

ACC 10000/146/495

091.445

LABOR DISPUTES

MAR - NOV. 1944

DISPUTES

av. 1944

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 496)
Revised July 26, 1918

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 091.445

LABOR DISPUTES

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
1	Capt. Morse	12-11-43	Col. Smith	Memo. on Strikes
2	Col. Bain	19-3-44	Col. Adams	Threatened strike of Electrical Workers
3	Col. Bain	20-3-44	" "	Action Taken by Executive Comm. in Labor Dispute
4	Cable re.			Threatened Electric Power Strike
5	Col. Smith	29-3-44	S. M. E.	Strike problem
6	Cable re.			Labor Dispute 29-Mar-1884
7	Region II	25-3-44	A. J. McGee	Threatened strike in ^{Electric Plant} Almanac India

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

WJS/fg

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION

Tel: 478809

7 November, 1944

REF : LAB.091.445

SUBJECT: Emergency action during Strikes

TO : Vice President Economic Section (Col. Densmore)
Attention 4:

Ref. your Secret file No. 5207/COS on above subject.

1. This file was only brought to my notice on 1 November 1944 and in view of the major issues involved I suggested to Captain MacNamera of your Department that my observations on the subject should first be submitted to Col. Smith Acting Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

2. I consider the circulation of an AAI Administrative Order on this subject not only desirable but an urgent necessity. The present AAI Draft, however, appears to overlook the different jurisdictional situations in various parts of Italy - a matter that has a definite bearing on the fixation of responsibilities at the preliminary stages of a strike situation and therefore affecting materially the operational procedure. For purposes of action in the Labour field, Italian Territory should be subdivided into three types viz:

- a. Territory, now under Italian Government jurisdiction, which was formerly under AMG;
- b. Territory, now under Italian Government jurisdiction, which was Not formerly under AMG;
- c. Territory still under AMG.

In 2. (a) Labour Offices exist as the machinery through which the responsible Italian Government might intervene to prevent or to settle a strike situation. The effectiveness of this machinery must not, however, be overestimated since the Italian Government has tended to curtail and to undermine the activities of these Offices - no legislation confirming their responsibilities having been promulgated up to date, although promised by

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H.M. Gronchi by October 15th.

In 2. (b) no Labour machinery whatsoever exists to replace the Corporative-Syndical system which has "defacto" been eliminated.

In 2. (c) it may be reasonably assumed that, in the event of a threatened strike, ~~that~~ AMG would have the situation well in hand from the very outset.

3. The procedure outlined in the draft AAI Administrative Order para 3 (file reference "page 2") fixes responsibilities on broad lines but, in practice, may not always prove equal to the occasion when it is considered that notice of an impending strike may only reach A.C. or the Military Authorities at the eleventh hour. Appendices A B C D are unfortunately not available in the file and therefore I am not in a position to say whether this "time factor" has been adequately catered for. It is my considered opinion that a Standard Operational Procedure should be worked out for each of the principal generating plants, defining clearly:

a. Where the responsibility of AC/AMG or AC/Italian Government ends and Military Authorities proper take over;

b. On whom the responsibility would devolve to call for the occupation of a plant by military personnel - due regard being taken of the fact that in some instances it would have to be Italian Government officials.

c. Who would be actually responsible for the provision and the material transportation of military personnel to the plant.

d. I wish to submit for your attention the following relevant considerations:

a. The Italian Government has no redress over employees in the essential services. They have shown reluctance to enforce existing legislation both in the field of wage control and of labour relations (Strikes declared illegal - wages frozen etc.). They have, moreover, considered unnecessary the rehabilitation of the existing law of Civil Mobilisation which has become inoperative as a result of the suppression of the Fascist Party which played an important part in the "call-up" and "enforcement" of this law.

b. Italian organised labour has not a developed Trade Union conscience and more often than not assumes an irresponsible attitude towards the use of "strikes" as an instrument of economic pressure. Labour organisations and representatives generally lack a sense of perspective and are liable to resort to strike without giving due notice, without presenting specific requests on behalf of the employees and quite irrespective of whether that form of protest is likely to enable them achieve their objectives. A strike may

be declared just for the sake of embarrassing the management or the authorities who may have amply proved that the requests of the workmen cannot be met under existing conditions.

c. Some generating plants are completely cut off from inhabited areas, so that the management may not be in a position to take preventative action by contacting in good time either A.C. or Military or even Italian Government authorities. In such cases it would appear that the precautions suggested by Director Public Safety Sub-Commission (File Reference page 5) may not be operative.

d. The practical difficulties mentioned by Lt.Col. Jackman (File Reference page 11) in para 2. (c) and 2. (d) and the suggestion made in para 3 should be given the most careful consideration. A.C. has been instructed (File Reference page 18 para 5) to represent to the Italian Government the necessity of ensuring that installations be efficiently operated and that adequate measures be taken to prevent future labour disturbances or effectively dealing with them should they arise. I wish to submit in this respect that the Italian Government may be asked to state how they would propose to deal effectively with such contingencies, mentioning at the same time that the obvious solution would be to rehabilitate the Civil mobilisation Laws.

Scicluna major

R. J. SCICLUNA

Major

Labour Relations Officer

5430

Translation Original

CONVISED NOTE.

According to official communications relating to the incidents of October 19, which caused 10 killed and 34 wounded, it is believed that the manifestation was caused by a labor dispute.

The manifestation was made by bank and tax collection employees for the purpose of obtaining economic improvements.

The aforementioned facts make it evident that it is necessary to issue a procedure in order to solve by law the labor disputes and give the Labor Offices a juridical character and a sufficient authority.

The Italian Government within 11 months has not been able to issue any provision in order to regulate the position of the Labor Offices and to give them sufficient powers for a juridical and moral authority. Instead the Italian Government behavior makes public and employees understand that the position of the latter is uncertain and indefinite.

It is sufficient to notice that the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labor till this moment has been busy about the Labor Offices only to notify the following:

- 1) Employees of the Labor Offices must be considered and paid as temporary workers. (See circular June 10- 1944)
- 2) All General Orders and rules issued by A.M.G. must not be applied in territories handed back to the Italian Administration.
- 3) The Office cannot have direct relations with the A.C.G. without the Ministry's approval.
- 4) The employees of the Labor Office are not considered State employees; they cannot enjoy the benefits of State employees; they can be dismissed any time without receiving indemnities. (See Circular issued by the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labor on October 7, 1944).

No provision has been issued for the regulation of the important Labor Offices' activities - disputes, mediations, arbitrations, statistical services, employments etc-.

If the Labor Offices would have not done something by their own initiative, and if something else would have not been done by the Labor Sub-Commission and by A.M.G. the Labor Offices would have had no guidance for the functioning of their activities.

