

ACC

10000/146/494

091. 444

INSPECTIONS + INVESTIGATIONS

DEC. 1943 - DEC. 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

Cross Reference Sheet

File: 444
Subject: Visit of Major Pickens to Malta
Date: 8 December 44
To: Economic Section
From: Labr Lfc
Documents Filed: Lsc/43

5395

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

TEL. 489081

REF. 091.444

3 December 1944

SUBJECT: Visit to Malta.

TO : Director AC Labor Sub-Commission.

FROM : Maj. E.J. Scicluna.

Ref above Subject

1. I am led to believe that an Allied Commission Officer is required to take charge of a number of cases with official matter for delivery to the Malta Government. I believe that those cases contain the Library and Archives of a Dr. Carlo Malia who was the leading maltese "quisling" in collaboration with the Fascist Regime. H.E. The Governor is personally interested in the expeditions delivery of this subject matter, which is now at the responsibility of the Repatriation Sub-Commission.

2. In connection with our conversation of a few days ago regarding the possibility of my being able to take a short rest with my family in Malta, may I submit that this might perhaps be an opportunity to justify better my visit to the island. I have been in service since 1 June 1940 and I have only applied for and obtained leave once, for a period of five days. It would be unnecessary for me to draw your attention to the fact that I have been working under same strain for the last three months - without being able to get away from my job even on my day off - but I feel that I must mention the fact that I am badly in need of a short rest.

3. If you are still in accord that I may be spared for approximately a week over the X'mas period, I wish to submit that you put up my name to the proper authorities as the Officer to assume responsibility for the aforementioned assignment.

E. Scicluna maj
EDWARD J. SCICLUNA
Major
Labor Relations Officer

RESTRICTED

Ref. 2444

AND FIFTH ARMY

HQ AG

5959

4 NOV 1944

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

LABOR SUB COMMISSION

RESTRICTED PD

PARA ONE PD REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE FOR TRAVEL TO LIVORNO FIRENZE
LUGGA VIAREGGIO AND VICINITY FOR MAJOR JAMES OBOR BABCOCK AND
SERGEANT CHARLES PETER BORISI PD

FAHREN TO AND FIFTH ARMY FROM HQ AG FAHREN

PARA TWO PD IN CONNECTION WITH LABOR SUBCOMMISSION WAGE
ESTABLISHMENT AND ADJUSTMENT FOR APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN DAYS PD
RICHARD JUNIUS ROBERT SMITH COLONEL

5393

L T MONTANT

1st LT AGD
ADJUTANT

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

ALD/ma

26
444

21 October 1944

SUBJECT: Report of the trip covering the Southern Region, including Sicily and Sardinia

TO : Junius R. Smith
Colonel, OMC
Acting Director
Labor Sub-Commission

1. The first stop was at Catania, Sicily, contacting Major Bateman, Executive Officer, who declared that labor matters were on an even keel, that if there were any cases of disorder they were not unusual. That he anticipated no trouble whatsoever of any consequence. The usual factor of not sufficient food was discussed and was ever present in most of the places visited.

2. Proceeding to Messina, Sicily, contacted Major Stephens, CAO, in that area who reiterated that all things were favorable, considering that there had been great damage throughout the city caused by the war.

3. Proceeding on to Reggio Calabria, Italy, visited with Major Robertson and a Mr. Motton, British civilian of the AOC Silk Control Division, a separate entity operating under the Commerce and Industry Sub-Commission. They stated that they have had some small unfavorable reactions (disturbances) in some quarters on the question of wage increases but that it would not amount to anything nor create a crisis.

4. Proceeded then to Palermo, Sicily, contacted Lieut. Mason, our Labor Officer, who related that several strikes were being held in the various areas and these conditions were caused by (1) unreasonable wage demands, (2) insufficient food, and (3) nothing desires. Lieut. Mason was attending all the conferences that were being called and did not request the assistance of the writer. Lieut. Mason felt that all he could do was to attend and make reports accordingly. While in Palermo, but for several hours, saw several small demonstrations in which the gatherings clamoured for bread and more food. None of these demonstrations seemed unusual but rather consistent with the Italian demonstrations seen in Naples and other cities.

6. Proceeded then to Cagliari, Sardinia, where contact was made with Capt. Hagstaff, Executive Officer of Sardinia and discussed matters concerning labor with him of which he was not too familiar. Capt. Hagstaff maintained that the main bone of contention on the island was lack of food, transportation, and clothing in some areas. Capt.

- 2 -

Wagstaff anticipated several small strikes in the interior of the Island but based its case mainly on the question of food.

7. In the matter of tires and transportation there are any number of automobiles available, of all types, many of which have been put up for the duration of the war but which can be requisitioned. Tires and tubes are badly needed in all the areas. Tires that are now being used on vehicles are in a poor state of condition. The average automobile can very well require anywhere from 3 to 4 tires. Before any military tires can be issued there will have to be granted special permission of some high authority, namely AGO Headquarters, in the form of a certificate which would guarantee that these military tires will be permitted on the particular civilian vehicle. The certificate would cover the particular registered tire on the particular registered vehicle. Further, that it is to be definitely understood that the use of the vehicle in official (Italian) Government business shall be exclusive and violations will be severely dealt with.

8. No promises have been made of any kind to permit any person or officials visited to believe that they will be issued tires.

Alfred L. Dore
ALFRED L. DORE
Captain, RMC.
Labor Sub-Commission

5391

RESTRICTED
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

26
LABOUR
 8594

444

TO: HQ ACC

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 122/20

FROM: 5 ARMY FOR HUMB

CLASSIFICATION:

REFERENCE No: 4434

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: OCT 20 1746A

OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

RESTRICTED. Ref your 5098. Permission granted for PISA, refused for LUCCA, owing to proximity to front and unsettled conditions. For SIENA and LEGHORN apply TOSCANA REGION. Your 4941 was never received here. Cite our 459.

ACTION

Dist

Action - Labor SC (2)
 Info - A/CC
 Econ Sec
 File (2)
 Float



RESTRICTED

5390

DATE and Time of RECEIPT OCT 20 2045A

Distribution:

RESTRICTED*file 444***A M G FIFTH ARMY****AGC HQ****5129****20 OCT 1944****RESTRICTED****ROUTINE****LABOR SUB COMMISSION**

**RESTRICTED REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE FOR TRAVEL TO FLORENCE SIENA
LEGHORN AND VICINITY FOR COLONEL JUNIUS ROBERT SMITH ACCOMPAINED BY
DRIVER JACK GODFREY PAREN TO AMG FIFTH ARMY FROM AGC HQ SIGNED STONE
PAREN IN CONNECTION WITH LABOR SUBCOMMISSION ACTIVITIES FOR APPROXIMATELY
FIVE DAYS**

L T MONTANT**5389****1st LT AGD
ADJUTANT**

RESTRICTED

File

444

AMG FIFTH ARMY

HQ AGC

5098

19 OCT 1944

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

LABOR SUBCOMMISSION

RESTRICTED NO ANSWER RECEIVED AS YET TO OUR CABLE 4941 DATED 16
OCTOBER 1944 PD WE HERewith REPEAT OUR REQUEST FOR CLEARANCE FOR
TRAVEL TO PISA SIENA LIGNORNI LUCCA FOR MAJOR JAMES OBOE BABCOCK
ACCOMPANIED BY GIOACCHINO DI RIENZO AND ITALIAN DRIVER IN CONNECTION
WITH LABOR SUBCOMMISSION PAREN TO AMG FIFTH ARMY FROM HQ AGC SIGNED
STONE PAREN WAGE STUDIES FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS PD COLONEL
JUNIUS ROGER SMITH

5388

LT MONTANT
1st Lt. AGC
ADJUTANT

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

JDS/ee

21 September 1944

444
SUBJECT: Inspections of firms doing work for the armed forces of the allies.

TO : His Excellency, the Minister of Labor, Industry and Commerce

It has come to our attention that the inspectors of the Ispettorato del Lavoro have been unable to conduct their usual investigations in certain firms engaged in work for the allied armed forces. We would appreciate receiving a list of such firms where no inspections have been made for military or other reasons so that we may discuss this matter with the proper military authorities, especially with regard to the possibility of reinstating inspections for the Istituto Previdenza Sociale and the Istituto Infortuni.

We shall be grateful for your prompt attention in this matter.

J. T. R. BAIN,
Colonel
Director

5387

LRKE V. NOVI. NR 1
T LRKE

FROM PBS FWD ECH 121722B
TO DIRECTOR LABOR SUB-COMMISSION, ACC HQ ROME
CE 67 BT

CLASSIFY RESTRICTED

HAVE LIEUTENANT SCHNEE BRING TEN THOUSAND REGISTRATION RECEIPT FORMS
CMA MORE FORMS CHARLIE DASH ONE AND CHARLIE DASH TWO CMA WAGE ~~1111~~
SCALES CMA REQUISITIONING FORMS AND TWO TYPEWRITERS PD PENBASE TWO
223 PD PENBASE FORWARD ECHELON PAREN SIGNED MOFFITT PAREN TO DIRECTOR
LABOR SUBCOMMISSION CMA ~~1111~~ ADLE CHARLIE CHARLIE HEADQUARTERS ~~1111~~
PD PLEASE ARRANGE FOR EXTENSION OF MY ORDERS THROUGH SEPTEMBER
SIX TO INCLUDE ELBA

BT 121722B

SENT NR 1 122322B TJS AR

RECD NR 1 122320B

J G E

Z...AR....

ACTION

DIR
(HGT) LABOR S/C (2) A946
(INH) ALL
Economic
FILE
FLO RT

83/10

464

5386

11 SEP 1944

A. C. C.

RESTRICTED
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

4946

TO: DIRECTOR LABOUR SC ACC HQ ROME
 FROM: PBS FWD ECH SGD MOFFITT
 REFERENCE No: PENBASE FWD 223
 DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: SEP 10 1720
 SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 83/10
 CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTED
 PRECEDENCE: NONE
 OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

HAVE LIEUTENANT SCHNEE BRING TEN THOUSAND REGISTRATION RECEIPT
 FORMS, MORE FORMS C-1 AND C-2, WAGE SCALES, REQUISITIONING FORMS AND
 TWO TYPEWRITERS. PLEASE ARRANGE FOR EXTENSION OF MY ORDERS THROUGH
 SEPT 16 TO INCLUDE ELBA.

