system had also been mooted for Cosenza).

Reggio had a skeleton Committee of three, the Prefect, the Provveditore, and a Senior Teacher.

Lt.Col. Rodd (SOAO, Calabria) had put forward the idea of a Compartimento or even Regional Committee instead of Provincial ones. His objection to the Provincial ones was that they might become instruments of patronage. I said that I could see no objection to a Central Committee in addition to the others, but that my instructions were to institute Provincial ones in any case. I also stated objections to the idea of having the Prefect at the head of each committee, and it was agreed that the Provveditori, as soon as appointed, should take over Presidency of the Committees; also that the Reggio Committee should be enlarged to a reasonable size. I am getting one or two respected bourgeois on each of my Committees to watch the interests of the Community, and am suggesting the inclusion of a good medico for the question of hygiene.

I approved of the Prefect taking an interest in each Committee, and recommended that he should attend meetings whenever possible as an observer.

(iii) The Church

There is a feeling at Crotone that the church in some parts is politically suspect. The Archbishop at Cosenza is said to be reliable, but reports say that the Bishop at Catanzaro is unreliable, and Churchmen in Reggio are said to be directly supporting Fascist movements (I cannot vouch for any of this).

(iv) School Buildings; Examinations; Schedules

I have now obtained a completed questionnaire from Reggio and am awaiting answers from Cosenza and Catanzaro. In Catanzaro the buildings are least damaged. In Cosenza and Reggio there is a fair amount of damage to the schools, and this will naturally delay returning to normal classes.

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I approved of the Prefect taking an interest in each Committee, and recommended that he should attend meetings whenever possible as an observer.

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There is a feeling at Crotona that the church in some parts is politically suspect. The Archbishop at Cosenza is said to be reliable, but reports say that the Bishop at Catanzaro is unreliable, and Churchmen in Reggio are said to be directly supporting Fascist movements (I cannot vouch for any of this).

(iv) School Buildings; Examinations; Schedules

I have now obtained a completed questionnaire from Reggio and am awaiting answers from Cosenza and Catanzaro. In Catanzaro the buildings are least damaged. In Cosenza and Reggio there is a fair amount of damage in the capitals, and this will naturally delay reopening in some cases. A system of staggered hours is contemplated.

In Catanzaro and Cosenza examinations are in progress. In Cosenza, owing to shortage of buildings, the examinations will last until early February. In Catanzaro they are all being held together.

In Reggio, no notification of examinations had ever been received. I gave permission for them verbally, and stated the conditions.

6,000 Schedules had been sent from Matera to Calabria. 1007 the time of my leaving Crotona they had not been received. I carried about with me a small number of Schedules, which I distributed, and I now have them completed for the Provveditori of Cosenza and Catanzaro among others.

I have been demanding completion of Schedules from all Educational personnel, but not from the Committees, provided they are vouched for by Prefects and CAOs. If you wish for Schedules from Committees too, I shall be grateful if you will so direct me.

Para 3, Ltr "Our Thru Calabria" BOA/12/53 cont'd

(v) Institutes of Higher Learning.

There are no Universities in Region 2, but at Cosenza there is the Accademia Cosentina (founded in the 16th Century), consisting of 24 fellows, and at Reggio there is the R. Delegazione di Storia Patria per la Calabria e la Lucania. In both cases I have demanded lists of names, Schedules and details for approval.

Of the Accademia Cosentina there are 11 pre-Fascist Fellows remaining (including the President). I have approved a system whereby these Fellows are given the task of reconstituting the membership. As soon as I have details of the President in full, I will forward them to you for your approval.

(vi) General

Delays in communication between Matera and Calabria are tremendous. It is hopeless to expect a reply to a letter in less than a fortnight. Some letters never arrive at all. Dealing with Calabria through the post is therefore next to impossible. Only personal messages really accomplish anything, and I have several times had the experience of repeating personally (verbally or in writing) points that I had sent out ten days or more earlier, but which had never arrived. The Compartimento system, which centers all responsibility at Crotone instead of in the provinces, does not relieve matters.

Finally, I should like to add that I have received all facilities from the IGAD, who has helped me a great deal and given me full scope.

A. Vassallo

A. VASSALLO,

Capt. ADC

Acting Director of Education,
Region 2.

(vi) General

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A. Vassallo

A. VASSALLO,
Capt. ABC
Acting Director of Education,
Region 2.

1006

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION II

9 Dec 1943.

Ref: EDA/42/54(c)

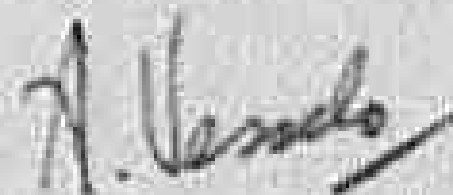
SUBJECT: School Programs.