The incidents of Palermo must be considered as a painful warning: it is necessary to make it understood that the conciliation and the pacific settlement of labor disputes are essential in the actual phase of civilization and particularly in Italy where, owing to the war distractions the labor questions are most serious and their solution is more difficult than those in other countries.

AVV. ENRICO LA LOGGIA

5428

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

Cross Reference Sheet

File: 445
Subject: Wage disputes in Bari
Date: 30 Sept 1944
To: Labor Officer, HQ, Southern Region A.C.C.
From: Labor Relations Officer, HQ, A.C.C. 421
Documents Filed: 46993

- js
- ①. Major Babcock ^{JOB}
 - ②. Major Albright
 - ③. Capt. Scicluna

It is presumed that the Italian Govt has received our Oth but Maj. Albright should ensure that there is no delay.

14/8/44

Hold up until after Sulphur question is put through -
Lt. Pollock Comm. S/C.

Italian copy to Italian Govt on 18 Aug 44
Returned 21 Aug 1961

5426

TRANSLATION BY G. BALDAZZI

GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR
CONFEDERAL CHAMBER
SOMMATINO

the 1st of August 1944

To the Allied Control Commission

R O M E

and for information
to His Exc. Muzotto
High Commissary for
Sicily

PALERMO

Re. Communication.

Further to the telegram sent you the 29 ultimo, this Confederated Labor Chamber, in the name of the "Lega degli Operai Edili" (Aedile Workers Union) and of the whole of its members, has the honour of submitting to your Most Higher Authorities the following.

On the 11-7-44 the competent Authorities were notified that the aedile workers organized in the General Confederation of Labor, owing to their miserable economic conditions had been obliged to stop their work on the date of 17-7-44, as a protest against aedile, bridges and roads constructing firms. The decision in question was notified immediately to the competent Authorities : Labor Provincial Bureau, His Exc. Muzotto, High Commissary for Sicily, His Exc. the Prefect and to the Com-mandeur of Reali Carabinieri of Sommatino.

On the afternoon of 17-7-44, the Provincial Labor Office of Caltanissetta wired us that a notice on the matter in question was sent to the Authorities, and that the latter were to examine the wages claim submitted by the aforesaid Union.

On the 17th of the same month, the workers assembled together in order to discuss about the interest taken by the

authorities on the issue and, by unanimous vote, they decided to resume their work. They also notified the interested authorities about the decision taken, adding that they would await until the 30th of the month for the result of their notice, otherwise they would stop the work on monday 31-7-44.

We have the honour of bringing to the knowledge of your Most Higher Authorities that the stopping of work has not a political character against the Allied Authorities (because, on the contrary, we have always deemed it our duty to give our co-operation to the Allied Forces), but it is an act that has exclusively an economic character, because the workers have been reduced to an extreme misery.

We are confident that your Most Higher Authorities will take in due consideration the tragic situation confronting the Aedile and Sulphur workers of this town, and awaiting a prompt word of assurance, we remain.

Respectfully yours,

FILIPPO NAPOLI
(For the Provincial Committee)

5424

CONFERENZA DEL GENERALE DEL LAVORO
CAMERA CONFEDERALE

COMITATO

Dot. N. I.

Effetto comunicazione.

SUB: Strike by Employees &

Reason thereof

In seguito al telegramma inviato il giorno 29 c.m., questa Unione
CONFEDERALE DEL LAVORO a nome della LEGA DEGLI OPERAI MILI e di tutti i
suoi membri ha l'onore di far conoscere e codeste Altissime Autorità quanto
segue:

In data 11/7/44, si preveniva alle Autorità competenti che gli ore-
rari edili aderenti alla CONFEDERAZIONE GENERALE DEL LAVORO che, dato le loro
miserie condizioni economiche, si sono visti obbligati a cessare il lavoro per
segno di di protesta alle ditte Edili; l'ontà e strage il giorno 17/7/44; tale
decisioni sono state comunicate immediatamente alle autorità competenti:
UFFICIO PROVINCIALE DEL LAVORO, S.E. MUOTTO ALMO COMMISSARIO PER LA SICILIA,
S.E. IL PRESENTIO, E AL COMANDANTE DEI RR.CO. DI COMITATO.

Il giorno 17/7/44, nelle ore pomeridiane l'UFFICIO PROVINCIALE DEL
LAVORO di Caltanissetta si telegrafava dicendo che autorità erano state
prevenute in merito ed erano per esaminare l'avvertenza salariale formulata
dalla su detta Lega.

Il giorno 17 medesimo gli operai si sono riuniti per discutere sulla
l'interessamento da parte delle Autorità, e ad una riunione hanno deciso di
placatamente di riprendere il il lavoro, ed hanno fatto conoscere alle Auto-
rità su indicate tale decisione; aggiungendo che avrebbero aspettato fino al
a giorno 20 l'esito di tale avvertenza, e se non, avrebbero cessato il lavo-
ro per il lunedì 21/7/44.

Si ha l'onore di far conoscere a codeste ALTISIME AUTORITÀ che, la
cessazione del lavoro, non ha un carattere politico contro le Autorità Alle-
ate, tutt'altro, (poiché abbiamo sempre inteso il dovere di collaborare con
le Forze Alleate) ma un carattere esclusivamente economico, poiché gli operai
sono ridotti nella più estrema miseria.

Piccolissimi che codeste spett. ALTISIME AUTORITÀ prenda in con-
siderazione la tragica situazione in cui versano e trovarsi gli operai Edili e
Zollatari di questo Comune, e con rispetto, in attesa di una pronta e sicura-
zione, ringraziano e ossequiano.

Con perfetta osservanza.

To Ministry, for info.
18 Aug 1944

Returned by Ministry

F. IL COMITATO PROVVISORIO
(MILITATO NAPOLI)

[Signature]

Reverend Cherif

In seguito al telegramma inviato il giorno 25 c.m., questa CAMERA CONFERMA IL LAVORO a nome della LEGA DEGLI OPERAI E DI TUTTI I suoi membri ha l'onore di far conoscere a codeste Altissime Autorità quanto segue:

In data 17/7/44, si preveniva alle Autorità competenti che gli operai edili aderenti alla CONFERMAZIONE GENERALE DEL LAVORO che, dato le loro misere condizioni economiche, si sono visti obbligati a cessare il lavoro per segno di protesta alle alte Autorità; l'ordine è stato il giorno 17/7/44; tale decisione sono state comunicate immediatamente alle autorità competenti: UFFICIO PROVINCIALE DEL LAVORO, C.A. MUJOTO ALTO COMMISSARIO PER LA SICILIA, S.B. IL PREFETTO, e AL COMANDANTE DEI R.S. DI COMATINO.