OK
 10/11/44
 11/1/44
 11/1/44

St
 (Ac) Labour s/c
 (Inf) A/CC
 Leon Sec

File
 5385
 Foot

File

DATE and Time of RECEIPT SEP 11 0700B

Distribution:

RESTRICTED

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
A.C.C.
Routing Slip

	Initials	Date
Colonel BAIN	P.D.G.	
Colonel SMITH		
Major BARCOCK		
Major ALBRIGHT		
Major SCIGLUNA		
Capt. DORF		
Capt. TOPPIS		
Capt. GIANMARCO		
Capt. SOLENBERGER		
Mr. CROSETTO		
Mr. SACHS		
Mr. DI FEDE		
Mr. CERRITO		
Chief Clerk		
Where is "one" signed		

27101

B. Agnes

5383

LNR

LABOUR

4832

LRNB V LOAO NR 3 -B-
 091101D
 CR 71 BT
 TO HQ ACC

ACTION

HEADQUARTERS
 09 SEP 1946
 A.C.C.

444

REF NR 5565 CLASSIFY RESTRICTED
 YOUR SIGNAL TWO SEVEN ONE ZERO PASSED TO REGION EIGHT FOR ACTION
 AS THEY ARE NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR LIVORNO PD PAREN ABLE MIKE
 GEORGE FIVEARMY FOR HUME PAREN TO HQS QUEEN CHARLIE CHARLIE
 CHARLIE PD NO DESIRE FOR BADCOCK TO CONTACT LANE OR ROBERTSON
 BECOMING TAKING ACTION PD ATTEMPTS BEING MADE TO CONTACT
 BADCOCK TO INFORM HIM OF THIS PD CITE OUR THREE ZERO FIVE PD

SENT NR 3 1155B MW AR TNY
 RECD NR 3 1155 B AAA AR

Action: LABOUR 5384
 INFO: A/C
 ECIN SEC
 FILE 121
 FLOAT

091203

RESTRICTED
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

4832

TO: HQ ACC SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: N24/9
 FROM: ANG 5 ARMY FOR HUME CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTED
 REFERENCE No: 8366 PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE
 DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: SEP091101B OFFICE OF ORIGIN: _____

YOUR SIGNAL 2710 PASSED TO REGION 8 FOR ACTION AS THEY ARE NOW
 RESPONSIBLE FOR LIVORNO. NO DESIRE FOR BABCOCK TO CONTACT LANE OR
 ROBERTSON BEFORE TAKING ACTION. ATTEMPTS BEING MADE TO CONTACT
 BABCOCK TO INFORM HIM OF THIS. CITE OUR 305.

HEADQUARTERS
 9 SEP 1944
 A. C. C.

ACC DIST

ACTION- LABOUR SC 2

INFO- A/CC

EGON SEC

FILE 2

FLOAT

5382

DATE and Time of RECEIPT SEP091203

Distribution:

RESTRICTED

AMS 5 ARMY

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION AGO
2710RESTRICTED
ROUTINE
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

THE FOLLOWING WIRE RECEIVED FROM PEBASE PARKE TO AMS FIVE ARMY FROM AGO FOR BAIN SOD
STONE PARKE QUOTE DELAY IN ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL AND COMMUNAL OFFICE AND FAILURE
 TO REGISTER POTENTIAL CIVILIAN WORKERS BY AGO IN LIGHORN AREA IS SERIOUSLY HANDICAPPING
 PEBASE OPERATIONS THERE. PD EMPLOYING UNITS IN THAT AREA HAVE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO
 LOCATE AND PROCURE ALL REQUIREMENTS TO DATE PD DEMANDS ARE INCREASING DAILY AND CURRENT
 SUPPLY IS NOT SUFFICIENT PD REQUEST IMMEDIATE STEPS BE TAKEN TO REGISTER CIVILIAN WORK-
 ERS OF ALL CATEGORIES AND PROVIDE FULL REQUIREMENTS TO PEBASE UNITS IN LIGHORN AREA
 UNQUOTE MAJOR BARCOCK THIS OFFICE CAN ASSIST IN SOLUTION THIS PROBLEM IN CONNECTION
 WITH OTHER ASSIGNED DUTIES IF YOU WISH PD HE PLANS TO MEET CAPTAIN FRAZER ON A LABOR
 OFFICER REGION EIGHT AT FIVE ARMY REAR HEADQUARTERS ^{FOURTEEN} ~~SIXTEEN~~ HUNDRED HOURS FOUR SEPTEN-
 BER PM DO YOU WISH MAJOR BARCOCK TO CONFER WITH COLONEL LAKE OR CAPTAIN ROBERTSON
 PRIOR TO TAKING ACTION QUERRY PLEASE ADVISE MAJOR BARCOCK FIVE ARMY REAR HEADQUARTERS

J.T.R. BAIN, Colonel

L.T. MONTANT
1st Lt., AGO
Adjutant

RESTRICTED

444

PERHASE

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

2711

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

MAJOR BRISCOCK LABOR SUB-COMMISSION PAREN TO PERHASE FROM AGC FOR RAIN SCD STONE PAREN
PROCEEDING LONDON FOUR SEPTEMBER IN REFERENCE PROBLEM CITED PERHASE TWO SIX ONE EIGHT
NINE

5380

J.T.R. BAIN, Colonel

RESTRICTED

L.F. MONTANT,
1st Lt., AGC
Adjutant

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

A.C.C.

Routing Slip

From	To
Colonel SMITH	
Colonel SMITH	
Major BABCOCK	
Major ALRIGHT	
✓ Charles	
Capt. DORF	
Capt. SCICLUNA	
Capt. ADAMS	
Capt. TOPLISS	
Capt. WILLIAMS	
Lt. GIAMMARCO	
Lt. SOLENBERGER	
Chief Clerk	✓

REMARKS : *File**Ver:*

*This was received at
1720 hrs 4 Sept 44
Too late for any action.
J. F. Davis*

LRAR V HARR NR 32/80
FROM AMG 8 ARMY REAR 040930
TO HQ ACC
QQX GR - BT

R/1463 YOUR 2605 OF 2 SEPT. WHERE DO MAJOR
~~BABCOCK~~ BABCOCK AND OTHERS WISH TO
GO IN EIGHTH ARMY AREA

BT

REPTN 32 80 040930 AND 8 ACC R/1463 2605 2
BAC+ BABCOCK RPT BABCOCK

LABOUR

34/04 7241

IST

(AC) LABOUR (2)

(INT) APCC

EC on sec

FILE (L)

FLOOR

HEADQUARTERS

SEP 1944

W.R. 11/26/44

5378

24/11/44

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE~~444~~ 444

TO: HQ ACC
FROM: AMG 8 ARMY REAR
REFERENCE No: R/1463
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: SEP 040930B

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 34/04
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
PRECEDENCE: NONE
OFFICE OF ORIGIN: _____

YOUR 2605 OF 2 SEPT. WHERE DO MAJOR BABCOCK AND OTHERS WISH TO GO IN
8TH ARMY AREA.

ACC DIST

ACTION: LABOUR 2
INFO: A/CC
ECON SEC
FILE 2
FLOAT



5377

DATE and Time of RECEIPT SEP 041555B

Distribution:

R E S T R I C T E D

444

ACC REGION VIII

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION ACC
2714

3 SEPT.

RESTRICTED
ROUTINE
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

MAJOR BABCOCK PAREN TO ACC REGION EIGHT FOR FRAZER FROM ACC FOR
BAIN SIGNED STONE PAREN DESIRES MEETING YOU FIVE ARMY REAR
HEADQUARTERS AT ONE FOUR ZERO ZERO HOURS NOT ONE SIX ZERO ZERO
HOURS

J. T. R. BAIN, Colo

L. T. MONTANT
1st Lt., ADG
Adjutant

5376
R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

444

ANG 8 ARMY RPT ANG 5 ARMY

4.9.44

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION ACC

2605

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

LABOR SUB COMMISSION

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR ENTRANCE TO ARMY AREAS OF FOLLOWING
PERSONNEL EFFECTIVE FOUR SEPTEMBER PARSE TO ANG EIGHT ARMY RPT
ANG FIVE ARMY FROM ACC FOR BAIN SGT STONE PARSE MAJOR JAMES BARCOCK
CMA CPT ALVARO PIRANI AND MR TOMMASO GATTO PARSE ITALIAN CIVILLIAN
PARSE FOR THE PURPOSES OF WAGE INFORMATION INVESTIGATION

RESTRICTED

J.F.
5375

BAIN Colonel

Lt. MONTANT

1st Lt. AGD

Adjutant

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
A.C.C.
Routing Slip

	Initials	Date
Colonel BAIN		
Colonel SMITH	<i>M</i>	
Major BABCOCK	<i>gob. 100-44.</i>	
Major ALBRIGHT	<i>gob.</i>	
Capt. DORF	<i>gob.</i>	
Capt. SCICLUNA		
Capt. ADAMS	<i>gob.</i>	
Capt. TOPLISS		
Capt. WILLIAMS		
Lt. GIAMMARCO		
Lt. SOLENBERGER	<i>gob.</i>	
Chief Clerk		

Tel: 307

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ECONOMIC SECTION
APO 394

444
GHS/MI

ES/6

16 August 1944

Adv. HQ AAI cable 6-4155 dated AUG 14 states that :-

PRESSURE OF OPERATIONAL WORK AT HQ & ARMY AND FORMATIONS UNDER THEIR COMMAND MAKES IT NECESSARY TO CURTAIL DRASTICALLY NUMBER OF OFFICERS VISITING THESE HQS. ADDRESSEES WILL INSURE THEREFORE THAT NO OFFICER GOES FORWARD TO VISIT UNLESS HIS BUSINESS IS ESSENTIAL AND CANNOT BE TRANSACTED IN ANY OTHER WAY OR ON SPECIAL INVITATION FROM HQ CONCERNED.

