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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER - 1945

Ref: 824/20

26 November 1945.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
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MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1945

INDEX

		Page No.
	POLITICAL SUMMARY	1
PART I -	REGIONAL REPORTS	2 - 11
	Liguria Region	2
	Lombardia Region	3
	Piemonte Region	4
	Venezia Region	5
	AMG XIII Corps	6
	AMG Naples Commune	7
	AMG Livorno Zone	8
	Bari & Southeast Italy	8
	Sardinia	9
	Sicily	10
	Ancona	10
	Bologna	11
PART II -	CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION	12 - 15
	Epuration	12
	Mine Clearance	12
	Local Government Subcommission	12
	Education Subcommission	12
	Legal Subcommission	13
	Public Health Subcommission	13
	Public Safety Subcommission	13
	Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives S/c	14
	Displaced Persons & Repatriation S/c	14
	Patriots Branch	15
PART III -	ECONOMIC SECTION	16 - 20
	Agriculture Subcommission	16
	Commerce Subcommission	16
	Finance Subcommission	17
	Food Subcommission	17
	Industry Subcommission	18
	Transportation Subcommission	20
	Labour Subcommission	19
	Public Works & Utilities Subcommission	19
PART IV -	PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH & INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS	21 - 23
	Public Relations Branch	21
	Navy Subcommission	21
	Land Forces Subcommission (MMIL.)	21
	Air Forces Subcommission	22
	Communications Subcommission	22
	War Materials Disposal Subcommission	23

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Campania Region..... 3
Piemonte Region..... 4
Venezia Region..... 5
AMG XIII Corps..... 6
AMG Naples Commune..... 7
AMG Livorno Zone..... 8
Bari & Southeast Italy..... 8
Sardinia..... 9
Sicily..... 10
Ancona..... 10
Bologna..... 11

PART II - CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION..... 12 - 15
Epuration..... 12
Mine Clearance..... 12
Local Government Subcommission..... 12
Education Subcommission..... 12
Legal Subcommission..... 13
Public Health Subcommission..... 13
Public Safety Subcommission..... 13
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives S/C..... 14
Displaced Persons & Repatriation S/C..... 14
Patriots Branch..... 15

PART III - ECONOMIC SECTION..... 16 - 20
Agriculture Subcommission..... 16
Commerce Subcommission..... 16
Finance Subcommission..... 17
Food Subcommission..... 17
Industry Subcommission..... 18
Transportation Subcommission..... 20
Labour Subcommission..... 19
Public Works & Utilities Subcommission..... 19

PART IV - PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH & INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS 21 - 23
Public Relations Branch..... 21
Navy Subcommission..... 21
Land Forces Subcommission (18th L.)..... 21
Air Forces Subcommission..... 22
Communications Subcommission..... 22
War Materials Disposal Subcommission..... 23

Appendix "A"..... 24 - 26

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

POLITICAL SUMMARY.

1. The two most important events during September were the opening of the Consultative Assembly and the departure and return of the delegation to the Council of Foreign Ministers in LONDON.

2. The National Consultative Assembly opened its sessions on 25 September when Count SFORZA was elected President. The importance of this assembly cannot be overexaggerated as it is the first step forward towards the democratic rebirth of the country and the first experiment in a partial resumption of parliamentary procedure since the defeat of ITALY. The opening meeting was an event of great political interest and its comments upon the pressing problems of the country were awaited with curiosity and anxiety by all Italians. Signor BASSI in an opening speech stated that the Consulta found itself in the same position as the Government, that is, of not having been elected by the people. However, it was its duty to collaborate with the Government in preparing the Constituent Assembly which, being elected by the people would legally define the future. The next day he spoke on the political, economic, and reconstructive plans of the Government, in the course of which he declared that ITALY had decided definitely to abandon all militaristic and imperialistic aims, and went on to speak of a new tax policy by which reconstruction expenses would be borne mainly by those who were responsible for the disastrous Axis policy.

3. On 15/16 September the Council of Foreign Ministers invited the Italian Government to send a team of experts to LONDON for consultation on the VENEZIA GIULIA frontier questions. The mission, which was headed by Signor de GASPERI, returned on 29 September, and although the Italians naturally do not welcome the prospective loss of FIUME and control of the economic resources of the Istrian hinterland, they seemed satisfied with the solution reported for the problem.

4. The long-expected decree on the increase of rentals was approved on 24 September. By this decree increases in rentals ranging from 15% to 60% were made legal in respect of dwelling houses and from 40% to 140% in respect of premises used for other purposes.

5. Speaking of the elections in a speech before the Committee of Liberation for North ITALY in MILAN on 1 September Signor PARRI stated that they must be orderly and free and added that he would be the first to declare them null and void if they were based on violence. Apart from the question of the Constituent Assembly Signor PARRI dealt with the role of the Committees of National Liberation in present circumstances. He claimed that they must respect decisions made by the State and at the same time must be the interpreters of the needs of the parties not represented in the Committees.

6. The National Committee of the Italian Liberal Party held a congress in ROME from 20-24 September. Signor CROCE in opening the session urged the early holding of elections for the Constituent Assembly

1634

PART I/ .....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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1634

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PART I/ .....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I

REGIONAL REPORTS.

NOTE.

It should be borne in mind that the Northern Regions are functioning under extreme difficulties, owing to reduction of staff through deployment and release. In PIEMONTE the AMG officer personnel has been reduced to less than one-third of its original strength, and this is true of the other Compartimenti. Uncertainty of the future as regards the date of the final hand back has added to the worry and strain already felt by AMG officers. In these circumstances it is a matter of gratification that the Regional Commissioners and AMG staffs are keeping military government still in force in the North.

LIGURIA REGION.

1. September was a month of political uncertainty and there was much speculation on the length of time AMG would remain. The negative attitude towards the Allies seemed to grow, and was reflected by the failure to recognise the material and political assistance which is being given ITALY. Preparation of the electoral lists proceeded satisfactorily.

2. The food situation was good, although it is foreseen that a difficult winter lies ahead.

3. Responsibility for the distribution of coal has been handed over to the Italians with the result that for the moment there may be a considerable dislocation in the present activities. Industry and commerce as a whole showed signs of revival

4. Wages remained constant, although the cost of living rose slightly. There was a certain amount of unrest among bank clerks over the adjustment of wages and a short strike occurred in the Banco di NAPOLI. Many workers are disturbed about the condition of their houses and to improve them about 18,000 projects have been initiated by the local Housing Committee. A large number of public works projects have been proposed in order to give work to the unemployed, and it is hoped this plan will improve the unemployment situation, which is serious.

5. Nearly two-thirds of the Port of GENOA is now in use, and up to 11,000 tons have been unloaded in a single day. General work on the ports of SAVONA, IMPERIA and LA SPEZIA continued.

6. The Italian courts continued to function satisfactorily and it is believed that they can safely assume responsibility for all ordinary AMG cases. Epuration everywhere is practically completed.

7. There was a definite improvement in public safety; this has occurred in spite of the fact that police agencies have not yet been given proper clothing, equipment, ammunition or transport. In the Carabinieri Legion 200 men are without uniforms and there is only one overcoat to three men. Political murders have ceased, although armed robberies and thefts were abnormally high.

8. Efforts were made to arouse local welfare agencies to their responsibilities during the coming winter, which may become great due to the short supply of food, lack of heating and unemployment. Public health was good, although there was a local epidemic of typhoid fever in [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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9. Schools functioned as well as could be expected in view of the number of buildings still occupied by the military or damaged in the war.

10. 1,045 refugees passed through the Allied National's Camp during the month, while the flow of Italian refugees remained at about 1,000 per week.

11. Utilities and communications are approaching the normal Italian standard.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775021

LOMBARDIA REGION.

12. Popular opinion throughout the Region would still appear to show anxiety over the impending disappearance of AMG, although the reported rumours of such an event at almost fortnightly intervals have prepared the general public for this eventuality. The gradual and steady return to normal life reported last month has been maintained, although there has been considerable interference by Local CLNs in the administration of a number of Communes.

13. The rice harvest has started and promises to show an improvement on last year's in both quality and yield. Amassing of wheat has been the object of stern efforts and the latest reports showed that up to 29 September 1,182,960 quintals or 68% of the estimated figure, had been amassed. Amassing of the 1944 rice crop was completed in the middle of the month, and 3,987,277 quintals were collected. As an inducement to amass wheat, barley, and rice, about 400,000 kilos of cloth have been indented for distribution at special prices for farmers through the Consorzi Agrari. Salt for agricultural purposes is urgently needed. Considerable quantities of fertilisers have been delivered for the Region from the Mesano-Sinigo Montecatini plant. It became increasingly difficult to obtain supplies of meat, milk, grain and rice and a constant strain was placed on both Allied officers and Italian officials in their attempts to procure the amounts of cereals etc. which had been allotted to deficient areas.

14. Supplies of fibre for LOMBARDIA mills continued to arrive from the production centres although at a somewhat reduced rate due to the slowness of the new crop amassing. Hemp manufacturers have been authorised to sell without restrictions up to 50% of products manufactured from allocated fibre receipts. The glass factories at PORTOVALTRAVAGLIA and MILAN have produced some 4,000 square metres of window glass and 1,500 square metres of reinforced glass respectively. Pirelli produced 100,000 bicycle tyres, 30,000 inner tubes and rubber articles, and 220 trucks, 82 trailers, 53 tractors, 7,500 bicycles; 94 three-wheelers and 130 motorcycles were also produced. The first shipments of cotton from AMERICA have arrived.

15. The serious shortage of firewood, particularly for MILAN, caused considerable uneasiness, especially in view of the impending increase in unemployment. A final attempt to obtain a satisfactory allocation of firewood from PIEDMONTE Region, the normal source of supply in the past, is being made.

16. While the general industrial situation in the region remained fairly satisfactory one or two disputes involving short term stoppages were reported. However, following discussions, agreements were reached in all cases.

17. The repudiation of the MILAN municipal loan has been withdrawn as a result of AMG action. The large volume of public works projects presented for approval was maintained during the greater part of the month. At present approval of projects is being limited to those for works which are really urgent and cannot await submission to the Italian Ministry. The electric power supply is adequate except in MILAN where the electric distribution systems are overloaded.

18. Superior and Summary Courts continued, but as from the end of the month all cases will be turned over to the Italian Courts. Public order

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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18. Superior and Summary Courts continued, but as from the end of the month all cases will be turned over to the Italian Courts. Public excitement over the extraordinary courts of assise has now died down, although the trials continued in all provinces.

19. The improvement in the efficiency of the police agencies has been maintained, and no serious civil disturbances occurred. Public health improved in general and there was a substantial decrease in the number of typhoid fever cases. One case of smallpox was reported at the end of the month in a patient just arrived from NAPLES.

1033

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

20. 600,000 school exercise books are being distributed free to pupils in LOMBARDIA by arrangement with the publishers, although they are still being intransigent about the publication of school text books. However, it is hoped to open the elementary schools in the second half of October. Progress was made in straightening out the affairs of the University of MILAN, where the last two Rectors had resigned, and it is hoped to hold the Rectorial elections towards the end of October.

21 30,863 Displaced Persons passed through the Camps of which 14,164 were internees from S.W. GERMANY and FRANCE. A total of 215,085 persons have been dealt with, 68,954 being ex-Ps.W.

22. One telephone line now works between MILAN and PARIS. 5,000 telegrams [illegible] with by the MILAN telegraph office, which represents 90% of the pre-war daily figure.

PIEMONTE REGION.

23 Political activity continued at an accelerated pace in the large towns, although there was little in outlying districts. The prolongation of AMG has created a hope in most circles that it may be extended until the Spring.

24. The preparation of the electoral lists continued, although some difficulty is being experienced in endeavouring to return all extracts of these lists to the Communes within the prescribed period of fifteen days from receipt.

25. There is only sufficient grain in the amassies to provide bread for ration card holders for one month only. Grain for the remaining eight months before the next harvest may have to be imported. The total amount of wheat amassed by 27 September was 501,140 quintals, being 46.8% of the 1 July goal and 77.9% of the Ministerial estimate.

26. During the month the Italian Government became responsible for all industrial matters in the region together with allocations of coal, 35,000 tons of which were received and distributed. A serious fire destroyed the aerial cable haulage system at COSME anthracite mine on 27 September. It is estimated that 45 days will be required to repair it although the interruption should not interfere with the operation of the mine. The present output of mine run coal is about 50 tons per day, and of cleaned coal about 350 tons per day. Thus a total of about 15,000 tons of cleaned coal will be held up during the period of repair. The iron and steel works at AOSTA will be affected as will many brickworks and other industries, but the position can be eased by shifting allocations of imported coal and coke.

27. There was no serious industrial unrest during the month, except for a sit-down strike amongst textile workers of TORINO Province. An agreement was reached after a suspension of work which lasted twelve days. Unemployment increased throughout PIEMONTE.

28. 14 of the 18 electric power plants and 880 of the 981 power lines which suffered damage in the war have now been repaired, and the electrical generating and distributing system of the region is in an extremely satisfactory condition.

29. Crimes of a serious nature were few, and the vigorous drive for hidden arms continued. Uniforms and boots for the Carabinieri are being obtained slowly, although they still have not enough suitable arms and

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29. Crimes of a serious nature were few, and the vigorous drive for hidden arms continued. Uniforms and boots for the Carabinieri are being obtained slowly, although they still have not enough suitable arms, and until these are obtained banditry will not be entirely stamped out. Public morale improved, chiefly due to the growing appreciation that North ITALY possesses a better opportunity for a more rapid industrial recovery than most countries in EUROPE, provided raw materials are forthcoming quickly.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

30. Public health continued to be good and the number of typhoid fever cases was halved. Large numbers of garments and shoes were distributed among Italian Institutes and Displaced Persons Camps.

31. Work on the roads progressed satisfactorily and it is hoped that the TRENTA railroad tunnel which is to be used for highway traffic will be open by mid-October. All state roads will be opened this winter and major interruptions on provincial and communal roads are being repaired.

32 1,120 Fiat cars 891 Michelin tyres and 599 Michelin tubes were released during the month.

[redacted]

33. Throughout the month there was a steady move away from the Left and at the same time a growth of public reaction against the CLNs. The relations between AMG and the countryside continued to be friendly not only by courtesy, but by genuine trust and appreciation. The compilation of electoral lists continued as planned.

34. The situation in BOLZANO can not be regarded as satisfactory. Although a most valuable concordat was signed on 8 September between the CLN and the Sud Tirol Volks Partei, relations between the Italians and the Tyrolese are still not good. Over 90% of the province is German speaking and there is constant agitation for return to Austrian rule; there are many Reich Germans and deserters from the SS and the Wehrmacht still in the Hills who are a potential source of danger until they are placed in concentration camps. Much less progress has been made in organising German speaking schools than had been expected in this province, chiefly due to psychological reasons arising out of the distrust by the Tyrolese of Italian intentions, and the inability of the Italian Provveditori under the existing arrangements to dispel this distrust.

35. Taking an overall view of the food situation, the position may be regarded as satisfactory. The transfer of administration to the Italian authorities has already begun, and by the end of the month the control of materials will have passed almost entirely into the hands of the North ITALY Industrial Council and its Committee.

36. The Region managed to maintain the lead in North ITALY in the w[redacted]1032 amassed during the month, and the amasse figures on 30 September represented 70% of the Allied and 86% of the Ministry's target. A survey of the hail damage was carried out, and relief has been applied for from the Ministry. Italian officials have generally done their utmost to reactivate agriculture, and the return of initiative and confidence is only impaired by epuration and lack of transport which has not been relieved in the last five months. There is no serious shortage of livestock.

37. There were several minor local disturbances but only two strikes one in PADOVA lasting eleven days and one in ROVIGO lasting four days both of which were settled by the direct intervention of Allied Commissioners. Numerous wage agreements have been submitted and generally approved and the prestige of the Labour Offices has increased enormously. Cash deposits in the banks are still increasing.

38. 47 Superior Court and 273 Summary Court cases were tried. The Italian Courts are functioning smoothly and appear to be [redacted]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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WORLD WAR II.

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38. 47 Superior Court and 273 Summary Court cases were tried. The Italian Courts are functioning smoothly and appear to be tackling the work before them as efficiently as possible.

39. There was a gradual improvement in public safety; police agencies are visibly improving and gaining in morale and self confidence. The organised tours of picked Carabinieri through the Region with parades and inspections by senior Allied officers has raised their standing in the eyes of the public, and has at last gained their confidence. There were no mass murders or political killings, although there was a considerable increase in armed robberies. Energetic measures are being taken to recover arms, with some success, although police work generally is seriously handicapped by lack of POL. Security, however, is menaced by the infiltration of Jugoslavs and the ever present agitation on the part of some of the inhabitants of the northern provinces for their return to AUSTRIA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

40. All matters appertaining to public health are now in the hands of the Italian Government. An average of 1 200 Displaced Persons moved daily through the area from VENONA and approximately 600 south from AUSTRIA. In all over 23,600 persons were handled by the camps during the month.

41 Much effort was directed towards completing the payment of gratuities to patriots or their dependents and only approximately 20% remain to be paid.

42 Highway repair projects requested by the Army are well under way, and several new bridges over important military roads are progressing rapidly. Further work has been done in clearing up damaged towns and in repairing irrigation canals. The work of reconstruction under the Housing Decree is making steady but slow progress owing to the difficulty in obtaining the necessary materials. Communications improved considerably.

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT, XIII CORPS.

43. Political activity during the month was confined mainly to propaganda by Communist - Slovene agitators, the chief theme being the future of VENEZIA GIULIA and particularly the city and port of TRIESTE. This propaganda was carried out in a very thorough way in the local press and by sending innumerable telegrams to the Council of Foreign Ministers in LONDON. The whole campaign was extremely well organised, but the response from the Italian side still remained very feeble. The Partito Communista Giuliano announced a significant new policy on 26 September, which included demands for the full annexation of VENEZIA GIULIA to JUGOSLAVIA.

44. The Regional National Liberation Committee informed Allied Military Government on 7 September they would not cooperate with them under the terms of General Order Number 11. The President of the Committee was informed that Allied Military Government would proceed with the implementation of this order and that if the different offices and councils were not wholly representative of the people the responsibility must lie with the Committee. However it was indicated that the situation would always be reconsidered if desired and local Government Offices and Councils would be reconstituted if at any time representative Slovene nominations were received. The rest of the month was spent in implementing the General Order.

45. Due to the timely arrival of stores and equipment difficulties regarding the formation and operation of the Civil Police force have now largely disappeared and it is hoped that the police will soon be carrying out their duties properly armed and equipped. Few crimes were committed during the month.

46. In accordance with a request from AFHQ a survey of all the needs of the area was started for the period 1 January 1946 - 1 July 1946. The distribution of food continued satisfactorily, but the present rations cannot be considered adequate to maintain the health of the population for a long period. To remedy this it is not proposed to raise the basic scale of ration but to increase the imports of supplementary foods. The amassing programme improved considerably during the month and over 90% of the goal total of 10,000 quintals has been amassed.

47. A general strike, involving both commercial and industrial workers, began on 23 September, but lasted only forty-eight hours. This was due to the fact that the Sindacati Giuliani objected to the introduction of pro-JUGOSLAVIA propaganda (handbills had been distributed asking all to join with [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

43. Political activity during the month was confined mainly to propaganda by Communist - Slovene agitators, the chief theme being the future of VENEZIA GIULIA and particularly the city and port of TRIESTE. This propaganda was carried out in a very thorough way in the local press and by sending innumerable telegrams to the Council of Foreign Ministers in LONDON. The whole campaign was extremely well organized, but the response from the Italian side still remained very feeble. The Partito Communisto Giuliano announced a significant new policy on 26 September, which included demands for the full annexation of VENEZIA GIULIA to JUGOSLAVIA.

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48. The firewood situation presents a grave problem, owing to the refusal of the Jugoslavs to permit the normal flow of timber from the territory east of the DEMARCATION line. The quota allotted from UDINE Province to VENEZIA GIULIA, together with local resources amount to just over one-half of essential needs, namely 14,000 as against 25,000 tons. It is possible that this may be

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

supplemented by a further 5,000 tons which VENEZIE Region has promised to divert although the existence of this amount is doubted. The attitude of the Jugoslavs towards the movement of timber which is no different from their attitude in other respects is thus rendering more difficult the economic maintenance not only of VENEZIA GIULIA but also of the eastern province of VENEZIA.

49. Considerable progress has been achieved as regards the repair of roads both urban and rural and repairs to public buildings especially schools are being prosecuted vigorously. Water electricity and sewage services are now normal. The general health situation remained good and no serious epidemics were reported.

50. During the month 4,834 persons passed through the refugee centres, 4,028 being displaced civilians (chiefly Italians coming from east of the MORGAN Line) and 806 ex-Pe.W. The net currency movement showed a sharp intake; post office financial transactions with ITALY were resumed.

51. 454 charges, involving 399 accused, were tried by Summary Courts. All but one of the regular Civil Courts in the TRIESTE, GORIZIA and POLA areas are now functioning satisfactorily. The TRIESTE Epuration Commission received 2,362 Schede Personali during the month. Intense planning and work went on towards the opening of both Italian and Slavic schools.

52. Three new telephone and four new telegraph circuits were opened up. Two radio programmes a week from TRIESTE, one in Slovene and one in Italian, and one programme in Croat from POLA began on 3 September.

AMG MATTERS GENERAL

53. Owing to the reduction of Allied activities between 20,000 and 30,000 workers lost employment with the Allied Forces; this unemployment coincided with the arrival of German prisoners of war to take the place of Italian military units. As it appeared that the Germans were being given work while the Italians were unemployed such antagonism was aroused that the situation became critical. The position was eventually eased by a conference with labour representatives on 24 September presided over by General McMURRAY. As a result 7,000 prisoners were removed, and they are no longer being employed in such large numbers.

54. Commune food shops which had opened with such promise earlier in the year have been poorly handled by the Communes and it is feared that the disappointing results will be felt in the winter. Regular distribution of basic bread and pasta rations continued.

55. 160 781 quintals of grain were amassed in the eight provinces by 23 September as compared with 671 125 quintals last year.

56. There were three strikes during the month owing to labour trouble, though none of them was serious. Demands have also been put in by various classes of utility workers; as they ask for fourteen months pay annually for eleven months work negotiations are not likely to be very easy.

57. Bank cash and security deposits rose by approximately 1,000 million lire and now stand at over 17,000 million lire. Cost of living figures have risen slightly, but in August a family of five could still live at under 20,000 lire

1331

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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AMG VENEZIA GIULIA

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54. Commune food shops which had opened with such promise earlier in the year have been poorly handled by the Commune and it is feared that th disappointing results will be felt in the winter. Regular distribution of barley bread and pasta rations continued.

55. 480 781 quintals of grain were amassed in the eight provinces by 23 September as compared with 571 125 quintals last year.

56. There were three strikes during the month owing to labour trouble, though none of them was serious. Demands have also been put in by various classes of utility workers; as they ask for fourteen months pay annually for eleven months work negotiations are not likely to be very easy.

57. Bank cash and security deposits rose by approximately 1,000 million lire and now stand at over 17,000 million lire. Cost of living figures have risen slightly, but in August a family of five could still live at under 20,000 lire a month.

58. Clearing of bomb damage continued, although it was hampered by lack of transport. However, it is hoped that the arrival of more trucks will enable the scope of the enterprises to be enlarged.

59. Rain and cooler weather have eased water supply problems but they are by no means solved as adequate storage reservoirs in MODENA are lacking. Italian Courts continued satisfactorily, and public safety was good. On 29/30 September a drive was made on the MOLA area, the hideout of many criminal gangs, and the scene of a murder of a British Ordnance guard on 29 September. 300 arrests were made, and stolen arms and ammunition were found.

1331

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

60. Health has remained good, although smallpox has appeared in AVELLINO province. About 1 000 refugees are reported as having been repatriated in September from the South west provinces.

61. More transport has been allotted for work on Italian Port Clearance: there has been some improvement in the provision of rail cars, and loading varied from 60% to 80% of schedule.

AMG LIVORNO ZONE.

62. The situation remained relatively quiet politically, although public meetings increased.

63. Resentment towards the German P.W grew, which was increased by exaggerated rumours regarding unemployment resulting from the use of these P.W. However, a conference held by the Commanding General of the Peninsular Base Section, and attended by AMG officers and Italian authorities, cleared the atmosphere and curtailed unrest and agitation.

64. The number of unemployed continued to mount. It is thought that the situation could be improved by authorising and financing public works and housing projects but the Italian Ministry is not yet convinced of the practicability of this suggestion. Buildings which were partially destroyed during the war have started to collapse thus aggravating the situation by rendering many more people homeless.

65. On 12 September the Civil Police made a raid in PISA Province and seized arms and ammunition. Apart from the usual thefts there was only one serious crime.

66. Work continued on the electoral lists all of which should be ready by 1 November.

67. The food situation remained satisfactory, and more meat appeared on the market although at a very high price. The olive oil crop was below normal as a result of the drought and slack enforcement of the ammasso.

68. Electric and gas services continued to show improvement; water supply remained a serious problem, but it should improve with the withdrawal of troops and with the coming of winter.

69. Further progress was made in passing criminal cases to the jurisdiction of the Italian Courts.

70. There was an increase in typhoid, but not to any alarming extent. Over 20,000 displaced persons passed through the area, and 4,676 repatriates and internees from ABRUZZI arrived by sea.

EMBT AND SOUTH EAST ITALY (From A.C. Liaison Officer EMBT)

71. There was little political activity during the month and provincial administration continued to work satisfactorily. The preparation of electoral lists proceeded slowly, but should be finished by the end of the year.

72. The economic situation continued to be serious, and as the cost of living rises the working classes are showing open signs of discontent. The [illegible] feeling that the South is [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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BARI AND SOUTH EAST ITALY (From A.C. Liaison Officer BARI)

71. There was little political activity during the month and provincial administration continued to work satisfactorily. The preparation of electoral lists proceeded slowly, but should be finished by the end of the year.

72. The economic situation continued to be serious, and as the cost of living rises the working classes are showing open signs of discontent. There is a feeling that the South is being exploited by the North, which buys up the wine and oil of the South without exporting sorely needed manufactured goods in return. Food is difficult to obtain and there is only enough grain to last until the end of October.

73. The disastrous drought has reduced the wheat crop to one-third of normal. Minor cereals and vegetables have almost completely failed, and the olive oil and almond crops are also poor. Fishing is practically at a standstill for lack of Diesel oil and petrol. Vessels leave harbour only once a week, and then they have insufficient fuel to reach the good fishing grounds. There is a lack of raw material and transport for the factories which as a result cannot go into production. This general and widespread want will become most acute with the onset of winter.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

74. The Italian Courts continued to function satisfactorily.

75. Minor outbreaks of disorders and small strikes due to the high cost of living in relation to wages culminated in a serious situation in LECCE, when on 24 September 5,000 people broke into the Prefettura demanding increased rations and various other economic concessions, some of which were granted. The next day a crowd of 10,000 gathered and the Carabinieri were obliged to fire, killing three civilians. Since then the city has been quiet.

76. Unemployment, already widespread has increased with the return of prisoners of war and refugees.

77. On 20 September the Carabinieri began large scale operations in ANDRIA and BOMBINO NO BURGH where trouble had broken out in July: 47 arrests were made and 67 weapons confiscated. The operations had a most salutary effect and as a result the prestige of the Carabinieri has increased. However, they are still too few in number and they are badly in need of transport, clothing and equipment.

78. Plague broke out at TARANTO in the middle of the month and continued sporadically, although otherwise public health was good.

79. 5,271 displaced persons were despatched by rail from the entire zone during the month.

SARDINIA (From A.C. Liaison Officer SARDINIA)

1030

80. The political situation has changed very little. The public continued to show a marked lack of interest due to the poor economic situation and the constantly increasing cost of living.

81. 37,041 quintali of wheat have been collected for seed. This small figure is a result of the poor harvest and the low price fixed by the Government. The amount of grain collected is still far below the expected yield due to the drought and the plague of grasshoppers, while corn, pasture land and vineyards have also been hard hit.

82. The export of cattle has stopped due to a drop in the market price in ITALY; a resumption is probable in the near future with an increase in price. However due to the expected ruins export is not expected to reach previous levels since grazers will find it more advantageous to retain the animals on the island.

83. During the month coal production went up to 55,470 tons as compared with 55,250 tons in August. 53,000 tons of SULCIS coal were exported during the month of September and 3,640 tons of foreign coal were imported.

84. There was increased unemployment due to the return of refugees and ex-prisoners of war. Agitation for increased wages threatened to bring about strikes, especially among employees of secondary railways. But fortunately these did not develop. It is understood that the Italian Government intends to allocate money for public works to relieve unemployment.

85. Public safety was satisfactory but there was an increase of crime in [illegible] Public health was good.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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77. On 20 September the Carabinieri began large scale operations in ARBUS and IGLESIAS where trouble had broken out in July: 47 arrests were made and 87 weapons confiscated. The operations had a most salutary effect and as a result the prestige of the Carabinieri has increased. However, they are still too few in number and they are badly in need of transport, clothing and equipment.

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82. The export of cattle has stopped due to a drop in the market price in ROME: a resumption is probable in the near future with an increase in price. However due to the expected rains export is not expected to reach previous levels since graziers will find it more advantageous to retain the animals on the island.

83. During the month coal production went up to 55,470 tons as compared with 54,278 tons in August. 53,000 tons of SULCIS coal were exported during the month of September and 3,640 tons of foreign coal were imported.

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85. Public safety was satisfactory but there was an increase of crime in NUORO province. Public health was good.

86. An increased number of refugees returned to SARDINIA, although the number leaving has decreased.

87. There is a great need for tyres and spare parts for vehicles on the island, and the allocation of fuel is also below needs.

88. Plans are being drawn up for the institution of a Bank of SARDINIA.

1030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

SICILY. (From A.C. Liaison Officers CATANIA and PALERMO).

89. The Separatist Group continued to be very noisy and a rising was rumoured to take place at the end of September but this did not materialise. The High Commissioner's office continued to function satisfactorily, although it was bypassed by many of the Ministers who approached the prefects directly; this nullified its work in many cases. It is reported that an attempt will be made at the Consulta meeting in October to obtain regional autonomy for the island.

90. Food was plentiful, though very expensive. All crops are below standard in yield owing to the dry season, although the fishing season was good.

91. Several minor strikes during the month were settled.

92. Electric power has been badly hit by the poor quality of the coal imported from SARDINIA. The furnaces have to be cleaned more often, and as only one station is running on the island, in CATANIA, electric energy is never steady nor is it obtainable at all hours. Water is very scarce and is rationed to a greater or lesser degree in all parts of the island, and gas is possible only in a few areas and then merely for two or three hours. Road transport was very badly handicapped by lack of tyres, as the grant of 72 tyres for the month of September was not nearly enough.

93. The police were unable to enforce their control fully owing to their lack of personnel, proper equipment and transport: the malefactors appear to have all the commodities the police lack. Public order in PANTELLERIA and LAMPEDUSA was good.

94. The refugee situation has improved greatly although there are still some people who wanting eventually to return to TRIPOLITANIA, posed as Sicilians in order to be nearer their ultimate destination. As they are not allowed to cross the MEDITERRANEAN, they occupy permanently transit camps and this causes a certain amount of difficulty.

95. Communications are fair although the islands of LAMPEDUSA and PANTELLERIA have been cut off from SICILY owing to the diversion of the steamer which served them.

96. The islands of PANTELLERIA and LAMPEDUSA have been neglected, and except for street clearing no reconstruction has yet been attempted. Immediate needs of the islands (new hospitals, schools, churches and municipios) are being examined and it is hoped some progress will soon be made towards erecting these. Neither island has ever been put on the list of "war damaged communes" in spite of the fact they are over 95% destroyed, which is one reason for their neglect. The people themselves are loyal Italians, without political troubles or crime, although dissatisfaction is caused through the glowing accounts of life in MALTA being brought back by the fishermen. The whole position of the two islands is being very thoroughly investigated with a view to improving living conditions generally.

AMOON. (From A.C. Liaison Officer).

97. The military and political situation remained unchanged, and the Italian troops are [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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ANCON. (From U.S. Liaison Officer)

97. The military and political situation remained unchanged, and the Italian courts are now dealing with all cases previously dealt with by AMG.

98. The communal administration continued to function well, although it is faced with an urgent housing problem, as the approach of winter has made obvious the unsatisfactory condition in which many are living.

99. The scheme for the reconstruction of the city was practically completed and it is hoped this will ease the situation.

100. The food position remained good and the water supply has been greatly improved.

101. Many schools had still not been derequisitioned by the end of the month. Public health remained fair, despite shortage of water and overcrowding.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

BOLOGNA (From A.C. Liaison Officer).

102. There was little increase in political activity during the month, and provincial government continued to work satisfactorily. The work of the CLN-nominated prefects is far less efficient and impartial than that of the career Prefects. Work on the electoral lists continued satisfactorily.

103. The production of manufactured goods has been hampered by lack of coal and factory buildings, which were damaged in the war or are still requisitioned by the Allies.

104. The food situation was good, and 1,736,126 quintali of grain were amassed by 25 September. However, in some places the amasso has been held up by the reluctance of the farmers to accept lire for grain as they prefer to have manufactured goods in exchange. Unemployment grew more serious during the month.

105. Banks continued to have an excess of deposits over withdrawals and the public is losing confidence in the lira. Public works programmes were pushed forward, but there is not enough money for some of the projects.

106. The public safety situation deteriorated during the month, and crimes of violence increased. The police agencies are not in a position to deal adequately with the situation owing to lack of transport, arms and ammunition. There were two serious prison breaks in BOLOGNA and MODENA and all prisons are overcrowded and poorly guarded. The morale of the Carabinieri is not high due to lack of arms, transport and POL, although they carried out useful raids in FERRARA Province. The Questura situation has worsened due to an influx of ex-Partisans unfitted in police work and the law. One death sentence imposed by the People's Court has been carried out.

107. Public health has been good and communications are satisfactory.

1629

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

LEGAL SUBCOMMISSION

11. There was a decline in the number of cases tried by AMG Courts owing to the gradual transfer of cases to Italian Courts. For all practical purposes the Italians are running their legal affairs in a satisfactory manner.

12. General (AMG) Courts were held in several places, handling murders and counterfeiting cases. A General Court at VICENZA tried Partisans for the massacre at the SCHIO jail; 9 accused were convicted, three sentenced to death and two to life imprisonment.

13. The Extraordinary Courts of Assizes have continued to make progress, although with the same appeal delays of which complaints have already been made. However the conduct of trials in these courts is proceeding in a more orderly fashion.

14. It has been encouraging to note the reduction in offences connected with illegal possession of firearms and ammunition.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUBCOMMISSION

15. The Italian Red Cross has received a grant of a hundred million lire from the Italian Government.

16. 5,500 repatriated wounded and sick Italians were received at the Hospital centre at MILANO and 2,200 evacuated to S. Italy.

17. During September an outbreak of plague occurred in TARANTO with a total of 23 cases and 10 deaths. Energetic measures were taken by local Allied Military and Italian authorities to combat this outbreak. Only 2 cases of typhus were reported, one from TARANTO and one from PARMA.

18. Smallpox unfortunately increased considerably in Central and Southern Italy. Weekly searches at collecting stations in the PIAVE Delta continued to show very low mosquito density.

19. The August Infant Mortality rate for ROME was 76.2 as compared with 99.9 in July. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis in ROME during August were 228 as compared with 230 in July.

20. With the handover of the FLORENCE warehouse to Institute Commercio Estero Allied Commission has now finished all dealings in medical supplies. The Veterinary Branch of this HQ has also been abolished, and all veterinary matters are now being handled by the Italian Government.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMISSION

1028

21. Generally speaking, September was not a period of great public disorder, the most serious strikes being those in LECCE and NAPLES (for details see page 9 and page 7).

22. There was an increase of armed robbery throughout ITALY and of crimes of violence by gangs in the north, especially in EMILIA. 95 cases of armed robbery were reported in this region, and 14 murders for political

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785241

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22. There was an increase of armed robbery throughout ITALY and of crimes of violence by gangs in the north, especially in [illegible]. 95 cases of armed robbery were reported in this region, and 14 murders for political reasons. There were no untoward incidents in LOMBARDIA, where the police are taking energetic measures to counteract the increase of armed robbery, while security in VENEZIE Region is menaced more by the infiltration of Jugoslavs and the lawlessness of armed bandits, than by civil disturbances or demonstrations although the Tyrolese maintained their intransigent attitude towards cooperating with the Italians.

23. Combined operations between Allied Military police, Italian Police and the Carabinieri have been successful in planned raids against suspected stores of arms and ammunition in the north. Many dumps were found in PIEMONTE, LOMBARDIA and VENEZIE, where the arms were well greased and properly stored. Road blocks have been effective in capturing wanted individuals.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

24. The difficulties regarding the formation, training, and operation of a civil police force in VENEZIA GIULIA have now been largely overcome, and it is hoped that the force will actually begin street duty in the first weeks of October (see page 6).

25. The critical overcrowding of all classes of prisons throughout ITALY continued, but has been slightly eased in the northern regions by transferring political prisoners to concentration camps and the acceleration of trial procedures.

26. The immobility of the police force continues to be the most serious problem in AMG areas. There are insufficient vehicles and equipment to enable the police to get about as quickly as possible to prevent riots and depredations of well armed gangs. Tanks have been furnished but no trucks. POL supplies are so small that the engines on the delivered tanks cannot be tested and so they are completely immobile. Ammunition is not furnished in sufficient quantities. The question of automatic arms for the police is still undecided. It is extremely difficult to enforce law and order under these conditions, and a strong well equipped Police Force is still one of the most pressing problems which has to be dealt with before the winter.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS AND ARCHIVES SUBCOMMISSION

27. The nine French impressionist masterpieces found in the illegal possession of a Florentine art-dealer in VENTURA are now safely stored in ROME.

28. Major concentrations is still on the approval of first-aid repair projects for damaged monuments. There should be little, if any, important repair work to be referred to the Italian Government for direct financing after the handover of the Northern Regions.

29. Transfer of archives of Italian Ministries from deposits in the north is now well under way. The main object is to secure the return of such archives to the Italian Government with the maximum speed.

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUBCOMMISSION

30. September saw the completion of the repatriation of Italians from the British and American zones in GERMANY and AUSTRIA, 638,300 were repatriated from these areas. 5,000 Italians arrived each week from FRANCE; it is anticipated that 34,000 still remain. 142,685 Italians were received through the BRENNER and SWISS routes, and 22,210 by other routes. Since January, 1944, a total of 851, 450 persons have been returned to their homes.

31. Repatriation to the U.K. remained at a standstill due to lack of transport. 265 children have been returned to their families in TRIPOLITANIA.

32. Registration continued satisfactorily. By 30 September 24,274 camp inmates had been registered under the SHAEF system out of a total of 26,149.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

serious problem in ANZIO area.

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29. Transfer of archives of Italian Ministries from deposits in the north is now well under way. The main object is to secure the return of such archives to the Italian Government with the maximum speed.

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUBCOMMISSION

30. 1 September saw the completion of the repatriation of Italians from the British and American zones in GERMANY and AUSTRIA, 632,300 were repatriated from those areas. 5,000 Italians arrived each week from FRANCE; it is anticipated that 34,000 still remain. 142,683 Italians were received through the BRENNER and SWISS routes, and 22,210 by other routes. Since January, 1944, a total of 851, 430 persons have been returned to their homes.

31. Repatriation to the U.K. remained at a standstill due to lack of transport. 265 children have been returned to their families in TRIPOLITANIA.

32. Registration continued satisfactorily. By 30 September 21,274 camp inmates had been registered under the CHANT system out of a total of 26,149.

33. 14 Camps were closed down or handed over to the Italian authorities. 104 doctors are working at the various groups and centres. Most of these are civilian medical practicioners of various nationalities. The release of a small amount of dental and gynaecological equipment from captured enemy stocks by AFHQ was most welcome.

34. 116,831 Displaced Persons have been recorded by the Record Bureau.

35. A total of 154,901 Italian prisoners of war have been repatriated, the majority (142,021) from Germany. AFHQ have directed that no further cases of priority release will be accorded for specialists.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 776021

35. Remittances by Italian Prisoners of War in British hands to their families totalled £106,040. Credit balances of repatriated prisoners of war totalled £32,349.

PATRIOTS BRANCH

36. Rules have been laid down for the setting up of Committees to deal with future applications for recognition of Partisans. A final directive has been issued on the handling of Italian patriots who fought outside Italy. A decree is being prepared by the Italian Government giving certain patriot leaders Army ranks.

1627

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART III

ECONOMIC SECTION

AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMISSION

1. Reports received continued to reflect concern over the poor harvest, with extremely high prices prevailing for forage. Fruits and vegetables continued in good supply. Grain collections at the end of September totalled 837,055 metric tons, representing 64% of the quantities estimated available for non-producers in the July Crop Report. Of this total, 477,552 metric tons were collected in North ITALY.

2. Olive oil collections to 30 September totalled 53,325 metric tons. The present estimates place the 1945-6 crop at 96,325 metric tons, 40% below last season. The Ministries of Agriculture and Food have issued a decree controlling olives and oil harvested during the coming season.

3. The extremely limited availability of fertiliser continued to restrict the agricultural programme, with prices too high to permit its use on price controlled products.

4. No rock phosphate shipments have yet been scheduled, nor nitrogen fertiliser, although the Italian Government has indicated that some nitrogen fertiliser is scheduled for procurement, together with tractors and other supplies.

5. A decree was issued by the Ministry of Food permitting the unlimited slaughter of pigs, conditional upon disposal as instructed by that Ministry. Work continues on the transfer of captured horses and mules to Italian ownership.

6. A survey of the fuelwood and charcoal situation indicated that planned production is being met, and stocks on hand approximate those of last year. Nevertheless, large cities may face serious fuel shortages during the winter, especially since producers are holding stocks in anticipation of higher prices. Charcoal production in Southern regions and in SICILY and SARDINIA is slightly above that of last year.

7. The fishing fleet is limited by its inability to obtain fuel, with allocations about 30% of the quantities requested. Other supplies are being distributed. Action was taken to resume fishing along the coast of WEST AFRICA, and to permit fishing boats to use the Port of LEGHORN.

COMMERCE SUBCOMMISSION

8. The Italian Government has still not accepted the Proclaimed and Statutory Lists, so the frontiers remain closed to trade, and free private trade between all countries of the world continues to be barred.

9. Control of silk has been taken over by the Italian Government, together with the silk organizations in ITALY.

10. Negotiations are still continuing on the French-Italian exchange of phosphates and pyrites. No allocation has yet been received of the 100,000 tons of wheat given by the ALLIED FORCES to ITALY. Approval has been given to three firms to import sea shells and mother of pearl from AMERICA and subsequently to export cameos etc. to AMERICA. The credit balance in AMERICA resulting from this trade will be available for purchases by the Italian Government. Exchange of 150 tons

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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8. The Italian Government has still not accepted the proclaimed and Statutory Lists, so the frontiers remain closed to trade, and free private trade between all countries of the world continues to be barred.

9. Control of silk has been taken over by the Italian Government, together with the silk organisations in MILAN.

10. Negotiations are still continuing on the Franco-Italian exchange of phosphates and pyrites. No allocation has yet been received of the 100,000 tons of wheat given by the ANGLO-USA to ITALY. Approval has been given to three firms to import sea shells and mother of pearl from AMERICA and subsequently to export cameos etc. to AMERICA. The credit balance in AMERICA resulting from this trade will be available for purchases by the Italian Government. Exchange of 150 tons of American cotton for 50 tons of hemp cloth has been approved, and also cotton from EGYPT and TURKEY. Raw cotton must be allocated by the Combined Boards in WASHINGTON before it can be re-exported, but authority is being requested by Allied Commission to approve temporary imports of controlled materials without reference to WASHINGTON when such imports entail the subsequent export of the processed material.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. Negotiations have been started to obtain considerable quantities of Vitamin A and Vitamin D2 in highly concentrated form from ENGLAND. Further enquiries have been instituted for the purchase of meat, fats and oil from the ARGENTINE.

12. All forms of copper, except copper sulphate, cellulose and pyrites have been removed from the Reserved Commodity List under the control of the Combined Boards.

13. Italian straw goods manufacturers have agreed to reduce their prices in accordance with U.S. Office of Price Administration ceilings. It is hoped this will result in some important orders.

14. Leather and all leather articles and matches ceased to be controlled as from 30 September 1945.

15. With effect from 31 October all demands for POL for foreign Embassies Consulates, diplomats etc. will have to be met by the respective Governments of the applicants. 1,850 tyres and 4,500 tubes were allocated to the Italian Government. An additional 300 tyres, rejuvenated by PIRELLI, were also put at their disposal.

16. 1,200,000 pairs of shoes found in North ITALY at the date of liberation have been distributed, 50% being assigned to the south for distribution by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The production of newsprint is being maintained at the agreed figure of 1410 tons per month, and coal is being allocated to the paper mills producing this item in order to meet this figure. The mills have agreed to furnish 2,000,000 notebooks to the school children of the north at 4 lire each. The paper situation on the whole is favourable, although the future depends entirely on the importation of cellulose. It is hoped that the 40,000 tons on requisition in America will be delivered in the near future.

17. 3,000,000 electric light bulbs were distributed during JULY - September, 2,000,000 being sent to the south. The Telecomenti at CIVITAVECCHIA (Cement Works) were derequisitioned on 30 September 1945.

18. Relations between Allied Commission and the Industrial Council and Committees in MILAN are extremely good, and it is thought that if delays have occurred they are the result of the fact that the number of problems which confront Italian industry is enormous and the time and personnel available for solving them is limited.

1026

FINANCE SUBCOMMISSION

19. No further progress was made in negotiating the proposed currency agreement, as the American and British Embassies have not delivered to the Italian Government the replies to the Italian memorandum of 9 January 1945.

20. Permission has now been received for the Italian Government, in accordance with FAN 585, to fix or negotiate with foreign countries, as may be appropriate, exchange rates for the lire. Prior conference with COS is not required.

21. Certain favourable developments occurred in connection with the Decree of Desequestration. The position of Allied Commission was clarified in so far as the responsibility for the decree is concerned. Both the British and American Embassies were advised that Allied Commission considered that the responsibility for dealing with the Italian Government in obtaining the enactment of the decree was that of the Embassies.

22. The non-adoption of the Proclaimed and Statutory Lists has resulted in the Italo-Swiss frontier still being closed [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

An additional 300 tyres, rejuvenated by PIRELLI, were also put at their disposal.

16. 1,200,000 pairs of shoes found in North ITALY at the date of liberation have been distributed, 50% being assigned to the south for distribution by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The production of newsprint is being maintained at the agreed figure of 1450 tons per month, and coal is being allocated to the paper mills producing this item in order to meet this figure. The mills have agreed to furnish 2,000,000 notebooks to the school children of the north at 4 lire each. The paper situation on the whole is favourable, although the future depends entirely on the importation of cellulose. It is hoped that the 40,000 tons on requisition in America will be delivered in the near future.

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20. Permission has now been received for the Italian Government, in accordance with PAM 583, to fix or negotiate with foreign countries, as may be appropriate, exchange rates for the lira. Prior conference with CCS is not required.

21. Certain favourable developments occurred in connection with the Decree of Desequestration. The position of Allied Commission was clarified in so far as the responsibility for the decree is concerned. Both the British and American Embassies were advised that Allied Commission considered that the responsibility for dealing with the Italian Government in obtaining the enactment of the decree was that of the Embassies.

22. The non-adoption of the Proclaimed and Statutory lists has resulted in the Italo-Swiss frontier still being closed (see page 16).

23. The dole which had been paid to surplus workers in North ITALY up to 30 September has been extended for the period to 31 December 1945. The basic work week is shortened from 48 hours to 40 hours, and the ratio of time not worked to time worked is lowered from 75% to 66-2/3%.

FOOD SUBCOMMISSION

24. Progress continued in building up stocks of food in the provinces. These now exist in all port warehouses of the Federazione. Arrangements are being made to transfer stocks of imported food from VENICE to UDINE to avoid difficulties in feeding, should UDINE remain under AMG control when the rest of VENETO is handed back. Steps are being taken under AMG to build up special stockpiles in MILAN and TURIN to meet the expected deficiency of cereals in North[illegible]Y from November to next July.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. Negotiations have been started to obtain considerable quantities of Vitamin A and Vitamin D2 in highly concentrated form from ENGLAND. Further enquiries have been instituted for the purchase of meat, fats and oil from the ARGENTINE.

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13. Italian straw goods manufacturers have agreed to reduce their prices in accordance with U.S. Office of Price Administration ceilings. It is hoped this will result in some important orders.

14. Leather and all leather articles and matches ceased to be controlled as from 30 September 1945.

15. With effect from 31 October all demands for POL for Foreign Embassies Consulates, diplomats etc. will have to be met by the respective Governments of the applicants. 1,850 tyres and 4,500 tubes were allocated to the Italian Government. An additional 300 tyres, rejuvenated by PIRELLI, were also put at their disposal.

16. 1,200,000 pairs of shoes found in North ITALY at the date of liberation have been distributed, 50% being assigned to the south for distribution by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The production of newsprint is being maintained at the agreed figure of 1410 tons per month, and coal is being allocated to the paper mills producing this item in order to meet this figure. The mills have agreed to furnish 2,000,000 notebooks to the school children of the north at 4 Lire each. The paper situation on the whole is favourable, although the future depends entirely on the importation of cellulose. It is hoped that the 40,000 tons on requisition in America will be delivered in the near future.

17. 3,000,000 electric light bulbs were distributed during JULY - September, 2,000,000 being sent to the south. The Italcementi at CIVITAVECCHIA (Cement Works) were derequisitioned on 30 September 1945.

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1626

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19. No further progress was made in negotiating the proposed currency agreement, as the American and British Embassies have not delivered to the Italian Government the replies to the Italian Memorandum of 9 January 1945.

20. Permission has now been received for the Italian Government, in accordance with FAN 583, to fix or negotiate with foreign countries, as may be appropriate, exchange rates for the Lira. Prior conference with CCS is not required.

21. Certain favourable developments occurred in connection with the Decree of Dosequestration. The position of Allied Commission was clarified in so far as the responsibility for the decree is concerned. Both the British and American Embassies were advised that Allied Commission considered that the responsibility for dealing with the Italian Government in obtaining the enactment of the decree was that of the Embassies.

22. The non-adoption of the Proclaimed and Statutory Lists has resulted in the Italo-Swiss frontier still being closed (see page 16).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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22. The non-adoption of the Proclaimed and Statutory Lists has resulted in the Italo-Swiss frontier still being closed (see page 16).

23. The dole which had been paid to surplus workers in North ITALY up to 30 September has been extended for the period to 31 December 1945. The basic work week is shortened from 48 hours to 40 hours, and the ratio of time not worked to time worked is lowered from 75% to 66-2/3%.

FOOD SUBCOMMISSION

24. Progress continued in building up stocks of food in the provinces. These now exist in all port warehouses of the Federazione. Arrangements are being made to transfer stocks of imported food from VENICE to UDINE to avoid difficulties in feeling, should UDINE remain under AMG control when the rest of VENETO is handed back. Steps are being taken under AMG to build up special stockpiles in MILAN and TURIN to meet the expected deficiency of cereals in Northern ITALY from November to next July.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

25. There is a shortage of grain in SICILY, SARDINIA and the NAPLES area, which will not be alleviated until the grain which is being brought from overseas arrives in the middle of October.

26. The imported stock position is very satisfactory as regards all miscellaneous food-stuffs apart from oil and fats.

27. Grain from stocks intended for ITALY was loaned to U.S., French and British zones in AUSTRIA during August, and a repayment of some 37,000 tons of grain was promised for September. This repayment has not been made. The failure to deliver this grain is partly responsible for the critical position in certain areas in ITALY.

28. Small quantities of food required by UNRRA are made available at Allied Commission or Italian Government warehouses in exchange for bulk transfers from UNRRA stocks.

29. The Vatican is distributing 94,000 portions of soup daily. Supplies to the Vatican State for their own requirements continue to be carried out smoothly.

30. A shortage of box cars is hindering the movement of salt by rail from S. MARGHERITA DI SAVOIA, although the movement by sea has been satisfactory and the salt position in VENEZIE region is improving.

31. The shipment of wine by distern cars proceeded satisfactorily, although that by sea was very disappointing and the 98,000 tons scheduled to be shipped in September and October will not be moved.

32. Shipments from the [illegible] warehouses were very much below the desired level due to lack of cars. The equalised ration scales for cereal products have been recommended to, and accepted by, the Italian Government. They will come into effect on 1 October 1945, as will supplementary ration scales for civilian workers of the Armed Forces which have been revised.

33. It is estimated that the stock of cereals, allowing for imports and arrassing for October but for November will last for about 45 days from the end of September. Meat stocks it is thought will last until May 1946, powdered milk and soap until December, and sugar until March 1946.

INDUSTRY SUBCOMMISSION

34. It is hoped that by the end of the year the majority of industrial premises will have been vacated. This will materially help the economic position of ITALY, enabling her to start production on a much larger scale than hitherto, and will give employment to many former factory workers. A serious source of dissatisfaction will also have been removed, as there is much unrest as a result of the continued requisitioning.

35. Arrangements for an initial shipment of 4,000 tons of cellulose from SWEDEN have nearly been concluded. SOLVAY Co. soda ashplant at ROSIGNANO continued its regular production at the rate of several thousand tons a month, the exact figure for the month not yet being available. Three coke ovens have started firing their batteries, and coke and tar deliveries should begin before the end of October.

36. Current production of magnetic sheet steel at TERNI is 200 tons a month. Steel production in Central and Southern ITALY during September totalled 19,336 tons.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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31. The shipment of wine by western cars proceeded satisfactorily, although that by sea was very disappointing and the 80,000 tons scheduled to be shipped in September and October will not be made.

32. Shipments from the [illegible] were very much below the desired level due to lack of cars. The equalised ration scales for cereal products have been recommended to, and accepted by, the Italian Government. They will come into effect on 1 October 1945, as will supplementary ration scales for civilian workers of the Armed Forces which have been revised.

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36. Current production of magnetic sheet steel at TERNI is 200 tons a month. Steel production in Central and Southern ITALY during September totalled 19,336 tons.

37. Production of glass-plate and acetatone has started with allocation of fuel to a limited number of plants. The silk industry is now operating at approximately 20 per cent of capacity, chiefly due to a shortage of [illegible], sizers, and other necessaries. The first shipment of American cotton has arrived and is being distributed to the plants which are [illegible] working to only 20% capacity with Sicilian cotton.

38. 10,000 tons of salt has been put at the disposal of UNRRA ports, and this amount will be supplied to YUGOSLAVIA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

39. The estimated production of Sardinian coal for September is 52,000 tons as against 53,253 tons actually produced in August; lignite production for September was estimated at 100,000 tons and anthracite from the LA THUILE (PIEMONTE) mines at 5,000 tons. The estimated production of all lignites for September was 100,000 tons. Responsibility for the allocation of carbide has been handed over to the Italian Government.

40. Production of new tyres has been started by PIRELLI at TIVOLI (ROME) though technical information for handling synthetic rubber is so far lacking.

LABOUR SUBCOMMISSION

41. The Italian Government published in September Decree nr. 523 maintaining the ban on the dismissal of surplus workers in industry in North ITALY and providing for payment of a proportion of wages for industrial workers unable to work full time. The Decree gave legal backing to the MILAN Wage Agreement already generally in force in N. ITALY. These were both due to expire on 30 September but at the end of the month it was arranged for both wage agreement and decree to be extended to 14 October while negotiations are in progress for modification of their terms. Further wage increases have been granted in some industries in the north. In LIGURIA agreement has been reached for the payment of a minimum wage in certain industries.

42. The most important development in the south has been the agreement for the building industry in ROME which provides for a 100% increase in basic wages as from 6 September, and an 80% increase in basic wages in the printing industry. Other increases have been in the form of bonuses.

43. Italian Government Decree nr 319 of 4 June 1945 was implemented in North ITALY on 20 September. This decree provided for a lump-sum payment to all State and para-statal employees of a "conjuncture" indemnity.

44. Protests continued to be made against the employment of German prisoners of war by the Allied Military authorities in LEGHORN, FLORENCE, BARI, BRINDISI and NAPLES. Disorderly demonstrations in NAPLES during the month led to conferences with representatives of Italian labour (as stated in Naples Commune report on page 7). The general strike in TRIESTE on 24 September, involving all commercial and industrial workers, which lasted about 48 hours until the Sindacati Giuliani withdrew its support on account of the pro-Yugoslav propaganda introduced has been reported under Ve Venezia Giulia page 6 . In PERUGIA some hundreds of farm workers went on strike on 26 Sept., following a demand for an emergency indemnity and an increased supply of wheat, milk, etc. After lengthy discussions between the workers' representatives and the employers' organisations it was agreed that the permanent workers should receive an emergency indemnity of 5,000 lire and certain increases in the milk and wheat rations were agreed. Agitation amongst the metayers for a more generous division of agricultural produce is increasing, but the land owners continue to resist their requests.

45. The production of coal from the Sardinian coal field averaged 12,796 tons per week during the month, as compared with an average of 11,742 tons per week during August. The average number of men actively engaged in underground operations during the last week of September was 4,330, as compared with 4,116 during August.

46. An Italian Delegation has been sent to the World Trade Union Conference in PARIS.

1225

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

for payment of a proportion of wages for industrial workers unable to work full time. The Decree gave legal backing to the MILAN Wage Agreement already generally in force in N. ITALY. These were both due to expire on 30 September but at the end of the month it was arranged for both wage agreement and decree to be extended to 14 October while negotiations are in progress for modification of their terms. Further wage increases have been granted in some industries in the north. In LIGURIA agreement has been reached for the payment of a minimum wage in certain industries.

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43. Italian Government Decree nr 310 of 4 June 1945 was implemented in North ITALY on 20 September. This decree provided for a lump-sum payment to all State and para-statal employees of a "conjuncture" indemnity.

44. Protests continued to be made against the employment of German prisoners of war by the Allied Military authorities in LEGHORN, FLORENCE, BARI, TRIESTE and NAPLES. Disorderly demonstrations in NAPLES during the month led to conferences with representatives of Italian labour (as stated in Naples Command report on page 7). The general strike in TRIESTE on 24 September, involving all commercial and industrial workers, which lasted about 48 hours until the Sindacati Giuliani withdrew its support on account of the pro-Yugoslav propaganda introduced has been reported under 17 Venezia Giulia page 6 . In BRESCIA some hundreds of farm workers went on strike on 26 Sept., following a demand for an emergency indemnity and an increased supply of wheat, milk, etc. After lengthy discussions between the workers' representatives and the employers' organisations it was agreed that the permanent workers should receive an emergency indemnity of 5,000 lire and certain increases in the milk and wheat rations were agreed. Agitation amongst the metayers for a more generous division of agricultural produce is increasing, but the land owners continue to resist their requests.

45. The production of coal from the Sardinian coal field averaged 12,796 tons per week during the month, as compared with an average of 11,742 tons per week during August. The average number of men actively engaged in underground operations during the last week of September was 4,339, as compared with 4,116 during August.

46. An Italian Delegation has been sent to the World Trade Union Conference in PARIS.

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES SUBCOMMISSION

47. Arrangements have now been completed for the Italian Government to assume responsibility for military roads on 1 October 1945. Bitumen supplies are arriving from the United States, and distribution to Compartments is under way.

48. Reconstruction projects are still being processed and approved, and extensive public works programmes are in hand in all regions. The majority of work of essential nature has been started, while non-essential projects are only being considered where the unemployment problem is serious.

49. No major water supply problem remains uncorrected. In anticipation of the coming winter snow removal equipment is being assembled and distributed on highways.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

50. The Electric Power Committee have recommended that AFHQ be asked to issue an order restricting the use of electricity by military authorities in Southern ITALY, enforcing the strictest economy with a view to conserving as long as possible such small supplies of water as remain in the SILA reservoir. No additional electric power was allocated to S. ITALY during the month, and electricity supply is still acute. In Central ITALY 16,500 KW of demand on 7.4 million KWH of additional electrical energy was allocated to the LEGHORN and FLORENCE areas. This power comes from generating plants in those areas and from North ITALY. In North ITALY itself there was trouble from overloading of transmission lines and transformers in the larger cities, which will continue to be an increasing problem until gas plants are able to resume production.

51. The fuel oil supply for the thermal plants in NAPLES was the same as for last month. There was a slight improvement in the SILA reservoir position. The LETE generating plant of 8,000 KW capacity in Southern ITALY began operating during the month. The fourth 35,000 KW unit at GALLETO (TERNI) is scheduled for completion by mid November.

52. All requests for rate adjustments for electricity, water, and gas in North ITALY which were formerly handled by Allied Commission are now referred to the North ITALY Price Fixing Board, MILAN.

53. Rehabilitation work is under way at the ports of CIVITAVECCHIA, GENOA, LEGHORN, NAPLES, SAVONA, TRIESTE, ANCONA and LA SPEZIA. Reconstruction of warehouses presents the greatest problem as many of the structures were completely destroyed, and the shortage of building materials and excessive costs have deferred the erection of complete buildings.

54. Nearly all the functions regarding supplies are handled by the appropriate ministries of the Italian Government, under the guidance of Allied Commission.

TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMISSION

General

55. During September the foundations were laid for handing over to the Italian Authorities the control of movement of all civilian traffic by road, rail, and sea. Controlled movement of refugees showed an increase over the previous month. However the month saw the end of the major flow of refugees through the BRENNER Pass, which was averaging 8,000 people daily at its peak.

Rail

56. Civilian rail traffic on the mainland amounted to 369,540 tons, a 27 per cent increase over August. Rail repair work estimated to cost 1,014,153,000 lire was authorised. The line between GENOA and VENTIMIGLIA was opened for traffic, but connection with the French frontier is not yet complete. Despite shortages of materials, wagon repair shops have continued to do a splendid job, and the Italians have shown commendable ingenuity in improvising materials and tools.

Roads

57. The transfer of the truck pools to the Italian Government has been completed and all are now civilian staffed and operated by the Italian Ministry of Transport. 1474 trucks and 774 trailers of the 20,000 ton lift authorised by JCS and AFHQ were turned over to the Italian Government for rebuilding and salvage operations. 31 10-tonners, 722 1½-ton trucks, 338 3-tonners and 30 ½-ton trucks have also been trans-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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Shipping

58. With the return of the working of the ports of VENICE, ANCONA, BRINDISI and TARANTO to Italian port administration on 30 September the only military controlled ports will be TRIESTE, LEGHORN, NAPLES and BARI; the last two have an Italian operated section dealing with civil services.

59. Coastwise shipping and schooners carried 153,000 tons of civilian freight, a 21% increase over August. Clearance of wrecks and mines continued during the month, and Italian Naval authorities undertaking the work have made substantial progress. Total warehouse stocks increased; warehouses in GENOA, LEGHORN, VENICE and ANCONA will be able to function officially in the very near future with [illegible] any Allied Military personnel on duty.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. The Review of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in ITALY was finally published with a release date of 1 October. A detailed memorandum of publicity for ENGLAND and AMERICA has been drawn up. 150,000 copies have been printed half in English and half in Italian. Of the English copies 60,000 were distributed including 35,000 to the American and British Armed Forces all Allied personnel of Allied Commission, all U.S. daily and weekly newspapers, radio stations, and magazines. Several thousand copies were placed for distribution with the American Red Cross at ROME, NAPLES and LEGHORN. Approximately 1,000 copies were sent to the British Ministry of Information for distribution in ENGLAND and the BRITISH EMPIRE. Orders for further copies for libraries and universities are awaited from abroad. On the Italian side approximately 25,000 copies have been distributed. Nearly 3,000 copies were sent to Allied Military Government territory for distribution to important individuals and organizations. 35,000 copies will be sent to the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Education for all communes, provinces and schools.

2. Press releases were issued on the universal food ration for ITALY.

3. A beginning has been made in the sending of reference records no longer needed to Archives Department and to the Italian Government. Two copies of all proclamations, orders, and regulations published by AMG in ITALY are being sent to the War Department.

NAVY SUBCOMMISSION

1024

4. A gratifying tendency was noticed during the month for the Italian Ministry of Marine to become more self-sufficient and to communicate with Allied Commission only on those matters which actually required the assistance of the Allied Governments.

5. Italian Navy personnel may now proceed to their homes east of the MORGAN line or within the POLA enclave, on leave or on demobilisation. In all instances personnel must wear civilian clothes and be unarmed and have writ en permission from XIII Corps.

6. A representative visited a number of Italian factories and depots in the GENOA area in connection with the implementation of an AFHQ directive to make a survey of Italian warlike stores in the hands of the Italian Armed Forces.

