

ACC 10000/146/81

L.S.C /412

STATE EMPLOYEES - WORKING CONDITION

Jan. - July 1945

/412

STATE EMPLOYEES - WORKING CONDITIONS

Jan. - July 1945

785021

TO: Economic Section
Attention Col. Densmore.

23 January 1945

Attached for approval and signature is a report to G-5 AFHQ, regarding the developments following the threatened strike of Government employees at Bari. You may wish to sign this communication yourself, or to pass for signature to the Chief of Staff, who was interested. In these circumstances, the signature and title space has not been completed.

W. H. Braine

W. H. BRAINE
Director,
Labour Sub-Commission

To COS

For COS or CC signature as COS

may and please

J. D. Densmore
Col. F. G. F/S

3

COS

I think you a hot CC. Should sign
this which is clear a well set out.

CCO

25/1.

I agree. Bf. at COS making. Will then sign

submit copy to CC

W. H. Braine

COS

Disputed
26/1

Noted

Two

Econ Sec

Ref minute 2 above.

Letter to G-5 AFHQ

signed by COS is returned for dispatch.
copies have been withdrawn.

27 Jan 45

Two
JOSEPH C RIVELY
Major Inf. 27/1

785021

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION

LRS/js

Tel. 478626 - Ext. 204

RMP. : LSC/1105-412

16 luglio 1945

OCCETTO: Uffici del Lavoro

AL : Ministero del Lavoro e della
Previdenza Sociale
Roma

31

Ho ricevuto l'allegata lettera nella quale
il Sindacato Impiegati dell'Ufficio del Lavoro di
Orieti chiede un miglioramento del trattamento eco-
nomico attualmente corrisposto a questa categoria,
e ve la trasmetto per le eventuali disposizioni che
riterrate opportuno prendere al riguardo.

W.H. BRAINE
Director
Labour Sub-Commission

(Alleg. 1)

785021

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION

LRS/js

Tel. 478828 - Ext. 204

16 luglio 1945.

RNF. : LSC/1108+412

OGGETTO: Trattamento dipendenti Uffici
del Lavoro.

AL : Sindacato Impiegati
Ufficio del Lavoro di Chieti

Ho ricevuto la Vostra lettera n°12 del
26 giugno 1945 e l'ho trasmessa al Ministro del
Lavoro per le eventuali disposizioni che esso riterà
opportuno prendere al riguardo.

30

W.H.BRAINE
Director
Labour Sub-Commission

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APC 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

27 January 1945

REF : LSC/412

SUBJECT : Threatened Strike of Government Employees at Bari.

TO : G-5, APHQ

1. Following is a complete report regarding the developments arising from threatened strike of Government employees at Bari. In brief, the reception of the delegation of State employees and the granting of some of their demands by the Italian Government, has averted any danger of precipitate action on the part of these employees. 29

2. A mass meeting of five thousand Government employees was held in Bari on 5 January 1945 to ventilate their grievances. It is firmly alleged by the CGIL (General Confederation of Labour) that agitators of ex-fascist origin endeavored to incite these workers to violent and direct action and that the local Camera del Lavoro exercised a moderating and restraining influence. At the mass meeting, a delegation of 15 workers was appointed to proceed to Rome to present demands to the Italian Government and to the "Allied Authorities". The delegation, on arrival in Rome, made contact with the CGIL who strongly deprecated to them their threats of strike action and of public demonstration; indicated in forceful terms that their demands in some instances were exaggerated; and pointedly enquired whether ex-fascist agitators were behind the violent threats that have been made. CGIL agreed to present the delegation to Prime Minister Bonomi, but to support only certain of the demands. CGIL claims to have advocated moderation and to have assisted in disposing of an awkward problem. Prime Minister Bonomi, Minister Soleri (Treasury) and Food Commissioner Bergami, received the delegation accompanied by Liaison Officer Di Vittorio of the Joint Secretariat of the CGIL, on Thursday 15 January, 1945. As a result, the following concessions were made:-

- (a) Recognition of Bari and certain larger Communes in the Province as areas of "difficult residence", carrying right to payment of a special bonus dating from 1 December 1944.
- (b) Immediate payment of the Christmas bonus of 2000 lire.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

- (c) An undertaking to extend the establishment of canteens to all Statel and Parastatal employees, and the establishment of cheap restaurants for such employees, particularly bachelors.

For purposes of comparison, a list of demands following the mass meeting at Bari is attached.

3. On the advice of the OGIL the further mass meeting planned for 25 January at Bari was cancelled, and in its place, separate meetings of various categories of workers were arranged, and are now understood to be in progress for the purpose of communicating the results of the deputation to such categories.

4. It is evident that a serious situation threatened to develop and that it was avoided by timely concessions on the part of the Italian Government together with the prevalence of moderating counsels on the part of organised labour. It is for consideration whether further investigation should be made into the alleged activity of fascist agitators; unless deemed to be urgent, such investigation might await the next evidence of subversive activities.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff,
for the Chief Commissioner.