Copy to: Agriculture Sub-Commission
Commerce Sub-Commission
Finance Sub-Commission
Food Sub-Commission

Industry Sub-Commission
Labor Sub-Commission
Public Works & Utilities Sub-Comm
Transportation Sub-Commission

G. H. Sharp Lt. Col.

G. H. SHARP, Lt. Col., R.A.
S.O. 1, (GA), Economic Section

5374

Labor Commission ⁴⁴⁴
has not to go forward

~~Anton~~ and Capt. Holsten (?) and
Lt. Coinnazzini

have to be added to ⁵³⁷³ the list

LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
A.C.C.
Routing Slip

FROM	TO
Colonel BAIN	
Colonel SMITH	
Major BABCOCK	
Major ALBRIGHT	
Capt. DORF	
Capt. SCICLUNA	
Capt. ADAMS	
Capt. TOPLISS	
Capt. WILLIAMS	
Lt. GLAMMARCO	
Lt. SOLENBERGER	
Chief Clerk	

REMARKS :

5372

38 LRAR V HAR 98 IMMEDIATE T
FROM ANG MAIN EIGHT ARMY
TO HOME AREA COMMAND FOR ACC FOR LABOUR SUBCOMMISSION

QOX GR 37

N466 YOUR NR 1705 DATED 12 AUG AND YOUR

1731 DATED 13 AUG. REQUEST PARTY NOT REPEAT NO TO VISIT

THIS HQ AT PRESENT. WILL GIVE

PARTICULARS TO BRIG LUSH WHO WILL

BE AT THIS HQ TODAY

HTI 151035B

~~DPIN 7++38 98 GP T NO DTG~~

~~HOME AREA COMMAND FOR ACC FOR LABOUR SUBCOMMISSION~~

~~N466 NR175++1705 12 AUG 1731 13 AUG BRIG LUSH~~

~~151035B~~

3084
IMMEDIATE
N43/15



Sub
(Per) Labork (2)
(int) MLC
CRB
FILE

ACTION

HEADQUARTERS
15 AUG 1944

5371 A. C. C.

151310

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

3084

TO: ROME AREA COMMAND FOR ACC FOR LABOUR SUBCOMMISSION
FROM: AMG MAIN 8TH ARMY
REFERENCE No: M466
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: AUG /

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 43/15
CLASSIFICATION: NONE
PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE
OFFICE OF ORIGIN: _____

YOUR NR 1705 DATED 12 AUG AND YOUR 1731 DATED 13 AUG. REQUEST
PARTY NOT TO VISIT THIS HQ AT PRESENT. WILL GIVE PARTICULARS TO
BRIG LUSH WHO WILL BE AT THIS HQ TODAY.

DIST

ACTION - Labour (2)
INFO - A/CC
C A BR
FILE

5370

DATE and Time of RECEIPT AUG 151310B

Distribution:

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OUTGOING MESSAGE*Not sent*
444

TO: A.M.G. FIVEARMY

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No:

FROM: A.C.C. MAIN

CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTED

REFERENCE No: 1751

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: 13 AUG. OFFICE OF ORIGIN: LABOR SUB-COM.

PERMISSION REQUESTED BY LABOR SUB-COMMISSION TO
SEND CAPTAIN DORF TO YOUR HEADQUARTERS FOR LABOR
WAGE INFORMATION PAREN TO AMG FIVEARMY FROM BAIN
SGD STONE PAREN.

TO START AUGUST ONE FIVE

5369

Distribution: R.C. & M.G. SECTION

Authenticated by J.T.R. BAIN, COLONEL

Originator's signature L.T. MONTANT, Jr.

1st Lt. AGD

Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

14 August, 1944

LAB 091.444

SUBJECT: Visit of Officer

TO : S. C. A. O., 5 Army

Request permission for Capt. Alfred L. Dorf, 0358375 (A) this Sub-Commission, to visit 5 Army Area on official duty in connection with Labor Wage Information commencing 15 August 1944.

J. T. R. BAIN.
Colonel,
Director Labor Sub-Commission

5368

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 512

12 December 1943

SUBJECT: Regional Labor Office and Labor Relations -- Catania
TO : O.C. Labor Sub-Commission, AMG, AOC
FROM : Captain E. Scicluna, Labor Sub-Commission

Reference above subject.

1. Following the preliminary investigation of Capt. Robertson, I have to report that the Regional Labor Office, Catania, does NOT, in practice, exist. The actual position is as follows:

a. Avvocato Isola, the Director of the P.L.O., was only appointed on 10 November 1943 and was not even in time to attend the conference held in Palermo on 11th and 12th November.

b. When Capt. Frazer, the Labor Sub-Commission representative in the field, was ordered to proceed to Naples, he was not afforded sufficient time to effect a hand-over and Avv. Isola had not as yet been nominated. This has given rise to a serious discontinuity, which has practically rendered fruitless the good work which Captain Frazer had done in this district.

c. AMGOT Catania, where the shortage of officers is very marked, could not afford to nominate a C.A.O. to supervise and guide the newly appointed Director. No directives either from R.C.A.O. or from the R.L.O. have ever reached Avv. Isola, who consequently experienced the greatest difficulty in setting up the R.L.O. Not the least handicap to Avv. Isola was the loss of time he had to put up with in the waiting-rooms of both AMGOT and Civil Officers, where he was often disposed of by being told that he was to call again.

d. Avv. Isola was never informed as to the personnel he was to have engaged, nor of the sources from which such personnel was to be paid.

The a/m difficulties have now largely been overcome. Premises have been requisitioned and a furniture allotment from the Enemy Property Pool has been authorized. Major Elvas, 2 i/c AMGOT Catania is to take a personal interest in the organization of the P.L.O. and Avv. Isola has now been introduced to the heads of the various departments with which he is likely to come into contact.

2. Personal Qualities of Avvocato Isola, Director P.L.O.

Avv. Isola was nominated by the Prefetto of Catania, primarily because of his legal and political background. At all times he has been regarded as a man of integrity with moderate socialist sympathies and as a friend of the people. He is intellectually, if not physically, a very active man and has shown some

Reference above subject.

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The a/m difficulties have now largely been overcome. Premises have been requisitioned and a furniture allotment from the Enemy Property Pool has been authorized. Major Elvas, 2 i/c AMGOT Catania is to take a personal interest in the organization of the P.L.O. and Avv. Isola has now been introduced to the heads of the various departments with which he is likely to come into contact.

2. Personal Qualities of Avvocato Isola, Director P.L.O.

Avv. Isola was nominated by the Prefetto of Catania primarily because of his legal and political background. At all times he has been regarded as a man of integrity with moderate socialist sympathies and as a friend of the people. He is intellectually, if not physically, a very active man and has shown some initiative in taking in hand -- in spite of many difficulties and no direct instructions -- a number of somewhat delicate cases placed before him for conciliation, as an aftermath of General Order No. 14. He was successful in bridging differences between employers and employees in three instances, and is at the moment engaged in finding an acceptable formula for (i) the telephone employees, and (ii) workmen connected with milling and baking. To my mind the all important attribute making Avv. Isola suitable for the post of Director lies in the fact that he is acceptable to the mass of workmen who appear to have implicit faith in his sense of fairness and in his integrity. Every care should be exercised, however, in the choice of his General Secretary, who would have to provide not

only the technical ability of the Statistician and Administrator, but also the 'Drive'. It is so desired, I am in a position to submit the name of a suitable candidate.

3. D.A.D.L. (Deputy Assistant Director of Labor Dr) as Civil Labor Exchange.

a. D.A.D.L. Catania has in point of fact filled the gap created by the absence of Labor Exchanges in the Catania District. This office is efficiently acting as Labor Supply Center both for Army requirements as well as for Civil, so that when A.GOT is in need of skilled or unskilled labor, an application is made for these requirements to D.A.D.L. This state of affairs shows that while A.GOT should be making arrangements to relieve the Army of so much work as possible through reliable local agencies, in actual fact the reverse has here been happening in that D.A.D.L. has been saddled labor requirements for Civil Departments.

b. The only available statistical information concerning the labor situation in Catania was supplied to me by Major Mayne, D.A.D.L. for Catania and Messina District, for the week ending 29/11/43 as follows:

Employed by Army and Civil Depts. through D.A.D.L.	10,573
Mixed unemployed in D.A.D.L. (skilled and unskilled)	471
" " " (clerical and professional)	229

The above figures are in no way an indication of the actual state of unemployment (no effort, of course, is being made by D.A.D.L. to canvas registration of unemployed). Present unemployment figures are estimated to run into tens of thousands, and on further investigation, I have been able to form some idea of the main factors contributing to an abnormal increase in unemployment since the occupation. The main causes are as follows:

- (i) Suspension of building trade. No public works are being undertaken except those of a purely essential and urgent nature. Private enterprises are at a standstill mainly because of scarcity of essential construction materials and the disproportionate increase in the cost of raw materials (iron, cement, wood, etc.). The workmen in this class are obtaining employment through D.A.D.L. on (1) Army works (2) demolition, clearance and minor repairs to damaged buildings. There is some indication of the possible formation of a limited liability company that would advance the requisite monies to the proprietors of damaged houses who are willing to undertake immediate steps on a rebuilding program. If A.G. were to sponsor this scheme, it would provide work for a considerable number of unemployed masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, etc.
- (ii) Suspension of (a) tramway services, (b) gas services.
- (iii) Limitation of mills, bakeries and paste-making factories. Of 200 bakeries only 51 are working; none of the 34 paste-making factories are functioning and the six leading mills have been shut down. It is reckoned that there are 800 workmen connected with these activities, of these only 200 are now employed.

(iv) Reduced clerical and professional requirements. The employed in this category is on a progressive increase owing to (a) suspension of local factories (b) a number of shops not having reopened, (c) insurance companies have closed down their agencies, (d) The Banca del Lavoro and the Banco di Sicilia have dismissed and continue to dismiss their employees (in

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Employed by Army and Civil Depts. through D.A.D.L.	10,573
Unemployed in D.A.D.L. (skilled and unskilled)	471
" " (clerical and professional)	229

The above figures are in no way an indication of the actual state of unemployment (no effort, of course, is being made by D.A.D.L. to canvas registration of unemployed). Present unemployment figures are estimated to run into tens of thousands, and on further investigation, I have been able to form some idea of the main factors contributing to an abnormal increase in unemployment since the occupation. The main causes are as follows:

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c. Wages paid by D.A.D.L. are in conformity with A.G. Wage Scales, but all workmen (with exception of those working on aerodromes) are allowed, free of charge, a supplementary diet of 100 grams of bread. The flour for

Clerical 428; Artisans 1418; Skilled 1961; Unskilled 6766.

for diet has lowered the power of resistance particularly among the laboring classes. Health Insurance has returned to its normal activities, collecting contributions and effecting payments. During November lire 125,244.30 were paid out to 458 persons in respect of illness, while lire 491,473.50 was paid out to 625 persons as family allowances. A further sum of lire 11,594 was paid to 4,370 persons as relief.

6. Unemployment Benefits and Compensation. The Istituto di Previdenza Sociale is also functioning normally. During November it paid in Catania proper, lire 125,000 to approximately 500 workmen and 300 clerical employees; a further sum of approximately lire 50,000 was paid in the rest of the Province.

