

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

785016

ACC

10000/144/520

BOY SCOUTS, CORRESPONDENCE
NOV. 1944 - DEC. 1945

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

785016

10000/144/520

BOY SCOUTS, CORRESPONDENCE, BRITISH BOY SCOUTS
NOV. 1944 - DEC. 1945

9F/333
THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

FOUNDER: THE LORD BADEN-POWELL of GILWELL, O.M., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., LL.D.
CHIEF SCOUT: THE LORD ROWALLAN, M.C., T.D.

Telephones: VICTORIA 6005 (6 Lines)
Telegrams: SCOUTCRAFT, LONDON
Code: BENTLEY'S COMPLETE PHRASE



IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

25, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD,
LONDON, S.W.1.

In reply please address
The General Secretary
and quote

10th December, 1945.

Lt.Col. Carleton W. Washburne,
A.U.S. Director of Education,
H.Q. Allied Commission,
(Education Sub-Section),
A.P.O. 394,
C.E.F.

7247

Dear Col. Washburne,

I am grateful for your letter ED/9F/3.33/AC. I delayed reply until I had received an answer from Dr. Ruiz, Minister of Education in Rome.

This has just arrived and we can now consider the next steps to which you refer in your paragraphs 2 and 3. I am most grateful for the helpful suggestions you make in paras. 3 and 4 and deeply appreciate your kind remarks in para. 5. I will gladly avail myself of your advice and help in bringing this project into effect. Our Training Season on the practical side will not reopen until about Easter 1946.

Renewed thanks and all good wishes,
Yours sincerely,

Glad P. Burcham

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONER

TGB/EMC

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/CWW/rg

ED/9F/3.33/AC

4 September, 1945

SUBJECT : Scout leaders for
training in England.TO : The Boy Scouts Association
25 Buckingham Palace Road
London, S.W.1, England
(Att: Mr. Bincham).

1. In a letter from Mr. Catty, dated 17 July, it was stated that you had arranged for six Scoutmasters each from ASCI and GEI in Italy to be admitted to training courses in England which would last a month, as soon as the Italians could select the men. Both their traveling expenses and the whole cost of their stay would be met by the British Boy Scouts Association out of its funds. I understand that you wrote to this same effect directly to the Federation of Boy Scouts here.

2. It took the two associations some time to select the men. Each selected more than six so that alternates could be sent when exact date of departure was set in case for any reason some individuals should be unable to go. The lists are enclosed herewith.

3. Will you take the next step of clearance with the Foreign office, arrangement for transport, and so on? Please let me know if I can be of any help to you?

4. In communicating with the Federation, it is still much more expeditious to write through the Education Subcommittee of the Allied Commission.

5. In the name of the Federation and on behalf of the Allied Commission I want to express warm appreciation of this generous and most helpful and constructive offer of assistance to the Boy Scout movement in Italy.

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CARLETON W. WASHBURN
Lt. Col. A.U.S.
Director of Education.Copy to:
Mr. Catty

C O P I A

CORPO NAZIONALE
GIOVANI ESPLORATORI ITALIANI

Roma, 24 Agosto 1945
Via Napoleone III N.8

SEDE CENTRALE

All. alla lettera

Prot. N.400

ELENCO DEI NOMINATIVI DEI "CAPI"
DESIGNATI DALLA SEDE CENTRALE G.E.I.
A PARTECIPARE AL CORSO DI ISTRUZIONE
SCOUT IN INGHILTERRA.

- 1) senior scout dr. Paolo SAVINI (scoutmaster); capo di raggruppamento della Sezione di ROMA
- 2) senior scout dr. Ruggero COCORDA (scoutmaster); capo del V Reparto Esploratori della Sezione di ROMA
- 3) scout Aloiso RENDI (assistant scoutmaster); vice-capo dello XI Reparto della Sezione di ROMA
- 4) scout Leo PIPERNO (assistant scoutmaster); vice-capo di Reparto della Sezione di ROMA
- 5) scout Andrea DEVOTO (assistant scoutmaster); vice-capo di Reparto della Sezione di FIRENZE
- 6) senior scout rag. Vittorio LUPIERI-LOTTO (assistant scoutmaster); vice-capo del Reparto "San Giorgio" della Sezione di VICENZA
- 7) senior scout dr. ing. Aldo MARZOT (scoutmaster); capo del K.A. D.A.S. - Klan dei "seniores" della Sezione di MILANO
- 8) senior scout dr. Angelo Enrico MAGGIONI (scoutmaster); Vice-Commissario Locale (Ass.t Scoutmaster) della Sezione di MILANO
- 9) scout Francesco GNECCHI-RISCONI: rover scout della Sezione di MILANO
- 10) senior scout dr. prof. Francesco FANALES (scoutmaster); Klan dei "seniores" della Sezione di ROMA.