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TRANSLATION

CLAIMS MADE BY STATE EMPLOYEES DELEGATION OF BARI

1. Revision of tables and decree 16. 11. 1944 No. 128, to be rapidly performed with the help of a Commission of the Confederation.
2. Indemnity for "difficult residence" for Bari and some of the Communes of the Province indicated by the Prefect of Bari by telegrams No. 446 - 30. 11 and 5. 12. 1944.
3. End of year Bonus - insist that it be equalled to a 13th month with a minimum of 2000 lire for everyone this year; to be paid immediately to all State and Parastatal employees of the Communes and Province and of charitable Institutions, without difference between small and large Communes, and without taking count of the assiduity of the employees during the year.
4. 75 hours overtime monthly to all employees - this measure is already in effect in some organizations, ~~to~~ to be extended to others. 27
5. equalisation of salaries between permanent and non-permanent employees.
6. 70% on "boarderment indemnity" as from 1 February 1945 (already granted to war employees)
7. Greater freedom to the Prefects for the distribution to canteens and cooperatives, all confiscated and sequestered goods.
8. Age limits.
9. Food in kind.

785021

WES/cf

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

23 January 1945

MEMORANDUM: Bari Public Employees
Report of Capt. Alessandrini

1. Capt. Alessandrini, AG Labor Officer, Bari, reports that Committee of Public Employees has returned from Rome.
2. There is some question as to whether scheduled meeting of Public Employees will be held on 25 January (Thursday), as planned at 5 January meeting.
3. If held, it will involve only the Bari area employees, not the larger group once indicated.
4. Today, the representative of Bari Camera del Lavoro, who was in Rome with Committee, told Capt. Alessandrini he "thought the meeting would have to be held, if only to receive a report of what happened in Rome."
5. On the basis of talking with Camera del Lavoro, Capt. Alessandrini is of opinion that meeting will be calm affair and that no action beyond receiving report and discussing it is to be expected.
6. Capt. Alessandrini will cover any meeting which may be held and will telephone Labor Sub-Commission Thursday in any event to inform us of the position.

W.E. Solenberger
W.E. SOLEMBERGER
Captain, S. R.

0653

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

785021

20 - gennaio 1945

Unità

File
Davi Strike

20 Jan 45

SUL FRONTE DEL LAVORO

UN'ALTRA VITTORIA DELLA C.G.I.L.

La gratifica annuale estesa ai dipendenti degli enti locali

La C.G.I.L. aveva richiesto al Governo di estendere a tutti i dipendenti degli enti locali e parastatali la gratifica natalizia decisa dal Consiglio dei Ministri il 22 dicembre 1944.

Nel corso dell'udienza alla rappresentanza dei dipendenti dalle pubbliche amministrazioni di Bari, Bonomi e Soleri hanno assicurato di aver già dato disposizioni perché i provvedimenti suddetti siano estesi anche ai dipendenti dei enti locali.

Infine è stato comunicato che i Comuni sono autorizzati ad calcolare a favore dei propri dipendenti tutti i miglioramenti economici concessi in questi ultimi mesi alle altre categorie di lavoratori.

25

File
for with Paris papers

EJS/tr

file 412
over 804

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

Tel.: 478809

20 January 1945

REF. : LSC/412

SUBJECT : Threat of Strike - State Employees Bari
Situation Report.

TO : Col. L. D. Denmore Acting Deputy Chief of
Staff.

FROM : Labour Relations Officer

24

THROUGH : Director Labour Sub-Commission

Ref. above

1. H.E. Bonomi received the C.G.I.L. representatives and the representatives of State Employees in Bari yesterday.

2. I am informed by Mr. Di Vittorio, C.G.I.L. joint Secretary, that the question has been virtually resolved, personnel employed in Bari being granted the scale of indemnities outlined for "città disagiatissime". Mr. Di Vittorio assured me that the general strike field for January 25th will be called off.

E. Scioluna
E. SCIOLUNA, Major
Labour Relations Officer
A.C. Labour Sub-Commission

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

Tel.: 478809

REF. : LSC 412

18 January 1945

SUBJECT : Threat of Strike - Bari
Situation Report.

TO : Col. L. D. DENSMORE - Chief Staff Officer
Economic Section

FROM : Maj. E. SCICLUNA - Labour Relation Officer.

THROUGH : Col. J. R. SMITH - Acting Director Labour
Sub-Commission.

Ref. Above Subject.

1 - The Deputation representing State Employees were reported to have left Bari for Rome on Friday, January 12th. The Delegation arrived in Rome on Sunday 15th January and contacted the Joint Secretariat of the C.G.I.L.

2. I am informed by C.G.I.L. that an interview has been sought with H.E. Benoni and an appointment for a preliminary meeting has been fixed for tomorrow Jan. 19th.

3. Both H.E. the Minister for Labour and the Undersecretary have been away from Rome but are due to come back today. I am making arrangements to obtain an interview with the latter at his earliest convenience and I will report in due course.

E. Scicluna Maj.
E. SCICLUNA Maj.
Labour Relations Officer

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION ALLIED COMMISSION
LABOR DIVISION
APO 394 U.S. ARMY

CSC/412
+ 809

16 January 1945

LS/336/94

SUBJECT : General Strike Threat - Bari

TO : Labour Sub-Commission ✓

1. Attached hereto for information is a copy of the
Order of the Day of the meeting held on 5th January 1945. 22

For the Regional Commissioner.

Denis L. Botham Capt. R.A.

DENIS L. BOTHAM,
Capt. R.A.,
Regional Labour Officer.

Copy to : Adj.