Il giorno 17/7/44, nelle ore pomeridiane l'UFFICIO PROVINCIALE DEL LAVORO della Caltanissetta ci telegrafava dicendo che autorità erano state prevenute in merito ed erano per esaminare l'avvertenza esemplare formulata dalla su detta Lega.

Il giorno 17 medesimo gli operai si sono riuniti per discutere sull'interessamento da parte delle Autorità, e ad unanimità hanno deciso di rinunciare di riprendere il il lavoro, ed hanno fatto conoscere alla Autorità su indicate tale decisione; aggiungendo che avrebbero aspettato fino al giorno 30 l'esito di tale avvertenza, ma se non, avrebbero cessato il lavoro per il lunedì 31/7/44.

Si ha l'onore di far conoscere a codeste ALTISSIME AUTORITÀ che, la cessazione del lavoro, non ha un carattere politico contro le Autorità Alleate, tutt'altro, (poiché abbiamo sempre inteso il dovere di collaborare con le Forze Alleate) ma un carattere esclusivamente economico, poiché gli operai sono ridotti nella più estrema miseria.

Riunionsi che codeste spett. ALTISSIME AUTORITÀ prendano in considerazione la tragica situazione in cui si trovano gli operai edili e solleciti di questo Comune, e con rispetto, in attesa di una pronta soluzione, ringraziamo e ossequiamo.

Con perfetta osservanza.

F. IL COMITATO PROVINCIALE

(FILIPPO MARCILI)

[Signature]

*To Ministry, for info:
18 Aug 1944*

*Returned by Ministry
21 Aug 1944*

IDENTIALCONFIDENTIALLABOUR30. AN ACC OFFICER COMMENTS ON THE LABOUR ORDINANCES

A high ranking ACC Officer speaking with the fullest authority makes the following comments about the recent Labour Ordinances forbidding demonstrations and penalizing strikes; The Allied Authorities do not discourage Labour Organization since they provide a means for collective bargaining and for representing the workers interests. On the other hand the treats of strikes, and the white-strikes which we have had recently in Naples cannot be allowed.

Since the workers have the Labour Offices which deal with their problems, and to whom they can present their complaints quite freely there is no occasion for them to take matters into their own hands.

These troubles are largely due to a misunderstanding of the situation and to the workers agitators who are trying to make a racket of Union Leadership. The people in Naples must realize that although they have to endure real hardships the operations which are proceeding in Italy benefit the Italians as well as the Allies who have to bear the full brunt of the fighting.

There have been repeated attempts to work up strikes when an increase of pay had been promised and was due to be made in a few days. On another occasion bank-clerks threatened a strike because their Easter - bonuses had not been increased in proportion to their pay.

When this was made up partly by the Banks, partly by Senior Officials who sacrificed their own Bonuses, and partly by payments out of the Bank Association funds, they still threatened to strike stating that their increase had not been granted in the right manner.

Eventually however all differences were settled amicably.

It is obvious that demonstrations and strikes which hinder the war effort and assist the enemy propaganda cannot be allowed at this moment when so much is at stake.

3422

File
445Memorandum for AGI-

pertaining to the draft of the legislative decree of the Lieutenant General regarding the handling of controversies which have arisen upon application of R.D.L. 7 December 1943, No. 2578.

The provisions set forth by Allied Authorities in regard to salary increases for employees take into consideration the settlement of controversies through the Provincial Labor Offices (see Proclamation No. 2, of Region III).

R.D.L. 7 December 1943, No. 2578, however, after having assured the salary increases in those provinces which were returned to the Italian Government, and having extended them within the provinces of Puglia and Basilicata, made no provision for appointing the body which would make decisions on controversies which might arise.

It is therefore necessary to issue an additional regulation establishing that controversies be handled either by Provincial Labor Offices, as per Allied orders, or, in the provinces of Puglia and Basilicata, where no Labor Offices have as yet been established, by the Inspection Offices of Industry and Commerce.

This additional regulation has been issued for in a hurry by several sources because of the numerous controversies extant which await decision, and which threaten to cause work interruption unless they are handled speedily.

Particularly, on the evening of 27 July, the High Commissioner for Basilicata came to the Minister for Industry Commerce and Labor to point out the urgent need for quick action; and since on the afternoon of the same day there was a meeting of the Council of Ministers it was decided to present for approval a regulation along general lines, subject to further approval of AGI, and to be modified as per their advice and criticism, before presenting it for the signature of the Lieutenant-General.

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APPUNTO PER LA A.C.C.

*relativo allo Schema B' decreto legislativo delegato sulla
deputazione delle provincie, varate in applicazione del R.D.L. 14 dicembre
1943 n. 2318.*

Le ordinanze emanate dall'Autorità Alleata per l'aumento dei salari dei prestatori d'opera prevedono che le relative controversie sono deferite per la sistemazione agli Uffici Provinciali del Lavoro (vedasi per tutte l'ordinanza n. 2 della Regione III).

Invece il R.D.L. 14 dicembre 1943 n. 2318, dopo avere confermato gli aumenti salariali nelle provincie passate all'amministrazione del Governo Italiano e averli estesi alle provincie delle Puglie e della Sardegna, non prevede poi a chi spetti di decidere sulle controversie che possono sorgere.

E quindi si rende necessario di emanare una norma aggiuntiva, per stabilire che le controversie sono decise o dagli Uffici Provinciali del Lavoro, così come disponevano le ordinanze alleate, ovvero, nelle provincie delle Puglie e della Sardegna, in cui gli Uffici del Lavoro non sono stati ancora istituiti, dagli Ispettorati dell'Industria e Commercio.

Questa norma aggiuntiva è stata sollecitata da varie parti, poiché le numerose controversie sorte, e che attendono una decisione, minacciano di causare interruzioni del lavoro.

In particolare il mattino del 21 luglio l'Alto Commissario per la Sardegna è venuto da S.E. il Ministro per l'Industria Commercio e Lavoro a fare presente la urgenza del provvedimento; e poichè il pomeriggio dello stesso giorno si riuniva il Consiglio dei Ministri, si penso di fare approvare da esso una norma di massima, salvo a presentarla all'approvazione dell'A.C.C. ed eventualmente modificarla in base alle osservazioni, che questa avesse potuto fare, prima di sottoporla alla

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del Lavoro (vedasi per tutte l'ordinanza n. 2 della Regione III).

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zione del Governo italiano e averli estesi alle provincie delle
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so una norma di massima, salvo a presentarla all'approvazione
dell'A.C.C. ed eventualmente modificarla in base alle osserva-
zioni, che questa avesse potuto fare, prima di sottoporla alla
firma del Luogotenente Generale.