The "Istituto Nazionale per l'assicurazione contro gli infortuni sul lavoro" (Cassa Infortuni) is carrying on its normal functions. The following is a summary of its payments:

	September	October	November
Accidents reported :	44	55	103
Total Payments Made: L	62,781.90	92,882.70	Payments still being made

7. General Economic Situation and Relief. The economic situation of Catania does not appear to be altogether unsatisfactory, and I am led to believe that the conditions have been improving steadily mainly due to the following factors:

a. The Army has been employing on an increasing scale considerable numbers of skilled and unskilled laborers.

b. Army personnel have been spending considerable sums in purchasing gifts, food, etc.

c. Seasonal agricultural work on the orange and lemon farms have temporarily absorbed a number of unemployed.

d. E.C.A. (ENTE Comunale di Assistenza) was assisting some 25,000 persons in October and some 20,000 in November.

e. Payments are now being resumed by unemployment, social, and accident insurance agencies.

E.C.A.'s October activities for the City of Catania might be summarized as follows:

Approximate population - - - - -	253,400
Number of persons Assisted Financially in October - - - - -	22,405
Percentage of Population - - - - -	8.69
Amount Paid in Lire - - - - -	3,104,398

Compared to figures for September the above shows increases as follows:

Increase in % of Population Being Assisted - - - - -	2.20%
" " number of persons assisted - - - - -	9,540
" " cash payments - - - - - L.	1,328,744

On A.L.C.C.I. instructions E.C.A. temporarily suspended payments as from 29

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e. Payments are now being resumed by unemployment, social, and accident insurance agencies.

E.C.A.'s October activities for the City of Catania might be summarized as follows:

Approximate population	258,400
Number of persons Assisted Financially in October	22,405
Percentage of Population	8.60%
Amount Paid in Lire	3,104,398

Compared to figures for September the above shows increases as follows:

Increase in % of Population Being Assisted	2.20%
" " number of persons assisted	9,540
" " cash payments	L. 1,328,744

On A.C.C.T instructions E.C.A. temporarily suspended payments as from 29 October 1943 onwards in order to scrutinize more fully the needs of the persons receiving relief. Payments were resumed on 29 November 1943, arrears being met, but the opportunity was taken to make payments payable in arrears instead of, as previously, in advance.

The following are the data for November:

Approximate population	257,194
Number of persons receiving financial help	3,063
Sum paid in lire	624,613
% of population receiving relief	1.20%

those engaged by the Services is provided by the Army, while that for employees in Civil Departments is supplied by the Comune. A water-tight system of control on both the bakers and distributors is responsible for keeping consumption at the lowest possible level. The system of "spot check report" is in force to insure that the wages being paid are consonant with the work being performed by the workmen. D.A.D.L. is in agreement with the fundamental principle that it is dangerous to differentiate between Service and Communal employees in respect of extra food allowances, but naturally it will not be possible for D.A.D.L. to continue the issue of free bread when the employment exchange is taken over by the P.L.O. When this transfer of workmen from the D.A.D.O. roster to that of the P.L.O. is effected, I envisage the probability of some resentment being shown by the workmen concerned.

d. Major Mayne has undertaken to show the Director of the P.L.O. the system prevalent in his department, with a view to eventual handing over of all index cards and other relevant papers when D.A.D.L. moves out of the area. Avv. Isola has also been assured of all possible cooperation and help when the P.L.O. and employment offices are brought into action.

4. General Order No. 14 and Trade Union Movement.

This General Order has been well received by the working classes in the Catania District, and it appears to have been the signal for more intensive activity in the field of collective organization. Proclamation No. 2 prohibits the holding of meetings -- a fact which would preclude the possibility of constituting unions and electing representatives. AMG policy in Catania has been to overlook this fact, and, in taking cognizance of the facts as they are, the tendency is to accept, if unofficial, the existence of the Trade Union Movement. This spontaneous movement is, however, being tainted with political influences, and, in the absence of a properly constituted PLO, politicians are successfully invading the field for their own ulterior motives quite unconnected with the welfare of the working classes, and irresponsibly ignoring the fundamental economic and social aims which should form the sole basis of such collective associations.

In view of the reluctance with which private firms are tending to accept the recommendations of General Order No. 14, there is some ferment brewing among a large section of the working classes. As this was being itself felt at AMGOT Hq, an "unofficial" meeting of representatives from some fifteen unions at different stages of organization was called by the Director of the P.L.O. accompanied by Staff Captain AMGOT, I presided over the meeting and answered questions arising from the address made by Avv. Isola. The purpose of this meeting was primarily to afford a "safety valve" and to drive home the service which P.R.O.'s are likely to render in the field of labor relations. Stress was placed on the necessity of (i) keeping the Trade Union movement completely divorced from Party politics; (ii) accepting the relative civic and ethical responsibilities that are part and parcel of individual and collective rights; (iii) good will on the part of both employers and employees in the settlement of disputes through independent judicial machinery to be provided by the P.L.O. It was also suggested to representatives that contact should be immediately established with the Director of the P.L.O. whenever it is proposed to approach employers to seek adherence to the wage increases sanctioned by General Order No. 14.

The question of existing collective contracts set up by the Fascist Syndicates was raised. My directive in this matter to the Director was that those should be honored while a revision on the basis of mutual agreement might be undertaken at the earliest practicable date. It appears to me, however, that before

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5. Public Health and Health Insurance.

Public Health is at a low ebb -- a considerable number of typhoid cases and of other infections -- fevers being on the upgrade. A protracted insufficient

receiving and not on the average of his salary during his period of service. To my mind it would be advisable to create a distinction in respect of this indemnity, between the amount due to an employee for services rendered before the publication of General Order No. 14 and the amount that would be due to him for the period of service following the increase in salary as a result of this order. I believe that an arrangement of this sort is likely to induce many private firms to grant the increases stipulated -- thus providing immediate relief to many employees who are still in the same precarious position as before the issue of this General Order.

C. Collective Contracts. It would appear that the existing Collective Contracts, which were imposed from above by the now dissolved Fascist Syndicates, should no longer be considered valid from a judicial standpoint. For practical purposes and in so far as it is in the interest of the two contracting parties, these contracts are being honored by both employers and employees. I have been led to believe, however, that employees are through their representatives agitating for a revision of their respective contracts and, what is more important, a number of these contracts have recently lapsed and many are due to lapse in the very near future.

I wish to submit that there should not be the least delay in communicating to the Directors of the P.L.O.s; (i) the AIG policy in this matter, which, I take it, would be based on concepts of "free associations" and the principle of "collective bargaining"; and (ii) instructions as to the part which P.L.O.'s will play both in the revision of contracts as well as in the draft of new ones. These instructions can be only issued, of course, after the vote on meetings has been rescinded and the right of representation has been conceded to the free associations of workmen.

d. Reprisals. In order to stem any tendency on the part of employers to penalize workmen who act as spokesmen for their colleagues, it would be desirable to provide protection through and intervention of the P.L.O.s. I suggest that specific instructions in this respect be issued, through S.C.A.O.s, to the Directors of the P.L.O.s.

10. Action. The following suggestions have been submitted for consideration and necessary action, viz:

a. That AIGOT Catania appoint a C.A.O. to advise and help the Director of the P.L.O. in organizing his Department;

b. That the General Secretary to be appointed for the Catania P.L.O. have qualifications that are complimentary to those of the newly appointed Director;

c. That D.A.D.I. Catania, transfer to the P.L.O. the onus of supplying labor requirements for Civil Departments and that a uniform 'modus operandi' on region-wide basis be previously evolved in respect of supplementary bread rations to be issued to workmen;

d. That AIGOT Catania should consider the question of sponsoring the formation of the Limited Liability Company that intends to undertake the rebuilding of damaged areas;

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d. That AIGOT Catania should consider the question of sponsoring the formation of the Limited Liability Company that intends to undertake the rebuilding of damaged areas;

e. That AIGOT Catania might consider the question of allowing more bakeries to reopen in order to relieve unemployment in this particular trade.

f. That AIGOT Catania tactfully approach the banks and leading private firms in order to impress upon the Directors the advisability of coming into line with General Order No. 14, and of using the utmost discretion in the discharging of personnel in the permanent establishment.

11. That AIG rescinds the articles of Proclamation No. 2 whereby meetings are prohibited and that at the same time it be made known that permission is granted in respect of the organization of free Trade Associations with the right of officially recognized representation.

8. Cost of Living. Approaching the question of cost of living from an actual rather than a theoretical angle we have to admit that an accurate assessment is not really possible. In order to obtain a cost of living index we have to refer the present prices of essential commodities to those obtaining prior to the occupation. It is a well-known fact that under the Fascist Regime the Ration System and Price Control only existed on paper, most of the essential commodities never being made available through the ration card, and the cost of these to the individual being fixed by the law of supply and demand rather than by official control price lists. Under present conditions when no attempt is made by AMG to supply a minimum of essential commodities on a rationed basis, the price of such commodities is constantly fluctuating on the open market. In such circumstances, one is faced with the problem of having to co-relate values that do not actually have a definite stability.

For purposes of obtaining a cost of living index a specimen weekly family budget for husband, wife and three minor children has been drawn out for September 1942 and September 1943. (Appendix A) For the former, the assessment is made according to official prices of the Catania "Ufficio Statistica", while for the latter the prevalent prices are taken. In order to stabilize quantities, the bread ration for September 1942 has been reckoned at gr. 150 per person -- this being the quantity now being issued in this district. Appendix A gives as the total weekly family budget L 165.21 for September 1942 and L 634.31 for September 1943. Thus we obtain an index of 384. This shows that even on the basis of an inadequate and fictitious diet the cost of living has, in the last year, risen by nearly four times.

Working on the accepted assumption that the average Sicilian is prepared to forfeit any part of his diet provided a sufficiency of bread and pasta are available, and fixing the minimum average quantity of bread at 400 and of pasta at gr. 100 (supplemented by eggs, butter, margarine) -- a weekly family budget today (vide Appendix B) would work out at over lire 1500. The black market price for part of the bread is reckoned at 42 lire per kg. and no account has been taken of the cost of fuel which would be required for cooking this diet. On this total the weekly cost of bread and pasta represents over 50% -- a fact which suggests (i) that this item represents the ruling influence on the cost of commodities, and (ii) that an adequate bread and pasta ration is likely to defeat, in a large measure, black market activities.