COMMISSARIO INTERNAZIONALE
F.to Luigi

7245

C O P I A

A.S.C.I. - ESPLORATORI D'ITALIA
Commissariato Centrale

Roma 29 Agosto 1945
via della Conciliazione
3,

ELENCO DEGLI SCOUT DI QUESTA ASSOCIAZIONE CHE VENCONO
PROPOSTI PER IL CAMPO SCUOLA D'INGHILTERRA.

- 1 - Mora Gianpaolo
- 2 - Uccellini Giulio
- 3 - Ghetti Vittorio
- 4 - Polacco Lorenzo
- 5 - Rosada Giorgio
- 6 - Illic Alessandro
- 7 - Romagnoli Oreste
- 8 - Branzi Franco

il Commissario Centrale Presidente

F.to Monass

7244

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/CWW/ams

ED/2F/5.0/AD

tel. 489081-236

SUBJECT : Scout representatives for
England.

18 July, 1945

TO : British Council
(Att: Mr. Haselton).

1. In response to your telephone request we have consulted the heads of the two Italian Boy Scout organizations as to the best person to recommend for a possible trip to England to study scouting activities there. We made it very clear that this was merely a "feeler", and that there was no implication that anyone would actually be sent.

2. The Corpo Nazionale (non-confessional group) immediately responded with data on Grasiadei, who is the vice president and speaks English well. A brief curriculum vita concerning him is enclosed.

3. The ASCI (catholic group) took a long time to make up its mind - hence my delay in getting this reply to you. When, today, ASCI sent the information, it named three persons, material concerning each of whom is enclosed. The reason given for naming three was that it was uncertain which one could get away until exact dates and length of stay were determined. Mazza was one of the prime movers in forming the Federation, speaks some English, and is best known to me. Monass is a fine man, but I don't think he speaks English. I have barely met Cassinle.

4. I would suggest that you name Grasiadei and Mazza with the reservation that substitution for one or the other might be necessary when plans are finally completed.

CARLETON W. WASHINGTON
Lt. Col., A. U. S.
Director of Education.

ERGOLA GRADISI
Attorney-at-law

Office: Via Veneto 96 - Tel. 487.532
484.812

Home: Via B. Oriani 56 " 872.310

Professional position:

Since 1932 on the list of attorneys of the American Embassy and Consulate.

During 1939/40, lawyer for the office of representation of foreign (British) interests of the American Embassy.

During the war, lawyer for the office of representation of American interests of the Swiss Legation.

Lawyer for several American and British interests (Methodist Episcopal Church, Chase National Bank, Gaumont British, Fox Film, International News Service, etc.).

Barriester of the Italian Supreme Court.

Political position:

Never a member of the Fascist Party or of Fascist Syndicates.

Arrested as an anti-fascist in 1926 and condemned to 5 years deportation (confino), later changed to 2 years police control (sorveglianza).

Tried for cancellation from the Bar List.

In the Fascist Police black list until June 4, 1944.

Presently Government Commissar to Istituto Naz. di Credito per il Lavoro Italiano all'Ester.

Vice-President of the Italian Boy Scouts Association (C.N.C.S.I.)

Not a member of Political Parties.

since 1932 on the list of attorneys of the American Embassy and Consulate.
During 1939/40, lawyer for the office of representation of foreign (British) interests of the American Embassy.

During the war, lawyer for the office of representation of American interests of the Swiss Legation.

Lawyer for several American and British interests (Methodist Episcopal Church, Chase National Bank, Gaumont British, Fox Film, International News Service, etc.).

Barriester of the Italian Supreme Court.

Political positions

Never a member of the Fascist Party or of Fascist Syndicates.

Arrested as an anti-fascist in 1926 and condemned to 3 years deportation (confino), later changed to 2 years police control (ammonizione).

Tried for cancellation from the Bar list.

In the Fascist Police black list until June 4, 1944.

Presently Government Commissar to Istituto Naz. di Credito per il Lavoro Italiano all'Estero.

Vice-President of the Italian Boy Scouts Association (G.N.G.B.I.)

Not a member of Political Parties.

21091

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ERCOLE GRAZIADEI include
i due curriculum: quello Scout
e uno personale, che aveva presen-
tato a Silvio Berlusconi.

ERCOLE GRAZIADEI

SCOUT ACTIVITY

First joined in 1912, 12 years old

General number : 45

Rank attained : Caposquadra scelto (chief of 3 patrols,
in the organization of that time)

Ceased boy scout activity : 1917 (first world war)

Resumed activity as a Rover : august 1944

Presently Vice President of the Italian Central Board;
appointed Jan, 20, 1945

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9/13.33

THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

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FOUNDER: THE LORD BADEN-POWELL OF GILWELL, O.M., G.O.M.G., G.D.V.O., K.C.B., LL.D.
CHIEF SCOUT: THE LORD SOMERS, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.