0 71 445
SS/BAF
DEAR LEAD MEMBERS
ARMED FORCES COMMISSION
Legal Subcommittee
APO 394

5 June 1964

LCS/1017/2/L

SUBJECT: Circular of the Ministry of Justice on Individual Labour Disputes.

TO : Labour Subcommittee, HQ AOC. ✓

1. You might be interested in the enclosed copy of the above circular.
2. Do you have any comments?

A. R. Thompson
A. R. THOMPSON, Lt. Col.
for Chief Legal Officer.

TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF PARDON AND JUSTICE
General Office for Civil Affairs.

No. 20214

CIRCULAR

Salerno, 16 March 1944

SUBJECT : Individual Labour Disputes.

Various judicial offices, situated in territory returned to Italian Administration, have drawn the attention of this Ministry to the necessity for re-opening proceedings in regard to individual labour disputes but have pointed out that, as a consequence of the suppression by the Allied Military Government of the Syndacal Association of the Fascist Corporations Order (Associazione Sindacali dell'Ordinamento Corporativo fascista), it is no longer possible to comply with the provisions of the laws, which make obligatory a preliminary notification of such disputes before the competent syndical association for settlement to be attempted as prescribed.

They therefore ask for instructions on this point.

This Ministry is of the opinion that, until any change in the law is made, the attempt at settlement may be dispensed with in dealing with such disputes. For, as the syndical Association have been suppressed, before which the attempt at settlement should take place, their relative functions have also ceased to exist; and because none of the rules instituted by the Allied Military Government for the control of Regional and Provincial Labour offices makes it obligatory for an attempt at settlement coming before such an office first to have been presented before a Magistrate.

Please bring this to the notice of your subordinate offices, asking them to give their urgent attention to the labour matter.

The Minister

W.C.B., 4.5.44.

SEEN	
Col. Bm	1946
Lt. Col. Smith	
Major. Brown	20th.
Capt. Davis	
Capt. Edwards	
1st Lt. Thompson	11/5-44

X 6 documents

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suppression by the Allied Military Government of the Syndical Association of the Fascist Corporations Order (Associazione Sindacali dell'Ordinamento Corporativo fascista), it is no longer possible to comply with the provisions of the laws, which make obligatory a preliminary notification of such disputes before the competent syndical association for settlement to be attempted as prescribed.

They therefore ask for instructions on this point.

This Ministry is of the opinion that, until any change in the law is made, the attempt at settlement may be dispensed with in dealing with such disputes. For, as the syndical Associations have been suppressed, before which the attempt at settlement should take place, their relative functions have also ceased to exist; and because none of the rules instituted by the Allied Military Government for the control of Regional and Provincial Labour offices makes it obligatory for an attempt at settlement coming before such an office first to have been presented before a Magistrate.

Please bring this to the notice of your subordinate offices, asking them to give their urgent attention to the labour matter.

The Minister

M.C.D., 4.5.44.

SEFN	
Col. Ben	10/6
Lt. Col. Smith	
Major. Brown	10/6
Capt. Blair	10/6
Capt. Spence	10/6
1st Lieutenant	10/6

X 1/6 despatch 10/6

81A?

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

091.445

7 April, 1944

SUBJECT: Action Taken by Executive Commissioner in Labor Dispute

TO : Colonel D. S. Adams, Executive Officer, Economic Section

1. I have your note of the 30th ult., and note that you cannot give the undertaking asked for in the last sentence of my minute of 28th ult. The position is not understood since it implies that in the field of Labor there may be, at the discretion apparently of another Section or Branch, a subdivision of responsibilities not envisaged in the present layout, and apparently outwith normal lines of control.

2. Labor matters do not lend themselves to divided control at any stage, and apparently minor matters frequently involve main principles. Just as frequently they become important issues.

3. Hitherto the responsibility of this Sub-Commission on Labor matters has been through Mr. Grady to the General, and if that order is to be changed, it must not, in my opinion, be changed casually, at irregular intervals or on unspecified aspects of the work. If control is to be shared, on what can be called a horizontal basis,

a. The division should be clearly stated so that this Sub-Commission will know how it stands;

b. The reason for the necessity for subdivision should be stated, if only for staff purposes.

JTRB/tbw


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

5417

SEEN

Col. Bain	
1st Col. Smith	
Major Fehrock	
Capt. Scicuna	
St. Gammacco	

Ref. L/1/18

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

25 Mar 44

Subj. Threatened Strike in Calabrian Hydro-Electric Plant.

To: Executive Commissioner, R.C. and M.G. Section,
AOC Headquarters, Naples.

1. The threatened strike in the hydro-electric plant of the Sila Power Company has been averted.
2. On the evening of March 18th information was received from Headquarters, District 2, that a strike was threatened in this plant which supplies electrical power to parts of Calabria and Lucania and to all of Apulia and Abruzzi. On Sunday, March 19th, the Regional Labor Officer was ordered to go to the plant forthwith, to serve notice on the employees that a continuous supply of power was necessary for the Allied Armies, that interruption of the supply would be treated as sabotage, the penalty for which included death, that the employees were to continue at work and that if they had any grievances, they were to submit them to him. On our part, if the grievances were justified, we would agree to do our utmost to have them remedied.
3. Captain Frazer, the Regional Labor Officer, reached Catanzaro, conferred with the local representative of the power company, who was unaware of any labor trouble at the plant, which was located 70 miles away at an almost inaccessible place in the mountains. When he reached the place, he found a tense situation. The employees were armed and openly threatening to shoot it out with the representatives of the management.
4. The basis of the feeling was as follows:-

There are 120 employees at this Timpa Grande Plant and another 100 at three other plants, all operated by the Sila Power Company, with headquarters in Naples. The employees were working under a contract made with the Company in 1929. This contract provides for very low wages, but the workmen were actually receiving considerably more than the contract specified as the result of bonuses granted from time to time. When an increase in wages of 1, authorized by Regional Order No. 6, as of December 1,

5416

To: Executive Commissioner, N.C. and D.C.
ACC Headquarters, Naples.