C O P I A

GLI IMPIEGATI DELLE PUBBLICHE AMMINISTRAZIONI
dipendenti

DAI MINISTRI : di Grazia e Giustizia - delle Comunicazioni e
Trasporti - della Pubblica Istruzione - delle
Finanze e del Tesoro - dei Lavori Pubblici -
del Lavoro - dell'Agricoltura e Foreste.

DAGLI ENTI : Ente Autonomo Acquedotto Pugliese - Enti parasta-
tali ed Enti locali.

RIUNITISI IN BARI IL 5 GENNAIO 1945
IN ASSEMBLEA GENERALE

HANNO VOTATO ED APPROVATO AD UNANIMITA' IN SEGUENTE

ORDINE DEL GIORNO

FACENDO SEGUITO E RICHIAMO ai precedenti ordini del giorno
relativi al disagio economico e morale della classe dei dipendenti
delle Pubbliche Amministrazioni, votati dalle singole assemblee
di categoria ed in particolare a quello deliberato dall'Assemblea
dell'Associazione Magistrati di Bari in data 5 dicembre 1944, cate-
gorico ed inconfutabile per la completezza e la precisione dei
termini in cui è concepito.

CONSIDERATO che i nuovi fattori - nel frattempo intervenuti -
hanno reso esasperante la già insostenibile condizione di disagio
delle classi impiegatizie dipendenti da Pubbliche Amministrazioni:

nuovi fattori determinati soprattutto dall'aumento del prezzo
legale di taluni generi e di taluni servizi (olio, tabacchi, gas,
luce, trasporti, radioaudizioni), che si risolve automaticamente
ed inesorabilmente - per il conseguente rincaro della vita sopra-
tutto in danno della classe di pubblici impiegati soggetti al
regime del reddito fisso.

RITENUTO che l'atteggiamento - almeno apparentemente passivo -
assunto dal Governo di fronte alle legittime e vibranti proteste
dalla maggior parte delle classi impiegatizie e della stessa C.G.
I.L., suona incomprensione per quanti, preposti o addetti agli
stessi organismi sui quali lo Stato si sorregge, rappresentano le
basi indispensabili di qualsiasi Governo.

RITENUTO che l'inerzia - peggio - la resistenza dei Governanti
può seriamente ed irrimediabilmente attentare a quell'ordine inter-
no, assicurato dalla regolare funzione della cosa pubblica, cui
sono direttamente ed egualmente interessati, oggi più che mai le

Autorità tutte (Italiane ed Alleate), i Partiti e lo stesso popolo Italiano.

CONSIDERATO che il Governo - per ciò stesso che governa - ha e deve avere il potere - dovere di fronteggiare e risolvere integralmente il grave problema, previa consultazione delle Organizzazioni interessate e non con provvedimenti improvvisati o di compromesso che risultano sempre insufficienti e pregiudizievoli.

RITENUTO che i precedenti ordini del giorno deliberati da talune categorie di impiegati, intervenuti nell'odierna assemblea generale, devono ritenersi perciò stesso superati ed assorbiti dal presente ordine del giorno.

ADERENDO PIENAMENTE ALLE RICHIESTE PRESENTATE DALLA CGIL
C R I S T O N O

CHE IL GOVERNO PROVVEDA IMPROGGABILMENTE ED INTEGRALMENTE :

- 1° - Allo effettivo adeguamento degli stipendi e dei salari dei dipendenti da Enti Pubblici al costo reale della vita, bloccando contestualmente con una nuova disciplina unica e generale, i prezzi delle merci, dei servizi e delle prestazioni, da determinarsi in relazione agli indici medi imposti dal mercato interno nell'attuale momento, e con la previsione di adeguate sanzioni di carattere amministrativo (non esclusa la conquista totale dei beni ed internamento in campi di concentramento), ed assoggettando al regime vincolistico tutti i prodotti di prima necessità.
Ove il blocco dei prezzi suddetti non dovesse raggiungere lo scopo prefisso, si impone la adozione della scala mobile delle paghe, degli stipendi e dei salari.
- 2° - Alla concessione di tre mensilità di stipendio o di salario comprensive degli accessori emolumenti, ed alla estensione della concessa gratifica di L.2000 ai dipendenti degli Enti parastatali e locali.
- 3° - Al riconoscimento della indennità di "disagiata residenza" ai dipendenti delle Pubbliche Amministrazioni di Bari e delle altre Città della Regione, avuto riguardo alla presenza di un numero imponente di profughi Italiani e stranieri e di truppe Alleate, che pure attingono al pubblico mercato, i cui prezzi sono ormai eguali se non superiori a quelli correnti nella Città di Roma :
- 4° - Alla corrispondenza di 75 ore mensili di lavoro straordinario, previa revisione delle tariffe della indennità di lavoro straordinario.

- 5° - Alla parificazione degli stipendi e dei salari per gli impiegati non di ruolo e quelli degli impiegati di ruolo.
- 6° - E', nell'intento di rendere più agevole la applicata stabilizzazione del costo della vita, chiedono :
- a) l'assegnazione di viveri in natura, di indumento e di scarpe (come già in parte adottato per talune categorie di pubblici impiegati) da distribuire attraverso spacci delle cooperative esistenti o da istituire.
 - b) l'assegnazione dei generi e delle merci sequestrate in occasione di accertamento di reati contro la disciplina dei consumi, da distribuire attraverso gli spacci predetti.
 - c) il potenziamento delle cooperative di consumo dei pubblici impiegati, con l'assegnazione di mezzo di trasporto e di adeguate sovvenzioni, e favorendo in ogni modo l'acquisto delle merci non vincolate nei luoghi di produzione.