TELEPHONES: VICTORIA 8005 (6 LINES)
TELEGRAMS: SCOUTCRAFT, LONDON
CODE: BENTLEY'S COMPLETE PHRASE



IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

25, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD
LONDON, S.W.1

2nd May, 1945.

IN REPLY PLEASE ADDRESS
THE GENERAL SECRETARY
AND QUOTE

Lt.-Col. W. Carleton W. Washburne,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Education Sub-Commission,
A.P.O. 394,
C.M.F.

Dear Colonel Washburne,

Thank you very much for your letter of April 23rd, the contents of which I note with great appreciation.

Mr. Catty and I are in frequent exchange of correspondence, and Mr. Logan himself who is now back in this country, made it clear to me that his opinion is that until such a time as the Allied Commission ceases to operate in Italy, Mr. Logan's absence from the field will not prove too detrimental to the relations between the Allies and the Italians on the matter of the reconstruction of their Scouting.

You will believe me when I say that I heartily reciprocate your kind appreciation of my interest and co-operation, whilst assuring you that I feel that very much more is due to your own interest and unstinted help.

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With best wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

T.G. Bincham

(T.G. Bincham)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONER.

TGB/JMA.

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

785016

9F/3.33
10 Education S.C.
For information
and retention.
LH Jch.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

	Public Health
	Public Safety
	Economic Section
	Agriculture
	Finance
	Industry & Commerce
	Labor
	NAVY
	Communications
	Navy
	War Materials
	G - 1
	G - 4
	Hq 2675th Regt
	Hq 304th (Main)
	Hq 304th (Rear)
	Adjutant (Main)
	Adjutant (Rear)
	Det Hq & Hq Co

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CHIEF SCOUT: THE LORD SOMERS, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.

TELEPHONES: VICTORIA 8008 (8 LINES)

TELEGRAMS: SCOUTRAFT, LONDON

CODE: BENTLEY'S COMPLETE PHRASE



IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

25, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD

LONDON, S.W.1

16th April, 1945.

IN REPLY PLEASE ADDRESS
THE GENERAL SECRETARY
AND QUOTE

Brigadier Upjohn,
Vice President, Civil Affairs Section,
H.Q. Allied Commission,
C.M.F.

Dear Brigadier Upjohn,

As you are no doubt aware the Rev. V.K.C. Logan, my Assistant International Commissioner and Commissioner for Scouts in H.M. Forces has recently returned to this country for consultation with us here at Imperial Headquarters.

From all that he says, it now seems that Scouting is well-established and we feel that he can now be released and the work carried on very ably by the various excellent teams of part time workers, that he has been able to create in almost every country.

In order that you may be fully informed of our plans for the control of this work in the future and as long as its necessity continues, I enclose a copy of a Public Statement which I am sure will be of interest to you and may prove helpful in any communications you may desire to make with

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the office of the M.E.F.R.S.A. in the future.

Mr. Logan has spoken a great deal of the very kind way in which you have not only helped him personally, but also the Movement.

In completion I wish to express to you on behalf of the Boy Scouts Association I.H.Q. and on my own behalf our warm appreciation and great gratitude for your kind interest.

Yours very sincerely,

Glad T Bincham

(T.G. Bincham)
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONER.

TGB/JMA.

PUBLIC OFFICIAL STATEMENT - to "M.E. ROVER" - "FORCES
BULLETIN" etc.

In pursuance of the general policy of decentralizing Scouting as much as possible, and in view of the progress of the war, it is felt that the work previously done by the Rev. V.K.C. Logan, can now be done more effectively by the various teams, who helped him.

For the time being the Mediterranean Area Scout Office in Egypt will continue as it has done, but under the Leadership of Lieut.-Col. Critchley acting as Assistant County Commissioner with his team of helpers.

This office will cover the following places or areas only :-

For Service Rover Scouts - the M.E.F.

For International matters - Egypt, the Sudan - Cyrenaica - Tripoli - Eritrea, Palestine, - Syria - The Lebanon - Iraq - Iran.

All correspondence should in future be addressed as follows :-

Lt.-Col. M. Critchley, M.D.,
H.Q. No. 17 Area,
M.E.F.

and clearly marked M.E.F. "Service Rover Scouts" on the envelope.

The area known as C.M.F. will in future be dealt with as follows :-

For Service Rover Scouts - C.M.F. apply to Major Nicole,
c/o Major C. Boylo,
M.O.,
G - 2 (c.c.)
A.F.H.Q.,
C.M.F.

or to :- W/Cdr. S.J. Hargrave, R.A.F.,
H.Q. M.A.A.F.,
C.M.F.

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-2-

or to :- The H.Q. Commission for Rover Scouts,
25, Buckingham Palace Road,
London, S.W.1.

Matters connected exclusively with Italian Scouting should be
addressed directly to :-

F.R. Catty, Esq.,
Communications Sub-Commission,
H.Q. Allied Commission,
C.M.F.