It were well to consider that stabilization and control of prices for essential commodities is a "sine qua non" for return of economic equilibrium, and for the scientific coordination of wage scales to cost of living.

9. Some other Problems requiring attention.

a. Table of Organization. A table of organizations for P.L.O.'s and Employment offices does not yet exist, and this is likely to cause both delay in properly settling up these offices as well as some eventual difficulties in uniformity of organization. Appendix C represents a scheme which is regarded as suitable by the Regional Director (Avvocato La Loggia) subject to certain modifications in respect of the smaller provinces.

b. Non-adherence to General Order No. 14 and Discharges of Employees. Private firms are tending to evade the issue of salary and wage increases in respect of their employees. Workmen have pointed out that as long as AMG does not sanction the right of representation, employees can take the attitude of refusing even to discuss the question. There is also some indication that some employers are adopting

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b. Non-adherence to General Order No. 14 and Discharges of Employees. Private firms are tending to evade the issue of salary and wage increases in respect of their employees. Workmen have pointed out that as long as ALG does not sanction the right of representation, employees can take the attitude of refusing even to discuss the question. There is also some indication that some employers are adopting a system of reprisals against the unofficial spokesmen of the employees. I wish to submit that an ALG press notice authorizing workmen to nominate their representatives for purposes of seeking a "modus operandi" over the application of General Order No. 14, should provide a temporary solution to this difficulty. It appears that many private firms and ban's continue to show reluctance in complying with the increase authorized by General Order No. 14, NOT in view of the immediate financial liabilities involved, but rather because of the considerable commitments to which they would make themselves open in respect of the "Indennita di quiescenza" normally paid to an employee on the last salary or wage which he was

h. That authority be given to P.L.O.'s to protect workmen's representatives against any possible reprisals by employers;

i. That AIG formulates, without delay, the procedure to be followed by P.L.O.'s in respect of (i) the revision, and (ii) the drawing up of Collective contracts -- definite instructions being issued to Directors of P.L.O.'s as to (1) the initiative they may take in such matters, and (2) the jurisdiction which it is proposed that they should exert in the handling of Collective Contracts.

j. That AIG approves forthwith a Table of Organization for P.L.O.'s, and for Employment Exchanges.

k. That a new scale for the "Indennita di Quiescenza" be drawn up, with a view to reducing the employers' financial liabilities towards their employees in respect of money due for the period of service prior to the promulgation of General Order No. 14.

l. That every effort be made to increase at the earliest possible date the stocks of flour in the island in order to increase substantially the ration of bread and pasta.

DISTRIBUTION:

CCAO	1
Economic Directorate	1
RCAC	2
Labor Sub-Commission	6
III	1
IAU, Catania	1
AGS Supplies Sub-Commission	1
CCAO, Catania	3
Major Elwes, AIGOT Catania	1
Director, KLO	1
File	12

E. SOLUUMA,
Captain,
Labor Sub-Commission, AGC.

Appendix "A"

WEEKLY FAMILY BUDGET (HUSBAND, WIFE & 3 CHILDREN)
(City of Catania)

			Quantity	Average Price Sept/42	Average Price Sept/43	Weekly Cost Sept/42 - Sept/43		
1	Bread	Current	Kg	5,950	2.35	3.60	13.95	21.42
2	Rice	Gasoline	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Pasta	Seasoned	Kg	2,695	2.75	45.--	7.93	129.62
4	Dry Beans	Common	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Beef	2nd Quality	Kg	1.--	19.50	55.--	19.50	55.--
6	Cheese	Pecorine	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Salt Fish	Wet	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Olive Oil	Pure	Liter	0.462	14.25	80	6.58	36.96
9	Wine	Rosco	Liter	4	5.38	12	21.52	48.
10	Potatoes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Green Veg.	-	Kg.	6	2.37	8.90	14.22	53.40
12	Fruit	Current	Kg.	3	3.85	9.--	11.55	27.--
13	Fresh Fish	2nd Quality	Kg.	2	17.61	55.--	55.22	110.--
14	Eggs	-	No.	10	2.50	8.--	35.	80.--
15	Condensed Milk	-	Liter	1.50	2.90	12.--	4.35	18.--
16	Sugar	-	Kg.	0.646	8.30	65.--	5.36	54.91
17	Coffee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Butter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Lard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Appendix "B"

WEEKLY FAMILY BUDGET (HUSBAND, WIFE & 3 CHILDREN)

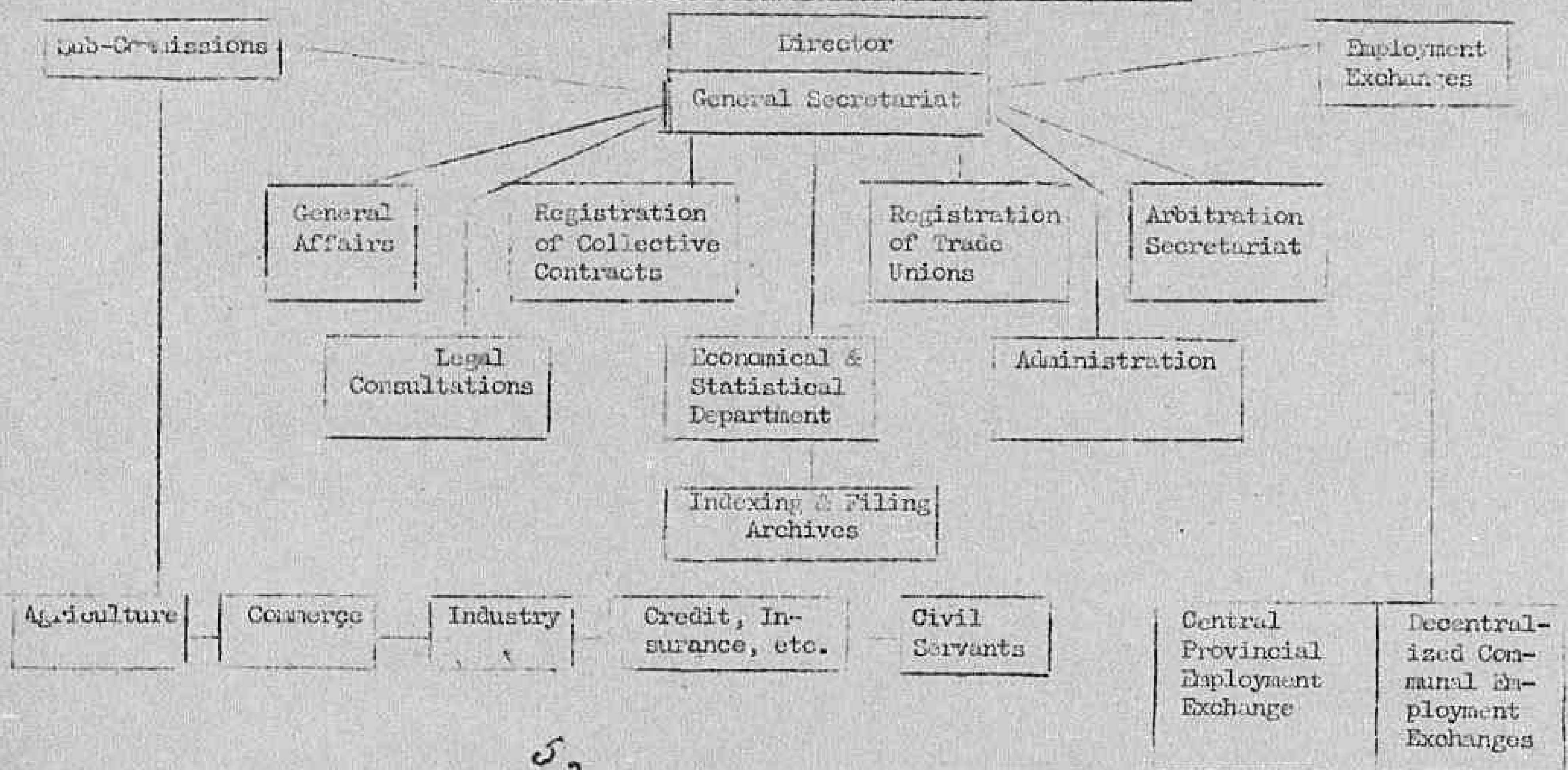
(Black Market Prices on 5 Dec/43 - City of Catania)

<u>Bread</u>	gr. 400 x 5 persons x 7 days { Kg 5,250 at Lit 3.60	- Lit 18.90	
	Total 14 kg. { " 8,750 at " 42.	- " 455.00	Lit. 473.90
<u>Pasta</u>	gr. 100 x 5 persons x 7 days { Kg 0.500 at Lit 4.20	- Lit 2.10	
	Total 3,500 Kg. { Kg 3.000 at " 65.00	- " 195.00	Lit. 197.10
<u>Legumes</u>	dry bean and vetch Kg 2,000 at Lit 45.00		
	tax beans Kg 1,000 at Lit 30.00		120.00
<u>Meat</u>	Kg 4,000 at Lit 90.00		90.00
<u>Cheese</u>	Kg 0.500 at Lit 120.00		60.00
<u>Olive Oil</u>	Kg 0.800 at Lit 80.00		64.00
<u>Wine</u>	Liters 4,000 at Lit. 12.00		48.00
<u>Green Veg</u>	Kg 6,000 at Lit. 8.00		48.00
<u>Fresh Fish</u>	Kg 1,500 at Lit 80.00		120.00
<u>Milk</u>	Liters 1,500 at Lit 20.00		30.00
<u>Sugar</u>	Lg 0.500 at Lit 15.00		7.50
		Weekly Cost ----- Lit.	<u>1258.90</u>