D I C H I A R O N O

sin d'ora di astenersi totalmente dal lavoro ove vi fossero contrasti ad un persistente atteggiamento negativo del Governo.

N O M I N A N O

Un Comitato permanente per cui affidano il compito:

- a) di divulgare e pubblicare, a mezzo di radio trasmissioni, della Stampa e di altri mezzi di pubblicità il presente Ordine del Giorno;
- b) di svolgere le pratiche occorrenti con la C.G.I.L., con il Governo Italiano e con le commissioni alleate, per il pieno accoglimento delle richieste ;
- c) di promuovere l'adesione delle classi impiegate, appartenenti agli uffici pubblici delle altre province soggette all'amministrazione del Governo Italiano ; e di indire a Bari, d'accordo con la C.G.I.L., un convegno nazionale dei vari comitati di agitazione, cui spetti di sviluppare il movimento ;
- d) di stabilire la data e le modalità dell'astensione dal lavoro in caso di persistente atteggiamento negativo del Governo ; ed allo scopo di esaminare i provvedimenti nel frattempo dal Governo stesso adottati, e di decidere in conseguenza la propria azione, indicano una nuova Assemblea generale per il 25 corrente.

Il predetto Comitato permanente risulta così composto :

Presidente : Milella, Segretario: Frate, Giustizia: Caccuri, Magistrato De Cristofaro, Cancelliere: Finanze Garzoni, Poste telegrafici: Avolos,

4)

Industria e Commercio: Zaccaro, Aziende Statali: Fusco, Acquedotto
Fugliese: Orabona, Università: De Palma, Insegnanti Medi: Grippo,
Ferrovie: Papa, Provincia: Ramunni, Lavori Pubblici: Pinto, Comune: Papa

ESIGONO

Che gli organizzatori della agitazione ed i propri rappresentanti
non subiscano rappresaglie di sorta per l'espletamento del loro
mandato (sia pure sotto forma di larvato trasferimento), ciò impli-
cando, senza ulteriore avviso, l'immediata messa in inciopero di
tutte le masse impegnate nel movimento.

INVITANO

I dipendenti delle pubbliche amministrazioni che avranno, con
precedenti Ordini del Giorno delle rispettive Assemblee, deliberato
di astenersi dal lavoro, determinandone la data, di soprassedere,
per uniformarsi alle decisioni di questa Assemblea, suggerite
dell'intento di provvedere alla migliore difesa di comuni interessi
su un piano di perfetta concordia.

18

Frid *del*

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
APO 394

SECRET + URGENT

7.00

11 January 1945.

R/1419

SUBJECT: Threatened strike Bari Zone.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission.

1. With further reference to our report R/1392
8 January 1945, I have now learned that the commission re-
presenting statal and parastatal employees in the Bari Zone
is due to leave Bari today in order to proceed to Rome to
place their demands before the Italian Government and the
Allied Commission.

2. I attach, for your information, a copy of the points
agreed to on the Order of the Day at the meeting of 5th January
1945.

J. K. Dunlop

J. K. DUNLOP
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner.

incl. 1

JD/TT

Copy Distribution

CA Sec
Econ Sec (for Salva Sec)

11 JAN
27

copy

Results of Meeting - 5 January.

The following points were agreed to as the Order of the Day:-

(a) Salary adjustments to meet the cost of living, or fixed on a sliding scale to fluctuate with the cost of living.

(b) A grant of 3 months salary, and gratuity of Lire 2,000.

(c) An indemnity called "disagiattissima residenza", due to local high prices, etc. in Bari.

(d) Payment of 75 hours overtime, pending the revision of overtime rates.

(e) Adjustment of pay of temporary employees to equal that of permanent ones.

(f) Provision of shoes, clothing, and food through various co-operative societies.

In addition a permanent "Committee of Agitation" was elected with the following duties:-

(a) Keep in constant touch with the Allied and Italian authorities in order to demand the above concessions.

(b) Control and discipline any possible independent movement.

(c) Plan a meeting in Bari, national in scope, of all agitation committees to be held on 25 January.

LSC/412 LSC/809
LDD/es

14.04/ES

9 January 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR LABOR SUB-COMMISSION AND
FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION*Col Smith*
see you at 3 PM
my office
705

Subject: General Strike - Apulia

1. Attached is copy of memo LS/321/94 from Regional Labor Officer, Southern Region, to Regional Commissioner, Southern Region, dated 6 January 1945, above subject.
2. It is noted that the subject of the memorandum has been called to the attention of the Labor Sub-Commission. It is requested that the Labor Sub-Commission confer with the Finance Sub-Commission and submit to the Economic Section statement showing generally what action has been taken by the commission with respect to this matter and a recommended course of action to be pursued by the Allied Commission. 15
3. It is particularly desired to obtain the Finance Sub-Commission's recommendation with respect to the advisability of the government making further increases in the wages and salaries of civil or governmental employees.
4. May this matter be considered urgent?