Matters connected with and correspondence and enquiries
relating to Scouting in the Balkans, should be addressed direct
to :-

The International Commissioner,
25, Buckingham Palace Road,
London, S.W.1.

in every case.

T.G. Bincham,
International Commissioner,
The Boy Scouts Association,
25, Buckingham Palace Road,
London, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

To Major Warblane

F | 3.33
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There are some rather important paragraphs in this report.

Also Page 3 add:-

Dr Rovatti told me had applied to the prefect for some G11 equipment I had received a letter back
reference - Gab 4369 31/oct/44.
Saying that all such equipment in Bari was to be given to the War Dept ~~and~~ not to SCAB.
I saw the actual letter

McEager

7237

reports.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Major Washburn.

FROM : The Assistant International Commissioner.
TO : The International Commissioner,
The Boy Scouts Association,
25 Buckingham Palace Road,
London. SW 1
SUBJECT : Scouting in C.M.F. (CMF-RSA), BARI.
REF. : Report No. 3
DATE : November 7, 1944.

NOVEMBER 3, 1944

I eventually arrived in Bari, after various delays and in view of the different sphere of work to be done, I arranged to be transferred back from the RAF to the Zone HQ. of Allied Control Commission.

Captain Jones, the Executive Officer, (the Zone Commander being away) welcomed me with considerable enthusiasm, because last week what he thought was ^{an} Italian Scout proposition was put up to him (there is no director of Education for AGE here).

As far as previous knowledge goes, both CMGEI and AGEI are already operating here, but the proposition put up to ACC is for something different.

Captain Jones is also most anxious to do something for the thousands of children on the streets and had approached the Prefect about the problem. It has occurred to me that Boys Clubs run by the local Service Rovers might help the problem, which is obviously too big to be covered by the Scouts alone.

In the evening after some difficulty (and by fortunate coincidences) I tracked down the Bari Garrison Crew, not in their "den" but in Toc H. The meeting was a small one, there only ⁷²³⁶ being about 10 soldiers and airmen able to be present. When I arrived, they had just finished a Rovers Own, led by their newest member Padre Robinson (Senior Chaplain RAF). They are all first rate men, and were most glad to see me. This crew are more or less pioneers at helping Italian Scouting and have got

2.

everything absolutely "taped". I brought their information up to date and then arranged with the scribe to take me round all Italian Scouts known to them tomorrow, and also to see some Greek Scouts in the town.

I showed them a copy of the letter received by Captain Jones of ACC, and referred to earlier in this report, but they said that it was not one of the AGEI Troops known to them. Upon examining the letter more carefully it looks as if this is a "Catholic Action Boys Club":

The Rovers informed that CNGEI and AGEI here have not as yet federated, but AGEI have for months past sent detachments of Scouts to meetings run by them, and that the two leaders appear friendly towards each other, and that now is probably the Psychological Moment to tell them of the Federation in Rome.

I then approached the Rovers on the subject of Captain Jones' proposed "Boys Club". The Rovers displayed the greatest enthusiasm for the idea and told me that they had thought of the same idea last week, but had not known, who was the proper authority to approach. Padre Robinson is now going to meet Captain Jones to see whether this idea can become an established fact.

(NOTE: In this area the schools are still occupied by the Military This is the biggest difficulty which the Education Subcommittee have to contend with.)

Speaking as an outside observer it seems to me :-

- 1) that of course the war must be prosecuted with the utmost vigour, and nothing must hinder this but
- 2) the war, as far as Italy was concerned, was to remove Fascism but
- 3) not to so defeat the ends of re-education that the youth of the country falls into a misunderstood Communism, mainly consists of hooliganism and hatred, and interference (by violence) with other peoples' liberties.

Several incidents that I have heard of recently point to this being a fact. I do not feel at liberty to report them here, but I personally am satisfied of their authenticity and that this is the embryo of a very real future danger to the country, if not even of a future peril to Europe at a distant date. 235

To propose any direct solution isto go completely out of my province, but Scouting and Boys Clubs may be a very large temporary indirect solution.

3.

NOVEMBER 4, 1944

Accompanied by two members of the Bari Services Rover Crew, I set out to visit the Italian Scout Commissioners, the first one on the list being Dr. Angelo Rovatti, Commissioner for AGEI in this region. As soon as our identity was established we were received most kindly and hospitably. Dr. Rovatti is a friend of Prof. Mazza's, and asked me to ask Prof. Mazza to find time to come over and run a Scouters Training Course in the Adriatic Area.

I then explained to him that I had established direct postal communications for Scouts in the provinces with Scout HQ in Rome, through the cooperation of Allied Control Commission. They are very grateful for this. He then showed me a letter from the local Prefect, refusing any of the old Balilla Camp equipment—I then agreed to put this before ACC in Rome (Please refer to report on Italian Scouting —ref. The Minister of Education).