1. The threatened strike in the hydro-electric plant of the Sila Power Company has been averted.
2. On the evening of March 18th information was received from Headquarters, District 2, that a strike was threatened in this plant which supplies electrical power to parts of Calabria and Lucania and to all of Apulia and Abruzzi. On Sunday, March 19th, the Regional Labor Officer was ordered to go to the plant forthwith, to serve notice on the employees that a continuous supply of power was necessary for the Allied Armies, that interruption of the supply would be treated as sabotage, the penalty for which included death, that the employees were to continue at work and that if they had any grievances, they were to submit them to him. On our part, if the grievances were justified, we would agree to do our utmost to have them remedied.
3. Captain Frazer, the Regional Labor Officer, reached Catanzaro, conferred with the local representative of the power company, who was unaware of any labor trouble at the plant, which was located 70 miles away at an almost inaccessible place in the mountains. When he reached the place, he found a tense situation. The employees were armed and openly threatening to shoot it out with the representatives of the management.
4. The basis of the feeling was as follows:-
There are 120 employees at this Tiapa Grande Plant and another 100 at three other plants, all operated by the Sila Power Company, with headquarters in Naples. The employees were working under a contract made with the Company in 1929. This contract provides for very low wages, but the workmen were actually receiving considerably more than the contract specified as the result of bonuses granted from time to time. When an increase in wages of up to 70% was authorized by Regional Order No. 6, as of December 1, 1943, the Company wanted to base the increase on the salaries fixed in the 1929 contract. The workers insisted that the increase should be based upon what they were actually receiving on September 1, 1942, in accordance with the terms of the Regional Order. The workmen also requested the Company to give them a new contract. The request was refused. On Feb 18th the Company officials in Naples were requested to send a representative to the plant. No answer was received. Another request was made on Feb 23rd and a representative of the Company arrived at the plant on March 3rd. Matters in dispute were discussed but no agreement was reached, and the workmen later threatened to strike. There were several other points of less importance involved.

5416

28 Mar

-2-

The workers are receiving 200 grams of bread a day, a little olive-oil, but complain that they have received no sugar, pasta, or medical supplies (a supply of sugar has recently arrived in the province, but the inaccessibility of the plant and the shortage of transportation has made it impossible to deliver at this point, as yet). Apparently, the food situation was not an important factor.

5. The Company has furnished comfortable homes for the men and gives electrical service for a very small sum. A noon-day meal is also furnished for 75 centesimi.

6. Captain Frazer held a conference immediately with Signore Rephsela Leoni, the Chief of Maintenance for the Company, and with a committee of six workmen. He explained the very serious view which the Allied Military authorities would take of a stoppage of work. The committee assured him that there would be no stoppage of work at the plant. It was found that the workers did not know of their right to appeal to the Provincial Labor Office for mediation. Capt. Frazer explained to them how they should prepare the case for submission to that office, and asked the Provincial Labor Director, who had accompanied him to the plant, to expedite a hearing, after sending formal notice to both the Company and the workers of the time and place.

7. When he left the plant, the feeling of both the management representative and the worker's committee was very friendly and he was assured by both that there would be no strike.

8. This is the first important mediation case which has arisen in Region II. It may well prove to be a test case of the efficacy of our Labor organization, and as such, have a far-reaching effect. Captain Frazer does not believe the questions involved are very complicated or such as a board of mediators would have difficulty in adjusting satisfactorily. He has impressed upon the Provincial Labor Officer the importance of prompt action and most careful handling of the matter, and is planning to be present at the hearing in person.

9. It is respectfully suggested that the officials of the Company in Naples should be impressed with the necessity of being represented at the hearing and of carrying out promptly and completely, the decisions of the mediators.

G. H. Mc Caffrey
G. H. Mc Caffrey

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J. H. M. Caffrey
G. H. McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
R.O.

GHA/pjh

Copies: Director, Labor Sub-Commission, ACC Headquarters
G.O.C., No. 2 District.

Principal Copy to CH Branch

Blondel 445

U-2349

MATERA, March 25, 1944

SUBJECT: Threatened strike in Calabrian power station

TO: Director, Labor Subcommittee, ✓
NAPLES

1. Attached hereto is a copy of orders received by me from the ROC on Sunday, March 19. There is also attached a copy of the preliminary report made by me on this case together with a summary of the workers' claims prepared by the local Catanzaro Labor Office after an analysis of the situation. The company has not submitted any information at all as yet.

2. I am working with regional director Pruni on legal procedure to be followed at the mediation of this case. I am most anxious for it to be handled properly as it is likely to have a far reaching effect. It appears to be the first real test of the labor machinery we have set up. If the electric company should decide to ignore the Catanzaro Labor Office and not participate in the mediation, I very much hope the Italian government will either order the company to submit to mediation or order the company to carry out the decision of the arbitrators even though the company should not participate. I am very anxious to know how far the Italian government can be counted on to stand by our labor offices.

3. I should be very glad to have any instructions or information which the Labor Subcommittee may care to send in connection with this case.

Robert Frazer
ROBERT FRAZER, Captain
Labor Officer, Region II

SEFN	
Col. Bain	
Lt. Col. Smith	
Major Hancock	
Capt.	
Capt. Schluska	
Lt. J. J. J.	

- 5414

29 Mar
5

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

Ref. L/1/10

19 Mar 44

Subj. Threatened Strike in Calabrian Power Station.

To: Capt. Frazer, Regional Labor Officer.

1. No.2 District has informed us of a threatened strike in the power plant at the Sila Power Station in Calabria.

2. You will proceed as quickly as possible to the scene, ascertain if the report is correct, and if it is, deliver the following message to the employees:-

"There is a war going on. A continuous supply of power is necessary to the Allied Armies in fighting that war. Interruption of the power supply constitutes sabotage. The penalty for sabotage includes death. There will be no strike. Continue at work and make known your grievances to Captain Frazer. If they are justified grievances, we will do our utmost to see that they are remedied."

G. H. McCaffrey
G. H. McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
R.C.

5413

GEM/pjh

Subject:- Electricity Supply.

ACC/AMG.
Liason Officer
2 District

14 C.E. Works.
No. 2 District. H.Q.
Tel. No. 11422.
Ref. No. CE/113/6.

17 March 44.

The Chief Engineer of S.G.P.E. has reported that personnel of S.M.E. at Sila Power Station in Calabria are threatening to go on strike and cause deliberate interruption of supply.

As the whole of No. 2 District relies on the Sila Plant, it is requested that an immediate investigation be made of this report.

/s/ W. G. BENNETT
Major RE
for Brigadier,
Chief Engineer.

Copy to A.C.C. Region II.

5412

Catanzaro - March 21

SUBJECT : Threatened strike in Calabrian Power Station

TO:ROC - Region 2

1. There will be no strike.

2. Upon arrival in Catanzaro on Monday, March 20 I called upon Captain Beresford; the PC, explained my mission, located Sig. Eduardo Polacco, the Provincial Director of Labor, and together we called upon the local office of the Electrical Society to see if we could get any information about the trouble at the Sila power station: The local office had no information at all about the matter but we learned that the plant involved was located at a little village called Cotronei. We proceeded forthwith to Cotronei which is some seventy miles from Catanzaro in an almost inaccessible section of the Sila mountains.