5362

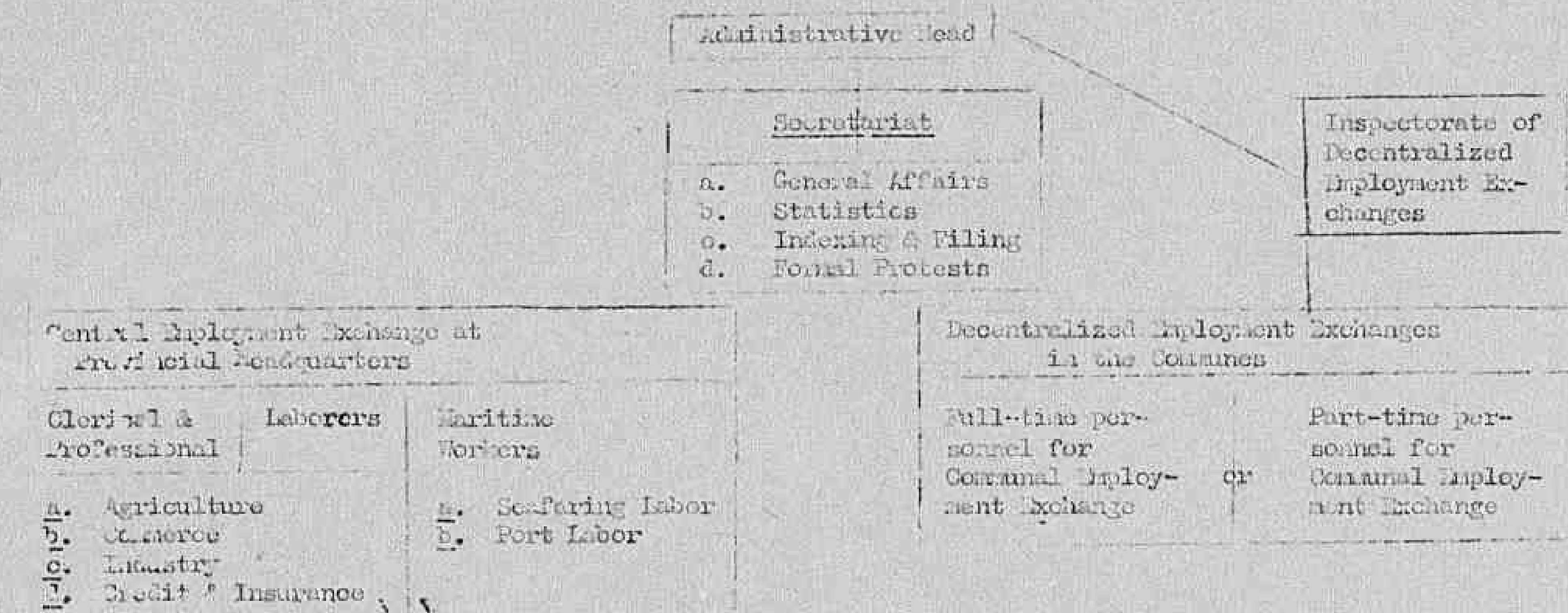
APPENDIX "C"

I. TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR PROVINCIAL LABOR OFFICE



5361

APPENDIX "C"

II. TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES
UNDER THE CONTROL OF PROVINCIAL LABOR OFFICES

5360

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HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

12 December 1943

SUBJECT: Regional Labor Office and Labor Relations -- Catania.
TO : C.C. Labor Sub-Commission, A.M.G., A.C.C.
FROM : Capt. R. Sceliana, Labor Sub-Commission

Ref Above subject.

1. Following the preliminary investigation of Capt. ~~Robertson~~ Robertson, I have to report that the Regional Labor Office, Catania, does not in practice, exist. The actual position is as follows:

a. Avvocato Isola, the Director of the R.L.O., was only appointed on 10 November 1943 and was not even in time to attend the conference held in Palermo on 11th and 12th November.

b. When Capt. Frayer, the Labor Sub-Commission representative in the field, was ordered to proceed to Naples, he was not afforded sufficient time to effect a hand-over and Avv. Isola had not as yet been nominated. This has given rise to a serious discontinuity, which has practically rendered fruitless the good work which Captain Frayer had done in this district.

c. AMGOT Catania, where the shortage of officers is very marked, could not afford to nominate a C.I. to supervise and guide the newly appointed Director. No directives either from R.C.A.C. or from the R.L.O. have ever reached Avv. Isola, who consequently experienced the greatest difficulty in setting up the R.L.O. Not the least handicap to Avv. Isola was the loss of time he had to put up with in the waiting-rooms of both AMGOT and Civil Offices, where he was often dismissed of being told that he was to call again.

d. Avv. Isola was never informed as to the personnel he was to have engaged, nor of the source from which such personnel was to be paid. The a/w difficulties have now largely been overcome. Premises have been requisitioned and a furniture allotment from the Enemy Property Pool has been authorized. Major Elmes, 2 i/c AMGOT Catania is to take a personal interest in the organization of the R.L.O. and Avv. Isola has now been introduced to the heads of the various departments with which he is likely to come into contact.

2. Personal Qualities of Avvocato Isola, Director R.L.O.
Avv. Isola was nominated by the Prefetto of Catania primarily because of his legal and political background. At all times he has been regarded as a man of integrity with moderate socialist sympathies and as a friend of the people. He is intellectually, if not physically, a very active man and has shown some initiative in taking in hand -- in spite of many difficulties and no direct instructions -- a number of somewhat delicate cases placed before him for conciliation, as an aftermath of General Order No. 14. He was successful in bridging differences between employers and employees in three instances, and is at the moment engaged in finding an acceptable formula for (i) the telephone employees, and (ii) workmen connected with milling and baking. To my mind the all important attribute making Avv. Isola suitable for the post of Director lies in the fact that he is accept-

①

While AMGOT should be making arrangements to relieve the Army of as much work as possible through reliable local agencies, in actual fact the reverse has here been happening in that D.A.D.L. has been saddled with supplying labor requirements for Civil Departments.

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able to the mass of workmen who appear to have implicit faith in his sense of fairness and in his integrity. Every care should be exercised, however, in the choice of his General Secretary, who would have to provide not only the technical ability of the Statistician and Administrator, but also the 'Drive'. If it is so desired, I am ~~in a position to submit the name of a suitable candidate.~~
~~after investigating the various possibilities and after consulting with the various interested parties, it is my~~

(Deputy Assistant Director of Labour - Ba)

3. D.A.D.L. as Civil Labor Exchange.

a. D.A.D.L. Catania has in point of fact filled the gap created by the absence of Labor Exchanges in the Catania District. This office is efficiently acting as Labor Supply Center both for Army requirements as well as for Civil, so that when MAGOT is in need of skilled or unskilled labor, an application is made for these requirements to D.A.D.L. This state of affairs shows that the position has been ~~and is being~~ reversed. ~~When the position was reversed, the~~
~~of a labor exchange, which is the only one of its kind in the district, the Army is being supplied with the labor that is strictly of a Civil Affairs nature.~~

b. The only available statistical information concerning the labor situation in Catania was supplied to me by Major Wayne, D.A.D.L. Catania and Messina District, ~~for the week ending 24-11-43~~
~~returned as follows:-~~

Employed by Army and Civil Units, through D.A.D.L.	10,573
Listed unemployed in D.A.D.L. (skilled & unskilled)	471
" " " (clerical & professional)	229

The above figures are in no way an indication of the actual state of unemployment (no effort, of course, is being made by D.A.D.L. to canvas registration of unemployed). Present unemployment figures are estimated to run into tens of thousands, and on further investigation, I have been able to form some idea of the main factors contributing to an abnormal increase since the Occupation. The main causes are as follows:

(1) Suspension of building trade. No public works are being undertaken except those of a purely essential and urgent nature. Private enterprise is at a standstill mainly because of scarcity of essential construction materials and the disproportionate increase in the cost of raw materials (iron, cement, wood, etc.). The workmen in this class are obtaining employment through D.A.D.L. on (1) Army works (2) demolition, clearance and minor repairs to damaged buildings. There is some indication of the possible formation of a limited liability company that would advance the requisite monies to the proprietors of damaged houses who are willing to undertake immediate steps on a rebuilding program. If A.D.G. were to sponsor this scheme, it would provide work for a considerable number of unemployed masons, carpenters, blacksmiths, etc.

(X) Clerical 428; Artisans 1418; Skilled 1961; Unskilled 6766.

(i) Suspension of (a) tramway services, (b) gas services.

(iii) Limitation of Mills, bakeries and Paste-making factories.

Of 200 bakeries only 51 are working; none of the 34 paste-making factories are functioning and the six leading mills have been shut down. It is reckoned that there are 800 workmen connected with these activities, of these only 200 are now employed.

(iv) Reduced clerical and professional requirements.
The men employed in this category is in a progressive increase owing to (a) suspension of local factories (b) a number of shops not having reopened, (c) insurance companies have closed down their agencies, (d) the Banca del Lavoro and the Banco di Sicilia have dismissed and continue to dismiss their employees (in some instances personnel on the establishment being discharged in order to make room for temporary employees at a lower salary), (e) the Comune is dispensing with the services of many auxiliary clerks, (f) the suppression of Fascist organizations and institutes.

c. Wages paid by D.A.D.L. are in conformity with A.M.G. Wage Scales, but all workmen (with exception of those working on aerodromes) are allowed, free of charge, a supplementary diet of 100 grams of bread. The flour for those engaged by the Services is provided by the Army, while that for employees in Civil departments is supplied by the Comune. A water-tight system of control on both the bakers and distributors is responsible for keeping consumption at the lowest possible level. The system of "spot check report" is in force to insure that the wages being paid are consonant with the work being performed by the workmen. D.A.D.L. is in agreement with the fundamental principle that it is dangerous to differentiate between Service and Communal employees in respect of extra food allowances, but naturally it will not be possible for D.A.D.L. to continue the issue of free bread when the employment exchange is taken over by the P.L.O. When this transfer of workmen from the D.A.D.L. roster to that of the P.L.O. is effected, I envisage the probability of some resentment being shown by the workmen concerned.

d. Major Wayne has undertaken to show the Director of the P.L.O. the system prevalent in his department with a view to eventual handing over of all index cards and other relevant papers when D.A.D.L. moves out of the area. Avv. Isola has also been assured of all possible cooperation and help when the P.L.O. and employment offices are brought into action.