I then broached the subject of the Federation between AGEI and CNGEI in Rome, but he said that although in Bari they wanted to be friends, this was at present impossible because CNGEI in Bari did not act like Scouts at all, in that :-

- 1) they were different from CNGEI elsewhere as they did not have the word "God" in the promise.
- 2) they ran a mixed Troop of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.
- 3) that in a certain camp, they had as a punishment actually manacled a boy.

He was very grateful to the British Service Rovers, who helped to instruct boys from his five Troops in batches at the Rover Den in Via di Romita.

After coffee, we left him, the parting being most gratefully cordial.

Personal Notes.

I personally like Dr. Rovatti and believe him to be a real Scout of a similar type to Professor Mazza.

The conversation took place entirely in French.

On being asked about the letter received by Capt. Jones of ACC, gave it as his opinion, that they did not claim to be Scouts at all as the phrase used was "Associazione della Giovane Azione Cattolica" — meaning simply "Association of Catholic Action Boys".

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4.

He then welcomed the idea of the Rovers and Toc H, trying to run Boys Clubs as well as helping with the Scouts.

--- --- ---
The two Rovers then took me to Signor Canuda, who, after identity was established, received us in a friendly manner (he is an old man probably about 68 or 70). He is the Regional President of CNGEI (and Col. Giordina is the Regional Commissioner). After general discussion and messages of goodwill to and from Rome HQ, he raised the same point of his own accord that Dr. Rovatti had raised.

1) He produced a 1919 "unofficial" Scout diary and said that they were working from this. He was unaware of the fact told me by Signor Corcos in Rome that the word "God" had been inserted in the promise in 1922.

2) He agreed that it was desirable to insert the word "God" so as not to be different from the rest of CNGEI.

3) He desired the Federation, about which he had heard.

4) He told us about his Girl Scouts.

5) He asked me to meet Colonel Giordina and everyone else the following morning in order to see their HQ.

I then told him of the communications arrangement with ACC.

We then parted on very good terms.

Personal Notes.

Signor Canuda is a lawyer. We were nearly sure that in both these interviews we were first mistaken for the Military Police, as although we were immediately shown into a sitting room, the door was left open so that we could be watched, each man sent all sorts of excuses for not seeing anyone at all until our identity was established by the messenger, (in each case a servant), after which we were received cordially as outlined previously.

NOVEMBER 5, 1944

Accompanied by two Rovers, I first went to the hospital to see Sergeant F. Smith, the RSL of the Bari Services Rover Crew, who is unfortunately ill. After giving him all my information I asked him for his.

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And here I want to emphasise, one of the things I did not tell him was the story of the manacled boy, but he told me the same story as Dr. Rovatti and said he had got the information

5.

from a Scout of CNGEI. He also told me that, although AGEI were welcomed by the Rover Crew, CNGEI would not come round, in fact never had in spite of repeated invitations, and he felt that there was something wrong somewhere.

Still accompanied by two Rovers I went to the HQ of CNGEI, which is a large flat on the fourth floor of a building. Outside the door were two "sentries" who brought their staves to attention and saluted. Inside occupying three adjacent rooms, were drawn up Scouts, Girl Scouts (all in uniform) and Old Scouts not in uniform, in two lines forming a lane through which we passed, everyone standing rigidly to attention. At the end was another room labelled "Office of the Commissioner" — all very nicely furnished (including a radio that was working). Here we were received by Signor Caduna, Colonel Giordina, a number of Scouters and two Girl Scouters — none of these was in uniform but all were carrying a sort of "swagger stick". After introductions and handshakings I was taken round the rooms and especially to one labelled "Cantina" and it was explained to me that this canteen was for "Officers Only". After many conversations in French, broken Italian and broken English, we were all photographed, and here it is significant to note that of the three photographs taken, only one included anyone else than the "big noises" — and at my request for one photograph a few of the boys and girls were allowed to drape themselves around us.

After this we took our leave, with many salutes and calling of the boys and girls to a rigid attention.

(NOTE:- Once in the middle of the visit which lasted nearly an hour, I begged that the children might at least stand at ease — they had all been out on bicycles for the morning and some were very small.)

None of the rooms had any Scout decoration of any kind except for a couple of pre-Fascist flags in frames.

I and the two Rovers with me then went for a walk to compare impressions and talk things over, and the following thoughts emerged :-

- 1) that something is very wrong somewhere, as what we saw was not "Scouting" in the "technical" sense of the word.
- 2) that it is odd, that several months after investiture one of the Rovers who speaks Italian, could find no boy ⁷²³² who knew anything about Scouting and could only salute and stand at attention.
- 3) that the parade was purely a piece of window dressing

6.

- and nothing else.
- 4) that the boys and girls were quite an unimportant part of the show —the important part being the "big noises".
 - 5) that another effort must be made to get the boys along to the Rover Den for instruction.
 - 6) that the Rovers must endeavour to watch the organisation and send any information to Mr. Catty in Rome, but not express any opinions themselves about it.