*L. D. Densmore*L. D. DENSMORE
Colonel, F A
ADCOS, E/Scc: Chief of Staff
Regional Commissioner, Southern Region

Incl - cc ltr m/a

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION ALLIED COMMISSION
LABOR DIVISION
APO 394 U.S. ARMY

LS/321/94

Memo

6 January 1945

SUBJECT : General Strike - Apulia
TO : R. C.
FROM : Regional Labour Officer

1. At a mass meeting held in Bari on 5th Jan. at which all State and Public Service employees were represented, there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike. The leaders however were able to prevent precipitate action and a Committee was elected to proceed to Rome to present their demands to the Government and the Allied Authorities. It was clearly stated that if the Committee was not satisfied in Rome a general strike would be called at once. Another meeting was scheduled for 25th Jan. when the delegates were expected to be back from Rome.

2. The Labour Officer Bari Zone attended the meeting and he states that although the general strike would be called only in Apulia, the meeting hoped to be able to spread it throughout Southern Italy and Sicily if the Government did not meet their demands.

3. The personnel involved in the strike would be all employees engaged in the Public Service whether directly paid by the State or not e.g. Court employees, Finance, Industry & Commerce, Post & Telegraph, all Public Utilities, University teachers, Railways, Commune employees, etc.

4. In view, of the scope of the strike interference with the war effort seems inevitable and Military intervention might be necessary. It is recommended that 3 District and AFHQ be kept informed of developments.

5. Original signal from Bari Zone has already been passed by telephone to Labour Sub-Commission.

6. Contact has also been made with Sicily but the Labour Officer there reports that at present everything is quiet although the State Employees, as everywhere else, are more than dissatisfied.

7. The grievance of the State employees is one of very long standing and has been reported upon monthly to HQ AC for at least 9 months. A decree was published in November which purported to increase their salaries, but, as it also cancelled two indemnities they were receiving, the increase was reduced almost to vanishing point and in some cases even led to a net reduction.

- 2 -

8. In Naples, the process servers have ceased work for nearly a fortnight on the ground that they are 3 months behind with their pay. At present they merely demand arrears but they also have the other demands very much in mind though at present they are willing to discuss them without a threat of striking.

9. It cannot be too strongly recommended that pressure be brought to bear on the Government by HQ AC to remedy the manifest and inexcusable hardship to which this class of employee has been too long subjected.

/s/ Denis L. Botham
/t/ DENIS L. BOTHAM
Capt, R.A.
Regional Labour Officer

13

785021

R/1392

8 January 1945

SUBJECT: Labor Threat of Strike at Bari.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission,
(Chief of Staff)

1. On the occasion of my visit to Rome yesterday, I spoke to Colonel Denmore and Brigadier Upjohn on the possibility of a serious strike in the Bari area. I also left with Colonel Denmore a copy of a memo, produced for me by the Regional Labor Officer. I attach herewith a further copy of this memo.

2. In brief the position is, that a meeting was held in Bari on 5 January 1945 at which State and Public Services employees were represented. At this meeting there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike in order to obtain better wage conditions. Wiser counsels prevailed and it was decided to send a commission, representing the meeting, to Rome, to lay their requests before the Government and the Allied Authorities. A further meeting would be called, provisionally fixed for the 25th, when the delegation returned from Rome and, if the answer obtained were not satisfactory, a strike of all Government employees would take place.

3. I have, on previous occasions, drawn to the attention of the Finance and other divisions the serious state of discontent which exists among all Government employees (our ref 1/1305). They feel that their salaries have not been raised in a manner commensurate with the increases which have been authorized for commercial employees and employees of the Allied Armed Forces. It is true that an increase was granted in November, but this was so hedged around by reservations that in effect the majority of Government employees did not gain very much.

4. Finance Sub-Commission have very correctly pointed out the danger of an inflationary spiral in wages and prices. Their argument is one which commands respect.

5. I feel, however, that we are faced with the real possibility of serious trouble in Bari, which will in all probability spread to Taranto and Naples. The meeting held on 5 January 1945 was restrained and orderly, but there was a very determined tone apparent. There is no suggestion of any subversive action against the Allies and State employees have, on many occasions, said, that they would endeavour to keep in operation services connected with the war effort.

6. It will be, however, obvious that, once strike action commences, it will be almost impossible to prevent such action injuring the Allied war effort. No 3 District are almost certain to ask for our assistance and I wish to have your guidance as to the action, that I should take. Should a strike eventuate, it will be the first occasion on which there has been a serious large scale strike in Italian governed Italy. It must be remembered that if, of the normal means of enforcing law and order will, either be actually on strike, or at least in sympathy with strike action.

on 5 January 1945 at which State and Public Services employees were represented. At this meeting there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike in order to obtain better wage conditions. Wiser counsels prevailed and it was decided to send a commission, representing the meeting, to Rome, to lay their requests before the Government and the Allied Authorities. A further meeting would be called, provisionally fixed for the 25th, when the delegation returned from Rome and, if the answer obtained were not satisfactory, a strike of all Government employees would take place.

3. I have, on previous occasions, drawn to the attention of the Finance and other divisions the serious state of discontent which exists among all Government employees (our ref. 1/1307). They feel that their salaries have not been raised in a manner commensurate with the increases which have been authorized for commercial employees and employees of the Allied Armed Forces. It is true that an increase was granted in November, but this was so hedged around by reservations that in effect the majority of Government employees did not gain very much.