LAND FORCES SUBCOMMISSION (MMLA)

7 The Italian Army strength at the end of September was 265 046 including 65,000 Carabinieri.

8. The rate of demobilisation of the older classes has been speeded up. Authority was given to demobilise the 1917 and 1918 classes in October and the 1919 class in November. These dates can be accelerated for personnel in depots and units being disbanded.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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9. Preparations were made at the end of September for the repatriation to ITALY and YUGOSLAVIA, and demobilisation, of 5,000 Slav-speaking Italians who have been employed in Southern FRANCE. The date anticipated for movement to begin is 20 October.

10. There has been no change in the ration scale to the Italian Army for some time. Instructions were received that with effect from 1 October 45 Italian combat groups would no longer obtain their POL from Allied sources.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. Italian Army personnel may now proceed to their homes east of the Morgan Line on leave or on demobilisation, though under the same restrictions as those in force for the Italian Navy (See para 5 of Navy Subcommission report)

AIR FORCES SUBCOMMISSION

12. English speaking Italian officers have been assigned to the Aircraft Safety Centres at BOLOGNA and PORCHELLINO. All Italian aircraft movements which are intercepted are passed to the aircraft safety centres. These connections coordinate all aircraft safety in ITALY and increase the efficiency of the I.A.F.

13. Two English speaking Italian officers have been sent to CAIRO to the RAF Flying Control Course. When they have completed their course they will be put in charge of Italian Air Force Flying Control.

14. Twenty LM 3 light aircraft in the course of construction are being completed.

15. A new signals directive has been received from Headquarters MAAF giving the Italian Air Force much more freedom in the operation of their wireless services, and a suitable instruction is being prepared. Meteorological reporting stations were opened at BOLZANO, CAPO MELI, MONTES'LUCA P'CAMELLA; SOPRABOLZANO, SUSA, LA SPEZIA, GUIDONIA and ENNA. Three surface sets and one Pilot balloon set of British meteorological equipment have been issued, on payment, to the Italian Meteorological Service. The Italian teletype operators are now fully responsible for transmissions from the Italian Air Ministry, the American operators having been withdrawn on account of shortage of personnel at CIAMPINO Airfield.

16. In Northern ITALY valuable work has been done in assisting and guiding the IAF in the salvage and recovery of air material which could be used in the running and maintenance of the Italian courier service and other units. A courier service has been set up, the construction of aircraft has been ordered and much help has been given to Italian airmen and their relatives.

17. Italian air force personnel may now proceed to their homes east of the Morgan Line on leave or on demobilisation, though under the same restrictions as those in force for the Italian Navy (See para 5 Navy Sub Commission report).

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMISSION

18. A general improvement has taken place over North ITALY in the number of small telephone exchanges connected to the network, but very few long distance circuits have been released by the military. The long distance telegraph service has been considerably extended, and includes direct links to PARIS and direct connection between N. ITALY and SICILY. Over 100 telegraph offices were reconnected to the main network. Schools have been started in several of the large towns for the training of teleprinter operators and in MILAN twenty have already been trained and are at work. Telegraph and telephone lines have been resumed between TRIESTE and FIUME, and telecommunication services between the two zones of VENEZIA GIULIA. A telephone circuit from ROME to TRIESTE has been installed and brought into service.

19. Arrangements were made for the mails from ITALY to [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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19. Arrangements were made for the mails from ITALY to UNITED KINGDOM to be forwarded by civil trains via SWITZERLAND. In the reverse direction the UNITED KINGDOM to ITALY mails will also be sent overland. Progress was made in removing obstacles which have prevented the extension of the gift parcel scheme from the U.S.A. to all ITALY.

20. During the month an additional five internal civil censorship stations were closed. Internal censorship is now only operating in the provinces of MILAN, TURIN, BOLZANO, VENEZIA and UDINE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

21. The operation of radio circuits by the Italian Government without Allied supervision has been authorized subject to the requirement that no new circuits will be opened without prior coordination with, and specific approval of, AFHQ.

WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL SUBCOMMISSION.

22. Approximately 45,070 tyres, 3,041 tons of brass and copper and 25,500 tons of general scrap were issued to the Italian Government from British and American salvage dumps.

23. 1,481 German and Italian gas cylinders were handed over for Italian oxygen concerns, and the Bank of Italy received 2,780,400 lire for deposits on 103 German tyres and valuation of wrecked vehicles, spare parts and tyres.

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

1023

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

NARA 10-1-45

For some months past there has been considerable agitation about the long awaited Italian elections. Requests for the establishment of the Constituent Assembly are reiterated daily, and the streets of ROME are plastered with posters demanding its immediate formation. It has now been revealed that only 6% of the electoral lists have been completed, and that it is thought the elections cannot be held until well into next year.

Below is an extract from a report presented to the Advisory Council for ITALY on 24 September 1945 which explains the immense difficulties confronting local government executives, and the reason for the delay in the compilation of the electoral lists. It is thought this report will give the other side of the picture, and present to the layman the magnitude of the task which confronts those who are endeavouring to bring ITALY's franchise laws into line with the other United Nations.

1. PRESENT SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

The Fascist system of central and local government has been totally abolished. In the place of Fascist local authorities the essential democratic bodies envisaged by the pre-Fascist Law of 1915 have been restored throughout ITALY on an appointive basis. This system of local government is a temporary one, pending the restoration of elections. No elective national legislature is yet in existence.

2. Before elected central or local governments can be established, the following preparations must be made:-

(i) Those who have the right to vote must be defined:
(ii) Registers of the electors must be prepared:
(iii) The types of elective local authorities to be established must be determined:
(iv) A procedure for voting for these local authorities must be laid down:
(v) The procedure for voting for the national legislature must also be determined:
(vi) The necessary mechanics for the actual holding of the elections, e.g. booths, urns, stamps, voting places, etc. must be provided.

3. FRANCHISE.

By Italian law all Italian citizens, men and women, who have reached the age of 21 by 31 December 1945 are qualified to be registered. The law prescribes certain persons who may not be registered, some of whom are lunatics, bankrupts, persons habitually receiving public assistance, persons sentenced to a number of specified crimes and persons found guilty of Fascist activity. The last named group includes high ranking officials of the former Fascist Party, those persons convicted by regular courts for Fascist crimes, and those declared to be subject to loss of civil rights by special Provincial Commissions set up under Article 8 of Decree No. 159 as to sanctions against Fascism.

4. PREPARATION OF ELECTORS LISTS.

The voters lists are prepared from the registers of permanent population kept in every Commune. From these the Mayor extracts the names of all over 21. He then obtains from the appropriate authorities lists of those disqualified and strikes them off. He then sends the lists for approval to the Electoral Commission, after which they become final. This procedure is enacted by a Decree of the Italian Government published in January 1945. A citizen is usually registered in the commune in which he has permanent residence and in whose register of permanent population he is inscribed. However, refugees and evacuees may be registered in the Communes in which they are temporarily living. Provision is also made for citizens to be registered in the commune in which they have their principal seats of business or interests.

5. In February 1945, the Italian Government began the preparation of registers of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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5. In February 1945, the Italian Government began the preparation of registers of voters in the territory then under its jurisdiction. The Italian Decree, however, was so drawn up that the preparation of the lists could not be undertaken in territory under Allied Military Government. At the request of the Allied Commission, the Italian Government amended their decree so as to permit this. Shortly after this had been done, 15 July was set for beginning the compilation in Military Government territory. Before that time, however, necessary preliminaries were put in hand. Instructions were issued for the bringing up to date of the registers of the population and for completing the establishment of the temporary local government system so that the requisite officials and bodies would be available to perform the tasks assigned them. Some 125 tons of printed forms of instructions were distributed to the 4,000 Communes then under Allied Military Government and necessary information explaining the whole complicated process of preparing the lists were made available for the use of Allied officers in the field. Similarly, by personal tours of the officers of the Local Government Sub-Commission,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Italian officials in the Provinces were consulted and made aware of the responsibilities they were to assume in this connection.

6. The preparation of the lists themselves involves a complicated procedure and requires the intensive activity of many officials and bodies. The law sets forth a time-table for the completion of each step, such as the preparation of initial lists, notification of disqualifications, time for appeal review, etc. The publication of notice of deposit of the definite electoral list is 110 days after the initial compilation. The time periods, however, are mere guides and indeed practice shows that circumstances prevent their being followed to the letter.

7. PROGRESS IN COMPILING ELECTORS LISTS.

The electors lists are not yet complete in the majority of the Communes under Italian administration. The latest figures furnished by the Italian Government give a partial picture of the position as at 31 August 1945, as follows:

Total number of Communes under Italian jurisdiction	3,351
Total number of Communes reported on by the Government	2,628
Number of lists which have been approved by Electoral Commissions	319(Male and female)

This is 6% of the lists from Communes reported on by the Italian Government. No corresponding figures are yet available for Military Government Territory inasmuch as the preparation of the lists did not begin until 15 July.
The only guide that can be used to estimate the time that it will take to compile the electoral registers in the North is the experience in the South. As has been indicated above, lists were begun in the Southern part of ITALY in February and now, seven months later they have been completed in only a small percentage of the territory. Lists in the North were begun in July and presumably will take at least five months therefrom to complete, perhaps longer.

1622

8. DELAYING FACTORS.

Some of the factors which are delaying the completion of the compilation of the Electoral Registers are the following:
(a) Extension of the time limits. The law provides that communes may request and be granted extensions of time for the commencement of the compilation of the Electoral Registers for reasons due to the exigencies of war, principally the destruction of records. In Southern ITALY there has been much damage, as a result of which many communes began the actual compilation of lists a long time after others. In territory under Allied control a stern attitude has been taken in the granting of extensions as a result of which only 67 Communes out of 3 625 have been granted extensions.
(b) Return of Penal Certificates. Copies of electoral lists must be sent to Provinces in which the persons named therein were born in order to be checked in the criminal registries of the Province. Extracts of such criminal records are then sent back with the lists to the originating commune. Inasmuch as the registries of 14 Provinces have been destroyed as a result of the war, extracts of criminal records must be sought from the Central Criminal Registry in ROME. The inefficient functioning of that office has provided a bottle-neck in the completion of the lists as a result of which, according to its Manager, they do not hope to complete their registers until the end of November. Representations have been made by the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission to the Prime Minister concerning the conditions found and suggestions have been offered for their improvement to the end that this bottle-neck be eliminated. Fortunately,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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(c) Work of the Electoral Commissions. Some delay has been incurred in the completion of the tasks of these Commissions due to the lack of judicial personnel, but principally due to the delay on the part of the Criminal Registries to send the lists to the proper authorities with extracts of penal certificates.

9. REVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM.

The Italian Government has not yet decided what kinds of elective local bodies and officials are to be set up. Obviously elections cannot be held until people know whom and what they are to vote for. In June 1945 the Ministry of the Interior

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

published a project for this purpose. It envisages the re-establishment of the elective Communal and Provincial Councils provided for in the pre-Fascist local government law of 1915. The project is merely a technical study, submitted for consideration by the appropriate authorities in the Italian Government and is not necessarily the one that will ultimately be adopted, nor the only one to be considered. Any proposal for the establishment of local authorities has to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

10. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR LOCAL ELECTIONS.

The above mentioned project also contains a procedure for voting at local elections likewise based on the local government Law of 1915. The Allied Commission has made representations to the Italian Government (both to the ROMOMI and PARRI Governments) criticising the methods of voting as provided for in the Electoral Law of 1915 and suggesting that this Law be amended. The points raised were:

(i) No prior nomination of candidates is provided:
(ii) No official printed ballots by the state:
(iii) No guarantee against electioneering at the polls:
(iv) No provision for voting by soldiers and non-commissioned officers while on service, although this right is afforded officers.

No response has been received from the Italian Government with regard to these criticisms, although the Allied Commission has recently been informed by the Minister of the Consultative Assembly that the criticisms would be submitted for consideration by the Council of Ministers.

11. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS.

No indication has been received from the Italian Government as to the voting procedure they propose to adopt for any national legislative body. The Minister for the Constituent Assembly has, however, established a Commission in his Ministry to study this subject and in particular the last pre-Fascist law as to the national elections, that of 1919. Any Laws as to elections for the national legislature will also have to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

12. PRIORITY OF LOCAL OR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

It should be noted that the Italian Government has not decided whether national elections will precede local or vice versa. However, it will be possible to hold local elections at various dates as parts of the country, particularly in Southern and Central ITALY, have completed the necessary preparatory work. The holding of national elections, however, will necessarily be dependent upon the completion of all preparations in all parts of ITALY. No elections can be held until decisions have been made on the foregoing important questions of local government system, voting procedure at local elections and voting procedure at national elections.

13. MECHANICS FOR VOTING.

No difficulty is expected in connection with provided urns, booths, stamps and premises, in spite of the lack of material. It has been stated that the actual making of urns and booths will be completed by the end of October in Central and Southern ITALY. Allied Force Headquarters has ordered the making available for the [illegible] requisitioned by the military. The work of [illegible] should not be

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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No response has been received from the Italian Government with regard to these criticisms, although the Allied Commission has recently been informed by the Minister of the Consultative Assembly that the criticisms would be submitted for consideration by the Council of Ministers.

11. VOTING PROCEDURE FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS.

No indication has been received from the Italian Government as to the voting procedure they propose to adopt for any national legislative body. The Minister for the Constituent Assembly has, however, established a Commission in his Ministry to study this subject and in particular the last pre-Fascist law as to the national elections, that of 1919. Any Law as to elections for the national legislature will also have to be submitted for the opinion of the National Consultative Assembly.

12. PRIORITY OF LOCAL OR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

It should be noted that the Italian Government has not decided whether national elections will precede local or vice versa. However, it will be possible to hold local elections at various dates as parts of the country, particularly in Southern and Central ITALY, have completed the necessary preparatory work. The holding of national elections, however, will necessarily be dependent upon the completion of all preparations in all parts of ITALY. No elections can be held until decisions have been made on the foregoing important questions of local government system, voting procedure at local elections and voting procedure at national elections.

13. MECHANICS FOR VOTING.

No difficulty is expected in connection with provided urns, booths, stamps and premises, in spite of the lack of material. It has been stated that the actual making of urns and booths will be completed by the end of October in Central and Southern ITALY. Allied Force Headquarters has ordered the making available for the holding of elections of premises requisitioned by the military. The work of dividing the communes into voting districts is proceeding on time and should not be a factor for delay of the elections.

14. ESTIMATED ELECTORATE.

It is estimated that of the total population of 43,000,000 in the country, 28,000,000 will be put on the Electoral Registers of 1945. Of these, 15,000,000 are women. By way of comparison it may be noted that at the last General Election held in 1921, based upon the 1920 electoral list, 11,500,000 or 31% of the total population were registered and approximately 6,500,000 took part in the election. The lists for 1945 are more than double the 1921 lists because for the first time women will have the right to vote.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

24 November 1945

DAILY BULLETIN)
:
NUMBER 320)

1. NIGHT STAFF DUTY OFFICER:

a. The Headquarters Night Staff Duty Officer for SATURDAY, 24 November 1945, will be Capt J. V. VELLA, and can be located in Room 20, Ground Floor, Ministero delle Corporazioni Building, telephone - Ext. 405.

b. The Night Staff Duty Clerk for SATURDAY, 24 November 1945, Cpl J. R. Grimes, will report to the Asst Adjutant, Room 20, Ground Floor, at 1200 hours, and to the Duty Officer, in Room 20, Ground Floor, at 1800 hours.

c. The Headquarters Night Staff Duty Officer for SUNDAY, 25 November 1945, will be Major C.G.R. WILLIAMS and can be located in Room 20, Ground Floor Ministero delle Corporazioni Building, telephone - Ext 405.

d. The Night Staff Duty Clerk for SUNDAY, 25 November 1945, Pte N. W. Barnes, will report to the Asst Adjutant, Room 20, Ground Floor, at 1600 hours, on SATURDAY, and to the Duty Officer, in Room 20, Ground Floor, at 1800 hours, on SUNDAY (Adj)

2. CORRESPONDENCE WITH FRENCH AUTHORITIES:

All correspondence addressed from any Section of the Commission to French Authorities will in future be channelled through the Office of the French Representative, Room 30, Third Floor, and a copy of all such correspondence will be sent to that Office. (Executive Commissioner)

3. PROMOTIONS (US):

The following promotions in the 2675th Regiment have been announced by Headquarters, MTOUSA, effective 17 November 1945.

1621

LT COL to COL	JOHN S. ARNOLD, 0245277, Inf
MAJ to LT COL	ELIOT J. BOCCHINO, 0377876, Inf
	FRED O. MAVIS, 0252797, Inf
	HARCLD V. REILLY, 0524473, Inf (2675th Regt)

3. SIGNAL - THEFT OF TELEPHONES:

Numerous telephones have been stolen from offices in this building within the past few weeks. The majority of the instruments were removed during the lunch hour. To assist in preventing the theft of instruments it is reccomended that either a system of charge of quarters be established, or offices be locked, as these are the only ways in which these thefts can be stopped. It is requested that when telephones are missing, the Signal Office, Extension 229, be immediately notified. It is also requested that any officer noticing anyone carrying a telephone, stop such a person and demand his card (specifying that the bearer is an official installer), as the only personnel allowed officially to handle a telephone in this building possess such a card. Cooperation of all concerned is requested. (Signal Sec)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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4. PAY - CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES:

Officers designated for the payment of civilian employees in their respective Section and Sub-Commission, should hand in to G-1 Civilian Personnel, payroll for the period November 16 - November 30/1945.

Not later than NOON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 28th.

Paying Office, Room 3, Ground Floor, will be open from 0900 hours to 1200 hours only on MONDAY DECEMBER 3rd for the purpose of issuing funds for the above. All requests for cash must enumerate the denominations into which Lire should be divided.

All payrolls must be returned to the paying Office by WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5th 1945. (Office Space Section)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Daily Bulletin, #320, Hq Allied Commission, dated 24 November 1945, Cont'd:

5. MEAL TICKETS - CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES:

Booklets of meal tickets at a cost of Lire 225 per book covering the period 1 - 15 December 1945 will be on sale in Room 10, Ground Floor, on Monday 26 November 1945, between the hours 0900 to 1200 and 1400 to 1700, and Tuesday, 27 November 1945 between the hours 0900 to 1200 and 1400 to 1700. Sub-Commission, Branches etc. will render nominal rolls in DUPLICATE to the above Office and should include civilian employees who may be absent on the above days but who wish to partake of the meal.

Heavy Laborers: Sub-Commissions, Branches etc, who have employees classified for heavy laborers' meal will draw booklets for such employees at a cost of Lire 120 per booklet for male and Lire 75 per booklet for female employees.

Payroll Charges: All employees purchasing booklets will be charged through payrolls the sum of Lire 5 and Lire 9 for office personnel and laborers respectively.

Independent Organizations:

Such organizations who have employees not paid out of Allied Commission funds will pay the sum of Lire 20 per day for office personnel. Male employees in the heavy laborer class will pay the sum of lire 17 per day and female personnel the sum of Lire 14 per day.

POSITIVELY NO booklets will be sold outside the above dates and times.

(Office Space Sec)

6. SPARE DESK LAMPS:

A survey made in a few offices of this building indicate that there may be several lamps that are not being used. On the other hand, there are many requests for desk lamps, which are urgently needed, but which cannot be supplied. Will anyone having a desk lamp not in use please turn it in to the Office Space Section, so it may be handled over to somebody who really needs it.

(Office Space Sec)

7. USE OF CLUBS AND CANTEENS BY FOREIGN-BORN WIVES OF BRITISH MILITARY PERSONNEL:

1. It has been decided that wives of British Military personnel may be admitted to Clubs, Hotels irrespective of their previous nationality.
2. Admission cards are required.
3. Application for the issue of admission cards may be as follows:
   a. By Officers for their wives to enter Service Women's Clubs and Hotels, to Headquarters Commandant.
   b. By ORs for their wives to enter CWW Clubs & Canteens - to O.C. Brit. Det.

(G-1 (B))

8. CHRISTMAS 1945 - POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS (BRITISH PERSONNEL):

GRO 1140/45 is reproduced below for information.

1. The latest dates on which correspondence may be posted at British APOs in the CMF to ensure delivery by Christmas day, 1945, are shown at Appendix "A" to this GRO. The information will be exhibited.

2. Christamas Cards must be enclosed in covers and the latter sealed. Envelopes containing Christmas Cards should be endorsed "Christmas Cards." The car should not exceed 6" x 5" in size and 1 oz in weight.

3. It is emphasized that parcels and packets which are not securely packe are likely to be lost or damaged. Wherever possible articles should be inclosed in boxes of rigid construction.

4. Personnel who are unlikely to be in CMF during the Christmas period

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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4. Personnel who are unlikely to be in CMF during the Christmas period, owing to Release, PYTHON, leave, etc. should notify their correspondents to this effect in order to prevent mail arriving for them during their absence.
5. The facilities and regulations relating to the Postal Services remain unaltered during the Christmas period.
6. In order to assist in obtaining prompt deliveries of mail both in CMF and UK correspondence of all classes should be posted as early as possible.

(Appendix "A" to GRO 1140/45):

CHRISTMAS MAIL - 1945

Latest Dates of Posting at British APOs in CMF for delivery by Christmas Day.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Correspondence addressed to	Parcels	Letter Packets	Surface Letters	Air Mail
United Kingdom	23 November	30 November	6 December	10 December
Australia	2 October	11 October	11 October	27 November
New Zeland	25 September	5 October	5 October	27 November
India & Ceylon	27 October	27 October	27 October	4 December
South Africa	10 October	26 October	26 October	5 December
Canada	8 November	16 November	16 November	5 December
USA	8 November	16 November	16 November	5 December

Christmas Cards must be enclosed in covers, the latter should be sealed and not exceed 6 x 5 ins in size.

Parcels must be packed carefully, enclosed in strong container and securely tied.

Letter Packets containing merchandise, and all parcels, whether sent by registered or unregistered post, must bear on the outside an accurate description of the contents and the value of each item enclosed. (To be repeated in Regional Orders). (G-1 (B))

8. OFFICERS' P.X. The Officers' P.X., 2675th Regt, Allied Commission, will issue Ration #5 ONE WEEK'S RATIONS ONLY, during the current week, due to change in schedule of Warehouse issues. Thereafter the regular two weeks' issue will be resumed. (2675th Regt)

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

JOSEPH GALLUZZO
WOJG, USA
Asst Adjutant

OFFICIAL: Joseph Galluzzo
JOSEPH GALLUZZO
WOJG, USA
Asst Adjutant

1620

DISTRIBUTION:
"D"

254/607

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 1945

1019

Ref. 824/EC

1 November 1945

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 1945

1019

1 November 1945

Ref. 824/20

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

AUGUST 1945

I N D E X

	POLITICAL SUMMARY	1
PART I	- REGIONAL REPORTS	2 - 9
	Liguria Region	2
	Lombardia Region	2 - 3
	Piemonte Region	3 - 4
	Venezia Region	4
	AMG XIII Corps	5
	AMG Naples Commune	5 - 6
	AMG Livorno Zone	6
	Bari & Southeast Italy	6 - 7
	Sardinia	7
	Sicily	7 - 8
	Ancona	8
	Bologna	8 - 9
PART II	- CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION	10 - 14
	Mine Clearance	10
	Local Government Subcommission	10
	Education Subcommission	10 - 11
	Legal Subcommission	11
	Public Health Subcommission	11 - 12
	Public Safety Subcommission	12 - 13
	Patriots Branch	13
	Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives S/c	13
	Displaced Persons & Repatriation S/c	13 - 14
PART III	- ECONOMIC SECTION	15 - 19
	Agriculture Subcommission	15
	Commerce Subcommission	15 - 16
	Finance Subcommission	16
	Food Subcommission	16 - 17
	Industry Subcommission	17
	Labour Subcommission	17 - 18
	Public Works & Utilities Subcommission	18
	Transportation Subcommission	18 - 19
PART IV	- PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH & INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS	20 - 21
	Public Relations Branch	20
	Navy Subcommission	20
	Land Forces Subcommission, AC, (MMIA)	20
	Air Forces Subcommission	20 - 21
	Communications Subcommission	21
	War Materials Disposal & IPW Subcommission	21

1818

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

PART I - REGIONAL REPORTS ..... 2 - 9
Liguria Region 2
Lombardia Region ..... 2 - 3
Piemonte Region ..... 3 - 4
Venezia Region 4
AMG XIII Corps 5
AMG Naples Commune ..... 5 - 6
AMG Livorno Zone 6
Bari & Southeast Italy ..... 6 - 7
Sardinia 7
Sicily ..... 7 - 8
Ancona 8
Bologna ..... 8 - 9

PART II - CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION ..... 10 - 14
Mine Clearance 10
Local Government Subcommission 10
Education Subcommission ..... 10 - 11
Legal Subcommission 11
Public Health Subcommission ..... 11 - 12
Public Safety Subcommission ..... 12 - 13
Patriots Branch 13
Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives S/c 13
Displaced Persons & Repatriation S/c ..... 13 - 14

PART III - ECONOMIC SECTION ..... 15 - 19
Agriculture Subcommission 15
Commerce Subcommission ..... 15 - 16
Finance Subcommission 16
Food Subcommission ..... 16 - 17
Industry Subcommission 17
Labour Subcommission ..... 17 - 18
Public Works & Utilities Subcommission 18
Transportation Subcommission ..... 18 - 19

PART IV - PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH & INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS. 20 - 21
Public Relations Branch 20
Navy Subcommission 20
Land Forces Subcommission, AC, (MMIA) 20
Air Forces Subcommission ..... 20 - 21
Communications Subcommission 21
War Materials Disposal & IPW Subcommission .. 21

1918

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

POLITICAL SUMMARY

1. There were few political developments of importance involving ITALY during the month with the exception of the signing of the Armistice between the Allies and the Japanese to which the Italian press gave voice with general feelings of gratification. The President of the Council said that he hoped that the end of the war would mean the release of more tonnage for the transport of food supplies, coal and raw materials to ITALY.

2. Measures for the assistance of Partisans and Repatriates were approved, and also the budgets of the various Ministries. The President of the Council made an important statement on VENEZIA GIULIA on 2 August when he received delegates from the area. He told the delegation that he intended to ask the Allies to review the existi conditions under which the Italian Government are powerless to do anything for the inhabitants of the region, which, until declared otherwise, was still a part of ITALY

3. The National Council of the Christian Democrats met from July 31st to August 3rd. Signor de Gasperi, Secretary General of the party, asserted that the party was desirous for collaboration with SOVIET RUSSIA.

4. Economically the most important news is the restoration of virtually complete freedom of foreign trade to the Italian Government from August 1st with the exception of VENEZIA GIULIA. This has come about as a gradual evolution under the guidance of the Allied Commission. At a meeting of the Council on August 9 and 10 the Ministers approved the proposal for the grant of a wider measure of administrativ autonomy to the VAL D'AOSTA. Relations between the State and the Council have been regulated; certain financial provisions were guaranteed together with the free use of the French language. The control of public waters and mines has also been approve

5. The Council has approved the first list of members of the Consultative Assembly and has passed the decree setting up a commission to study the electoral law which will govern the voting for the Assembly. There was still a good deal of press polemics on the question of whether the elections for the Constituent Assembly should or should not precede the local elections. In the meantime Signor Parri maintained that no progress could be made until the status of ITALY had been finally clarified, and this would inevitably require much time. He insisted that political parties must pledge themselves to a free campaign.

6. Signor Nenni, as Minister in charge of epuration, has decided to turn over to the High Court of Justice for epuration proceedings all Italian senators except those already approved as members of the Concultative Assembly and the new Minister of the Treasury.

7. The Government are very satisfied with the response to the 5% Treasury loan which closed at the end of August.

101

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PART I/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I

REGIONAL REPORTS

LIGURIA REGION

1. The Provinces of LUCCA and APUANIA were turned over to the Italian Government on 4 August with appropriate ceremonies and with many outward expressions of good will towards the Allies. Uncertainty and fear of the economic, social and political future of Italy is still prevalent among thinking and educated people but the Region is slowly returning to normal life; local government shows a continued improvement, and local officials are gaining the respect and confidence of the people

2. The food situation was good during August and the ration scale was maintained. A regular supply of fruit, vegetables and fish was on the open market but prices were very high.

3. With the regular monthly arrival of imported coal and its increased availability in August and also, it is hoped, in September, there were indications everywhere that industrial recovery was gathering momentum and the production programme was beginning to assume large proportions. The Siemens-Martin furnaces located at the ports of entry for coal are well situated for economical production of steel and with sufficient coal will be able to make a real contribution to the economic life of both the Region and Northern ITALY.

4. There were no political demonstrations involving labour and no strikes during the month but there was a further increase in unemployment. At present about 65% of the working population is unemployed.

5. Progress was maintained on the reconstruction of the ports of GENOA, SAVONA and LA SPEZIA. GENOA is now able to accept the original target of 8000 tons a day, sometimes exceeding this figure.

6. Grain collections have been slow and unsatisfactory, only about 700 quintals having been amassed by the end of August. Livestock figures show a reduction of about 50% during the war period.

1016

7. The efficiency and morale of police agencies showed definite improvement and partly as a result of this a number of persons in possession of firearms were arrested. Clothing, equipment and transport are still insufficient but communications and accommodation have been improved. There was a marked decrease in the number of murders, and several arrests have been made. Common theft cases are on the increase. The general security situation is normal, the few demonstrations that there were being mainly protests against the high cost of living.

8. Public health in the Region was good. There is a seasonal prevalence of typhoid fever but the peak was reached during the third week of August and a downward trend is apparent. Relatively heavy rains early in August have restored the water supply and made it possible to eliminate all parts of the water system suspected of being contaminated.

LOMBARDIA REGION

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

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LOMBARDIA REGION

9. All provinces have reported a gradual but steady return to normal life. More confidence was shown in the police agencies whose prestige has been increased by a number of detections and arrests, but the public safety situation in several provinces is not satisfactory. Press reports are exaggerated but there is apprehension among the population on the state of public safety when the Allies withdraw. The prison position was virtually unchanged and was by no means satisfactory.

10. Progress has been made on the economic side. Commencing on 22 August a daily train of 28 tankers was put into operation carrying wine between BRINDISI and MILAN. An average of 30 tons a day of war hemp was furnished the LOMBARDIA spinning mills and 9200 tons of lignite were mined at VAL GANDINO mines during the month, representing 75% of the normal production. The Portovaltravaglia factory near MILAN

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

will start production of about 4000 square meters of window glass daily in September. Comparatively few disputes involving stoppage of work were reported during August but there were further indications of labour unrest over wage rates and high living costs. The electric power situation was good and power loads are increasing; rationing may, however, be necessary in January and February of 1946 if the gas plants are not put into operation. A reserve of about 1700 tons of imported grain and 250 tons of imported flour has been stocked for the Region but exporting Provinces have not met their consignment obligations. The wheat estimate for LOMBARDIA was 1,750,000 quintals of which 831,487 had been collected by 25 August. Rains during the month have considerably improved forage and late corn production and the rice crop in particular shows promise.

11. Public health on the whole has been good but there have been sporadic cases of typhoid fever mainly due to water shortage and the consequent use of polluted streams. Total vaccination is being carried out throughout the Region. 15,000 mufflers were distributed without charge to hospitals and institutions in MILAN City and some provinces, and continued assistance is being given to the new Ministry of Post War Assistance and other Italian welfare agencies in re-establishing their work in LOMBARDIA Region.

12. 97,945 refugees and displaced persons passed through LOMBARDIA camps during August, of which 43,800 were internees from Southwest GERMANY and FRANCE received through CHIASSO. In all, 184,205 persons have been recorded in the Region, of which 58,897 were ex-PWs who have now been demobilized.

13. 134 cases were disposed of by the Extraordinary Courts of Assize during the month, 14 death sentences being imposed, three of which were executed. Advantage is being taken of D.L.L. 234 to convene a special court for dealing with cases of armed robbery. Sentences of 23-25 years were imposed on 4 youths convicted last week. AMG courts are functioning normally.

PIEMONTE REGION

1015

14. Various political parties were active during the month and the jockeying for position amongst the parties undoubtedly detracted from the general efforts towards reconstruction. General feeling towards the Allies has remained favorable and the confused state of Italian politics has increased the desire among a considerable section of the population for the Allies to remain in ITALY.

15. The food situation was good and the ration has been maintained; in addition, large quantities of fruit and vegetables were made available.

16. The amassing figures have shown improvement. Large quantities of wheat are being collected and the public and officials are now beginning to realize their responsibility in this matter.

17. Labour offices continued to gain the confidence of the employers and organized labour, and it is due to their activities in the conciliation of labour controversies that a number of strikes have been avoided and labour relations have remained, on the whole, amicable throughout the Region.

18. The latest unemployment returns show the following figures: registered unemployed, 18,712; surplus workers (schedule less than 40 hours weekly), 178,596; surplus workers (in excess of 48 hours weekly), 103,799.

19. Progress in housing is far from satisfactory. The material situation is, as last month, still a great handicap and the Sindaci of the various communes are not sufficiently aggressive to force the various ward to give up the materials. Dealers

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

streams. Total vaccination is being carried out throughout the Region. 15,000 mufflers were distributed without charge to hospitals and institutions in MILAN City and some provinces, and continued assistance is being given to the new Ministry of Pos War Assistance and other Italian welfare agencies in re-establishing their work in LOMBARDIA Region.

12. 97,945 refugees and displaced persons passed through LOMBARDIA camps during August, of which 43,800 were internees from Southwest GERMANY and FRANCE received through CHIASSO. In all, 184,205 persons have been recorded in the Region, of which 58,897 were ex-PWs who have now been demobilized.

13. 134 cases were disposed of by the Extraordinary Courts of Assize during the month, 14 death sentences being imposed, three of which were executed. Advantage is being taken of D.L.L. 234 to convene a special court for dealing with cases of armed robbery. Sentences of 23-25 years were imposed on 4 youths convicted last week. All courts are functioning normally.

PIEMONTE REGION

1015

14. Various political parties were active during the month and the jockeying for position amongst the parties undoubtedly detracted from the general efforts towards reconstruction. General feeling towards the Allies has remained favorable and the confused state of Italian politics has increased the desire among a considerable section of the population for the Allies to remain in ITALY.

15. The food situation was good and the ration has been maintained; in addition, large quantities of fruit and vegetables were made available.

16. The amassing figures have shown improvement. Large quantities of wheat are being collected and the public and officials are now beginning to realize their responsibility in this matter.

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19. Progress in housing is far from satisfactory. The material situation is, as last month, still a great handicap and the Sindaci of the various communes are not sufficiently aggressive to force the various yards to give up the material. Dealers are reluctant to sell since the market is rising.

20. Practically all electric plants, lines and sub-stations in PIEMONTE which were damaged have been repaired and such repairs that have not as yet been finished, should be completed within a month.

21. There has been a marked reduction in crime but cases of robbery and hold-u are still numerous. Determined efforts by police to effect arrests are meeting with some success. 3500 pairs of boots, 1,000 blankets and other equipment were secured during the month for the CCRR in the Region and each serving member will shortly be provided with an automatic weapon. The local military commander, who is rendering

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

valuable assistance in public safety work, has attached a truck with wireless equipment at each of the six isolated CCRR stations. Contact is being kept with troops who assist CCRR in dealing with bandits and serious crime in which firearms are used. A large number of arrests has been made. Special courts of assize tried 136 cases. There were 9 death sentences and 38 acquittals and 14 cases were continued or transferred. There were various disturbances at sittings of special courts of assize but police action avoided serious trouble.

22. The health of the population is good but there has been a substantial increase in the number of typhoid fever and tuberculosis cases.

VENEZIA REGION

23. There was considerable activity among the political parties but all have shown reasonable restraint. Relations between AMG, Prefects and C.L.N. continued to run smoothly and all provinces report an improvement in public morale. There were still many cases of armed banditry but these were nearly all based upon motives of robbery, the political killings and vendetta murders having noticeably declined. The signs, apparent by the end of the month, that further British troops would move into the area for the autumn, had a further steadying effect. The condition and morale of the carabinieri and other police agencies continues however to be a matter of concern and clothing, boots and equipment are still in very short supply.

24. The compilation of electoral lists is proceeding slowly but satisfactorily.

25. On the economic side progress has been made. More shops were re-opened and more goods appeared for sale, usually at high prices. There was, however, no sign of an upward curve in prices: fruit and vegetables prices were steady throughout the month and in some cases declined. Distribution of food proceeded normally but both salt and firewood were in short supply. The limitations of the allocation of coal will seriously reduce the activity of the cement, fertilizer, metallurgical, glass and food processing industries with resulting unemployment.

26. Good progress was made in the clearing of bomb damage and in repairing roads and bridges. Many further rebuilding projects were approved and will be commenced shortly: it is hoped that these projects will contribute substantially towards solving the problem of unemployment which is assuming serious proportions especially in TREVISO, BELLUNO and UDINE Provinces. This problem is aggravated by the return of ex-POWs from GERMANY but there were no serious labour disturbances during August.

27. Considerable improvement was effected in the amassing of grain but the region's food supply was badly affected by a cyclonic storm of unusual violence which swept across the Provinces of TREVISO, VICENZA and VERONA on the 8th of August, doing great damage to the maize crop and to the vines and fruit trees. The damage caused by this storm and a previous one which took place on 30 June is estimated at 1,337,000,000 lire.

28. Particular attention is being given to the strengthening of provincial agricultural committees which are now functioning well in most provinces: their value has been fully demonstrated by the improvement in the amassing figures. Forage production was greatly advanced by recent rains and the region as a whole should produce sufficient for its requirements. The grape harvest shows every indication of being of average production and of better quality than usual.

29. 58 Superior and 253 Summary Courts have been held. The majority of the former are for possession of arms and sentences have stiffened. The latter are

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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29. 58 Superior and 253 Summary Courts have been held. The majority of the former are for possession of arms and sentences have stiffened. The latter are mostly for wrongful possession of WD property.

30. The health of the population has been good although a few cases of typhoid and paratyphoid fever, dysentery and malaria have been reported.

31. Owing to the nearness of the debated ground and to the presence in VENICE of a number of refugees from ISTRIA, the question of VENEZIA GIULIA always remains a topic of strong local feeling. The majority of the people spoken to will be prepared to agree to the handing back to YUGOSLAVIA of a major part of Slovene-speaking VENEZIA GIULIA provided always that the Italian character of TRIESTE be fully maintained. There are, of course, others who insist on the retention of what they call "ITALY's natural frontiers."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

32. Political activity during the month has been largely aimed at non-coöperation with Allied Military Government. Local government has, since the enforcement of the plan for re-organization under General Order No. 11, met with innumerable difficulties from the Slovene and Communist parties but the situation is clearing in view of the firm stand taken by the AMG in this matter.

33. The functions of the Civil Police Force are still being carried out by Allied Provost units but every effort is being made to equip and clothe the Civil Police which is in process of forming. There have been few public disturbances and little crime or rioting; six murders have been reported of which only one appears to be political.

34. The ration situation remains stable but meat is very scarce and the meat ration will have to be discontinued unless further supplies become available. At 30 August 600 tons grain, 768 tons flour and 2655 tons of mixed supplies were on hand but the amassing programme is proceeding unsatisfactorily and the Slovene element is openly obstructive over the amassing regulations, little more than half of the target figure of 10,000 quintals having been collected to date. Great hardship is caused through lack of forage, much of which has to be imported in this area. The Land Reclamation Project, much publicized in the local press, continued to progress.

35. The labour situation is greatly affected by internal trade union disorder and by lack of employment and raw materials. Rehabilitation programmes are being put into operation and it is hoped that this work will absorb many unemployed. Considerable progress is being made in the maintenance and repair of roads, bridges and TRIESTE harbour, while pill-boxes and road blocks are being rapidly demolished. The Bomb Disposal Squad is actively engaged and working very satisfactorily.

36. Public health has been good and there is a complete absence of any serious epidemic. The local administration is, however, still very bad and certain committees, such as Maternity and Child Welfare, are virtually at a standstill. Substantial medical supplies have been received during the month from Allied sources.

37. Between 1st and 26th August 11,647 persons passed through the Refugee Centres, of which 6,579 were displaced civilians and 5,068 Italian PWs. The main problem at the moment is the disposition of the "stateless" Italian civilians whose homes are in that part of VENEZIA GIULIA occupied by the Yugoslav authorities. A holding centre for them is going to be established in the north of ITALY.

38. 243 charges, involving 213 accused, were heard by Summary Court and 31 persons were tried by the Superior Courts; 81% of these charges arose from disagreements of a political or national nature. Epuration continued and 1444 completed Scheda Personale have been received by the Commission. With the exception of those in GORIZIA, civil courts are holding regular sessions.

39. The telephone circuit to FIUME and all towns in Zone "B" and to POLA ceased to function having been cut off by Yugoslavs.

40. News is being disseminated from Allied Military Government, VENEZIA GIULIA at an increasing rate. Weekly radio programmes are to begin in Slovene and Italian early next month. The press conferences held once a week have proved extremely successful and have received much favorable comment in the area.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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AMG NAPLES COMMUNE

41. The end of the war with JAPAN provoked little comment amongst the people of NAPLES. There has been little political activity during the month but there was some agitation among returned PWs and other refugees assembled in NAPLES and clearance projects have been accelerated to give these men employment.

42. The first amassi returns were poor as compared to the amount amassed by the same date last year. These poor returns are not only due to the drought which has damaged many crops but also to the farmers who are demanding increases in price.

43. Salvaged garments and boots and material for the repair of 50.000 pairs of boots have been handed over to the Italian Government I.C.E.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

44. There is much discontent and uneasiness among the working population caused by the employment of large numbers of German PWs in NAPLES. There were 16 strikes lasting only one to three days during the month: the majority of these strikes were for increases in pay and there were no incidents.

45. The water situation is becoming more acute particularly as the civilian population have no sense of water discipline and storage in NAPLES is inadequate.

46. Prisons are still overcrowded.

47. There has been a marked decrease in smallpox and typhoid cases during the month.

48. Hospital staffs struck for higher wages. The strike lasted 48 hours.

49. Truck pools are working satisfactorily under Italian Government control, and a cut in military allotments has eased the shortage of rail cars.

AMG LIVORNO ZONE

50. All political parties are actively carrying on their propaganda, holding numerous conferences and public assemblies. All political meetings have been orderly and well disciplined.

51. The full use and expansion of economic resources has been retarded mainly because of the lack of raw materials and fuel, principally coal.

52. The food situation has been unsatisfactory. There were fewer non-ration foods ther last year on the market due to the drought and the fruit and olive crop have also suffered from lack of rain. Tillage has been prevented by extensive mines Arassing estimates showed that the crop will fall about 40% below the figures shown last year.

53. There has been an improvement in the electric and gas services and in the water supply although in the case of the latter the situation in PISA and LIVORNO is still critical.

54. Road blocks, check points and roving motorbicycle patrols in the LIVORNO zone made up of military police, carabinieri, and other public safety agencies and Allied army units were successful in rounding up 4 counterfeit operators, holding over 5,000,000 lire in forged currency, 12 fugitives from justice, and 2 escaped German PWs: several persons in possession of WD property were also arrested.

55. Over 25,000 displaced persons passed through the LIVORNO Refugee Staging area during the past month.

56. A few cases of undulant and typhoid fever have been reported but public health in the Region has otherwise been normal. 1012

BARI AND SOUTH EAST ITALY (From A.C. Liaison Officer BARI)

57. There has been little political activity in the area during the month. All prefects were satisfied with the preparations of electoral lists for the coming elections but the greater part of the population took little interest in the proceedings.

58. Rations are being regularly distributed in all provinces but there is a

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58. Rations are being regularly distributed in all provinces but there is a scarcity of fats both for cooking and eating. Farmers are reluctant to amass their grain this year on the pretext that the Government price is insufficient. Olive trees and vines have suffered from the drought and the shortage of fodder for cattle continued. The price of hay and straw is now prohibitive.

59. There is a serious unemployment problem: farmers are reluctant to employ additional men and in some cases whole farms have been forcibly occupied by labourers and peasants in the villages.

60. Details of the disturbances at MATERA and FERRANDINO during the first five days of August are reported on page 12. There seems to be little political significance in these disturbances and they were staged chiefly as a protest against

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

he amassing of grain, the issue of ration cards and the inadequate measures existing for the relief of the unemployed.

61. There has been a brisk revival in the wine trade and ships and trains are carrying thousands of tons of wine from the BARI area to Northern ITALY.

62. Public health has been good.

SARDINIA (From A.C. Liaison Officer SARDINIA)

63. Political parties are active in their preparations for the forthcoming elections. In the Communes few able men take political appointments owing to the present unstable political situation and poor financial conditions.

64. Numerous demonstrations were held on the island for increased public works to relieve unemployment. The Ministers of Public Works and Post-War Relief arrived to investigate conditions. Public works projects designed to employ large numbers of workers are already being carried out and many unemployed are being absorbed in this work.

65. Owing to the continued drought and hot winds, crops have matured irregularly and many have been severely damaged. During August, 1,417 head of cattle, 568 horses and 2,421 sheep were exported to the mainland but the only food stock available for export was cheese. 53,238 tons of Sulcis coal were mined, compared to the July figure of 50,091 tons, and of this, 37,670 tons were exported. Exports for the month, excluding coal, totalled 1,307 tons. Imports amounted to 842 tons.

66. Public safety and public health conditions on the island were satisfactory.

67. Transportation facilities between SARDINIA and the mainland have been improved and during the month approximately 1,000 refugees were returned to their homes in SARDINIA from the mainland. Due to a shortage of pastures and forage, it has not been possible to build a staging area at OLBIA for livestock en route to the mainland, and often the sailing dates of the cattle ship are not communicated in time to transport to the port a sufficient number of animals: therefore, shipments for August were not up to expectations, as the ship often sailed half-empty.

68. There was some trouble among the workers brought from the mainland to work in the coal mines, and it was considered better to return some of them to their homes.

1011

SICILY (From A.C. Liaison Officers CATANIA and PALERMO)

69. Separatist headquarters in both CATANIA and PALERMO have been closed but, in spite of a decline in popular support, the movement continues to publish a considerable quantity of clandestine literature. It is not believed, however, that separatism is a strong political factor or a real menace to the present government of SICILY. There is more reason for anxiety at the political indifference of SICILY's presumably better educated citizens, which would seem to be a clear call to the more patriotic working-class citizens to assume political control.

70. There has been no general reduction in the cost of living in spite of the good supply of local fruits and vegetables and its tendency to increase, especially with the approach of winter, is a continued source of popular dissatisfaction. The grave water shortage has not seriously reduced the production of tomatoes, fruit and vegetables but the grain harvest, as reported last month, has been greatly reduced by the drought and farmers are reluctant to sell their grain to the ammaso at a price less than the cost of production.

71. There have been more cases of malaria and typhoid fever during August

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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71. There have been more cases of malaria and typhoid fever during August than for many months past but other than this the health of the population appears to be satisfactory.

72. The economic situation is deteriorating due to the continued shortage of raw materials and lack of coal. Many plants have been obliged to reduce output so many employees are out of work. The labour market has been further disrupted by the return of servicemen and prisoners, and Provincial Labour Offices report over 40,000

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

registered unemployed in Eastern SICILY alone. There have been few industrial disputes and no strikes during August.

73. Reconstruction work is being expanded in an effort to reduce unemployment. Over one milliard and a half lire have been allotted by the Government for public works in SICILY. The health of the population has remained fairly good and there have been no epidemics.

74. Public safety remains the most urgent problem, delinquency is on the increase and country districts are infested with armed bands who resort to robbery, kidnapping, and extortion. The Italian Police authorities are not powerful enough and have not enough men or arms to combat this situation, which can be attributed to adverse economic conditions, unemployment, and unrest in agricultural areas. The public have no respect for authority or the administrative officials. A train was held up at I[illegible]a by 50 bandits, armed with rifles, sub-machine guns and hand grenades. The passengers were robbed of everything, and the shooting resulted in deaths and injuries.

ANCONA (From A.C. Liaison Officer)

75. On August 4th the Commune of ANCONA was handed over to the administration of the Italian Government but as the military situation in ANCONA remains unchanged AMG courts have been retained.

76. The food supply was satisfactory, and the distribution of rationed commodities was regularly maintained.

77. Unemployment increased but a scheme for reconstruction of the city is being prepared: it is expected that all surplus labour will be absorbed when this scheme is in operation.

78. Public health remained at a high level despite shortage of water and over-crowding. Health services are functioning satisfactorily.

BOLOGNA (From A.C. Liaison Officer) 1610

79. There has been no increase in political activity during the month, although the parties are undoubtedly preparing for the elections. It is reported that the Communist Party is losing ground while the Socialists have gained the confidence of the population. The preparation of electoral lists is progressing and the latest date for their completion given by any prefect is the end of October.

80. The food situation is satisfactory, although sugar and fats are in short supply and prices for food remain high. Owing to the prolonged drought, this year's vintage will be well below normal in quantity but the wine will be of excellent quality. Amassing is proceeding satisfactorily. The total amassed to date is 1,605,105 quintals or 84.6% of the expected total.

81. The unemployment problem was not critical but will become increasingly serious as the farm work decreases with the winter months and more labour returns from GERMANY. Lack of coal for industry and the fact that employers will not be continuing to pay employees who are not working after 30 September will further aggravate the problem.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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82. The public works situation was satisfactory but it is feared that the reconstruction of the bridge over the Po in PIACENZA Province will not be completed this year. The high water may render the present pontoon bridge unusable.

83. There has been an increase in the number of cases of armed robbery, 63 cases having been reported. Arrests have been made in 11 instances.

84. The morale of the carabinieri improved considerably but they were still lacking in numbers, transport and POL. A mobile battalion is being formed and 14 tanks have been supplied for this purpose. There is a continual demand in the press and in speeches that partisans be recruited into the police agencies.

85. One case of typhus was reported in the refugee camp at BOLOGNA and there have been a few cases of typhoid and an increase of malaria in FERRARA Province due

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

to flooding; with these exceptions public health was good.

86. 65,231 refugees passed through the Region during August. Conditions in the camps have improved and general health remained good.

87. Road and rail communication throughout the Region improved. Telecommunications are improving and the posts operated satisfactorily.

1809

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

XEROX

PART II

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

HQFC 8/45 WR

Mine Clearance

1. Mine clearance in ITALY is now mainly confined to Italian Government territory where the Italian Government are continuing the work started by AC/AMG. There is however a number of mines in LIGURIA Region where civilians and one company of Italian Engineers are operating.

2. Detailed maps of German minefields in Italian territory have now been received and these should speed up mine clearance work and reduce casualties. These map records will eventually be handed over to the Italian Ministry of War.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMISSION

3. The Italian Government is at present selecting the Presidents of the Provincial Commissions which are to be set up in AMG territory to decide the disfranchisement of alleged Fascists. Instructions have been issued for the appointment of the other two members who, with the President, constitute the Commission in each province. They will be nominated by the First President of the Court of Appeal from a list of popular judges and then formally appointed by order of the Provincial Commissioner.

4. A representative of the Allied Commission visited the Office of the Penal and Judicial Records (Casellario Giudiziale Centrale) in ROME and reported that conditions there were chaotic and the system employed archaic. The work is particularly difficult owing to the damage and loss of records through war and the fact that much of the population is scattered and the reported inefficient functioning of the Casellario Giudiziale Centrale may ultimately affect the date on which elections can be held. The matter is being taken up with the Italian Government.

5. Extensions of the time limit for the preparation of electoral lists have been granted to 67 Communes in AMG territory; the maximum period of extension granted was 30 days.

6. The Italian Government have completed the appointment of the great majority of the members of the National Consultative Assembly ("CONSULTA"). The relevant Italian decrees include provisions for the appointment of 6 "Consultori" to represent VENEZIA GIULIA. These decrees have not been implemented in VENEZIA GIULIA but the US and British Ambassadors have approved that AMG should give sanctio to the implementation of these decrees as an administrative act. A plan for the local government of VENEZIA GIULIA has been approved by C.C.S. The type of government set up under this plan reproduces the Italian system under another name.

EDUCATION SUBCOMMISSION

1608

7. Universities and other higher institutions are now, practically without exception, epurated and re-organized throughout the North. Building repairs are under way for damaged universities and schools in all Regions and projects are drawn up for long-term construction. Epuration of schools in Northern ITALY proceeded under General Order No. 35; in no Region has epuration been completed, but commis-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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8. Owing to lack of fuel, LOMBARDIA and VENEZIA Regions are arranging to ope the autumn term early in order to allow schools to close during the severe weather.

9. Progress has been made toward opening schools in the German language in BOLZANO; Swiss textbooks have been selected and prices for printing obtained from BERNE. The intransigent attitude of the National Liberation Committee in VENEZIA GIULIA is causing difficulties but remarkable progress has been made; arrangements have been made to facilitate the transfer to Italian provinces of teachers who formerly taught in territory now under Yugoslav jurisdiction.

10. AFHQ has completed its survey of school requisitions showing that of 663 schools which were still under requisition on 1 August, 232 will have been derequisitioned by 1 October. An AFHQ Administrative Memorandum is in preparation ordering commanders to derequisition educational facilities at the earliest possible date.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

The worst requisitioning problems are in four provinces in VENEZIE Region; in BOLZANO City every school is partly or wholly occupied.

11. The Allied Commission has presented a detailed study of Italian education, its history and present organization, to the Minister of Education. The plans for a central reference catalogue of all ROME libraries to enable both Italian and foreign students to avail themselves of the rich but scattered and badly catalogued materials progressed satisfactorily.

12. The Minister of Public Instruction has set up a 500,000 lire fund to put into effect an arrangement made with the Library of Congress for purchase of books in AMERICA for Italian universities and libraries to the extent that the Library of Congress can use books to be purchased in ITALY. The British Council has worked out a different plan, setting up a credit of 200,000 pounds sterling in GREAT BRITAIN, balanced by British Council and Embassy expenses in ITALY and earmarked for book purchases through commercial channels. The British Council has also provided four scholarships for Italian students to GREAT BRITAIN and the Minister of Public Instruction has nominated the students. A considerable fund has been raised for scholarships for Italian advanced students who wish to study in the UNITED STATES.

LEGAL SUBCOMMISSION

13. There has been a general decline in the number of AMG court cases throughout all regions. Cases of possession of arms are still numerous and illegal possession of Allied property is prevalent among civilian employees in the port areas. General courts were held dealing with murder and counterfeiting.

14. The Italian courts in the North, though understaffed, are functioning normally.

15. Courts-of-assize procedure was modified, with the approval of the Allied Commission, by DLL No. 466 of 2 August 1945 rendering proceedings more speedy but increasing the amount of personnel needed for bench and the prosecutor's office.

16. RLOs have been instructed to request Italian judicial authorities to transfer trial cases to other courts where local feelings would be likely to prevent impartial justice being done. A number of death sentences have been confirmed by the Minister and CLA and executions have been carried out.

17. The Yugoslav authorities have repeatedly requested that a number of alleged Yugoslav citizens now detained in various jails of ITALY be handed over to them; each case has been given careful consideration but no decision has yet been reached. Yugoslav authorities have been requested to carry out the decisions of the Court of Appeal of TRIESTE affecting persons and property situated in territory under their control.

18. On 10 August the Italian Government sent, at the request of the Allied Commission, a circular to all First Presidents stating that membership of the Fascist Republican Army did not in itself constitute an offence.

19. No general orders were issued during August.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUBCOMMISSION

20. Both the appointment of an Alto Commissario for Public Health and a definition of the functions of this official have been amended by legislative decrees during the month of August.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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21. Up to 27 August, 2,402 sick Italian repatriates had arrived at MERANO. This has been much in excess of schedule and the bed capacity of the Hospital Command is strained to its limits.

22. Only one case of typhus (in a refugee) was notified during August. Smallpox figures both in NAPLES and elsewhere in ITALY have shown a marked decrease.

23. Weekly searches at collecting stations in the TIBER Delta continue to show a very low mosquito density. Although two particular areas have yielded a large increase in figures this is purely relative and causes no concern with regard to malaria transmission.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

24. The infant mortality rates for ROME Communes for July was 99.9 a thousand as compared with 96.9 in June. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis in ROME during July were 238 as compared with 233 in June.

25. The Welfare Branch has now turned over to UNRRA and ENDSI all problems pertaining to the distribution of food and clothing and 217 tons of blankets have been made available by the Commerce Subcommission for distribution. Increasing responsibility for welfare matters is being turned over to the Italian authorities.

26. ENDIMEA has only just completed the distribution of May supplies in Italian Government territory. The supplies in the NAPLES warehouse have been handed over to the Istituto Commercio Estero, the organization designated by the Italian Government for accepting such supplies. With the dissolution of 2.665 Central Civilian Medical Depots no further requisitions for medical supplies for 1946 have been submitted. The future responsibility for Category "B" medical supplies will be accepted by UNRRA and FEA (Foreign Economic Administration).

27. Veterinary -- It was anticipated that the activities of the Veterinary Branch would cease at the end of August and the Italian Government were notified accordingly. Partial distribution of all veterinary supplies was made and the distribution of the remainder will be effected shortly. No further imports of veterinary supplies will take place. There have been no serious outbreaks of communicable disease amongst animals during August.

1006

PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMISSION

28. There has been a definite improvement in Public Safety this month, apart from SICILY and SOUTH ITALY. In SICILY however major crimes were still very frequent the country districts infested with bandits and the percentage of murders very high. There have been no grave public disorders, but robbery with violence, kidnapping and extortion were common occurrences. Good work in breaking up gangs has been done by the Police Force, but other gangs are quickly formed, and there were two hold-ups of a very serious nature at LICATA (details of which appear on page 8) and ENNA. Dissatisfaction has been general, and the police authorities have not enough power, or enough men and arms, to enforce law and order. In SOUTH ITALY too there has been unrest, for in MATERA province there was a disturbance on 1 August, when about 1000 rioters burned several buildings; the prison was forced and prisoners released. About 1500 people cut communications and set fire to Government buildings at FERRANDINO the following day, and one civilian, allegedly Fascist, was killed by the crowd.

29. Even in the newly handed-over EMILIA the public safety situation was not very satisfactory, and there was a considerable increase in armed robbery. The moral of the Carabinieri however has improved considerably, but they still lacked transport POL, and sufficient men to cope with the situation.

30. In LOMBARDIA, VENEZIE, and PIEMONTE there has been some improvement in the maintenance of law and order, and although many serious crimes were committed, public morale remained at a high standard. In LIGURIA there was a marked decrease in the number of murders, and the efficiency and morale of police agencies showed definite improvement, although clothing, equipment and transport were insufficient.

31. The recruiting and training of the Civil Police for VENEZIA GIULIA is proceeding satisfactorily. All applicants, of whom there are about 2,000, are being carefully screened and vetted. 140 recruits are undergoing training at the Public School established and should be fully trained and ready for duty by mid-September. Uniforms and equipment unfortunately are in very short supply. It is interesting to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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32. The Allied Commission during August has been particularly concerned with procuring clothing, arms and equipment for the police agencies. Mobile battalions of carabinieri are being armed and supplied with Italian tanks and British and American Army units are giving training to Carabinieri and their officers in the operation of their new equipment. But there is still a serious lack of proper clothing and

8/45 MR

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

equipment which hampers efficiency, and transport is urgently required by all Carabinieri legions. It is extremely difficult to enforce law and order under these circumstances, and the need for a strong well-equipped Police Force is becoming increasingly evident and of paramount importance.

PATRIOTS BRANCH

33. The Ministry of Post-War Aid has now taken over Patriot work from the Ministry of Occupied Italy. A hospital at TRENTO is to be put into operation solely for Patriot personnel.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES SUBCOMMISSION

34. French impressionist masterpieces by CEZANNE, RENOIR, MONET, SISLEY, VAN GOGH and DEGAS, which had been seized by the Nazis from French owners and then "exchanged" to the Fascist Government have been found in FLORENCE.

35. Among important works of art returned to their normal locations in VENICE were the Lion of St. Mark to its column in the Piazzetta, the famous four horses to the facade of St. Mark's and the great TITIAN "Assumption" to the Church of the Frari

36. During August, 37 additional first-aid repair projects were approved in VENEZIE Region, of which the most notable was the Church of the Eremitani in PADOVA.

37. Satisfactory agreement has been arrived at on many points with the Joint Foreign Office and State Department Commission for the intelligent exploitation of certain groups of Italian ministerial archives. Certain limited categories have been selected for separate storage under Allied control, and the Italian Government has been asked to appoint an archivist for technical advice and liaison purposes.

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUBCOMMISSION

1003

38. The number of Italians repatriated during August fell short of the original estimate of 225,000 for the month, due almost entirely to the breakdown of bridges over the BRENNER Pass route which is the main USFET to ITALY repatriation route carrying a daily average of 5,000 persons. Only 5,362 persons were received over the BRENNER route throughout the period 11 - 16 August causing a drop of more than 30,000 in the estimated total for the month and a subsequent delay in the completion of the repatriation of Italians.

39. During August approximately 180,000 Italians were returned to ITALY, through the BRENNER and Swiss routes. In addition 4,000 were received by land, sea and air at BARI, NAPLES and TARANTO from GREECE, FRANCE, SARDINIA, YUGOSLAVIA and ALBANIA. A total of 430,000 Italians have been received from GERMANY and AUSTRIA to date. 693,308 Italians have been returned to their homes since January 1944. On 31 August it was estimated that only 75,000 Italians remained to be repatriated from GERMANY and AUSTRIA but this number does not, of course, include any which have yet to come into the American, British and French zones from the Russian areas. It has been agreed with the Soviet authorities to move 60,000 Italians into USFET from a Soviet area north of CZECHOSLOVAKIA and there are a further 15,000 reported to be in the Soviet area in AUSTRIA. There are 1,150 Italians in NORWAY, 90% of whom fought with the Germans and these will not be moved until the Italian Government has facilities for their internment. The present rate of repatriating Italians from GERMANY and AUSTRIA is approximately 5,000 a day through the BRENNER Pass, 2,500 a day over the BREGENZ route from SWITZERLAND, and 2,000 a week through ANNEMASSE to COMO; small numbers are coming through BORDIGHIERA from FRANCE. Throughout the month 60,652 Italians have been transported from ROME to destinations in the south of ITALY, and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

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40. In addition to the movement of Italians from Northern EUROPE, Greeks are also being transported from SWITZERLAND through ITALY to BARI for repatriation to GREECE. They are arriving at the rate of about 800 a week and are shipped from BARI to PATRAS. So far approximately 5,000 have been received in BARI of which 4,300 have been repatriated to GREECE.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

41. A scheme is being formulated whereby a sanatorium at LANA, south of MODENA, will be partly used for the hospitalization of Allied National T.B. patients. Ration scale No. 24 was introduced on 1 August for all refugees but there is no supplementar food ration for invalids although young children can be provided with an issue of mil and fresh fruits.

42. Registration continues satisfactorily. On 31 August, 17,846 persons had been registered under the SHAEF system out of a total population of 24,328. By the end of August 1945, 106,220 Displaced persons had been recorded by the Record Bureau. This shows an increase of 10,781 names over the 95,439 registered at the end of the previous month and it is also the highest number of persons to be registered in any single month during the year. 120,754 Italian prisoners of war were repatriated during the month. AFHQ have ruled that prisoners of war can no longer be released as specialists for service in the Carabinieri or Italian armed services.

43. Remittances by Italian prisoners of war in British hands to their families totalled 53,894pounds sterling. Credit balances of repatriated prisoners of war totalled 43,569 pounds sterling.

44. The Russian Government have stated that 130,000 prisoners of war will be repatriated from the Russian zone in North EUROPE during October.

1004

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART III

ECONOMIC SECTION

AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMISSION

1. There has been a considerable net reduction in the original wheat production figures. The estimates of wheat have been cut to 2,072,700 metric tons in Central, Southern and Insular ITALY, and for all ITALY 4,090.5 metric tons. Prospects for production of tobacco, potatoes, tomatoes and late beans, especially where the crop is irrigated, continued favourable. At the end of August 694,103 metric tons of wheat had been amassed, 388,216 metric tons in North ITALY and 305,887 metric tons south of the APPENINES. These collections represent 60% of the estimated available quantities for non-producers of wheat. Grain collection increased during the month, although there was an undesirable degree of variation between provinces in the effectiveness of the programme, while others have not indicated adequate support of the programme.

2. The heavy storms in TREVISO Province on 8 and 19 August resulted in considerable damage to corn, forage, grapes and other fruits. In other areas the continued drought has led to fall pasture and forage crops being considerably below normal.

3. The anticipated low olive oil production which normally follows a good year has been further reduced by the drought. Vines have also suffered from drought in Southern ITALY but wine production is expected to exceed 18,900,000 hectolitres in Central and Southern ITALY. Hail storms in some provinces of VENEZIE Region damaged the crops.

4. Livestock continued to be slaughtered at a greater rate than at any time since the liberation, probably due to the continued drought and shortage of forage. The responsibility for captured horses and mules, now on loan to Italian farmers in North ITALY is to be transferred to the Italian Government. Subsequently, the Italian Government will be able to sell the animals to the individual farmer. The livestock census continued in many provinces in the North, in order to identify animals on loan, stray animals, etc., and provide a basis for transfer of ownership from the Italian Government to the farmers concerned. Very few cases of foot and mouth disease have been reported.