Personal Note

Weighing up everything very carefully, I am afraid I regard the Bari CNCEI with very serious misgivings, and I am seriously wondering whether it has some local political organization behind it, merely using it as a cover, for gathering boys and girls together for political instructions.

I had a word with one or two ACC officers in the Mess at lunch about it, and the general feeling was that it was disguised Fascism (not Communism). It was also pointed out that Col. Giordina (age about 38 or 40) must have once been a Fascist, in order to have become a colonel.

Prof. Mazza himself told me that years ago when he was a Scoutmaster of AGEI Troop, a local political magnate, by cunning and intrigue nearly got control of the Troop, body and soul, he Prof. Mazza only discovering what was happening at the last moment and just averting a local disaster, so this sort of thing has happened before in Italy and might well happen again.

After my return to Rome, after consultation with Major Washburne (vide reports on Italy) I shall probably suggest passing on a hint to CNCEI HQ, so that they themselves can make an investigation.

It may only be an inefficient and ignorant organization or it may be something Fascist or it may be an attempt to train children in some other political doctrine, but as I say I regard it with misgivings and fears.

In the old days Bari was a Fascist stronghold -- also in this neighbourhood, I have been told, that the Communists have been getting violent (even to the point of trying to beat up a religious ceremony in a Church) and had to be suppressed by threat of Allied Military force. They were told that they could say and do what they liked in their own hall, but that if they disturbed or threatened other peoples' meetings or became a public

6.

and nothing else.

- 4) that the boys and girls were quite an unimportant part of the show --the important part being the "big noises".
- 5) that another effort must be made to get the boys along to the Rover Den for instruction.
- 6) that the Rovers must endeavour to watch the organisation and send any information to Mr. Catty in Rome, but not express any opinions themselves about it.

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Weighing up everything very carefully, I am afraid I regard the Bari CNGEI with very serious misgivings, and I am seriously wondering whether it has some local political organization behind it, merely using it as a cover, for gathering boys and girls together for political instructions.

I had a word with one or two ACC officers in the Mess at lunch about it, and the general feeling was that it was disguised Fascism(not Communism). It was also pointed out that Col. Giordina (age about 38 or 40) must have once been a Fascist, in order to have become a colonel.

Prof. Mazza himself told me that years ago when he was a Scoutmaster of AGEI Troop, a local political magnate, by cunning and intrigue nearly got control of the Troop, body and soul, he Prof. Mazza only discovering what was happening at the last moment and just averting a local disaster, so this sort of thing has happened before in Italy and might well happen again.

After my return to Rome, after consultation with Major Washburne (vide reports on Italy) I shall probably suggest passing on a hint to CNGEI HQ, so that they themselves can make an investigation.

It may only be an inefficient and ignorant organization or it may be something Fascist or it may be an attempt to train children in some other political doctrine, but as I say I regard it with misgivings and fears.

In the old days Bari was a Fascist stronghold -- also in this neighbourhood, I have been told, that the Communists have been getting violent (even to the point of trying to beat up a religious ceremony in a Church) and had to be suppressed by threat of Allied Military force. They were told that they could say and do what they liked in their own hall, but that if they disturbed or threatened other peoples' meetings or became a public

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nuisance in the street, then there would be trouble. (The actual phraseology of the above statement was, I believe, of necessity in much stronger terms than I have worded it.)

Appendix I

Copy of Letter received by Capt. Jones.

FEDERAZIONE DIOCESANA

S.MARCO E BISIGNANO

S.Marco Argentano
30/10/1944

ON. COMANDO ALLEATO
BARI.

Sin dal mese di luglio u.s. presso il Centro Diocesano di Azione Cattolica si è costituito il gruppo Esploratori. Le direttive del movimento giovanile sono quelle adottate dal Generale Inglese Sir Robert Baden-Powell, nella guerra Anglo-Boera e precisamente durante l'assedio di Mefeking. I giovani accorrono numerosi, attratti dall'attività sportiva del movimento. Mancano però di tutto e in particolare dell'uniforme e del football: minimo necessario per intraprendere una qualunque attività.

L'Ecc. il Vescovo a cui ci siamo rivolti ci consigliò di scrivere a codesto Comando Alleato. Perciò il Comando sarà così cortese se potrà farci avere a pagamento almeno una dozzina di camiciotti vari, altrettanti pantaloni, preferibilmente turchini, dodici magliette ed un pallone (football).

Se non si potesse avere roba nuova ci contenteremo lo stesso di indumenti usati. Ci auguriamo incontrate il benevolo interessamento degli Alleati, i quali concorreranno così alla formazione del carattere dei nostri giovani attraverso la disciplina e lo sviluppo fisico. In attesa salutiamo e ringraziamo.