3. Upon arriving at Cotronei I went to the office of the company and interviewed Sig. Raffaele Leone, the Chief of maintenance for the company who described in general the difficulties. I requested that I be permitted to talk with the workers at once and was told they had a committee which represented their interests: this committee is composed of Signoriello Salvatore = Sergente Gennaro = Timpani Angelo = Olivario Olin-do = Cervino Sebastiano = Rizzolla Pietro. I sent for this committee and addressed both the company officials and workers committee at the same time.

4. This power plant is known as the Timpa Grande Lower Plant and it is a part of the Sila Electric Power Companies: There are 120 employees at Timpa Grande; three other plants are operated by this same management with a total of 220 employees. These plants furnish power for Calabria, Puglia, Lucania and Campania and Abruzzi. There is considerable paternalism on the part of the Company. The workers are furnished comfortable homes and electricity for which they pay a very small sum monthly: and are given a noonday meal for .75 lire.

5. The workers are represented by a committee which was organized since the occupation. They work under a contract made with Company in 1929. This contract provides very low wages but the workers actually receive considerably more than their contract specifies: When the salaries were increased they requested the Company to give them a new contract which was refused. The salaries are still low for example a section chief now receives 3.85 lire an hour: On Feb. 18 a request was made of the Company officials in Naples to send a representative here: Receiving no answer another request was made on Feb. 23 and a representative arrived here on March. 3. There was a discussion of the matter but it was not satisfactorily adjusted and the workers later threatened a strike.

6. The main points of dispute are the fact that when the 70 percent increase was authorized the company wanted to give the increase based on the old salaries carried in the 1929 contract. The workers insisted on having the increase given on their present salaries plus benefits as set out in Regional Order no 6.

There are several other points in dispute. The workers get 200 grand of bread a day but complain about having no sugar; no medicine; no macaroni and very little oil.

7. I learned that the workers did not know of their right to appeal their case to the Provincial Labor Office for Mediation and I explained to them that they could have all their grievances thoroughly and fairly considered by an impartial authority. They were very pleased and are anxious to have their case heard. I also pointed out that electric power is absolutely necessary to the war effort and that any stoppage of power would constitute sabotage; that if they stop work at the plant they would lose all right to ever have their case adjudicated, would lose their homes, their jobs and would become involved in very serious trouble with military authorities for sabotaging the war effort. I found a very satisfactory attitude on the part of the workers and the committee assured me there would be no stoppage of work at the plant:

8. I explained to the committee now they should prepare their case for submission to the Provincial Labor Office and asked the Provincial Labor Director to expedite a hearing on the matter - sending formal notices to both company and workers of the time and place for the hearing etc.

9. This is the first real test of our labor machinery and the case is likely to have a far reaching effect: I am very anxious that first important mediation case shall be handled in a satisfactory manner by our Provincial Labor Office in Catanzaro Province. I do not feel that the questions involved are serious ones and I think that a board of mediators can satisfactorily adjust all points in dispute. I left the Timpa Grande Power plant with the promise on the part of both company officials and workers that there would be no stoppage of work; There seemed to be a very friendly atmosphere when I left and both sides of the controversy are quite willing to submit to mediation under the supervision of the Provincial Labor Office.

ROBERT MAZER

Regional Labor Officer

5410

RICHIESTE ANCORA NON ACCETTATE DALLA SOCIETA'

- 1°) che sia fornito agli operai il mezzo di trasporto anche per recarsi dal paese alla centrale elettrica
- 2°) per l'aumento del 70% previsto dal bando regionale n.6 sia applicato sulle paghe di fatto percepite dagli operai nel dicembre 1943 e non sulle paghe stabilite dal contratto in vigore il 1 settembre 1942. A tale data il contratto in vigore era (ed è) ancora quello del 1929.
Un operaio di prima categoria ha avuto l'aumento del 70% sulla paga di L. 3.28 mentre la sua paga reale è di L. 3.85 orarie
- 3°) che tale aumento sia portato anche sulla indennità di disagiata residenza che tutti i dipendenti hanno sempre percepito sin dall'inizio dell'esercizio.
Attualmente le indennità corrisposte sono le seguenti:

operaio di IIa categoria	L. 75.== mensili
" " Ia "	" 100.== "
impiegato d'ordine	" 300.== "
" di concetto	" 500.== "
- 4°) che tale aumento sia portato anche sulla indennità di presenza (o di guerra) di L. 6.= al giorno per gli operai
- 5°) che sia stabilita una indennità per gli operai che lavorano in zone di montagna ad altezze superiori ai 1000 metri (questa richiesta riguarda circa 25 persone)
- 6°) che sia stabilita una indennità per gli operai che lavorano in servizio notturno dalle ore 22 alle 6
- 7°) che si proceda ad una revisione del rimborso spesa di trasferta, o missione, che attualmente sono:
per gli operai di IIa categoria (quelli cioè che sono i più interessati) L. 18.= al giorno oltre
" 12.= in caso di pernottazione
Dal mese di dicembre 1943 la trasferta venne aumentata di L. 10.=
- 8°) che sia provveduto ad un regolare e costante servizio di approvvigionamento viveri
- 9°) che sia provveduto ad un regolare rifornimento di medicinali
- 10°) che sia fornito, una volta tanto, ad ogni operaio, dietro equo pagamento:
 - I paio di scarpe da lavoro
 - I tuta da lavoro
 - I vestito

Chiedono inoltre gli operai che, dopo sistemati così provvisoriamente il personale, sia provveduto nel termine massimo di mesi sei alla stipulazione di un nuovo contratto collettivo di lavoro, con revisione di paghe e di qualifiche.-

0034

CONFIDENTIAL

FATIMA 2721

4/5

FATIMA (LABOR SUB-COMMISSION)