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6. It will be, however, obvious that, once strike action commences, it will be almost impossible to prevent such action injuring the Allied war effort. No 3 District are almost certain to ask for our assistance and I wish to have your guidance as to the action, that I should take. Should a strike eventually, it will be the first occasion on which there has been a serious large scale strike in Italian governed Italy. It must be remembered that many of the normal means of enforcing law and order will, either be actually on strike, or at least in sympathy with strike action.

7. I presume that it would be possible for us to declare AMG rule over the entire territory covered by the strike and to order the strikers back to work on the terms of Allied Military Government. Such an action would have grave, political repercussions, which, I am sure, you fully appreciate. On the other hand, I do not think that No 3 District would be content to allow the strike to drag on until exhaustion compelled the strikers to return. Moreover such a policy would almost inevitably lead to rioting and looting by hungry strikers.

8. If the Italian Government, advised by the Finance and Labor Sub-Commissions, decided that it is not possible to grant any wage increase, something very dramatic will have to be done to persuade State employees to accept this decision. So far there has been little decisive lead from any senior ministers. There was, it is true, a very good article in "Il Giornale", which is the Naples paper of the Liberal Party, entitled "Chi paga?". This article pointed out the whole vicious circle of continually rising wages and costs. I think the Italian people are very

sensitive to the threat of inflation and many have appreciated the object lesson of the catastrophic collapse of the Greek Drachma. A very well conceived and energetically executed anti-inflation education campaign might do a great deal. I doubt, whether at this present juncture, it would entirely satisfy the feelings of the Government employees.

9. We have possibly two weeks before the situation becomes really dangerous. I am very anxious that we should not be caught unawares by serious events.

J. K. Dunlop
J. K. DUNLOP,
Brigadier,
Regional Commissioner.

JKD/jh
1 Incl.

Copies to: Labor Div (H.A. RR AC)
All Zone Commissioners
No 3 District

~~SECRET~~ 456/H12

17.1.45

SUBJECT: Threatened strike of state employees in Bari
TO : Allied Commission

We thank you for the information given us in the letter of 10 January 1945 No. 700/E.S. about the agitation of some classes of employees of Societies and state and public services in Bari

As far as this Ministry knows, the agitation is not, at the present, of a serious character

The peripheral organs of this Ministry have been invited to communicate exact informations about the reasons of the agitation, the requests made etc, and the attention of the President of the Council of Ministers has been called to the matter.

We will give you further communications as soon as possible

The MINISTER

11

Handwritten signature

0670

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

785021

→ May. Scrifano
 ECONOMIC SCIC

LSC/412

Date 17 June 45
 External

Internal

Fr.	To	Fr.	To
Vice President		ECONOMIC SCIC	
Col. Benmore		ARMY COMMISSION	
Mr. Cleveland		COAST GUARD	
Mr. Doe		FINANCE	
Mr. Richardson		FOOD	
Mr. Brown		INDUSTRY	
Mr. Green		LABOR	✓
Mr. Henderson		U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
Mr. Miller		CHIEF OF POLICE	
Lieut. Atkins		CHIEF OF STAFF	
Mr. Bakken		DEPT. OF COMMERCE	
Mr. Stauffer		CIVIL AIRCRAFT	
Mr. Lehman		DISSEMINATION	
Chief Clerk			
For Appropriate Action		Noting & Retention	
Remarks/Recommendation		Signature	
Dis attach		Investigation Report	
Information	✓	File Copy	
Circulation Return		Noting & Return	

Remarks:

From Ministry of Industry Commerce & Labour
 SR

NOTE: When the attached piece of correspondence is ready for file -
 please write the word "FILE" and initial the correspondence - NOT the
 Buck-Slip. It is suggested that pertinent remarks showing continuity
 of action should be noted on the letter itself, i.e. the margins, rather
 than on the Buck Slip which will be destroyed when letter is filed.

785021

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

WES/tr

LSC/4/12

over 2.5.84

MEMORANDUM

11 January 1945

SUBJECT: Bari Public Employees' Wage Demands - Report
of Capt. Alessandrini.

1. Capt. Alessandrini, A.C. Southern Region Labor Officer at Bari, telephoned to report that the delegation of Bari public employees, bringing wage demands to present to Government and to Allied Authorities, will leave Bari by truck tomorrow, 12 January, for Rome.

2. Bari public employees have received salary advances in anticipation of D.L.L. 328, but the decree is not yet in effect. Excuse for delay is said to be "necessity of balancing accounts first".

3. Bombardment Indemnity has not been paid since February, 1944, when it was discontinued as provided by law 2 months after last bombing.

4. Difficult Residence Indemnity has not been authorized. Prefect states he has urgently requested authorization by Ministry of Treasury, but has had no reply.

5. Premium for Industriousness (Premio di Operosità) is not being paid to State employees, although most para-statal employees apparently receive it. Payment of this premium on the basis of 75 hours per month is one of workers' demands.

6. No cost-of-living data are available locally in Bari. Municipio sends price figures to Central Statistical Institute in Rome for analysis.

7. Railway employees are definitely joined with other State employees in wage demands, although Capt. Alessandrini was not certain they are sending delegate. Oil refinery employees are not concerned.