Il Vice Presidente
della Gioventù Italiana di
Azione Cattolica dello
Diocesi di S.Marco e Bisignano
(Mario Antonio Scarpelli)

7230

Si prega rispondere a questo
indirizzo: Mario Scarpelli,
Vice Presidente Diocesano A.C.
Via A. Casini 45, S.Marco Argentino (COSENZA)

8.

MEMORANDUM"Associazione della Giovani Azione Cattolica"

As far as I can ascertain, this movement is more or less the equivalent of "The Church Lads Brigade". It does not purport to be a Boy Scout Movement at all.

If Allied Control Commission is prepared to help this Movement locally in any way, it can, to be my mind, only do good, and contribute in another small way to solving a little of the youth problem.

✓
Sd/- V.K.C. Logan
Assistant International
Commissioner

It is from this organization that Captain Jones of A.C. Bari, has received a request for assistance.

Copy of Assistant International Commissioner's
letter to Colonel Orpwood.

Nov. 6, 1944

Dear Colonel Orpwood,

I would like to thank you for the hospitality and help so kindly given by Zone HQ and in particular by Capt. Jones.

I think I have been able to do some useful work here, and as soon as I have returned to my office in Rome and had my report typed, I will send you a copy of that part concerned with this Zone: this will not probably be for about a fortnight, after I have been to Taranto and Brindisi.

Again Thanking you

Yours Sincerely

✓
Assistant International Commissioner
and Commissioner for Scouts in
H.M. Forces.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

FROM : The Assistant International Commissioner

TO : The International Commissioner
The Boy Scouts Association
25 Buckingham Palace Road
London. SW 1

SUBJECT : Scouting in GMP (GMP-RSA-Naples).

REF. : Report No. 4A

DATE : November 16, 1944

NOVEMBER 11, 12, 13, 1944

These days were occupied in travelling northwards with one day spent in San Severo with P/Lt. Selloe - (refer back to report 2 on San Severo Troop and Crew)

I learnt that P/Lt. Inge had caused a letter to be written to Professor Mazza, asking for the local Italian Troop to be registered as an "open" Troop of ACEI.

(NOTE: It would well repay you to write to P/Lt Inge, asking him to give you his views on Italian Scouting — you can address the letter c/o W/Com. Arnold whose address will have reached you — I am not at liberty to put it in this report.)

NOVEMBER 13, 1944

I arrived in Naples again, and after the usual lengthy and tedious initial arrangements I got into touch with the two RAF Crews, which I had been unable to contact on the outward journey.

Through the kindness of both Adjutants, members of both Crews, met together as one, and I was able to join them. They are somewhat out of Naples, and therefore not in contact with local Scouting, but they are all of the right type and as keen as ever on Scouting, when the opportunity arises. They say that they get a great deal of encouragement from their Commanding Officer and their Chaplain. It was a pleasure to go and see them in spite of numerous difficulties which had to be overcome.

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NOVEMBER 14, 1944.

I called on Major Murphy (vide previous reports) and on

Lt.Col. Simpson, Naples Zone Commissioner for ACC. Apparently you have been in communication with him, although I did know this. The net result is that both he and Major Murphy, to a lesser degree, have got wildly enthusiastic over fostering Scouting in the region.

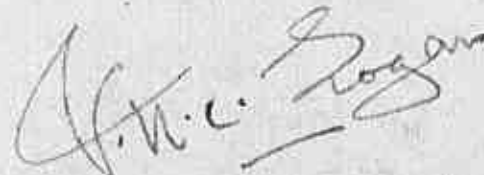
It is my opinion that they may try to go too fast and I fear the Colonel did not like my counsels of going slow and my talk about the International Bureau. Major Murphy rather took the line "either go the whole hog and encourage the thing properly or leave it alone" -- "don't stir up interest and then do nothing". He also said that if books didn't come soon from somewhere, he would have the American books translated and printed in America. I am only quoting his suggestions and not giving my own opinions here.

Both these men are merely very very keen indeed on their respective jobs of rebuilding Italy. There is no other motive behind all this enthusiasm.

Attached is a copy of Major Murphy's official recommendations to HQ.ACC.

NOVEMBER 15, 1944

I returned to Rome.



Assistant International Commissioner

7227

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THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

FOUNDER: THE LORD BADEN-POWELL OF GILWELL, O.M., G.C.M.G., G.O.V.O., K.O.B., LL.D.
CHIEF SCOUT: THE LORD SOMERS, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.

TELEPHONES: VICTORIA 8006 (6 LINES)
TELEGRAMS: SCOUTCRAFT, LONDON
CODE: BENTLEY'S COMPLETE PHRASE



IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

25, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD

LONDON, S.W.1

6th November, 1944.

IN REPLY PLEASE ADDRESS
THE GENERAL SECRETARY
AND QUOTE

Major Carleton W. Washburne,
H.Q. Allied Control Commission,
A.P.O. 394,
C.M.F.