4. General Order No. 14 and Trade Union Movement.

This General Order has been well received by the working classes in the Catania District, and it appears to have been the signal for more intensive activity in the field of collective organization. Proclamation No. 2 prohibits the holding of meetings -- a fact which would preclude the possibility of constituting unions.

and electing representatives. A.M.G. policy in Catania has been to overlook this fact, and, in taking cognizance of the facts as they are, the tendency is to accept, if unofficial, the existence of the Trade Union Movement. This spontaneous movement is, however, being tainted with political influences, and, in the absence of a properly constituted P.I.O., politicians are successfully invading the field for their own ulterior motives quite unconnected with the welfare of the working classes, and irresponsibly ignoring the fundamental economic and social aims which should form the sole basis of such collective associations. *TP* In view of the reluctance with which private firms are tending to accept the recommendations of General Order No. 14, there is some ferment brewing among a large section of the working classes. As this was making itself felt at AMGOT HQ., an "unofficial" meeting of representatives from some fifteen unions at different stages of organization was called by the Director of the P.L.O. Accompanied by Staff Captain AMG T I presided over the meeting and answered questions arising from the address made by Adv. Iccia. The purpose of this meeting was primarily to afford a "safety valve" and to drive home the service which P.L.O.'s are likely to render in the field of labor relations. Stress was placed on the necessity of (i) keeping the Trade Union movement completely divorced from Party politics; *accepting* (ii) ~~accepting~~ the relative civic and ethical responsibilities that are part and parcel of individual and collective rights; (iii) good will on the part of both employers and employees in the settlement of disputes through independent judicial machinery to be provided by the P.L.O. It was also suggested to representatives that contact should be immediately established with the Director of the P.L.O. whenever it is proposed to approach employers to seek adherence to the wage increases sanctioned by General Order No. 14. *ME* The question of existing collective contracts set up by the Fascist Syndicates was raised. My directive in this matter to the Director was that these should be honored while a revision on the basis of mutual agreement might be undertaken at the earliest practicable date. It appears to me, however, that before this can be undertaken on a strictly legal basis, the rescinding of the veto on meetings and recognition of the right of representation would have to be approved by A.M.G. I strongly suggest that action in this direction be taken, firstly, because P.L.O.'s under present conditions are not able to conduct legally either conciliation or arbitration in labor disputes; *Trade Union* secondly, to avoid driving underground the movement which is surely, if unobtrusively, gaining momentum among the laboring classes.

5. Public Health and Health Insurance. Public Health is at a low ebb — a considerable number of typhoid cases and of other infections and fevers being on the upgrade. A protracted inefficient and poor diet has lowered the power of resistance particularly among the laboring classes. Health Insurance has returned to its normal activities, collecting contributions and effecting payments. During November lire 125,244.30 were paid out to 458 persons in respect of illness, while lire 491,470.50 was paid out to 625 persons as family allowances. A further sum of lire 11,594 was paid to 4,370 persons as relief.

6. Unemployment Benefits and Compensation. The Istituto di Previdenza Sociale is also functioning normally. During November it paid in Catania proper, lire 185,000 to approximately 500 workmen and 300 clerical employees; a further sum of approximately lire 30,000 was paid in the rest of the Province.

The "Istituto Nazionale per l'assicurazione contro gli infortuni sul lavoro" (Cassa Infortuni) is carrying on its normal functions. The following is a summary of its payments:

	September	October	November
Accidents reported :	44	55	103
Total Payments Made: L. 62,781.90		L. 92,882.70	Payments still being made

7. General Economic Situation and Relief. The economic situation of Catania does not appear altogether unsatisfactory, and I am led to believe that the conditions have been improving steadily mainly due to the following factors:

- The Army has been employing on an increasing scale considerable numbers of skilled and unskilled laborers.
- Army personnel have been spending considerable sums in purchasing gifts, food, etc.
- Seasonal agricultural work on the orange and lemon farms have temporarily absorbed a number of unemployed.
- E.C.A. was assisting some 23,000 persons in October and some 20,000 in November.
- Payments are now being resumed by unemployment, social, and accident insurance agencies.

E.C.A.'s October activities for the City of Catania might be summarized as follows:

Approximate Population	258,400
Number of persons Assisted Financially in October	22,403
Percent of Population	8.60%
Amount Paid in Lire	3,104,398

Compared to figures for September the above shows increases as follows:

Increase in % of Population Being Assisted	2.20%
" " number of persons assisted	9,340
" " cash payments	L. 1,328,700

On AMOOF instructions E.C.A. temporarily suspended payments as from 29 Oct. 43 onwards in order to scrutinize as fully the needs of the persons receiving relief. Payments were resumed on 29 Nov. 43, arrears being met, but the opportunity was taken to make payments payable in arrears instead of, as previously, in advance.

The following are the data for November:

Approximate population	257,194
Number of persons receiving financial help	3,063
Sum paid in lire	624,643
% of population receiving relief	1.20%

8. Cost of living. Approaching the question of cost of living from an actual rather than a theoretical angle we have to admit that an accurate assessment is not really possible. In order to obtain a cost of living index we have to refer the present prices of essential commodities to those obtaining prior to the occupation. It is a well-known fact that under the Fascist Regime the Ration System and Price Control only existed on paper, most of the essential commodities never being made available through the ration card, and the cost of these to the individual being fixed by the law of supply and demand rather than by official control price lists. Under present conditions when no attempt is made by A.M.G. to supply a minimum of essential commodities on a rationed basis, the price of such commodities is constantly fluctuating on the open market. In such circumstances, one is faced with the problem of having to co-relate values that do not actually have a definite stability.

For purposes of obtaining a cost of living index a specimen weekly family budget for husband, wife and three minor children has been drawn out for Sept. 42 and Sept. 43. (Appendix A) For the former, the assessment is made according to official prices of the Catania "Ufficio Statistica", while for the latter the prevalent prices are taken. In order to stabilize quantities, the bread ration for Sept. 42 has been reckoned at gr. 150 per person -- this being the quantity now being issued in this district. Appendix A gives as the total weekly ~~minimum~~ family budget L 165.21 for Sept. 42 and ~~L 634.31~~ L 634.31 for Sept. 43. Thus we obtain an index of 384. This shows that even on the basis of an inadequate and fictitious diet the cost of living has, in the last year, risen by nearly four times.

Working on the accepted assumption that the average Sicilian is prepared to forfeit any part of his diet provided a sufficiency of bread and pasta are available, and fixing the minimum average quantity of bread at gr. 400 and of pasta at gr. 100 (supplemented by leguminaceous products, but excluding some other commodities like eggs, butter, marmalade) -- a weekly family budget today (vide Appendix B) would work out at over lire 1500. The black market price for part of the bread is reckoned at 42 lire per Kg. and no account has been taken of the cost of fuel which would be required for cooking this diet. On this total the weekly cost of bread and pasta represents over 50% -- a fact which suggests (i) that this item represents the ruling influence on the cost of commodities, and (ii) that an adequate bread and pasta ration is likely to defeat, in a large measure, black market activities.

It were well to consider that stabilization and control of prices for essential commodities is a "sine qua non" for return of economic equilibrium, and the scientific coordination of wage scales to cost of living.

9. Some other problems requiring attention.

a. Table of Organization. A table of organization for P.L.O's and Employment Offices does not yet exist, and this is likely to cause both delay in properly setting up these offices as well as some eventual difficulties in uniformity of organization. Appendix

10. Action. The following suggestions have been submitted  for consideration and necessary action, viz.:
- a. That AMGOT Catania appoint a C.A.O. to advise and help the Director of the P.L.O. in organizing his Department;
 - b. That the General Secretary to be appointed for the Catania P.L.O. have qualifications that are complimentary to those of the newly appointed Director;
 - c. That D.A.D.L. Catania, transfer to the P.L.O. the onus of supplying labor requirements for Civil Departments and that a uniform 'modus operandi' on region-wide basis be previously evolved in respect of supplementary bread rations to be issued to workmen;
 - d. That AMGOT Catania should consider the question of sponsoring the formation of the Limited Liability Company that intends to undertake the rebuilding of damaged areas;
 - e. That AMGOT, Catania, might consider the question of allowing more bakeries to reopen in order to relieve unemployment in this particular trade;
 - f. That AMGOT, Catania, tactfully approach the banks and leading private firms in order to impress upon the Directors the advisability of coming into line with General Order No. 14, and using the utmost discretion in the discharging of personnel  their permanent establishment.

(over)

c. Collective Contracts. It would appear that the existing Collective Contracts, which were imposed from above by the now dissolved Fascist Syndicates, should no longer be considered valid from a judicial standpoint. For practical purposes and in so far as it is in the interest of the two contracting parties, these contracts are being honored by both employers and employees. I have been led to believe, however, that employees are through their representatives agitating for a revision of their respective contracts and, what is more important, a number of these contracts have recently lapsed and many are due to lapse in the very near future.

There should not be the least delay in
 I wish to submit that ~~it would be expedient for A.M.G. to~~ communicating to the Directors of the P.L.O.'s; (i) the A.M.G. policy in this matter, which, I take it, would be based on concepts of "free associations" ~~and~~ and the principle of "collective bargaining"; and (ii) instructions as to the part which P.L.O.'s will play both in the revision of contracts as well as in the draft of new ones. These instructions can be only issued ^{of course,} after the veto on meetings has been rescinded and the right of representation has been conceded to the free associations of workmen.

C represents a scheme which is regarded as suitable by the Regional Director (Avvocato La Loggia) subject to certain modifications in respect of the smaller provinces.

b. Non-adherence to General Order No. 14 and Discharges of Employees. Private firms are tending to evade the issue of salary and wage increases in respect of their employees. ~~and~~ Workmen have pointed out that as long as AME does not sanction the right of representation, employees can take the attitude of refusing even to discuss the question. There is also some indication ~~that~~ that some employers are adopting a system of reprisal against the unofficial spokesmen of the employees. I wish to submit that an A.M.O. press notice authorizing workmen to nominate their representatives for purposes of seeking a "modus operandi" over the application of General Order No. 14, should provide a temporary solution to this difficulty. It appears that many private firms and banks continue to show reluctance in complying with the increases authorized by General Order No. 14, NOT in view of the immediate financial liabilities involved, but rather because of the considerable commitments to which they would make themselves open in respect of the "Indennita di inaspettata" normally paid to an employee on the last salary or wage which he was receiving and not on the average of his salary during his period of service. To my mind it would be advisable to create a distinction in respect of this indemnity, between the amount due to an employee for services rendered before the publication of General Order No. 14 and the amount that would be due to him for the period of service following the increase in salary as a result of this order. I believe that an arrangement of this sort is likely to induce many private firms to grant the increases stipulated — thus providing immediate relief to many employees who are still in the same precarious position as before the issue of this General Order.

c. Collective Contracts. Existing collective contracts today do not really have a legal validity in that these were imposed from above by the P.S.F. It stands to reason that these must be honored by both parties ~~until~~ a new form has been authorized and set into force. I wish to suggest that steps be taken to issue instructions to Directors of P.L.O.'s to the effect that they may proceed with the revision of collective contracts on the basis of free bargaining; (1) to decide on the procedure to be followed in connection with the registration of such contracts by the P.S.F.'s.

d. Reprisals. In order to stem any tendency on the part of employers to penalize workmen who act as spokesmen for their colleagues, it would be desirable to provide protection through and intervention of the P.L.O.'s. I suggest that specific instructions in this respect be issued, through P.C.A.O.'s, to the Directors of the P.L.O.'s.