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7. Railway employees are definitely joined with other State employees in wage demands, although Capt. Alessandrini was not certain they are sending delegate. Oil refinery employees are not concerned.

8. The Camera del Lavoro of Bari will be represented in the delegation by its president, Sig. Milella, and its secretary, Sig. De Leonardi.

W. M. SOLEBERGER
Captain Spec-Res.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

LSC/412 LHD/es

10 January 1945

7.00/ES

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Government Employees in Bari.

TO : H. E. The Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labor
H. E. The Minister of the Treasury

1. The Allied Commission has received a report of a meeting held in Bari on 5 January of representatives of State and Parastatal employees. At this meeting serious discussions took place concerning the possibility of a general strike among the aforesaid employees. A committee was appointed to confer with the Italian Government concerning the grievances of these people. 8

2. The Allied Commission is not at the present time aware of the specific demands which are being made and cannot make any suggestions until these demands have been made known through the Italian Government.

3. Because such a strike, if it occurs, may become widespread and may affect agencies such as Railroads and Communications, which are vitally connected with the prosecution of the war, it is the opinion of the Allied Commission that this matter should be treated as of the utmost urgency. Accordingly, it is requested that the Allied Commission be given due notice of any conferences with these groups in order that a representative of the Allied Commission may be present as an observer. It will be appreciated if the Commission can be informed with respect to the developments in this matter.

4. We understand that the personnel included in the threatened strike involve all employees engaged in the Public Service whether directly paid by the State, including court employees, finance, industry and commerce, post and telegraph, public utilities, university teachers, railway, commune employees, etc.

5. It appears that one of the complaints is that certain government employees have not been paid for past services and that there are cases where Government employees are three months behind in their pay.

6. We understand there has already been a one day strike by railway personnel in Cancellio (Renevento Province).

7. May we urge that this matter receive immediate attention by the Government. The Commission will provide you with any additional information that we may receive.

cc: Labor, Finance, PMU, Tr S/Ca
Civ Af Sec
Econ Sec
RO, Southern Region

L. D. DENSMORE
Colonel, F A
Acting Vice President
Economic Section

785021

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION ALLIED COMMISSION
LABOR DIVISION
APO 394 U.S. ARMY

LSC/228
809 CWH
412

10 January 1945

LS/326/94

SUBJECT : General Strike Threat - Bari

TO : Director Labour Sub-Commission ✓

1. Enclosed herewith are (1) report from Labour Officer Bari Zone (2) report of Regional Labour Officer (3) report of Regional Commissioner. 7

2. Regional Labour Officer's report was originally transmitted by the hand of Regional Commissioner with a request to him to hand it to Labour Sub-Commission. He left it instead with Col. Densmore and a further copy is sent in case it has not yet reached Labour Sub-Commission.

3. Urgent action with the Government is requested.

For the Regional Commissioner.

Dennis L. Botham
DENIS L. BOTHAM,
Capt. R.A.,
Regional Labour Officer.



Copy to : Adj.
Pending File

0675

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

785021

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
A. C.
Routing Slip

	Initials	Date
Colonel SMITH Lt.Col. BABCOCK Major SCICLUNA		
Capt. DORF Capt. TOPLISS Capt. SOLENBERGER	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Mr. SACHS Mr. DI FEDE Mr. CERRITO Dr. LA LOGGIA	<i>rel</i>	6
Chief Clerk		

R/1392

8 January 1945

COPY

SUBJECT : Labor - Threat of Strike at Bari
 TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
 (Chief of Staff)

1. On the occasion of my visit to Rome yesterday, I spoke to Colonel Denemore and Brigadier Upjohn on the possibility of a serious strike in the Bari area. I also left with Colonel Denemore a copy of a memo, produced for me by the Regional Labour Officer. I attach herewith a further copy of this memo.

2. In brief, the position is, that a meeting was held in Bari on 5 January 1945 at which State and Public Services employees were represented. At this meeting there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike in order to obtain better wage conditions. Wiser counsels prevailed and it was decided to send a commission, representing the meeting, to Rome, to lay their requests before the Government and the Allied Authorities. A further meeting would be called, provisionally fixed for the 25th, when the delegation returned from Rome and, if the answer obtained were not satisfactory, a strike of all Government employees would take place.

3. I have, on previous occasions, drawn to the attention of the Finance and other divisions the serious state of discontent which exists among all Government employees (our ref R/1305 of 18 Dec.). They feel that their salaries have not been raised in a manner commensurate with the increases which have been authorized for commercial employees and employees of the Allied Armed Forces. It is true that an increase was granted in November, but this was so hedged around by reservations that in effect the majority of Government employees did not gain very much.

4. Finance Sub-Commission have very correctly pointed out the danger of an inflationary spiral in wages and prices. Their argument is one which commands respect.

5. I feel, however, that we are faced with the real possibility of serious trouble in Bari, which will in all probability spread to Taranto and Naples. The meeting held on 5 January 1945 was restrained and orderly, but there was a very determined tone apparent. There is no suggestion of any subversive action against the Allies and State employees have, on many occasions, said, that

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6. It will be, however, obvious that, once strike action commences, it will be almost impossible to prevent such action injuring the Allied war effort. No 3 District are almost certain to ask for our assistance and I wish to have your guidance as to the action, that I should take. Should a strike eventuate, it will be the first occasion on which there has been a serious, large scale strike in Italian governed Italy. It must be remembered that many of the normal means of enforcing law and order will, either be actually on strike, or at least in sympathy with strike action.