TO : Educational Adviser, HQ, ACC, ASD, AFM 394

Ref ASD 312 of 25 Nov 1943 from Major G. E. Jackson.

1. It is regretted that this letter arrived without a copy of the order mentioned therein. It is assumed that the order gives permission for the Scuola Media Unica to continue, under the name Scuola Post-Elementare, and without the Fascist text books. I have already transmitted this order verbally (not yet in writing), and have also ordered that Presidi of such schools shall be suspended until investigations have been made into their background.

2. With regard to School Programs in general, it is not known whether there will be sufficient paper to undertake a large-scale printing, as in Sicily, but I have prepared enough typed copies of such Programs (based, with certain modifications, on the Programs submitted by the Matera Educational Committee) to be sent provisionally to all Provveditori, who can then if required make further copies, at least for Heads of Schools. They will be directed not to undertake full distribution until the printed copies are received from you for comparison, checking, and any necessary amendments.

Capt. ASD,
Acting Director of Education.
For ASD

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 512
Education Sub-Commission

ED/WHE/tjt

AMG 8660/ED

7 December 1943

SUBJECT: Educational Report, Region IIF

TO: HQ Region IIF
(For the attention of the Director of Education)

1. Reference your DCA/42/36 dated 23 November 1943.
2. This report is most useful and the work you have already done is appreciated. A copy of your report has been handed to General MOSHERBY.
3. Major KOOPMAN is being retained at Region I HQ for the present. You will probably be relieved for return to Palermo in a few days.
4. A further note on text-books will be sent to you in a day or two.
5. Enclosed herewith are parts I & II of "Programmi di Studio" issued at this HQ.

For the Educational Adviser:

rd
ST. H. SHERRWOOD
Major, RA

Enclosures.

785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

BUCK SLIP

15 Dec. 43.

Date

Sus: _____

Date _____

FROM	TO
C.G. AMG	
C. of S. (0212)	☒
Exec Off	
Economic Director	
Industry & Commerce	
Fuel	
Agriculture	
P. W. & Utilities	
Labor	
Interior	
Information	
Public Health	
Legal	
Public Safety	
Property Control	
Education	☒
Fine Arts	
Shipping	
Internal Transportation	
Telecommunications	
Hq Commandant	
C of Secretariat	
Message Center	
G-1	
G-4	
Displaced Persons	
Adjutant	
Personnel Office	
Admin. Director ME	☒

FOR:

- ☐ Signature and return
☐ Recommendation & Remark
☐ Information & Guidance
☐ Approval or Disapproval
☐ Necessary Action
☐ Investigation & Report
☐ To note and return
☐ File
☐ Dispatch

REMARKS: Report from Reg II as requested.

Forwarded to [unclear] for [unclear]
 [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
 [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Director of Education
 From: Admin Director
 Date: 16 Oct 43
 Subject: FASCIST APPOINTMENTS

file
 UNCL

- (1) Ref: attached correspondence, the statements are the substance to take any immediate action. No more are given etc., the may be only "hanging"
- (2) You shall advise Lt. Venable to bring the statement of R.C.H.O. Region II forward. The will be a 65 report in which the full facts to the HQ.

C. R. Gripps

for Admin Dir.

16 Oct 43

PERSONAL + CONFIDENTIAL

TC: Lt. Col. Gayre,
Educational Adviser,
Hq, ACC-AMG
Palermo

Hq Region 2
6 Dec 1943

Dear Colonel,

I have just returned from a hectic 10-day tour of Calabria, on which I am preparing a detailed report which should reach you a day or two after this. The experience I have gained since I first came to Matera has been invaluable, and should help greatly at a later stage.

As a result of my travels, and in view of the exceptionally difficult conditions which obtain here at the moment, Col McLaffrey has decided that he needs more Education Officers, to work under my direction. He ~~has~~ is therefore sending out a letter to Hq, AMG stating the full case and asking for one Officer per Province in addition to me.

Although this letter will be addressed to Hq, AMG, I presume that it will automatically be routed to you. It is ~~however~~ phrased in such a way that it will be possible for you to hand it on as it stands, together with whatever recommendations you think fit, to the relevant authorities. I expect you will want to suggest specific modifications.