29 MARCH, 1944

VAPOR 21 - SMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

URGENT

DISTWO

REFERENCE YOUR MESSAGE TWO NINE MARCH REGARDING SIA LABOR DISPUTE CMA. DEFEND EMPLOYEES THAT THEIR PROBLEM IS NOW BEING REVIEWED BY THE LABOR SUBCOMMISSION AS PART OF GENERAL PROBLEM TO PAREN TO DISTWO FOR AND REGION TWO FROM FATIMA SIGNED SACFARANE PAREN RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE LABOR SUBCOMMISSION TO DEFEND FOOD CONCESSIONS TO WORKERS AND TO GUARANTEE STUDY OF WAGE CONDITIONS IN THIS DISPUTE WITH A VIEW TO DECIDING WHETHER LEGISLATION SHOULD BE ENACTED TO PERMIT REVISION OF BASIC WAGES TO IN AMBITRATING THE FOLLOWING POLICY ORDERING CMA WORKERS CMA FIRST CMA THE PRESENT PROBLEM IN THE LABOR FIELD IS ESSENTIALLY ONE OF FOOD SUPPLIES AND NOT RYR RYR OF WAGE ADJUSTMENT TO AN ALLROUND INCREASE OF WAGES CAN ONLY RESULT IN AN INCREASE OF BLACK MARKET PRICES TO SECOND CMA STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS ARE REGARDED AS ILLEGAL INSTRUMENTS FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF LABOR DISPUTES AND WILL BE CONSIDERED AS SABOTAGING THE WAR EFFORT TO THIRD CMA GENERAL SACFARANE HAS RULED THAT IN THE FUTURE NO ADVANCES OR LOANS IN CASH OR IN KIND BE MADE TO ANY GROUP OF WORKERS TO FOURTH CMA WAGES AND PRICES ARE FROZEN AS PER TOTAL DECREE NUMBER THREE TWO OF ONE ONE FEBRUARY WHICH VALIDATES YOUR REGIONAL ORDERS ON THE SAME SUBJECT TO FIFTH CMA ANY REVISION OF BASIC WAGE STRUCTURE REQUIRES COMPARATIVE WAGE STUDY AND NEW LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

5408

6

L. T. MONTANT.
and Lt. AGO.
Adjutant

CONFIDENTIAL

File

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

LAB 091.445

29 Marzo, 1944

DALLA: Commissione di Controllo Alleata, Sotto Commissione del Lavoro

ADDA: Società Meridionale Elettrica

Con riferimento al memoriale presentato al Capitano Fraser, Ufficiale a Capo della Divisione del Lavoro 2. Regione, dal Personale di Codesta Società reparto Sila e con riferimento alla richiesta fonografica del reparto Tusciense in merito alle richieste avanzate dai vostri dipendenti e dalla richiesta di colloquio colle autorità Alleate, vogliate comunicare ai dipendenti stessi che tutta la questione è già sotto esame da parte di questa Sotto-Commissione Alleata e che conversazioni sono in corso tra la stessa Sotto-Commissione, la vostra Direzione e la Confederazione del Lavoro.

Vogliate assicurare i vostri dipendenti che essi saranno informati delle conclusioni che saranno raggiunte per risolvere la vertenza.

RJS/az

Junius R. Smith
JUNIUS R. SMITH,
Lt. Col., Q.M.C.,
D/Director, Labor Sub-Commission

Copia al Capitano Fraser, Divisione del Lavoro, Regione II

5407

(5)

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

29 Marzo, 1944

LAE 091.445

DALLA: Commissione di Controllo Alleata, Sotto Commissione del Lavoro

ALLA: Societa' Meridionale Elettrica

Con riferimento al memoriale presentato al Capitano Frazer, Ufficiale a Capo della Divisione del Lavoro 2. Regione, del Personale di Codesta Societa' reparto Sila e con riferimento alla richiesta phonografica del reparto Tusciano in merito alle richieste avanzate dei vostri dipendenti e dalla richiesta di colloquio colle Autorita' Alleate, vogliate comunicare ai dipendenti stessi che tutta la questione e' gia' sotto esame da parte di questa Sotto-Commissione Alleata e che conversazioni sono in corso tra la stessa Sotto-Commissione, la vostra Direzione e la Confederazione del Lavoro.

Vogliate assicurare i vostri dipendenti che essi saranno informati delle conclusioni che saranno raggiunte per risolvere la vertenza.

JUNIUS R. SMITH
Lt. Col., Q.M.C.
D/ Director, Labor Sub-Commission

EJS/na

Copia al Capitano Frazer, Divisione del Lavoro, Regione II

5406

CONFIDENTIAL

FATIMA 2429

445

File

FATIMA (LABOR SUB-COMMISSION)

22 MARCH, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

VAIOR 21 - SMITH

PRIORITY

LT COL SMITH

DISTWO

WE ARE INFORMED A STRIKE THREATENED FOR TWO NINE MARCH ONE NINE FOUR FOUR IN
ELECTRIC POWER NEAR SULA PD PARAN TO DISTWO FOR AME REGION TWO FOR PRAGER FROM
FATIMA FOR SMITH SIGNED MACFARLANE PARAN PROBLEM MAY BE BREAKDOWN IN RATION
STRUCTURE PD NO WAGE DISPUTE INDICATED PD INVESTIGATE AND REPORT BY TELEPHONE
OR FIRE AT ONCE PD COMPANY AT SULA HAS PRIVATE TELEPHONE LINE TO NAPLES WHICH
MAY BE USED

5405

4

CONFIDENTIAL

L. T. MONTANT
2nd Lt., AGO
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

20 March, 1944

LAB 091.445

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Colonel Adams, Acting Head, Economic Section

SUBJECT: Action Taken by Executive Commissioner in Labor Dispute

1. A signal was sent from A.C.C. Region II, 16 March, addressed to Lt. Col. Legg, threatening strike on the part of the dock and arsenal workers in Taranto unless their families were given extra rations (see attached copy of signal No. 5385). This matter was quite properly forwarded by you to the Labor Sub-Commission for action.

2. In advance of reply by this Sub-Commission, action in the name of Brigadier Lush was taken without consultation with this Sub-Commission or your office (see attached copy of signal sent 17 March, "FAPDMA 2225").

3. As I see it, there has been violation of the principle of organizational procedure, and feel that in the interests of efficiency, continuity and control, we should have definition of the functions of the R.C. and M.C. Section as compared with those of the Group headed by Mr. Grady. When such definition has been set forth, I should like the assurance that this Sub-Commission shall be left without interference, other than in the line of control, in the exercise of its duties.