785021

- 2 -

7. I presume that it would be possible for us to declare AMG rule over the entire territory covered by the strike and to order the strikers back to work on the terms of Allied Military Government. Such an action would have grave, political repercussions, which, I am sure, you fully appreciate. On the other hand, I do not think that No. 3 District would be content to allow the strike to drag on until exhaustion compelled the strikers to return. Moreover such a policy would almost inevitably lead to rioting and looting by hungry strikers.

8. If the Italian Government, advised by the Finance and Labour Sub-Commissions, decided that it is not possible to grant any wage increase, something **VERY** dramatic will have to be done to persuade State employees to accept this decision. So far there has been little decisive lead from any senior minister. There was, it is true, a very good article in "Il Giornale", which is the Naples paper of the liberal Party, entitled "Chi paga?". This article pointed out the whole vicious circle of continually rising wages and costs. I think the Italian people are very sensitive to the threat of inflation and many have appreciated the object lesson of the catastrophic collapse of the Greek Drachme. A very well conceived and energetically executed anti-inflation education campaign might do a great deal. I doubt, whether at this present juncture, it would entirely satisfy the feelings of the Government employees.

9. We have possibly two weeks before the situation becomes really dangerous. I am very anxious that we should not be caught unawares by serious events.

(signed) J. K. DUNICP
Brigadier,
Regional Commissioner.

JKD/jh

I Incl.

Copies to: Labor Div (HQ SR AC)
All Zone Commissioners
No. 3 District
Base Purchasing Agent P.B.S. (South)

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION ALLIED COMMISSION
LABOR DIVISION
APO 384 U.S. ARMY

6 January 1945

LS/321/94

Memo

SUBJECT : General Strike - Apulia

TO : R.S.

FROM : Regional Labour Officer

1. At a mass meeting held in Bari on 5th January at which all State and Public Service employees were represented there was a very strong movement in favour of a general strike. The leaders however were able to prevent precipitate action and a Committee was elected to proceed to Rome to present their demands to the Government and the Allied Authorities. It was clearly stated that if the Committee was not satisfied in Rome a general strike would ^{be} called at once. Another meeting was scheduled for 25th Jan. when the delegates were expected to be back from Rome.

2. The Labour Officer Bari Zone attended the meeting and he states that although the general strike would be called only in Apulia, the meeting hoped to be able to spread it throughout Southern Italy and Sicily if the Government did not meet their demands.

3. The personnel involved in the strike would be all employees engaged in the Public Service whether directly paid by the State or not e.g. Court employees, Finance, Industry & Commerce, Post & Telegraph, all Public Utilities, University teachers, Railways, Commune employees, etc.

4. In view, of the scope of the strike interference with the war effort seems inevitable and Military intervention might be necessary. It is recommended that J District and A.F.R.O. be kept informed of developments.

5. Original signal from Bari Zone has already been passed by telephone to Labour Sub-Commission.

6. Contact has also been made with Sicily but the Labour Officer there reports that at present everything is quiet although the State Employees, as everywhere else, are more than dissatisfied.

. / .

- 2 -

7. The grievance of the State employees is one of very long standing and has been reported upon monthly to H.Q. A.C. for at least 9 months. A decree was published in November which purported to increase their salaries, but, as it also cancelled two indemnities they were receiving, the increase was reduced almost to vanishing point and in some cases even led to a net reduction.

8. In Naples, the process servers have ceased work for nearly a fortnight on the ground that they are 3 months behind with their pay. At present they merely demand arrears but they also have the other demands very much in mind though at present they are willing to discuss them without a threat of striking.

9. It cannot be too strongly recommended that pressure be brought to bear on the Government by H.Q. A.C. to remedy the manifest and inexcusable hardship to which this class of employee has been too long subjected.

(signed)

2
DENIS L. BOTHAM,
Capt. R.A.,
Regional Labour Officer/

HEAD EASTERN ALLIED COMMISSION
AND 394
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF

File

REF : 101/412

9 January 1945

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Government
Employees in Bari.

TO : H. E. the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labor,
H. E. the Minister of the Treasury.

1. The Allied Commission has received a report of a meeting held in Bari on 5 January of representatives of State and Parastatal employees. At this meeting serious discussions took place concerning the possibility of a general strike among the aforesaid employees. A committee was appointed to confer with the Italian Government and the Allied authorities, concerning the grievances of these people.

2. The Allied Commission is not at the present time aware of the specific demands which are being made and cannot make any recommendations until these demands have been presented.

3. Because such a strike, if it occurs, may become widespread and may affect agencies such as Railroads and Communications, which are vitally connected with the prosecution of the war, it is the opinion of the Allied Commission that this matter should be treated as of the utmost urgency. Accordingly, it is requested that the Allied Commission be given due notice of any conferences with these groups in order that a representative of the Allied Commission may be present as an observer.

APPROVED:

John R. Smith
JOHN R. SMITH
Colonel, MC
Acting Director
Labor Sub-Commission

For the Chief Commissioner:

L. B. Dierker
L. B. DIERKER,
Colonel, P.A.,
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

W. R. Smith
W. R. Smith
per

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