5. On 1 August the new training school for forest guards opened at PIAZZA-TORRE with three hundred and sixteen students, mostly Partisans. Arrangements were made to cut timber for 150,000 "sleepers" for Military Railway Service from the Foreste del Circeo of SABAUDIA.

1083

6. A complete survey of the fisheries of VENEZIA GIULIA has been completed. 35,000 rainbow trout eggs are scheduled to arrive by air in November from the United States to restock Italian lakes and rivers. A meeting has been held at the Ministry of Alimentation to discuss the allocation of POL for fishing, as the allocation for the month of September has been so reduced that the motorized craft would be able to operate at the most only four days during the month. It is hoped to increase the allocation from 7,500 to 15,000 quintals. The Ministry of Agriculture has invited a group of nationally-known civilians to study and sponsor the rehabilitation of ocean fishing. The Allied Commission has invited the Italian Government to sponsor an International Conference of Fisheries representatives of the Mediterranean countries.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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COMMERCE SUBCOMMISSION

7. Owing to the failure by the Italian Government to recognize the Proclaimed and Statutory lists (details of which can be found on page 16 , Finance Subcommission report) complete liberty in Italian export trade activities did not come into force on 1 August as had been previously arranged.

8. 5,000,000 tons of phosphate rock from TUNIS was allocated to ITALY, who was to ship 100,000 tons of pyrites to the French in payment. The refusal of the latter to ship the phosphate has resulted in Italian agriculture lacking fertilizers and chemical plants lacking raw materials.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

9. The 200,000 tons of wheat which was presented to ITALY by the ARGENTINE has not yet been allocated by the Combined Boards. However, they have agreed to the allocation to the city of GENOA of 4,000 tons of wheat and 1,200 tons of canned meat, offered to that city as a gift by SWITZERLAND. Arrangements are in hand for shipment from LISBON, where the food is now lying.

10. Good progress is reported toward obtaining a regular supply of fish from TURKEY. Four schooners, of about 900 tons each, will probably be released to the Italian Government, to be used exclusively for fish imports from TURKEY.

11. 2,471 bales of cotton cloth from TENERIFFE are being shipped to ITALY.

12. Tin, solder and white metal have been removed from Materials Committee control and are now controlled by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Practically all standing timber and felled logs have been made available to the Italian Government for essential civilian needs. About 90% of the leather uncovered in the North has been turned over to the Italian Government, which is working out a scheme of distribution. All plywood less than 6 mm. thick has been released from control.

13. Since June 1945 about 3,000 tyres and tubes have been turned over to the Italian Government to distribute through Michelin and Pirelli warehouses. About 5,000 have been allocated to other Subcommissions, Regions and Government concerns.

14. Export shipments during the month consisted of silk, struss, books, wine, straw, sulphur and lemon oil, totalling 7,058,159 tons, with a value of 160,781,766 lire.

15. An Italian commission was sent to POLAND and CZECHOSLOVAKIA and a list of exportable commodities to these countries has been received by the Allied Commission for approval. AFHQ have been asked to nominate a responsible body with whom the Italian Government can negotiate in AUSTRIA.

FINANCE SUBCOMMISSION

16. Pay and allowances of public employees in North ITALY have been increased as a result of the implementation of ACC 116 of 13 March 1945. The provisions of ACC 116 were, at the request of the Italian Government, made retroactive to 1 May 1945 with the understanding that all advances conceded to personnel on account of the increases would be deducted. Authority to pay the "Liberation bonus" to State employees was granted in Military Government territory and to industrial employees in Central and South ITALY on 17 August 1945.

17. CCS and AFHQ have approved both non-transactional and transactional communications (postal and telegraphic) between ITALY and RUSSIA, under the same external controls as are in effect between ITALY and the USA.

18. The Italian Government has instructed the Italian Ambassadors in LONDON and WASHINGTON to propose to the United States and British Governments that the Italian Government adopt the Proclaimed and Statutory lists when certain firms have been deleted from these lists. The American and British Governments had formerly indicate that the Italian Government should first adopt the lists after which the deletion of certain firms would be considered. The principal negotiations are being carried out by the British and United States Embassies in ROME, the Allied Commission being kept fully advised.

19. Final figures for the subscriptions in North ITALY to the new Italian

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

for essential civilian needs. About 90% of the leather uncovered in the North has been turned over to the Italian Government, which is working out a scheme of distribution. All plywood less than 6 mm. thick has been released from control.

13. Since June 1945 about 3,000 tyres and tubes have been turned over to the Italian Government to distribute through Michelin and Pirelli warehouses. About 5,000 have been allocated to other Subcommissions, Regions and Government concerns.

14. Export shipments during the month consisted of silk, struse, books, wine, straw, sulphur and lemon oil, totalling 7,058,159 tons, with a value of 160,751,766 lire.

15. An Italian commission was sent to POLAND and CZECHOSLOVAKIA and a list of exportable commodities to these countries has been received by the Allied Commission for approval. AFHQ have been asked to nominate a responsible body with whom the Italian Government can negotiate in AUSTRIA.

FINANCE SUBCOMMISSION

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19. Final figures for the subscriptions in North ITALY to the new Italian Government Five Year 5% Bonds are not yet available, but it is known that more than 70 billion lire has been subscribed and it is probable that the final total will be in the region of 75 billion lire.

20. It is estimated that for the fiscal year 1944/45 the total actual revenue collected was 46.5 billion lire.

FOOD SUBCOMMISSION

21. Stocks of food are being built up in some provinces in Central and Southern ITALY as a precaution against irregular arrivals and preparations have been made to allocate stocks of certain foods in GENOA when the Northern Regions are turned over to Italian Government administration.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

22. The distribution of food in Italian Government territory is improving.

23. As the quantity of cereals delivered to the Ammassi is lower than was estimated, a further supplementary requisition of wheat to be loaded in the period October 1945 to June 1946 was prepared. Substantial quantities of wheat have been shipped to the North of ITALY to make up the deficiencies in LOMBARDIA and PIEMONTE Regions.

24. The movement of salt by rail from S. MARGHERITA DI SAVOIA to VENEZIE Region rose from 480 tons a week at the beginning of August to 805 tons at the end of the month. Details of the cistern wine-carrying cars running from APULIA to Northwest ITALY can be found on page 2 (LOMBARDIA report).

25. A standard ration scale for the whole of ITALY showing a minimum disturbance of existing scales has been proposed; for the November/February period the same type of ration card will be used throughout all ITALY.

26. A tour of the Northern Regions was made to obtain statistics on which to bas and control the planning and distribution of food as well as to obtain a basis on which to compute prices.

27. 694,103 metric tons of wheat have been amassed, and 52,963 metric tons of olive oil.

28. It is estimated that sugar production in North ITALY will only be about 26,000 tons and supplies may have to be imported. Arrangements for the distribution and use of the 43,070 tons of molasses in stock in North Italian plants have now been drawn up.

INDUSTRY SUBCOMMISSION

29. The Italian Government has assumed almost entire control of industry in Government territory, whilst in AMG territory the North Italy Industrial Council is beginning to get into its stride.

30. 11,600 tons of brass will be available to the Italian Government from Allied Forces sources for conversion into copper resulting in a production of 30,000 tons of copper sulphate.

31. Negotiations have now been concluded for the unloading of the explosive content from salvaged ammunition which will be distributed among the four principal firms engaged in producing pre-war industrial explosives. The disposal of the steel, empty shells and miscellaneous scrap metal is still under consideration.

32. The estimated production of Sardinian coal is 53,000 tons for the month; production throughout July averaged 1,930 tons a day. Estimated production of lignite for August was 90,000 tons.

33. Due to increased supply, the rationing of matches was abolished throughout ITALY with effect from 1 September 1945.

34. Approximately 400 tons of synthetic rubber, carbon black, cord fabric and associated chemicals, requisitioned as a military supply commitment, have now arrived. This material, combined with stocks in MILAN and ROME, is sufficient to start tyre production at Pirelli factory at TIVOLI (ROME) but production will be limited unless supplies of natural rubber arrive. Further quantities of materials are being requisitioned to be paid for from Italian foreign credits.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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LABOUR SUBCOMMISSION

1601

35. Details of the implementation of DLL 116 and the payment of the liberation bonus can be found on page 16.(Finance Subcommission report).

36. There is apprehension that the revivel of industry and the provision of alternative forms of employment will not be sufficient to meet threatened difficulties in the future. The payment of dole under the MILAN Agreement will continue until 30 September owing to the inability of employers to pay the employees required by this agreement.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

37. To co-ordinate the activities of the various Camere del Lavoro in the North a Northern branch of the C.G.I.L. has been established and a Memorandum has been submitted to the Italian Government by this organization, drawing attention to workers' problems and suggesting remedial action. A delegation of Italian Trade Unionists returned from RUSSIA after one month's tour of industrial centres in USSR.

38. Regional and Provincial Labour Offices have been established and adequately steffed with Italian civilians. Regional Italian Joint Advisory Committees, which consider proposed wage agreements and other labour questions referred to them by AMG, Labour Offices and both employers and employees in industry, have continued to operate satisfactorily. There have been no serious strikes or industrial disturbances during the month and the few small demonstrations which have occurred have been conducted in an orderly manner.

39. Wages of Italian civilian employees of the Allied Forces have been kept in line with local conditions but an inevitable reduction of 14,695 in the number of persons employed by the Allies had had to be made since 14 July 1945. The employme of German prisoners of war in rebuilding what has been damaged during the war has led to considerable criticism from the Italians. They are naturally resentful of the Germans being employed when they are not, and grudge the loss of labour and money which would otherwise be theirs.

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES SUBCOMMISSION

40. Every effort is being made to effect a complete turnover of military highway maintenance to Italian agencies on 1 October 1945 and military units are gradually withdrawing assistance previously rendered to contractors, particularly in transport and materials. General direction of the programme by officers of this Commission will continue. Accumulative figures reflect that 1932 bridges had been completed in ITALY by the end of August. Bitumen supplies are still critically short.

41. Satisfactory progress was made transferring items of machinery and transp from this Commission to the Ministry of Public Works. Approximately 50 additional trucks were received during the month for use by the Ministry of Public Works. Fi arrangements were made for a complete turnover of the operation of all equipment, shops and machinery maintenance facilities to the Italian Government on 1 October.

42. Reports on rehousing progress throughout ITALY are unsatisfactory and it has been arranged for an Engineer Officer to work directly with Ministry officials in an effort to expedite the entire programme.

43. The supply of electrical power for Southern ITALY still remained critical owing to the outage of two generators at SILA, while reconstruction work is hampered by scarcity of materials and transport. The curtailment of civilian and military usage of power will be required through September and part of October 1945 In Northern ITALY the power supply remained satisfactory and no allocation of power was considered necessary during August.

44. An allocation of 15,000 KW was made to the Terni Chemical Works at NERA MONTORO producing badly needed chemicals and fertilizers, as the actual load on th system in Central ITALY only totalled 170,000 KW against an allocation of 196,200 KW in August.

TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMISSION

1601

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMISSION

1601

45. Movement of civilian traffic continued to improve. Railroad civil freigh traffic on the mainland in Italian Government territory amounted to 291,000 tons in July, an increase of 5% over June. Coastwise shipping and schooners accounted for 126,000 tons of civilian traffic, an increase of more than 50% over the previous month. 83,615 refugees were carried, an increase of 7% over the previous month.

46. AFHQ agreed to increase the daily wagon allocation for movement of civili traffic by 25% to 1000 wagons exclusive of wagon allocations for movement of refugees.

47. During the month all rehabilitation operations were seriously delayed by difficulties in obtaining cement, petrol and steel. Line 244 BASTIA-ELLERA was,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

however, completed on 30 August and the strengthening of many temporary repairs for the winter was well in hand.

48. The Italian State Railways have placed an order for 1000 type L freight cars with FIAT of TURIN. Coke required for the construction of these cars has already been allocated. The car situation was improved by the output of more than 500 freight cars and coaches by private shops under contract to the I.S.R. almost all of which had required heavy repairs.

49. With the release of some forests from military control it is expected that all timber required for the repair of rolling stock and repair of bridges will now be available.

50. Much headway has been made in the introduction of new passenger services. On 23 August, the first connection with Northern ITALY since the Allied entry into ROME was effected with the establishment of a daily service between ROME and ALESSANDRIA.

51. All truck pools and trucks operating in Northern ITALY have now been turned over to the Italian Government. Up to 1 September 1945, 1600 captured enemy vehicles 3,830 Allied trucks and 125 jeeps had also been transferred.

52. Port traffic was affected by restrictions imposed by the Naval authorities in order to facilitate mine-sweeping operations. Port and harbor improvements continued simultaneously and the capacity of the ports has been increased considerably

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. Educational campaigns on democracy in Allied countries were carried out by UNITED STATES Information Service, British Ministry of Information, and Allied Commission. A nation-wide meeting of Italian editors called by ANSA, Italian news agency, took place in MILAN on 21 and 22 August.

2. Press releases in more limited numbers, owing to the scarcity of "live" news and the departure of many correspondents from the theatre, were issued on the general industrial situation, freedom of export trade and turnover of Italian territory. The Review of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in ITALY, in both English and Italian editions, has gone to press.

NAVY SUBCOMMISSION

3. The Ministry of Marine has reported that twenty Italian merchant vessels have already been disarmed and the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, has approved the disarming of the remainder of Italian Naval vessels, subject to the convenience of the charterers and operating authorities.

4. Approval has been given by AFHQ for a small party of Italian naval personnel to visit the islands of PANTELLERIA, LAMPEDUSA and LINOSA in the near future for the purpose of mustering any Italian Navy personnel which may be on the islands, and for making a survey of the need and desirability of carrying out port salvage operations by Italian Navy personnel.

LAND FORCES SUBCOMMISSION, AC (MMIA)

5. Italian Guard battalions, which were under the command of the Allies, are now being released in order to form Internal Security Brigades under the Italian War Ministry. It is intended that each Italian Territorial Command on the mainland shall eventually have under its command an Internal Security Brigade, consisting of a Brigade HQ and three Bns (total 2,500 men).

6. The Italian Ministry of War upon the recommendation of Allied Commission prepared a study for a more careful selection, promotion, removal or training of Italian officers. This conforms with the principle of reducing the number, but increasing the quality, of all Italian military personnel, particularly officers and non-commissioned officers. Particular emphasis is being laid on organization and training and more instructors are being trained so that they may efficiently take up their duties in order to deal with next year's call-up.

7. The Italian Ministry of War has been informed that Recovering Commissions are to work under the direction of MMIA LOs who are in a position to secure from the appropriate Allied Command the authority necessary to recover possession of Italian Army property wherever located.

AIR FORCES SUBCOMMISSION

8. Air Forces Subcommission has now been brought under the newly formed Mediterranean Allied Air Committee for technical rulings and under the Allied Commission for policy matters.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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9. The Allied Commission has recommended to the Italian Air Force General Staff that the operational command at BARI be closed down.

10. Authority has been given to the Fiats works to construct a further 8 G 12s tri-motor passenger aircraft, making a total of 20 aircraft of this type for use by the IAF Courier Service.

11. Conditional permission has been given for all ranks of the Republican Air Force, formerly under house arrest in N. ITALY, to return to their houses as a result of an AFHQ ruling.

12. The policy of permitting Italians at least to plan their civil aviation is now under consideration, at the request of the Allied Commission.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

13. The large number of senior officers in the Italian Air Force, the cessation of all promotion, the increased cost of living combined with uncerteinty as to the future all tend to lower the morale of the Italian Air Force.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMISSION

14. Internal telephone, telegraph, postal and foreign services continued to be expanded. Internal communications are improving rapidly with the exception of telephone circuits between Northern and Southern ITALY where military needs do not yet permit the release of sufficient circuits to provide adequate facilities for minimum civilian requirements.

WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL & IPW SUBCOMMISSION

War Materials Disposal

15. 8,290 tons of general salvage, 139 scrap vehicles, 7 pontoons and 315 recovered German tires were handed to Italian civilian firms for reconditioning or conversion to items of immediate need.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT
JULY 1945

Ref: 824/20. 17 September 1945.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT
JULY 1945

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17 September 1945.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1945

I N D E X

			Page No.
	POLITICAL SUMMARY		1 - 2
PART I	-	REGIONAL REPORTS	3 - 11
		Emilia Region	3
		Liguria Region	4
		Lombardia Region	4
		Piemonte Region	5
		Veneto Region	5
		AMG Venezia Giulia	6
		AMG Naples Commune	7
		AMG Livorno Zone	8
		ELPI and South East ITALY	9
		SARDINIA	10
		SICILY	10
PART II	-	CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION	12 - 16
		Defascism	12
		Mine Clearance	12
		Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission	15
		Education Sub-Commission	13
		Legal Sub-Commission	13
		Local Government Sub-Commission	12
		Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commission	15
		Patriots Branch	15
		Public Health Sub-Commission	13
		Public Safety Sub-Commission	14
PART III	-	ECONOMIC SECTION	17 - 20
		Agriculture Sub-Commission	17
		Commerce Sub-Commission	17
		Finance Sub-Commission	18
		Food Sub-Commission	18
		Industry Sub-Commission	13
		Labour Sub-Commission	19
		Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission	19
		Transportation Sub-Commission	20

987

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I - REGIONAL REPORTS..... 3 - 11
Emilia Region..... 3
Liguria Region..... 4
Lombardia Region..... 4
Piemonte Region..... 5
Venezie Region..... 5
AMG Venezia Giulia..... 6
AMG Naples Commune..... 7
AMG Livorno Zone..... 8
BARI and South East ITALY..... 9
SARDINIA..... 10
SICILY..... 10

PART II - CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION..... 12 - 16
Defascism..... 12
Mine Clearance..... 12
Displaced Persons &
Repatriation Sub-Commission..... 15
Education Sub-Commission..... 13
Legal Sub-Commission..... 13
Local Government Sub-Commission.... 12
Monuments, Fine Arts &
Archives Sub-Commission..... 15
Patriots Branch..... 15
Public Health Sub-Commission..... 13
Public Safety Sub-Commission..... 14

PART III - ECONOMIC SECTION..... 17 - 20
Agriculture Sub-Commission..... 17
Commerce Sub-Commission..... 17
Finance Sub-Commission..... 18
Food Sub-Commission..... 18
Industry Sub-Commission..... 18
Labour Sub-Commission..... 19
Public Works & Utilities
Sub-Commission..... 19
Transportation Sub-Commission..... 20

PART IV - PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND
INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS..... 21 - 23
Public Relations Branch..... 21
Navy Sub-Commission..... 21
Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMLA).. 21
Air Forces Sub-Commission..... 22
Communications Sub-Commission..... 22
War Material Disposal & Italian
Prisoner of War Sub-Commission... 22

987

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

POLITICAL SUMMARY

1. The communique issued at the conclusion of the Potsdam meeting referring to the part played by ITALY in the war against GERMANY and promising an early negotiation of the Peace Treaty with ITALY after which her application for a seat amongst the United Nations would be supported by the "Big Three" gave widespread satisfaction.

2. The opinion of the Italian public on the declaration of war against JAPAN on 15 July was almost entirely favourable, being regarded as a proof of the solidarity between ITALY and the Western Democracies. The reaction to ITALY's recognition of the new Polish Government, reported on 8 July, was also generally favourable, although some regret was expressed that this step should have been taken after the new Government had been recognised by the "Big Three" and therefore appeared to lack Italian initiative.

3. The outcome of the British General Election was generally interpreted as a development of the greatest importance to ITALY and the Left Wing parties hailed the move to the Left as an augury of better treatment for ITALY and a greater comprehension of her difficulties.

4. The organisation of the two Ministries for the "Constituente" and "Consulta" under Signor NENNI and Signor PROSIO respectively, has been under consideration. The Council has approved the draft decree for setting up the Ministry of the Constituent Assembly and has outlined its functions. The new Ministry is charged with the preparation for the convocation of the Constituent Assembly and with drawing up a programme for the new political order of the State and for ITALY's social and economic future. A commission for the study of the election laws will also be formed within this Ministry. On 18 July the Council approved the decrees setting up the Ministry for the Consultative Assembly and the Ministry of Post War Relief. Some criticism has been made of the preponderance given to Committee of National Liberation representatives on the "Consulta". These will probably have an absolute majority with over 200 delegates, as against the 20 seats allotted to the three Opposition parties and to other categories.

5. Signor NENNI was also appointed High Commissioner for the Punishment of Fascist crimes and has obtained the approval of the Council to a decree simplifying the administration of this office. Under the new arrangement there will be only three branches; epuration, punishment of Fascist crimes and liquidation of fascist profits. Each branch will be under the supervision of a magistrate, instead of under a political figure as was formerly the case.

6. On 27 July the decrees laying down the functions of the new Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Labour and Welfare were approved and on 28 July the Council agreed to address a formal request to the Allied Governments for the early return to ITALY of Prisoners of War and for their treatment in the meantime as free workers.

986

7. Following a meeting of the Council on 11 July a statement was made reaffirming the determination of the new Government to guarantee special rights

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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986

7. Following a meeting of the Council on 11 July a statement was made reaffirming the determination of the new Government to guarantee special rights for language minorities residing in certain areas in ITALY. These rights include the use of their native tongue in business, in public meetings, in the press, in relations with political and juridical authorities and in schools.

8. The Minister of the Treasury, Signor SOLERI, died suddenly in TURIN on 23 July. He has been succeeded by Senator Federico Ricci, also of the Liberal Party.

-1-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

9. On 10 July the Italian Government declared that the preparation of electoral lists in Northern ITALY would begin on 15 July. This would be effected through AMG . It was stated that preparation of the lists was almost completed in Southern and Central ITALY and that those in TUSCANY and UMBRIA, where work had recently started, would be completed in September. All of the political parties appear to be agreed that the holding of elections at as early a date as possible is the most important single political question to be faced at the present time.

10. Disorders in various parts of the country have been a problem both for the Italian Government and for AMG. The situation in APULIA has quietened down.

11. The Congress of the National Council of the Socialist Party took place in ROME from 29 July to 1 August. Ostensibly convened in order to listen to the political report of the Party Executive and to elect new members to the Executive for the ensuing year, the Congress in effect devoted the greater part of its time to the discussion of the need for the creation of a single working-class party. There was practically no discussion of crucial Italian domestic or international issues nor of reconstruction nor of relations with other parties. The Congress was asked to choose between two motions signed respectively by Signor PERTINI, former Secretary of the Socialist Party of Northern ITALY, and by Signori SILONE and SARAGAT. The PERTINI motion, which asked for all the working masses of the country to form a single bloc as soon as possible and urged that all the organisms of collaboration between the Socialist and Communist parties be strengthened and new offices of liaison created, won 76% of the votes. Although there is reason to suppose that many Socialists are still opposed to this policy, an ever increasing drive towards fusion of the two parties may be anticipated.

12. The National Council of Christian Democrats met from 31 July to 3 August. A report of the discussions will be included in the Monthly Report for August.

PART I/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

PART I

REGIONAL REPORTS

EMILIA REGION.

1. There has been a general decline in open political activity during the last month, and little change has been reported in provincial administration.

2. The chief commercial shortages in the region are still coal, POL and transport. Production of bricks, tiles, lime and cement is sufficient to cope with local demands and to leave an exportable balance.

3. The food situation is good but, although prices have dropped considerably, they are still far too high for the poorer classes. The weekly cost of living is calculated to have dropped 556 lire a week in POLOGNA province this month and over 200 tons of food supplies imported in the province have been held for special distribution to refugees.

4. The movement of horses from AUSTRIA to FERRARA has been completed. Cattle in MODENA, REGGIO and PARMA provinces had to be exported owing to the extreme shortage of fodder.

5. Although up-to-date only 59% of the expected total weight of wheat has been amassed, it seems probable that the total estimated earlier will be exceeded. Most crops are suffering from the drought, but the grape and soft fruit harvests are expected to be normal or large.

6. Nearly all banks report a continued excess of deposits over withdrawals and ample funds are now available for investment and loans to industrialists.

7. Progress on all public works has slightly improved, although most projects are still seriously hampered by shortage of transport and, to a lesser degree, by lack of materials. Repairs to water supply, sewage and electrical systems are proceeding satisfactorily, and, owing to the increased number of men employed on this work, unemployment figures of last month have been considerably reduced.

8. The number of killings and kidnappings have decreased.

9. The health position throughout the Region continues to be satisfactory. All provincial school administrations have been reorganised and are headed by competent Superintendents.

10. 88,442 refugees were passed through the camps during July.

11. Although 3,707 arms of various types were collected during July it is thought probable that sufficient arms and ammunition have been hidden in the mountains to re-arm 50% of the patriots.

12. Road communication is excellent throughout the Region.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

3. The food situation is good but, although prices have dropped considerably, they are still far too high for the poorer classes. The weekly cost of living is calculated to have dropped 556 lire a week in BOLOGNA province this month and over 200 tons of food supplies imported in the province have been held for special distribution to refugees.

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12. Road communication is excellent throughout the Region.

13. All displaced works of art have been located.

14. It is thought unlikely that there will be any major disturbances while Allied troops are stationed in EMILIA and while AMG is established in neighbouring Regions. Subsequently the position may change immediately. Although the morale and efficiency of the Carabinieri has improved lately, they are still badly equipped and are unlikely to be able to control any well organised outbreak.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

LIGURIA REGION

15. The people are showing uneasiness over the transfer of LIGURIA to the Italian Government. There is fear of disorders and a lack of confidence in the Italian Government. In IMPERIA Province fear of the area returning to the French after AMG leaves is prevalent. Allied troops took over 14 communes of this province on 10 July.

16. Considerable progress in local government has been made by the Italian officials, but once AMG is withdrawn it is likely that these officials will come increasingly under the influence of the Committees of National Liberation.

17. The supply of rationed food has been satisfactory but prices on the open market are extremely high.

18. Unemployment exists on a large scale but it is hoped this may be alleviated by public works projects, which have been approved on a considerable scale. Recent rises in wages have been offset by rises in prices.

19. Rehabilitation of the ports of GENOA, LA SPEZIA, IMPERIA and APUANIA is proceeding and about half of the port of SAVONA is in operation.

20. Public safety shows an improvement but police agencies suffer from lack of morale, equipment, transport and public confidence.

21. Public health is good and no epidemics have been encountered. Schools are in operation but are handicapped by lack of teachers and buildings.

22. Communications on the whole are good and railway facilities are relieving the transportation problem to some extent. This whole region, however, is normally dependent upon the port of GENOA for its existence and upon tourist traffic and full recovery will have to await the opening of the port, the return of foreign commerce and the revival of industry and of normal travel facilities.

LOMBARDIA REGION

23. The general strike in MILAN at the beginning of July was disciplined and orderly. Great difficulty has been experienced in finding local government career officials with acceptable records.

24. The economic life of the North is gradually reshaping itself in all fields where supplies exist. Silk exporters are planning the export of 150,000 Kg of raw silk; a monthly production target of 8,000 tons of lignite has been attained; rayon and ferro silicon industries are working; 70 railway carriages have been built and 300 carriages and 13 engines repaired. 8265 tons of soap have been produced in LOMBARDIA, LIGURIA and PIEMONTE. The lack of coal continues to hamper industry generally and in particular the steel industry.

25. The food situation has not improved during July. Extended drought has greatly reduced all harvests, especially those of wheat and corn. It is hoped

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 776021

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25. The food situation has not improved during July. Extended drought has greatly reduced all harvests, especially those of wheat and corn. It is hoped that the rice crop may be saved.

26. Plans for the completion of public housing projects in MILAN have been approved, while demolition work and debris clearance is well under way in the city.

27. Public health is normal although there has been an increase in cases of typhoid fever. One case of typhus occurred in MILAN.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

28. Approximately 86,260 refugees and displaced persons passed through LOMBARDIA camps.

29. The Region now has a registration of 13,784 efficient trucks with carrying capacity of 25,062 tons.

30. Re-consignment of property to owners has continued. Of the French industrial properties in MILAN city and province, all but 13 have been completed and all private French real estate has been inspected.

PIEMONTE REGION

31. The various political parties were active during the month. The impending withdrawal of AMG from the Region is causing anxiety in many quarters, as rumour is rife that the political parties of the "Left" intend to assume control by force upon the departure of AMG.

32. French troops withdrew from the remaining occupied areas of the Region on 10 July with the exception of officially approved liaison representatives.

33. Local government administration is satisfactory but pressure has had to be applied to Italian officials to adhere to the Electoral List Preparation Time Schedule. In many communes it will be necessary to grant extensions of time limits owing to the fact that their official records have been destroyed.

34. The food situation has been good but the outlook for the future is serious owing to the failure of the amassi programme and to the poor harvest. The fact that there will be no grain flour imports to the Region after 1 August makes a suspension of the bread ration in AOSTA and TURIN likely any time after 1 September.

35. 13,000 tons of coal arrived during the month and have been allotted. Cogne Steel Works and Fiat Works continued to operate despite fuel shortage and Lancia have now commenced production. Unemployed returns show a slight increase with a more substantial increase in numbers of surplus workers due to the slump in industrial activity. Steps have been taken to increase progress on housing programme which is unsatisfactory.

36. Killings and crimes of violence have decreased but it is considered that large numbers of firearms are still held by unauthorised persons for criminal purposes.

37. AMG and Italian Courts are functioning satisfactorily but the Extraordinary Courts of Assize are overworked due to shortage of trained personnel.

38. The health of the civilian population remains good. One case of typhus was discovered in ALESSANDRIA but no further cases have been reported. There has been an increase in typhoid due probably to the scarcity of water necessitating use of insanitary wells.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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39. All Patriot Centres were closed on 15 July.

VENEZIE REGION

40. The two most important parties in the Region are the Christian Democrats and the Communists, and the truce between them is wearing very thin. Both Christian Democrats and Liberals purport to be very frightened at the danger of a Communist coup d'etat.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

41. In general the Centre, the industrialists, the Church and the professional classes profess regret at the prospect of withdrawal of AMG in the near future since they think that this is a premature move. On the other hand the two Left parties seem to welcome the thought of the transfer of the territory to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government.

42. Very steady progress towards the organisation of local government was made during July. The ten Prefects continued to work well and relations with the Committees of National Liberation improved. The situation is not, however, stable and with the departure of AMG there is likely to be an attempt by the CLNs to assert their authority over the Prefects. The necessity for trained Questori became apparent and some professional men were brought in from the South of ITALY. Fair progress was made in the preparation of electoral lists. The question of an adequate strength of Carabinieri becomes even more important with the withdrawal of Allied troops. Commander 13 Corps (British) took over the military command of the provinces of UDINE, TREVISO and VENICE from EIGHTH Army on 15 July. An incident which occurred at the SCHIO Prison on 7 July is reported on page Progress was made in equipping the Carabinieri and their morale improved, although it was still low.

43. Italian Courts of Assize continued to function without incident, but their work is slow owing to shortage of judges and is making little impression upon the mass of political prisoners in gaol. The disposal of these political prisoners presents one of the largest problems still confronting AMG in the Region.

44. Substantial increases in wages were made during the month in accordance with the MILAN agreement.

45. Industry is progressing slowly towards recovery but acute unemployment continues owing to lack of coal and raw materials. Plans and projects for the repair of public works and utilities have been examined during the month and work is proceeding satisfactorily.

46. Progress is being made in the epuration of school and university staffs and this should be complete by the end of August.

47. The grain crop was disappointing and amassing has proceeded very slowly. Rains towards the end of the month should improve the maize harvest and the food situation generally is satisfactory. Public health continues to be good.

AMG VENEZIA GIULIA.

48. The political situation has remained quiet in the whole area. The four parties of which TRIESTE Committee of National Liberation is composed are taking an increasing interest in the affairs of the town. These parties are the Christian Democrats, Political Democrats, the Action Party and the Socialists. In areas round TRIESTE the people are cooperating with the Civil Affairs Officers and it appears that the treatment of the people East of the MORGAN line is being contrasted with that of those in XIII Corps area, to the advantage of the latter.

49. Negotiations have been carried out in TRIESTE between the Slovene Committee, Communist party and the Committee of National Liberation with the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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49. Negotiations have been carried out in TRIESTE between the Slovene Committee, Communist party and the Committee of National Liberation with the object of setting up some form of representative local government on area level.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

50. SEPRAL (Sezione Provinciale Alimentazione), TRIESTE, is now distributing all food supplies for the territory and is working well. New ration scales have been authorised for invalids and other special classes and a price control plan has been agreed which will go into operation in August.

51. Although certain parts of the territory are suffering from the severe drought the agriculture situation generally is better than might be expected. Yields of grain are estimated as only 10% down from last year and no serious inroads have been made on livestock by either Germans or partisans. Shortage of forage and farm labour are the chief difficulties.

52. The labour market remains static pending adoption of the "Casa Integrazione" plan for unemployment compensation. The increased wage rates, paralleling the Northern ITALY increases, were very well received.

53. Work on public works and utilities proceeds satisfactorily. Two bitumen works have been reactivated, which will be of great assistance in the maintenance and reconstruction of roads in TRIESTE and GORIZIA areas.

54. In general a satisfactory standard of public safety has been maintained throughout the area. The formation of the new police force progresses rapidly and it is anticipated that the first members, correctly trained, will be on duty in TRIESTE on simple police tasks early in August.

55. Initially there was much confusion amongst the social welfare agencies in the area. Four of these are now functioning efficiently. They are:

(a) Ente Comunale di Assistenza - This is operating reasonably well throughout the area.

(b) Italian Red Cross - Functioning in TRIESTE and attempting to reorganise in POLA and GORIZIA.

(c) Yugoslav Red Cross - Functioning in TRIESTE, POLA and GORIZIA. Confines its activities almost entirely to Yugoslav citizens.

(d) American Red Cross - Is attempting to bring about a working relationship between the various societies.

56. Considerable work has been done on property control and on the compilation of lists of displaced persons.

57. All courts are functioning well and the position of civil courts [illegible] General Order issued on 12 July.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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57. AMG courts are functioning well and the position of civil courts has been clarified by a General Order issued on 12 July.

AMG NAPLES COMMUNE.

58. The preparation of lists for the coming election of the Consiglio Provinciale and Consiglio Communale is progressing normally.

59. The visit of Signor PARRI, the Prime Minister, on 8 July was very welcome. His attention was drawn at a meeting in the NAPLES Chamber of Commerce to unemployment and a request made that the Allies should be asked to derequisition buildings, particularly factories. Signor PARRI spoke of the general unemployment in ITALY and explained the necessity for unity

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

between the North and South. The general reaction was that this visit was too brief for so important a centre as NAPLES.

60. There were eight strikes during the month of July, three caused by non-payment of indemnity, four asking for increased wages, and one objecting to increase in working hours. No untoward incidents occurred.

61. NAPLES Commune budget for the quarter July - September 1945 was approximately the same as for the preceding quarter, i.e. 430,000,000 lire - reduced to 375,000,000 lire. This includes 15,000,000 lire for buildings and arrangements in connection with the victualling department of the Commune.

62. Cost of living figures, which have been rising steadily since September 1943, showed a decrease during June for the first time. Comparative figures for an artisan class family of five are given below.

September 1943	-	Lire	4,831
December 1943	-	"	7,299
December 1944	-	"	18,688
April 1945	-	"	27,723
June 1945	-	"	18,777

63. The numbers of refugee civilians and ex-PW awaiting transport to Northern ITALY and SARDINIA continue to grow.

64. A plan for the rebuilding of NAPLES on a broad scale is at last getting under way. This plan will also provide useful opportunities for employment. Health is good and smallpox is declining, slight increase in typhoid is reported. Water scarcity has caused anxiety. The crime and public safety position is unaltered. The tendency towards a reduction in prices and cost of living which had begun to have effect cannot be maintained in the face of general wage increases. NAPLES warehouses are again very congested and there is risk of foodstuffs spoiling.

AMG LIVORNO ZONE

65. While there is some slight undercurrent of unrest, the political situation continues relatively quiet, particularly in AMG territory. Public morale appears to be exceptionally good. Even the LEGHORN and PISA areas, noted for being "hot beds" of activity against orderly government, are surprisingly calm and peaceful. While the bulk of the population seems somewhat apathetic to prevalent political manoeuverings; there is real interest, and some apprehension, regarding the contemplated elections. The apprehension is caused by doubt as to whether the Allies will, or can, properly supervise the elections so as to afford an honest and truly representative vote.

66. The work of epuration continues efficiently.

67. The food situation was satisfactory, although fewer green vegetables are available on the markets owing to the drought. The extended dry spell has greatly reduced grazing fodder and more cattle are therefore being sold for slaughter, thus easing the meat shortage to some extent.

68. The drought has affected [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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68. The drought has affected all crops, and has actually ruined a large portion of the potato and bean crops. Current estimates for 1945 grain production in TUSCANY show a decrease of between 30% and 40% on last year's figures. In this connection there is some reason to believe that the grain farmers are using the drought to justify too low assessing declarations. The withdrawal of AMG from TUSCANY removed the only determined supervision over amassing. It is obvious that the Italian officials, from the highest

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

provincial level downwards have not been, and do not intend to be, either too alert or too aggressive in controlling the situation.

69. There has been no serious labour trouble as yet, but the number of unemployed is very large which makes the situation difficult. Part of the answer to the problem is in increased public works, and housing projects.

70. The drought has reduced the water supply generally and in LEGHORN especially it is still precariously inadequate.

71. Public safety conditions in the LIVORNO AMG Zone are excellent, but a small crimewave, including holdups by armed brigands, has struck throughout TUSCANY Italian Government territory. Overcrowding of gaols continuedowing largely to the number of political prisoners. The number of arrests by Allied Forces Police Agencies is the lowest on record.

72. Efforts are being made to derequisition two Sanatori in PISA for the treatment of tuberculosis and infectious diseases. There are some cases of undulant and typhoid fever throughout the area, but no epidemics have been reported.

73. While there has been some improvement, the refugee situation in LEGHORN remains difficult. It has however been kept fluid and during the month approximately 30,000 refugees were cleared through LEGHORN, for the South and East of ITALY.

BARI AND SOUTH EAST ITALY (From A.C. Liaison Officer BARI)

74. Persistent drought and heat have seriously affected crops, including olives and vines and, partly owing to uncertainty regarding the future value of the lira, farmers are showing reluctance in amassing grain.

75. The trial of General BELLOMO took place between 23 and 28 July without incident. Action by the Italian Government to follow up the MURGEVINO-ANDRIA disorders by arresting the ring leaders, recapturing liberated prisoners and confiscating illegally held weapons has met with poor success, due chiefly to the half hearted measures adopted. Only 302 weapons were recovered from persons concerned in the disturbance.

982

76. There have been two incidents involving British soldiers. One was killed by unknown assailants and the other, who had been involved in a fight with coloured troops, died of injuries.

77. On 21 July three Albanian subjects, sent to BRINDISI to count the number of Albanian ships in use by the Allies, boarded a number of Albanian ships and ordered the masters to proceed to ALBANIA irrespective of sailing contracts. The buccaneers were taken prisoner and their deportation to ALBANIA is being arranged by the Albanian Mission.

78. Throughout the area unemployment figures are high. Bands of unemployed are working on farms without the owners' knowledge and are demanding payment. The possibility of allocating uncultivated ground to unemployed persons is being investigated.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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78. Throughout the area unemployment figures are high. Bands of unemployed are working on farms without the owners' knowledge and are demanding payment. The possibility of allocating uncultivated ground to unemployed persons is being investigated.

79. Industry generally is hampered by lack of raw materials.

80. Supplies of rationed foods have been regularly distributed and meat is plentiful, since cattle are being slaughtered owing to shortage of fodder and water.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

81. The transport situation in the area is fairly satisfactory. All WD vehicles in SITA and SUD-EST have been handed over to the Italian Government. A total of 1,750 refugees have been moved by rail from the area to various destinations. 2,902 displaced persons arrived at No.1 Transit Camp during July and 2,791 left it. The increase consists chiefly of GREEKS and Stateless JEWS.

SARDINIA (From A.C. Liaison Officer SARDINIA)

82. On the whole the political situation is normal. There has been some increased political propaganda in view of the forthcoming elections and the economic depression has caused some unrest, especially in SASSARI Province.

83. During the first two days of July the Regional Council held its third session and discussed administrative and economic matters. They emphasised the immediate necessity for the shipment of free cotton goods for farmers, which are to be given them in exchange for wheat, since without these it was thought unlikely that the farmers would turn into the granaries the small quantities of grain harvested. Owing to the failure of the harvest, it is believed that there will be a deficiency of about 60,000 quintals to the grain amassed.

84. The export situation improved during July. Livestock was shipped to the mainland for slaughter and arrangements are being made for shipment of animals for stock purposes. Of the 50,091.08 tons of coal mined during the month, 27,840 were exported. The total imports amounted to 1,354.32 tons less than those for the month of June.

85. The unemployment problem is still general in the Province of SASSARI unemployment among bricklayers has become acute. Means of alleviating this problem by putting through public works projects are being studied.

86. The prisons are less overcrowded now, since those prisoners who had terminated their sentences have been returned to the Mainland. Insufficient police forces are available to deal with the public disturbances caused by food and financial crises.

87. No serious epidemics have been reported, but tuberculosis is rife and the treatment available is inadequate. A sum of approximately 10,000,000 lire is needed to continue the treatment of this disease and if this is not forthcoming many cases at present in hospital will have to be released before cure has been effected.

88. Only a few hundred refugees still remain to be shipped and the 1,054 who were repatriated to the Island have all been sent to their respective Communes.

89. The road transport situation has deteriorated and and there is insufficient fuel to meet current needs. Rail and water transport facilities are uncharged. The latter are still most inadequate.

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SICILY (From A.C. Liaison Officers CATANIA and PALERMO)

90. The political situation has remained unchanged during the month.

91. The grain harvest has been badly affected by the drought, and estimates for grain to be amassed show a considerable decrease on last year's figures. Grain shipments have, however, continued to arrive regularly and the bread and pasta rations have been maintained at 300 grams a day.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

92. The labour situation in CATANIA is deteriorating due to the return of ex-soldiers - for whom jobs are not immediately available.

93. There is a considerable amount of lawlessness in CATANIA but in other parts of the island the situation has improved.

94. Eight cases of typhus (one fatal) have occurred at LIPARA (MESSINA) and one in the Commune of LENTINI (SYRACUSE). Ninety-three cases of typhoid occurred at PUIZZA ARERINA (ENNA). A further two hundred vials of Penicillin have been imported by UNRRA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

981

PART II

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Defascism.

1. Epuration is nearing completion in all that part of ITALY which lies south of a line running approximately from CIVITAVECCHIA on the West coast to VASTO on the East coast. In accordance with the epuration decrees of the Italian Government, no new epuration proceedings may be initiated in this Southern area after 15 August 45 and all hearings must be completed by that date. Exception is made in the case of certain officials located provincially and a few classes of persons whose time limit has been extended to 15 November 45.

2. Out of 48,300 persons liable to epuration in Grades I - IX, preliminary investigation has been completed in respect of 43,250 - (90%). The balance which can be epurated provincially consists largely (4,000) of bank, insurance and other finance officers and of teachers (550). Out of 7,520 cases for trial 5,210 (70%) have been completed.

Mine Clearance

3. Two Italian Mine Clearance Companies have been working in EMILIA Region, but the enormous task of mine clearance in this area has only been touched at the fringe. Few civilians have volunteered for this dangerous work and the shortage of equipment, transport and POL have been a further handicap. Casualties have been heavy.

4. A new danger has arisen in the FERRARA, FORLI and RAVENNA area where many of the river embankments and dams, built to hold the autumn and spring floods, have been mined and destroyed through the war destruction. Unless this area can be cleared of mines and the embankments and dams repaired before the beginning of September flooding will take place. The Italian Government estimate that if this task cannot be completed in time 50,000 people will be rendered homeless and their lands destroyed by flooding. A third Mine Clearance Company is being sent to this area.

5. It has been suggested that German P.W. should be made available for mine clearance work.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMISSION

6. Of the 40 provinces in Northern ITALY under AMG all but those of ASTI, AOSTA and CUNEO have now been surveyed by officers of the Local Government Sub-Commission. The general state of local government was found to be satisfactory and the organs for the preparation of electoral lists are, with few exceptions, functioning.

7. Some requests for an extension of the 100 days' time limit set for the completion of the electoral lists have already been received but it has been decided that extensions will only be granted to those Communes where population records have suffered war damage. The maximum extension will be 30 days.

8. The unofficial dates on which the compilation of electoral lists was begun in AMG Zones in Southern ITALY have been ratified in order to legalize the work already completed.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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9. A renewed attempt was made by AC, in a letter addressed to Sig. Parri on 7 July, to persuade the Italian Government to revise the present electoral laws. These were passed in 1915 and are not considered truly democratic. It was hoped that the reaction of the New Government would prove more responsive than that of Sig. Bonomi's Government but, although yet another letter was sent later in the month requesting a reply, no indication of the New Government's attitude, nor, in fact, any acknowledgment, has been received.

10. The Italian Government has accepted and expressed its appreciation of the Allied Commission offer of assistance in the study of the system of the election of the Constituent Assembly.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

EDUCATION SUBCOMMISSION

11. Defascism under Executive Memorandum 67 and General Order 35 was practically completed for all elementary and secondary schools in EMILIA by the time the Region was turned over to the Italian Government: 283 persons were suspended. In other Northern Regions defascism is progressing, especially in PIEMONTE Region where excellent progress is reported.

12. The Minister's Commission has approved over a hundred new manuscripts for elementary school text books, and the Regional text book commissions have approved a number of others. In EMILIA Region distribution of the text books published this last year under the auspices of the Allied Commission totalled nearly 90,000.

13. The number of school buildings still requisitioned constitutes a serious problem in all parts of Italy except in PIEMONTE Region where it is expected that most school buildings will be freed from requisition by September.

14. Epuration of Universities has proceeded satisfactorily and many, including those of BOLOGNA, PADUA and GENOA have now opened.

15. Scouting is progressing in all Regions, some summer camps are under way and training of leaders is proceeding. A number of other youth organizations, some apparently communist-controlled, are starting up.

16. In PIEMONTE 24 summer colonies for needy children have been organized, and 5,000 children are being cared for, some on a day-camp and some on a full time basis for 3 or 4 weeks. The programme includes games, gymnastics, story telling, handwork, singing, and informal lessons.

980

LEGAL SUBCOMMISSION

17. There has been a slight increase in the number of AMG Court cases in Northern ITALY; the principal offences being possession of arms and Allied property. In the frontier areas there is inevitably a certain amount of illegal travel, while a few cases involving violence have been handled by these courts. Counterfeit currency cases are becoming more frequent.

18. The Extraordinary Courts of Assise have continued. In EMILIA Region much criticism has been directed against the vicious atmosphere in which these courts are operating and against the savagery of certain sentences imposed. Elsewhere in the North the situation is improving and the excitement originally created by these courts is dying down. A large number of death sentences are still being imposed. An Italian decree has been passed modifying the procedure in the Extraordinary Courts of Assise in order to reduce the time limits for appeals, to increase the number of judges available and to force advocates to take part in the work of the Public Ministry.

19. Italian Courts are now working normally throughout ITALY, though there is an acute shortage of personnel.

20. Many offences have been committed by Italian soldiers on duty in North ITALY and arrangements have been made to set up Military Tribunals in VERONA in

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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19. Italian Courts are now working normally throughout ITALY, though there is an acute shortage of personnel.

20. Many offences have been committed by Italian soldiers on duty in North ITALY and arrangements have been made to set up Military Tribunals in VERONA in addition to MILAN and TURIN.

21. After a long period of discussion the Italian Government has produced a decree formulating principles for the confiscation of profits illegally acquired during the fascist regime. The decree is far reaching in scope.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUBCOMMISSION

22. Professor BERGAMI, formerly Professor of Physiology at the University of NAPLES and High Commissioner for Food in the BONOMI Government, has been appointed High Commissioner for Public Health.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

23. The anticipated return in August of about 5,000 sick Italian prisoners of war and refugees has caused anxiety owing to shortage of hospital accommodation . It has been decided that as patients from the large German hospital colony at MERANO in BOLZANO Province are returned to their country, the incoming Italian sick will be accommodated there; the rate of flow is to be strictly controlled. The Swiss Red Cross have volunteered the services of 15 doctors and 40 nurses until the IRC staff has achieved a full complement.

24. Only three cases of typhus, one fatal, were reported during July among repatriated refugees. Smallpox figures have shown a further decrease both in NAPLES city and province. There has been a rise in smallpox in AVELLINO and SALERNO Provinces but elsewhere in ITALY the figures are negligible. Weekly searches at 198 collecting stations in the Tiber delta anti-malarial project indicate a very low mosquito density, the average number captured in mid-July being only 0.22 per station.

25. The infant mortality rate for ROME Commune in June was 96.9 a thousand as compared with 74.8 in May. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis in ROME in June were 233 as compared with the May figure of 250.

26. Foot and mouth disease has spread to the Provinces of RIETI, TERNI and PERUGIA, where vaccination has been made obligatory. Swine erysipelas is sporadic except in the province of CUNEO where the incidence is high and the production of vaccine swine cholera is to be increased as the result of reports of further scattered cases. There has been a marked increase in rabies during the month. The distribution of Allied veterinary supplies, which should have been effected by ENDIMEA six weeks ago, has not yet been effected. Arrangements are being made for the export of Italian veterinary biologicals to AUSTRIA.

27. Despite repeated representations to the Italian Government, ENDIMEA has not made any distribution of medical supplies for three months. 2,665 Central Civilian Medical Depots are closing down in August on AFHQ instructions and further supplies for ITALY are to be accepted at dock side by ICE (Institute for External Commerce), an agency nominated by the Italian Government Displaced Persons and Repatriation Subcommission will be supplied with a three month stock of medical requirements and after this is exhausted supplies will have to be met by UNRRA and the Italian Government. VENEZIA GIULIA is also being supplied with stocks sufficient to last until the end of November after which ETO will be responsible for medical supplies.

28. 65,000 blankets have been distributed in Emilia Region and any surplus from other regions will be sent to this Region where war devastation is acute.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMISSION

29. The prospects of obtaining better supplies of clothing, equipment and transport for police agencies are much improved and the Italian Government has accepted the offer to clothe Carabinieri in British dyed battledress as a temporary measure.

30. 140 Italian tanks have now been released for Carabinieri Mobile Battalions.

31. Many more Carabinieri have been recovered in Northern Regions while others have returned from captivity and the work of screening them is well in hand. The training of men to form the Venezia Giulia Police Force continued.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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32. Law and order in Northern Regions is still far from satisfactory and figures for murders and other illegal killings totalled 177 as compared with 145 for June and approximately 3,237 for May.

33. On 9 July at SCHIO in VENEZIE Region 15 armed men believed to be ex-partisans broke into the local prison, murdered 49 political prisoners and wounded an additional 26. The Regional Commissioner, VENEZIE, delivered a speech at SCHIO condemning the assassins in strong terms and widespread publicity was given the incident in the Italian press.
There were three other cases of attempts to murder or release prisoners by force and at TURIN no less than 70 prisoners managed to escape.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

34. At MATERA, in the Compartimento of LUCANIA, considerable damage was done in a demonstration which was apparently made against the grain amassing regulations but the Italian Government took stronger measures than they had previously taken over the MINERVINO MURGE incident. At AGRIGENTO, SICILY, on 1 July 200 persons demonstrated against food conditions, setting fire to offices, the Municipio and the Garibaldi Club. Hand grenades, automatic arms and small arms were used and one Carabinieri was killed. 16 men were subsequently arrested and a curfew was imposed. On 12 July at LA SPEZIA, 7000 persons went to the Prefettura bearing signs urging speedier epuration and better living conditions, but the demonstration was orderly. In MILAN Province five lorry loads of arms were found.

35. Another riot occurred at REGINA COELI Prison (ROME) but the situation was firmly handled by the Italian authorities. The prisoners fired portions of the building which are now temporarily uninhabitable and prisoners had to be evacuated to other prisons.

PATRIOTS BRANCH

36. The Associazione Nazionale Partigiani d'Italia has now been converted into a state organization.

37. A decree has been promulgated setting up and constituting the Ministry of Post War Aid and all Italian Military Patriot Representatives will be responsible to this Ministry, although under administrative control of Prefects.

38. A decree has been also published authorizing the issue of a medal and ribbon to Patriots.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES SUBCOMMISSION

39. The costly collection of works of art which the Germans had removed a year previously from the deposits of Tuscany were returned to FLORENCE on 21 July from the ALTO ADIGE; the collection was handed over to the Italian authorities with considerable ceremony.

40. In VENEZIA GIULIA serious war damage is limited to the Cathedral at POLA and the Temple of Apollo but there is considerable administrative confusion and much checking of displaced works of art to be done. German activity in this area included considerable organized looting of libraries, arcpives and Jewish-owned works of art.

41. In VENICE on 21 July a very successful exhibition of Five Centuries of Venetian Art was opened.

42. Two crates of valuable antiquities from TRIPOLITANIA and CYRENAICA were found in Northern Italy and have now been taken to ROME.

43. Arrangements are now complete for representatives of the Ministries and of the Epuration Commission to visit MILAN and fix details of the transfer of the Ministerial archives, which have been found in Northern ITALY, to ROME.

DISPLACED PERSONS & REPATRIATION SUBCOMMISSION

44. During July the flow of refugees, displaced persons and ex-prisoners

879

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778621

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DISPLACED PERSONS & REPATRIATION SUBCOMMISSION

44. During July the flow of refugees, displaced persons and ex-prisoners of war has continued steadily. The BRENNER route opened officially on 1 July with trains running directly from INNSBRUCK to VERONA. At the conference in ROME on 20 July between representatives of AFHQ and USFET (CPDX), AFHQ agreed to accept 4,500 - 5,000 persons a day over the Brenner route including one train-load of Italians for destinations in the South of ITALY. Since 23 July train arrivals have been at the average of two a day for North ITALY and one a day for South ITALY; in addition 1,000 persons a day are coming through SWITZERLAND from GERMANY. The return of 38,500 Italians from SWITZERLAND was completed on 31 July, with the exception of a hospital train which is due to leaveon 8 August. The use of this route for the return of Italians from USFET will however continue. USFET (CPFX) reported 284,000 Italians yet to be repatriated from GERMANY and AUSTRIA, and a further 70,000 from the Russian Zone of occupation, FRANCE, BELGIUM,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

DENMARK and ALBANIA. No indication of the numbers in RUSSIA have yet been received other than that there are several thousands.

45. In addition to 155,729 Italians received through the Brenner and Swiss routes during the month, 4,204 were received by sea and air from FRANCE, GREECE and CASABLANCA. 42,118 persons were received in ROME from the North and 43,446 were transported South from ROME. It is estimated that 225,000 Italians will be received during August and arrangements for their reception and dispersal are complete.

46. Camps for Polish refugees and displaced persons, to be administered by Polcorps under the supervision and with the advice of Displaced Persons & Repatriation Subcommission, are being organized at BARLETTA and TRANI. These Camps are intended to accommodate up to 12,000 persons.

47. Good progress has been made in the North in the registration of displaced persons under the SHAEF system. On 28 July 12,742 out of a total of 21,369 Allied and other nationals had been registered and two trained registrars were sent South to help with registration in the UNRRA camps. Over 3,000 Allied and other nationals have been repatriated during the month.

48. At the end of the month a total of 95,439 persons were recorded by the Record Bureau, covering 72 nationalities.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART III.

ECONOMIC SECTION.

AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION.

1. The abnormal spring drought has adversely affected many harvests. Forage crops and cereals, except corn and rice, have been seriously damaged. Fruit and vegetable production is satisfactory and there is in many areas surplus of perishable fruits. Owing to the serious shortage of forage in those areas, 13,500 tons of hay were made available for APULIA, LUCANIA and SARDINIA.

2. The total wheat crop is estimated at 4,188,588 metric tons and the quantity amassed at the end of July was 319,339 metric tons. To encourage and expedite amassing the Ufficio Nazionale Statistico Economico dell'Agricoltura is being formed into a national organisation and the publicity campaign in the ROME press is now being extended to the North. The Italian Government is giving vouchers for textiles to farmers in proportion to the amount of wheat brought to the amassi. Requests, which have not yet been met, have been made for transport for officials supervising the amassi.

3. The olive oil collection in the season totalled 52,396 metric tons.

4. Supplies of fertilizer have been received and some agricultural equipment has been called forward for early delivery. In Northern ITALY the distribution of domestic supplies continued.

5. The provisions of the present Slaughter Decree are being evaded and the Italian Government is preparing a decree which provides for the compulsory slaughter of 15% by weight of all bovines, the meat to be sold through official channels.

6. The reactivation of fisheries continues and a national conference has been proposed for September with a view to obtaining maximum fish catches.

COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION.

7. The activities of the Materials Division have gradually declined during the month as increasing responsibility for the handling of materials of all kinds has been passed to the Italian Government. Only five items are now left in the AFLR(I)5 list of controlled materials, being standing timber in the two areas reserved for British and American Services in CALABRIA, plywood, leather and all leather articles, hemp, and malt (controlled by the Food Supply Committee).

8. Two important directives were received during the month: one increased the liberty of the Italian Government in its external financial affairs: the other authorised the termination of export activities of the Allied Commission as from 31 July 45. The latter was received on 27 July 45 and therefore the Italian Government received very short notice of their new responsibilities. A directive was communicated to the President of the Council of Ministers on 31 July 45 and came into force on 1 August 45.

9. The failure of the French and Italians to reach agreement and sign the contract for 500,000 tons of phosphate rock has had the following result:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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9. The failure of the French and Italians to reach agreement and sign the contract for 500,000 tons of phosphate rock has had the following result:

a) the loss of the whole of the July scheduled shipments;
b) the enforced movement of one ship, from SFAX, in ballast;
c) the threat of a loss of further ships from the Mediterranean.

10. Exports shipments effected during the month amounted to a total of 3,263,098 tons, representing an f.o.b. value of more than 181 million Lire.

11. Ente Petrolio Triestina (E.P.T.) has been set up in TRIESTE by Petroleum Section, AFHQ, to handle the distribution of POL in AMG VENEZIA GIULIA. E.P.T. will work independently from Comitato Italiano Petroli (C.I.P.).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

12. A new appeal to eliminate misuse of POL was addressed to the Italian Government and this action was coupled with a request to AFHQ for a general drive aimed at drying up the sources from which black marketeers secure their supplies.

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION.

13. The financial section of the Macmillan directive, FAN 583, was received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff during the month. Under this directive practically all Allied control over Italian external financial arrangements is relaxed. The directive was implemented by 23 July 45 - with the exception of the proposed currency agreement with the Italian Government - on which prior action by the British and U.S. Embassies is awaited.

14. On 15 July 45 the subscription lists for the new Italian Government 5-year bond issue were opened in North ITALY and up to 31 July 45 approximately 30 billion lire had been subscribed. As less money has been raised than was anticipated it has been decided to keep the lists open until 25 August, instead of 5 August as originally planned. It is hoped to raise about 50 billion lire.

15. The Combined Chiefs of Staff ruled that any conversion of German marks currency for repatriates by the Italian Government must be made at the provisional mark-lira rate of exchange already established, which is 10 lire equal one mark.

16. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was advised that the Italian Government should begin negotiations as soon as possible on the settlement of the Spanish war debt to ITALY, keeping the Allied Commission advised of the progress made.

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION.

17. Imports during the month were on a smaller scale than in June. The Ministry of Food is allocating imported goods for Italian Government territory regularly and is trying to build up reserve stocks but distribution of supplies in Italian Government territory is hampered by the shortage of box cars.

18. The movement of unrationed foodstuffs was satisfactory and the export of surplus fruit and vegetables from producing regions to deficient ones proved successful. 4,600 tons of salt have been moved during the month.

19. Progress is being made in equalising main ration scales in Northern and Southern ITALY. A meeting has been held at which agreement was reached on the principle of adjusting the workers and normal consumers' scales.

20. A series of meetings was also held with the Italian authorities to establish the basis for economic prices of bread and pasta for all ITALY. Prices based on these meetings went into force at the beginning of August, and the increases have in general been well accepted.

INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION.

21. Industry Sub-Commission is continuing to hand back civilian industry to Italian Government control and all export plants previously controlled by

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION.

21. Industry Sub-Commission is continuing to hand back civilian industry to Italian Government control and all cement plants previously controlled by this Sub-Commission have been returned to the Italian Government. It has been recommended that tin solder and white metal be struck off the list of controlled items.

22. The total Italian potential production for caustic soda in the main plants is 180,000 tons a year.

23. Strenuous efforts are being made to organise the resumption of cellulose trade between SWEDEN, AUSTRIA and ITALY, since, if requisitions for cellulose are not met, the rayon and paper industries will be seriously affected. The textile industry is almost at a standstill awaiting the arrival of raw materials. It is estimated that about 50,000 tons of sugar will be the maximum production in ITALY this year. The yeast plant at NAPLES has gone into production at a rate of 60/65 tons monthly. Hemp is now being moved from BOLOGNA to NAPLES for processing there but the new crop is of poor quality.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

24. Estimated coal production figures during the month were as follows:-

Sardinian coal - 50,000 tons, as compared to 40,000 tons for June.
Lignite 65,000 tons, as compared to 50,000 tons for June.
Anthracite from LA THUILE 4,000 tons

25. The supply of matches has improved. In South and Central ITALY the ration has been doubled and in SICILY rationing has been abolished. A cigarette paper plant started production at ISOLA del LIRI on 30 July.

LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION.

26. During the month General Ordrr No. 48, which had been designed to control economic conditions in the North, was withdrawn; the MILAN wage agreement was implemented throughout North ITALY, thus bringing wages in the North to approximately the same level as those in the South; the question of wage policy and control was discussed with the new Italian Government.

27. There were several demonstrations for increased wages, the largest of which took place in MILAN and TURIN.

28. Proposals for modifying social insurance laws in Northern ITALY have been discussed. These include the repeal of certain Fascist republican decrees, the implementation of decrees increasing benefits and the extension to the North of the increases in the family allowance system.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES SUB-COMMISSION.

29. Progress on rehabilitation work at the ports of GENOA, SAVONA, LA SPEZIA, APUANIA, VIAREGGIO and ANCONA is satisfactory.

30. Sixty-three cargo trucks of the 158 allocated have been collected and are being serviced, together with 60 trucks and 8 passenger vehicles from Fifth Army, before handing over to the Regions.

31. Work on military highways is progressing satisfactorily, but on civil roads the shortage of bitumen makes maintenance impossible. Bridge reconstruction is very satisfactory. Fifty bridges have been completed during July, making a total of 1761 bridges completed in ITALY to date.

32. The handover of Public Works activities in EMILIA Region and the Provinces of LUCCA and APUANIA to the Italian authorities was satisfactorily carried out. It is anticipated that all Public Works officers can be withdrawn by 20 August 45.

33. Additional road machinery, including 300 dump trucks, was requisitioned in order to place the Ministry of Public Works in a position to assume total responsibility for military highways maintenance by the end of September.

34. Two new important electrical committees were formed and met during July: one composed of representatives of Electrical industry for Northern ITALY and the other of representatives of the SARDINIA, SICILY, Southern ITALY, Central [illegible] Advisory Committees. This latter is known as the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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35. The power situation in Northern ITALY remained satisfactory and no rationing has been necessary. 34,000 KW additional power was allocated to Central ITALY for August 45. A 120,000 volt line between North and Central ITALY was restored to operation during the month. The outage of two generators at SILA has made the already precarious situation in South ITALY worse. Reconstruction work on electrical systems in North ITALY showed progress, although this work is hampered by scarcity of materials and transport.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

36. All demands for materials for reconstruction in Central and South ITALY were met, with the exception of those for steel plates and sections. A number of tyres were made available to the Public Utilities Companies from military sources.

37. Efforts to obtain heavy truck transport for electric transmission line rehabilitation work have been made by Electric Companies through established Italian Government agencies. These have not been successful.

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION.

38. The movement of civilian traffic in Italian Government territory continued to improve. Well over one million tons of civilian traffic is now being conveyed monthly by rail, road and sea in Italian Government territory. The movement of refugees and displaced persons continued according to programme and it was found possible to increase the rate of acceptance into ITALY across her North frontiers. It is hoped that in the near future arrangements can be made to clear refugees through VENICE and GENOA for Southern destinations by Italian Navy craft.

39. The first rail link between North and South ITALY was established on 7 July when the river PO was crossed at OSTIGLIA. At present, the crossing is a bottleneck, owing to the heavy military traffic including leave trains but it is hoped that progress on the further crossing North of PIACENZA will provide an alternative route between BOLOGNA and MILAN.

40. Phase II was introduced in Northwest ITALY on 15 July and the movement of civilian rail traffic in that area became the responsibility of the Allied Commission. All demands for rail movement in that territory have been met.