For your information, a Proveditore whom I dismissed here on very clear grounds (he had written a book on Fascist Pedagogy) has been given a post by Badoglio on his Ministry of Education at Bari. A Vice-Prefect of Matera whom Col McLaffrey had dismissed has been given a high post on Badoglio's Council of Ministers. The dismissed

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Procuratore del Re of Matera is passing as a Magistrate
at Bari. A Major of Carabinieri recently sacked from
Matera as a notorious Fascist is also with Badoglio.

I give the above facts without comment.

Yours sincerely,

A. Verscho

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785016

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject :- Report on Education in Region 2.

Ref : ECA/42/36.

TO :- HQ, AMCOM - ADM, Palermo
(For the attention of Lt Col. Cunningham,
Educational Adviser)

AND HQ, REGION 2.

23 Nov 43

17 I arrived in Matera a week ago to-day, after having had to wait a night at Bari for transport. I have now been fixed up with a good office at the local Ente Turismo, where I have a typewriter and a half-time typist. I am billeted with the RCO at the Prefettura, where we also mess. Major Koopman has not yet arrived.

20 Day-out of Region 2.

The Region is divided into two Compartimenti, Lucania (Provinces: Matera, Potenza) and Calabria (Provinces: Cosenza, Catanzaro, Reggio). To these Salerno has been recently added (under Lucania) as a temporary measure.

Under the present Civil Affairs organization for the Region, each Compartimento is headed by an SCMA (Lt Col. Nicholls (B) for Lucania, and Lt Col. Rodd (B) for Calabria. Salerno has an SCMA of its own, Lt Col. Robertson (B). Under the SCMA come the Provincial CMAs, who are Captains. Man-power in general appears to be very limited.

30 Education before my arrival.

On my arrival all the old Provveditori were still in office. One Province only had formed an Educational Committee, Matera. This Committee had been chosen by the Prefect (now gone elsewhere) and had very few professional Educationalists on its strength, and one or two dubious personalities. It had performed one very useful function, in preparing a detailed syllabus for the use of schools in the early stages, (a modification of the old printed syllabus). This syllabus was strongly approved by Major Washburne, who took the principal copy away with him. I have, however, now ascertained that the syllabus was the work of two members of the Committee only.

Major Washburne also gave a general permission for the annual October examinations to be held in the near future.

The RCO had given permission for a local Church School (girls), with 150 pupils, to be re-opened with certain limits.

Under the present Civil Affairs organization for the Region, each Compartimento is headed by an SGT. AMO (Lt. Col. Nicholas (B) for Lucania, and Lt. Col. Rodd (B) for Calabria. Salerno has an SGT. AMO of its own, Lt. Col. Robertson (B). Under the SGT. AMO come the Provincial CMO's, who are Captains. Man-power in general appears to be very limited.

3. Education before my arrival.

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AMGOT/8874/B/ED of 14 Sep 43 had been sent out, (presumably to all Provinces except Salerno) but no satisfactory answers had been received. A limited number of Schedas had been sent out, but no answers had yet been received.

Major Howe, the Legal Officer (a very useful man) had sent out instructions on the appointment of Provveditori and other Educational personnel, detailing also some of the essential duties of a Provveditore. No answers had been received.

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4. Steps taken since my arrival.

(1) On arrival I sent out another copy of AMGOT/8874/B/ED of 14 Sep 43, to all Provinces (including Salerno) with a covering page giving explicit details about the functions of Educational Committees. I then made close inquiries into some of the leading Educational personalities in Lucania. As a result, it was first found necessary

to order the dismissal of the Provveditore at Matera, and then, after I had spent a week-end at Potenza, to order the dismissal of the Provveditore there. In the case of Matera, the Provveditore was found to have written a strongly Fascist book about the Educational system, and to have carried out certain minor persecutions. In the case of Potenza, the Provveditore was incompetent, and had also carried out certain minor pro-Fascist persecutions. In both cases the Civil Affairs Staff is in complete agreement with my actions.

(ii) With the aid of the Regional Legal and Intelligence Officers, in conjunction with a series of close inquiries in the locality, I have been able, with considerable backing, to put forward names for two new Provveditori. Both should be in office in a day or two. I have interviewed both Prefects on the matter. I have also put forward details, with specific names, for the remodelling of the Matera Committee and the formation of a Committee in Potenza. Both should be in operation in a matter of days. In Matera I have also appointed two Directors of Schools.

(iii) I have now obtained answers to the questionnaire about schools, teachers and pupils from both Matera and Potenza. Once the question of personnel has been properly dealt with, it should be possible to take the further necessary steps for the re-opening of schools with little delay.

