

ACC 10000/148/194

184/TN/1

ACTING PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE

AUG. 1944 - JULY 1946

1380
 1/10/79
 THE ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 240/EC.

11 July 1946.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING - 9 JULY 1946.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

(a) - 1(a). Food Situation. Col. Walton reported that so far the amassi had been very successful and the total amassed as at 6 July was 625,000 tons. There had been some impatience on the part of the population for the return to a higher ration and it had been reported that the Prefect of MILAN had already raised the ration to 300 grams. It was expected that the final amassi would reach a fairly high figure and UNRRA were using a tentative figure of 2,100,000 tons on which to base their future import requirements. EC stated that the CC had recommended to SACMED that a full programme of imports be maintained in order to bring the ration to its proper level.

(b) - 1(a). CA Agreements. EC stated that he understood that the Italian Govt. had prepared its first comments on the two agreements and these would shortly be forwarded to British and US Authorities.

(c) - 1(e). Mid-Shift Meal. Col. Walton reported that the Allied Forces Labour & Wages Committee had recommended to AFHQ that the mid-shift meal be readjusted to effect a saving in flour by reducing the bread element and increasing other components of the meal. EC stated that AC were not represented at the meeting and directed Econ Sec to ask Mr. Braine, Chairman of the Committee to advise AC of the date and agenda of future meetings so that a representative might be sent.

(d) - 7. Administration of BLU's etc. Col. Pidsley stated that the meeting called by EC on this subject had not yet been held. Lard Forces S/C were trying to obtain further information from HQ 3 District. EC directed that the meeting be held as soon as possible in order to clarify the position.

(e) - 8. Medical Officers. Ex.O(A) said that application had been made to MTOUSA for a medical officer and he was hopeful of success.

(f) - 9. Aliens in Camp near MODENA. Col. Findlay stated that a copy of the report on the visit to this camp had reached G-5 AFHQ who had expressed the opinion that DFR S/C should not screen the inmates as it was purely a matter for the Italian Govt. EC said that he did not agree with G-5 views and asked Col. Findlay to produce the correspondence for his perusal.

2. CIP Strike. Col. Walton gave the latest news on the projected CIP strike which he said had been called off pending stabilisation of the Government.

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2. CIP Strike. Col. Walton gave the latest news on the projected CIP strike which he said had been called off pending stabilisation of the Government.

3. Amnesty. EC stated that in connection with the Amnesty Decree issued by the Italian Govt, the CC was making representations to AFHQ that we should make the amnesty applicable to internees recently removed from TERNI to RICCIONE, and also to cases tried by AMG and Italian courts for offences against Allied military interests. With regard to the internees, G-2 AFHQ had reported that 85% of these had been interned for espionage and 15% for sabotage. SACMED had ruled that the 85% were to be progressively released.

4. IPW Section. EC raised the question of the future of IPW Section, MTOUSA had ruled that no American officers would be provided for this Section. He had discussed the matter with Brig. Drew and Col. Parsons who had stated that it

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was not a residual function of the AC and was work which could quite easily be taken over by AFHQ or the Embassies. Col. Parsons had suggested that the British officers of IPW Section be transferred either to "i" Branch, GHQ CEF, or seconded to the British Embassy. With regard to PW in the hands of other nations such as France and Russia, AFHQ took the view that the Italian Govt. should take up the matter of their repatriation with the respective Embassies. A letter to AFHQ had been drafted previous to the discussion with Col. Parsons. This was now with the CC and if he decided to send it on, EC suggested that Col. Pidsley take up the matter on his forthcoming visit to AFHQ.

5. Preparation of Electoral Lists in Venezia Giulia. Brig. Carr said that the position at the moment was that a General Order which embodies the Italian electoral law was before SCHO VG for approval and signature. He asked whether in view of recent developments in PARIS and the fact that elections of a sort had already been held in Zone "B", it was appropriate to go ahead with the publication of this order and the preparation of electoral lists. The feeling of the meeting was that the lists should be compiled and CA Sec were instructed to put up a strong letter to 13 Corps to this effect.

6. Demilitarisation of Islands. Col. Pidsley drew attention to the recent letter from AFHQ regarding the demilitarisation of PANTELLERIA, LAMPEDUSA, LINOSA. Col. Fiske had been appointed chairman of the Committee and the Italian Govt. had been asked to appoint an Engineer to be a member of the Committee.

7. Police Mission. EC said that there was a divergence of opinion within the Commission on this subject and suggested an early discussion with Poland, Land Forces and CA Sec.

Col. Walton asked whether it was the intention for the proposed Police Mission to reorganise the whole of the Italian civil police force. He mentioned particularly the Port Guards, who under Fascism had been an efficient organisation but were now composed of partigiani and odds and ends.