41. The greater responsibility for the programming and movement of civilian traffic which was delegated to the I.S.R. as from 1 July 1945 is working smoothly. The allocation of 800 wagons a day for civilian traffic should result in an overall improvement in civilian rail movement. It is hoped shortly to establish a daily civilian passenger service between ROME and MILAN.

42. The position regarding the handover of trucks to the Italian Government for civilian supply is satisfactory and by 31 August all Allied Commission Military Transport Units will be disbanded. All bids for movement by road during the month have been met.

43. After successful mine sweeping operations, the situation in the ports of GENOA and VENICE improved at the end of the month. The port of CIVITAVECCHIA handled the record volume of tonnage of 50,000 tons, 28,000 tons of which was coal. The port of PIOMBINO also functioned well throughout the month.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. Considerable time was spent in re-establishing pre-Fascist newspapers in the north to replace those of PWB, which closed down on 15 July. Independent newspapers are now appearing in MILAN, TURIN, GENOA, BOLOGNA and VENICE.

2. Press releases were issued on several important subjects, including preparations for elections, the turnover of territory, the increase in the price of bread, radio telephone, displaced persons and the joint Allied Commission - Italian Government Economic Conference. Use was made of Italian news agencies to transmit urgent press releases to the north, with excellent results.

3. The "Review of Allied Military Government and the Allied Commission in Italy from "D" Day, 10 July 43 to the Nazi Surrender in Italy, 2 May 45" was approved by AFHQ and has gone into production. Release will be made about 1 September and 100,000 copies are being printed in English and 100,000 in Italian. Italian copies will be distributed to all schools and universities.

NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

4. The report of the Campbell Committee, appointed to make recommendations on the methods to be employed in transferring the operations of Italian Ports to Italian Government Authorities, was approved during the month by the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean and the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean. The Navy Subcommission has notified the Ministry of Marine of the approval and has directed them to take the necessary steps to implement the policies of the Campbell Committee report.

5. The Ministry of Marine has been notified that there is no naval objection to the development of the Gulf of GENOA ports of IMPERIA, PORTO MAURIZIO and ONEGLIA. All action in regard to the ports is to be initiated by the Italian Government and no Allied Naval resources can be made available for minesweeping or for purposes of bomb and mine disposal.

978

LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MMIA)

6. As from 1 July Italian Co-operator prisoners of war working for the Allies became members of the Italian Army. This change of status involved the transfer of ex-cooperators to the US-ITI and BR-ITI Categories and the physical movement of considerable numbers of men. By 25 July 178 officers and 11,157 ORs had passed to the Administration of the BR-ITI Administrative Divisions.

7. As a result of a speed up in the transfer of US-ITIs released by 5 Army and F.B.S. all Admin Divisions in N. ITALY now have sufficient personnel

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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7. As a result of a speed up in the transfer of US-ITIs released by 5 Army and P.B.S. all Admin Divisions in N. ITALY now have sufficient personnel at their disposal for future needs. In addition the replacement of Pioneer Units by German Labour and the disbandment of other units is releasing large numbers of men in each Administrative Division. These men are placed at the disposal of the Division to make up deficiencies, while surpluses are allotted to other units by MMIA.

8. A further programme of demobilization has been proposed by MMIA to AFHQ. Plans for the reduction of units are not yet firm but the political necessity of demobilising older classes, many of whom have been under arms for over 7 years, has been strongly pressed, both by the War Ministry and MMIA. Meanwhile the demobilization of the 1915 class has been authorized.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

9. The disbandment of all the non-essential Intelligence units not working directly for the Allies continued during the month.

10. After much delay, and considerable interference from both Allied and Italian sources, the recovery of Italian Army vehicles in illegal possession of civilian firms and private owners proceeded rapidly during the month. Some 340 vehicles were released to the Italian Army by 1 District and the Recovery Organisation set up by the War Ministry in conjunction with MMIA is working more smoothly.

11. 140 Italian light tanks, shipped from SARDINIA, have been released to the Ministry of War for CC.RR. Internal Security duties.

12. The position as regards food and supply depots is satisfactory and all depots would be operating on 21 August.

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION.

13. All ranks of the Republican Air Force below Major have now returned or are in process of returning to their homes.

14. The courier service between the Mainland and SARDINIA was closed down during the month when it was discovered that civilians were using this service against payment. A personal apology for this misuse of transport has been received from the Air Minister together with his assurance that this practice has ceased, and the service was reopened on 31 July.

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION.

15. Foreign postal and telecommunications services were restored to several countries and postal and telecommunications services were opened VENEZIA GIULIA and the rest of ITALY.

16. External censorship stations were transferred to the Italian Government.

WAR MATERIAL DISPOSAL & IPW SUB COMMISSION
War Material Disposal

17. During the month 270 tons of brass scrap were made available to Italian Industry from British salvage sources. American policy on the release of brass and copper scrap and first grade steel is still under consideration.

18. Thirty nine lists of available salvage materials were received from British and American sources and approximately 5,500 tons of salvage was released to the Italian Government. 5,000 tyres were released to Pirelli during the month and it is expected however that there will be a considerable number of US tyres available in the near future.

19. Inspections of scrap vehicles were carried out. 93 vehicles of various types have been issued on contract to civilians for remodelling. 500 scrap vehicles inspected in RIMINI area will be disposed of to the Italian Government.

Italian Prisoners of War.

20. The return of Italian Prisoners of War from INDIA and AUSTRALIA is

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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Italian Prisoners of War.

20. The return of Italian Prisoners of War from INDIA and AUSTRALIA is still very slow, but some 200 are expected from INDIA next month. It is also understood that a considerable number of releases will shortly be made from the United States.

21. During the month 130,486 Italian Prisoners of War were repatriated to Italy or released from Cooperator status. The majority of these were sick and wounded. Applications for release of 624 specialists were forwarded to Allied Force Headquarters.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778621

22. The number of welfare and compassionate cases repatriated was 662.

Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT
JUNE 1945

Ref: 824/30

13 August 1945

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1945

INDEX

		Page No.
POLITICAL SUMMARY		1 - 3
List of Ministers and Undersecretaries Italian Government		4
PART I -	REGIONAL REPORTS	5 - 12
	Emilia Region	5
	Liguria Region	5
	Lombardia Region	6
	Piemonte Region	7
	Toscana Region	8
	Venezia Region	8
	Report by recent visitor to Venezia Giulia	9
	AMG Naples Commune	9
	AMG Livorno Zone	10
	BARI and South East ITALY	10
	SARDINIA	11
	SICILY	11
PART II -	CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION	13 - 17
	Defascism	13
	Mine Clearance	13
	Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission	17
	Education Sub-Commission	13
	Legal Sub-Commission	14
	Local Government Sub-Commission	13
	Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission	17
	Patriots Branch	17
	Public Health Sub-Commission	14
	Public Safety Sub-Commission	15
PART III -	ECONOMIC SECTION	18 - 21
	Agriculture Sub-Commission	18
	Commerce Sub-Commission	18
	Finance Sub-Commission	19
	Food Sub-Commission	19
	Industry Sub-Commission	19
	Labour Sub-Commission	20
	Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission	20
	Transportation Sub-Commission	20
PART IV -	PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS	22 - 23
	Public Relations Branch	22

973

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

List of Ministers and Undersecretaries Italian Government..... 4

PART I - REGIONAL REPORTS..... 5 - 12
- Emilia Region..... 5
- Liguria Region..... 5
- Lombardia Region..... 6
- Piemonte Region..... 7
- Toscana Region..... 8
- Venezia Region..... 8
- Report by recent visitor to Venezia Giulia..... 9
- AMG Naples Commune..... 9
- AMG Livorno Zone..... 10
- BARI and South East ITALY..... 10
- SARDINIA..... 11
- SICILY..... 11

PART II - CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION..... 13 - 17
- Defascism..... 13
- Mine Clearance..... 13
- Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission..... 17
- Education Sub-Commission..... 13
- Legal Sub-Commission..... 14
- Local Government Sub-Commission..... 13
- Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission..... 17
- Patriots Branch..... 17
- Public Health Sub-Commission..... 14
- Public Safety Sub-Commission..... 15

PART III - ECONOMIC SECTION..... 18 - 21
- Agriculture Sub-Commission..... 18
- Commerce Sub-Commission..... 18
- Finance Sub-Commission..... 19
- Food Sub-Commission..... 19
- Industry Sub-Commission..... 19
- Labour Sub-Commission..... 20
- Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission. 20
- Transportation Sub-Commission..... 20

PART IV - PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS..... 22 - 23
- Public Relations Branch..... 22
- Navy Sub-Commission..... 22
- Land Forces Sub-Commission (AMG)..... 22
- Air Forces Sub-Commission..... 22
- Communications Sub-Commission..... 23
- War Material Disposal & Italian Prisoner of War Sub-Commission..... 23

973

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

POLITICAL SUMMARY

1. The first important development of the month preceding the solving of the Government crisis was the declaration of complete agreement of the six parties, after considerable discussion, on the subject of the position of the Committees of National Liberation. Agreement was reached on the following points:

1. The provincial and communal Committees of National Liberation should continue to carry out consultive functions with the Prefects until such time as the normal organs of local administration should be re-established after democratic elections;

2. That the other Committees of National Liberation not covered by the preceding paragraph should return to their exclusively political character;

3. The Committees in factories and industries should be transformed into technical and trades union organisations according to the production needs or social requirements of the factory or plant in question.

2. At a meeting of the Council of Ministers on 8 June the political situation was reviewed and Signor BONOMI offered to hand in his resignation. However, the Communist, Socialist, Labour Democrat and Christian Democrat Ministers in the Government requested Signor BONOMI to hold his hand a few days more until an agreement had been reached. In the meantime, on 9 June political leaders in the North, impatient of delay, sent a delegation to ROME led by Signor MORANDI, President of the CLNAI, and representing the Regional Committees of Liberation of VENEZIE, LIGURIA, LOMBARDIA, EMILIA and PIEMONTE.

3. On 12 June, Signor BONOMI placed his resignation in the hands of the Lieutenant of the Realm and the Government crisis was officially opened. The CLNAI passed a resolution calling for action on a three-point programme; namely, the designation of Signor PARRI as the President of the Council, the representation in the new Government of all the political forces in the Committees of National Liberation, including such leaders as Signor NENNI, TOGLIATTI and DE GASPERI and finally the appointment of five ministers without portfolio to be designated by Northern political parties. The Central CLN accepted the first point of this resolution the same day and on 17 June Signor PARRI was received by the Lieutenant of the Realm and officially charged with formation of the new Government. Lists of the new Cabinet Ministers and Undersecretaries can be seen on page 4.

4. There are three additional Ministries in the new Government giving a total of twenty portfolios. The Ministry of Post War Relief will absorb the work of various High Commissions and other agencies set up to deal with refugees, prisoners of war and veterans; the previous Government had a High Commission for Food and this has now been raised to the rank of a Ministry. The Ministry of Reconstruction will take over the work of another agency, the inter-ministerial Committee for Reconstruction, and the short-lived Ministry for Occupied Italy has been eliminated. A separate Ministry for Labour has long been urged and its combination with welfare will absorb a

972

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5. The proportion/.....

972

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778621

5. The proportion of new blood is substantially higher than in the last Government. Counting Signor PARRI himself, there are nine newcomers, some of whom are in important posts. As might be expected, the North has the largest representation, fourteen of the Ministers having been born North of ROME. However, it is the most representative Cabinet on geographical lines that now ITALY has yet achieved. There are three members from Southern ITALY, two from SICILY and one from SARDINIA. The new Government is further to the Left than Signor BONOMI's last administration and Signor PARRI himself is a man of avowed republican sympathies, although he does not share Socialist views on "Social Problems" - or so at least Signor NENNI himself has asserted. The powers given to Signor NENNI to take charge of the work of preparing for the convocation of the Constituent Assembly and of the Office of Sanctions against Fascism are of considerable political significance at this time. On the other hand, the Right has also had its triumphs: it has succeeded in blocking the drive for a Socialist President which a month ago seemed sure of success.

6. On 23 June, Signor PARRI made a broadcast appeal to the nation. After expressing gratitude to the Allies for the liberation of the country and the generous material support which they had given for its reconstruction, he reminded the Italian people that the country was still in a state of emergency and that only a united effort would see ITALY through. The convocation of the Constituent Assembly could not of itself provide bread for people to eat and the Allied powers would be unwilling to give that material aid which was so essential for the reconstruction of the country unless they were satisfied that the Italians themselves were making a serious effort for their own redemption. The reaction to this sensible speech has been uniformly good.

7. On 25 June, the Cabinet Council held its first meeting under Signor PARRI's chairmanship and prepared a nine-point draft programme which was approved by the Council of Ministers on the following day. The nine points incorporated in the subsequent statement of the Council are as follows:

1. Preparation of the Constituent Assembly.

2. Appeal to the Allies to replace the armistice clause by a Peace Treaty.

3. Direct negotiations with Yugoslavia on the VENEZIA GIULIA question.

4. Reconstruction of the High Commission for Sanctions against Fascism.

5. Recognition of the advisory function of the Committees of National Liberation.

6. Administrative elections as early as possible.

7. Inclusion of representatives from the North in the Consultative Assembly.

8. Collaboration with the General Confederation of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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7. Inclusion of representatives from the North in the Consultative Assembly.

8. Collaboration with the General Confederation of Italian Labour and other workers' groups on problems of labour and supplies.

9. Reconstruction.

The Council/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

The council also approved a draft decree presented by Signor NENNI for the abolition of the title of "Eccellenza". The Council further heard a report from Signor SOLERI and approved a budget for the next two months. A few days later it was announced that the campaign for the 5% Treasury Bond loan would now be extended to the North and Minister SOLERI expects by this means to increase the present subscriptions from 31,000,000,000 lire to 100,000,000,000. A special Inter-ministerial Committee was set up for economic coordination of the North and the South consisting of Signori RUINI, LA MALFA, GRONCHI, SCOCCIMARRO and BARBARESCHI: its specific task is to study the questions of prices, wages and salaries.

8. The military agreement on VENEZIA GIULIA was signed in BELGRADE on 9 June on behalf of Field Marshal ALEXANDER and Marshal TITO. Marshal TITO by this agreement undertook to withdraw his troops to the East of a line running roughly from the frontier North of GORIZIA, East of this town and thence East of TRIESTE to the coast to the North of CAPO D'ISTRIA and YUGOSLAV troops were to be withdrawn from POLA and the surrounding area. Allied Military Government was formally set up in TRIESTE on 12 June and in GORIZIA on 14 June.

9. Reaction to this settlement of the VENEZIA GIULIA question was not favourable in ITALY. The Council of Ministers in the programme already mentioned referred to the agreement as an "unsatisfactory arrangement". The "Globo" pointed out that ITALY had "lost" by the terms of the agreement "about half the national production of coal, almost all her bauxite and a good part of her mercury". A one-day general strike took place in TRIESTE on 26 June but there were no complications and Marshal TITO's latest speech on the possibility of Yugoslavia and Italy living in friendly relations "in an atmosphere of progressive democracy" should serve to clear the air.

10. Disturbances broke out in Southern ITALY in late June which assumed a greater measure of importance in view of Signor PARRI's declaration that illegal activities must cease. Details are given on page 10.

971

11. The main economic problems facing ITALY and the Allied Comission are food and work. The wheat crop this year is expected to be 2,000,000 tons less than last year's harvest, largely due to the prolonged drought, and the loss reduces the food supply and raises other economic problems. The income of 47% of ITALY's population, dependent on farming, will probably be cut by 220,000,000 dollars (£55,000,000). Farming will not be able, moreover, to absorb the surplus labour from industries which have been obliged to close down for lack of coal and raw materials. Food shortages further raise the problems of public safety and even public health since the farms have not been producing enough for the needs of their owners let alone a surplus for export to deficient areas. The estimate of the wheat crop cannot be definite until the crop is threshed, but the dangers are clear enough to warrant calling attention to them in all fields of governmental activity, Italian as well as Allied, since the all important

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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LIST OF MINISTERS/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

LIST OF MINISTERS AND UNDERSECRETARIES

Ministry	Minister	Party	Undersecretaries	Party
President	Ferruccio PARRI	Action		
Vice-President	Pietro NENNI	Socialist	Giustino ARPESANI	Liberal
Vice-President	Manlio BROSIO	Liberal	Giorgio AMENDOLA	Communist
Agriculture	Fausto GULLO	Communist	Antonio SEGNI	Christian Democrat
Air	Mario CEVOLOTTO	Labour Democrat	Ernesto PELLEGRINI	Independent
Education	Vincenzo ARANGIO-RUIZ	Liberal	Achille MARAZZA	Christian Democrat
(Fine Arts)			Carlo BACCHILANTI	Action
Finance	Mauro SCOCCIMARRO	Communist	Enrico PARESCE	Labour Democrat
Food	Enrico MOLE	Labour Democrat	Renato SANSONE	Socialist
Foreign Affairs	Alcide De Gasperi	Christian Democrat	Eugenio REALE	Communist
(Italians abroad)			Renato MORELLI	Liberal
Industry and Commerce	Giovanni GRONCHI	Christian Democrat		
(Industry)			Ivan Mattio LOMBARDO	Socialist
(Commerce)			Enzo STORONI	Liberal
Interior	Ferruccio PARRI	Action	Giuseppe SPATARO	Christian Democrat
Justice	Palmiro TOGLIATTI	Communist	Dante VERONI	Labour Democrat
Labour and Welfare	Gaetano BARBARESCHI	Socialist	Gennaro CASSIANI	Christian Democrat
Navy	Raffaele De COURTEN	Independent		
(Military)			Carlo ARDIZZONE	Labour Democrat
(Merchant)			Angelo CORSI	Socialist
Post and Telegraphs	Mario SCELBA	Christian Democrat	Mario FANO	Independent
Post War Relief	Emilio LUSSU	Action	Ernesto BERARDINONE	Communist

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

Education	Vincenzo ARANGIO-RUIZ	Liberal	Achille MARAZZA	Christian Democrat
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Public Works	Giuseppe ROMITA	Socialist	Giuseppe BRUNO	Action
Reconstruction	Meuccio RUINI	Labour Democrat	Ernesto ROSSI	Action
Transport	Ugo La MALFA	Action	Antonio Priolo	Socialist
Treasury	Marcello SOLERI	Liberal	(Giovanni PERSICO	Labour Democrat
			(Pietro MASTINO	Action
War	Stefano LACINI	Christian Democrat	Pompeo COLAIANNI Luigi CHATRIAN	Communist Independent

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I.

REGIONAL REPORTS.

EMILIA REGION.

1. There were no major political changes during June and the political atmosphere remains outwardly calm. Most people sense a deliberate policy of deferred action on the part of the more lawless elements who are obviously awaiting eagerly the departure of the Allies; this is further borne out by the attitude of the Carabinieri who feel that any action on their part now will be the cause of reprisals against them later. The Communists are still the most aggressive of the parties. ...

2. During the past month rapid strides have been made in restarting the industries in the Region. Eighty two factories which, at the beginning of the month, were closed are now in production and a further twenty one are continuing necessary repairs and will be in operation within the next month. The greatest obstacles to the recovery of industry continue to be the extreme shortage of coal and lack of transport.

3. Apart from the shortage of fresh meat, food conditions throughout the Region remain exceptionally good. During the month over 1,000 head of cattle were sold to TOSCANA and between 500 and 1,000 to Northern Provinces. There is still an acute shortage of cattle fodder in all provinces.

4. Wheat crops, after first threshing results, are estimated to be 40-50% less than previous yields. Continuation of the drought has caused considerable damage to the crops and rice alone shows an almost normal harvest.

5. The health of the people continues to be comparatively good, with the exception of local outbreaks of typhoid and paratyphoid fever in BOLOGNA Province.

6. Progress on all public works is seriously hampered by lack of transport and critical materials. Twenty one drainage and flood-control projects have been completed during June.

970

7. Although the number of major crimes committed has steadily decreased, intimidation of land-owners and even of public officials still continues in the form of anonymous threats and acts of extortion. One serious crime occurred at FERRARA, where a number of armed men wearing British battledress, with one of the party acting as a prisoner, entered the prison and shot the chief guard and seventeen prisoners. Nine others were injured and thirty four prisoners escaped. Eighteen of the escaped prisoners have returned of their own accord. A similar attack on a prison occurred at CARPI in MODENA Province where sixteen wellknown Fascist political prisoners were shot.

8. All patriot centres in the Region were closed on or before 10 June.

9. Unemployment is widespread and the estimated number of unemployed in the Region is 265,000. More than 140,000 refugees, both Allied and Italian, passed through the camps during the month.

LIGURIA REGION.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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LIGURIA REGION.

10. Allied Military Government has now existed in LIGURIA Region for a few days over two months. The people have been fed, law and order have been resumed, business of many kinds re-opened and a start on the repair of public works has been made. Schools and banks are functioning almost normally. Public morale, however, is affected by fear and uncertainty; as military units are withdrawn many people express the fear of reprisals, lawlessness and violence after the departure of the Allies.

11. Throughout/...

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. Throughout the Region provincial and communal administrative bodies are established and in operation and the efficiency of government is steadily improving.

12. The full allocation of flour and groceries for June together with the undelivered portion of the May allocation of flour have been distributed and there is now a substantial stockpile in each Province. A bread ration of 150 grammes a day, with one kilo of pasta and one kilo of rice and issue of fats, sugar and other supplements has been maintained. Heavy workers' supplements are being issued. Vegetables, fruit and fish are available in all provinces and prices have shown some decrease but meat is in short supply.

13. In GENOA there are about 60,000 to 70,000 unemployed, in SAVONA 10,000 and large unemployment exists in each of the other provinces. No relief on a large scale can be anticipated until coal and other raw materials are available. At the moment fruit and vegetables are plentiful but food kitchens will soon have to take over a heavy responsibility to prevent hunger and serious unrest. No strikes occurred during the month although there was an increasingly insistant demand for a better wage level and more employment.

14. The clearance of the harbour of GENOA has met with many difficulties which, after a minesweeper was destroyed with some loss of life, have resulted in the closing of the port for an indefinite time. One large ship at a time is being off-loaded on a nearby beach and the work of clearing SAVONA harbour was completed at the end of June. Rail transportation was available from GENOA to SAVONA as from 20 June.

15. During the month there has been an increase in crime, involving larceny but a decrease in cases of extortion and murder, thirty five murders being reported. Investigations were made in all cases but the results have been disappointing, partly due to witnesses not coming forward to give evidence for fear of reprisals. Prison deliveries occurred on 27 June, when twelve prisoners were removed from the TINIAE LIGURE Prison in SAVONA Province, and on 6 June, when three prisoners were removed from the gaol at LA SPEZIA. On 7 June, a mass grave of Nazi-Fascist atrocities containing about fifty bodies was found at SAVONA: many have been identified.

16. Public health in the Region was good and there was no evidence of malnutrition. There was, however, a marked rise in the number of typhoid fever cases reported in GENOA commune during the month, traced to the free flow of sewage into the sea, sea bathing under insanitary conditions and the eating of raw sea foods. Efforts to discourage these practices have been made.

17. All public schools in the Provinces of IMPERIA, LA SPEZIA and SAVONA are open for a summer session lasting until 14 August 1945.

LOMBARDIA REGION.

18. The rising cost of living, low wages and salaries continue to be the chief source of discontent and political unrest. Between 12 and 26 June there were twenty four disturbances in MILAN Province, usually taking the form of sit-down strikes. Constant negotiations with employers and representatives of labour were successful in avoiding any serious incidents.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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19. The minimum ration scale has been maintained but meat is in very short supply.

20. Distribution of captured animals to a total of over 5,500 has been concluded. It has been arranged for teams to brand and classify a large number of captured animals which had already been distributed in certain provinces before the arrival of AMG.

21. The morale/...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

21. The morale and efficiency of the Carabinieri has improved and they are working well throughout the Region. Very little hostility has been shown towards them. Public Security Agents are, however, most unsatisfactory, mainly due to the lack of experienced officers. Forty three cases of homicide were reported during the month, the majority of which occurred before 7 June. These figures show improvement on those of last month when 469 murders were reported in three provinces. A much higher percentage of crimes have been solved and detected. Cases of highway robberies, larcenies, illegal possession of firearms, cattle and horse stealing and extortion of money with threats have been reported.

22. One hundred and thirteen cases were tried by Summary and Superior Courts in MILAN city and thirteen in the Provinces. Italian Courts continued to function normally but are handicapped by lack of personnel and by the necessity for giving prior attention to the Extraordinary Courts.

23. Public health remained satisfactory. There has been a slight increase in the cases of typhoid fever. One case of typhus at DARFO-BRESCIA has been reported.

24. A small strike took place among teachers for increases in wages, but the announcement of certain officially established increases has quietened the situation temporarily.

25. 18,890 refugees and displaced persons have been registered and passed through camps in LOMBARDIA Region, making a total of 31,342 persons since the opening of these camps. Internees from SWITZERLAND are returning at the rate of about 5,000 a week.

PIEMONTE REGION.

26. Considerable progress was made during the month towards the restoration of the Region to normal conditions and the populace remained very friendly towards the Allied Forces. While in the city areas political activity appears to be on the increase and labour problems abound, the rural areas have little interest in politics. The Communist and Socialist Parties appear to have become more separated, the Communist Party being the most active.

27. French forces have withdrawn from AOSTA and TURIN Provinces and it is anticipated that the remaining occupied areas in CUNEO Province will be evacuated in the near future.

28. The food situation is good but the wheat harvest is expected to be far below normal. The health of the civilian population and sanitary conditions remain satisfactory.

29. The major outstanding Regional problem is cost of living and the comparatively low scale of wages operating are insufficient to combat the inflated prices. Considerable unrest exists amongst the people, as evidenced by numerous large scale demonstrations and small strikes throughout the Region all of which, however, were orderly.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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30. Crime is on a comparatively low scale. Eight cases of murder have been reported during June but police services are functioning reasonably well and there has been an improvement in their morale.

31. Repatriation of displaced persons from SWITZERLAND to ITALY has commenced, the total number to be repatriated being estimated at 40,000.

32. Fiat works continue in production making 12 three-ton trucks and 10 cars a day, but local stocks of tyres are now almost at an end and the shortage of tyres throughout ITALY is acute.

TOSCANA REGION/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

TOSCANA REGION.

33. On 19 June the Provinces of FIRENZE, PISTOIA, PISA, less the Commune of PISA and the Province of LIVORNO, less the Communes of LIVORNO and COLLI SALVETTI, were handed over to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government and appropriate ceremonies were held to commemorate the day. The Provinces of LUCCA and APUANIA were transferred to the administration of AMG Liguria Region. LIVORNO Commune remained under AMG and the Communes of PISA and COLLI SALVETTI came under the command of Commissioner LIVORNO Zone.

34. Although there was no outstanding development during the month the political parties were very active and the Communist Party stirred up the farmers, inciting them to make trouble for the landowners. Local Government continued to function smoothly.

35. The food situation has been satisfactory. The handover of the control of food supply to the Italian authorities has been effected without notable interruption to supply. Olive oil amassed, at the present scale of issue, should supply the Region until January 1946.

36. The morale of the Italian public safety organisations has improved under Allied Military Government and crime in general is decreasing.

37. Public Health is good and the anti-malarial programme has been handled with excellent results.

38. Since the commencement of AMG in the Region over 18,000 persons have been tried and over 10,000 appeals were reviewed.

39. The approximate state of repair projects to monuments in all nine provinces shows 101 projects completed or near completion, and 166 projects under way or barely started. The restoration of the burnt Campo Santo in PISA will be one of the most difficult and expensive Fine Arts problems before the Italian Government.

VENEZIE REGION

40. Throughout the month the five Provinces of UDINE, VENEZIA, TREVISO, PADOVA and ROVIGO were under direct Regional administration; the five Provinces of BELLUNO, VICENZA, BOLZANO, TRENTO and VERONA remained officially under AMG Fifth Army but VENEZIE Region was responsible in varying degree for most aspects of the administration.

41. The ten Prefects, all of them C.L.N. nominees appointed by AMG during May, continued to justify their selection. It was found necessary, however, to make changes in some of the Questore and to appoint men from the South with professional training in their place.

42. The disarming of the patriots was officially completed in the third week of June. There is, however, disquieting evidence that many patriot bands are maintaining hidden stores of arms but definite information as to the location and size of such dumps is exceedingly difficult to obtain. It is, moreover, certain that some groups have not disbanded and are maintaining themselves, either by living on the capital fund accumulated during the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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41. The ten Prefects, all of them C.L.N. nominees appointed by AMG during May, continued to justify their selection. It was found necessary, however, to make changes in some of the Questore and to appoint men from the South with professional training in their place.

42. The disarming of the patriots was officially completed in the third week of June. There is, however, disquieting evidence that many patriot bands are maintaining hidden stores of arms but definite information as to the location and size of such dumps is exceedingly difficult to obtain. It is, moreover, certain that some groups have not disbanded and are maintaining themselves, either by living on the capital fund accumulated during the winter or by forced levies off the countryside.

43. The state of public security remained reasonably good. On the opening of the Special Court of Assizes in PADUA on 15 June, the crowd assembled in court and, excited by the evidence, stormed the prisoners' cage and carried off six prisoners. One was killed but the other five were rescued by Allied Military intervention. The introduction of Carabinieri into the mountainous districts proceeded with less trouble than was anticipated, and by the end of the month nearly all stations had been opened.

14. Public/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

44. Public health remained good and there were no serious epidemics. The food situation did not give rise to any anxiety except temporarily in UDINE where an attempt to move wheat into the Province by water transport from ROVIGO was impeded by a barge sunk in a canal.

45. Though many factories remain intact and ready to function, the shortage of raw materials, above all the shortage of coal, stand in the way of a resumption of production.

46. Railway communications improved considerably during the month and a start was made in the organization of truck pools.

REPORT BY RECENT VISITOR TO VENEZIA GIULIA.

47. Outwardly TRIESTE does not strike one as being the hot spot or the powder-keg of EUROPE, as it has been variously described. Except when there is a general strike, a superficial air of normality abounds. The bulk of the population seems to be either in the sea, bathing alongside the Allied troops, or in the trams which take them to and from the beaches. Food does not appear to be very short and flour was being sold on the quaysides from little ships coming in from the coastal towns at 40 to 50 lire per kilo. Maize was cheaper and potatoes were going at 22 lire and there did not seem to be a vast crowd of purchasers.

48. But that is only on the surface. Underneath there is a complex problem of nationalism and politics, of economic distress and, at any rate in POLA and MONFALCONE, the pressing problem of war damage, all of which are producing for the AMG authorities under XIII Corps one of the most difficult tasks that has faced the Allies in ITALY.

49. But one and all are tackling it quietly and efficiently and in the true spirit of AMG's position as trustees in a disputed territory. AMG is dealing with the territory as an administrative case with the one object of establishing good government without fear or favour. There is no doubt that stability is being established: it may probably be upset from time to time by forces beyond control but the effect of impartially and firm administration is being felt; it can be seen.

50. There was a strike in TRIESTE on 25 June involving shipbuilding docks, tramways and some shops. It was well and rapidly organised which shows the powers of the forces with which AMG has to contend, but it passed off without incident, without casualties and with only one or two arrests, a tribute to the stabilizing influence of Allied troops and the military government, a tribute which is even more creditable when it is realised that there are practically no indigenous police and that law and order is maintained by the machinery of the military police and special troops allotted to them. The organisation however of a composite police force is going ahead, including the training of about 3,500 indigenous police who will eventually form the civil police force for the territory.

AMG NAPLES COMMAND.

51. There was little change in the situation in NAPLES Command. Crime [illegible] a slight tendency to increase, the chief offences being thefts of [illegible] Allied troops and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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AMG NAPLES COMMUNE.

51. There was little change in the situation in NAPLES Commune. Crime showed a slight tendency to increase, the chief offences being thefts of Allied goods. There were six cases of incidents between Allied troops and Italian soldiers and civilians during the month, resulting in the death of two Allied military personnel and one civilian.

52. Unemployment in NAPLES is increasing and it is estimated that the figure has now reached about 100,000 as against 70,000 in April.

53. The/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

53. The smallpox epidemic was abating in NAPLES Commune but outside the city the figures remained static. Typhoid cases remained at the same level as in May, twenty three new cases being reported for the first three weeks in June. Water shortage was causing anxiety.

54. Farmers had in some cases to kill off livestock as grazing was short due to the drought. Damage caused by the grasshopper plague was comparatively slight inspite of the unusually large swarms of these insects.

55. More street lighting is now available in NAPLES and there has been an extension in the tramway services. The approximate number of children in NAPLES schools is 45,000 against 25,000 last year and a pre-war figure of 100,000. Over forty cooperative food shops have now been opened and it is planned to bring this number up to two hundred. Clothing available for issue from the repairing and dyeing shops now amounts to 535,910 pieces in comparison to 361,316 pieces at the end of May. 52,105 pieces were issued during June.

AMG LIVORNO ZONE.

56. The political situation in the LIVORNO and PISA areas remained quiet. There were no labour disturbances and for many months past there has been an almost total absence of demonstrations, inflammatory posters and slogans painted on walls. Public morale was good.

57. Political party volunteers helping with the thousands of refugees in daily transit through the city have rendered invaluable assistance. Arrangements were completed during the month to turn over all civilian supply supervision and administration for the entire Provinces of PISA and LIVORNO to the Italian agencies.

58. Lack of rain is seriously affecting crops.

59. With the employment afforded by the Allied military authorities in the city of LIVORNO no serious unemployment exists, but in PISA Commune there are 8,000 unemployed; with military installations now departing and refugees returning from the North it is estimated that this number will soon rise to 14,000.

60. Water supply for civilian use continues to be precarious; while this results primarily from the war destruction of large sections of the water supply system, the shortage is further aggravated by the large number of military personnel with the district, the prolonged drought and the large amount of water diverted for the German PW stockade which is in this area. Work in progress on water supply systems should relieve the situation to some extent within the next month.

61. Allied Military Courts disposed of 288 charges for violations of proclamations and general orders during the month.

62. No serious outbreaks of disease have been reported and conditions appear to be normal for this time of year.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775021

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BARI AND SOUTH EAST ITALY (from report of A.C. Liaison Officer BARI)

63. There were serious disturbances and terrorist rule by Communists at ANDRIA and MINERVINO MURGE, BARI Province, during the latter part of June. On 25 June a party of well armed Communists attacked the Carabinieri barracks of MINERVINO MURGE and demanded the release of three Communists who had been arrested; seven prisoners were released and the Carabinieri were disarmed and interned in their own Caserma. One Carabiniere and one civilian were killed and several others were wounded. 500 Carabinieri reinforcements were dispatched to the scene. On 27 June, armed Communists released 46

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

prisoners, including four held at the disposition of the Allies, from ANDRIA gaol, and established road blocks around the town. The rioters occupied the Post Office, Municipio and Telegraph Exchange at MINERVINO MURGE; telephone lines were cut, farms and trains were ransacked and goods stolen; the law courts at ANDRIA were looted and the Labour Exchange and other public buildings were burnt to the ground. Several alleged Fascists were hunted out and killed and there were several casualties both among the Carabinieri and the Communist bands. The Minister of Labour (Socialist) and Minister of Finance (Communist) visited the Province and discussions took place. Order was restored on 30 June, but the situation was far from tranquil.

64. About 1,600 Yugoslav soldiers were repatriated during the month and 400 wounded were repatriated in a hospital ship.

65. The harvest has been poor and, owing to the shortage of fodder, many farmers have had to slaughter their cattle. Distribution of rationed food, with the exception of sugar which is in short supply, has been satisfactory.

SARDINIA (from A.C. Liaison Officer SARDINIA).

66. The political situation showed little change. The acute drought has had a serious economic effect on the Island and the grain and wheat harvests were seriously damaged. Much livestock had to be slaughtered as there was insufficient fodder and diseases broke out .

67. During the month 44,186 tons of Sulcis coal were mined, as compared with 38,241 tons in May, and 38,240 tons were exported to the Mainland.

68. Total imports for the month amounted to 2,994 tons, an increase of 1,642 tons on the previous month. Cheese has been the only foodstuff exported.

69. Public safety conditions were better during June although there were a few minor disturbances.

70. A small number of cases of typhoid fever was reported in all three Provinces. The number of tuberculosis cases and the inadequate Sanatoriums and Institutions for their care are causing concern.

SICILY (from A.C. Liaison Officer CATANIA and PALERMO).

967

71. The political situation remained unchanged although the divergence of opinion between the Republican and Monarchial groups was becoming more pronounced and public opinion appeared to have strong leanings towards a Republic.

72. Price Committees are functioning but a rigid control of prices is still lacking, resulting in an increase in black market activities. Epuration is progressing very slowly and individuals affected are in most cases only minor officials.

73. At MESSINA Province the typhus epidemic has been stamped out and in PALERMO Province it is now under control.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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74. Classified labour employed by the Allies in SICILY has been granted an increase of 70 lire a day. The arrival of coal and grain shipments were regular and stocks of grain were available by the end of the month.

75. Several clashes have been reported between Carabinieri and members of the Separatist Party who have taken refuge in mountainous districts North-west of ENNA following the closing of all their Headquarters by order of the Prefect. A few caches of arms were found but there were some casualties on both sides.

76. There/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

76. There were several strikes on the Island during the month, the most important of which was the strike of the sulphur mines in the Province of CALTANISSETTA. As the month closed the miners returned unwillingly to work after a compromise agreement had been reached.

PART II/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

PART II

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Defascism.

1. No new decrees were passed during the month due to the cessation of legislative activity of the Italian Government during the political crisis.

2. General Order 46 dealing with the epuration of workers and employees in private industry was issued on 2 June 1945. The Provincial Epuration Commissions operating under General Order 35 have been working satisfactorily.

3. The American and British Embassies and the Allied Commission have given their approval for the enactment of a decree dealing with the forfeiture of wealth corruptly gained during the Fascist regime.

4. The Extraordinary Courts of Assize have greatly increased their volume of work and the section of the Court of Cassation, sitting in MILAN, has expedited the disposition of appeals, particularly in cases of death sentences.

5. In the principal Ministries 37,142 of the 47,365 employees have been scrutinized and 7,282 have been sent for trial; of the latter total 4,768 cases have been concluded, 793 employees were dismissed, 303 sentenced to compulsory retirement and 1,086 received lesser punishment.

Mine Clearance.

6. The Zones set up in EMILIA and LIGURIA Regions are functioning satisfactorily and new squads being trained as recruits come forward. Lack of transport and POL is retarding a fuller development of the scheme.

7. The total number of mines lifted during the month was 55,502, which brings the total of mines reported lifted in ITALY to the end of June to 1,501,714. There were several casualties among both the military units and civilian squads during the month, 13 being killed and 13 wounded.

966

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION.

8. The compilation of Electoral Registers in the Northern Provinces under Allied Military Government, excluding VENEZIA GIULIA, will start on 15 July 45. Under Italian Law 100 days are required, from the date of commencement, for the completion of these Electoral Lists. An extension of this time-limit will be granted only to Communes which show proof that, because of war damage and disruption, they are unable to complete their lists within the time limits set.

9. The Italian Government are again to be advised to revise the existing electoral laws, which were passed in 1915. The previous efforts of the Allied Commission in this direction resulted in a reply from the then President of the Council, H.E. BONOMI, to the effect that no reform was required since, in his personal opinion, the law was "adequate."

EDUCATION SUB-COMMISSION.

10. On the whole the education system of Northern ITALY with the exception, as yet, of VENEZIA GIULIA, was found to be satisfactory and most schools have been re-opened, where the children had an almost uninterrupted year the opening was

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

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966

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION.

8. The compilation of Electoral Registers in the Northern Provinces under Allied Military Government, excluding VENEZIA GIULIA, will start on 1 July 45. Under Italian Law 100 days are required, from the date of commencement, for the completion of these Electoral Lists. An extension of this time-limit will be granted only to Communes which show proof that, because of war damage and disruption, they are unable to complete their lists within the time limits set.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. LOMBARDIA is reported to have had the largest concentration of fascists in teachers' posts. In CREMONA Province 33% of the teachers, as against an average of 4% to 7% in the rest of ITALY, had to be removed; in one school seventeen out of eighteen teachers were removed from office.

12. Reports on damage to school and university buildings show that 20% to 30% of the schools in APUANIA were destroyed and the University of BOLOGNA and the University of GENOA, and four buildings of the University of MILAN have suffered greatly. AMG have issued a new order against further requisitioning of schools but derequisitioning is still a serious problem, in many cases more serious in the South than in the North of ITALY.

13. In LOMBARDIA Region there were small teachers strikes organised by the "incaricati", or teachers employed from year to year but not yet on permanent civil service rolls. These "incaricati" receive salaries for only ten months of the year and with the rising cost of living their situation during the summer vacation is desperate. Demonstrations were quieted and an immediate solution is being sought.

14. In Southern ITALY, SICILY and SARDINIA all schools and universities functioned throughout the year, closing for the summer vacation in June. While building repairs have begun in many places, there is still a vast amount of repair and reconstruction to be done. The shortage of glass remains the most universal problem in the repair of school buildings, while another major difficulty is the replacement of scientific and technical equipment which has been requisitioned by the Germans and the by the Allies, or looted, or destroyed.

LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION.

15. With the termination of Military Government in TOSCANA Region, the reduction in the volume of AMG Court cases continues. Several serious crimes have been tried in NAPLES; in particular another gang of counterfeiters was brought to trial and 7 persons were convicted out of 8 charged. In North ITALY there has been a slight increase in the volume of AMG Court cases; the offences involved were mainly possession of arms and possession of Allied property: several cases of illegal possession of Allied petrol have been tried. In VENEZIA Region a few cases have arisen out of political disturbances and one serious case was tried in which a member of the CC.RR shot and seriously wounded an Allied soldier; a similar case occurred in NAPLES Commune.

16. In the Italian Courts the principal interest centred in the Extraordinary Courts of Assize. These are operating in all provinces in the North with the exception of BOLZANO Province where, owing to the special conditions, it had not been possible to implement Italian legislation or establish the Extraordinary Courts. Arrangements are, however, in progress to institute these courts forthwith. The courts themselves appear to be working fairly and satisfactorily and on the whole a genuine effort to administer justice appears to be being made.

17. Unfortunately the inevitable time involved in an appeal to the Court of Cassation and a petition for mercy creates an appearance of delay in the execution of death sentences which is causing considerable comment and some disturbance. In view of the nature of these Courts it is necessary to preserve some form of appeal and the interval between sentences and execution of about one month is difficult to reduce.

16. On 30 June a conference was held in MILAN of the heads of all the Courts of Appeal in the North to discuss the operation of these Courts and to secure uniformity

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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18. On 30 June a conference was held in MILAN of the heads of all the Courts of Appeal in the North to discuss the operation of these Courts and to secure uniformity of administration.

19. General Order No. 48 was issued to prevent mass discharges from private industry, with consequent large scale unemployment, as a result of the shortage of raw materials in Northern ITALY.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION.

20. The Italian Government is proposing to appoint a High Commission for Public Health, thus freeing the Health Service from the present subordinate position in the Ministry of Interior. The High Commission will be directly responsible to the Council of Ministers.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

21. Representatives of the Rockefeller Foundation have advised against the formation of a Cordon Sanitaire in the North of ITALY mentioned in last month's report, owing to the delay in repatriation and the consequent congestion such a Cordon would cause. AFHQ have therefore been requested to decline the kind offer made by the Swiss Government of medical aid to Northern ITALY.

22. Three cases of Typhus have been reported from PALERMO but no further cases have occurred at CAPIZZI; sporadic cases have been reported from the Mainland. A marked decrease has occurred in the incidents of Smallpox in NAPLES City but there is little diminution in the number of cases reported from NAPLES Province.

23. Anti-malaria spray guns and 20,000 litres of Pyrethrum Spray have been delivered to Venezia Region and further shipments are being arranged. Spraying in the TIBER Delta projects has been completed and field reports indicate that mosquito densities in the treated areas are exceedingly low. In addition, a marked reduction in flies is noticeable.

24. The Infant Mortality rate in ROME Commune during May was 74.8 a thousand as compared with 70.7 in April. Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis in ROME were 250 in May as compared to the April figure of 257.

25. A tour of the Northern Regions revealed a satisfactory position as regards medical supplies, except for a scarcity of insulin, the delivery of which is being arranged.

26. A survey of veterinary activities in the Northern Regions indicates that they are being operated much more efficiently than those in Southern Regions. Three veterinary laboratories were found to be undamaged and functioning satisfactorily, and had ample stocks on hand. The TURIN laboratory has produced a satisfactory vaccine against Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Swine Cholera and Swine Erysipelas are sporadic in all Northern Regions.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

27. The public safety position showed a considerable improvement over the previous month but it is still far from satisfactory. Reports indicate the continued ineffectiveness of Police Agencies and the lack of trained personnel, press support, uniforms and equipment, transport and officers and NCOs constitute major problems for the Italian Government. A marked reduction from the high May records of killings, disappearances and extortions is noted during June.

28. The ceiling strength of the Carabinieri was raised by 10,000 to 65,000 at the end of the month and nearly 8,000 ex-Carabinieri were enrolled and equipped.

29. Two mobile Carabinieri Battalions have been formed, one in SICILY and the other in SARDINIA, and those for MILAN, TURIN, GENOA and PADUA will soon be in operation. It is planned to form additional mobile Battalions for FLORENCE, BOLOGNA, ANCONA, ROMA, NAPLES and BARI.

30. The initial hostility towards professional Questore from the South being appointed in the North of ITALY is now diminishing and the 'amateur' who filled the post on the cessation of hostilities, finding the task too much for him, is giving way to the trained professional.

31. There have been several cases of organised bands gaining entry to prisons for the purpose of releasing their friends or murdering their enemies. This problem is made more difficult by the inexperience of the prison guards and the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

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28. The ceiling strength of the Carabinieri was raised by 10,000 to 65,000 at the end of the month and nearly 8,000 ex-Carabinieri were enrolled and equipped.

29. Two mobile Carabinieri Battalions have been formed, one in SICILY and the other in SARDINIA, and those for MILAN, TURIN, GENOA and PADUA will soon be in operation. It is planned to form additional mobile Battalions for FLORENCE, BOLOGNA, ANCONA, ROME, NAPLES and BARI.

965

30. The initial hostility towards professional Questore from the South being appointed in the North of ITALY is now diminishing and the 'amateur' who filled the post on the cessation of hostilities, finding the task too much for him, is giving way to the trained professional.

31. There have been several cases of organised bands gaining entry to prisons for the purpose of releasing their friends or murdering their enemies. This problem is made more difficult by the inexperience of the prison guards and the critical overcrowding which exists in the prisons where 95% of the prison population are political prisoners. It is hoped that more prisons will soon be released from military requisition to relieve this serious overcrowding. There were some demonstrations against slow legal procedure and light sentences assessed against fascists and collaborators.

32. Grain thefts are reported from all parts of the country and armed bands are operating throughout the Southern areas. There is a general increase in larceny, burglary and counterfeiting and in some places unofficial political police forces have been organised. Details of incidents and disturbances are dealt with in full in the Regional Reports.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Return of Illegal Shooting in Provinces of
VENEZIA, LIGURIA, LOMBARDIA, EMILIA and PIEMONTE.

June, 1945.

Date	Kidnapped and shot	Kidnapped - presumed killed	Shot	Incidents involving loss of life	Shot by Germans	Killed by other means	Lynched	TOTAL
1-19 June	7	2	30	-	9	1	31	80
19-24 June	-	-	35	-	-	2	-	37
24-30 June	-	-	12	13	-	1	-	26
						Total:		143 +

+ Approximate number of illegal deaths or kidnappings for the period 8 to 31 May was 3,237 as compared to the 143 reported in June as shown above.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PATRIOTS BRANCH.

33. With the exception of a few organised bands, such as the Ossoppo and Nino Nannetti Divisions in VENEZIA, the disarming and demobilisation of patriots was practically completed. There remained, however, a number of patriots requiring employment and assistance and 27 Patriot Centres were still operating at the end of the month. It was clear that large quantities of arms were still being kept hidden, although information as to the location of the dumps was very difficult to obtain.

34. The most important measures affecting patriots taken by the Government during the month were the granting of "Ente Morale" status to the Associazione Nazionale Partigiani d'Italia, and the authorising of increased bonuses for patriots as follows:-

Patriots with less than 3 months service	L. 1,000
Patriots with more than 3 months service	L. 5,000
Wounded Patriots	L. 10,000
Relatives of fallen Patriots	L. 20,000

35. Contrary to expectations, the patriot problem in VENEZIA GIULIA has proved to be relatively simple; those Italian patriots who had not withdrawn into YUGOSLAVIA, were disarmed and disbanded by the Yugoslav forces before EIGHTH Army troops occupied the area and the Yugoslav patriots withdrew into YUGOSLAVIA. It is not proposed to set up any patriot organisation in VENEZIA GIULIA.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS AND ARCHIVES SUB-COMMISSION.

36. The "Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci has been uncovered and found to have suffered practically no damage. The famous Certosa of PAVIA, the Masolino frescoes at CASTIGLIONE D'OLONA, and the Luini frescoes at SARONNO are undamaged. In PIEMONTE six deposits of art objects were inspected and found intact. In LIGURIA Region 37 monuments in GENOA were inspected and 16 urgent projects approved; inspections were also made of monuments at CAVIA, BRUGNATO, the provinces of GENOA and LA SPEZIA and the provinces of IMPERIA and SAVONA, where monuments were found to be in good condition.

37. In EMILIA, LOMBARDIA, PIEMONTE and VENEZIA Regions, Archives Officers have carried out inspections of state, town, notarial and church archives and also of libraries. Return of deposits has started, where the state of parent depositories make it possible.

38. Mr. Hilary Jenkinson, C.B.E., Archives Adviser to the War Office, arrived in ROME on 24 June to survey progress made in connection with Italian archives. During his visit a draft memorandum, setting out a programme for the future administration of the Archives of the Allied Commission, extending over a period of several years, was discussed.

964

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION.

39. During the month the movements of refugees and displaced persons have become more organised. Representatives of AFHQ and SHAEF have discussed plans for the repatriation of 350,000 Italians from GERMANY and AUSTRIA, and 300,000 German ex-PWs from ITALY, through the BRENNER PASS and SWITZERLAND by rail commencing 1 July 1945.

40. Approximately 68,707 Italian refugees arrived in ROME from the North in June and about 46,129 were sent to the South. 500 Greeks were repatriated by air from

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

Relatives of Fallen Patriots	L. 10,000
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40. Approximately 68,707 Italian refugees arrived in ROME from the North in June and about 46,129 were sent to the South. 500 Greeks were repatriated by air from ITALY to GREECE in groups of 100.

41. At the end of the month a total of 83,171 persons were recorded by the Records Bureau covering 72 nationalities.

42. This month saw the close of the financial assistance programme for displaced persons. Started in ROME on 7 October 1944 when 273 heads of families received loans, it was extended immediately to all of liberated ITALY. The peak was reached in December 1944 when 5,000 persons were recommended advances. This programme was the means of preventing untold hardship, privation and malnutrition among Stateless displaced persons and twenty-four nationalities, including former enemy nationals who had been persecuted for racial or political reasons. Loans up to 4,000 Lire a head each month were made with a maximum of 12,000 Lire for any single household. The total amount loaned was a little over seventy-five million lire. UNRRA is now responsible for this work.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART III

ECONOMIC SECTION

AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION.

1. A report on the Italian wheat crop estimate forecasted 4,427,314 tons as compared with 6,390,661 last year, the decrease being mainly due to the prolonged drought which has further accentuated the fortilizer deficiency. Acreage planted showed 8% decrease owing, to a large extent, to non-cultivation of marginal strips in mountain areas. Acreage for the year is estimated at 4,363,985 while acreage for last year was 4,765,490. The drought has continued since March and is said to be the worst since 1922. The small farms which form the greater part of Italian agriculture have suffered more than the large surplus producing properties. A low yield is anticipated for other reasons also, such as late sowing, frosts, hot winds, floods and war damage.

2. The Granai del Popolo reports for the season from 1 July 1944 to 30 June 1945 show that 1,563,698 metric tons of wheat were collected in Northern ITALY, while in the remainder of ITALY the quantity amounted to 1,114,530 metric tons, which represents 96% of the target figure. The olive oil collection totalled 51,766 metric tons.

3. The forage shortage will necessitate redistribution of forage surpluses and livestock. In SARDINIA, grasshoppers have damaged forage.

4. An allocation of 500,000 tons of rock phosphate was received from North AFRICA. Copper sulphate and sulphur were distributed and nitrogen fertiliser production was resumed and distribution commenced in Northern ITALY.

5. Investigation disclosed that several factors, primarily the cost of movement and secondarily the bad condition of the animals due to drought and lack of forage, will prevent the transfer of any larger numbers of animals from SARDINIA to the mainland for slaughter or restocking. Distribution of captured animals to farmers has been completed with approximately 26,176 distributed since the early part of May.

6. A programme for the re-establishment of ocean fishing, using Italian-owned trawlers, was prepared. A chart to aid in the location of mines and obstructions was made and fishing boats were sent to unrestricted areas.

COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION.

7. As a result of the uncovering of large stocks of engineering materials in Northern ITALY, only five items are now controlled by the Engineering Materials Committee of the Allied Force Local Resources (Italian) Board, viz: tin, solder, white metal for bearings, standing timber, in the two areas reserved for British and American services in CALABRIA, and plywood.

8. More than 2,000 tons of new and used clothing, shoes, new blankets and comforters arrived in ITALY from the U.S.A. and were consigned to I.C.E. (Istituto Commercio Estero).

9. Exports during the month amounted to 1,846 tons, with a total value of 50 million lire.

10. An Italian Economic Mission has left for SWITZERLAND where it will keep in [illegible] while negotiating with the Swiss

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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11. A request submitted by the Italian Government for a further increase in the June bulk allocation of POL was examined but refused on the grounds that the best possible use is still not being made of the present allocation, which is estimated to be more than sufficient to cover Category A needs.

12. 2,000 tons of newsprint arrived from AMERICA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION

13. COS has authorised the sending of certain transactional communications from ITALY to the British Empire and United States and possessions, provided a license has been granted by the Ministry of the Treasury.

14. The Swiss frontier was partly opened on 29 June to permit the repatriation of Italian refugees in SWITZERLAND; and with the concurrence of the Allied Commission, the Banca d'Italia, acting on behalf of the Italian Treasury, has established a currency control. Dollars, sterling and Swiss francs are being purchased; other currencies (except reichsmarks) are being taken up against receipt.

15. The Allied Commission has to date seized more than 6.5 billion lire of German Army and other German official funds.

16. The final figures for the new 5% Five Year Treasury Bond issue in Central and Southern ITALY show a total of 33 billion lire subscribed. It has been decided to extend the new bond issue to North ITALY (except VENEZIA GIULIA). The issue price is to be 99 and the subscription period will run from 15 July to 5 August 45.

17. Upon liberation of the industrial North, Allied authorities found already in operation a two-fold system of caring for workers rendered surplus by war damage and materials shortages. One group benefitted by a broadening of the scope of the "integrazione salariale" a guaranteed minimum compensation to short-time workers. A second group, placed on a temporary waiting list, was granted special daily allowances by the employer and the Unemployment Fund and the right to continue to receive regular family allowances. Both treatments provided under decrees of the Fascist Republican Government of 20 January and 13 February respectively. General Order No. 48 has now been issued to provide a proper legal basis for continuing the essential features of this system. It is based on discussions with the Italian Government, which not only gave invaluable technical advice but undertook to subsidize the Cassa Integrazione Salariale, already seriously strained by the unusual burdens it has had to bear in recent months.

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION.

18. The food economy of North ITALY is being brought into line with that of the South with as little change to the existing system as possible. Decisions were reached in respect of rationing policy, movement of foodstuffs and prices of foodstuffs in Northern ITALY and a uniform basis of ration scales has been promulgated to all Regions at the official Allied Commission scales prevailing in Southern ITALY. Food organizations existing in Northern ITALY on liberation have now been linked up with those formed by the Italian Ministry of Food in the South. The functioning of the Ministry of Food and the Federazione dei Consorzi Agrari continued to improve.

19. Total imports for the month were 244,629 tons, of which 221,155 tons were cereals, being the highest monthly total since the occupation of ITALY.

20. During the month 26,600 tons of miscellaneous supplies were delivered to Northern Regions and rationed foodstuffs imported into ITALY have reached 963 tons a day, the highest figure reached during 1945.

21. Food commitments which had previously been undertaken by the Armies are now being undertaken by Allied Commission including the feeding of partisans and Polish refugees in camps.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

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INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION.

22. The production of cement totalled 11,441 tons, the decrease of 1,914 tons from the previous month being mainly due to shortage of fuel. The Solway works produced 6,000 tons of Sodium Carbonate (Soda Ash), 40% of ITALY's pre-war requirements. Occhi Occhiri plant in SARDINIA for the production of Nitrogenous Fertilizer has been forced to close through lack of water.

23. Estimated production for June of Sardinian coal was 40,000 tons. With an additional 2,500 workers it is estimated that this production could be raised 75,000 tons a month. The estimated lignite production for June was 50,000 tons but the potential production, which is much greater, is handicapped by shortage of transportation and labour. Norwegian production has commenced at the Carmina-Sicily Mine, but the sulphur industry in SICILY is at a standstill owing to a strike at

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

the mines. The marine salt works are producing about 400,000 tons per annum which is sufficient to meet ITALY's needs.

24. The increased prices in the North for finished tobacco products and tobacco derivatives will result in an increase of revenue to the Italian Government of 600,000,000 lire a month.

25. Production of cotton for Southern ITALY for June showed a considerable increase over the previous month and the production of woollen piece goods for June in Southern ITALY was approximately 1,350,000 metres.

LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION.

26. There is increasing industrial unrest in Northern ITALY due to rising cost of living and heavy unemployment. Arrangements have been made to prevent wholesale discharge of surplus workers for a further period, pending the preparation of an effective scheme for diverting these workers into other channels.

27. In Northern ITALY numerous wage agreements in private industry providing for substantial increases in wage rates have been negotiated and approved, particularly in the provinces of MILAN, TURIN and BOLOGNA: decrees providing for increases in the wages and pensions of State and parastatal employees have been implemented; Allied Forces employees have also been granted increases of wages, local commanders have been authorised to pay wages ranging between the minimum and the maximum of the basic pay with part of the cost of living bonus prevailing in the South of ITALY pending the establishment of Local Sub-Committees of the Labour and Wages Control Committee.

28. Reorganisation of social insurance in the North is proceeding and in VENEZIA GIULIA special inspectorates are being established in order to maintain the autonomy of this district.

29. In Central and Southern ITALY there have been fewer demands for wage increases and with the exception of a strike at the sulphur mines in SARDINIA there has been little industrial disturbance.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES SUB-COMMISSION.

30. Communal Housing Committees are becoming increasingly active in Italian Government territory but progress is less advanced in AMG Territory. Functioning Committees now total 435, with 24,344 housing repair projects started and 12,646 completed since the inauguration of the Committees. The value of work on housing to the end of June amounted to 2,542 million lire.

31. A comprehensive five year rehabilitation programme for the port of GENOA was submitted for consideration with a total cost of approximately 950 million lire. Approval was given for the urgent work which can be accomplished in 1945 to be started and this will amount to approximately 95 million lire.

32. To help meet the expected power shortage in Southern ITALY steps have been taken to repair the high voltage transmission lines between TERNI and PESCARA and PESCARA and NAPLES. It is expected to transport 20,000 KW of power on these lines by October 1945.

33. During the month of June three 60,000 Volt transmission lines capable of transporting approximately 20,000 KW power from Northern to Central ITALY were

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION.

34. The movement into Northwest ITALY was not as planned owing to the delay in opening GENOA Port. This necessitated the movement of supplies continuing along the ANCONA - FORLI axis, with consequent long road hauls. At the end of the month improved rail communications between the South and the North somewhat relieved the strain on available road transport.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

35. An increasing demand on all means of transport was made to deal with the large number of returning refugees, many of whom had to be moved from the North to areas South of ROME. Generally all demands for movement of refugees were met with little delay, AFHQ being most helpful in working out a flexible system to meet the emergency demands which occurred throughout the month. Arrangements have now been made with SHAEF to control the flow of refugees, so that advance programmes can be made.

36. 80,000 tons of stores were moved coastwise in June, excluding stores lifted by the personnel/cargo ferries operating between NAPLES, SARDINIA and SICILY. Of the 80,000 tons, 25,000 tons were lifted by schooner.

37. Tonnages moved by rail totalled approximately 220,000 tons, showing an increase over previous months. About 67% of the accepted programmed traffic on the mainland was moved, against an average of 62½% in the previous month. In addition, 81,000 refugees moved by train.

38. Line 257 from ROME to VITERBO has been extended to SIPICCIANO and additional services have been introduced.

39. During the month considerable progress has been made in the handover of trucks to the Italian Government. About 230 x 1½-ton vehicles have been collected by the Italian State Railways and AC Truck Pools at FOGGIA, CAMPOBASSO, CHIETI, AQUILA and PESCARO have been taken over by the Ministry of Transport. The remaining AC Pools will be handed over before the end of July. Transfer of LNT (SICILY) vehicles from AC to the Italian Government was completed on 15 June.

40. A total of 35,000 tons has been moved by road during the month, on priority haulage programmes, being an increase of 25% over the May figure. In addition, 12,700 refugees were moved across the ANCONA-LORETO rail gap.

962

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. Psychological Warfare Branch was liquidated on 15 July and private newspapers are now responsible for the collection of articles and news items.

2. The revival of pre-fascist newspapers was discussed during the month but the project has met with opposition from some elements of the civilian population.

3. Approximately twenty releases on various subjects, including further transfers of territory, wheat prices and special announcements for AMG in the North, arranged for simultaneous publication through PWB 15 Army Group, and more than one hundred hometown biographical releases on U.S. personnel were issued by the Allied Commission during the month.

NAVY SUBCOMMISSION

4. The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean has directed that captured material of German and Italian Naval origin, including that previously in the possession of the Italian Republican Navy, if not required for Allied Naval purposes may be turned over to the Italian Naval authorities for [illegible]. The Navy Subcommission has been designated by the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, as the agency responsible for the disposition of such material.

5. In accordance with instructions received from the Supreme Allied Commander and from the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, the Navy Subcommission has informed the Ministry of Marine, that any action to be taken concerning ex-Italian Republican Navy personnel still at large, is the responsibility of the Italian Government. Such personnel cannot be taken into Allied protective custody either as prisoners of war or surrendered enemy forces.

6. The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, has directed that Italian Merchant Vessels in the Mediterranean which carry Italian armament manned by Italian Naval personnel are now to be disarmed. Such action will permit a considerable number of Italian Navy gun crews to be released in order that they may rejoin other branches of the Italian Navy.

LAND FORCES SUBCOMMISSION (MMIA)

7. On 1 July approximately 18,000 Italian Service Units (PW) assigned to American formations changed their status to US-ITI and former cooperator units passed under administrative control of 212 Italian Command and 205 Administrative Div HQ. Approximately 7,900 men will be demobilized when released by the employing unit. About 17,000 Italian cooperators serving in ITALY were transferred from PW status to SR-ITI status as from 1 July: of these about 6,000 are of the age for demobilization.

8. At the end of the month it was estimated that 20,000 out of the 50,000 of the 1914 and older classes (first four months) still remained to be demobilized. It was recommended to AFHQ that the rest of the 1914 class should be demobilized forthwith and other classes later, depending on the reduction in the services required.

9. Strong recommendations were made to AFHQ for the disbandment of the Italian Intelligence Units as it was considered that their roles had become obsolete. AFHQ

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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9. Strong recommendations were made to AFHQ for the disbandment of the Italian Intelligence Units as it was considered that their roles had become obsolete. AFHQ agreed to the reduction of the EIGHTH Army 862 Intelligence Unit by about 50%. The Zuretto Section will be disbanded on 1 August and the Technical and 135 Special Wireless Section will be reduced by half on that date. Orders for the disbandment of the Italian Increment to No. 1 Special Force have already been issued to the War Ministry.

AIR FORCES SUBCOMMISSION

10. Personnel of the Italian Air Force performing Air Transport and Air Sea Rescue functions are efficient and keen but the morale of those not engaged on these duties is low owing to the restriction of activity and uncertainty of their future.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. Authority was received from HQ MAAF for the release of captured enemy war material of Italian Air Force origin to the Air Forces Subcommission. Issues to the Italian Air Force of such material as may be necessary for ground personnel within the authorized ceiling and to support authorised flying programmes will be made. Sufficient signals equipment was discovered in I.A.F. Depositories or held in factories in the North of ITALY to make the Italian Air Force self-supporting in most respects for a considerable time to come.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMISSION

12. Marked progress was made in restoring communications facilities. Foreign mail service is now authorized between ITALY and all countries except JAPAN and Japanese controlled territory, GERMANY, AUSTRIA and HUNGARY.