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

5404

(3)

COPY

COPY

5385

FROM ACC REGION II
TO NATIMA FOR LEOG
OR 48 BT
BT/317

DOCKED ARSENAL WORKERS TATANTO WHO ALREADY RECEIVING EXTRA RATION AND
MIDDAY MEAL AT MEETING TODAY THREATENED STRIKE UNLESS THEIR WIVES AND FAMILIES
ARE GIVEN EXTRA RATION. IN MY OPINION THIS GRANT WOULD BE MOST SERIOUS AND
COULD IMMEDIATE REFERRENCES THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN ITALY BUT NOIC SAYS WORK
MUST CONTINUE. PLEASE INSTRUCT US AND ADVISE NOIC THRU FLAMBO

TIME SENT 16/1709A
RECD NR 16/1709

ACC DIST

ACTION ECON SEC (3)
INFO DEF CO
CA BR
FILE
FLOAT

5403

COPY

SECRET

COPY

FATIMA 2225

FATIMA (Executive Commissioner)

17 March 1944

SECRET

VAFOR 5 - 10050 LUSH

PRIORITY

DISTWO

YOUR ROGER TARE SLANT THREE ONE SEVEN PD PAREN TO DISTWO FOR ACC REGION TWO
FROM FATIMA SIGNED MAGARLANE PAREN PD ON NO REPEAT NO ACCOUNT WILL FAMILIES
OF LOCK WORKERS RECEIVE EXTRA RATION AND MIDDAY MEAL PD STRIKE MUST BE PREVENTED
BY OTHER MEANS

Copy to Economic Section - to note action taken by Executive Commissioner

5402

FROM ACC REGION 2
TO FATIMA FOR LEGG
GR 48 BT
RT/317

SEEN	
Cot. Bain	
lt. Col. Smith	
Weld. T. H. H.	
Capt.	
Capt. Sch. una	
LT. CIAMMARCO	

5385

DOCK AND ARSENAL WORKERS TARANTO WHO ALREADY RECEIVING EXTRA RATION AND MIDAY MEAL AT MEETING TODAY THREATENED STRIKE UNLESS THEIR WIVES AND FAMILIES ARE GIVEN EXTRA RATION. IN MY OPINION THIS GRANT WOULD BE MOST SERIOUS AND CAUSE IMMEDIATE REPRECUSION THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN ITALY BUT NOIC SAYS WORK MUST CONTINUE. PLEASE INSTRUCT US AND ACFISH NOIC THRU FLAMBO

TIME SENT 16/1709A

RECE NR 4 16/1709

ACC DIST

ACTION ECON SEC (3)
INFO DEF CC
CA BR
FILE
FLOAT

5401

17 Mar
32

SECRET

FATIMA 2225

FATIMA (Executive Commissioner)

17 March 1944

SECRET

Vapor 5 - 10050 Bush

PRIORITY

DISTWO

YOUR ROGER TARE SLANT THREE ONE SEVEN PD PAREN TO DISTWO FOR ACC REGION TWO FROM
FATIMA SIGNED MACFARLANE PAREN PD ON NO REPEAT NO ACCOUNT WILL FAMILIES OF DOCK
WORKERS RECEIVE EXTRA RATION AND MIDDAY MEAL PD STRIKE MUST BE PREVENTED BY OTHER
MEANS

Copy to Economic Section - to note action taken by Executive Commissioner

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

COPY

445

19 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Electrical Workers

TO : Colonel Adams, Economic Section

1. I understand from Lt. Col. J. R. Smith that 2(1) was NOT discussed at yesterday's meeting.

2. The statement is not in accord with the facts as known to this Sub-Commission. We have, as you know, been in close touch with the Services on this issue for some months, and such a "root to many Labor problems" has not been found.

3. It is suggested that you, as the Acting Head of the Economics Group, take up the matter with the officer responsible for the preparation of the statement for the Brigadier's signature. Had there been proper consultation with this Sub-Commission, the Sub-Commission concerned, such an ill-informed statement would not have been issued.

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

5399

(2)

C O P YC O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Regional Control and Military Government Section

18 March, 1944

Ref:

SUBJECT: Threatened Strike of Electrical Workers.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Armies in Italy (Att: M.G.A.)

1. The Chief Commissioner called a meeting today to discuss the question of labor in general and in particular the threatened strike of electrical workers in Naples City. In addition to the Regional Commissioner, Region III and heads of Sub-Commissions interested, Colonel Crowdon representing the Chief Engineer was present.

2. The following decisions were taken:

(i) a. The discrepancy between the rates of pay granted by Service employers and ordinary employers must be reduced, if not abolished. It was agreed that the higher rates paid by Service employers which have been fixed arbitrarily were at the route of many labor problems.

(ii) b. The midday meal at present given by Service employers should be abolished and substituted by an overall entitlement of extra civilian rations for all heavy workers. In this connection the Food Sub-Commission was instructed to explore the increase in food which would result from this increase in entitlement for workers and it was decided to inform A.F.H.Q. that this extra entitlement would be issued at once.

(iii) c. Short term policy. It was decided that the strike of the electrical workers would be prevented, and that it would be unwise for the Chief Engineer to "take over" the electrical workers for this would mean "taking over" the remainder of the public utility services and would result in an increase in wages amounting to many billion liras to say nothing of the extra responsibility. It would thus mean the taking over by the Chief Engineer of a responsibility which was properly that of the A.C.C. The Chief Commissioner stated that he would represent this at a high level.

(iv) d. There should be no enforcement of payment for food drawn from the utility companies in November.

(v) e. The loan "anticipio" demanded by the workers should not be granted.

(vi) f. There should be no general increase in wages.

MSL/jg

/s/ M. S. Lush
Brigadier
Executive Commissioner.

WALLINGTON ALLEN, CLARENCE, CHAIRMAN
and
WALLINGTON ALLEN, WILFRED, SECRETARY
LAWSON, J. P. - ASSISTANT
AIR 542.

11 November 43

7019/447

SUBJECT: Memorandum.

TO : Lt. Col. J. E. Smith

1. The following specific labor disputes have been brought to our attention:

- a. Strike of the drivers (Valencia City) 31 Oct. 43. Forced bank to work. Threat of imprisonment. Men strike threatened.
- b. Strike Sulphur Miners (Valencia Province) 1 Nov. 43. 800 miners. Sent back to work on promise, 2.1.44. that wage increases will be considered immediately by local matters.
- c. Telephone Co. strike threatened. Given 1 month advance in pay. Threatened wage consideration.
- d. Tailors. Strike threatened. Given 1 month advance in pay. Threatened wage consideration.
- e. General Electric Co. struck Nov. 43. 750 employees. Sent back to work threat of imprisonment. Also promised immediate wage consideration.
- f. Postal employees. Struck 20th Nov. 43. Struck by A.S.S. Council. Asking for wage adjustment and in reasonable no month advance in pay.
- g. Carabinieri. 40 detainees had no of 100 wages.
- h. Miners at mine. Agitation, and all promises have ceased will not work when wages raised unless wage is just and ends.
- i. General Electric employees struck Valencia, 14 Nov. 43. Returned on promise wage adjustment. Are being considered now.

2. Foregoing disputes have been reported informally through the Valencia Office and through the Valencia Office. Valencia Office is in dispute. Valencia Office is in dispute. Valencia Office is in dispute.

1697

No.

785021

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 400)
Revised July 26, 1918

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. _____

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
				6396

5396

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

0048