My dear Major Washburne,

I want to tell you how very much we appreciate the kind way you have received my Assistant International Commissioner - Rev V.K.C. Logan, and how grateful we are for all the valuable help you are giving him.

This has made his very difficult duties so much lighter, and we are fully aware how much he and we owe you for your friendly attitude.

We are anxious to co-operate with you on the educational side, and you will safely count on our help, but we have to limit our efforts to helping you. Your Commission can go much farther in this matter than would be either right or diplomatic for us to go as concerns Italian Youth.

Wishing you the fullest success in your intricate but deeply

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P.T.O.

2132

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

interesting duties, and with renewed thanks for your help to my
colleague.

Yours sincerely,

T.G. Bingham

(T.G. Bingham)
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONER.

TGB/JMA.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Correspondence with
International Commⁿ British Scouts
TO : Major Washburne. Educⁿ Sub Commⁿ 30 Dec 1944.
From: M^r Cally

Thanks for letting me see this. BINCHAM
seems to be beginning to appreciate your efforts.
I arranged on Friday with ^{British} Embassy that
they will let me pass letters to him through
their bag. They asked to have copies, which
won't do any harm. If they really mean
Fast Air Bag this means 4 or 5 days in transit - but we shall see.

FR C.
30 Dec 44

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THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER
FOUNDER: THE LORD BADEN-POWELL OF GILWELL, O.M., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.O.B., LL.D.

TELEPHONES: VICTORIA 6005 (5 LINES)
TELEGRAMS: SCOUTCRAFT, LONDON
CODE: BENTLEY'S COMPLETE PHRASE



IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

25, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD
LONDON, S.W.1

November 2nd, 1944

IN REPLY PLEASE ADDRESS
THE GENERAL SECRETARY
AND QUOTE

The Director,
Allied Control Commission,
C.M.F.

Sir,

With a view to assisting the work of your Commission, in educating Italian Youth of both sexes, I have the pleasure of notifying you that, on behalf of the Girl Guides Association, and of this, our Boy Scouts Association, I have despatched, through a friendly Official Department, a supply of the up-to-date standard Text-Books on Guiding, and on Scouting, which we are privileged to place at your disposal for distribution and/or reproduction according to your discretion, in order to assist you in this essential branch of your official work.

The books which we have sent on behalf of the Girl Guides Assn. are as follows:-

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (2); World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts last issued Annual Report (2); Guides Painting Book (illustrating Guide Uniform in various Countries) (2); the International Girl Guide and Girl Scout Paper - "The Council Fire" (2); "Girl Guiding" (2); "Brown Magic", instructions for Brownie Leaders (1); "What is Guiding" (1); "An A.P.C. of Guiding" (2); "Hiking and Light-Weight Camping, at home and abroad" (2); "What are Brownies?" (1); "Organisation etc of the Ranger Branch and the Sea Ranger Section" (1); "Girl Guides" Annual Report, 1943 (1); "The Guider" monthly journal (1).

The Scout Books we have sent are:- (Two copies of each) Scouting for Boys; Wolf Cub Handbook, "Policy, Organisation and Rules"; Senior Scouts (our newest branch); Sea Scout Handbook; Air Scout Handbook; Wolf Cub Tests; The Cub Book (by E-P); Rover Scouting (Griffin); Boy Scout Knot-book; How to run a Patrol; "E-P's OUTLOOK" (Reynolds); "E-P" (Reynolds), and a set of the Training Text-books by "Gilcraft" as follows - Wolf Cubs, Scout Games, Cub Games, Wide Games, How to run a Troop; Scouting out-of-doors; Boy Scouts; Pioneering; Tracking Training, More Gilcraft Gleanings.

I am asked by the Girl Guides Assn. to explain that they make the greatest use of our own "Scouting for Boys" and our "Gilcraft" Series the training in which is equally applicable to boys and Girls.

The Department which is so greatly helping us in the matter of safe and speedy transport of these books, asks us to advise you that in one or more parcels for convenience in carriage, all these books enumerated, will be at your disposal and instructions at the British Embassy in Rome, and will await your claim for them.

With sincere hopes that this literature may be of service to you in your important task with Italian Youth, and assuring you of the great pleasure of both Associations in being able to place our literature at your complete discretion;

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Glad V. Bincham

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONER.

TGB/CAB.

P.S. Novr. 6th/44. I am now informed by our Friends that the books in have been sent in TWO Parcels, leaving, one Saturday 4th inst, and the other on Sunday 5th, by "Bag" and due to arrive in 3-4 days. Will you please note, they are NOT being sent to The Embassy, one, but to the "PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE, A.F.H.Q." "To await Collection". I am advised that you will know the address of the P.R. Office, AFHQ and to ask you to make the necessary arrangements to secure delivery.