13. Internal censorship was abolished in ITALY except for the border provinces.

WAR MATERIAL DISPOSAL & ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUBCOMMISSION

War Material Disposal

14. The armies continued to control all captured material throughout the month.

15. Steps have been taken to provide 10,000 tons of brass and copper cartridge cases for the production of copper sulphate. 75,000 to 80,000 tires were offered by the D&D Salvage (Br) and arrangements have been made for their delivery to Pirelli Works, ROME. 144 derelict vehicles were inspected during the month, eight being returned to the Italian Ministry of War and nine to the Ministry of Transport; the remainder have been passed to firms and individuals for rebuilding. Arrangements are in progress to use six German pontoons left derelict in the Tiber, for river transportation.

Italian Prisoners of War

16. In June 6,023 Italian PW were repatriated to ITALY. Of this number approximately 50% were sick and wounded, the remainder included about 400 Italian seamen, 973 civilians, with the balance made up of specialists required to fill specific appointments in ITALY. It has been agreed to repatriate approximately 4,200 Italians from France in the early weeks of July.

17. Compassionate, welfare and financial cases dealt with during the month numbered 1,160.

961

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 1945

Ref: 824/20. 11 July 1945.

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960

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

MONTHLY REPORT

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INDEX.

		Page No.
POLITICAL SUMMARY		1 - 2
PART I	- RESUME OF CONDITIONS IN THE NORTH OF ITALY ON OCCUPATION AND REGIONAL REPORTS	3 - 10
	Emilia Region	7
	Liguria Region	4
	Lombardia Region	5
	Piemonte Region	5
	Toscana Region	6
	Venezia Region	6
	AMG Ancona Commune	8
	AMG Naples Commune	9
	L.O. Bari	9
	L.O. Sardinia	9
	L.Os. Palermo and Catania	10
PART II	- CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION	11 - 15
	Defascism	11
	Mine Clearance	11
	Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission	15
	Education Sub-Commission	12
	Legal Sub-Commission	12
	Local Government Sub-Commission	11
	Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission	14
	Patriots Branch	14
	Public Health Sub-Commission	13
	Public Safety Sub-Commission	13
PART III	- ECONOMIC SECTION	16 - 19
	Agriculture Sub-Commission	16
	Commerce Sub-Commission	16
	Finance Sub-Commission	16
	Food Sub-Commission	17
	Industry Sub-Commission	18
	Labour Sub-Commission	18
	Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission	19
	Transportation Sub-Commission	19
PART IV	- PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND	20 - 22

959

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

I N D E X

			Page No.
		POLITICAL SUMMARY	1 - 2
PART I	-	RESUME OF CONDITIONS IN THE NORTH OF ITALY ON OCCUPATION AND REGIONAL REPORTS	3 - 10
		Emilia Region	7
		Liguria Region	4
		Lombardia Region	5
		Piemonte Region	5
		Toscana Region	8
		Venezia Region	6
		AMG Ancona Commune	8
		AMG Naples Commune	9
		L.O. Bari	9
		L.O. Sardinia	9
		L.Os. Palermo and Catania	10
PART II	-	CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION	11 - 15
		Defascism	11
		Mine Clearance	11
		Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission	15
		Education Sub-Commission	12
		Legal Sub-Commission	12
		Local Government Sub-Commission	11
		Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commission	14
		Patriots Branch	14
		Public Health Sub-Commission	13
		Public Safety Sub-Commission	13
PART III	-	ECONOMIC SECTION	16 - 19
		Agriculture Sub-Commission	16
		Commerce Sub-Commission	16
		Finance Sub-Commission	16
		Food Sub-Commission	17
		Industry Sub-Commission	18
		Labour Sub-Commission	18
		Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission	19
		Transportation Sub-Commission	19
PART IV	-	PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS	20 - 22
		Public Relations Branch	20
		Navy Sub-Commission	20
		Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMLA)	20
		Air Forces Sub-Commission	21
		Communications Sub-Commission	22
		War Material Disposal & Italian Prisoner of War Sub-Commission	22

959

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

POLITICAL SUMMARY

1. Political developments during the past month have been dominated by the discussions between members of the Government, the Central Committee of National Liberation and the Committee of National Liberation in Northern ITALY. On 5 May a delegation of the CLNAI consisting of ten delegates, two from each party, the Labour Democratic Party not being represented in the CLNAI, was brought to ROME by air from MILAN. The delegation presented to Signor BONOMI a five-point programme as follows:

1. Epuration not only in the political but also in the administrative and economic fields;

2. Clarification of the relations between Prefects and Regional and Provincial Committees of Liberation;

3. Economic reconstruction to be financed particularly by those who profited from years of autarchy or by collaboration with the Fascists and the Germans;

4. Agrarian reform;

5. A foreign policy "free from any kind of nationalism" and aiming at democratic collaboration among nations.

2. During the week of discussions in ROME, agreement was almost reached by all the parties on Signor NENNI's suitability as the next Premier. At the last moment, however, the Christian Democratic Party withdrew its support and the discussions petered out. The delegation returned to MILAN on 14 May. The political leaders who had remained in the North were puzzled and inclined to think that the delegation had mishandled the situation and allowed all the prestige, which the CLNAI had won during the days of the popular insurrection, to wane.

3. On 17 May, Signor BONOMI, with various members of the Government and representatives of the Socialist and Action Parties, travelled to Northern ITALY in order to establish contact with Northern political groups. Signor BONOMI confined his visit to his home town of MANTUA but the other leaders visited most of the Northern cities. A week of discussions between the parties followed but serious disagreement developed over the insistence of the three left wing parties on the right of the CLNAI to dictate the composition of the Government. The Liberals and Christian Democrats took the attitude that it must be done in consultation with leaders from the South and by constitutional means, that is, through the Lieutenant of the Realm.

4. A final meeting was held on 23 May between the CLNAI, the Secretaries of the parties and the members of the ROME Government in the North and full agreement was reached on the following lines: 9-38

1. It was necessary to form a new Government.

2. The head of the Government should be changed.

3. All six parties should participate in the new Government.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

Regional and Provincial Committees of Liberation;

3. Economic reconstruction to be financed particularly by those who profited from years of autarchy or by collaboration with the Fascists and the Germans;

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4. A final meeting was held on 23 May between the CLNAI, the Secretaries of the parties and the members of the ROME Government in the North and full agreement was reached on the following lines: 958

1. It was necessary to form a new Government.

2. The head of the Government should be changed.

3. All six parties should participate in the new Government.

4. Key positions in the new Government should be held by men who represented the progressive spirit shown by the people in their struggle for liberation.

Having taken this decision, the political leaders decided to break off the talks for the time being and members of the Government returned to ROME on 25 May.

5. As a result of the talks it seems that Signor DE GASPERI had agreed that Signor BONOMI would not be the next Prime Minister, in order to ensure the inclusion of the Socialist and Action Parties in the new Government. It is understood that Signor BONOMI would not resign until a new cabinet has been agreed.

6. At the/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 776021

6. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 12 May plans were made for the integration of the police and partisan units and for the incorporation of partisan units into the regular army. Other items of interest are the announcement made by Signor BONOMI on 15 May that 200,000 German prisoners are to be made available for work on Italian reconstruction and the Italian request to the International War Crimes Commission for permission to try, in ROME, those responsible for the Fosse Ardeatine executions.

7. Signor NENNI, speaking on the question of TRIESTE on 10 May, repeated the Socialist thesis that the Italian character of the city could be preserved by a democratic understanding between the Italian and Yugoslav peoples and a rectification of the Eastern frontier in such a way as to do justice to both parties. In short, the final solution should take into account both the "Italian character" and the "European function" of the city. The Democratic Party issued an order of the day on 4 May which was much less conciliatory in tone and affirmed the Italian character not only of TRIESTE but of all VENEZIA GIULIA and ZARA as well and called on all parties to rally to the defence of the integrity of the national territory. The announcement on 8 May that Marshal TITO had appointed a commander of the town of TRIESTE caused general uneasiness and the Council of Ministers on 9 May charged Signors BONOMI and DE GASPERI to take the matter up with the Allied authorities. On 12 May the Council of Ministers, having heard the report of Signors BONOMI and DE GASPERI, asked formally that the occupation and administration of Italian territories be carried out by the powers with which ITALY signed the Armistice. Signor DE GASPERI in an interview two days later told a United Press correspondent that if Marshal TITO persisted in holding TRIESTE by force the result would be a nationalistic and reactionary Government in ITALY with consequent danger to the future peace of EUROPE. On 15 May the ROME newspapers carried the news of the British and American notes to Marshal TITO asking him in substance to turn over VENEZIA GIULIA to AMG. The Democratic Party paper "Italia Nuova" hailed this development with satisfaction as evidence that the Allies were not going to consent to the solution of problems by force and the other party papers followed the same line with the exception of the Communist paper "Unita" which played down the story and affected scepticism as to the existence of the notes.

8. Italian reactions to the reports of French military activities in PIEDMONT have on the whole been very calm and Signor DE GASPERI stated on 14 May that the question was "not important".

9. The economic barrier between the North and the South was lifted on 28 May but the Italian organisation EAC and its opposite number in the North will continue to exercise control over transport carrying commodities from the North to the South.

10. On 10 May the Supreme Allied Commander decided to return to the Italian administration the Provinces of GROSSETO, SIENA and AREZZO in TUSCANY; TERNI and PERUGIA in UMBRIA; and ASCOLI-PICENO, MACERATA, ANCONA and PESARO in the MARCHE. The port and commune of ANCONA remains however under AMG. This development brings approximately three fifths of ITALY and twenty four million Italians back under direct Italian administration.

11. Liberty of civilian movement in ITALY was restored on 28 May and Italians may now move freely throughout ITALY up to the security control line, which follows the course of the River PIAVE, and the 25-kilometre prohibited frontier zone which stretches along the whole line of the Italian frontiers

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PART I/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I.

RESUME OF CONDITIONS IN THE NORTH OF ITALY
ON OCCUPATION AND REGIONAL REPORTS.

1. Operations in May were a continuation of the Allied Armies swift break-through of the German winter line during April, culminating in the surrender of the German Armies in ITALY on 2 May and finally in the total surrender of GERMANY on 8 May.

2. Shortly after the first of May a new phase of AMG began; this was the establishment of military government in cities and communities which had not experienced the ravages of war and which saw a victorious Army sweep past hard on the heels of a flying enemy. Enormous areas had to be covered by AMG teams who, prepared to find chaotic conditions, found instead outstanding normality. Trains were running in every provincial capital in the North of ITALY, electric light and water were functioning in most large cities and shops were well stocked. The Committees of National Liberation were conducting Provincial and Communal administration with efficiency, and AMG was therefore faced with the entirely novel problem of tactfully taking over the reins from an existing organisation, in contrast to its experience further South where no such organisation was functioning at the time of liberation.

3. Partisans were well organised and took great pride in their part in bringing about the collapse of German tyranny in ITALY. They helped the Committees of National Liberation to establish a government and, in some areas, notably GENOA, they dominated the entire situation until the arrival of the Allied Armies. They had been given clear directives as to the arrival of AMG and were helpful and cooperative.

4. Many problems arose in disarming partisans. In those areas where the Army swept through and quickly demonstrated power, the partisans responded at once to the order to disarm and return to civil life; the war had passed them and there was no real need for them to fight to protect their land. In other sectors, where complete liberation was slower, there was another and more difficult problem. The partisans were loth to surrender their weapons until the surrendered German troops were disarmed and removed from such areas. There were also Fascist groups organised for resistance and until they were tracked down the partisans were disinclined to part with their arms. MILAN, TURIN, TRENTO and BOLZANO Provinces were examples of this problem. The CG IV Corps, in collaboration with the Chief of Staff of the Italian Army, therefore issued an order that partisans should be disarmed and their weapons turned in on or before 7 June. This order was, on the whole, well obeyed and by the end of May a steady stream of weapons - mostly rifles - was coming in from the partisans to the collection centres. Many arms however still remained hidden.

5. The defeat of the Fascist and Nazi powers accelerated the volcanic outbursts of accumulated hatred of years and the oppressed were tempted to become the oppressors. Old grudges were in some instances paid off by private killings. The largest number of murders occurred during the first days following the German collapse and especially in large cities such as in MILAN and TURIN. These murders for revenge and for political motives continued throughout the month but on an ever decreasing scale as AMG became more firmly established.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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957

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6. One of the greatest problems which developed with the rapid advance of the Armies in ITALY and the conclusion of hostilities in EUROPE was the uncontrolled movement, mainly across the AUSTRIAN-ITALIAN frontier, of refugees, displaced and stateless persons, Italian labourers who had been sent to GERMANY and Italian Prisoners of War from GERMAN Prisoner of War Camps. This movement started before the full complement of control camps and assembly centres could be set up and extra transport was provided as far as possible by back-loading Army vehicles. During the month about 80,000 Italians returned to

their homes/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

their homes South of the line MODENA-BOLOGNA-FORLI alone, while many thousands returned to their homes in the North.

7. The food situation was not as acute as was anticipated in the provinces liberated prior to the capitulation of the Germans. Supplies were drawn from Allied Commission food depots and delivered directly to the provincial capitals, placing the responsibility for delivery on the communes or the Consorzio Agrario Provinciale.

LIGURIA REGION.

8. The Regional Committee of National Liberation is working harmoniously under AMG. Many partisans have been demobilized and have returned to their homes and the collection of arms has proceeded from fair in the larger cities to poor in the rural, mountain areas. Deaths by violence are showing a sharp reduction, none occurring in GENOA during the last three days of May. There has been an improvement in law and order.

9. The food situation remained difficult. Bad weather made it impossible for landing craft to unload at the beaches for several days during the month and this made it necessary to haul from LEGHORN to GENOA; the length of the haul severely taxed all resources to keep abreast of the need but the situation was eased by the quantities of vegetables and fruit available.

10. Additional Carabinieri in strength have arrived in the Region but in some places, particularly in LA SPEZIA and IMPERIA, the Carabinieri have not been well accepted by the Partisans; efforts to improve this situation have been made by the assignment of one Carabiniere and one Partisan to work together.

11. A deputation of CLN representatives of industry, finance and the Chamber of Commerce left for ROME to discuss labour problems of Ligurian industries. Metallurgical firms, which form the bulk of the Region's industry, find themselves, after a long period of armament production, responsible for the payment of wages to large numbers of labourers for whom they have no productive employment. Such payments are reducing these companies to bankruptcy but failure to make them will present serious social and political consequences to the workers and the communities of this area. Conversion to peacetime production is hampered by lack of coal.

12. Recent rains have improved the future crop prospects and approximately 2,500 tons of assorted fertilizer is being allocated to farmers. 800 horses are scheduled to arrive in the Region from TURIN for distribution. Fishing is proceeding regularly and distribution of fuel for the bigger boats commenced. No olive oil is being amassed due to disagreement over prices.

13. Local telephone service is available in each province and long distance service is functioning to each provincial capital. Telegraph facilities are open from GENOA to LA SPEZIA, SAVONA and ALASSIO, and civilian postal service

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13. Local telephone service is available in each province and long distance service is functioning to each provincial capital. Telegraph facilities are open from GENOA to LA SPEZIA, SAVONA and ALASSIO, and civilian postal service continues to function under Allied Civil Censorship. Rail lines are open to MILAN and TURIN.

PIEMONTE/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PIEMONTE REGION

14. Upon the entry of AMG to Piemonte Region on 5 May, the Regional Committee of Liberation was found to be in complete control. In TURIN, public services were functioning and ample evidence was available as to the splendid work of the partisans in preventing destruction by the retreating Germans.

15. The welcome afforded the Allies was spontaneous and sincere, and the publication of the usual proclamations defining penalties for attacks on Allied troops and restricting movement of civilians caused some bewilderment amongst the population.

16. AMG was faced with two major problems, namely, the tactful acquirement of reins of government from the CLN and the disarming of about 35,000 partisans who, fully armed, thronged the streets and public buildings. The end of May saw the first problem surmounted without major incident and the second well on the way to solution.

17. The occupation by French troops of border areas in AOSTA, CUNEO and TURIN Provinces, the issue by French authorities of various orders to the local inhabitants, and the intermingling of French currency with the official currency, all have complicated the establishment of AMG in the areas affected.

18. Estimates as to the number of Fascist executions in PIEMONTE prior to the arrival of AMG vary between 1,500 and 5,000 and the abolition of tribunals by AMG created certain misgivings as to whether the Allies intended to deal stringently with Fascists. However, illegal executions ceased immediately and the Region quickly settled down to an orderly routine.

19. Political activities have been on a surprisingly small scale, the Communist being the most active party.

20. The food situation is fair but, for a surplus producing area, few large stocks are held. Wheat planted is 25,000 hectares, approximately 8% less than 1944, and the rice planted is approximately 18% less than the 1944 figures. The total head of cattle is estimated at 40% below normal, and slaughtering therefore will have to be minimised.

21. The health of the civilian population is exceptionally good. One case of typhus, an Italian PW who arrived in AOSTA from GERMANY, has been discovered.

22. The high sense of discipline and order amongst the general population has been a feature in the rapid and peaceful transition from war to peace conditions.

23. The recovery of the Region's prosperity depends entirely on the importation of coal and raw material.

LOMBARDIA REGION

24. All political activity in LOMBARDIA, especially in MILAN, centered in the attempt to solve the governmental crisis by the inclusion of representatives of Northern ITALY in the Italian Government. Basic and fundamental political agitation and labour unrest hinged, however, upon the rising cost of living, the demand on the part of the workers for payment of salaries

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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23. The recovery of the Region's prosperity depends entirely on the importation of coal and raw material.

LOMBARDIA REGION

24. All political activity in LOMBARDIA, especially in MILAN, centered in the attempt to solve the governmental crisis by the inclusion of representatives of Northern ITALY in the Italian Government. Basic and fundamental political agitation and labour unrest hinged, however, upon the rising cost of living, the demand on the part of the workers for payment of salaries despite the fact that industries were not in production, demand on the part of the workers for a real epuration of industry, insistence by all parties, especially parties of the left, that governmental epuration should take place and that those who collaborated with the Germans and with the Fascist Republicans be punished.

25. Damage to/.....

935

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

25. Damage to works and buildings in LOMBARDIA with the exception of MILAN city, was less than anticipated. Although there has been some damage to transmission lines and substations, there has been no serious damage to generating plants; there is approximately 1,000,000 KW of generating capacity installed in the Region, of which 994,000 KW is hydro and the rest thermal. 8,000 tons of calcium carbide is estimated to be in stock in Northern ITALY and a good stock of ferro-silicon and some silicon manganese are also available.

26. About 7,000 horses and mules are being brought in to LOMBARDIA Region from Northern ITALY.

27. There were no serious civil disturbances in the Region although demonstrations took place. The number of murders committed in MILAN city showed a decline by the end of the month and the Guardia di Finanza and the Guardia Municipale were efficient. There were very few cases for trial in AMG courts. Italian courts functioned normally throughout the Region and a section of the Court of Cassation was established at MILAN to deal with appeals brought from the Special Courts of Assize. The Special Courts of Assize were sitting in all provinces.

28. Public health in the Region is good, but there is an increase in cases of tuberculosis and venereal disease. Insulin presents the only acute shortage in medical supplies at the moment. Provincial Welfare Departments were established in all provinces except SONDRIO. Municipal restaurants were functioning on the arrival of AMG and these are being continued.

29. Since 1 May 12,452 displaced persons have been registered and handled by Displaced Persons Camps in LOMBARDIA Region. Eight camps have been established with a total capacity of 22,500.

30. With exception of two road services, MILAN to BOLOGNA and MILAN to VERONA, all provinces are served by rail communication. All telephone services, with the exception of the MILAN-BOLOGNA line, were opened during the month.

VENEZIE REGION

31. Owing to the presence of large enemy forces trapped up against the Alps the five Western Provinces remained under control of FIFTH Army throughout the month, though, by mutual agreement, much of the routine administration was carried out by AMG Venezie Region.

32. Large numbers of patriots were found in the Region. In the plains they were largely underground groups, but in the hills, particularly in BELLUNO, UDINE and TARVISIO, there were large well-armed formations with a fair degree of discipline and military organisation; they had played an important part in blocking the German escape routes and in saving from destruction the hydro-electric plants in the mountain valleys. The disarming of the patriots has been effected gradually and without serious trouble.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

26. About 7,000 horses [illegible] from Northern ITALY.

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33. On the whole, CLNs have been helpful and cooperative. All the ten Prefects in the Region were local nominees and it was obvious that any attempt to introduce career Prefects from the South would be resented. The men now holding office have given an impression of keenness and a desire to help in the reconstruction of their country.

34. Refugees/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

34. Refugees proved a real problem. Contrary to expectations, the main flood of refugees came, not down the BRENNER PASS, but out of AUSTRIA through TARVISIO, then by UDINE. During the month about 100,000 refugees and displaced persons were officially evacuated by Army motor transport down the route UDINE - TREVISO - MESTRE - PADOVA. Many tens of thousands of others made the journey on foot.

35. Some towns such as VERONA and BOLZANO were badly damaged, but many others, including the Island of VENICE, were untouched. Road and railway communications were interrupted by broken bridges, but not to the extent found in Central and Southern ITALY. An urgent problem was the repair of the damaged embankments of the Rivers ADIGE and PO before the rivers rose with the melting snow. Assistance was given by XIGHTH Army and the situation was in hand by the end of the month. Electric power plants were almost undamaged.

36. The possibility of inland water transport through the network of canals along the Adriatic Coast is being considered. The opening of the port of VENEZIE at the end of the month improved the transport situation in the Region.

37. Food was in fairly good supply except in the Eastern communes of UDINE where raiding parties from VENEZIA GIULIA had cleared the countryside of food-stuffs. There were no serious outbreaks of disease.

38. In the East the dispute with YUGOSLAVIA on the VENEZIA GIULIA caused a concentration of troops in Eastern UDINE and as a result, certain difficulties with the patriots. In BOLZANO the existence of a large German speaking population caused concern but this was mainly a FIFTH Army problem.

39. The Southern Provinces of VENEZIE Region normally obtained considerable quantities of methane gas, a substitute for petrol, from ROVIGO Province. It was found necessary to use the methane pipe line from ROVIGO to PADOVA for military patrol and it is hoped that it will be restored to civil use for methane gas towards the end of June.

555

EMILIA REGION

40. There have been no political clashes but the Communist Party is very well disciplined and is particularly strong in BOLOGNA Province, while the Socialist Party has its greatest following in REGGIO-EMILIA and PARMA. The Christian Democrat Party and the Liberal Party are still in the early stages of organisation.

41. All the provinces in EMILIA Region were able to supply a bread ration from their own flour stocks. Salt, sugar, lard and milk were supplied in the Region, and on the whole the food situation was exceptionally good, BOLOGNA city affording the only problem. Drought and damage caused by war will, however, lead to a considerably smaller harvest this year.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778521

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42. All banks are open and deposits are considered satisfactory.

43. Public health was good but the sanitary conditions and the water supply of BOLOGNA city were a major problem. The electricity supply, which has been good in all other provinces, has been poor in BOLOGNA where heavy damage was done. The greatest obstacle to industrial recovery is the lack of coal, POL and civilian transport.

44. The initial phases of liquidation of fascists by patriots and others has been succeeded by a wave of crimes of murder, extortion and abduction, often to further private ends. The witness dare not come forward and the Carabinieri, who are badly officered and poorly equipped, are afraid to press their investigations for fear of reprisals.

45. Reorganisation/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

45. Reorganisation of the universities and schools is proceeding most satisfactorily and, with a few exceptions, Italian courts are functioning. Limited telephone and postal services are now available.

46. A gram of radium valued at 100,000,000 lire and said to constitute one-fiftieth of the world's supply, was restored to the University of BOLOGNA, after being hidden for eight months from the Germans by patriots.

47. Out of approximately 31,000 patriots, all but 500 have returned to their homes. Demobilization parades were held in BOLOGNA, MODENA, REGGIO, PARMA and PIACENZA.

48. Over 60,000 Italian refugees and other nationals passed through the displaced persons camps during the month.

TOSCANA REGION

49. Food supply throughout TOSCANA Region has improved slightly due to a small increase in the availability of meat, fish and fresh vegetables. The salt ration has been increased to 250 grams a head each month.

50. Agriculture has been impeded in APUANIA and, to a lesser extent, in Northern LUCCA Province, due to the large number of mines. Over 77,000 quintals of olive oil and 1,888,512 quintals of wheat have been amassed. Removal of some of the restrictions on fishing have resulted in increased production.

51. There have been no alarming outbreaks or disorder although several murders and thefts have been reported in FLORENCE Province. There was a prison break at Santa Teresa Prison, FLORENCE, as a result of which about sixty five inmates escaped but almost half of them have been recaptured. The reduction in the number of Carabinieri allotted to this Region (owing to the need of them in the newly liberated Regions) is causing concern, particularly among civilian officials who anticipate trouble when Allied control is discontinued.

52. There was a typhoid outbreak of small proportion on the Island of ELBA which was attributed to the contamination of fresh vegetables. Scabies in APUANIA is quite prevalent but active steps are being taken to combat the disease. Undulant fever continues to be a problem and one which has proved very difficult to solve due to the lack of active cooperation on the part of the owners of milk-producing animals. Generally the health of the Region is good but there has been a large increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis.

53. There has been an increase in unemployment mainly due to the removal of military units. Civilian telephone service is available to all Provincial capitals of TOSCANA except MASSA.

AMG ANCONA COMMUNE.

54. There has been little activity by any of the political parties during the month and the May Day celebrations, held for the first time for over

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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54. There has been little activity by any of the political parties during the month and the May Day celegrations, held for the first time for over twenty years, passed without incident.

55. Communal administration worked smoothly and the cost of living is on the downgrade. The relaxations in fishing restriations resulted in catches being more than doubled.

56. War damage to buildings and water supplies was still the most serious problem but repairs to the reservoirs are almost completed. A regular train service for civilian use is now running between ANCONA and ROME.

57. On the whole, public health in the Commune has been good, but due to overcrowding, lack of water and soap, scabies has increased in the city and it has been necessary to establish an anti-scabies centre where treatment can be given.

AFC NUMBERS/...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

AMG NAPLES COMMUNE

58. The end of hostilities in ITALY and EUROPE produced no startling reactions in NAPLES, which remained quiet during the month. Pride in the part played by the Italian partisans was tempered by surprise at the shooting out of hand of MUSSOLINI, his mistress and fascist leaders, and more particularly by repugnance at the primitive display of feelings displayed when the dead bodies were treated with contempt in MILAN. A demonstration in NAPLES on V.E. Day was orderly and reference to the Allies drew spontaneous applause. The Supreme Allied Commander's announcement on the subject of TRIESTE had a stabilising effect on the Neapolitans.

59. Thefts of industrial and commercial goods still continue on a large scale and the murder of one Allied soldier has been reported.

60. Drought is seriously affecting crops over a widespread area so that grain requirements for next year will have to be increased.

61. NAPLES Commune has eighteen soup kitchens organised in the city from which approximately 11,000 rations are issued daily to the very poor. The ration consists of soup made up from soup powder supplied by the Allies, some dried vegetables and pasta, and is approximately 100 grams a head. The Cardinal Archbishop has a separate organisation for a similar purpose. 63,430 repaired garments were distributed during May.

62. The discontent over wages paid by the Allies as compared with those paid by trades in NAPLES continued. A meeting of the Labour Committee to consider figures with representatives of Italian labour resulted in an increase of 65 lire a day for skilled labour and 55 lire a day for other labour.

LIAISON OFFICER BARI.

63. There has been little of outstanding importance to report and few incidents occurred during the month. All civilians rendered homeless by the explosion, which occurred in the harbour on 9 April, have now been accommodated. The drought has caused considerable damage to the crops and the harvest is expected to be poor.

64. Food distribution has been satisfactory and it has been decided to form Price Control Commissions in all provinces in APULIA and LUCANIA; prices for unrationed foodstuffs, clothing and medicines have already fallen from 20 to 40 per cent.

65. Public health has been good and there have been no epidemics. 554

LIAISON OFFICER SARDINIA.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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LIAISON OFFICER SARDINIA.

66. On the whole the public followed the activities of the political parties with indifference and sought more than anything else a solution to the governmental crisis which would recognise the real interests of the country, especially in the fields of political economy and finance.

67. The exceptional dryness and the serious grasshopper menace have destroyed much of the cereal crop. It is expected that not more than a few thousand tons of grain will be harvested. Fruit and pastures have been damaged due to drought and weather conditions.

68. 38,241 tons of Sulcis coal were mined during May showing an increase over the 28,600 tons mined in April. 14,980 tons of this total were exported.

69. Public/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

69. Public health remained satisfactory inspite of poor living and hygiene conditions which have been aggravated by war devastation.

LIAISON OFFICERS PALERMO AND CATANIA.

70. Enthusiasm for the Separatist movement appeared to be on the wane and little attention was paid to the political crisis but the problem of TRIESTE and VENEZIA GIULIA is a constant topic and the development of the situation is followed with deep interest.

71. The arrival of a considerable number of partisans created new problems; they demanded jobs and their domineering behaviour caused many minor disturbances.

72. There is a considerable amount of lawlessness in the island mainly due to the reduced number of Carabinieri and their poor morale.

73. An acute shortage of prison accommodation is affecting the functioning of the courts. Hundreds of cases are outstanding and totally inadequate sentences are imposed on those convicted.

74. There were 38 cases of typhus at CAPIZZI in the province of MESSINA resulting in ten deaths. At RAMACCA in the province of CATANIA fourteen cases of typhus were reported with no deaths. Two persons at PALERMO have died of the disease and there have also been two cases of smallpox in the town.

75. The new harvest has been seriously affected by the lack of rain.

PART II/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778502

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Defascism.

1. Several new Italian decrees were published in May. DLL 179, which permits the appointment of lawyers in the place of judges on Epuration Commissions, will relieve judges for normal duties and for the special Courts of Assize. DLL 195 enacts penal sanctions in the event of any repetition of fascist activity and DLL 196 confers on the High Commissioner for Sanctions against Fascism powers to appeal against sentences passed in matters dealing with fascist crimes.

2. An Italian decree dealing with the epuration of directors of private companies has not been enacted, although requested by this Commission, owing to the cessation of legislative activity of the Italian Government during the political crisis.

3. In the principal Ministries 35,532 of the 47,577 employees have been scrutinised and 7,188 have been sent for trial; 709 employees have been dismissed, 308 have been sentenced to compulsory retirement and 369 received lesser punishment. Of this total, 4,952 cases have been concluded.

Mine Clearance.

4. In territory newly liberated the mined area extends from the Adriatic coast across EMILIA and LIGURIA Regions to the Mediterranean. The coasts are heavily mined as are the northern provinces of TOSCANA Region.

5. Mine Clearance Units are being organised in these Regions. Schools have been opened in GENOVA and BOLOGNA, and other schools are being opened when instructors and equipment are available.

6. The total number of mines lifted during the past month was 91,251. This figure was lower than the previous month due to the fact that the 562/3 Companies have been moved to EMILIA Region and are at present being organised in that area.

7. The whole scheme is hindered by lack of transport and other equipment.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION.

8. The printed forms and documents for the preparation of Electoral Lists have been distributed to the provinces of TOSCANA Region which remain under Military Government. The Italian Government is printing the material for the five Northern Regions, in readiness for the time when it may be decided to commence the preparation of electoral lists in Northern Italy.

9. A reply has been received to the Allied Commission's recommendation that the provisions of the Decree of 1915, on the conduct of Municipal Elections, which the Italian Government proposes to revive, be amended so as to ensure a free and independent ballot. The Italian Government stated that in its opinion the system is adequate and requires no amendment. This reply is under examination.

10. Out of thirty-seven Provinces (excluding VENEZIA GIULIA) liberated during April and May, Prefects are reported to have been formally appointed in only twelve Provinces, all of which are in EMILIA and VENETO Regions. In thirteen other provinces individuals are acting as Prefects with the consent of the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

the cessation of legislative activity of the Italian Government during the political crisis.

3. In the principal Ministries 35,532 of the 47,577 employees have been scrutinised and 7,186 have been sent for trial; 709 employees have been dismissed, 308 have been sentenced to compulsory retirement and 360 received lesser punishment. Of this total, 4,052 cases have been concluded.

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11. Requests have been received for career Vice-Prefects to be supplied for the provinces of FERRARA, BOLOGNA, PIACENZA, MODENA and PARMA. Delay is being experienced in obtaining nominations from the Italian Government.

653

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

EDUCATION SUB-COMMISSION.

12. The major work of the Education Sub-Commission during May was in the five Northern Regions. Much of the ground work had already been done by the Committee of National Liberation and as a matter both of AC policy and because of shortage of staff, Education Officers have utilised the CLN to the utmost.

13. It was found that the CLN had set up a Regional Education Office and, in many cases, provincial education committees. The provincial school committees of CLN were retained as advisory bodies for the Regional Education Officer and Provveditori agli Studi. The Regional or Provincial CLN had dismissed Fascist personnel and appointed new provveditori and, in many cases, new school heads and inspectors. While such suspensions and appointments still have to be confirmed, the new appointees were able to handle the schools until more careful and legal action could be taken.

14. In LIGURIA 1,247 of the 2,570 schools are available for use. Of the balance 987 are damaged or destroyed and 223 occupied by troops or refugees. In the city of BOLOGNA only 16 of the 515 school rooms are available and classes are being held in odd rooms here and there and teachers homes. Full statistical data are not yet available from other Regions.

15. The redisposition of requisitions throughout ITALY is being examined with AMG.

16. In LIGURIA, schools generally were reopened; in the other Northern Regions many reopened only for final examinations because they had functioned almost normally during most of the year. Wherever the school year was badly interrupted, however, summer sessions are being provided.

17. The printing of the defascised series of elementary text books for the current year came to a close early in May, the total having reached two million.

18. In the north all universities and other higher institutions of learning and cultural organisations such as operas and orchestras are being epurated and Pro-Rectors or temporary directors have been appointed. University examinations are being held. Orchestras and operas are being made available to Allied Troops and some universities are offering courses for troops. Faculties of political science have been abolished.

19. Very few university buildings in the north have been requisitioned but many are severely damaged or destroyed.

20. Boy Scouts organisations, and to some extent Girl Guides, are getting under way in the North and are steadily increasing in the rest of Italy.

21. Publications desired by the National Library in NAPLES have been gathered by the American Library Association and have begun to arrive in Italy.

LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION.

22. There has been a substantial reduction in the number of cases heard by AMG Courts. The position in NAPLES Commune (AMG) has remained almost unchanged and there is still a heavy volume of work at LIVORNO Commune (AMG); in this latter port, however, shortage of AMG personnel has necessitated the transfer of many cases to the Italian Courts. The most serious cases heard in NAPLES were

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778521

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23. In North ITALY the number of AMG Court cases has been very small and have been mostly concerned with curfew offences and violations of travel permits. There has been a small number of prosecutions for possession of arms.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

24. The principal legal activity in North ITALY has been the establishment and operation of the Special Courts of Assize, for the trial of persons charged with collaborating with the enemy, and of the Special Section of the Court of Cassation in MILAN for the disposal of appeals from those courts.

25. The courts are now established and functioning in every province of the northern regions. There is difficulty in the provision of the large number of judicial personnel required to preside at these courts but this problem is being overcome. The number of persons at present in gaol awaiting trial before these courts is very large. For example, in REGGIO EMILIA there are estimated to be 1,200, in GENOA 1,600, in PADUA 2,000 and in MILAN 5,000. In MILAN Province, three persons out of twelve have been sentenced to death, in other Provinces in LOMBARDIA, none.

26. General Order No. 46 has been issued in the North to establish and regularise a form of epuration in private industry.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION.

27. Public health reports from the Northern Regions are most satisfactory. There have been no epidemics, water supplies are untouched, hospital accommodation is adequate and many medical supplies have been discovered.

28. The refugee problem is one which is causing anxiety from a Public Health point of view. The return to ITALY of hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons, many of them louse infested and coming from typhus stricken areas and many suffering from tuberculosis and malnutrition is a matter for concern. All interested agencies are fully alive to the potential danger of this mass movement. The Swiss Government through the International Red Cross has offered the assistance of 80 doctors and 150 soldiers from Swiss Army medical units for the purpose of establishing a sanitary cordon between LAKE GARDA and the Adriatic to prevent the spread of illness. The mass disinfestation of returning refugees necessitates the use of large quantities of DDT in excess of stocks held by AC. AFHQ, with ready appreciation of the situation, have agreed to make Army stocks available and have also indicated that the military will, if asked, render every possible assistance in solving public health problems in ITALY.

29. Infant mortality in ROME is decreasing. The April figures were 70.7 per thousand as compared with 87.4 in March and 111.5 in February. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis in ROME were 237 in April as compared with 255 in March.

30. The Ministry has re-established the pre-war allocation of funds for the control of communicable animal diseases. The incidence of animal diseases was not high during the month, foot and mouth disease being only sporadic and a few cases only of brucellosis being reported from GROSSETO. 160,000 swine in Central and Southern ITALY and SARDINIA have been vaccinated against swine cholera.

31. Lack of proper coordination between ANDIMA and the Ministry of Interior has led to delay in the delivery of supplies to many provinces. Medical supplies to cover the first six months of the current year are arriving at NAPLES, BARI and LEGHORN.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

932

32. Immediately upon the liberation of the North and before AMG was firmly established, certain bands of Partisans took the law into their own hands and instigated mass killings of known fascists; armed men masquerading as partisans satisfied personal grudges by extortion and murder; wholesale political arrests, often unsupported by sufficient evidence, kept the prisons in a bad state of overcrowding. However, towards the end of the month the authority of AMG began to be realised, demonstrations were fewer and more orderly, the numbers of murders and cases of extortion committed were substantially smaller and courts were set up; the Northern Regions began to settle down to a normal life and security began to be restored to the people.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

33. Questori and Vice Questori in the North in most cases are CLN appointees, most of them with little or no former police experience. Career Questori from the South are resented but appointments are being made as the situation tempers sufficiently.

34. Forgeries of Allied currency are being suppressed in the South and except in a few localities have not appeared in the North.

35. Prostitution is a continuing major problem in the South and preventive control measures are being instituted in the early stages in the North where, due to mobility of the troops, it has not yet become a problem.

36. Relations between Allied Military Police Units and Italian Police are excellent in the North. A few clashes in the South have been reported but no major adverse condition has arisen.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES SUB-COMMISSION.

37. Preliminary reports show that movable works of art in N.W. ITALY and in the PO Valley are safe and in good condition. A cache of works of art, believed to be from VENEZIA, is reported near KLAGENFURT. Ninety nine per cent of the missing TUSCAN works of art have been recovered in two caches in BOLZANO Province in good condition.

38. Notable items not yet accounted for are two crates of precious antiquities from CYRENAICA, transported to the North in 1943 from the Museo Coloniale in ROME and no confirmation has yet been received of press reports that the Neapolitan works of art missing from MONTECASSINO have been recovered. Almost the entire German Fine Arts staff and their records have been captured.

39. Damage to monuments in the North West is slight, except for the heavily bombed cities of GENOA, MILAN and TURIN. In general in the PO basin outside VENEZIA isolated monuments only were damaged, in particular at PARMA the Teatro Farnese and at BRESCIA S. Maria dei Miracoli. In VENEZIA, VERONA and VICENZA are severely damaged. Libraries have suffered heavily, notably at TURIN and BRESCIA.

40. Air raid protective covering is being demolished and two temporary exhibitions for troops are already open in VENICE, one of VENETIAN primitives, the other of the famous classical and renaissance bronzes. The new museum at OSTIA opens on 12 June.

41. It is reported that, on the whole, condition of Archives in the Northern Provinces is good.

PATRIOTS BRANCH.

42. Considerable headway was made with the dispersal and disarming of Patriots, particularly in the agricultural areas; in the frontier districts and the large cities the Patriots have proved somewhat unwilling to lay down their arms and go home but those that remain are for the most part still in their original formations and well disciplined. In addition the Allied authorities have found it necessary to retain a number of Patriots for special police duties and "mopping up" purposes, notably in TURIN, MILAN, GENOA (where

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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43. Twenty-three Patriot Centres were in operation by the end of May.

44. The immediate enlistment of 4,000 volunteers into the Italian Army

/has been .....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

has been sanctioned, and the three screening (Recruiting) agencies under control of ANG have reverted to Italian Army control for use, if required, in connection with this intake.

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION.

45. The rapidity of the advance of the Armies in ITALY and the conclusion of hostilities in EUROPE resulted in uncontrolled movement, mainly across the AUSTRIAN-ITALIAN frontier, starting before the full complement of control camps and assembly centres could be set up. The movement of these refugees has been aided by back-loading empty Army transport. About 30,000 Italians have returned to their homes South of the line MODENA-BOLOGNA-FORLI and many thousands have returned to their homes in Northern ITALY. Apart from returning Italians, some Poles and Jugoslavs, uncertain of the eventual position in their respective countries, have moved into ITALY.

46. A civilian doctor, working directly under the Camp Commandant, has been allocated to each refugee camp. On 1 June UNRRA are to take over distribution of supplementary rations to Allied Nationals. A medical survey of Northern ITALY is being carried out with a view to typhus and tuberculosis control.

47. At the end of the month a total of 79,946 persons were recorded by the Records Bureau covering 72 different nationalities. Of these the location of approximately 60,894 is known and the remaining 19,052 were known to have been in ITALY during the past year.

48. While financial assistance for these displaced persons and refugees will probably be needed in due course the whole situation is, at present, so fluid that any programme which could be effected would benefit relatively few people. Meanwhile, the Swiss Consular Office is continuing loans to AMERICANS, GREEKS, POLES, YUGOSLAVS, and a few other nationalities.

-951

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

PART III.

ECONOMIC SECTION.

AGRICULTURAL SUB-COMMISSION.

1. Damage to land reclamation and forest areas in Northern Regions has been slight.

2. Crop estimates throughout ITALY are not as promising as had been hoped, due to extensive drought, shortage of fertilizer in recent years and frost in Northern areas. Grasshopper outbreaks in SARDINIA could only be partially controlled due to the lack of preventative material.

3. The 1944 Granai del Popolo collections reached 1,165,857 metric tons of wheat. A decree controlling the 1945 harvest in Italian Government territory and General Order No. 40, carrying out the terms of that decree in Military Government territory, were published.

4. Redistribution of livestock continued and captured draft animals were allocated to civil needs in Northern ITALY.

5. Relaxation of regulations have resulted in extensive fishing operations, and for the first time in many years the fishing industry reported a large catch in all areas.

COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION.

6. It was agreed that the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour would take over the complete control of distribution of tyres and tubes in Italian Government territory. The necessary Ministerial Directive has been drafted and approved by this Headquarters.

7. 1,000 tons of newsprint arrived from AMERICA, but 600 tons were used for the repayment of a loan made by AFHQ Printing and Stationary Services Directorate from Mideast stocks. 1,022 tons of newsprint were located in Northern ITALY and utilized for printing newspapers in the Northern cities.

8. Approximately 1,500 Kgs. of raw silk from 1944 crop have been successfully hidden from German requisitions.

9. Shipments during the month represented a value of over 100 million lire. With the expansion of COGEMA (Shipping) activities and the relaxation of control by the Allies, it became necessary to hand over to the Italian Government complete control of supplies of POL for COGEMA.

10. The Regional Welfare Officers of PIEMONTE, LOMBARDIA, LIGURIA, EMILIA, VENEZIA and TOSCANA Regions were allocated 15,000 blankets each for distribution to hospitals and war refugees.

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION.

11. The 5% five year issue of Italian Treasury Bonds has been most successful, a total of 31 billion 15 million lire having been subscribed. The Minister of the Treasury wished to extend the loan to Northern Italy but decided not to do so in the face of opposition from the CLNAI.

12. Information uncovered in Northern ITALY indicates that from 10 September

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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12. Information uncovered in Northern ITALY indicates that from 10 September 1943 to 30 April 1945 the Republican Fascist Government spent 359.6 billion lire, of which 189 billion lire represents German occupation costs and reimbursement to Germany of war costs.

13. The total Italian Government indebtedness is now approximately 854 billion lire, of which 250 billion is consolidated and redeemable and 600 billion floating debt. The currency circulation of Italy is now approximately 285 billion lire exclusive of the 61.5 billion AM lire in the hands of the Italian public and banks on 31 March 1945.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

14. It is estimated that the budget deficit for all of Liberated ITALY for the fiscal year 1944-45 will be approximately 350 billion lire.

15. No AM Lire or metropolitan lire will be used to pay surrendered German troops in ITALY. German Army funds are being seized as war booty and the problem of collecting lire currency now in the possession of individual German soldiers is being investigated.

16. The Council of Ministers has passed a decree which established a new foreign exchange control agency, the Ufficio Italiano dei Cambi, and liquidated the old agency, Istcambi. The new agency will have an autonomous management headed by the Governor of the Banca d'Italia and under the control of the Ministry of the Treasury.

17. Twenty-three tons of gold discovered at FORTEZZA, near BOLZANO has been transported to ROME and placed in the vault of the Allied Financial Agency Sub-Section, pending instructions as to its disposition. The Banca d'ITALIA has stated that this gold was part of the Bank's gold reserve which was taken north by the Fascist Republican Government prior to the liberation of ROME.

18. All currency seized from the enemy or found abandoned will be turned over to the Finance Sub-Commission pending later settlement. Several billion lire have already been received. It is planned to reopen stock exchanges in MILAN, GENOA, TURIN and VENICE early in July and the opening will take place simultaneously in all these cities.

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION.

19. Allied Commission food stockpiles on Eastern and Western coasts were more than adequate to cope with the demands of the Northern provinces and transport was the controlling factor in determining the amount of food that could be issued. By the end of the month a total of over 19,000 tons of food had been issued from warehouses on the East coast, distributed over the whole of the PO Valley and over 5,000 tons from the warehouses on the West coast were distributed to the Ligurian coast.

20. Considerable stocks of grain, rice, sugar and cheese have been declared in Northern Provinces and these will be incorporated in plans for the provisioning of North ITALY.

21. Imports of foodstuffs during the month were again on a large scale. In particular, cereal imports were heavy, amounting to over 140,000 tons, which enabled reserves of grain to be built up in all the deficiency areas so that the grain supply is now amply assured until the next harvest.

22. The figures of locally produced grain are still satisfactory, there being 198,000 tons in warehouses, of which 84,000 tons are still available for allocation.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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22. The figures of locally produced grain are still satisfactory, there being 196,000 tons in warehouses, of which 84,000 tons are still available for allocation.

23. 17,500 tons of foodstuffs were moved by rail and over 4,000 tons were moved coastwise during the month. These figures are in addition to the large quantities moved by Italian organisations. Salt shipments during the month were lighter but the Southern position is very satisfactory and there are considerable reserves in the ROME and NAPLES areas.

24. The yeast position has been materially improved with the liberation of the North. Plants have been found in good working order at MILAN, GENOA, PADUA and UDINE. In addition, the yeast production at BARLETTA has been increased.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

25. The midshift meal for workers employed by the armed forces has been increased by the addition of 125 grams of bread a meal. A supplementary ration for harvest workers of 150 grams of bread and 50 grams of pasta has again been adopted for this year's harvest.

INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION.

26. Ninety per cent of industrial capacity of the North has escaped destruction and industry in ITALY is now dependent only on imports of coal, cellulose, rubber, cotton and wool.

27. The reopening of the Soda Solvay Works at ROSIGNANO on 23 May has increased production of glass, washing wool, pharmaceutical goods and has considerably reduced the price of caustic soda.

28. There has been an improvement in the production of SARDINIAN coal and the Italian Government has been urged to encourage and foster further increases in production. The production of lignite has been handicapped by shortage of transport and labour. The lack of coal is the main problem in the North as it is of vital importance to Italian economy. All industries are dependent on this fuel in some way or another and normally ITALY had to import more than one million tons of coal a month. At the present time only about 300,000 tons of coal a month are scheduled for ITALY and even this supply is uncertain. Employment in the industries affected, which had in times of peace a payroll of nearly five and a half million, will be seriously endangered and a consequent unemployment of four to five million may easily result. Many plants which have raw material available have already been forced to close or to reduce production from lack of coal.

29. Cement requirements for the whole of ITALY can now be produced if coal is made available.

30. Arrangements have been made for the shipment of about 500 tons of M.T. spares from ALEXANDRIA and 800 - 1,000 tons from ERITREA. AFHQ has been asked to release a portion of the 300,000 discarded tyres held in ALEXANDRIA.

31. 44,000,000,000 matches are available in Northern ITALY and, once movement has been arranged, rationing will not be necessary in Southern ITALY. Production capacity for matches and raw materials are adequate to meet ITALY's needs with a possible surplus for export.

LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION.

32. Allied Military Government administration of labour in EMILIA, LOMBARDIA, LIGURIA, PIEMONTE and VENEZIE was established during the month. Industrial plant and establishments were found to be in good condition but shortage of coal and supplies, the return of refugees demanding their old employment and the dislocation occasioned by the change from war to peace time production will inevitably produce grave unemployment problems. Relief schemes are being planned and temporary arrangements have been made for the continuance of the "Cassa Integrazione" to assist firms in paying a guaranteed wage.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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33. Wages are lower in Northern ITALY but prices are rapidly rising and demands for wage increases are bound to develop. In BOLOGNA one wage increase has already been approved.

34. In Central and Southern ITALY wage increases continue to be negotiated in various districts, no serious trade disputes have occurred and the Italian General Confederation of Labour has launched a campaign with a view to reducing the cost of living. Adjustments of the Armed Force Wage Scale to conform with prevailing rates in private industry have been made in ROME, NAPLES, BARI, SALERNO, TERNI and PALERMO.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES SUB-COMMISSION.

35. Highways in Northern ITALY are in fair condition and it is not anticipated that serious difficulties will be encountered in repairs and maintenance; temporary bridges or diversions have been made on all principal routes.

36. Public utilities in Northern areas have not been seriously impaired and repair work is well in hand.

37. It is estimated that nearly 400 Communal Housing Committees are now organised and working and a total of 17,739 housing repair projects have been started and 8,573 completed. The value of work on housing to the end of May amounts to 1,859 million lire.

38. The total number of bridges completed is 1,652.

39. Ample electric power is available in the whole of the Northern area. About 10% of the generating plants were damaged but half of these will be repaired within the next three months.

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION.

40. The transport situation in Northern ITALY is better than had been expected but will need a considerable amount of reorganisation, particularly road transport.

41. On the cessation of hostilities the movement of refugees and displaced persons became a major problem, throwing a heavy strain on rail, road and shipping transportation. By sea, the Italian cruiser "GARIBALDI" was allocated to a shuttle service between PIOMBINO and MESSINA; she completed two voyages during the last week of the month, carrying about 1,000 repatriates for SICILY each time; two Italian torpedo boats each carried 100 persons on the same run. By rail, the major movements of displaced persons were from FLORENCE and FORLI to ROME and South of ROME; during the month 66 special trains were dispatched carrying a total of 68,902 persons. Meetings have been held with SHAEF and other headquarters to regulate the flow of refugees from North of the ALPS to ITALY.

42. Following the establishment during April of regular coastwise sailings under the control of Comitato Gestione Navi (COGENA), the former bidding procedure for movement of stores by sea has been discontinued with the exception of bids which cannot be met by tonnage under the control of COGENA. All bids for movement during the month have been met, and the total coastwise tonnage lifted amounted to 56,606 tons, including schooner traffic which carried about 21,610 tons of this total.

943

43. Figures for the latest four-week period for which statistics are available show that 206,961 tons were moved by rail on the mainland of ITALY, including traffic moving from SICILY to the Mainland.

44. Arrangements have been made to complete the transfer of about 4,500 trucks to the Italian Government. This transfer will be effected in three groups, the first being captured equipment now operated in SICILY, the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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45. It is hoped that a three times weekly passenger service ROME-AREZZO, ROME-ANCONA and ROME-FLORENCE will commence on 4 June.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. The Branch in meetings with G-5 Section IV Corps and the CLNAI at MILAN, helped overcome difficulties incident to republication of the Corriere della Sera, former fascist newspaper which, it was finally agreed, would be published under the name of Corriere d'Informazioni. The paper's first issue came out on 22 May. The Temporary Film Board approved Italian sponsored film legislation with minor changes and blocked all raw film stocks in the North, setting up procedure to prevent the materials from falling into the hands of speculators.

2. Approximately twenty five regular press releases were written and distributed to regular outlets. The OWI Photographic Section also covered, as a standard operating procedure, the picture possibilities of all A.C. press releases and distributed its photographs to more than fifty outlets, giving the Commission a most effective avenue of publicity. Approximately sixty home-town releases on U.S. personnel, issuance of which is a requirement of the U.S. War Department Bureau of Public Relations, were written, the total number issued to date amounting to more than four hundred.

NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

3. In response to a request from the Italian Ministry of Marine, the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean has agreed to the return of a portion of NAPLES Harbour to Italian Government control. One discharge berth has been released without restriction and three berths have been released on Pontile Vigliena, subject to the right of Allied Naval authorities to use one berth whenever it is required for the discharge of Allied tankers.

4. The Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief has made available one Italian cruiser and several smaller Italian naval vessels for the purpose of transporting refugees and displaced persons from the Northern Italian areas to SICILY and SARDINIA.

5. On 23 May Italian Naval Control Service Officers were appointed to duty in the ports of CIVITAVECCHIA, PIOMBINO and MADDALENA. Directives to these officers were issued on their responsibility to the Italian Naval Officers in Charge for the safe routing of all Allied merchant vessels leaving these ports.

LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (MAIA)

6. The moving of the Security Control Line to the R. PIAVE and the Prohibited Frontier Zone has enabled 50,000 Italian soldiers of the older classes to be demobilised and returned to their homes. Leave has also been granted for those with homes in Northern Provinces.

7. Owing to the fact that large numbers of Italian troops employed mainly [illegible] are becoming surplus, further call-up has been temporarily

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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7. Owing to the fact that large numbers of Italian troops employed mainly by the UNITED STATES are becoming surplus, further call-up has been temporarily suspended. Surplus service personnel of demobilizable age will be sent home and others re-allocated to other categories. The U.S. policy of employing PWs and cooperators as service troops has released large numbers of Italian soldiers for re-employment. Patriots may volunteer for the Italian Army and, although it is not possible to enlist these men in bands, every effort is being made to keep friends in the same units.

8. Much Italian/...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

8. Much Italian Army property has been located in Northern ITALY, some of it in the hands of the patriots.

9. Units of the Italian Army are being employed on internal security duties such as guarding the BRENNER PASS and assisting in guarding German PWs held by the British.

10. During the month a reduction was made in the reinforcement holdings for the Italian Army. The previous percentage of 25% for combat troops and 5% for Service units has now been reduced to a 5% total all round holding.

11. An initial transfer of 5,000 manpower spaces from BR-ITI category to CC.RR was authorised by AFHQ.

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION

12. Up till the capitulation of the German armed forces on 8 May the Italian Air Force continued operations on a scale comparable with the previous month. A detachment of 6 SM.82s transport aircraft assisted the Desert Air Force in following up the rapid forward movement of the EIGHTH Army in its closing stages of the campaign, by transporting POL and DMD rations from RAVENNA to LAV.RIANO. A signal of appreciation of the efficiency with which these operations were carried out was received from the A.O.C. Desert Air Force.

13. The six squadrons previously under command of B.A.F. have now been handed back to the operational control of this Sub-Commission. A letter from A.O.C. Balkan Air Force expressing his thanks for the keenness and spirit shown by these Italian squadrons has been received.

14. Between the period of the cessation of hostilities and the announcement of peace terms, flying will be restricted and controlled for all fighters and trainers; load-carrying aircraft including light bombers and seaplanes will be used for the extension of existing courier transport services; the Air-Sea Rescue Service with seaplanes and high speed launches will be continued and probably extended.

15. Primarily for the benefit of A.C. the land plane services to MILAN, TREVISO and BOLOGNA were opened, which have helped considerably in overcoming the shortage of transport. Regular time schedules have been run.

16. The strength of the I.A.F. is still about 3,000 below the ceiling of 31,000 and every effort is being made by the Directorate of Personnel to stimulate recruiting, chiefly by means of recruiting posters which are being displayed on a liberal scale.

918

17. Large supplies of much needed spares have been discovered in the North. Official reports indicate that there are sufficient spares to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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17. Large supplies of much needed spares have been discovered in the North. Official reports indicate that there are sufficient spares to maintain all aircraft of the I.A.F. and authority has been sought for sufficient quantities of these spares to be issued. There is no POL available from these sources and the number of complete aircraft found in the North has been small.

COMMUNICATIONS/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

18. Re-establishment of local services for all essential needs in Northern ITALY was effected during the month.

19. Inter-urban cables and equipment were sufficiently damaged to prevent resumption of telephone and telegraph facilities between the North and South of ITALY but this service is expected to be resumed on a limited scale during June.

20. Mail service throughout the Northern Provinces and between Northern and Southern ITALY has been restored on a limited scale and cablegram and radio facilities with the UNITED STATES and UNITED KINGDOM were resumed on 4 May. Foreign mail service was opened with HOLLAND and LUXEMBOURG.

WAR MATERIAL DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PRISONER OF WAR SUB-COMMISSION

War Material Disposal.

21. The collection of vehicles and weapons in the newly liberated Northern areas began immediately hostilities ceased.

22. Considerable stores of material have been taken over by the Armies. This material includes machine tools, clothing, silks, spirits, motor car spares, tyres and tubes which, awaiting the opportunity of removal into GERMANY, had been stored by the Germans in caves and tunnels in ITALY. Lists of this material are being made by representatives of A.C.

23. Salvaged material amounting to 11,500 tons, offered by American and British Army sources, was disposed of through the Allied Commission and Italian Ministry of Industry and Commerce. About 20-30 thousand salvaged tyres were offered by British salvage from TORRE ANNUNZIATA and steps are being taken to have these despatched to Pirelli Works, ROME, for inspection and retreading. 2-4 thousand of these tyres have been retained by the Allied Commission to be used in connection with the anti-malaria campaign.

Italian PW.

24. It has been agreed that 35,000 IPW from AMERICA will be despatched to ITALY at the rate of 10,000 a month commencing 1 July. During May 4,100 IPW were repatriated, the majority of which were sick and wounded.

25. On the cessation of hostilities large numbers of ex-Italian PW from GERMANY poured over the frontier into ITALY. Displaced persons camps were shared for the reception of the Italian ex-PW in the initial stages and small numbers of Italian officials were attached to each camp to care for them until they arrived at the camps specially prepared for military personnel. On arrival at military camps ex-IPW were documented, given clothing, money and the necessary transport to assist them to reach their homes. The Armies assisted in moving these men.

26. General MANNERINI, Autonomous Office of War Veterans and Repatriated Prisoners of War, showed great initiative and expended much energy and hard

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26. General MANNERINI, Autonomous Office of War Veterans and Repatriated Prisoners of War, showed great initiative and expended much energy and hard work in getting teams organised to handle difficult problems in FLORENCE, MILAN and BOLZANO.

Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

LSC/607

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Ref: 824/EC. 21 June 1945

MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1945

		Political Summary	Pages 1 - 2
PART	I	- AFC Armies and Regions	Pages 3 - 6
PART	II	- Civil Affairs Section	Pages 7 - 10
PART	III	- Economic Section	Pages 11 - 14
PART	IV	- Public Relations Branch Navy Sub-Commission Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA) Air Forces Sub-Commission Communications Sub-Commission War Material Disposal & Italian PW Sub-Commission	Pages 15 - 16

947

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Ref: 824/EC.

21 June 1945

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		Political Summary	Pages 1 - 2
PART	I	- AMG Armies and Regions	Pages 3 - 6
PART	II	- Civil Affairs Section	Pages 7 - 10
PART	III	- Economic Section	Pages 11 - 14
PART	IV	- Public Relations Branch Navy Sub-Commission Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA) Air Forces Sub-Commission Communications Sub-Commission War Material Disposal & Italian PW Sub-Commission	Pages 15 - 16

947

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

POLITICAL SUMMARY

1. The Council of Ministers met on 4 April and amongst other things approved a draft decree law re-instating the property rights of Italian subjects and foreigners against whom Fascist racial legislation had discriminated. This decree is supplementary to the decree law which was passed in January 1944. The Council further approved a draft decree regarding the administrative steps to be taken for the drawing up of electoral lists and particularly for establishing the means of registering electors in communes which are not their normal places of residence. The Council also approved increases in war pensions. Another important measure was the decision not to apply common law to patriots for acts committed during the war of liberation. This provision therefore puts patriots units recognised by the Committees of National Liberation on the same footing as military formations taking part in war.

2. The Communist Party held its annual Congress in ROME from the 6 to 10 April. Signor TOGLIATTI, the Secretary General of the Party, declared that the Communist Party would keep the truce on the institutional question but that, as soon as the North was liberated, the problem would call for a rapid solution. Once the North was freed, the truce would automatically lapse and the Constituent Assembly would make the final decision of the people on the question.

3. The Labour Democrats and the Democratic (Monarchist) Party also held Congresses at the same time. The Labour Democratic Congress approved various resolutions touching on agrarian reform and the administrative elections, while the Democratic Party Congress produced a 9-point programme emphasising the need for preserving law and order, private initiative and the rights of individuals against any form of state dictatorship. Another plank in their platform vigorously defended the "territorial integrity" of the country, including Italy's right to all colonies held at the end of the last war.

946

4. The liberation of the North was already imminent when the Council of Ministers met on 20 April to discuss the agreement with the Committee of National Liberation of North Italy (CLNAI) signed by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territory on 29 March during his clandestine visit to TURIN and MILAN. This agreement, which was concerned mainly with local administration by the CLNAI during the period between a German collapse and the establishment of Allied Military Government, was approved by the Council, which took the occasion to reiterate its agreement with, and faith in, the policy of the CLNAI and the work of armed partisan bands under its control.

5. On 21 April, BOLOGNA was liberated by the advancing Allied Armies, and on 25 April GENOA was wrested from German control by Italian patriots. This was followed by the liberation of MILAN by partisan bands on 26 April, and soon German dominance of the North was everywhere being submerged by Allied arms and the decisive action of the patriots. On 30 April General CLARK was able to say that "the military power of Germany in ITALY has practically ceased".

6. With the liberation of MILAN, the radio station there was immediately put into service to broadcast General CADORNA's orders to the partisans for a general uprising. The CLNAI proclaimed a state of emergency and subsequent broadcasts of ordinances enacted by the Committee showed that it was proceeding effectively with the establishment of its administration.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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7. At the meeting of the Council of Ministers on 26 April agreement was reached on the formation of a Consultative Assembly, to be composed of three principal groups. Of these, the first will be nominated by the six major political parties represented in the CLNAI, with twenty places going to parties outside the Committee. The second group will include anti-fascist deputies and senators of the last free Parliament, while the third group will be composed of representatives of labour unions and veterans' organisations. Reaction to the Government's decision was generally favourable.

8. Unanimity/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

8. Unanimity of feeling at Italy's exclusion from the United Nations Conference on international organisation at SAN FRANCISCO was reflected by the press, and the Council of Ministers at its meeting on 25 April voted to send a message to SAN FRANCISCO claiming the right and reaffirming the will of ITALY to participate in world reconstruction.

9. Concern for the fate of TRIESTE was intensified by the reported occupation of that city by JUGOSLAV forces. Following the Cabinet's expression of a desire for harmonious and good-neighbourly relations between ITALY and JUGOSLAVIA, the Government issued an official communique on 30 April affirming "in the most resolute and explicit manner" its view that controversial questions between the two countries should not be prejudiced by military operations then in progress in VENEZIA GIULIA but settled by direct agreement after final liberation of their respective territories.

PART I/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I.

AMG ARMIES AND REGIONS

AMG FIFTH ARMY.

1. The month of April falls into two clearly marked period of AMG activity. During the first of these the calm and routine administration of the small area of ITALY lying within the Army boundary was carried on, while at the same time preparations were diligently made for the commencement of military government in the large areas which it was expected the Army would occupy during the coming advance. Food was stockpiled at FLORENCE, VIAREGGIO and FORLI. An advance food depot was established at PORRETTA TERME. The Provincial and Regional teams, particularly those in the nearest provinces and regions, were prepared for early movement. On 11 and 12 April the 92nd Division took MASSA-CARRARA and the first of the new territories to be liberated was entered by AMG officers. Shortly after the middle of April the attack on BOLOGNA began and that city fell on 21 April. MODENA was entered on 23 April, MANTOVA on 26 April. On 28 April the city of MILAN, which had previously been the scene of a Partisan uprising, was entered by IV Corps. By the end of the month the greater part of North ITALY had been occupied and rumour of an impending surrender was already current. Within a period of ten days, the zone of Allied Military Government under the FIFTH Army had been expanded from a little more than three provinces, FIRENZE, LUCCA and PISTOIA, to thirty provinces covering a far greater expanse of territory, population, wealth and industry than had ever been subjected to Allied Military Government in ITALY at any one time before.