→ 10. Action.

10/12/43

E. Sciolina
E. SCIOLINA,
Captain,
Labor Sub-Commission, I.C.C.

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~~16 - Labor Sub~~

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Appendix "A"

WEEKLY FAMILY BUDGET (HUSBAND, WIFE & 3 CHILDREN)

(City of Catania)

				Quantity	Average Price	Average Price	Weekly Cost	
					Sept/42	Sept/43	Sept/42	Sept/43
1	Bread	Current	Kg.	5,550	2.35	3.60	13.03	21.42
2	Rice	Camolino	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Pasta	Seasoned	Kg.	2,885	2.75	45.00	7.93	129.62
4	Dry Beans	Common	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Beef	2nd Quality	Kg.	1.00	19.50	55.00	19.50	55.00
6	Cheese	Peccorino	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Salt Fish	Flat	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Olive Oil	Pure	Liter	5.462	10.25	80	6.58	36.96
9	Wine	Rosato	Liter	4	3.38	17	21.52	48.00
10	Potatoes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Green Veggies	-	Kg.	3	2.37	8.92	11.22	53.40
12	Fruit	Current	Kg.	3	3.85	9.00	11.55	27.00
13	Fresh Fish	2nd Quality	Kg.	2	17.51	55.00	35.22	110.00
14	Eggs	-	No.	10	2.50	8.00	35.00	80.00
15	Goat's Cheese	-	Liter	1.5	2.90	12.00	4.35	18.00
16	Sugar	-	Kg.	6,616	8.30	85.00	5.56	34.91
17	Coffee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Butter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Lard	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Appendix "A"

WEEKLY FAMILY BUDGET (HUSBAND, WIFE & 3 CHILDREN)

(City of Catania)

	Quantity	Average Price Sept/42	Average Price Sept/43	Weekly Cost Sept/42 - Sept/43
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Current	Kg.	5,950	2.35	3.60	13.63	21.42
Camolino	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seasoned	Kg.	2,885	2.75	45.-	7.93	129.62
Common	-	-	-	-	-	-
2nd Quality	Kg.	1.-	19.50	55.-	19.50	55.-
Peas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wet	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pure	liter	0.462	19.25	80	6.58	36.96
Rosso	liter	4	5.38	12	21.52	48.-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current	Kg.	5	2.37	8.90	10.22	53.40
2nd Quality	Kg.	3	5.85	9.-	11.55	27.-
-	Kg.	2	17.61	55.-	15.22	110.-
-	No.	10	2.50	6.-	35.-	80.-
-	Liter	1.5	2.90	12.-	4.35	18.-
-	Kg.	0.646	8.30	85.-	5.36	34.91
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX "A"

Appendix "B"

WEEKLY FAMILY BUDGET (HUSBAND, WIFE & 3 CHILDREN)

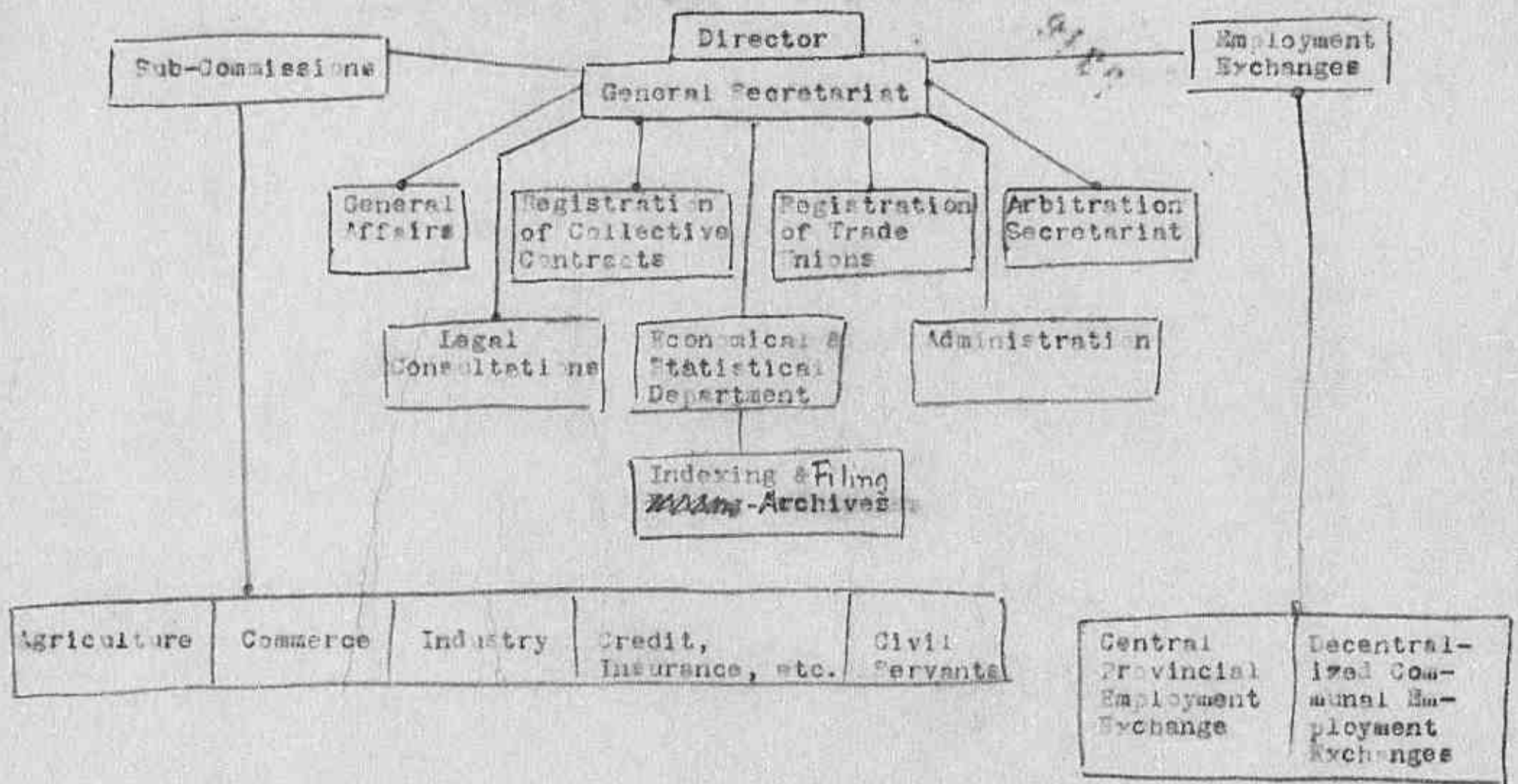
(Black-market prices on 5 Dec / 43 - City of *Cebu*)

Bread	Gr. 400 x 3 persons x 7 days	(Kg 2,350 at Lit 3.60	= Lit 85.80	
	Total 14 kg.	(Kg 8,750 at " 62.	= " 535.00	Lit 473.00
Pasta	Gr. 100 x 3 persons x 7 days	(Kg 0.300 at Lit 4.20	= Lit 12.60	
	Total 3,500 kg.	(Kg 3,000 at " 65.00	= " 195.00	Lit 197.10
Legumes	Dry bean and vetch Kg 2,000 at Lit 45.00			120.00
	Wax beans Kg 1,000 at Lit 30.00			30.00
Meat	Kg 4,000 at Lit 90.00			360.00
	Kg 0.500 at Lit 120.00			60.00
Olive Oil	Kg 0.300 at Lit 80.00			24.00
	Liters 4,000 at Lit 12.00			48.00
Green Veg.	Kg 6,000 at Lit 8.00			48.00
	Kg 1,500 at Lit 80.00			120.00
Milk	Liters 1,500 at Lit 20.00			30.00
	Kg 0.500 at Lit 15.00			7.50
Sugar	(Cost at rationed price)			
	Weekly Cost			1258.50

APPENDIX B

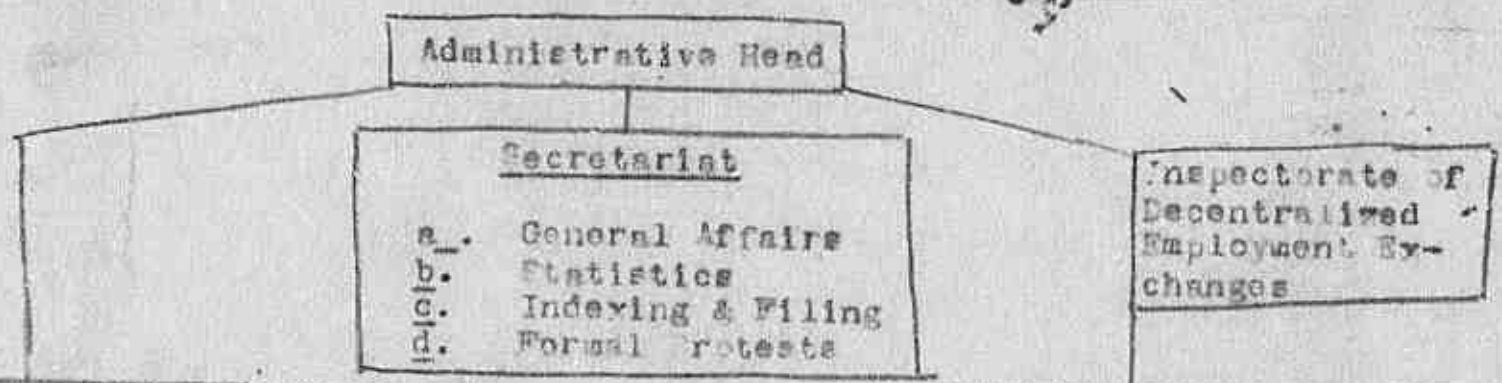
APPENDIX "C"

I. TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR PROVINCIAL LABOR OFFICES



APPENDIX 'C'

II. TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES
UNDER THE CONTROL OF PROVINCIAL LABOR OFFICES



Central Employment Exchange at Provincial Headquarters		
Clerical & Professional	Laborers	Maritime Workers
a. Agriculture		a. Seafaring Labor
b. Commerce		b. Port Labor
c. Industry		
d. Credit & Insurance		

Decentralized Employment Exchanges in the Communes	
Full-time personnel for Communal Employment Exchange.	or Part-time personnel for Communal Employment Exchange.