(iv) Only two important difficulties remain. (a) Allied troops have just moved into the towns of Potenza and Matera, taking over the best school-buildings. The staggering of school-hours may be a partial solution to this. (b) The normal state of hygiene of many of the minor schools (which are usually no more than single rooms) is so bad that even with improvements it will not be possible to raise them to any reasonable British or American standard before re-opening. Further, the criteria in the minds of local officials in these matters are so dubious that it may not be possible to get satisfactory data without organizing at least an official inspection by the Civil Engineer, working with a suitable directive from us. I am considering this question carefully.

(v) Nothing has yet been heard from Salerno, and I have not yet been able to go there. I shall probably leave it till last as I believe that local conditions there are not yet greatly favourable to re-opening of schools.

(vi) In Calabria the position is a delicate one. There appear to have been general difficulties in the organization of the Province, and as far as I am aware nothing has yet been done in

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(vi) In Calabria the position is a delicate one. There appear to have been general difficulties in the organization of the Province, and as far as I am aware nothing has yet been done in Education beyond arranging for the delayed October examinations to be held. I am proposing in two days time to visit Cosenza, where there appears to be considerable unrest, and the other Calabrian Provinces after it.

(vii) Arrangements have been made to hold examinations all over the Region, starting in a few days, and I have issued instructions limiting the possible questions in certain subjects (e.g. no History after 1915). I have also issued instructions, on the lines of Region I, about the conditions limiting the re-opening of Church Schools. The Church School in Matera town (referenced to in (3) above) will be open on Dec 1st. I have had two conversations with the Archbishop.

5. Items of Method

(1) One thing is clear. Unless a specific Education Officer is actually on the spot in each key-place, very little is likely to be accomplished under the present conditions. It is absolutely

essential for the Education Officer to pay personal visits to each particular Province, staying as long as possible. On these lines, two Officers would seem to be the minimum necessary allotment for a Region.

(ii) I have found one contact especially useful in making inquiries into people's backgrounds. That is the local Legal Officer. Both in Matera and Potenza this officer has been able to put me in touch with Italian lawyers who have a thorough knowledge of the population and who have been able to produce exceedingly useful information.

(iii) Another interesting point is that the Educational profession here seems to have a considerable propensity for going into print. This provides evidence (usually against them) which is not given even by the Scheda Personale.

6. Problem of Text-Books.

(1) A little before I left Palermo I was informed by you that you were making arrangements for the purchase at cost-price of Fascist literature in the bookshops. Until I have a ruling from you, therefore, I am taking no steps to order the confiscation of school text-books (as has been done, I understand, in Region I).

(ii) I have encountered the opinion from several sides that the issue of text-books with pages torn out would be an incentive to children to search out the missing pages. Hesitant though I am to suggest any objection to a procedure which has cost Major Washburne and his assistants so much valuable effort, I cannot help feeling that the objection has some validity and that teaching entirely without text-books, even if it lasts a long time, might still be a better solution. A compromise might be to issue the expurgated books to the teachers only, requiring them to teach from a single copy. The question of recalling the old text-books would, however, then arise, since payment for them could no longer be justified on the ground of re-selling, but only on the ground of practical expediency.

Will you please let me have your final decision on the matter?

/s/ AT Vesselo
/t/ AT VESSELO

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Will you please let me have your final decision on the matter?

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AV/GAS/TJR

/s/ AT Vesselo
/t/ AT VESSELO

Captain, ATFCO,
Acting Director of Education, Region 2¹²

C O P Y

7 December 1943

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Education Division

SUBJECT: Instructions to
Universities.
TO : Allied Military Mission
Bari

FILE No: AMMOT 8660/ED
AMMOT HQ, SICILY

Palermo 10 November 1943

1. The attached copy of a letter 8670/A/ED dated
8 November 1943 addressed to the Universities in Sicily
and to that at Naples, is forwarded for information.

2. It is suggested that arrangements be made for
the issue of similar instructions to the University of
Bari.

WJ
for
LTJ. H. GAYNE
LtJ. Col., AGC
Educational Adviser.

GRG

tjr

See file 8876/A/ED Palermo University
Nov. 8, 1943 996

785016

Monthly Report.

August 30, 1951

Commander of Regions 2 and 3.

Palermo 27 Oct. 51

A report is required to reach this HQ, if possible by 1st November on the state of education in your Region.

I regret the shortness of time given in calling for this report as I was only instructed to do so to-day.

W. E. GAYNE
Lt. Col., A.C.
Educational Adviser.

W. E. GAYNE

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GRG

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