2. The first great problem that confronted AMG in all the new territory was the Partisan situation. Great efforts were made by AMG to disarm the Partisans and with considerable success. Parades were held at which Partisans passed in review, fully armed and under their own leaders, before General Officers of the FIFTH Army and at the conclusion of the parades surrendered their arms. Speeches were then made and Partisan Certificates were presented to the leaders. At BOLOGNA 3,500 Partisans surrendered their arms and at MODENA more than 14,000. It was noted, however, that the number of pistols and machine guns turned in was small.

313

3. A new and important situation that confronted AMG during the month lay in the character and strength of the Comitati Liberazione Nazionale (CLNs) encountered in every province and almost every commune. The CLNAI representing the various CLNs had been recognised by ROME as the government of Northern ITALY during the period of German occupation and, while it was understood that they were to relinquish their powers when AMG came in, nevertheless their actions during the occupation acquired a certain validity which otherwise they would not have had.

4. Authority was given to Corps SCAOs to establish the bread ration at 125 grams of bread initially, to be raised, when grain or flour should become available, to 250 grams of bread and 40 grams of pasta either from local or imported stocks.

5. Grain crop plantings were below normal, especially rice. The current crop condition was fair with some damage in the central PO Valley due to frost. Summer vegetables and fruit crops were good, with surplus in nearly all areas.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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5. Grain crop plantings were below normal, especially rice. The current crop condition was fair with some damage in the central PO Valley due to frost. Summer vegetables and fruit crops were good, with surplus in nearly all areas. Approximately 400 tons of surplus potatoes were found in the BOLOGNA area and part of them were transported South.

6. AMG officers entering BOLOGNA found large numbers of farmers and their possessions, including livestock, living in the city under abnormal conditions. There were even cattle and swine on third floors of some houses and hundreds of cattle were found in basements. This produced a condition of sanitation easier to observe than to imagine.

7. Generally speaking, agriculture North of the Appenines was found to be in a satisfactory state.

8. Comparatively/...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

8. Comparatively little damage was found in BOLOGNA. A local plant supplied sufficient power to supply hospitals and for water pumping until the power lines from MODENA could be repaired. The flow of water was however small and was insufficient for sanitation purposes.

9. In general the liberated towns were found to be almost normal with public works and utilities functioning or ready to function.

10. Where necessary the people started repairing utilities on their own initiative, in remarkable contrast to the behaviour of the Southern Italians.

11. The health situation in the newly liberated area has been extremely good. Living conditions in BOLOGNA were extremely over-crowded but no ill-effects resulted during April.

THE EIGHTH ARMY.

12. This report covers only that territory occupied during the month, being the provinces of FERRARA, ROVIGO, PADUA, VENEZIA, TREVISO, BELLUNO, UDINE and part of BOLOGNA. The territory occupied varies widely in nature, containing some of the richest agricultural land in EUROPE in the PO Valley and also barren mountainous territory.

13. In FERRARA Province there is a belt of devastated country along the line on which the Army was halted for the Winter extending Northwards and Westwards for about ten miles, which is at least as badly damaged as the CASSINO Valley. Beyond this strip, however, damage is limited to the immediate vicinity of the river crossings of the PO and ADIGE, factories which were the target for air attack, and areas surrounding railway stations.

14. There is very much less damage in this Northern area than in any part of ITALY further South and some places, as for example VENICE, appear to have emerged from the war completely unharmed.

15. It is too early yet to give any detailed survey of the political background of the area. In almost every instance the CLN has proved to be sensible and cooperative and had generally organised a working system of administration prior to the Allied occupation. The improvement in calibre of public officials North of the PO is marked and considerable initiative and vigour has been encountered.

16. Prior to the advance beyond PADOVA no serious difficulties were encountered from Patriots who were everywhere cooperative. Disarming proceeded satisfactorily, if somewhat slowly, but all parades held for the purpose were successful.

17. Except in the Province of UDINE, which is subject to unusual circumstances, there is a sufficient quantity of grain and flour in the area to carry over until the next harvest. The allotted quantities of supplies other than flour have been distributed to the various Provinces, but stocks found of some commodities, particularly sugar, have made it unnecessary to distribute some of the items to all the Provinces. The ration scale prevailing in the majority of the area was 150 grams of bread a day, with a monthly allotment of 4 kilos of pasta and 1 kilo of maize. Prices, as expected, were lower than that part of ITALY previously liberated.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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18. Except in the devastated area in FERRARA, banks and post offices have mostly been in a condition to open within a few days of occupation and in most places there has been sufficient cash without drawing on the reserve in the South.

19. At the/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

19. At the beginning of the period the refugee problem was confined to the housing and feeding of a number of inhabitants from the destroyed villages on the Winter Line. Thereafter the movement of refugees was small, for though there is in the area a large number of refugees from Southern and Central ITALY these have been located here for a considerable time and it has been the policy to restrain them from early movement.

20. There will be a very considerable movement of displaced persons returning from GERMANY and AUSTRIA in the near future. A great number are already making their way down through Northern ITALY.

21. CC.RR have been steadily moved into each Province as captured and no particular Public Safety problems have arisen.

22. The health of the population is good and there were no indications of contagious or infectious diseases in epidemic proportion, although there is a potential danger in the area of the ARGENTA GAP.

EMILIA REGION.

23. In the course of the month the remaining territory of FORLI and RAVENNA Provinces was liberated and on 25 April the whole of FORLI and RAVENNA Provinces was handed over to regional control by EIGHTH Army.

24. All flooded areas South and East of RAVENNA, being about 45,000 acres, have now been drained but work on bridges was delayed by lack of materials, only three being completed during the month.

25. The supply of bricks for re-housing schemes is sufficient for present needs, but without further coal, work will come to a standstill when present stocks are exhausted.

26. The standard of health remains good.

27. Plans were completed for the re-starting of fishing from the seven ports of the Region and it is anticipated that about 200 tons of fish will be obtained over a period of three months.

28. The sugar-beet crop has fallen below expectations due to the drought and some areas had to be re-seeded owing to non-germinisation of seed.

29. The condition of the people has improved with the advance of the Army, and the resultant release of accommodation. Their attitude has become more friendly and "incidents" are rare.

30. Immediate assistance is being given to the Republic of SAN MARINO to instal electric power to provide adequate water.

914

TOSCANA REGION.

31. On 30 April AMG took over the administration and control of the remaining Provinces of TOSCANA Region - FLORENCE, PISTOIA, LUCCA and APUANIA previously under the control of AMG FIFTH Army.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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314

TOSCANA REGION.

31. On 30 April AMG took over the administration and control of the remaining Provinces of TOSCANA Region - FLORENCE, PISTOIA, LUCCA and APUANIA - previously under the control of AMG FIFTH Army.

32. The Communists continued to be the most active of the parties and have been responsible for some minor disturbances in the Region.

33. Local Government functioned well but, in the Provinces recently liberated, the work of establishing orderly administration is handicapped by poor communications due to destroyed bridges and highways.

34. There have been no unusual supply problems; the salt ration has been increased and citrus fruits have been imported. Sixty two tons of fish were sent to ROME from GROSSETO during April.

35. Small/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

35. Small quantities of wheat are still being amassed and olive oil amassed to-date amounts to over 65,000 quintals. Crops are promising well but agricultural work in APUANIA Province has been greatly delayed by military operations and is still being impeded by mines; a mine lifting detachment is now at work. Insecticides and fungicides, although late for the best crop results, are now being received.

36. The morale of the civil police has increased slightly during the month and there has been no serious crime; there was a noticeable decrease in the number of cases to be tried.

37. Undulant fever has been reported in several localities. The malaria control programme is well organised and the distribution of clothing is complete except in APUANIA and the Island of CAPRAIA.

38. Glass production is suffering from lack of carbonate of soda and production will cease at the end of May unless new supplies are made available. The urgent need for tyre repair and manufacture facilities is made more critical by the lack of raw materials; shortage of coal is hampering the production of cement.

39. Protective coverings for monuments have been ordered to be removed throughout the Region. Repair work to damaged monuments and fine arts in MASSA will be commenced in May.

UMBRIA-MARCHE REGION.

40. The Region has received instructions to hand over administration of its last remaining provinces to the Italian Government on 10 May, so that its final efforts are being devoted to the preparatory measures necessary to put this into effect.

41. During its existence the Region has administered no less than twelve provinces, which is believed to be the largest number that any Region has been called upon to administer.

42. Activity generally during the month dealt with routine matters and there is little in the nature of highlights to report. Wheat amassing reached a total of 124% of the target figure and 76% of the olive oil target has been collected so far. As to the coming harvest, it is feared that lack of rain, as elsewhere, will reduce the yield as compared with last year.

43. Steady progress has been made with the removal of mines, which will have a beneficial effect on agricultural production generally. 4,000 were dealt with in the first three weeks of the month but it is estimated there are still 100,000 to be lifted.

44. Public health continues very good, hospitals being adequate for current needs. Italian welfare organisations functioned satisfactorily. For some time education has been seriously handicapped by the widespread use of schools for accommodation of troops. Lately a large exodus of the latter has taken place with a consequent revival in the educational system.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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45. Great efforts have been made to restore public utilities to active operation and over 600 projects have been completed during the life of the Region. This despite the serious shortage of raw materials and transport.

46. 8,500 cases have been brought before AMG Courts since the formation of the Region and especial attention was given to curbing black market activity with marked success.

PART II.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART II

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Defascism

1. A decree establishing Special Courts of Assize to try civilian collaborators has been adopted (DLL 142 of 22 April 1945). It has been implemented for Northern Italy and is intended to prevent the functioning of illegal popular courts and other forms of summary justice in the recently liberated territories. The Bench consists of a professional judge and four "judges" chosen from panels of local persons of accepted probity. The panels are prepared by CLNs of the provincial capitals.

2. General Order No. 35, which is intended to accomplish a preliminary epuration of employees of Government offices and parastatal institutions in North Italy and which was modelled on the basic Italian epuration law, DLL 159, is in effect in most of the Northern territory.

3. New decrees which are expected to become law very soon have been discussed at length with the Government and deal with the extension of the procedural time limits for certain epuration proceedings, the substitution of judges by lawyers and law professors as presidents of commissions of first instance, the forfeiture of corruptly gained wealth during the fascist regime, and the disqualification of persons of specified fascist antecedents from holding managerial positions in important companies. In the principal Ministries about 26,000 of the 45,000 employees have been scrutinised, 6,300 have been sent for trial: of these, 2,770 cases have been concluded, resulting in 7,000 dismissals. In addition, there have been numerous compulsory retirements and other lesser punishments.

Mine Clearance

4. There are now four Italian military Mine Clearing Companies operating under Allied Commission some of which will be used in Northern Italy as required. On the civilian side, a new Zone has been opened in EMILIA Region and has begun operations and a number of Italian officers earmarked for the Northern Regions have gone forward to form new Zones if they are needed.

5. Information is not available as to the extent of minefields in the North but it is thought that with the rapid advance of the Allies the enemy had little time to lay minefields except along last winter's line.

6. In EMILIA Region 674 minefields have already been located. Good work is being done, but lack of transport is a considerable handicap.

7. Many thousands of mines have been lifted during the month. The figures reported are over 133,000.

943

Distribution of Clothing

8. During April a small quantity of repaired clothing was received from the Commerce Subcommission and distributed to Patriots Branch and Displaced Persons and Repatriation Subcommission.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMISSION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMISSION

9. The Italian Government's proposed system for the conduct of municipal elections, based on a law of 1915, has been examined and found to be antiquated and likely to lend itself to corruption. A recommendation for the amendment of the law before elections are held has been sent to the Government. The Government has also been informed that the holding of elections will not be countenanced in AMG Territory unless a more truly democratic procedure is adopted.

10. It has been decided that the policy to be followed and the attitude to be adopted by AMG to the CLNs in Northern Italy is that, while the Allied Commission supports the Italian Government, the CLNs must be treated with the courtesy due to their political position and their past labours: the advice of the CLNs will be sought and acted upon in so far as it does not conflict with the policy of AMG. It has been agreed with the Italian Government that although the appointments of Prefects and other senior officials in the North of Italy were ultimately for AMG to decide, it was proper for the Government to have an opportunity to express its

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

views thereon. It was therefore arranged that the Government should submit the names of persons it suggested for appointment as Prefects and Questori in the Northern provinces and that these would be considered by AMG, together with any nominees proposed by the CLN or from any other source.

11. The Ministry of Interior has completed the epuration investigation of all its officials but actual trial proceedings have progressed slowly. The Ministry has been requested to assure the Allied Commission that outstanding trials will be concluded within a time programme.

EDUCATION SUBCOMMISSION

12. Progress was made in UMBRIA MARCHE and TOSCANA Regions in the distribution of books, printing of note books and derequisition and repair of buildings.

13. A special meeting was held with the Vice President, Civil Affairs Section, Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommission, the Minister of Public Instructions and this Subcommission, to discuss cultural interchange. The Minister of Public Instructions has expressed his approval of the steps already taken in the field and has agreed to appoint two committees to study means of bringing about an interchange of professors and students between Italy and Allied Nations.

14. A decree has been prepared to allow special university examinations for students whose work with the Partisans had made it impossible for them to take those arranged at the end of regular courses.

15. As a temporary measure the property of the Fascist Youth Organization (GIL) has been taken over by the Provveditori agli Studi for youth activities in the North and the American Junior Red Cross is sending 20,000 packages of school and toilet supplies for distribution to needy school children through the Italian Junior Red Cross.

LEGAL SUBCOMMISSION

16. The number of cases tried by AMG Courts has been substantially reduced owing to the withdrawal of local personnel for work in Northern ITALY. This has resulted in an increase in the already heavy load borne by the Italian Courts causing, in most courts, heavy lists of arrears. Theft and illegal possession again formed the bulk of the AMG Court cases and the cases of serious crime were few. A case, involving the death of an Allied Officer, occurred in Italian Government Territory and was therefore tried under Italian law; the accused was sentenced to thirteen years' imprisonment.

17. Of five espionage cases reviewed, two death sentences were confirmed, two prison sentences were affirmed and one conviction quashed.

18. The economic policy originally planned for the Northern territory has been frequently modified necessitating a further Order in the Official Gazette to suspend from operation the Italian laws increasing rates of salaries and allowances which are in force in the South. General Orders 40, 41 and 42 were drafted to establish the economic policy in the North and to provide rules for agriculture and transportation rates.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUBCOMMISSION

The Italian Government has appointed a Central Advisory Commission for Public [illegible] taking the place of the Superior Council for Public [illegible] of the Ministry of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Documents and Fine Arts Subcommission, the Minister of Public Instructions Subcommission, to discuss cultural interchange. The Minister of Public Instructions has expressed his approval of the steps already taken in the field and has agreed to appoint two committees to study means of bringing about an interchange of professors and students between Italy and Allied Nations.

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PUBLIC HEALTH SUBCOMMISSION

19. The Italian Government has appointed a Central Advisory Commission for Public Health. This is a temporary body taking the place of the Superior Council for Public Health which in the past had advised the Public Health Division of the Ministry of Interior on the health of the nation. The term of office of the Central Advisory Commission is for one year after the cessation of hostilities.

20. Two hundred and seventy-four smallpox cases have been reported from NAPLES Province during April: sixty-two from AVELLINO; fourteen from SALERNO; six from FROSINONE; and one from each of the Provinces of ROME, PALERMO, CATANZARO, and CAMPOBASSO. As 3,000,000 vaccinations have been performed in NAPLES the reason for the large number of cases which continue to be notified there is unknown. An investigation is being made by the Italian government.

21. The anti-malarial project on the Pontine Marshes continues but is seriously hampered by lack of transport. The Tiber Delta demonstration project is nearing completion and the adult and larval capture phase of the programme is about to begin.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

So far, about 4,550 buildings have been treated.

22. The infant mortality rate for ROME was 87.4 per 1,000 in March, as compared with 111.5 in February. The number of deaths in ROME Commune from all forms of tuberculosis in March was 256, as compared with 190 in February.

23. It is considered that the veterinary services in Italian Government territory are now functioning with the same efficiency as was to be found in pre-war days. Foot and Mouth Disease, hog cholera, sheep scabies, brucellosis and laryngothrocheitis have all been reported from different Provinces during the past month. Courses of instruction on bovine sterility and artificial insemination have been conducted for veterinarians in the Provinces of ROME, VITERBO and FROSINONE during the month.

24. The regular feeding programmes are continued and childrens' diets are being supplemented by milk and vitamins distributed by the Ente Nazionale Distribuzione Soccorsi per l'Italia (ENDSI). A widespread distribution of 137,000 blankets has been made during the month.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMISSION

25. The "spearhead" force of 5,650 Carabinieri has moved into the Northern Regions and a further 4,000 men are moving forward. 560 Carabinieri and 1,200 Guardia di Finanza from Southern ITALY have been assigned to work under the direct orders of the Italian Frontier Control Detachment (CIC) which is responsible for control of movement at the Northern Italian Frontier.

26. AFHQ have authorized an increase in the CC.RR ceiling to a total of 65,000 but arrangements for the supply of rations and clothing have still to be worked out for the additional 10,000.

27. There were four prison disturbances during the month, the most serious of which was at PORT BOCCEA where the entire prison was for a while in the hands of about 450 Italian Military prisoners. CC.RR and Civil Police with armoured cars and machine guns restored order.

28. Many demonstrations and impromptu parades were held as a protest to the rumoured JUGOSLAV intention to annex TRIESTE.

29. Twenty out of the thirty-one members of the "Onore" Group arrested, as mentioned in last month's report, have been interned and eleven released.

912

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES SUBCOMMISSION

30. Initial reports have come in concerning the condition of the recently liberated cities in the North. Damage was generally slight except at VERONA and VICENZA where many of the important monuments were damaged. VENICE was untouched, as was the Abbey at POMPOSA; in BOLOGNA damage to the monuments in the centre of the city was slight with the exception of the damage to S. Francesco, the Archiginnasio and the Santa.

31. Florentine deposits removed by the Germans from POGGIO A CAIANO and MONTAGNANA to places in the Italian Tirol near BOLZANO and MERANO are now safe in Allied hands.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PATRIOTS BRANCH

32. The most important development during April was the temporary authority for the issue of clothing and Italian Military rations to Patriots in Centres or Hospitals, issued by AFHQ pending a decision on the matter by the CCS.

33. As a result of the Allied advance the Patriot Centres at FLORENCE and PESCIA passed from FIFTH Army to TOSCANA Region control and the liberation of BOLOGNA and MASSA enabled many patriots to return to their homes in those areas. By the end of the month new centres had been opened at MODENA and BOLOGNA.

34. The first report of disarming came from BOLOGNA, where on 25 April, approximately 4,000 patriots handed in their arms at a most successful parade attended by Commanding General 15 Army Group and a number of other senior Allied officers.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

35. The Ministry of War intends to issue a special medal ribbon for patriots and also to grant combatant patriots the same family allowances as are given to members of the fighting forces.

DISPLACED PERSONS & REPATRIATION SUBCOMMISSION

36. AVERSA, BARI and CINECITTA Centres, as well as the camps on the ADRIATIC coast, were inspected during the month. Health continued to be good. Mass radiography of five hundred inhabitants of CINECITTA Centre showed that about 6% had some form of tuberculosis. The epidemic of typhoid at No. 27 AMG Evacuation Camp, FLORENCE, has abated.

37. Approximately 3,000 Italian refugees arrived in ROME during the month, the majority coming from the RIMINI area. 400 persons were returned to homes in ORTONA area and 1,591 Italians with homes in SICILY, SARDINIA or the South were repatriated.

38. At the end of April, 78,479 persons were recorded with the Record Bureau of the Subcommission. The location of approximately 60,000 of these is known.

39 UNRRA has taken over the responsibility of Financial Assistance Advances for United Nations Nationals and Stateless Displaced Persons in the ROME area. As from June, UNRRA will make payments throughout Free ITALY, with the exception of thirteen recently liberated Provinces where payment will continue to be made by this Commission.

40. During the month the Banca d'Italia was authorized to make 2,195 payments totalling 8,195,250 lire: 3,734 persons were scheduled to benefit from these payments.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART III

ECONOMIC SECTION

AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION.

1. The third joint Agricultural Conference was held in ROME 16-18 April. The conference was planned and organised by the Italian officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests and was distinguished by the intense interest of all parties concerned and a large representation of farmer groups. It was devoted mainly to agricultural production, amassing, restoration of agricultural experimental institutes and plans for Northern ITALY.

2. General Order No. 40 for the Collection of Cereals was approved and has been distributed to all the Northern Regions.

3. Wheat consignment to the "Granai del Popolo" reached a total of 11,425,563 quintals, or 94% of the estimated goal; current consignments are small. Olive oil collected has reached 474,120 quintals.

4. A proposal was made for the setting up of a FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT Memorial Forest in ITALY to be planted both with American and Italian trees and dedicated to the memory of the late President.

5. In order to supplement the available meat supply with fish AFHQ has been asked to modify the existing fishing regulations.

COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION.

6. Releases for the month from AFHQ(T)B continued to be satisfactory, the principal items including 3,700 tons of cement for April, 32.5 tons of ammonia gas in liquid form, and 35 tons of paint, an increase on previous months.

7. Arrangements were made for the supply by the Italian match monopoly to the Allied Forces of 1½ million boxes of matches monthly for three months.

8. The shortage of leather belting is being relieved by the production at RAVENNA of a substitute in the form of a rubber-impregnated five-ply canvas belting, scrap rubber from inner tubes being used for the impregnating process.

9. The newsprint situation was eased by the arrival of 1,612 tons from AMERICA and just over 600 tons from MIDDLE EAST. Of this, however, 600 tons was used to repay previous loans.

10. Part of the thread output from Cucirini Cantoni Coats Co. of LUCCA was declared by AMG Fifth Army to be surplus to Army needs and placed at the disposal of this Commission for distribution.

941

11. The Italian Government was informed of the new export policy laid down by the CCS in WASHINGTON and given a list of those commodities which are in world short supply or are required for the war effort (Category A) and those which are treated on a different basis from all other commodities (Category B). Category A commodities continue to be allocated in accordance with instructions issued by the UNITED NATIONS, whilst Category B commodities may be exported by the Italian [illegible] terms it may choose, although it has been

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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12. Exports during the month totalled 3,610 tons with an estimated value of about 28 million lire. The exports were to U.S.A., MALTA and JUGOSLAVIA.

13. The decree legalising the functions of CIP (Comitato Italiana Petroli) has been issued; previously CIP had functioned simply as an organ of Petroleum Section, AFHQ.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION.

14. During April the Allied Commission was notified that a further credit of 50 million dollars was made on 15 March 1945 to the account of the Italian Government with the U.S. Treasury Department. This amount represented the net expenditure by U.S. troops in ITALY out of their pay. A total of 100 million dollars has now been credited to this account, covering the period through 31 December 1944. These funds are earmarked for the purchase of reconstruction materials.

15. Total tax collection in March amounted to 5 billion lire, bringing the total collected from 1 July 1944 to 31 March 1945 to 15.3 billion lire.

16. On 8 April 1945, AFHQ issued Administrative Memorandum No. 21. By this document AFHQ Admin. Memo. No. 95 of 1945 was rescinded and cash (lire) payment for certain types of supplies was authorised as a matter of expediency in order to insure a continuing supply of essentials necessary for the prosecution of the war effort. Arrangements have also been made for all unpaid bills and requisitions held by the Allied forces to be handed over to the Ministry of the Treasury for settlement under the terms of the Armistice.

17. Subscription lists for the new 5 year 5% Treasury Bonds were opened on 5 April and will remain open until 19 May. It is hoped that subscriptions will total lire 25,000 million and reports received at the main office of the Banco d'Italia, ROME, up to and including 30 April, show a total subscribed of slightly over Lit. 13,000 millions.

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION.

18. Food imports for the month totalled 160,721 tons, a higher figure than during previous months due to the making up of deficiencies which had developed during the first quarter of the year.

19. As a result of the increase in imports it has been possible to widen the distribution of milk to cover all priority classes for which a ration scale had been laid down. Reserves of cereals have been built up in all the large deficiency areas of South ITALY and the Islands which have been dependent on imported supplies.

20. The local grain situation remains satisfactory with a total of 248,000 tons in warehouses at the end of the month, of which 113,000 tons were still available for allocation. Grain reserves for ROME at the end of April were 42 days of flour and 31 days of pasta. The arrivals of non-rationed foods in ROME amounted to 18,101 tons or an average of 646 tons a day, compared with 519 tons a day in March and 425 tons a day in February.

21. Salt shipments during the month were the largest up to date, amounting to 16,677 tons; supplies are now sufficient in most areas to permit a ration of 300 grams a month to be issued, in contrast to the 100 or 200 grams ration previously in force.

22. Regional Officers of the Italian High Commissioner for Food have been appointed to TOSCANA, UMBRIA-MARCHE, EMILIA and PIEMONTE Regions and appear to be functioning quite satisfactorily.

23. It is intended to continue supplementary rations for all heavy and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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22. Regional Officers of the Italian High Commissioner for Food have been appointed to TOSCANA, UMBRIA-MARCHE, PUGLIA and PIEMONTE Regions and appear to be functioning quite satisfactorily.

23. It is intended to continue supplementary rations for all heavy and other workers in Northern territories, wherever they are found to be in force.

INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION.

24. Preliminary reports show that damage in the North is almost negligible, one estimate giving 95% of the plants in operational order with ample supplies of power but an almost total deficiency of coal. The immediate problem to avoid grave social unrest in the near future will therefore be the provision of raw materials and coal. The sewing thread factory of Cucirini Cantoni Coats, LUCCA, is now producing 1,350 Kgs. of thread a day, with a planned increase to 2,000 Kgs. a day. In the woollen industry the production of

/piecegoods and ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

piecegoods and blankets now amounts to over 40,000 metres a day. The amount of hemp pooled in April decreased sharply and unless supplies can be moved from Northern ITALY, the factories will have to reduce their output.

25. A serious situation has arisen as no phosphate rock has been imported since March. This is due to the refusal of French producers in NORTH AFRICA to continue shipping until their demand for a 30% increase in price is met. So far, despite urgent representations and conferences, it has not been possible to overcome the difficulty.

26. March production reported by Imie Zolfi Siciliani sulphur mine was 4,041 metric tons. The cement production figure for April is 9,500 tons, an increase on the previous month. Sardinian coal production for March was 34,857 metric tons, the estimated production for April being 26,000 metric tons. The estimated reduction in output is due to strikes and the "go slow" policy adopted by the miners. During the first half of April, this reduction materially decreased the supply of coal available for distribution and the loss had to be made up from imported sources. Largely due to transportation difficulties, the estimated production of lignite on the mainland was only 45,000 tons.

LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION.

27. The policy of freezing wages in private industry north of the Provinces of RAVENNA, FORLI, RIMINI, PISTOIA, LUCCA and APUANIA at the level prevailing on 5 April 1945 has been put into effect. Where it is impossible to stabilize prices, corresponding adjustment of wages may be negotiated between employers and workers, but any agreement reached can only be operative subject to AMG approval. The Regional Italian Joint Advisory Committee will consider and make recommendations to the Regional Commissioners on such proposed wage changes.

28. Wage rates for Government employees will also be held at the level prevailing on 5 April and special provision is being made for employees transferred from the South; Allied Forces employees will be paid at the rates prevailing in each locality.

29. It has also been decided that, in general, Italian Government wage increases will not be implemented north of the above mentioned boundary. 940

30. The dispute over wages and piece-work conditions involving 3,500 workers in Sardinian coalfields has been settled for the time being and normal work resumed.

31. There was agitation amongst Armed Forces employees early in the month for wage increases to compensate for the emergency indemnity granted to workers in private industry.

32. The provision of labour for the harvest in FOGGIA has caused concern and there is fear that the high wages offered to harvest workers may entice others away from the employ of the Allied Forces. The Italian Government has been asked to make plans to utilize unemployed labour from other regions.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION.

27. The policy of freezing wages in private industry north of the Provinces of RAVENNA, FORLI, RIMINI, PISTOIA, LUCCA and APUANIA at the level prevailing on 3 April 1945 has been put into effect. Where it is impossible to stabilize prices, corresponding adjustment of wages may be negotiated between employers and workers, but any agreement reached can only be operative subject to AFHQ approval. The Regional Italian Joint Advisory Committee will consider and make recommendations to the Regional Commissioners on such proposed wage changes.

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32. The scheme for recruiting building and civil engineering workers for the FAR EAST has been approved in principle by the Italian Government, who to stimulate interest, propose to pay a considerable bonus to all workers volunteering. Proposals are also in hand for the recruitment of 500 skilled workers for various shipyards in EGYPT.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES SUB-COMMISSION.

33. Information so far received on conditions in newly liberated areas is encouraging. An additional 40,000 KW of electrical generating plant is now available for use in Central ITALY. It was anticipated that some of this energy would be required in the area north of FLORENCE; however, it is now known that there is sufficient electricity already available in Northern ITALY and in fact it is expected that surplus energy will shortly be available for use in Central ITALY. It is proposed to form an Advisory Committee on Electric

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Power (Northern ITALY) as early as possible.

34. The second of the large 35,000 KW generating units, at GALLETO TERNI came into operation on 10 April, together with an 11,000 KW unit at PIAN DELLA ROCCA.

35. 565 Kms. of transmission line were rehabilitated in ITALY during the month. Work has been started to restore transmission systems to recently liberated plants north of the FLORENCE area.

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION.

36. The approximate civilian tonnage moved by rail in April was: SARDINIA, 58,000 tons; SICILY 152,000 tons; and the MAINLAND, 170,000 tons.

37. The supply of cement for railway reconstruction was better during April. The ORTONA-ANCONA line was completed, but an unfortunate land slip at the CASTELLANA Tunnel near ANCONA has prevented the opening of the line; it may be some time before work on the tunnel is completed. The PISA-LIVORNO-FLORENCE line has been opened to traffic and work on the ROME-VITERBO line was completed during the month. A number of local passenger train services have been reopened.

38. Virtually all shipping bids were met and approximately 60,000 tons of stores were moved by sea. There has been a considerable waste of shipping during the month owing to a difference of opinion on the freight rates to be charged on pyrites and to a dispute between the French and Italian Governments re the price to be paid for phosphate rock from NORTH AFRICA. The Mediterranean Shipping Authorities have handed back ten ships to be operated by the Italian Government with a total estimated capacity of approximately 25,000 tons a month. Regular coastwise sailings are being established.

39. Warehouse accommodation is taxed to the utmost with Allied civilian supplies for Northern ITALY. The Italian Warehouse Association has not yet shown itself capable of full management of these warehouses and considerable Allied supervision has been necessary.

40. Of 1,700 1½-ton trucks allotted by U.S. to the Commission for civil needs, 1,544 have now been delivered.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUB-COMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. The month's activities, as with all work of the Allied Commission, was climaxed by the opening of the final campaign in ITALY. Representatives of the Branch were sent forward for work in the Northern Areas.

2. The News Production Division issued forty one releases during the month, including several technical articles to trade magazines in ENGLAND and AMERICA.

NAVY SUB-COMMISSION

3. In conjunction with, and under the control of the Allied Naval authorities, the Ministry of Marine is arranging to supply numerous Italian Navy personnel for duties connected with the operation of the various Northern Ports when they are freed from enemy control.

4. The Ministry of Marine announced on 7 April His Royal Highness, Vice Admiral Aimone di SAVOIA (The Duke of Aosta) was relieved from his posts of Inspector General of M.A.S. of Assault Craft and of the San Marco Regiment and has been placed on the list of those officers available for assignment. Contrary to a widely held belief, the Duke of Aosta has not been deprived of his rank of Vice Admiral but only relieved of his duty appointment for his statement regarding the Italian High Court of Justice.

LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION (LAMIA)

5. During the last big push by the FIFTH and EIGHTH Armies of the five Italian Combat Groups, four of them, "CREMONA", "LEGNANO", "FRIULI" and "FOLGORE" were in the line. On 11 April, advanced units of the CREMONA and FRIULI Groups crossed the SENIO. By 24 April the LEGNANO Group had entered BOLOGNA and the remaining two Groups, after experiencing heavy fighting and capturing many prisoners, were concentrated S.E. of BOLOGNA. The CREMONA Group was again called forward on 30 April, and, advancing with units of the EIGHTH Army, crossed the River PO and took part in the operations which culminated in the crossing of the ADIGE River and the ultimate surrender of the German Forces in ITALY. The fighting qualities of all Italian Combat Troops and their active contribution to the great Allied victories during the past month have received the highest praise from Field Marshal ALEXANDER and his subordinate commanders.

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6. On 24 April the Ministry of War was informed that the combat ceiling of the Italian Army was increased by 13,000 as from 19 April. This increase was to be balanced by a reduction as from the same date of the BR-ITI service ceiling by 12,000.

7. The general policy regarding the employment of Italian troops was

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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7. The general policy regarding the employment of Italian troops was established. No Italian troops will be employed outside the frontiers of ITALY.

8. The demobilisation of Italian soldiers of first four months of 1914 class and older classes, whose homes are South of Army boundaries, was authorised and has begun Initially this will affect about 4,000 men.

AIR FORCES/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION.

9. The efficiency of the Italian Air Force continues to increase although the administration and organisation is not yet up to Allied standards.

10. Largely for political reasons, permission was granted for the Italian Air Ministry to retain a number of obsolete type aircraft provided no work was done on them. The retention of these aircraft has had a good effect upon the morale of the I.A.F. who were reluctant to have a reduction made in aircraft strength.

11. Acting Air Vice Marshal I.E. BRODIE, C.B.E., has been appointed Director Air Forces Sub-Commission in place of Acting Air Vice Marshal W.A.B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET, reassigned.

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

12. Preliminary reports from North ITALY show that the damage to civil communication services is not severe, though removal of equipment and damage to cables has been sufficient to prevent immediate resumption of some services.

13. Foreign mail service was opened with FRANCE, BELGIUM, GREECE, BULGARIA and RUMANIA. Agreement was reached on the terms of opening a cablegram and radio service with UNITED STATES and UNITED KINGDOM.

WAR MATERIAL DISPOSAL & IPW SUB COMMISSION

14. This Sub-Commission is now acting as the allocating authority for all salvage in ITALY, thus speeding up operations at the Salvage Depots and relieving congestion. Scrap vehicles inspected during the month totalled 110. Nine of these were returned to the Italian War Ministry and fourteen handed over to the Italian Ministry of Transport. The remaining 87 vehicles are being rebuilt by private enterprise, under contract, and will operate under ENAO when the work is completed. The total tonnage of salvage material claimed on behalf of Allied Commission and the Italian Government was 9,250 tons.

15. During the month 1,247 Italian Prisoners of War were repatriated of which 148 were specialists.

16. Clothing donated in the Italian Red Cross Drive, sponsored by this Sub-Commission, was handed over to the Italian authorities to be given to needy Italian Prisoners of War who have been repatriated and released.

17. Remittances by Italian Prisoners of War to their families totalled £ 44,393. Final Credit balances of repatriated Prisoners of War were forwarded to the Italian High Commissioner for PWs, representing a total of £ 32,212 - showing a marked increase over the total of the previous months.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Ref: 824/EC

18 May 1945

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1945

		Political Summary	Pages 1 - 2
PART	I	- AMG Armies and Regions	Pages 3 - 8
PART	II	- Civil Affairs Section	Pages 9 - 13
PART	III	- Economic Section	Pages 14 - 18
PART	IV	- Public Relations Branch Navy Sub-Commission Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA) Air Forces Sub-Commission Communications Sub-Commission War Material Disposal & Italian PW Sub-Commission	Pages 19 - 21

938

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

POLITICAL SUMMARY

1. Under the terms of the new Combined Chiefs of Staff directive for ITALY, known as the "New Deal", the Headquarters of SOUTHERN, SICILIA and SARDEGNA Regions were abolished on 31 March and the new UMBRIA-MARCHE Region came into force.

2. An outstanding event of the month was the escape of General ROATTA on 4 March from the custody of the Carabinieri and his subsequent disappearance. General ROATTA was in process of being tried with Signor SUVICH, Signor JACOMONI and others for crimes against the Italian State and his case was of especial significance as he had been named by the authorities in YUGOSLAVIA as a war criminal.

3. The whole press showed great indignation over the affair both from the international point of view and on account of the evidence of hidden Fascist influence which it had brought to light. The Communist Party demanded the immediate dismissal of the Heads of the Carabinieri and the Police, and the suppression of the General Staff, suspected of having organised the escape.

4. On 6 March a demonstration moved to the Quirinal where an attempt was made to enter the Palace. During the demonstration a hand-grenade was thrown killing one Italian civilian and wounding two Allied soldiers and an Italian Police official. Shots were fired by the Carabinieri.

5. Signor BONOMI then received a deputation which demanded the Government's resignation. He replied that he could not desert his post and that as head of a coalition of parties he would shoulder responsibility for the Council of Ministers.

6. A communique was issued on 7 March by the Council of Ministers which relieved all fears of a Governmental crisis, and among other palliatives announced the dismissal of General ORLANDO, the Commanding General of the Carabinieri, and the transfer of the Intelligence Office, the former S.I.M., from the Italian General Staff to the General Staff of the Army in accordance with arrangements approved by the Allied Command.

7. This event and its demonstration of inefficiency on the part of the police authorities, has shown an unexpected degree of strength in the Government or, at any rate, an unwillingness of the parties composing it to witness its dissolution with unpredictable possibilities in regard to the formation of a new Government.

937

8. The Council of Ministers met on 16 March and, amongst other minor measures, approved a draft decree aimed at the fusion of Patriot units with the Regular Army. The Government have for some time been seeking to give the Patriots some form of recognition and at the same time to keep alive their military enthusiasm without impairing the administration of the Regular Army. This decree envisages the enrolment of Patriots in the Regular Army with recognition of the ranks being held while in Patriot units. These ranks go up to and include that of lieutenant colonel. Somewhat later in the week Signor SCOCCIMARRO, the Minister for Occupied Italy, stated amongst other things during

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

4 March from the custody of the Carabinieri and his subsequent disappearance. General ROATTA was in process of being tried with Signor SUVICH, Signor JACOMONI and others for crimes against the Italian State and his case was of especial significance as he had been named by the authorities in YUGOSLAVIA as a war criminal.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

9. At the Council's meeting on 21 March the High Commissioner for Food, Signor BERGAMI, presented a report in which he stated that the wheat situation was satisfactory until the next harvest. The population would receive its 200 grams of bread and 80 grams of pasta. The High Commissioner spoke again on the need of controlling prices and protecting the citizens against speculation. At this same meeting the Council also approved a decree to keep existing agrarian contracts in force until the end of the war.

10. The principal business of the Council Meeting on 28 March -- and the most important development of the month -- was the setting up of the long awaited Consulta or Advisory Assembly. As at present planned the Consulta will have 320 members, selected as follows: 180 chosen by the most important parties; 70 by the syndical organisations and 70 from among old anti-Fascist senators and ex-deputies. The Assembly will be divided into commissions corresponding roughly to the various Ministries and will express opinions on the general problems and legislative measures which are submitted to it by the Government. The Government is bound to seek the opinion of the Consulta on matters affecting the budget and public expenditure, taxation (except in cases of extreme urgency) and the electoral laws.

11. During the month it was announced that Signor Giuseppe SARAGAT had been appointed Italian Ambassador to FRANCE. Signor SARAGAT is one of the leaders of the Italian Socialist Party and is well-known in FRANCE where he spent 13 years as an exile from Fascism. It was announced later in the month that Italian diplomats had been nominated for various posts in SOUTH AMERICA and would soon be leaving to assume their duties.

12. The QUINTIERI-MATTIOLI Mission has given its report on returning from the UNITED STATES. The report has been favourably commented upon by the press in general, not so much for any real concessions which the two financiers have won, as for the encouraging tone of American interest in ITALY.

13. On 8 March the Italian Government signed an agreement with the representative of UNRRA implementing Resolution 58 of the UNRRA Conference, held at MONTREAL last Autumn, for assistance to ITALY. The refugee camps established by the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission in Southern ITALY will be formally handed over to UNRRA on 1 April. In the matter of food supplies a joint programme has been prepared by UNRRA with the Allied Commission and with the Italian High Commissioner for Food. It should be noted that UNRRA will not function in territory administered under Allied Military Government except by permission of the Allied Commission.

14. The first Regional Commissioners' Conference since last August was held in ROME at the Allied Commission Headquarters on 8 and 9 March. The meeting was presided over by the Acting President and discussions ranged over a large number of subjects. Particular attention was given to the political, economic and other problems which will confront the Allied Commission and Allied Military Government on the liberation of Northern ITALY.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I.

AMG ARMIES AND REGIONS

AMG FIFTH AND EIGHTH ARMIES.

1. The territory administered has remained unchanged and the month has been marked more by quiet progress than by any event of outstanding importance.

2. Food supplies during the month were sufficient and the issue of flour was based on the 300 gram ration. In the EIGHTH Army area flour was obtained entirely from local stocks and with the exception of 125 grams of sugar a head to the whole population, imported foodstuffs were distributed only to special classes.

3. All farmland in FORLI Province, other than mined areas, is under cultivation and the wheat acreage is almost normal.

4. The standard of health remained satisfactory. A programme of immunisation against typhoid, diphtheria and smallpox was started and was well under way by the end of March.

5. Very little electric power is available for industrial use so far, but in the meantime the repair of selected factories has been pushed forward. Four factories engaged in producing hemp products have been repaired in the EIGHTH Army area and, at one of these, production of sacks and industrial belting has begun. 11,000 hectares have been sown with hemp.

6. Repair of a sugar beet factory at CESENA is well advanced and sufficient beet has been planted to produce approximately 6,000 tons of sugar this year. Farmers in the North East are being encouraged to produce raw silk and a great deal of work has been done towards restarting silk mills. In addition to the three brickworks already in operation, four others, capable of producing 4,400,000 bricks a month, are ready to operate as soon as power is available.

7. In the meantime bridge building and other reconstruction projects have been slowed down for lack of materials. Practically the whole of the flooded area South and East of RAVENNA has been drained and only 500 hectares remain under water. 6,713 mines were lifted during the month bringing the total up to 7,217 mines.

8. The civilian population remains friendly and incidents have been few.

SICILIA REGION.

9. There was genuine regret among the official classes at the withdrawal of the Allied Commission staff from the Island and it is believed that the population as a whole shared in this regret.

10. A Liaison Officer was left at PALERMO for Western SICILY, and CATANIA for Eastern SICILY and a Mining Officer remained at PALERMO. One Property Control Officer and two Transportation Officers are also being left on the Island until about 1 May.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

936

classes.

3. All farmland in FORLI Province, other than mined areas, is under cultivation and the wheat acreage is almost normal.

4. The standard of health remained satisfactory. A programme of immunisation against typhoid, diphtheria and smallpox was started and was well under way by the end of March.

5. Very little electric power is available for industrial use so far, but in the meantime the repair of selected factories has been pushed forward. Four factories engaged in producing hemp products have been repaired in the EIGHTH Army area and, at one of these, production of sacks and industrial belting has begun. 11,000 hectares have been sown with hemp.

6. Repair of a sugar beet factory at CESENA is well advanced and sufficient beet has been planted to produce approximately 6,000 tons of sugar this year. Farmers in the North East are being encouraged to produce raw silk and a great deal of work has been done towards restarting silk mills. In addition to the three brickworks already in operation, four others, capable of producing 4,400,000 bricks a month, are ready to operate as soon as power is available.

7. In the meantime bridge building and other reconstruction projects have been slowed down for lack of materials. Practically the whole of the flooded area South and East of RAVENNA has been drained and only 500 hectares remain under water. 6,713 mines were lifted during the month bringing the total up to 7,217 mines.

8. The civilian population remains friendly and incidents have been few.

SICILIA REGION.

9. There was genuine regret among the official classes at the withdrawal of the Allied Commission staff from the Island and it is believed that the population as a whole shared in this regret.

10. A Liaison Officer was left at PALERMO for Western SICILY, and CATANIA for Eastern SICILY and a Mining Officer remained at PALERMO. One Property Control Officer and two Transportation Officers are also being left on the Island until about 1 May.

11. No change was made as regards the Islands of PANTELLERIA and LAMPEDUSA which still come under AMG; one C.A.O. remaining on each Island.

12. There were no signs of improvement in the effectiveness of the local administration which remained at a low level.

936

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

13. Grain ships arrived regularly thus enabling a steady distribution of the full 300 gram ration of bread and pasta throughout the Island, but there were no indications of any reserve stock being built up. The increase in the price of bread and pasta consequent on the cancellation of the state subsidy caused no unfavourable repercussions. Public morale remained comparatively good due mainly to the continuance of regular issues of rationed bread and pasta and to the meeting of demands for wage increases. Much discontent arose from the increasing lack of clothing and shoes for the workers.

14. Inter-regional and export trade was hampered by lack of transport. Production of sulphur from the mines continued at an abnormally low level.

15. Agriculture was seriously hampered by shortage of fertilisers, labour and machinery; the area under seed is less than that of last year and the olive oil amassing can be considered as almost a complete failure.

16. Crime remained at a high level; the number of cases of banditry in the country districts appears to have decreased slightly due to strong measures taken in certain areas resulting in many suspects being arrested.

17. The health of the population remained very good and there were no serious epidemics.

18. There was a considerable improvement in the supply of railway box-cars which were steadily being returned to the Island.

SOUTHERN REGION.

19. Increased political activity was inspired by the ROATTA escape and sporadic demonstrations against the Government took place at NAPLES and BARI on 7 March, at TARANTO and BARLETTA on 8 March, and elsewhere. Most of these were led by Left Wing personalities and Communist flags and placards were carried. The events led to no serious trouble or casualties except at ANDRIA, near BARLETTA, on 8 March, where a motor cyclist, who persistently interrupted a political meeting by racing his engine, was set upon and killed. There was a disturbance of somewhat different type at MINERVINO MURGE, near BARI, following a religious ceremony. One Carabiniere was mortally wounded. There was an instance of disorder at CALABRIA where a priest was killed and the Carabinieri were restrained by armed Communists, acting, it is alleged, under the instructions of the Sindaco. These disturbances have been very freely commented upon by the parties of the Right Centre, and have been minimized by the Communist and Socialist Press. It would appear therefore that the Liberal and Christian Democrat Parties in South ITALY are either genuinely afraid of Communist progress, or, as may be more likely, feel that the time is ripe to exploit public apprehension of Left Wing disorder. The question of TRIESTE is kept alive in the Press, notably more by the Right Centre parties than by the Left and in NAPLES there was a small students' demonstration on 3 March against any cession of TRIESTE.

20. The food situation is fairly normal.

21. At the PORTICI plant the production of sulphuric acid and superphosphate proceeded well and at Vetrerie Ricciardi, NAPLES, production of domestic glassware and medical bottles is continuing at the rate of three tons a day. Frequent inspection of clothing [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

22. A strike of Public Utility workers in the first three days of the month was settled without serious results and no interference with Allied interests took place.

23. The crime situation was static except for a few minor instances. The unsatisfactory state of transport for the civil police has shown no improvement.

24. Smallpox remained at low endemic levels in NAPLES City and Provinces in the face of a continued vaccination programme. Four suspected cases of typhus occurred near BRINDISI.

25. Six additional NAPLES-ROME telephone circuits were connected and a ROME-SICILY telegraph and telephone circuit was made available.

26. Under the "New Deal for Italy" policy A.C. officers were withdrawn from Southern Region, with the exception of a small Liaison Office at BARI and officers at NAPLES Commune, which continues to function under AMG.

LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION.

27. LAZIO-UMBRIA Region, then under the title of Region IV, was formed on 1 August 1944. Eight months later, on 31 March 1945, the Region officially ceased to operate, the UMBRIA Province (TERNI and PERUGIA) being transferred to the newly formed UMBRIA-MARCHE Region on 16 March.

28. Local Government has progressed steadily and well from the first hastily selected Prefetti and Sindaci to more considered appointments based on experience of the individuals.

29. The health of the people during the last eight months has been remarkably good. There is still not enough food being distributed at reasonable prices and the poorer people suffer as a result of the Black Market, but there is no starvation.

30. Grain amassed stands at 165,490 tons or 104% of the goal; small quantities of grain are still trickling in but this can be considered as the final total for the year. The olive oil collection has reached 3,760 tons which is 64% of the goal and there is likely to be a fair increase on this figure. Importation of livestock to these Provinces which were denuded has made excellent progress. The figures to date are :

Cattle	2380
Horses, Mules	1089
Sheep	4170

935

31. Provision of seed potatoes caused much anxiety; transportation difficulties and lack of cooperation restricted the imports to under 1,000 tons - about 12% of the requirements.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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32. During the eight months, 905 public works reconstruction projects for 865 million lire were approved and financed in LAZIO alone. Of these, 350 have been completed. Among major achievements is a big reduction in flooded areas, reduced from approximately 33,000 acres to about 7,500 acres.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

33. Crime has decreased. The civil police have shown that there is good material out of which a first-class force could be made but clothing and equipment are still unsatisfactory and transport is insufficient.

34. In the Italian Courts the delays are still a serious problem. Since 15 August 1944 the Legal Division of this Region has sent to the Procuratore del Regno 1,763 cases in which the Allies were interested. So far 280 have been cleared through the Italian Courts. Crime reports processed since the formation of the Region totalled 75,955.

35. Soup kitchens in ROME City were arranged by radio with the Vatican before the Allied arrival in the City and approximately 250,000 meals have been served daily. Latterly the service was extended to the Provinces and a further 45,000 were distributed each day. In all welfare matters very close contact was maintained with the Vatican State.

36. Five refugee camps containing 8,000 refugees remain in ROME, mainly for those who are waiting to go North.

AERUZZI-MARCHE REGION.

37. On 16 March the Region took over the Provinces of PERUGIA and TERNI. On 1 April it handed back to the Italian Government the Provinces of the ABRUZZI, viz: AQUILA, CHIETI, PESCARA and TERAMO. As from 16 March the Region will be known as UMBRIA-MARCHE Region and consists of the Provinces of ASCOLI-PICENO, MACERATA, ANCONA, PESARO, URBINO, PERUGIA and TERNI. Expressions of the greatest regret were made in the Provinces of the ABRUZZI on the cessation of Allied control; much apprehension about the withdrawal and little pleasure was noticed on the publication of the news.

38. Special efforts, achieving a large measure of success in the reduction in the price of foodstuffs, have recently been made in certain Provinces to stop the activities of operators in the black market.

39. The crops everywhere showed good promise. Wheat amassing for this Region has now reached 122%, and olive oil 55%, of the target figure.

40. The CABERNARDI mine is producing approximately 600 tons of sulphur a week and an allocation was made to ASCOLI and MACERATA of refined sulphur from BELLISIO Refinery (PESARO) for sulphur ointment to combat scabies.

41. Out of the estimated surplus of 50-60,000 tons of potatoes (Italian figures) only about 8,000 tons have been amassed since the crops first started to come in last autumn; 4,000 tons of seed potatoes have arrived from the U.K. In ANCONA 340,000 eggs are being amassed monthly and sold to the public at 10 lire each.

42. In most of the Region the standard of efficiency of the CC.RR has been maintained. Much clothing is still required and replacements are already needed. The transport situation continues to be bad. There have been minor demonstrations in ASCOLI, AQUILA and SPOLETO but there has been little serious crime.

43. There have been a number of strikes of short duration; Italian State

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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43. There have been a number of strikes of short duration; Italian State employees and 400 workers of the Genio Civile struck for an increase in wages. The disparity between statal and para-statal wage rates, and Army and AMG wage rates causes much discontent but increases in the wage rates of statal and para-statal employees have given some satisfaction.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

44. The health of the Region has been good and no epidemics have been reported. Hospital facilities in all Provinces are sufficient to meet the needs of the population and the number of cases of typhoid have continued to show a further decrease. Schools are functioning on an almost normal basis in all Provinces.

SARDEGNA REGION.

45. SARDEGNA Region, which had been in operation since October 1943, closed on 31 March. Efficient cooperation has been received from the High Commissioner and his staff throughout and the Allied Commission has been the recipient from many sources of expressions of goodwill and regret for its departure.

46. A notable event during the month has been the resignation of Emilio LUSSU from the Sard Action Party. He has been the recognised leader of this Party and a moving spirit in attempting to complete a fusion with the Italian Action Party. The Sard Action Party appears to be the strongest in the Island, followed by the Christian Democrat Party, as far as declared numbers are concerned. The Communist Party, though considerably smaller, is probably the best organised.

47. The severely bombed city of CAGLIARI has had its water supply, sewage, electricity (including street lighting) and trams completely restored and gas is supplied at the rate of half the pre-war service.

48. Grain amassed reached a figure of 31,000 tons which constituted 1,000 tons more than the September 1944 estimate.

49. About 29,000 tons of grain have been imported since the harvest ended and three more grain ships of 8,000 tons each will complete the programme to provide the ration until the next harvest is gathered. The distribution of food is now satisfactory and food demonstrations, which were a frequent cause of anxiety last summer, have practically ceased. Livestock in the Island, particularly sheep, is excessive and there is some indication that ground which could be utilised for crops for human consumption is being used for surplus livestock.

50. Production at the Sardinian coal mines is still below 40,000 tons a month. About 500 additional local miners have been taken on mainly as a result of the recruiting campaign. Unfortunately there is an undercurrent of unrest in the labour field and a "go slow" programme at one of the coal mines (BACU ABIS) has seriously interfered with production. It cannot be said that the increased ration, specially provided for the miners, has been reflected in an increase in the output of coal.

51. Thirty eight armed robberies were reported as compared with fifty in February. The legal situation is unsatisfactory, more than 16,000 cases are still awaiting trial and additional judges and legal clerks have not been

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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52. A summary of exports and imports shows that for the first quarter of 1945 SARDEGNA exported approximately 104,000 tons of commodities and imported 40,000 tons. In addition 1,200 cattle, 500 horses or donkeys and 4,100 sheep were exported. The principal commodities exported were 82,000 tons of coal, 8,200 tons of salt and 750 tons of paint pigments. Main imports were 16,300 tons of grain, 11,000 tons of coal and 6,000 tons of phosphates.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

TOSCANA REGION.

53. During the month reconstruction projects amounting to 167 million lire were initiated but the devastation in the Region is such that many projects remain untouched.

54. Olive oil amassed to the end of March amounted to 54,539 quintals. 556 tons of salt were produced at SALINA in three weeks while an average of 22 tons a day was maintained at the Solvay Plant at ROSIGNANO. The latter plant is reverting to caustic soda production and it is doubtful if it can maintain any appreciable output of common salt at the same time; for this reason it was decided not to increase the salt ration. 861 tons of seed potatoes have been distributed.

55. Public safety has slightly improved and the conduct of Allied troops is good. The large number of Italian Prisoners of War in the LIVORNO area, however, present a grave problem; they roam the streets dressed in American uniforms, only distinguished from American soldiers by a little detachable metal insignia. If this emblem is removed before a crime is committed, the blame is generally laid on American troops. The Italian police are reluctant to interfere because they are told the Prisoners of War are under Allied protection.

56. In GROSSETO the Court of Assizes pronounced death sentences on three Fascists (in absentia) for divulging to the Germans, a year ago, the whereabouts of three British other ranks, who were shot.

57. Public health continues good and the excellent work of Italian Provincial Departments, both in the furtherance of their own schemes and in cooperating with military units, has done much to prevent disease occuring. First Aid Posts have been established in Provincial capitals. There has been a small outbreak of typhoid at ANTIGNANO, traced to a polluted well.

58. Over 350,000 text books for schools have been printed and over 300,000 distributed. In the larger towns practically all schools have been supplied with new books, but the lack of transportation makes the supervision of schools almost impossible. Repair to school buildings is being hampered by shortage of materials.

59. Bank deposits still show an increase over withdrawals.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART II

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION.

Defascism.

1. The number of decrees on defascism is now 106. One of these extended up to 60 days the time limits within which epuration may be commenced, according to employment; another has allowed persons suspended to receive the high cost of living allowance and makes certain administration changes.

2. A tour of all provinces in AMG Territory has been concluded. On the whole, provincial epuration is working well.

3. The epuration of grade I - IV officials is practically complete. 136, or 9%, have been dismissed and a further 283, or 18%, retired. Many who would have come within these grades have fled to Northern ITALY.

4. As to epuration generally, in the principal Ministries about 21,000 of the 45,000 employees have been scrutinised and 4,800 have been sent for trial. Of these, 2,100 cases have been concluded resulting in 600 dismissals. In addition there have been numerous compulsory retirements and other lesser punishments.

5. Military Tribunals, to try members of the forces who collaborated with the Germans in North ITALY, have been established and a decree is under consideration for setting up a special Assize to try civilian collaborators.

Mine Clearance.

6. The total number of mines reported lifted in ITALY for the past month by Mine Clearance Companies, Civilian Squads and Contractors is 151,947. Permission to form a further company for mine clearance work has been granted. There are approximately 550 civilians engaged in Mine Clearance with a further 125 under training and 150 are also employed by contractors. Steps have been taken to form a pool of Instructors for use by the Northern Regions. There is still a shortage of equipment and transport.

Devastated Areas.

7. During March eighty tons of canvas were allocated to LAZIO-UMBRIA and ABRUZZI-MARCHE Regions for temporary repair of the less badly damaged dwellings.

8. A drive in FLORENCE for the collection of money, clothing and blankets was carried out and over 6,000,000 lire, upwards of thirty thousand articles of clothing and a very considerable number of blankets have been contributed.

933

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION.

9. The Italian Government has furnished its preliminary plans, based on a pre-fascist law of 1915, for the conduct of local elections in liberated ITALY. A proposal to hold such elections in AMG Territory is

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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10. The Sub-Commission has taken part in the planning arrangements for North-West ITALY in regard to local government and prefectural appointments, and an officer will be attached to Army HQ to advise and assist in such work.

11. Arrangements have been made (in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior) with a view to contacting and employing certain officials with anti-fascist records, known to be in the North, after the liberation of their respective areas.

/LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION.

12. Owing to the withdrawal of officers from Southern ITALY only three Allied Military Courts were authorised during the month in Italian Government territory; at BARI arising out of the extensive purchase and sale of AC permits, at ROME for the counterfeiting of large sums of AM lire and for the forgery and sale of an AC travel permit.

13. In Military Government Territory, Allied Military Courts continued to operate. The volume and type of crime remained substantially unchanged. One serious case in TOSCANA arose out of an attack made by a gang of Italian soldiers on Italian women and their Allied soldier escorts.

14. General Courts were held in both 5th and 8th Army areas for the trial of spies. Of the cases reviewed during the month, two convictions were quashed, two death sentences were confirmed and one death sentence was commuted.

15. Requests have been received from patriot sources that steps should be taken to protect patriots from prosecution in the Italian Courts for offences committed against the property of other Italians during the period of German occupation. Arrangements have been made that complaints of this kind arising in AMG Territory are scrutinised before prosecution is authorised. The Italian Government has prepared a draft decree to deal with complaints which arise in Italian Government Territory and the Ministry of Justice is preparing a further decree of amnesty in respect of offences committed by patriots.

EDUCATION SUB-COMMISSION.

16. Up to 31 March 1,567,733 elementary school text books have been printed and distribution is only slightly behind production. A further 378,160 books are in the press and should be ready during the first part of April, completing the revised programme for elementary text book production for liberated ITALY for the year.

17. The final report on school buildings in ROME shows improvement in the situation since representations were made to the Prime Minister though 18 schools are still wholly, and 37 partly, unusable owing to the need for repairs. Schools are running almost normally but the supply of the new text books was below the demand. In TOSCANA Region new text books are in general use, 352,727 having been printed in FLORENCE and the bulk of them distributed. In FORLI 438 out of 470, and in RAVENNA 37 out of 219 elementary schools are now functioning and proportionate numbers of the other types of school are open in both Provinces.

18. Continuing the policy of cultural and scientific exchange between ITALY and the Allied Nations, selected books on Education in BRITAIN, UNITED STATES and CHINA and on social, political, and economic subjects are being printed and published in Italian. Catalogues and bulletins on engineering education have also been obtained from leading institutions in BRITAIN and the UNITED STATES and given to the Committee on Reform of Engineering Education of the Italian Society of Engineers. The American Library Association has been asked to send at least a part of ITALY's

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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EDUCATION SUB-COMMISSION.

16. Up to 31 March 1,567,735 elementary school text books have been printed and distribution is only slightly behind production. A further 378,180 books are in the press and should be ready during the first part of April, completing the revised programme for elementary text book production for liberated ITALY for the year.

17. The final report on school buildings in ROME shows improvement in the situation since representations were made to the Prime Minister though 18 schools are still wholly, and 37 partly, unusable owing to the need for repairs. Schools are running almost normally but the supply of the new text books was below the demand. In TOSCANA Region new text books are in general use, 352,727 having been printed in FLORENCE and the bulk of them distributed. In FORLI 458 out of 470, and in RAVENNA 37 out of 219 elementary schools are now functioning and proportionate numbers of the other types of school are open in both Provinces.

18. Continuing the policy of cultural and scientific exchange between ITALY and the Allied Nations, selected books on Education in BRITAIN, UNITED STATES and CHINA and on social, political, and economic subjects are being printed and published in Italian. Catalogues and bulletins on engineering education have also been obtained from leading institutions in BRITAIN and the UNITED STATES and given to the Committee on Reform of Engineering Education of the Italian Society of Engineers. The American Library Association has been asked to send at least a part of ITALY's share since 1939 of the scholarly publications it has been collecting to rehabilitate the libraries of EUROPE. NEW YORK University has offered a number of fellowships to advanced Italian students in art and history of art and requested information regarding a reciprocal arrangement. The Minister is in full sympathy with the plan and practical details are being worked out. Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are increasing in ITALY and are being assisted materially and encouraged by British, American and International organisations.

/PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION.

19. All Allied Commission Public Health Representatives were withdrawn from Southern ITALY, SICILY and SARDINIA on 31 March with the exception of 3 officers who are to remain at NAPLES. Liaison will continue with the Italian Public Health authorities on questions of policy. Military Medical authorities in Southern ITALY who wish local action to be taken on health problems will now approach the Medico Provinciale through the Prefect.

20. No cases of Typhus were reported during the month and anti-typhus demonstrations have now been given throughout the whole of liberated ITALY; the Typhus Control unit will remain available to assist the Italian Government in the case of major epidemics. 10 cases of smallpox were reported from FROSINONE Province; the SALERNO figures fell to 9, while NAPLES City reported 149, and NAPLES Province 116 cases. From the time of the onset of smallpox in SOUTHERN Region until 28 February 3,552,400 people were vaccinated. The PRATO typhoid epidemic may now be considered finished.

21. Work on the TIBER Delta Anti-Malaria project is more than half completed and the production of liquid Chlorine for sterilisation of polluted water supplies has begun in ROME.

22. The high incidence of Venereal Disease in ROME is causing anxiety and representations have been made to the Italian Government to intensify the campaign against clandestine prostitution and to improve the diagnosis of infected women.

23. The ROME infant mortality figure for February was 111.5 as compared with 148.2 in January. The Tuberculosis figure (both pulmonary and non-pulmonary) in February was 190 deaths as compared with the January figure of 257 deaths.

24. ENDIMEA has completed the distribution of Allied medical supplies for the January-February period to the whole of Italian Government Territory. It is feared that the medical supplies for the first six months of the current year, due from the US, will not arrive until May.

Veterinary.

25. Brucella Abortus vaccine is being produced in ROME and administered locally to dairy cows. The large scale immunisation of swine against swine cholera with Crystal Violet vaccine and antiserum continues. Foot-and-Mouth Disease is widespread and every possible effort is being made to increase the production of vaccine against this disease.

Welfare.

26. The release of 182,000 blankets has been obtained and distribution of these will be made to the Italian Government and in AMG territory, hospitals having the first priority.

932

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

27. General ROATTA, on trial before the High Commission for Punishment of Fascist Crimes, escaped from hospital on 4 March and is still at large. The escape, which was due to negligence on the part of those responsible for guarding the prisoner, has been described in paras 2 - 7 of this report. On the dismissal of General ORLANDO the appointment of General Brunetto BRUNETTI as Commanding General CC.RR was announced.

28. On the retirement of General AMMONINO, General Giovanni OXILIA took over command of the Royal Finance Guards.

29. Although in no way connected with the escape of ROATTA, disturbances took place in CAULONIA (CALABRIA) and GRAVINA di PUGLIE following on the

/complete ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

complete withdrawal of Allied Commission officers from Southern ITALY. Other incidents of less serious consequences have occurred at other locations in liberated ITALY, but as the month closed the situation was under control.

30. Arrests were made on 8 March by Allied Security Agencies in ROME of twenty-five members of the Fascist "Onore" Group. A further twenty members have been arrested by CC.RR and an enquiry into their organisation is being carried out by Rome Area Allied Command. Their object was to form a political group on former Fascist lines, placing members in other political parties for the purpose of disruption.

31. A report has been received from AFHQ of cases of civilians desecrating and pillaging Allied and enemy war graves, particularly in the ANZIO and GARIGLIANO districts. This matter has been referred to the Italian Director of Public Security for energetic action to detect offenders with a view to stopping such despicable offences.

32. In some locations, particularly the Island of SARDINIA and LAZIO-UMBRIA Region, decreases in major crime have been reported and the situation generally is considered satisfactory.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS AND ARCHIVES SUB-COMMISSION.

33. At RAVENNA immediate first-aid repairs have been pressed ahead, and the major monuments are now weatherproof. A special Italian Fine Arts Commission visited this city and expressed satisfaction at the progress made. The same Commission visited RIMINI to prepare plans for the eventual restoration of the Tempio Malatestiano and reports that little further immediate action is needed. On 16 March the buried repository containing the finest antiquities and works of art from the Museum and Cathedral of ANCONA was finally recovered after six months work. The contents were found to be substantially intact or repairable.

34. The Borghese Gallery in ROME formally reopened on 25 March with a special loan-exhibition including many pictures brought for safe custody from North ITALY. The attendance during the first fortnight was 7,244 persons.

35. The famous "Tavolette di Biccherna" (decorated mediaeval bookcovers) at SIENA, previously reported missing by the Italian archivist, have been found. The Archivio dello Stato at BARI, occupied by troops since 1943, has been released.

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION.

36. During the month two mass movements took place. 899 Jewish Emigrants left for PALESTINE and a mixed party of Greeks, Maltese and Arab repatriates were returned to TRIPOLITANIA and CYRENAICA. In addition, 31 French children born of Italian parents were returned to French NORTH AFRICA.

37. Medical conditions and health in the Camps and Centres continued to be satisfactory and the advent of warmer weather has assisted in hygiene problems. A minor epidemic of Typhoid occurred at AMF Evacuation Camp No. 27 at FLORENCE; 34 cases (including suspects) were reported. 1,750

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

the ANZIO and CANNELANO districts. This matter has been referred to the Italian Director of Public Security for energetic action to detect offenders with a view to stopping such despicable offences.

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37. Medical conditions and health in the Camps and Centres continued to be satisfactory and the advent of warmer weather has assisted in hygiene problems. A minor epidemic of Typhoid occurred at AMG Evacuation Camp No. 27 at FLORENCE; 34 cases (including suspects) were reported. 1,750 Allied Nationals in ROME are now receiving the extra food supplement on medical grounds.

38. 1,434 Italian Refugees with homes in South ITALY or SICILY were repatriated and a total of 2,409 refugees arrived in ROME from the Northern Army areas.

39. At the end of March, a total of 74,681 persons were recorded by the Records Bureau of Allied Commission and the location of approximately 60,000 of these was known.

/40. It is announced.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

40. It was announced that UNRRA would take over financial assistance advances for United Nations nationals and Stateless Displaced Persons in ROME from May 1945 and will assume responsibility for payments throughout liberated ITALY from June 1945.

41. During March the Banca d'Italia was authorised to make 2,240 payments, totalling 8,142,910 lire, benefiting 1,436 persons.

Patriots Branch.

42. 2,743 Patriots, were handled during the month at the Patriot Centres at FLORENCE, PESCIA and RAVENNA. Approval is still awaited for authority to draw supplies (rations and clothing) from military sources for the large number of Patriots who will have to be handled on the liberation of the North.

43. The Ministry of Occupied ITALY has agreed to assume responsibility for all expenses connected with Patriot Centres as from 1 April and gave official approval to the payment of the following sums to Patriots and their dependents:-

a) 1,000 lire demobilization bonus;
b) 5,000 lire to wounded patriots;
c) 10,000 lire to the dependents of patriots killed in action.

44. Small quantities of salvaged clothing have been allotted to FIFTH and EIGHTH Army Patriot Centres. During the month 127 Patriots in Italian Government Territory were issued with clothing from the Ministry of Occupied Italy store in ROME.

45. 2,964 Patriots have been enlisted into the Italian Army during the period 21 January 45 to 28 February 45, and the Ministry of War has issued instructions that when posting army volunteers to combat units priority shall be given to Patriots.

931

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART III

ECONOMIC SECTION

AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION.

1. Crop prospects in Army and AMG areas continued satisfactorily although there has been some lack of rainfall and fertilizer distribution has been handicapped by lack of supply. Seed potato distribution was completed but supplies were limited. The sugar beet production programme was finalized with 7,100 hectares to be planted.

2. Agricultural supplies, principally fertilizers, were received and distribution was initiated, although delays have been encountered in handling and transportation. There was adequate sulphur available except in SARDINIA and Central ITALY, where supplies from SICILY had not been received.

3. Land reclamation work in the LITTORIA-PONTINIA area proceeded satisfactorily. The movement of livestock from SARDINIA to the mainland has been curtailed owing to outbreaks of foot and mouth disease.

4. Wheat consigned to "Granai del Popolo" totals 1,125,306 tons, 16,800 tons of which were collected in March. Central ITALY target figures have been surpassed by 14% but collection practically ceased in Southern ITALY. Olive oil collection was far from satisfactory, 9,191 tons being collected during the month in mainland provinces, bringing the grand total to 40,413 tons collected in mainland provinces, or 50% of the target. It was decided that, owing to the effective support given to the olive oil collection programme by Allied personnel engaged on this work, the personnel would not be withdrawn from territory under Italian Government jurisdiction until 15 April and plans were made for continuing the work despite closing of Regional Headquarters.

5. Production of timber for military requirements, fuel wood and charcoal continued to be satisfactory, with stocks on hand increasing.

6. Additional fisheries supplies were received during the month and distribution under Fondazione Assistenza Rifornimenti Pesca (FARP) proceeded satisfactorily. Canning supplies requisitioned for the tuna season could not be delivered in time and were cancelled.

COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION.

7. The Italian Government is now responsible for making allocations for the whole of Southern ITALY, SICILY and SARDINIA, including LAZIO and ABRUZZI Compartimenti, from bulk supplies made available to them by the Allies.

8. Prices of matches have been doubled by a decree of the Ministry of Finance, effective as from 15 March 1945, owing to the increased cost of manufacture. Improved production figures of cut tobacco rendered possible an increase in the ration to 50 grams a week.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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9. The leather situation shows a slight improvement, a moderate quantity of sole and upper leather having been declared by tanners in TOSCANA Region. The tanning extract plant at BAGNI DI LUCCA went into production on 1 March. Over 4,000 tyres and a similar number of tubes have been made available by AFHQ for distribution.

10. The criticial newsprint shortage of February was overcome during the first week of March with the arrival of 300-tons from ALGIERS and 100 tons

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

from the BALKANS. Allied Publications Board decided that in the future the Italian Press Commission should receive 30% of all imported newsprint supplies up to a maximum of 300 tons a month.

11. 58,422 garments and 13,833 pairs of shoes were allocated to civilian workers for military establishments and patriots during the month.

12. This month's exports reached the record figure of 280 million lire and the total tonnage shipped was 9,638 metric tons. This is the first month in which shipments to France have figured. The 1944/45 citrus fruit exports from SICILY to U.K. came to an end on 24 March 45. Over a period of four months, 911,434 boxes of lemons and 80,380 boxes of bitter oranges were shipped. Good reports on landing condition have been received from the Ministry of Food, London.

13. The Istituto Commercio Estero, has undertaken contracts with the CALABRIA silk filatures for the reeling of the 27 tons of imported Persian cocoons.

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION.

14. In February the net investment in Italian Government bonds in Liberated ITALY was 1,570 million lire. This brings the total net investment in the first eight months of the current fiscal year to 16,663 million lire.

15. The cash deficit of the Italian Government in February was approximately 6,300 million lire.

16. A number of important tax revision decrees were published by the Italian Government, which included the Fund of National Solidarity, an increase in the entertainment tax, an increase in the rates of tax on vehicles, boats etc., and changes in the Succession and Donation Taxes. Total tax collections in Liberated ITALY in February totalled 2,140 million lire, bringing the total collections for the first eight months of the current fiscal year to 10,280 million lire.

17. Effective 1 March 1945, the agreement between the Allied Financial Agency Sub-Section and Banco di Sicilia/Banco di Napoli regarding the handling of remittances was terminated. The position of AFA Sub-Section as the supplier of lire for the making of remittance payments has now been assumed by the Banca d'Italia to whom AFA Sub-Section has transferred the dollar and sterling balances already accrued. The Banca d'Italia has agreed to make dollar and sterling payments only upon orders of the Italian Ministry of the Treasury approved by the Finance Sub-Commission.

930

18. The net investment in Postal Bonds and Accounts in February amounted to approximately 1,000 million lire. Commercial bank deposits continue to increase, provisional figures for January indicating an increase of about 3,500 million lire.

19. Supply accounts for all Regions have been received and consolidated at HQ up to 31 December 1944. In addition, returns have been submitted by all but one Region up to 31 January 1945. The time lag is being reduced and the situation of the supply accounts is considered very

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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FOOD SUB-COMMISSION.

20. March was the first month of the universal application of the 300 gram bread ration to the whole of Liberated ITALY. The scale was generally fixed at 200 grams of bread daily and 550 grams of pasta weekly, which is the equivalent of 300 grams of bread, but in Northern TOSCANA, where pasta is not so popular, it was agreed that the present ration should be fixed at

/250 grams...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

250 grams of bread, the balance to be given in the form of pasta. Other items distributed on the ration scale were 125 grams of sugar, 2 decilitres of olive oil, 200 grams of salt monthly and in addition the special issue of 200 grams of meat products for towns of 50,000 inhabitants and above was continued.

21. There was a further extension of communal feeding facilities and many new popular kitchens were opened under the auspices of the Ufficio Assistenza Convivenze del Vaticano. Supplies were provided jointly by the Allied Commission and the Italian High Commissioner for Food and advantage has also been taken of the provision of facilities on a fixed scale of issue for industrial messes, with consequent improvement in workers' feeding conditions.

22. The grain situation remained satisfactory with 278,000 tons of locally produced grain on hand at the end of the month but imports of grain were below schedule. The supply of grain to ROME showed an improvement and a reserve of 32 days bread supply was built up.

23. Arrivals of non-rationed foodstuffs into ROME showed an improvement in every case over the previous month. A daily average of 237 tons of fruit, 249 tons of vegetables, 32 tons of miscellaneous foodstuffs and 152,000 eggs arrived into the city through official channels while wine shipment totalled 6,500 tons.

24. In connection with the recent assumption of responsibility by the Italian Government for food supply in Italian Government territory, the new system of bidding for rail transportation of non-rationed foods came into effect during March. Instructions for the new system of bidding for sea transportation of non-rationed foods were also issued. The regular arrival of fresh vegetables into ROME augurs well for the new organisation and procedures.

25. Imports of foodstuffs amounted to 99,549 tons, of which 92,427 tons were cereals and the remainder miscellaneous foods. Among the latter, there were considerable deficiencies from planned schedules of sugar, fats and soap.

INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION.

26. The work of derequisitioning industrial premises is progressing and during the last two months, eleven plants have been released from military control.

27. Repair of beet sugar production plants is proceeding satisfactorily and it is estimated that production will obtain 15,100 tons of sugar and 4,000 tons molasses yearly.

28. The output of four factories manufacturing flat glass was 2,050 square metres a day at the end of March.

29. The MONTECATINI fertilizer plant at BICOCCA, CATANIA, resumed operation on 1 March and the ammonium sulphate plant of the Soc. Elettricita' Sarda at OSCHIRI (SARDINIA) is now producing 900 tons monthly. 2,600 tons of Italian pyrites have been shipped to SARDINIA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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30. Mainland sulphur supplies moved forward satisfactorily, 1,543 tons being shifted from the CABERNARDI stock pile and 2,100 tons from BENEVENTO. Sardinian coal production has been seriously reduced on account of a "slow down" strike which took place between 15 and 29 March.

31. The Aniene plant in ROME has been reactivated and is now producing 40 tons of chlorine a month and 30 tons of caustic soda.

32. Approximately 700 textile looms are now working in the PRATO area by the use of improvised motive power and daily production is in the neighbourhood of 20,000 metres, a figure which will be greatly increased when electric power can be supplied. Manufacture of cotton goods shows an increase over the previous month of approximately 13%.

/LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION.

33. The rising cost of living and free negotiation between employers and workers, without any fixed ceiling to wage levels, has resulted in wages in private industry rising above the Armed Forces Scale and causing unrest amongst Italian employees of the Armed Forces. The principle of maintaining the Armed Forces wage scale generally in step with outside wages has now been confirmed and proposals have been made for expediting adjustments.

34. As regards Northern ITALY, it has been decided, in principle, that the appropriate wage rate prevailing in industry in respective areas of employment at the date of liberation will be paid to civilian employees of the Armed Forces. Any wage changes will be subject to AMG approval.

35. Committees representing the Italian Government, Italian industry and organised labour are being established in AMG territory to advise Regional Commissioners upon proposed wage changes and industrial unrest. They will also identify industrial establishments which should be safe-guarded from requisition or should be derequisitioned and re-established to prevent unemployment.

36. Representatives of the British Admiralty have discussed with the Italian Government the proposed recruitment of 15,000 Italian workers for employment overseas. The Italian Government, with representatives of organised Italian labour, promised full support to the scheme provided financial arrangements could be satisfactorily concluded. Discussions on questions of finance are proceeding.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES SUB-COMMISSION.

37. Power supply was increased by 12,000 kilowatts as a result of the reconstruction of a generating set at CASTELNUOVO-LARDERELLO. This plant is operated by volcanic steam and therefore dispenses with imported fuels.

38. Power allocations for the month of April (made in March) will be sufficient for all military requirements in Southern and Central ITALY. Further supply in this area will be available for civilian use but may have to be transmitted to Northern ITALY after liberation.

39. Street lighting service, on a greatly curtailed scale, was resumed in NAPLES and ROME on 31 March; this service has long been requested by Public Safety officers.

929

40. The first objective of rehabilitation of the port of CIVITAVECCHIA has been attained, and 3,000 tons can be handled daily.

41. Approximately 226 communal committes are now functioning in accordance with the Governmental Housing Decree. 12,000 projects estimated to cost 1,100 million lire have been initiated and of this total 6,000 projects are completed.

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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41. Approximately 220 communal committes are now functioning in accordance with the Governmental Housing Decree. 12,000 projects estimated to cost 1,100 million lire have been initiated and of this total 6,000 projects are completed.

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION.

42. Transportation Officers at PALERMO (1), REGGIO (2), BARI (4), NAPLES (4), CIVITAVECCHIA (1) and ROME (1) are to be retained after the withdrawal of A.C. Officers from Southern ITALY carried out on 31 March under the "New Deal for ITALY" policy. This is to ensure that civilian transport, which in Southern ITALY is closely associated with military transport, is coordinated. In addition, officers in charge of "Truck Pools" at NAPLES, FOGGIA, CAMPOBASSO and CHIETI will be retained until the WD vehicles in the truck pools are handed over to the Italian Government.

/With effect from ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

43. With effect from 19 March the procedure governing the movement by rail of all non-military traffic on the mainland of ITALY was made the responsibility of the ITALIAN State Railways.

44. The reconstruction of the railway track from PISA to FLORENCE has been completed, freeing a number of road vehicles for other important haulage work.

45. On 5 March the ROME-NAPLES and NAPLES-REGGIO train services were merged to provide a daily through service from ROME to REGGIO. The service runs three days a week via CASSINO and four via FORMIA with connections to and from BARI. A daily perishable freight train service from the PUGLIE and CALABRIA districts to ROME was introduced early in the month. It has brought an average of 700 tons of perishable foods a day to ROME and has run fairly well to time.

46. Of the 1,700 civilian load-carrying vehicles of 1½-ton capacity long expected from the UNITED STATES, 1,396 have been received; 416 have been assembled and will shortly be put into operation.

47. Five barges averaging 300/350 tons each are operating on the coal service between CIVITAVECCHIA/PIUMICINO and ROME. Dredging of the TIBER River, which will be undertaken shortly, will enable a larger tonnage of coal to be delivered at the terminus.

48. The handover of warehouse management to the Federazione Italiana dei Consorzio Agrari was completed during the month. In the Army area only the accounting has been handed over, but at ANCONA, LEGHORN and NAPLES the complete operation is the responsibility of the Federazione.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH & INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. Further steps were taken to improve cooperative relationships between the new United States Information Service (U.S.I.S.) PWB, AFHQ PRO and the press attaches of the British and American Embassies. The Press Plan for Northern Italy was the subject of many meetings and was finally forwarded to AFHQ after approval by the Allied Commission and P.W.B. The temporary Film Board was formally established and met for the first time, with the Chief Commissioner presiding. The Director of the Public Relations Branch visited zones of the Fifth and Eighth Armies and laid plans for development of public relations in the forward areas with the field staff and AMG staff officers. Attention was given to the future problem of service to Allied correspondents left behind in ROME when AFHQ PRO establishments move forward.

2 The News Production Division doubled its output issuing 62 original releases. Direct delivery was arranged to all Allied correspondents to all Italian papers and agencies in ROME and to the Italian provincial newspaper outlet. A party of nearly 50 Allied Italian and neutral correspondents was conducted to cover the inauguration of the 'new CASSINO' ceremonies. Background articles with photographs were dispatched directly to trade periodicals in ENGLAND and the UNITED STATES not having representatives in ROME. A standard operating procedure on picture coverage of worthwhile stories was set up with PWB Pictorial Division and the Photographic Section of AFHQ PRO.

NAVY SUBCOMMISSION

3. A directive was issued by Allied Force Headquarters on 7 March 1945 under which the Navy Subcommission is responsible for all administrative and material questions affecting the Italian Navy including:-

(a) Employment of Personnel.

(b) Supplies of Food, Clothing, Transport and Naval Stores.

928

(c) Disposal of War Material.

(d) Requisitioning of Italian Naval property.

4. The directive further provides that all communications relating to matters of policy in connection with the Italian Navy under the Armistice Terms and the General administration of the Italian Navy, not directly affecting the operation of the Italian Fleet under the Cunningham-de Courten Agreement, will be referred directly to the Subcommission.

5. Approval was received from Allied Naval authorities to make available 430 000 Italian shell forgings for scrap. By securing the release of these forgings, it is anticipated that nearly 1500 tons of former Italian war material can be re-smelted into steel for constructive purposes.

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LAND FORCES SUBCOMMISSION (SHAEF)

6. The manpower position of the Italian Army improved rapidly during the month. On 9 March there was a deficiency of 18,000 including the Carabinieri This deficiency has since been covered by further intakes due to call-ups and voluntary enlistment - and wastage has been reduced considerably.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

7. MMIA demobilization plans for the older classes were agreed by AFHQ and are being carried out. Plans are also being made against the manpower problems which will arise when homes of many serving soldiers of older classes are liberated, entitling them to demobilization.

8. Thirty five thousand ex Italian soldiers were repatriated from the Balkans between 11 November 44 and 31 March 45. Of these, 10,610 have been taken into the Army. Remnants of the Garibaldi Division have now been repatriated; the personnel are good fighting soldiers with considerable battle experience and their morale is high. Three thousand volunteers for combat are being concentrated for re-equipment and training in the Italian Army barracks at VITERBO.

9. Reports from EIGHTH Army and liaison visits to the Italian Combat Groups in Army Areas confirm that the Groups are giving a good account of themselves. Co-operation between Allied and Italian staffs continued to give good results and the training of reinforcements at the RTC ICF, CESANO made progress during the month.

10. On 8 March 45, the War Ministry issued a decree which increased the pay of OR's up to and including the rank of corporal. With effect from 16 August 45 these ranks receive double pay for service under 40 months and treble over 40 months.

11. The Italian Army Welfare Training School opened in ROME on 6 March. Ten day courses for officers are being held with a view to training future unit welfare officers. The school is being run in close liaison with the British Army Welfare and ANRD authority has been obtained for the issue of a limited scale of rations for Italian Army canteens on repayment.

AIR FORCES SUBCOMMISSION

12. The Italian Air Force is still being employed in active operations over YUGOSLAVIA and the Istrian Peninsula. A record number of sorties were carried out during the month.

13. Among other operations, the Bomber/Transport Wing has transported a large weight of supplies and dropped them over YUGOSLAVIA. In addition they have evacuated a large number of Partisan and YUGOSLAV wounded. The Light Bomber Wing has dropped a considerable weight of bombs with good results. There has been one accident in this Wing involving the death of the crew of one aircraft.

14. The morale of the Force remains satisfactory, and a good spirit of co-operation is in evidence in the Italian Air Ministry.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMISSION

15. The areas open to internal civil communications services have not changed during the month; the chief developments have been the doubling of the number of NAPLES - ROME circuits open to civil use and the commencement of a telegraph service to FLORENCE and adjacent towns.

16. Signal Stores commenced to arrive for the planned restoration of communication services in North Italy and increased tariffs have been legalized for postal, telegraph and telephone services.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775021

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17. The ROME - NEW YORK radio telephone service for official calls, opened 2 March.

WAR MATERIAL DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUBCOMMISSION

War Material Disposal

18. Approximately fifty tons of fired brass cartridge cases were collected and despatched to the Montecatini works at BAGNOLI for inspection and ultimate disposal in accordance with existing instructions.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

19. Scrap vehicles inspected during the month numbered forty-two, of which seven were returned to the Italian War Ministry. The remainder are being repaired, rebuilt, and cannabalised, - the rebuilt and repaired vehicles will operate under ENAC in due course.

20. The value of material disposed of during the month amounted to 1,082,000 lire.

Italian Prisoners of War

21. During the month, 1,471 Prisoners of War were repatriated. (This figure includes over 800 muleteers who were required for service with the Italian Combat Groups: the remainder of the total were mainly sick and wounded)

22. Remittances by Prisoner of War Co-operators to their families totalled £. 262,326 - a marked increase on the totals of the previous two months (January £. 10,421, February £. 92,274). Final credit balances of repatriated Prisoners of War totalled £. 13,599 for March. Statements for these monies were passed to the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War for payment. For the period from last June to the end of February remittances to Italian relatives from Americans amounted to 10,830,000 dollars (approximately £. 2,707,500). Similar payments for the same period from the United Kingdom amounted to £. 130,000.

23. The repatriation of a number of Sardinian miners who are held as Prisoners of War, is being investigated. These men are required in the coal mines in SARDINIA.

Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

927

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

LSC/607

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Ref: 824/EC

24 March 1945

926

MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1945.

	Political Section	Pages 1 - 2
PART I -	AMG Armies and Regions	Pages 3 - 8
PART II -	Civil Affairs Section	Pages 9 - 13
PART III -	Economic Section	Pages 14 - 17
PART IV -	Public Relations Branch Navy Sub-Commission Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA) Air Forces Sub-Commission Communications Sub-Commission War Material Disposal & Italian PW Sub-Commission	Pages 18 - 20

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

POLITICAL SECTION

1. A corner was turned in the history of ITALY and a milestone passed in the work of the Allied Commission when the Rt. Hon. Harold MACMILLAN, Acting President of the Allied Commission, at a Press Conference on 24 February, announced the imminent implementation of the "New Deal for Italy", as set out in the Combined Chiefs of Staff directive to the Commission.

2. During the past month, events in ITALY have not unnaturally been overshadowed by the CRIMEA Conference. The Italian Government had all along been pressing the Allied Governments to clarify the country's status of co-belligerency and, if possible, accept ITALY as one of the United Nations. This pressure was translated into a concrete request for the grant of Allied status in a telegram addressed simultaneously to President ROOSEVELT, Mr. CHURCHILL and Marshal STALIN on 8 February. The communique issued at the conclusion of the Conference made no reference specifically to ITALY and it is feared keen disappointment was felt by all Italians. This disappointment was, however, in some measure offset by the news that the British Labour Conference which was sitting in LONDON at the time had invited the Italian General Confederation of Labour to send its representatives to LONDON and also by the release of the news of the "New Deal" directive.

3. The Council of Ministers met on 7 February and tackled the difficult problem of the "political price" of bread. The object was to reduce the burden on the State treasury and on 16 February a decision was reached to abandon the policy of subsidizing the price of bread as from 1 March. At the same time it was announced that the new price of bread would not be fixed at more than 16 lire per kilo, (The price fixed for ROME, however, was 18 lire per kilo). To mitigate the effect of this increased retail price, a monthly indemnity of 95 lire per person is to be paid by employers (including the State and local governments) to workers, their wives, and minor children. In addition, the unemployed, paupers and dependents of military personnel will be paid this "caro pane" indemnity by the State.

4. As part of its tax and anti-inflation programme, the Italian Government 925
meeting on 18 February decreed a "Fund of National Solidarity" to assist that part of the population injured by the war, to reconstruct the liberated areas, and to create employment for partisans. It is hoped that a number of voluntary contributions will be paid into the fund. The Council again stated that the goods of high-ranking fascists would be confiscated and that the war excess profits taxes already in force would be extended to farmers - a class hitherto exempt. Further the pay of troops was to be doubled. As regards control of prices it was announced that the interministerial committee had suggested that cooperative and communal kitchens should be set up and encouraged, and the Food Commissariat was given wide powers to control markets and supplies.

5. The Government and the Allied Commission had jointly announced on 21 February that as from 1 March the bread ration for all Liberated ITALY would be 300 grams or its equivalant - for example, 200 grams of bread daily and 550 grams of pasta weekly. On the whole, public opinion as reflected in the press, has reacted very favourably to these developments.

6. The Government announced on 6 February that they had been studying closely the problem of Italian prisoners of war in Allied hands. It was stated that there are 340,000 prisoners in British hands, 110,000 held by the Americans and 35,000 held by the French. 670,000 soldiers and "several hundred thousand" civilians are detained in Germany and are not given the proper status of war prisoners, since Germany does not recognise the Bonomi Government.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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7. At its meeting/.....

925

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

7. At its meeting on 8 February, the Council of Ministers set up a new Commissariat for Veterans. This Commissariat will deal not only with Veterans but also with civilians in the areas to be liberated and, through the partisan organisations, will also be concerned with assistance for the patriots. Signor GASPAROTTO has been named High Commissioner.

8. In the field of party politics it is reported that the Socialist and Communist parties published a declaration on 10 February in which a joint programme was set out. The workers were first of all reminded of their duty to carry on the war against fascism. Next, the Allies were asked for the grant of more autonomy.

9. The trial of General ROATTA and others continues without any startling developments to report. The left-wing press has been enraged by the presence of certain witnesses at the trial who, it is claimed, are members of the OVRA and yet are still safe and in the employment of the State. The Government have denied that these witnesses are in fact members of the OVRA and the newspapers have retorted that the Government must know who are members of this ill-famed organisation, that the names should be published and the individuals put on trial. It is reported that the OVRA employed members of practically all the State services for short periods at one time or another for particular jobs and that there was not, in a strict sense, a complete and permanent list of the staff of the organisation. The central organisation has, of course, been broken up and its leaders will undoubtedly be punished in due course but it would be impossible to seek out and bring to justice the great number of small officials whose association with the OVRA was temporary and short-lived. Meanwhile the business of epuration has moved on a step with the setting up of a central commission. Signor BONOMI spoke on the occasion of its inauguration and emphasised again that epuration must strike those who had important charges and were blindly subservient to the fascist regime but for the lower ranks justice must be tempered with mercy. Above all, the operation must be carried out with justice and legality.

10. Signor TARCHIANI has taken up his post in WASHINGTON. Duke GALLARATI SCOTTI, the new Ambassador to SPAIN, has also reported his arrival in MADRID. There is still much speculation in the press as regards the resumption of diplomatic relations between ITALY and FRANCE and it is hoped that a statement will be made in the very near future.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART I.

AMG ARMIES AND REGIONS.

AMG FIFTH ARMY.

1. From the operational point of view, February has again been an uneventful month. The limited advances made in the MONTE BELVEDERE sector in the last week brought no new communes under Military Government as the area captured was entirely mountainous and the few inhabitants had been previously evacuated. The Army area thus remains unchanged from January.

2. There has been a general improvement in public safety throughout the area and the arrest of a number of persons for brigandage in country districts has contributed to the restoration of confidence among the population. Very few crimes of violence were reported.

3. Four persons were tried by General Courts on charges of espionage. Two were convicted of whom one was sentenced to death and the other to life imprisonment.

4. Public health remained unsatisfactory and the typhoid epidemic at PRATO continued to abate; energetic action resulted in more people submitting to innoculation.

5. The work of the American Red Cross continued at a high standard and a total of 32,800 persons, representing approximately 10% of the population in the forward areas, were given clothing.

6. Olive oil amassing continued to move slowly despite the campaigns waged by the Provincial organisations. Power for the flooded lands near VIAREGGIO was increased and all flood waters were pumped off. A considerable part of this land has been ploughed and planting is in progress. The labour supply continued to exceed demand and the number of registered unemployed increased to about 6,450.

7. The Acting President of the Allied Commission visited the Army area during the month and saw many phases of Military Government work. The Lieutenant General of the Realm has also been in the area inspecting Italian Army units.

AMG EIGHTH ARMY.

924

8. The area administered remains unchanged, namely, the whole of FORLI Province and the greater part of RAVENNA Province.

9. Italian Provincial administration is well established in FORLI with all the normal local government agencies in operation. In the liberated portion of RAVENNA, local government is also well advanced.

10. Italian courts are functioning in both Provinces and their jurisdiction over violations of travel and curfew restrictions has been extended to include CESENA. The policy of re-opening schools has been carried well forward into Corps areas [illegible]

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10. Italian courts are functioning in both Provinces and their jurisdiction over violations of travel and curfew restrictions has been extended to include CESENA. The policy of re-opening schools has been carried well forward into Corps areas, although in many cases buildings are lacking and classes are being held in private houses.

11. There were two demonstrations in favour of the Army call-up, one at FORLI and the other at CESENA. The demonstrations were orderly.

12. The standard of health is satisfactory.

13. Good progress has been made in reclaiming flooded areas. Five pumping stations have been repaired and re-activated and a total of 14,350 acres have been drained. This land is drying out well, and it is hoped to sow most of it in time for this year's harvest. Military units have cooperated in repairing breaches in river and canal banks and in clearing obstructions, and the danger of re-flooding has been averted.

14. In RIMINI..../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778621

14. In RIMINI, further progress has been made in effecting first aid repairs to houses, in clearing the streets of debris, and demolishing dangerous buildings.

15. Approximately 700 bridges in this area have been destroyed and before Bailey bridges are removed a minimum of 100 bridges must be repaired or rebuilt to maintain essential civilian communications. So far eight bridges have been completed, eleven are under construction, and plans have been prepared for thirty-eight others which are awaiting financial sanction. Progress is slow owing to shortage of bricks and timber.

16. Crime remains at a surprisingly low level. Carabinieri and other police agencies are giving good service but efficiency is hampered by lack of uniforms and equipment.

17. The Autotrasporti of both Provinces are now getting into their stride and are operating 294 trucks with a total load carrying capacity of 5939 quintals.

18. Cultivation is well advanced and crop prospects for the coming season are good.

19. A mine clearance school was started during January at which civilians are trained in mine lifting. The first squad began work 5 February and on 19 February this was increased to five squads of five to seven men each. By the end of the month 504 mines had been lifted.

SICILIA REGION.

20. There have been no public disorders during the month and the military call-up, on a reduced scale, proceeded without incident. There was a slight increase in crime and armed bands continue to operate. The civil police have, if anything, shown slightly more zeal and activity but are still badly handicapped by shortage of transport, arms and personnel.

21. There were no strikes or labour troubles. The only immediate effect of the announcement of further wage increases was a rise in black market prices. The disparity between wages and prices was as great as ever.

22. The bread situation remained good with the arrival of five ships bringing over 20,000 tons of wheat and barley and 1,200 tons of flour. The 300 gram ration of bread and pasta was issued regularly and there was no real shortage of food although the prices charged are beyond the pocket of many.

23. There was little political activity during the month and the people showed no signs of increasing interest in political matters. The SICILIAN distrust of the central Government is long-standing and deep rooted and the inauguration of the new Consulta was given a very restrained welcome and little enthusiasm or interest was shown by the man in the street. The people are apathetic and without confidence in their own administrative officials, many of whom they know to be inefficient and corrupt. It appears that the Consulta meetings were regarded as the forum for presentation of political views rather than for the consider-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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24. In spite of the lack of an adequate system of relief or assistance and the shortage of clothing for the needy, the health of the people continued to be remarkably good and the cases of typhoid fever have decreased. The health and medical treatment in the prisons still leaves much to be desired.

25. Trade, and particularly inter-regional trade, was gravely handicapped by lack of road, rail and sea transport. Mixed cargoes have, however, been shipped to MALTA and there have been shipments of citrus fruit and salt to the mainland.

26. During...../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

26. During the month 1,946 quintals of grain were amassed, bringing the total to date to 1,324,100 quintals. The amassing of olive oil was again very small. Artificial manures and seed potatoes continued to be distributed.

SOUTHERN REGION.

27. The handing over of food storage and distribution to the Italian authorities was an important step completed during the month. Seprals and Consorzi Agrari have made a good start with their new responsibilities.

28. Farmers and agricultural officials predict a serious decline in production due to the accumulated effects of the shortage of fertilizers for several years past. The campaign for the collection of olive oil has met with considerable success and by 17 February, 215,134 quintals had been amassed. There was, however, a lack of cooperation shown by various Tribunals in convicting and sentencing offenders against the olive oil decree. NAPLES and SALERNO Zones have built up their wheat stocks to about one month's supply.

29. Public Safety in the Region remained generally satisfactory. Civil police agencies, with the exception of Guardie Municipali, maintained a reasonable standard of efficiency, but their duties were hindered by a lack of transport and communication facilities. A gang of armed criminals was broken up in NAPLES by the arrest of seven civilians and the recovery from their possession of firearms and ammunition. Ten civilians have been killed by Allied sentries while attempting to steal from dumps, trucks and trains. The criminal misconduct of Italian paratroopers is reaching serious proportions, including in some cases the use of firearms and hand grenades and appropriate representation has had to be made to the Italian authorities.

30. Production of neutral glass has been delayed owing to lackof coal, but domestic and medical glass-ware is being produced from 30 to 35 quintals daily at Vetreria Ricciardi, NAPLES. It is still necessary to ration electricity in Southern ITALY.

31. The schools of NAPLES Commune were returned to Italian hands on 6 February and were re-opened on 19 February, having previously been closed due to the cold and lack of fuel for heating purposes. Approximately 70,000 elementary textbooks were printed during the month, bring the total to 238,655 of the original 900,000 ordered.

32. Banking in the South continued to be marked by an increase in deposits, attributed to high prices, lack of raw materials for the resumption of commercial activity, moderate public investments and the large profits made by the farmers.

LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION.

33. The month passed without political sensation and local government in its present limited form is, on the whole, working as well as can be expected and forms a reasonable foundation on which a more democratic structure can be erected.

34. Good progress has been made with the livestock problems. Grain amassing is now almost at a standstill but showing very creditable figures with over 100% of the target set exposed. Bad agricultural features were

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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35. FIUMICINO...../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

35. FIUMICINO harbour is now 9½ ft. deep and 2,300 tons of fuel were discharged there during the month. 55 bridges were completed and good progress has been made with Bonifica repairs in the PONTINE MARSHES.

36. Perhaps the outstanding development during the last three months has been the increased efficiency of the Italian police agencies. The big problem of unauthorised possession of firearms is being tackled, but the inability of the Italian courts to deal with their case load is alarming. Forged currency cases were reported from ROME, FROSINONE, RIETI and VITERBO. The total amount involved was 56,700 lire; so far only two arrests have been made.

37. Health has been surprisingly good and the winter has passed with unexpected freedom from any serious epidemic.

38. Out of a total of 387, elementary and secondary schools now functioning number 231. Of the 156 which are not open, Allied formations are only occupying 15 and the Allied Military authorities have been extremely cooperative in this respect. Nearly 300,000 textbooks were distributed.

39. Distribution of American Red Cross clothing in TERNI was completed on 17 February.

40. Among Allied officers in this Region there is the feeling that there is not very much more that they can do and that the Italian machinery, out-of-date and creaking though it may be, has been put in a position to run on its own on the Regional level.

ABRUZZI-MARCHE REGION.

41. The Region, in general, has been quiet throughout the month, the Communist Party alone displaying any initiative, particularly in TERAMO and AQUILA, where, upon the announcement that AC officers would be withdrawn, a flare-up of political activity occurred.

42. The collection of olive oil under the impetus of control officers increased 50 per cent. during February, but at the month's end only one-fifth of the target figure had been obtained. The Region exported important surpluses of eggs, wheat and alcohol, chiefly from the middle MARCHE Provinces.

43. The amassing of wheat came practically to a standstill after the target figure was reached, and there is little inclination on the part of the Italian officials to insist upon further collections. The doubling of the price of potatoes in the middle of the collection period caused considerable difficulty.

44. Unemployment has been less than had been feared in the Region and further improvement is expected as soon as weather permits resumption of work on roads, bridges and railways. The very low salaries of state and parastatal employees, including school-teachers, have created a critical situation.

45. Public works reconstruction and highway maintenance were hampered chiefly be lack of transport and somewhat by lack of materials.

46. A start was made in re-establishing civilian telephone services

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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46. A start was made in re-establishing civilian telephone services in ANCONA city and civilian mail services in PESARO.

47. The standard of efficiency of the CC.RR continues to improve and some clothing is now arriving, though much more is still required. There has been little serious crime throughout the Region, the major problem being extortion gangs which have been formed by the worst elements of the former partisans. Mobile night patrols by Italian and Allied police have reduced the danger.

48. From a...../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

48. From a health standpoint, the Region came through the winter well. Blankets and clothing have been distributed in the devasted areas.

49. The grain harvest resulted in substantial increases in bank and post office deposits.

50. The latest information available shows that 258,639 mines have been cleared in the CHIETI-PESCARA area since June 1944.

51. The SAFFA match factory at JESI, working during the night hours only, owing to power restrictions, has increased its production from 54 to 70 million matches weekly.

52. Six truck pools, with 169 trucks lifting an average of 475 tons a day, and three Italian GT Companies, provide for the transport needs of eight Provinces. A total of sixty-seven bus lines, twenty of them inter-provincial, are licensed to operate.

SARDEGNA REGION.

53. Production of the coal mines at CARBONIA remained at approximately 40,000 tons for the month but it is hoped to increase the monthly output to 100,000 tons for which 2,500 additional miners will be required. In pre-war days about one third of the total number of miners came from the main-land but an attempt is being made to recruit the required number locally. Arrangements have been made for the conditions of pay, housing and food, including the news of the increased ration allowed in February, to be broad-cast by radio, published in the Press and spread by means of town crier in the villages to encourage more miners to sign on.

54. The call-up of the Italian Army in February went very smoothly. The maximum estimated local intake from the first classes to be called back to the Army was 10,000 and this number has been substantially exceeded. The men were contented and there was very little real opposition. What opposition did occur was dealt with by the local authorities and was probably due to ignorance as there are few newspapers and news travels slowly in country districts.

55. Crime showed a considerable increase including 8 murders and 50 armed robberies. A welcome addition to the small garrison has been pro-vided by the arrival of a detachment of Marine Military Police on temporary duty at the Port of CAGLIARI. During the month bombs were thrown at the Carabinieri and Questore Garages in NUORO and at other centres causing slight damage.

922

56. Amassing of wheat has reached approximate finality for the season at nearly 310,000 quintals but the olive oil collected so far is only just over 5,000 quintals as compared with an estimated total of 50,000 quintals.

57. A consignment of boots arrived by ferry steamer and allotments have been made to the Mines and Railways. Boots are also now on sale in the shops.

58. Another enemy agent was dropped in SARDINIA by parachute on the 21st and captured on the 26th with a radio transmitter and 143,000 lire in his possession.

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59. The health of the people was good and text books for schools are being distributed satisfactorily.

TOSCANA REGION.

60. Of the nine provinces of TOSCANA Region, four of them have not yet come under Regional control. LUCCA, PISTOIA, and FIRENZE Provinces are under AMG Fifth Army control and APUANIA is still in the hands of the enemy. Part of LUCCA Province is also enemy territory.

61. The Communist continues to be the most active and best organised of the political parties. In certain parts of the Region increased membership was due, in part at least, to the fact that its leaders are discouraging actions which will bring the Party into disrepute. Anti-monarchist feeling is crystalizing. In certain provinces recruiting for the Italian

Army...../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

Army has taken on a political aspect. In some cases Communists have endeavoured to make the departure of recruits an occasion for a Communist celebration. Political activity of this description has been discouraged.

62. The food situation improved slightly and collections of last summer's grain for the amassi were still being made. An additional source of salt supply has been obtained at the Solvay works in LIVORNO Province, by the use of steam for boiling down brine which was previously wasted. The amassing of olive oil is not progressing satisfactorily due to the passive resistance of the producers. The total amount amassed was 37,072 quintals.

63. The labour situation improved due, mainly, to the increased wages and food rations.

64. The CC.RR are becoming more effective throughout the Region and there has been an improvement in communications and morale but over 400 men in the Florence Region are still without uniforms.

65. Both the Italian Courts and the Allied Military Courts functioned effectively. In the Allied Military Courts in LIVORNO Province alone, 693 sentences were passed.

66. Poor water supply has been responsible for a small epidemic of typhoid in AREZZO, but generally the health of the civilian population throughout the Region is satisfactory. Schools are functioning well in Provinces under Regional control and school lunches are being served in 90 communes. While there has been definite improvement in the distribution of medical supplies, the work of ENDIMEA was still unsatisfactory. Distribution of American Red Cross clothing in the Region was almost completed.

67. Reconstruction projects included the PRATO acqueduct, the flood control works in the VAL DI CHIANA, repair of University buildings at PISA and harbour repair works at PIOMBINO, ORBETELLO, and PORTO S. STEFANO. The west coast railroad is in operation through LIVORNO and thence east to MONTECATINI and every commune in GROSSETO now has telephone communication. Postal restrictions have been relaxed.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PART II...../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART II.

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION.

Defascism.

1. To date (exclusive of the Services) the records of 15,588 persons representing 41% of those subject to epuration by Central Commissions, have been scrutinised. Of these:

(a) 6,033 (38%) have been referred to Epuration Commissions for decision.

(b) 1,834 cases (30% of (a)) have been decided.

(c) 463 persons (25% of (b)) have been dismissed.

483 appeals, of which about two-thirds are appeals by the High Commissioner against acquittal, have been filed in the Central Commission which was inaugurated by Signor BONOMI on 14 February.

2. The time limits fixed for the commencement of proceedings have been extended. This was necessary owing to the difficulty of setting up sufficient courts without drawing too many judges from their normal duty and also because of delays in investigations caused by lack of transport. The extended time limit for civil servants employed in the Central administration expires on 15 March.

3. Progress is at last being made in the appointment of Provincial Commissions. Conferences attended by AMG officers, the Prefects and local representatives of the High Commissioner were held to co-ordinate the functions of each in the process of epuration. The question of allowing avvocati to sit on Epuration Commissions in lieu of judges is still under consideration.

Mine Clearance.

4. Mines removed during the month by the Mine Clearing Companies and civilian squads numbered 106,054. Authority has been granted to form a third mine clearing company to be known as the 563 Company.

921

Devastated Areas.

5. Distribution of blankets and clothing allocated to devastated areas in LAZIO-UMBRIA and ABRUZZI-MARCHE Regions was completed and 75,000 square metres of strong canvas have been distributed in LAZIO-UMBRIA Region for temporary repair of less badly damaged dwellings. Good progress is reported.

6. A branch committee of the Italian National Committee for Relief in Devastated Areas has been formed in FLORENCE.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION.

7. Under the terms of the "New Deal" for ITALY, the Allied Commission

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION.

7. Under the terms of the "New Deal" for ITALY, the Allied Commission no longer has any authority over the appointment or dismissal of State officials (except certain Service officials) in territory under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government. During the course of the month the Italian Government has issued a circular to Prefects, impressing upon them the urgency of completing the appointment of Giunte Communali and Sindaci in substitution for Commissari Prefettizi, of whom too many are still holding office.

8. In order to overcome difficulties anticipated from extended lines of communication, Regional Commissioners for the Northern Regions of ITALY have been authorised to appoint or remove Prefects Regent without first obtaining the approval of HQ AC. Notification of a change must, however, be made as soon as possible. A circular has been issued to Regional Commissioners explaining that appointments and promotions of Italian officials

by AMG..../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 786021

by AMG are temporary and have no effect upon the permanent rank or status of the appointee in the Italian Civil Service. Permanent promotions will be dealt with by the Italian Government when they resume responsibility for liberated provinces.

9. With the view to alleviating the grave shortage of local Government officials, the Italian Government has been asked to furnish particulars of officials held as Prisoners of War or as civilian internees in AFRICA. The question of release will be taken up with the appropriate military authorities.

10. The Government Decree extending the right to vote to women over 21 years of age was published on 20 February 1945.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

11. Disorders and riots in protest against the military call-up, which were prevalent in SICILY during the months of December and January, have subsided. In SARDINIA demonstrations resulting from the same cause increased, but not to an alarming degree. Conditions throughout ITALY were quiet.

12. The strength of the Carabinieri at 24 February was 53,990. Of this figure, 45,207 were employed on normal police duties, the remainder 8,783 being ineffective owing to leave, sickness or being employed with the Italian Army on provost duties. 992 men were recruited during the month.

13. It has been decided that the control of the Italian-French and the Italian-Swiss frontiers will be a purely military responsibility.

14. From all sections of the country come reports indicating improvement in morale, efficiency and initiative of law enforcement agencies. This is particularly true in the case of the Carabinieri and is especially evident where units have recently received uniforms, boots and other items necessary for proper performance of police duties. Another factor contributing to improvement in morale is the support given by the Allies who are working closely with the Italian police agencies.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION.

15. Two verified cases of typhus were reported, one at LATIANO near BRINDISI and the other at MODICA near RAGUSA in SICILY. Three other suspected cases were reported at the endof the month from MESAGNE, a small town about five or six miles from LATIANO. The Typhus Demonstration Unit tours were continued. It is felt that with the approach of spring and with the preventative measures which have been taken all over Liberated ITALY, the possibility of a serious typhus epidemic is now negligible.

16. The Smallpox situation in NAPLES remains much as before, 241 cases having been reported as compared with 261 in January. 67,838 persons were vaccinated during February. Scattered cases have been reported from other provinces on the mainland, the greatest number - 23 - occurring in SALERNO Province where 90,000 people have been vaccinated. Only 11 cases have been reported from BENEVENTO and no cases have occurred since 20 February 1945.

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17. Early in February a meeting on malaria control measures for the coming year was held at the Ministry of Interior; the Italian Authorities, the Malaria Control Branch, UNRRA and the Institute of Hygiene were represented. The AC agreed to place at the disposal of the Italian Authorities 50 million Atebrine tablets, all available stocks of Italian quinine preparations and 100 tons of Paris Green, the arrival of which was not anticipated before April. UNRRA agreed to provide further supplies.

18. In AREZZO Province a Typhoid epidemic which flared up early in February is now under control. There were 3 deaths out of the 134 cases reported. The PRATO epidemic is virtually at an end, only 28 cases being

reported...../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778521

reported during February and approximately 35,800 primary inoculations have been carried out. The help given by the Military Medical Authorities has been invaluable.

19. The ROME infant mortality rate for January 1945 was 148.2 and the tuberculosis figure (both pulmonary and non-pulmonary) for January was 257 deaths.

20. Veterinary. Production of Crystal Violet Swine Cholera Vaccine has begun at Sclavo Institute, SIENA, and vaccine against foot and mouth disease is being produced slowly. The introduction of lime sulphur dip against sheep scab is contemplated and the Italian veterinary authorities have issued instructions concerning production.

21. Welfare. The distribution of clothing in SICILY, the devastated areas and the forward areas has been greatly appreciated. Milk, supplied by ENDSI is to be distributed through Welfare Officers and local Italian Committees. Material has been procured for the manufacture of orthopaedic appliances for mutilated Italian soldiers and civilians.

LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION.

22. Arrangements have been made for the transfer to the Italian Government of the assets and liabilities of the Instituto Nazionale di Trasporto of SICILY. Captured German and Italian vehicles were transferred to this organisation which was operated under the auspices of AMG.

23. At the request of AC, the Italian Government has framed a decree making it an offence for Italian civilians to harbour Allied deserters or absentees. This decree has been implemented in AMG territory.

24. The jurisdiction of the Tribunale Militare of MACERATA, which was recently established in co-operation with the Minister of War, has been extended to the Provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA.

25. A decree has been passed establishing a Tribunale Militare in TUSCANY. This Tribunale will sit in FLORENCE as soon as the necessary personnel have been provided and will deal with the large number of offences committed in the area by members of the Italian Army.

26. Continued pressure is being applied to the Minister of Justice to increase the pool of judicial officials for Northern Italy, and circulars have been issued by the Minister to Courts in Italian Government territory to discover additional personnel.

27. Examinations have been held in FLORENCE for Procuratori and Avvocati and arrangements have been made for similar examinations to be held in ROME during March.

28. AMG Courts continued to function throughout the period but there was little serious crime. Several cases related to counterfeiting AM lire while in TOSCANA Region there were a number of prosecutions for black market operations and possession of firearms. Ten espionage cases were reviewed during the month. Three death sentences were confirmed and five death sentences were commuted. Two sentences of imprisonment were imposed. The AMG Courts in BARI have been closed. During the 2½ months of their [illegible] of approximately 600 cases involving 850 accused

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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EDUCATION SUB-COMMISSION.

29. The survey of Italian education is completed up to 1943 and is being distributed to Education Officers as background material.

30. Epuration, short of final hearings under Italian Epuration Commissions, is practically complete.

31. Repairs were begun in 17 of ROME's schools; 66 schools still remain in need of repair. The 15 universities in Liberated Italy are all functioning, a number with record enrolments and some are offering courses to Allied Forces.

32. The project.../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778621

32. The project of publishing and distributing elementary school text-books is drawing to a close. The lateness of arrival of supplies from the United States, the shortage of electricity, and the use of printing presses for war purposes, have necessitated halving the programme contemplated. Nevertheless, 1,233,624 books have been printed and distribution has been made in every province in Liberated Italy. 500,000 school notebooks were printed in ROME in February; 140,000 in PALERMO.

33. The number of elementary school children enrolled in all Liberated Italy is approximately 1,472,500. 428,150 lunches of American dried soup and dried vegetables are being served daily in 416 communes.

34. A commission on youth activities has been organised in ROME. In TOSCANA sport and recreation clubs, student councils and orchestras are springingup and university groups are becoming active. Italian Boy Scouts have had provisional recognition by the international organisation and the movement is growing rapidly in all Regions.

35. Arrangements are being made for sending a professor of physics to the United States to study recent research in nuclear physics as a start in the policy of cultural and scientific exchange between Italy and the Allied Nations.

Amendment: First four lines of Para 32, Education Sub-Commission report for January should read: "SICILY reports disorders in all universities due to the call-up of students for the Army. At CATANIA a riot, begun by students, resulted in the burning of buildings. At PALERMO a more harmless student riot broke up inaugural ceremonies".

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES SUB-COMMISSION.

36. On 18 February 1945 the Exhibition of Masterpieces of European Paintings at the Palazzo Venezia, ROME, was closed and the proceeds, amounting to Lire 1,626,000 will be used by the Italian Government for repairs to national monuments.

37. Much progress has been made during the month including the completion of the consolidation of the Cavallini frescoes in S. Cecilia in TRASTEVERE. In FLORENCE City repairs have been completed on the Carmine, S. Croce and S. Frediano. In the devastated area, the church of S. Stefano is being repaired, the four towers are being re-roofed and shored and frescoes of the Palazzo Acciaioli are being detached. At AREZZO the major project is still the Badia, one side of which has been completely re-roofed. The work on the Cathedral, S. Francesco and S. Maria in Gradi was completed. Work is progressing satisfactorily on 16 churches in PISA. Outside the city the churches of S. MINIATO and at S. PIETRO A GRADO are being repaired. Most of the repair projects in the ABRUZZI are now finished. In the MARCHE the major work centres around FANO and ANCONA. The problem of clearing ANCONA is difficult and assistance is being given by both military and civilian authorities. The treasures of the Museum are still buried beneath the debris of the campanile of S. Francesco awaiting more favourable weather conditions for their recovery. The collosal bronze equestrian statue of Cosimo I di Medici has been returned to FLORENCE from its deposit at POGGIO A CAIANO.

38. Archives [illegible] by the Italian Ministry of Interior of Italy

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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38. Archives. A census by the Italian Ministry of Interior of Italian Archives shows a very small proportion of loss or disturbance by Allied troop occupation.

39. A revised and documented account of the losses from art deposits in TUSCANY has been received at this HQ and further information has been obtained from the Ministry of Public Instruction concerning German removals of pictures from FORLI.

DISPLACED PERSONS..../

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778621

DISPLACED PERSONS & REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION.

40. All centres, including CINECITTA' and AVERSA, were inspected by a Medical Officer during the month. Difficulty is experienced in teaching sanitary discipline to transient refugees, but on the whole the standard is high; medical Administrative Instructions have been issued in English and Italian. Health continues to be good and ROSIGNANA Centre was freed from quarantine for smallpox on 12 February 1945. 1,785 Allied Nationals in ROME are receiving extra food on medical grounds.

41. Approximately 700 Royalist Yugoslavs have been concentrated at SANTA CESAREA Centre. Certain Jews in the Southern Centres have been selected for emigration to PALESTINE. UNRRA personnel continued to arrive and the hand-over is almost completed.

42. During the month, 2,275 Italian refugees arrived in ROME from the Northern Centres, the majority from the RIMINI area. 2,404 Italians were repatriated to homes in SICILY or the South; repatriates to Yugoslavia numbered 731. Up to the end of February 74,609 persons were recorded by the Records Bureau; the location of approximately 59,000 of these is known, the remaining 9,460 are reported to be in German occupied Italy. These records cover 70 different nationalities.

43. During February the Banca d'Italia was authorised to make payments totalling 8,363,110 lire, the number of persons benefitting from these payments being 3,912. Payments to Yugoslavs have decreased considerably, only 176 payments were made as against 2,117 in December 1944. Currency conversation proposals were approved by the Combined Chiefs of Staff on an "ad hoc" basis for a group of Jewish refugees scheduled to leave shortly for PALESTINE.

PATRIOTS BRANCH.

44. The patriot position on the Fifth Army front remains practically unchanged. On the Eighth Army front about 400 patriots have passed through the Patriot Centre at RAVENNA.

45. Liaison with the Italian Government has been made easier by the formation of the Ministry for Occupied Territories. Priority of employment will in future be given to genuine patriots. 919

46. A national "Patriot Day" was celebrated on 18 February 1945. A parade of Italian Regular Troops and patriots was held in ROME with the object of demonstrating the union between formerly antagonistic regular soldiers and partisan forces. This was followed by the posthumous award of the Italian Gold Medal to regular soldiers and patriots who had died in action against the Germans since the Badoglio Armistice. Smaller parades and celebrations were held elsewhere in Italy.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART III

ECONOMIC SECTION

AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION.

1. Surveys have been made of SICILY, CAMPANIA, EMILIA and TOSCANA areas in regard to crop production requirements and land reclamation. Crop production prospects were encouraging with seed requirements well provided for and imported materials scheduled for early arrival and distribution. Of the 4,334 tons of imported seed potatoes scheduled for import against spring requirements, approximately 3,500 tons were received and distributed. Sulphur distribution was satisfactory except in SARDEGNA and Central ITALY.

2. Wheat consigned to the "Granai del Popolo" reached a total of 10,884,736 quintals, or 92% of the estimated goal, with current consignments small. Olive oil collection reached 325,281 quintals, and there is evidence that the total may reach 450,000 quintals.

3. Production of fuelwood and charcoal continued slightly to exceed the consumption. A long term programme is being established for reafforestation by the Ministry of Agriculture.

4. Fisheries supplies delivered permitted a distribution programme to be started under Fondazione Assistenza Rifornimenti Pesca. Additional supplies of fish are anticipated as a result of restrictions relaxed during the month.

COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION.

5. The reprocessing of salvaged clothing carried out in NAPLES has more than met expectations. Large quantities of garments were made available by MMIA for reprocessing, including 300 tons shipped from NORTH AFRICA, the condition of which necessitated the setting up of laundries and disinfestation plants. At present two large plants in NAPLES are laundering and disinfesting approximately 40,000 garments a week.

6. Textiles and clothing factories in AMG Fifth Army area have started production and considerable quantities of clothing, textiles and blankets are being produced and distributed.

7. Total exports during the month amounted to over 12,450 tons gross, representing a value of approximately 140 million lire. Contracts have been placed for 150 kilos Jasmine Concrete, and the USA have bought 100,000 lbs Bergamot Oil. Negotiations are in progress for the export of surplus minerals, such as Pyrites, Bauxite and Zinc Blende.

8. The supply of newsprint for Liberated ITALY was practically exhausted during the month and in the City of NAPLES newspapers were forced to suspend publication for two days. In conjunction with AFHQ, small stocks of newsprint have been obtained and it is hoped that these will be sufficient to meet requirements until American newsprint is available. The official price of scrap paper which is the basis of present newsprint production has risen from 7½ lire per kilo to 22 lire per kilo, with black market quotations as high as 40 lire per kilo; the price of newsprint has jumped from 26 lire per kilo to 60 lire per kilo in contrast to a landed cost of 17.50 lire per kilo for the American newsprint.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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9. Although the majority of silk filatures in TUSCANY were demolished, two remain in AREZZO Province and the small stocks of cocoons which still exist will be delivered to them. Twenty-seven tons of Persian cocoons have been imported for the Italian reelers and these are being distributed among the filatures in CALABRIA.

10. The Italian Government assumed responsibility for all civilian allocations of petroleum in LAZIO and ABRUZZI Compartiments as from 1 March 1945.

FINANCE/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION.

11. On 27 February it was widely reported in the Italian press that the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury had stated before a Congressional Committee that the Italian Government had accepted responsibility for the redemption of "invasion currency" under the terms of the Armistice. The reactions of the Italian Government to the statement were mainly of disappointment rather than disillusionment. It is thought that reports of the QUINTIERI - MATTIOLI Mission had already indicated that the U.S. Government had no intention of assuming any liability for the redemption of AM lire used by the U.S. Armed Forces in ITALY, other than the troops expenditure credits already made available. The new Italian Ambassador to the U.S. has, however, been instructed to ascertain the precise meaning of Mr. MORGENTHAU's statement.

12. The Italian Treasury has decided upon two internal loans. A large loan for purposes of reconstruction will be attempted as soon as substantially all of ITALY is liberated. It is planned to issue immediately 25 billion lire of bonds. The books will be open for subscriptions for one month beginning 15 April 1945. These bonds will have a five year maturity, will pay 5%, and will be issued at 97.50.

13. The net investment in Treasury bills during January was 2,405 million lire. The monthly average for the preceding six months of the current fiscal year was 2,400 million lire. Tax collections in Liberated ITALY for the seven months to 31 January 1945 amounted to 8,040 million lire.

14. The programme for turning over to the Federazione dei Consorzi Agrari the accounting and financial responsibility for imported foodstuffs is proceeding smoothly. The large AC stock-pile warehouse at NAPLES and the warehouses and depots of AMG FIFTH and EIGHTH Armies will be handed over to the Federazione on 1 March 1945. The detailed work of pricing, billing, and collecting for sales is done by the Federazione, which renders a receipt report to AC.

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION.

15. Arrivals of imported grain reached a higher level during the month. The actual figures of cereal imports were :

Wheat	91,927 tons
Barley	22,952 tons
Flour	17,333 tons

This enabled reserve stocks to be built up and the "300 gram bread ration policy" to be implemented in Central ITALY as from 1 March making the whole of the liberated territory uniform with respect to the bread and pasta ration. Heavy Worker's ration scales were adjusted . Several other scales were introduced during the month for the improvement of the feeding conditions of office workers, refugees, Sardinian miners and labour employed by the Armed Forces, and also for an extension of public assistance work.

16. The normal issues of bread, pasta and sugar remained unaltered. Owing to distribution difficulties the ration of olive oil for each person for the month had to be reduced in some areas, including ROME, from three to two decilitres. The issue of meat or meat and vegetable stew to the population of cities of 50,000 and above was reduced from 400 grams to 200 grams due to diminishing stocks and the probability that no further supplies would be forthcoming. The grain situation remained satisfactory. There were 330,000 tons of locally produced grain on hand at the end of the month representing over two months stock of grain at the present

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17. The average weekly arrival of wheat and flour in ROME City fell from 3690 tons in January to 2892 tons in February. As a result the bread reserve of ROME fell from 32 days on 1 February to 22 days on 1 March, the fall being largely due to reduced rail acceptances from the ANCONA area. Approximately 13,000 tons of non-rationed foods arrived in ROME at an average of 425 tons a day. In addition 3400 tons of wine arrived from APULIA and SICILY and about 65,000 eggs a day arrived at the Mercati Generali.

18. An exchange/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775021

18. An exchange plan for vegetables, which has been under discussion for some months, was adopted by AFHQ. This will involve a replacement by the Armed Forces on an agreed exchange basis for a certain amount of the local vegetables purchased on behalf of the Allied Armies. This is in addition to vegetables automatically made available for military hospitals and other priority classes.

INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION.

19. The improvement of the stockpile of coal at the ROME Gas Works has enabled an increase in the ration of gas to be made.

20. During the month seven factories were derequisitioned. Reconstruction is proceeding at sugar beet processing plants for the 1945 campaign and seven plants are scheduled for operation with an estimated output of approximately 30,000 tons. The Pirelli Rubber Reclaiming plant has resumed operations.

21. Approximately 3,650 tons of sulphur have been delivered to factories for the manufacture of carbon bisulphide and for agriculture; bids have been made for the continuation of deliveries at the rate of 630 tons a week. Sicilian supplies depend upon transportation and so far it has only been possible to deliver 3,000 tons a month. Three hundred and thirty tons of carbon bisulphide have been delivered to oil extraction plants in SICILY and SARDINIA and the Southern mainland. In addition, power has been obtained for the plant at SIRACUSA and a combined production of approximately 200 tons was obtained.

22. Lignite production on the mainland is still handicapped by lack of electric power and transportation, but the production for February was 40,000 tons and estimated stocks above ground amount to 280,000 tons. Total cement production for the month was 4,000 tons.

23. Delivery of sulphate rock from NORTH AFRICA during the month was approximately 24,000 tons. Production of copper sulphate fungicide by Montecatini at BAGNOLI, near NAPLES, has started and is expected to be maintained at the rate of over 300 tons a month; 2,000 tons of scrap brass are used for this production which will cover the 1945 requirements of this plant.

24. Production of woollen goods shows little improvement on account of the lack of electric power. Approximately fifty firms are, however, running at a reduced capacity by using old motor and lorry engines. Production of cotton goods shows an increase on the previous month.

LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION.

917

25. The Confederazione Generale Italiano del Lavoro (CGIL) Congress held at NAPLES 29 January to 1 February was a marked success, and considerably enhanced the prestige of the Confederation. The key-note of the Congress was the importance of preserving unity of trade union movement without regard to party politics and delegates showed open resentment of the few speakers who introduced political issues. The Executive demanded a share in reconstruction, in the fight against the black market, the institution of a sliding wage scale to meet cost of living; and where possible, derequisitioning of factories. There was strong criticism of labour offices. Proposals for agricultural reform, for reform of social insurance, protection of women and juveniles in industry and improved pensions were also carried.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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26. Threatened strike in a number of undertakings have been postponed pending negotiations, and the CGIL used its influence as a moderating factor in the prevention of the spread of strikes.

27. Agreements have been reached with the Government for substantial wage increases for State and parastatal employees. Representatives of the Confederation of Industry have agreed that general negotiation of new wage agreements shall take place in all industries, with new basic scales and a variable bonus to keep in step with changes in cost of living.

28. The Minister/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

28. The Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labour has submitted particulars of a draft decree providing for the institution of a "Social Assistance Fund" from which to meet the special needs of workers.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES SUB COMMISSION.

29. Electrical service was greatly improved as a result of the successful operation of the Central ITALY Grid. FLORENCE, most distant large city from the main centres of generation, reports that voltage during period of maximum demand has been increased by approximately 20%.

30. Italian Advisory Committees on electric power are now functioning in Central and Southern ITALY and during February Committees were organized in SICILY and SARDINIA.

31. The CANTERNO Generating Station, of 10,000 kilowatts capacity, was completed and connected to the transmission network. Construction of this plant was commenced prior to the war and suspended in 1943. During the German occupation, employees of the company buried parts of the machinery and after liberation they were salvaged and construction resumed.

32. Arrangements have been completed for the withdrawal of AC officers from the Southern Region, and transfer of their military highways responsibilities to representatives of the military district.

33. Operation of the FLORENCE gas system was resumed on 18 February.

34. The effectiveness of the entire reconstruction programme is seriously hampered by shortage of transport, and there is a progressive decline in the number of vehicles available in working condition.

35. During the month 1,474 public works projects were initiated, 613 completed and 2,424 were still in progress.

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION.

36. The bids made on AFHQ for the movement of AC traffic by rail were accepted up to 80% and the majority of these bids were actually moved. The system of bidding for, and programming AC traffic is, at present, under review and new arrangements will come into force during March. The object of the contemplated change is to decentralise some of the work and to secure more accurate records of tonnages carried.

37. ENAC (Ente Nazionale Autotrasporti Cose) came into being on 1 February. It is too early to determine the effectiveness of the organisation, but cooperation between ENAC and this HQ has been good.

38. Out of the first consignment of 1700 trucks, mentioned in last month's report, to be imported from the USA, 360 have arrived. These vehicles are sent cased and will be assembled in this country. They will operate mainly in the North.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH & INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. News services of PWB in Italian Government Territory terminated on 15 February and newspapers and radio stations in this territory will now be serviced by private agencies.

2. Representations were made to the Italian Government concerning reported inefficient handling of imported Allied newsprint by the Italian Press Committee which, during the month, resulted in suspension of publication of several newspapers in NAPLES and ROME due to shortage of newsprint.

3. The News Production Section expanded its programme and local outlets were increased to twenty-nine direct recipients, including all Allied neutral correspondents, morale papers, wire services, four Italian news agencies and also nine indirect channels, such as AFHQ News Production Section and Italian Government Press Bureau.

NAVY SUBCOMMISSION

4. There were no far-reaching changes during February.

5. The Ministry of Marine, at the request of the Navy Subcommission, has agreed to supply sixty Italian naval officers for assignment to duty with Italian military courts in order that the Navy may bear its proportionate share of court work.

6. The Italian Navy has shown an interest in obtaining general technical publications from England and the United States and some publications have been supplied already to the Ministry of Marine by American and British representatives.

7. On 19 February Rear Admiral G.L. WARREN was appointed as Chief of the Navy Subcommission, vice Rear Admiral C.E. MORGAN, C.B., D.S.O.

LAND FORCES SUBCOMMISSION

8. Assisted by Patriots, Italian troops of the Cremona Combat Gp, in their first major action since they entered the line, fought a successful battle in the Adriatic Sector of the EIGHTH Army front. Praise and recognition of their success was given both by Field Marshal Alexander and General Mark Clark. All reports generally indicate a good standard of morale and discipline.

9. During the month the Friuli Combat Gp moved into the line after a period of training and later came under command EIGHTH Army.

10. An unexpected increase in the numbers of men enlisted for Combat necessitated the establishment of an overflow camp in the Reinforcement Centre area which imposed a severe strain on equipment and Italian staff. 918

11. The enrolment of Patriots into the Italian Combat Gps continued during the month. Over 1,800 Patriot volunteers were moved from the forward area by road and rail to CESANO where their initial training in British methods and equipment commenced. Some difficulty was experienced in persuading these volunteers to hand

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12. Results of the re-call to the colours and the call-up of the 1914-15 recruits were most encouraging. Reinforcement Camps at ORVIETO, TRANI and AVRAGOLA are almost full to capacity.

13. The ration scale of flour, olive oil and nuts was increased by authority of AFHQ from 20 February 45.

916

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

14. The month has shown an all-round improvement in the morale of the Italian Army. This was due mainly to the increased welfare facilities which have been implemented during the last few weeks. The Italian Army newspaper "LA PATRIA" now has a wide distribution and is issued free to all Italian Units in the forward areas. Several voluntary welfare organizations have been started in the forward areas and the Italian Forces' Rest Home in ROME was visited by the Prime Minister, the War Minister and the Minister of Marine on 9 February.

AIR FORCES SUBCOMMISSION

15. The Italian Air Force is still being employed in active operations over the BALKANS. The scale of effort during the month of February was the second greatest since the Italian Air Force has been controlled by the Air Forces Sub-commission. The Fighters attacked a variety of targets, and it is confirmed that damage to enemy transport was inflicted.

16. The Seaplane Wing carried out a very successful Air/Sea Rescue sortie and rescued the crew of an Allied aircraft in spite of extremely difficult weather and sea conditions.

17. The Bomber/Transport Wing has carried out the largest number of sorties since August 1944.

18. The Light/Bomber Wing has dropped a considerable weight of bombs with good results. Unfortunately the Commanding Officer of one of the Squadrons and his crew were lost by a direct hit from anti-aircraft fire.

19. The morale of the Force remains satisfactory, and a small increase in the rations for flying personnel has been very well received.

20. The new Minister, H.E. DOCTOR LUIGI GASPAROTTO, has made a good start and is popular with the units.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMISSION

21. Considerable extensions were authorized by the military security authorities to the areas open to civil communications. These are now:

Postal boundary (foreign and domestic). The Northern boundary of PESARO and AREZZO provinces, thence the line of the R. ARNO through the provinces of FIRENZE and PISA (including the provincial capitals).

Telegraph boundary (domestic). The Northern boundary of PESARO and AREZZO provinces, the line of the R. ARNO through the province of FIRENZE, thence including SIENA and GROSSETO provinces.

Telephone boundary (inter-provincial service). The Northern boundary of MACERATA, PERUGIA and GROSSETO provinces; the province of FOGGIA is excludod. Provincial telephone service is allowed in ANCONA, SIENA and FOGGIA provinces.

22. Services are not in full operation in all the northernmost parts of these areas but they are being steadily restored.

23. Tests were satisfactorily made and all arrangements completed for the opening of the ROME-NEW YORK radio telephone service. The Italian language may now be used in telegraph and telephone communications from ITALY.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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24. Authorization was received from Combined Chiefs of Staff for the issue to the Italian Government of the communication stores requisitioned from Allied resources on the "prevention of disease and unrest" basis; this basis allows for about a 3% restoration of facilities.

25. Arrangements were completed for the method of sale in situ of surplus military signal stores, and the transfer of circuits constructed by military signals in SARDINIA was completed and the price settled.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

WMD & IPW SUBCOMMISSION

War Materials Disposal

26. A new procedure for handling all surplus salvage and scrap material made available from the Allied Armies in Italy to the Italian Government has been established. Arrangements have been made with PBS and British Salvage regarding future allotments

27. Some 7,550 tons of salvage material was offered by PBS and British Salvage to the Allied Commission during February and bids have been made accordingly. This salvage material included aluminium, canvas, cotton, ferrous metals and rubber.

28. Abandoned ammunition continues to be a serious problem and a scheme whereby it can be broken down and remade into mining explosives is being considered.

Italian Prisoners of War

29. The number of Italian prisoners of war repatriated during February was 819. This figure is less than 50% of the average for the past six months and the Italian Government, through the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War, expressed great concern at this reduction in numbers. Most of those repatriated during February were sick and wounded.

30. Remittances to Italian families made by Italian co-operator prisoners of war increased from 10,491 pounds sterling in January to 92,274 pounds sterling during February. The statements were passed to the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War for payment.

31. 593 packages of impounded valuables were forwarded to the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War and the Italian Red Cross for distribution to claimants.

32. A meeting was held at this Headquarters regarding the repatriation of some 30,000 Italian prisoners of war for enrolment into the Italian Army. The policy with regard to types of specialists and priorities was discussed, and arrangements as to procedure were agreed.

Elmery W. Stone

ELMERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

815

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778521

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
A.C.
Routing Slip

	Initials	Date
Mr. W.H. BRAMUC		
Lt. Col.BABCOCK		
Capt. DORF		
Capt. TOPLISS		
Mr. SACHS		
Mr. DI FEDE		
Mr. AIREY		
Mr. SCOTT		
Mr. PROCTOR		
Miss STEVENSON		
Chief Clerk		

CSC/607

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Ref: 824/EC

17 February 1945

MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 1944

		Political Section	Pages 1 - 2
PART	I	- AMG Armies and Regions	Pages 3 - 9
PART	II	- Civil Affairs Section	Pages 10 - 14
PART	III	- Economic Section	Pages 15 - 20
PART	IV	- Public Relations Branch Navy Sub-Commission Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMLA) Air Forces Sub-Commission Communications Sub-Commission War Materials Disposal and Italian PW Sub-Commission	Pages 21 - 23

C O N F I D E N T I A L

514

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

POLITICAL SECTION

1. The Italian political crisis which had reached a climax with the resignation of Signor Bonomi on Sunday, 26 November, was clarified on 7 December when four of the six parties of the Committee of National Liberation entered the new government presided over by Signor Bonomi. It is now evident that the crisis was precipitated by two important points of disagreement between the parties of the right and left. The center and right wing parties maintained that the government's authority would be weakened by the extensive epuration carried out under Count Sforza and also by the granting of power to the Committees of National Liberation in liberated territory. The left wing parties were in sharp disagreement on both points.

2. When the new government was formed Signor Bonomi gave formal assurance that he accepted all previous Italian obligations towards the Allies and that the Italian Government would not re-open the institutional question without prior consent of the Allied Governments until Italy had been liberated and the Italian people given the opportunity of determining their own form of Government.

3. The new Cabinet contains practically the same personalities as in the previous government. The primary changes are the exclusion of representatives of the Socialist and Action Parties and the reduction of the number of Ministers Without Portfolio from seven to three, two of whom are also Vice-Presidents. The Ministry of Communications was split into the two Ministries of Post and Telegraph Communications and of Railroad Transportation. One entirely new Ministry was created - the Ministry of Occupied Italy, headed by a Communist.

4. Two new situations emerged after the formation of the present Government. First, the position of the CLN was undoubtedly weakened and the Government given a conservative tinge: second, the absence of the Socialists in the Government resulted in a strong opposition bloc of the Socialist and Action Parties. Nenni, who will undoubtedly be the opposition's spokesman stated that the basic issues were avoided but not solved. He said that his party would not fight the Government systematically but would criticise dispassionately all measures not directed towards winning the war and achieving an Italian democracy.

5. The Communists achieved a technical triumph and secured an excellent bargaining position due to their alliance with the Socialists as they are virtually inside and outside the Government.

6. Signor Bonomi undoubtedly achieved a personal success by his patience and tenacity in adhering to his principles in spite of the pressure which was brought to bear during the days of the crisis.

7. It is still too early to judge the capabilities of the new four-party coalition government, but its compactness should result in a greater degree of stability and unity than heretofor.

- 513

8. The Right-Left Division in the political parties seems to be based to a large and increasing degree on an ideology expressed by the distinction in the Pope's Christmas message between the "people" and the "masses". There were indications of a consolidation of the Christian Democrat, the Liberal, and the Right-Wing elements of the Labour Democrat Parties with a view to forming a "Peoples' Group" which would threaten politically the "Masses Group" of the Left.

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9. While the apparent cause of the demonstrations against military conscription in CATANIA on 14 December was a protest by students against being drafted, there appear to have been other less obvious causes. Outside forces were believed, and not without evidence, to have incited the students to assume their attitude of indifference toward the war and to rebel against participation in it. Both Separatist and Fascist elements were considered responsible at least in part for the disturbance.

10. Count Sforza declined the appointment of Ambassador to the United States. At the end of December no other nomination for the post had been made by the Italian Government.

11. On 27 Dec/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. On 27 December the Public Relations Office of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers announced that diplomatic relations were to be resumed with BELGIUM and were to be "reactivated" with RUMANIA. At the same time it was stated by Italian Government representatives that most problems impeding a resumption of relations with FRANCE were solved and that the Government was hopeful of a speedy settlement of those which remained.

12. The press of 29 December announced a resumption of ITALO-NORWEGIAN relations.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

PART I

AMG Fifth Army.

1. This was the most uneventful month since last winter. The area remained unchanged throughout the period except for the temporary recapture by the enemy of the commune of BARGA (LUCCA Province), which is now back in Allied hands. This was the first time since the landing at SALERNO that a commune had been lost after the setting up of Military Government. A fascist radio station was heard broadcasting a message of formal thanks to AMG for the civilian food the enemy found in the village, which had only been delivered two days before its recapture. The amount involved was not large.

2. As a result of new policies and support from Headquarters Allied Commission a new Patriot Branch was created at FIFTH Army AMG at the opening of the month, with a Patriot Officer in charge of the two large Reception Camps at FLORENCE and PESCIA, for the handling of homeless patriots now coming through the line. The problem remains extremely difficult owing to the absence of any clear cut system of obtaining the necessary supplies for rehabilitating individuals and to the delicate political questions involved.

3. Public morale was in general slightly higher except for a rumour scare created by military operations at the close of the month. In LUCCA this scare caused a noticeable outflow of cash from the banks. Elsewhere the improvement in morale can be attributed to the distribution of the first olive oil rations for many months and to the general feeling of goodwill due to the holiday season. The arrangements made for Midnight Masses and the Allied Christmas parties for children created an extremely favourable impression.

4. In spite of the improvement in morale noted above there was a general under current of discontent among the population as a result of the widespread scarcity and high price of food. The continued failure to establish a 300 gram bread ration also caused some bitterness.

5. There were several cases of armed robbery and one of jail-breaking. These were thought to be the work of lawless gangs who in some cases claimed to have been Patriots. This discredited the whole patriot movement in the eyes of many Allied officers and Italians. Masked armed bandits continued to operate in FLORENCE Province, their crowning achievement was the hold-up of a Civil Affairs Officer.

6. There was an increase in forged currency: 90 forged 1000 lire notes were discovered in FLORENCE and some 30 others elsewhere. Apart from the paper the forgeries were excellent imitations.

7. The typhoid epidemic at PRATO continued to be serious. After a lull in the middle of the month many new cases were reported as a result of a systematic house-to-house search and is not thought to indicate a true rise of incidence. The main water supply was still out of commission owing to the destruction of a large railway viaduct and the source of infection from the many subsidiary supplies has not been discovered.

8. The shortage of electric power remained extremely acute and prohibited any large scale rehabilitation of local industry. Reconstruction of buildings of all kinds was held up by a shortage of cement.

9. Five enemy agents were tried by a General AMG Court: all were convicted and sentenced to death, except one [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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AMG Eighth Army.

10. Additional territory was liberated in the Province of RAVENNA, and the capital of the Province was captured on 5 December.

11. Patriots in FORLI Province either returned to their normal occupations or accepted work with the Army in labour squads. In RAVENNA Province about 800 Patriots were employed in an operational role and the majority were reported to be first class men doing fine work.

12. The/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

12. The attitude of the civilians towards the Allies is satisfactory. Anti-looting patrols established by the Army in RAVENNA, FORLI and FAENZA have proved effective and a noticeable improvement in the attitude of the people has resulted.

13. There was a stronger undercurrent of political feeling in the area than has been encountered hitherto. It came to the surface soon after a speech in ROME by Signor BONOMI, which was interpreted by the Committees of National Liberation to mean that they were the representatives of the Italian Government in liberated as well as occupied ITALY. It had to be explained to them, very firmly, that this was not the case and that the only government permissible in an army area must necessarily be Allied Military Government. Action taken against the Committees of National Liberation is a matter of some delicacy, as it is liable to be construed as action against the Communist Party, because, although the Committees are composed of all six parties, it is the Communist Party which is best organised, most active and most vocal.

14. The area is almost entirely agricultural and as usual the countryman is in a far better position than the townsman for basic necessities. There is no shortage of grain, and on the whole, despite an acute shortage of oils and fats, the food situation is satisfactory. A serious shortage of fuel, however, particularly in the towns is causing some concern. Sufficient wood is obtainable from local sources in the plain to keep the bakeries going, but supplies for hospitals and domestic purposes are meagre.

15. The health of the people was good, apart from an epidemic of typhoid, which showed a decline.

16. There was no critical evacuation problem in the forward areas, but with the coming of winter the Army's need of quarters was expected to increase and plans to deal with this were in hand. So far these needs have been met without too drastic a disturbance of the inhabitants. Evacuation of inhabitants was, however, necessary.

17. Of the larger towns, RIMINI is the most heavily damaged and the housing problem there is acute.

18. In the Province of RAVENNA, where large areas were flooded by enemy action, work was begun on repairs to breaches in river and canal banks and on the restoration of pumping stations. The flooded areas have already been considerably reduced. In the Province of FORLI the reconstruction of bridges along the major roads was begun and plans made for dealing with minor roads.

19. Throughout the area civilian motor transport is almost non-existent, but every endeavour is being made to recondition such vehicles as have not been removed by the Germans. While the most essential needs were met with W.D. transport, the lack of vehicles is inevitably impeding progress everywhere.

20. Factories have been badly damaged. Those which it was hoped might restart cannot do so until electric power is available. Reactivation was therefore largely confined to brick, cement and limeworks.

SICILIA REGION.

21. General conditions in SICILY during December were very unsettled. Although the heads of the political parties attempted to arouse interest in the war effort, the majority of the population were non-political; the people are interested in the outcome of the war but primarily from a personal point of view. However, lack

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22. With the/....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

22. With the exception of one large meeting held at ALGHERO, the Separatist Party was apparently inactive and the leaders of the movement attempted to clear themselves of any connection with the riots. It has, however, been reported that propaganda was continued clandestinely, particularly against the call-up.

23. In addition to a slightly critical attitude toward the Allies, there were increased signs of fascist sentiments. This was particularly noticeable at the time of, and after, the enemy offensives on the Western and Italian fronts.

24. Public officials continued to show uncertainty of their position, lack of confidence and general administrative inefficiency. The High Commissioner showed additional authority as a result of the proposed grant of increased power to the local administration and after the incident at CATANIA the Central Government quickly replaced the Prefect and transferred the Questore.

25. The crisis in the food situation was averted by the arrival of grain shipments totalling 12,000 tons wheat and 6,000 tons barley. In local trade there was a continuous upward trend of prices and the poor classes in the towns suffered considerably on this account. The total amount of olive oil harvested to-date was 4,386 quintals, which was insufficient to meet the December ration and accordingly this amount was reserved for hospitals.

26. The amount of grain guessed increased slightly as a result of the High Commissioner making provisions to collect one half of the legal per capita retention. Exports from the Island consisted of a cargo of 4,000 tons of wine, citrus fruits and salted fish sent to the continent and 165,800 cases of lemons and 130 tons of argols sent to England.

27. The work of reconstruction made very little progress due primarily to the lack of materials. The rainfall relieved the shortage of electrical power by refilling hydro electric reservoirs. Railroads operated satisfactorily but were restricted by the inadequate coal allotment and the need for additional cars while road transportation deteriorated because of the scarcity of spare parts and tyres. Scarcely any progress was made on new telephone installations for lack of materials, and services are only about 50% completed. Telegraphic services were almost normal and the mail service continued to operate satisfactorily.

28. The health of the people was good generally but the early and severe winter combined with the lack of clothing and shelter caused considerable suffering. The rate of infectious diseases decreased.

29. Schools in the two remaining provinces were reopened, after a delay caused by a threatened smallpox epidemic. A few school buildings were released, but many were still occupied by Allied and especially Italian military and governmental agencies.

30. The number of refugees in SICILY was 3,721. Their standard of health was low and there was considerable suffering among them for lack of clothing. 911

SOUTHERN REGION.

31. The end of the cabinet crisis, though it had never roused violent feelings in Southern ITALY, was welcomed and removed the deadlock which had prevented the appointment of a Sindaco for the City of NAPLES.

32. The distribution of the bread ration was maintained throughout the month, although stocks at NAPLES sometimes reached a dangerously low level. The pasta ration was generally maintained, but fell behindhand at TARANTO and elsewhere due [illegible] distributed.

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33. The olive crop was fair to good. With the withdrawal early in the month of the olive oil officers borrowed from convalescent depots, collection of olive oil fell to a low level. The orange crop promises well.

34. Heavy rain early in the month caused several road and rail breaks in CALABRIA and BASILICATA. Floods also caused breaks in the power line between SILA hydro-electric stations and BARI and repairs were hampered by snow.

35. Trans/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785621

35. Transportation continued to be the touchstone of all SOUTHERN Region problems. Small deliveries of tyres were obtained from ROME, but they met only the smallest proportion of the needs.

36. The labour situation was uneasy throughout the month. There were sporadic strikes caused by the question of adjustment of salaries and wages and by difficult living conditions, and at the end of the month there was a threat of a widespread strike of statal and parastatal employees at BARI. Generally speaking, hardship and discontent were more prevalent among professional men and clerical staffs than among the labourers or shopkeepers. Competent Italian authorities estimate that many of the professional classes are keeping themselves alive only by selling their household goods.

37. The opening of AMG Courts in BARI and BITONTO, chiefly to deal with thefts from the large British ammunition depot, was a great success: the thefts declined rapidly and local Italian Courts received a powerful stimulus. Work in the NAPLES AMG Courts continued to be heavy.

38. Public health remained good. There was a worrying flare-up of smallpox at BENEVENTO, chiefly serious because of the proximity of troops. It was however of a mild type, there were few deaths and preventive measures were taken.

39. Armed bands of deserters are still terrorising the country side - usually Italians in stolen Allied uniforms - though to a decreasing extent owing to the energetic measures taken against deserter groups by the Allied Military authorities.

LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION.

40. The activity of political parties was less obvious during the month, and took the form of consolidating initial advantages and smoothing mistakes.

41. In ROME the only imported food stuff in general distribution was canned meat. Other imported items such as dried vegetables, dehydrated soup, sugar and evaporated milk were distributed mainly to school children, hospitals, etc. 523,245 people received these special distributions.

42. The electric rationing scheme proved satisfactory, and improved distribution with a slight increase in power supply should further ease the situation.

43. Though crime is still a serious problem there was a slight improvement. There were a number of armed hold-ups in isolated areas but nothing to indicate the work of well organised gangs.

44. Italian courts still functioned extremely slowly and the prison load remained heavy. The Higher courts, however, particularly the High Court for Sanctions against Fascism, worked hard and efficiently.

45. Parties and distribution of Christmas parcels were organized for 24,000 children affected by the war.

46. No action was taken either regarding damaged schools or releasing schools now being used for other purposes. The uncooperative attitude of the Italian authorities in this matter has been the subject of strong representation to the Italian Government. Schools will probably have to close in PERUGIA and TERNI in the cold weather because of lack of glass and all heating facilities.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778521

rapidly and local Italian Courts received a powerful stimulus. Work in the NAPLES AMG Courts continued to be heavy.

38. Public health remained good. There was a worrying flare-up of smallpox at BENEVENTO, chiefly serious because of the proximity of troops. It was however of a mild type, there were few deaths and preventive measures were taken.

39. Armed bands of deserters are still terrorising the country side - usually Italians in stolen Allied uniforms - though to a decreasing extent owing to the energetic measures taken against deserter groups by the Allied Military authorities.

LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION.

40. The activity of political parties was less obvious during the month, and took the form of consolidating initial advantages and smoothing mistakes.

41. In ROME the only imported food stuff in general distribution was canned meat. Other imported items such as dried vegetables, dehydrated soup, sugar and evaporated milk were distributed mainly to school children, hospitals, etc. 523,245 people received these special distributions.

42. The electric rationing scheme proved satisfactory, and improved distribution with a slight increase in power supply should further ease the situation.

43. Though crime is still a serious problem there was a slight improvement. There were a number of armed hold-ups in isolated areas but nothing to indicate the work of well organised gangs.

44. Italian courts still functioned extremely slowly and the prison load remained heavy. The Higher courts, however, particularly the High Court for Sanctions against Fascism, worked hard and efficiently.

45. Parties and distribution of Christmas parcels were organized for 24,000 children affected by the war.

46. No action was taken either regarding damaged schools or releasing schools now being used for other purposes. The uncooperative attitude of the Italian authorities in this matter has been the subject of strong representation to the Italian Government. Schools will probably have to close in PERUGIA and TERNI in the cold weather because of lack of glass and all heating facilities.

47. Italian refugee camps in ROME were overcrowded due to a large number of refugees from the North, and from the devastated areas, who cannot return to their homes. New centres have, however, been opened in the Provinces of LITTORIA and FROSINONE and refugees from these Provinces now in ROME centres will start moving on 1 January 1945.

48. Black market was still rife and there was no shortage for anyone who could pay the price. Discussions with representatives of the Merchant Associations were held to control black market activity.

ABRUZZI/.....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

ABRUZZI-MARCHE REGION.

49. Although on the surface all seemed quiet on the political front there was an ever-present activity underneath. While the more cultured and intellectual heads of other parties talked ways and means among themselves, the active Communist leaders showed greater aggressiveness by doing the work necessary to getting additional members and votes for their party, should the popular elections announced for the coming spring be eventually held.

50. The bulk of the population was more concerned with the food situation as it affected them. They cannot understand why the promised 300 gram bread ration is not forthcoming, particularly in those surplus producing provinces which ship grain to areas receiving 300 grams, while they, the producers of apparent plenty, are allowed only 200 grams.

51. The provision of an organised truck company has greatly eased the supply situation. This company is being used in the distribution of grain from the surplus provinces to deficient areas and to the railhead at JESI for shipment to southern ITALY.

52. ABRUZZI-MARCHE Region has now reached 107% of the target set for the collection of grain of the 1944 crop. A substantial amount more is expected to be collected.

53. The collection of potatoes was very poor due to the big difference in prices obtained by the grower and the retailer in ROME and the much higher prices given to growers in the NAPLES area.

54. Olive Oil amassing was very unsatisfactory and, with the exception of the Province of TERAMO, practically none came in. The larger producers had more confidence in the value of the oil than in Italian money and were therefore hoarding it.

55. All provinces now have organised labour offices. Due to the large number of troops billeted in the Region, there was no unemployment problem but the Camera del Lavoro, organized on political lines, caused trouble with labour, particularly in ANCONA Province.

56. Progress was made in repair work on military and other roads, though it was hampered by lack of transport.

57. Good progress wasmade in work on all electrical projects.

58. The black market increased considerably with the cold weather and shortage of essential foodstuffs.

59. 90.200 mines of various types were removed during December by the Mine Clearance Coy in CHIETI Province but the work was hindered through lack of transport.

SARDEGNA REGION

60. The month was reasonably quiet on the surface, but there were signs of turbulence in the increased number of lesser crimes.

61. The Autonomy Decree, which was delayed by the Italian Government crisis,

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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61. The Autonomy Decree, which was delayed by the Italian Government crisis, was the focal point of the month in Sardinia. Full details are awaited but according to information available the High Commissioner will have increased powers and will not only coordinate but also direct all authorities except the Armed Forces and State Tax Legislation which will be controlled by the Central Government. A Bank of Sardinia is to be formed with an opening fund of 150 million lire and special provision is being made for the development of mining.

62. As special conditions exist in SARDINIA, powers to fix local prices, etc., should be beneficial and, provided control is kept over shipping, such powers should not have disturbing effects on other Regions.

63. The Granai...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

63. The Grand del Popolo figure for grain now totals over 303.000 quintals so the modified goal of 300.000 quintals set four months ago was reached and passed. Some grain is still coming in but the harvest is virtually collected.

64. The olive oil crop was exceptionally good, though it is still uncertain whether the olive oil will be successfully collected. The Press and Radio campaign was pushed forward vigorously and all possible pressure brought to bear to attain this object.

65. Meat prices were down to a reasonably low figure, the seasonal stock of lambs were available at below 60 lire a kilo (without the Italian Government tax) and there was no black market for the moment in this commodity. Shipping difficulties, unfortunately, made the scheme for the export of lambs to ROME impracticable.

66. During December there were 11 murders as against the monthly average of 5 and 36 cases of armed robbery as against the normal 25. Concern is felt because the robber bands were evidently better armed than usual. They aquired or stole weapons and ammunition from all the different armed forces that were in the Island and their activities were most disquieting.

67. Over 300 prisoners at ASINARA Penal Settlement and 25 at ISILI Penal Settlement finished their sentences. Arrangements were being made for 50 or 60 to return to home communes in liberated Italy, work can be found for 15 more in SASSARI and another 10 in the mines.

68. The Italian Army in SARDINIA has now been greatly reduced and troops remaining in the Island, including Services, numbered less than 10.000.

69. Steady exports of paint pigment, coloured earth, cork, salt and fireclay continued. Salt stocks totalled over 1.000.000 tons.

70. SARDINIAN coal production remained at about 40.000 tons for December. It is estimated that production can be raised to 55.000 tons a month with means now in sight, but additional miners will be required to attain the 70.000 figure needed to fulfill military needs.

71. A regular semi-monthly steamer service began between SARDINIA and the mainland, taking up to 300 passengers and 1.000 tons of cargo on each trip.

72. The drought which had a serious effect on the CAGLIARI water supply ended on Christmas Day. On Christmas Eve the reservoirs held little more than 100.000 tons of water; by 31 December the total had risen to over 2.000.000 tons. The water situation is, therefore, secure until Febraury when heavy rainfall is again normally to be expected.

73. Mine sweeping operations in CAGLIARI Bay were carried out and were enlivened by the presence of a U.S. Navy blimp.

TOSCANA REGION.

74. Conditions in TOSCANA Region for December were on the whole an improvement on those for November, particularly in regard to local government, food and wages.

75. The new Prefects in AREZZO and GROSSETO made a very favourable start and the

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75. The new Prefects in AREZZO and GROSSETO made a very favourable start and the local government situation in those Provinces improved.

76. A general distribution of olive oil and sugar to the population increased food for midshift meals for PBS civilian employees and the granting of a definite allowance for a noon meal for AMG civilian employees were all favourable factors.

77. The increase in wages for employees of PBS became effective 16 December, and of FIFTH ARMY 1 January 1945. The delay in the increased wages for provincial and communal employees becoming effective was unfortunate as the Italians believed that the Allies were preventing them from obtaining this much needed increase.

78. Successful action..

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

78. Successful action was taken against counterfeiters and masked bandits operating in SIENA Province. At least five members of a counterfeiting gang that had made and distributed about 7,000,000 lire of counterfeit money were arrested in ROME and several counterfeiting plates discovered.

79. The situation in LIVORNO improved due to increased wages, more food and a more active police force.

80. The Island of ELBA passed to Regional control on 20 December and is now administered by LIVORNO Province.

81. In most provincial capitals troops and other Allied personnel provided Christmas parties for Italian children - a gesture which was greatly appreciated by the people.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

909

PART II

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Defascism.

1. 125 "central" hearing tribunals were formed and another 44 should be formed shortly. Of the "Provincial" Commissions only one, ROME, is actually working, though 8 are being set up. 40 more, however, without taking North ITALY into account, will have to be found. One of the chief problems is lack of judges. So many have already been taken for this purpose that the administration of ordinary justice has been affected and the Ministry of Justice objects to releasing more. The possibility of using experienced advocates for this work is being considered

2. The preliminary investigations of the first four grades of civil servants was completed in ten out of the thirteen Ministries by 30 December. In the remaining Ministries the Prime Minister used his power to retire all those officials whose cases had not been investigated by that date, and will subsequently withdraw the orders for retirement in those cases where the completion of the investigation shows there was no guilt. These investigations should be completed by 15 January

3. The time limit for the completion of the preliminary investigation in all other cases was 28 January. As these investigations could not be completed by that date a decree was issued extending this time by one month for cases to be dealt with centrally and by three months for those to be dealt with provincially.

4. The preliminary investigations to date resulted in 16,500 persons being committed for hearing. This is estimated to contain 60% of the first four grades, 20% of the middle grades and only 1% of the lowest grades.

5. Nearly 1,900 of those committed for trial were suspended previously by the High Commission as their fascism was so notorious that their retention was detrimental. 2,900 officials were suspended at the request of other than the High Commission, including a large proportion by AC officers. By present standards many of those would not have been suspended and will probably be reinstated after trial.

6, 3,600 cases of the 16,500 have already been heard and 600 dismissed, 1,500 given a lesser punishment and 1,500 acquitted. Most of those acquitted were suspended by AC officers in the early days.

7. The High Commissioner lodged over 200 appeals against these decisions.

Mine Clearance.

8. Good progress was made in mine clearance but was handicapped by short go of equipment and transport.

9. The uniformed are engaged in mine clearance in liberated ITALY:

(a) Tactical

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Mine Clearance.

8. Good progress was made in mine clearance but was handicapped by shortage of equipment and transport.

9. The undermentioned are engaged in mine clearance in liberated ITALY:

(a) Trained:

561 Italian Mine Clearance Company	Str	209
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Civilian crusade, trained and working	Str	307
		725

(b) Under Training:

Civilians	Str	160
Total Personnel		885

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

10. The 561 Company was working at CHIETI where the terrain is difficult. Most of the buildings were demolished and the ruins mined. Work was necessarily slow and the number of mines removed smaller than in minefields.

11. The 562 Company was working in and around PESCARA and CHIETI. The area is a vast mine belt containing many thousands of mines.

12. Civilian squads were working at PISA Province, LUCCA, LIVORNO, PISTOIA, PERUGIA, TERNI CHIETI, ORTONA, VIAREGGIO and FLORENCE.

13. Centres of Instruction were opened at PISTOIA and VITERBO. The centres of instruction at CHIETI, SPOLETO and TERRACINA continued to train workers and the centres of instruction at PISA and LUCCA will shortly be holding further courses.

14. A total of 114,311 mines were removed in all areas during the month.

Devastated Areas.

15. A C.R. Company was temporarily allotted to augment existing transport in the devastated areas, and with this assistance, many tons of clothing brought to the country under the auspices of National Agency for the Distribution of Relief in Italy, and 4,000 blankets from Allied Military sources, were distributed.

16. The housing decree, published in the Gazzetta Ufficiale of 12 December, provided assistance for individuals to rebuild damaged buildings, and coal was allotted to enable cement works in the neighbourhood of PESCARA to resume work.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMMISSION.

17. The problem of the Sindaco of NAPLES was satisfactorily solved by the appointment of Avv. Gennaro PERNORIELLO, who took up office on 8 January. He was assured of the unanimous support of the Comitato di Liberazione, and will begin functioning with a Vice-Sindaco and a Giunta of fourteen members.

18. In PALERMO Province Prefect D'ANTONI was replaced by Dr. BATTIATI, a career official. When the change was made the Ministry stated that it had been necessary due to recent disturbances.

19. A substitute for Prefect GIUFFRIDA of CATANIA had to be found as he proved incapable of meeting the situation during the recent incidents. The Ministry of Interior sent Prefect VIRELLI to take over office temporarily, but has since asked formally for him to be appointed Prefect.

20. In view of the possible shortage of senior officials for the administration of Northern Provinces the Ministry of Interior agreed to promote a number of younger officials. It was proposed to the Ministry that a "pool" of junior officials be formed to meet first demands in newly liberated Provinces.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION.

21. The most important feature of December was the disturbance in SICILY largely due to the military call-up. Protest demonstrations, the first of which occurred in PALERMO on 11 December, rapidly spread to other cities and towns and became so serious that Italian Military Units had to be called in by

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22. The Ministry of War agreed to place at the disposal of Carabinieri in SICILY, two cars, 24 trucks and 24 armoured vehicles for two mobile battalions, each of 500 Carabinieri. The vehicles were expected to be in service on the Island early in January 1945.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

23. On 22 December a raid by the Carabinieri in the Southern section of ROME resulted in the seizure of a considerable amount of firearms, grenades, ammunition and one radio transmitting set. 175 persons were detained for investigation, 24 of whom were arrested. Prosecution of 27 others is expected.

24. Armed robberies and banditry occurred in some areas but suitable action was taken.

25. The morale of police agencies improved further, but they still lack equipment, particularly motor transport, and are frequently faced with delinquents who are well equipped with both transport and arms.

26. The black market continued a major problem, with prices still on the upward trend. No cooperation was received from the populace who buy whatever possible at any price.

27. The trials of Major General DEL TETTO and Lieut. General [illegible] held in the High Court of Justice, ROME, took place without incident. The defendants were sentenced to 20 years imprisonment each. This trial was a preliminary to the larger issues involved in the forthcoming prosecution of General KESSELRING and 13 others on 22 January.

28. An enemy agent named FONTANA was dropped by parachute in the Province of MESSINA, SICILY on 30 December and arrested.

29. Efforts were made to re-establish the central registry of criminal records which was destroyed by the Fascists and Germans.

PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION.

30. Two cases of typhus were reported from the outskirts of NAPLES during the month. Demonstration on typhus control measures were held in ROME for the Province of LATIO-UMBRIA Region, and the Typhus Demonstration Unit began a tour of TOSCANA Region and Fifth Army area. Disinfestation of the Regina Coeli prison in ROME began and incoming refugees and refugee camps were disinfected.

31. The Italian Government released material and equipment for anti-malaria work for 1945 and Rockefeller Foundation and UNRRA promised assistance for the coming year's anti-malarial programme.

32. The infant mortality figure for November was 100.2 and not 134.9 as previously stated.

33. The ROME Institute of Public Health produced vaccine for the protection of cattle against brucellosis in addition to anthrax vaccine. The ROME Veterinary Laboratory produced vaccine against foot and mouth disease. There was little rabies in the country except in PERUGIA Province where active measures were taken to eradicate it.

34. ANDIMA, the Italian Agency for distributing medical supplies, was not successful during the first month of operation, and distribution of supplies was badly held up. Corrective measures were taken.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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35. The Medical Supply Branch with the cooperation of the Industry Sub-Commission put 4 pharmaceutical firms and 3 biological firms into partial production during the past year. Penicillin was given to two biological firms and in due course small quantities of this drug should be available for use.

36. The Welfare Branch distributed food and clothing to the devastated areas and helped American Relief for Italy Inc. in the handling of 1,500 tons of clothing. It was arranged that discarded clothing and shoes from naval and military sources will in future be distributed to the needy.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION.

37. Additional Italian judges are required for the increased number of Italian criminal cases and cases involving Allied interests, and for the epuration committees. Judges who have themselves been epurated will have to be replaced.

38. A new directive was prepared with the Office for Publication of Laws of the Ministry of Justice on the implementation of Italian legislation in Military Government Territory.

39. The extent of the jurisdiction of the Epuration Commission over Italian Judges serving in colonies administered by British Military authorities was examined.

40. Allied Military Courts in BARI Zone operated effectively and a directive on Italian law applicable to theft or damage to ammunition and other war stores was distributed.

41. Three death sentences for espionage were imposed and submitted for confirmation.

EDUCATION SUB-COMMISSION.

42. Paper, inks, etc. for printing and binding arrived from the UNITED STATES and 950,000 defascized elementary text books have been printed to date and distributed.

43. By using make-shift buildings and double sessions most of the children in Liberated ITALY can now get to school.

44. The need for building material especially glass, was acute. School superintendents were authorised to close schools during severe weather and carry on into next summer to make up lost time. No progress was reported in ROME in repairing and disinfecting schools, 92 of which remained closed as a result. Elsewhere much more energy and ingenuity were used and buildings were either sufficiently repaired to function (usually without glass) or alternative locations were found.

45. SAN MARINO Republic asked for help in opening schools. A survey was made and preliminary steps taken to this end.

MONUMENTS, FINE ARTS & ARCHIVES SUB-COMMISSION.

46. In ROME the Exhibition of Masterpieces of European Painting was again extended and will remain open throughout the month of January. There were 23,000 visitors during the month of December. The National Gallery of Modern Art was opened to the public.

47. On 22 December during a violent windstorm areas of the 14th century frescoes by the Sienese artist BARNA collapsed in the Collegiata at SAN GIMIGNANO. The plaster on which they were painted covered the bricked-in windows of the Romanesque church. These fill-ins were apparently weakened during the German bombardments of the town and the windstorm completed the

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48. Excellent cooperation with the Eighth Army was achieved in protecting the world-famous early monuments in RAVENNA and a local committee was formed to help in the repair projects necessary. All the great basilica were virtually intact, and only two monuments of highest importance received severe damage: S. GIOVANNI EVANGELISTA and S. MARIA IN PORTO FUORI.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 776021

49. Three important reports on the location of movable works of art were transmitted to WASHINGTON and LONDON during the month. The first concerned the treasures placed in deposits in TUSCANY; the second, those in the deposit of LAZIO, and the third the present location of the objects shown in the MUSEO NAZ. D'OLTREMARE at NAPLES in 1940.

50. A documented report was received from Prof. PASOLI of the Ufficio in FIRENZE concerning the objects removed from the Tuscan deposits by the Germans.

51. CHIUSI was visited in order to inspect the damaged museum and important fragments of Etruscan pottery were brought to ROME for repair.

DISPLACED PERSONS & REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION.

52. By 4 December 4 790 Yugoslavs had been repatriated to YUGOSLAVIA. Subsequent moves were cancelled by the Yugoslave Government due to lack of accommodation and food in YUGOSLAVIA. 1,400 now await repatriation.

53. Camp Commanders and their staffs organised Christmas and New Year festivities for all refugees in Allied national camps, which were greatly appreciated.

54. There was less illness and epidemics of infectious diseases subsided, though a few cases of chicken pox were reported.

55. 5,000 Italian refugees were repatriated to the south from Army areas. Good work was done by the UNRRA team loaned to assist at PORT AUGUSTA Italian refugee camp, near ROME.

56. The Banca d'Italia was authorised to advance the total sum of 12,100,000 lire. 5,000 displaced persons benefited from these advances. The average payment authorised was, to a householder 3,950 lire, and to others 2,440 lire.

57. One of the more important agencies distributing equipment and clothing to the needy in ITALY was American Relief for Italy Inc., which worked in liaison with HQ Allied Commission. Shiploads of supplies from the UNITED STATES arrived and considerable amounts of food and clothing was and will be distributed.

58. The fact that clothing reached many communes before the snows in high altitudes had a good moral effect.

59. The Vatican ship from BARCELONA discharged 197 tons of food supplies including coffee, sugar, tea etc. This will be railed to ROME.

60. The last relief ship on present schedule is discharging at NAPLES.

61. High priority was obtained for a further ship to leave NEW YORK 806 the end of January with 1,400 tons mixed cargo on board including 50 trucks for E.N.D.S.I. (Ente Nazionale Distribuzione Soccorsi in Italia).

PATRIOTS BRANCH.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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PATRIOTS BRANCH.

62. Sufficient quantities of equipment and clothing are in hand to meet immediate requirements and requests from Fifth and Eighth Armies showed that the Reception Centres were working smoothly. There were approximately 900 patriots in the Centres under Fifth Army control and less than 500 in the centre under Eighth Army control.

63. A Recruiting Agency was sent to Fifth Army area and, in addition, one resident Recruiting Officer was located at each Patriot Centre. There was a considerable increase in the numbers volunteering for the Italian Army.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

PART III

ECONOMIC SECTION

AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION

1. The Sub Commission continued to work closely with the Ministry of Agriculture and officials on the development of an over-all agricultural program for Italy. Some personnel changes took place within the Ministry which should improve the operation and administration of its technical branch.

2. The movement of wheat seed was completed in Central and Southern Italy and a high percentage - 98% in LAZIO-UMBRIA Region - of wheat seed requirements were met. 1027 tons of seed potatoes were moved from AVEZZANO to SICILY though this was only 20% of the estimated requirements. Some potatoes were sent to APULIA, but the quantity will be far short of the minimum requirements.

3. The estimate of agriculture, forestry and fishery import requirements prepared jointly by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture and the Agriculture Sub Commission was completed and submitted to the Economic Section on the 30 December 1944. It covered a period of 18 months broken down into units of six months. The principal items were for agriculture -- fertilizers, pesticides, farm power and machinery; for fisheries -- thread for nets, cables, tin and marine power; for forestry, saws, axes and saw mill requirements. The estimated landed cost of the imports is 37 million dollars.

4. The movement of surplus citrus fruit from SICILY to Central Italy continued with promise of quantities being available for areas other than ROME.

5. By the end of December, 89% of the estimated wheat collection for liberated Italy had been delivered to the "Granai del Popolo".

6. The olive oil amassing was most unsatisfactory. By the end of the month only 101,547 quintali had been amassed in liberated Italy compared with 353,610 quintali at the same date in 1942-43. In view of this serious position the Minister of Agriculture asked the Allied Commission for active assistance in the amassing program. The Allied Commission undertook to supply 60 officers with transportation to assist the Italian Government in its oil amassing program. These will commence operations in January.

7. By a Decree dated 2 December 1944, 500 million lire were appropriated for the repair and reconstruction of war-damaged public reclamation areas.

COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION

8. December was a month of handing over to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour, and coaching Ministry personnel in the work of freezing, releasing, and preparing availability reports of controlled materials.

9. The Italian Press Commission was unable, on account of lack of warehouse space, to take over the control of newsprint stocks, and the transfer of control was therefore deferred until January. Imports of newsprint were at a bare minimum, and stocks will only cover requirements up to February 1st.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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10. The Ufficio Provinciale del Commercio e dell'Industria of Naples assumed supervision of the repair of salvaged army boots in Southern Region, but was unable to take over supervision of the repairing and dyeing of salvaged army clothing, owing to the lack of transport and warehousing facilities. The Sub-Commission therefore set up the necessary organization, using AFA funds. Six factories were put into operation for repairing clothing, contracts were placed for dyeing, eight warehouses were requisitioned, and the necessary supplies of dye, thread, needles and pins were obtained. Production at the rate of 2,000 garments a day commenced, and has already been increased.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

11. Shipments for exports during the month totalled 8,445 tons, valued at 65 ½ million lire, whilst a further 8, 755 tons were at the ports, awaiting shipment at the end of the month. The shipping situation remained difficult, and much of the above material was lying at the ports for some time; a further 4,873 tons was called forward to the ports for January. Total exports since the Allied occupation have now passed the one milliard lire mark.

12. Shipments of lemons to U.K. during this season now total 13,319 tons. Further purchases were suspended whilst the question of freight rates on timber for lemon boxes was under consideration.

13. Difficulty in moving mainland stocks greatly affected the chances of exporting sulphur to any extent during the first half of 1945, only 10,000 tons being available against total Mediterranean requirements, excluding Italy, of 26,000 tons.

14. 2,100 kilos of silk stolen at NAPLES in October 1944 was recovered; a survey of ANCONA region disclosed 6 filatures in good working condition and 12,000 kilos of dried cocoons rescued, with a possibility of amassing a further 20,000 kilos.

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION

15. The Italian Government's Financial Mission to the United States continued its discussions with the U.S. Treasury Department during December. The Mission made a number of technical proposals dealing with the provision of lire to the Allied Forces, accounting for imported supplies, and further dollar credits, but the Treasury had, at the end of December, made no reply to such proposals.

16. During December it was felt that the time was appropriate to discuss formally and on a broad basis with the Italian Government the question of Italy's foreign exchange position and policies. Informal conversations had been carried on with the Minister of the Treasury for several months, but without any positive action. The Minister appeared to favour the retention of Istcambi, while the Finance Sub-Commission recommended that the necessary executive organisation be established within the Banca d'Italia. In order to bring the problem to the attention of the President of the Council of Ministers and to stress that it was a matter of national importance, involving several Ministries, the views of the Finance Sub-Commission were embodied in a letter sent to H.E. Ivanoe Bonomi by the Chief Commissioner. At the same time, a letter was addressed to the Minister of the Treasury, outlining the immediate tasks that will confront the new exchange control organisation.

17. On 23 December 1944 the Minister of the Treasury made his third budget statement. In this lengthy document, not all of which was made public, he estimated that the total budgetary deficit may approach 150 billion lire for the fiscal year 1944-45.

18. Pursuant to authority received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, the Minister of the Treasury was informed that the estimated aggregate amount of AM lire in the hands of banks and the public in Italy at the end of October 1944 was 44 billion lire. Of this amount 6 billion lire was issued through the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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19. In implementation of the statement by the President of the United States on 10 October 1944, and pursuant to instructions received through the U.S. State Department, the President of the Council of Ministers was informed that the amount of dollars corresponding to the amount of lire paid to civilians by American troops in Italy out of their pay was estimated to be in excess of one hundred million dollars.

20. The excess of purchases over redemptions of all Italian Government bonds was 2,405 lire in November. This figure compares with a monthly average of 1,875 million lire for the previous four months of the current fiscal year.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

21. The new major tax revision decrees were published during December, and work on a number of less important taxes proceeded.

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION

22. Despite the cessation of the general issues of miscellaneous commodities in urban centres, the general supply situation during December was reasonably satisfactory, because greater supplies of local produce came on to the market for the Christmas period.

23. In areas where local produce was not available, however, grave feeding problems arise, as for instance in LIVORNO Province (in which lies the important port of LEGHORN). Here, to deal with the problem a concession was made, and supplies of pasta, soup and dried vegetables were authorised to enable a soup meal to be served to workers in addition to the present midshift meal authorised for heavy workers employed by the Allied Forces.

24. Another instance was the over-stocked areas which have no local resources to supplement the basic ration. There are about 200,000 roofless persons in these areas concentrated over six provinces and special provision for their feeding was made.

25. Stocks of local grain at the end of the month were satisfactory (487,000 tons in all), but were concentrated largely in Central Italy. In South ITALY and the Islands the grain from last year's harvest is practically exhausted and these regions have now to be fed almost entirely upon imported grain. The irregularities in the arrival of coastal ships continued, thereby causing near-crises in the bread supply of several regions in the South, and emergency adjustments had to be made. The ROME grain situation, however, improved, and at 31 December there was a 25 days supply in the city, the highest since the occupation.

26. Imports for the month showed an improvement over November, but as these included considerable quantities which are to be stockpiled for eventual use in Northern ITALY when liberated, there were no greater amounts available for general distribution.

27. Early reports of the results of the cropping of the new olive oil crop were disappointing. Pending a fuller report of the ration possibilities for 1945, authority was given to issue three decilitres a head for December. The quantities required for ROME and NAPLES were distributed from the stocks of old crop oil.

28. Progress was at last made in attempts to persuade an Italian Government organisation to take over complete control of food questions in liberated ITALY. A High Commissioner of Food with direct access to the Cabinet was appointed and started to organise his Department.

29. During the period 26 November to 30 December approximately 17,000 tons of non-rationed food was brought into the ROME market, i.e. an average of 500 tons a day. 1,500 tons of common wine also arrived. Larger boats (Coasters or Liberties) with both citrus fruits and common wine now arrive regularly.

[illegible]-SUB-COMMISSION

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION

30. During December assistance was given to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour in preparing a programme of Essential Imports for the Industrial rehabilitation of ITALY.

31. Further assistance was given to the Soda Solvay Works at ROSIGNANO, which when running, can produce all the caustic soda and sodium carbonate needed for the whole of ITALY, thus making importation unnecessary, and enabling industries dependent on these products to start functioning.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

32. Industrial gases and calcium carbide manufacture received considerable assistance. Given the necessary electric power, TERNI should soon produce 600 tons of calcium carbide monthly.

33. The PERUGIA match plant which closed down owing to lack of power, is to start producing again, thus relieving the critical situation in matches.

34. Food processing was transferred during the month from Food to Industry Sub-Commission, and surveys of sugar beet processing plants were pushed forward vigorously. It is hoped to produce substantial quantities of sugar by Autumn 1945.

35. Soap production continued but was hindered by the transport difficulties of moving sulphur oil to the factories.

36. Map paper for the British Army will be produced at FABRIANO (ANCONA) to AFHQ Survey Director's specifications; all arrangements are in hand and 100 tons will be produced a month. Newsprint and 'standard' paper were produced under A.C. supervision at four mills.

37. Sardinian coal mining caused concern due to lack of labour and transport.

38. Superphosphate Fertilisers were produced at four plants, two more will start operating almost at once, and three more will follow early in 1945. Copper sulphate production will start shortly at BAGNOLI on delivery of copper and brass military scrap and of copper matte from SARDINIA.

39. Hemp production continued and 1,200 tons were pooled during the month. Power for hemp was available, but transportation thefts and contraband activities reached considerable proportions.

40. The TORRESPACCATA Plant of PIRELLI is now ready to reclaim rubber for manufacture of tyres, soles and heels, and automobile accessories. Efforts were made to obtain derequisition from the British Army of the PIRELLI ROME Plant for the manufacture of soles and heels and other articles.

LABOUR SUB-COMMISSION

41. The labour situation was fairly satisfactory and there were few serious disturbances.

42. Due to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour's drastic budget cut many activities of the Labour Offices in Italian Government territory will be curtailed.

43. Several industries and trades, including the sulphur mines, were investigated.

44. The Sub-Commission drafted a standard provision to be incorporated in all contracts between Allied Armed Forces and private Italian contractors governing the payment of wages and social benefits to contractor's employees. The standard provision was approved by Allied Forces Local Resources Board and is now being published by AFHQ. It protected the Armed Forces against overcharges for

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PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES SUB-COMMISSION

45. The number of qualified and experienced Italian engineers was still far below requirements for the vast repair and reconstruction programmes before the Government. Salaries offered were deplorably inadequate, often below the wage of a semi-skilled workman. Successive Ministers have failed to improve matters and an individual was asked to hold at times more than one

one/appointment

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

appointment drawing a double or triple salary. Alternatively, fees were paid to whole-time professional men, such as Consulting Engineers, according to plans and estimates prepared. The only judge of these plans is often the man himself and abuses are inevitable. The Minister was warned of these dangers.

46. At the special request of the Chief Engineer, AFHQ, the Allied Commission assumed responsibility for all roads and bridges (Military Lines of Communication) to LEGHORN. Every item of contractors' plant was mobilised. During the month an important conference was held, convened by the Chief Engineer No.I District, which settled organisational details regarding roads and bridges and the further tasks of the Commission. Ten special inspections were made of all military routes between NAPLES, ROME, LEGHORN and FLORENCE. Portable bridges (Bailey type) were removed at six out of seven sites South of ROME and were replaced by more permanent structures. North of ROME reconstruction on 25 large bridges will start shortly.

47. At the end of December the following were in progress:

(a) Projects of Military priority:

	Number	Value (Lire)
Highways	175	590.000.000
Bridges	286	414.000.000

(b) Other Projects(A.C. Responsibility).

Miscellaneous	699	663.000.000

(c) Other Projects(Italian Responsibility).

Miscellaneous	673	871.000.000

(d) Bridges rebuilt to date: 736

(e) Roads under maintenance: 6.000 Km.

48. By the end of December 2.000 Km of transmission lines were restored in Central ITALY and 21.000 Kw of hydro-electric generating plant. A "master-control" station will be established in ROME to regulate output, loading of transmission lines, maintenance of standard voltages and frequencies at a fixed figure (45 cycles). This is a major change of policy, which has never before been attempted in ITALY, involving the "pooling" of resources and the acceptance of unified control. The Electrical Reconstruction Committee approved the change. By June 1945 it is expected that 300.000 Kw of plant will be in operation as opposed to 50.000 Kw in June 1944, though it will still be only one-third of normal requirements. Power allocations in TURIN and ROME areas will not be increased until additional output is available. Insulating materials and transformer parts arrived in small quantities. ROME now has 30% of its normal supply of electricity as against 17% when the City was occupied in June.

903

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

49. The A.C. plans [illegible] rehabilitation and rebuilding ti[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

49. The A.C. played a prominent part in reconstruction and rehabilitation work on twelve major projects in forward rail heads, including the supervision of repair of the rail line from ORTONA to ANCONA. Owing to the semi static conditions on the fronts, the forward railheads remained at CASERTA on the East coast and PISA on the West.

50. The New Works and Contracts Committee, formed jointly of Military Railway Services, Italian State Railways and A.C., satisfactorily settled problems on construction, supply, finance and, to some extent, shortage of freight cars.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

51. There were still no passenger services working North of ROME but additional facilities were provided for civilian railway travel between ROME and CIVITAVECCHIA. A tri-weekly service between ROME and NAPLES will shortly be instituted.

52. Five companies out of a complement of eight in the Italian Truck Bn were fully employed onvarious hauls in the forward areas. Of the remainder one worked in ROME under Transportation Sub-Commission and the other two are not fully formed owing to lack of Italian personnel.

53. Four G.T. Coys. were in operation, two in Army areas and two further to the rear of AMG territory.

54. Negotiations proceeded with the Ente Nazionale Autotrasporti Coso (ENAC), the Italian Governmental agency which will license and issue permits for petrol to all road vehicles concerned in the transportation of goods and passengers. It will also coordinate all road haulage movements. ENAC will not function in AMG territory but transportation is being organised on a similar system to facilitate an easy change over to ENAC when AMG territory is taken over by the Italian Government.

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PART IV

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT SUBCOMMISSIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

1. The most important developments of the month centered around Italian films and introduction of Allied news agencies into the Italian theatre. Approval was given by SACMED to the distribution of news in Rome only by Allied news agencies from January 15 The ban on Italian news agencies was lifted from the same date Approval was also given by SACMED to the establishment of a Temporary Film Board to regulate the Italian film industry and discussions were initiated between AC, PWB and the Italian Government regarding the drafting of a necessary decree

2. The number of Italian correspondents permitted to cover news grew to 62 who were issued official accrediting cards. Twelve neutral correspondents also have these privileges.

3. The work of the Archives Section of the Public Relations Branch made progress in gathering, arranging and collating the records of the Allied Commission preparatory to eventual turning over to official record agencies of the British and American Governments.

NAVY SUBCOMMISSION

4. Cruisers and destroyers of the Italian Navy continued their useful work of transporting troops and stores in the Mediterranean. The work of the dockyards, one of the most important contributions made by the Italians to the Allied war effort, proceeded satisfactorily.

5. The Navy Subcommission requested numerous Allied authorities to supply information regarding benefits to be derived from a greater use of the port of PIOMBINO. It is hoped that the replies received can then be used to formulate instructions to the Ministry of Marine which will assure maximum assistance from the Italian Navy. Present indications are that increased use of PIOMBINO for off loading civilian supplies would greatly relieve the port of LEGHORN.

6. The Ministry of Marine was asked to supply complete information regarding the number of schooners that can be handled by the Italian Navy Port organization at SAN STEFANO.

7. 2000 volunteers were enrolled into the Italian Navy to replace an equivalent number of time-expired men. These were the first volunteers to be accepted since August 1943.

LAND FORCES SUBCOMMISSION (AMMIA)

8. The call-up of the 1914-1924 classes in SICILY began on the 4 December. It caused serious clashes between youths eligible for service and the Italian military authorities. In spite of pressure to postpone the call-up temporarily the War Ministry was instructed to continue and to take severe disciplinary action against those refusing to report.

9. The Allies were supplied with manpower from call-ups and personnel

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778521

initiated between AC, PIB and the Italian Government regarding the drafting of a necessary decree.

2. The number of Italian correspondents permitted to cover news grew to 62 who were issued official accrediting cards. Twelve neutral correspondents also have these privileges.

3. The work of the Archives Section of the Public Relations Branch made progress in gathering, arranging and collating the records of the Allied Commission preparatory to eventual turning over to official record agencies of the British and American Governments.

NAVAL SUBCOMMISSION

4. Cruisers and destroyers of the Italian Navy continued their useful work of transporting troops and stores in the Mediterranean. The work of the dockyards, one of the most important contributions made by the Italians to the Allied war effort, proceeded satisfactorily.

5. The Navy Subcommission requested numerous Allied authorities to supply information regarding benefits to be derived from a greater use of the port of PIOMBINO. It is hoped that the replies received can then be used to formulate instructions to the Ministry of Marine which will assure maximum assistance from the Italian Navy. Present indications are that increased use of PIOMBINO for off loading civilian supplies would greatly relieve the port of LEGHORN.

6. The Ministry of Marine was asked to supply complete information regarding the number of schooners that can be handled by the Italian Navy Port organisation at SAN STEFANO.

7. 2000 volunteers were enrolled into the Italian Navy to replace an equivalent number of time-expired men. These were the first volunteers to be accepted since August 1943.

LAND FORCES SUBCOMMISSION (AMMA)

8. The call-up of the 1914-1924 classes in SICILY began on the 4 December. It caused serious clashes between youths eligible for service and the Italian military authorities. In spite of pressure to postpone the call-up temporarily the War Ministry was instructed to continue and to take severe disciplinary action against those refusing to report.

9. The Allies were supplied with manpower from call-ups and personnel repatriated from the BALKANS and GREECE. Over twenty-one thousand Italian Military were evacuated from GREECE and a considerable proportion of those fit for service was allotted to the Allies, the largest proportion as reinforcements to the Combat Gps and Pack Tpt Coys.

10. The PICENO Gp, originally one of the Combat Gps, was disbanded because of the urgent need for Carabinieri and muleteers due to the poor response to the call-ups and the Allies' demand for muleteer reinforcements.

11. Of the five combat Groups four were engaged in higher training during the month and are ready to move forward. The Fifth Group which was on Internal Security duties in the SOUTH made a good start with individual training.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

12. The Reinforcement Training Centre and Schools for the Combat Force are now situated in CESANO-BRACCIANO area. This centre will deal with about 2,000 trained reinforcements a month and can accommodate 12,000 men. The permanent staff is composed of personnel from the former PICENO Group.

AIR FORCES SUBCOMMISSION

13. The Italian Air Force continued to support the Allied war effort in active operations over the BALKANS. The scale of effort during the month was considerably reduced, partly due to bad weather conditions and partly to the fact that the enemy has withdrawn northwards in the BALKANS and is moving out of range of the Italian Fighter Wing. On 14 days during the month the only flying possible was weather reconnaissances.

14. The number of sorties carried out by the Fighter Wing were considerably reduced for the reasons given above. On the other hand results were satisfactory and enemy transport was damaged or destroyed. The serviceability of fighter aircraft decreased slightly. This was expected because of the intensive nature of the operations carried out during December. A quantity of Daimler-Benz engines and spares for them were discovered in FRANCE and were released for the Italian Air Force by SHAEF.

15. There was little demand for the Seaplane Wing except for Air/Sea Rescue service. Preparation for the use of the seaplanes on the Transport Service continued.

16. Both the Light Bomber Squadrons are now at their operational base and made a satisfactory number of sorties throughout the month. Serviceability remained good.

17. In spite of bad weather conditions, nearly the same number of sorties was carried out by the Bomber Transport Wing during the month as during November. A satisfactory weight of supplies was either carried or dropped, and a number of British and other personnel and equipment evacuated from the BALKANS. The serviceability of the Bomber Transport aircraft remained the same. Tires were the biggest difficulty and unless suitable sizes can be found the aircraft will shortly be grounded. A quantity of engine spares were found in the Middle East and released for the Italian Air Force.

18. The number of sorties carried out by the Courier/Transport Squadron was satisfactory and the service was much used by Government officials who would otherwise have lost much time through inadequate road and rail facilities.

19. The School is now ready to accept pupils and has its full quota of training aircraft and instructors. The first course will start as soon as the pupils arrive, though for the moment there is a surplus of trained crews.

20. The morale of the Italian Air Force remained high. The Fighter Wing was naturally anxious to be moved to a base from which they could again carry on their good work against the enemy.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMISSION

21. Civil telegraph and provincial telephone services were authorized in the additional provinces of ANCONA and PERUGIA.

22. Civil telegraph service from ROME to the South was much improved during the month by the release of circuits from Allied use and by the installation of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

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22. Civil telegraph service from ROME to the South was much improved during the month by the release of circuits from Allied use and by the installation of equipment transferred from SICILY.

23. Many additional telephone exchanges in Military Government territory were opened and many more are practically installed; this is the result of work in progress since July. PISA, MACERATA, TERAMO, MONTECATINI, FLORENCE, LUCCA and PESCARA are among the towns with new services.

24. Long distance telephone services were authorized in all Italian Government territory, except FOGGIA Province.

25. Mail services were extended to the provinces of ANCONA, PERUGIA, SIENA, AREZZO, LIVORNO, FLORENCE, and PISA (the last two up to the R. ARNO only).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778021

26. Censorship was closed in the provinces of FROSINONE, LITTORIA, VITERBO, CHIETI and RIETI, and opened in the provinces newly included in postal services.

WAR MATERIALS & ITALIAN P. W. SUBCOMMISSION

27. In December, 54 derelict vehicles recovered into ROME were inspected. Of this number 12 were returned to Italian War Ministry and 42 were handed over to LAZIO-UMBRIA Region, Transportation Division, for repair and rebuilding.

28. Scrap material was cleared from twenty railway wagons in ROME. Five wagons containing Italian machine gun parts were handed over to the Italian Directorate of Artillery and six wagon loads of factory equipment were despatched direct to interested firms.

29. Vehicles operated by the ROME transport pool are using German tires and it has been decided that they would not be confiscated, but that the Subcommission would issue permits as and when necessary for the use of such tires.

30. Credit balances of repatriated PW totalling 4,400,000 lire were cleared through the Subcommission during December.

31. Allotments made by Italian cooperator PW amounting to 20,000,000 lire were forwarded to the Italian Government for payment.

32. The policy of transferring as much responsibility as possible to the Italian Government on the question of Italian PW was continued.

33. During November and December a total of 20,000 Italian PW and soldiers were repatriated from the BALKANS and FRANCE. A considerable number have been ear-marked to go back into the Italian Army as combat troops after a period of leave.

34. Italian PW in AFRICA continue to receive 6,000 copies of PWB's "Notizie" per day, and the Italian Red Cross have arranged for the supply of suitable books.

35. The plan for the repatriation of half a million Italian PW was being prepared and should be available early in January.

Ellen W. Stone

ELLEN W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

0414