8. Control of Arms Production. Col. Pidsley asked whether under the proposed new organisation for Service S/Cs, the new Service Sub-Sections would be asked to take on duties such as control of arms production, or whether these would be carried out by a separate section. EC replied that this was to have been decided by the Chief of the new Section, but in view of recent developments in Paris it was to be presumed that until the Peace Treaty was signed, arms production would be controlled as at present by the Service S/Cs. After the signing of the Peace Treaty it would presumably be controlled by the Council of Four Ambassadors.

Col. Pidsley stated that if we were to continue to provide arms for the Italian Govt. it would be necessary to set up a small mission. EC replied that it would be for the Italian Govt. to make a request for such a mission.

9. Italian Govt. Decrees. Col. Walton stated that the Economic Adviser to the British Embassy had asked for translations of old decrees issued by the

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9. Italian Govt. Decrees. Col. Walton stated that the Economic Adviser to the British Embassy had asked for translations of old decrees issued by the Italian Govt. These were not available in Econ Sec and he wondered if other Sections had copies of the decrees. VP CAS would look into the matter.
10. US Requisitioned Vehicles. Ex.O(A) reported that orders had been received from MTOUSA that all US requisitioned vehicles were to be released by 3 Aug.
11. Civilian Wage Scale. Ex.O(B) stated that a new wage scale had been issued for civilian employees by AFHQ. The old wage scale would remain in force for present civilian employees, but any new employees would be paid at a considerably lower rate.
12. Civilian Employees. EC stated that there were at present 898 civilian employees in AG and during the last 6 weeks a reduction of only 200 had been effected. He directed Heads of Sections and S/Cs to give this matter careful and urgent attention and to submit their proposals for further reductions by Monday 15 July.

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12. Correspondence. CSO to EC said that a great deal of time was being wasted owing to files and letters for signature being submitted in the wrong form. He read a list of the main irregularities and EC directed that a memorandum should be prepared and circulated to S/Cs.

R. K. Hind. Smith

Lt. Col., R.A.,
Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

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Land Forces S/C	1
Archives Branch	1
Public Relations	1
Liaison Division	3
Eccon. Adviser to	1
British Embassy	1
File	1
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British Embassy	1
File	1
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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

ARO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 511/EC.

14 August 1945.

MINUTES OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS' MEETING - 13 AUGUST 1945.

1. Hand Over of the Northern Provinces to the Italian Government.

Executive Commissioner reminded the meeting that at the Regional Commissioners' meeting held approximately two months ago Chief Commissioner proposed 1 September 1945 as a possible date for the hand over of Northern ITALY to the Italian Government. This date had since been given a considerable amount of publicity. It was not a firm date, but a target fixed by the Chief Commissioner.

All the Provinces of the four Regions would be handed back, with the exception of the Province of UDINE. In this case the recommendations of the Commander XIII Corps and the Regional Commissioner had been followed and the Chief Commissioner had recommended to AFHQ, for submission to CCS, that AMG should continue in this Province until 1 December 1945.

The future of NAPLES was still uncertain, but AMG would be kept there for the time being. BOLZANO would be handed back with the other Provinces of Northern ITALY subject to approval of CCS.

From the economic and local government point of view there was everything to be said for a speedy handback. There was one disturbing question - that of public safety. Although there was a period of tranquility at present, public safety was far from satisfactory, and Executive Commissioner said that we could not recommend to AFHQ that the North, from a public safety point of view, was administratively in a fit state to be handed back.

Executive Commissioner said he understood that the general consensus of opinion of Regional Commissioners was that either the handback should take place quickly in spite of the unsatisfactory state of public safety or that AMG should be retained for at least six months. Regional Commissioners were asked for their views and all stressed the amount of publicity that had been given to the date of 1 September. Regional Commissioners PIEMONTE and LIGURIA considered that we should either hand over on that date or remain until after the elections.

Regional Commissioner VENETIA said he was in favour of handing over in September and of keeping strong teams of Liaison Officers who, he believed, could do very useful work. Deputy Regional Commissioner LOMBARDIA was also in favour of handing back in September.

It was agreed by all that it was useless retaining AMG without having sufficient Allied troops to back it up. At present Military Government was being operated with the backing of the Italian Army, and C.M.N.E. Pisto pointed out, was an undesirable situation.

AO Liaison Officer BARI said that in the MURCIANO and MATARA incidents the Italian Government had handled the situations very feebly. They had

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AC Liaison Officer BART said that in the MINERVINO and MARERA incidents the Italian Government had handled the situations very feebly. They had "suggested" that arms should be handed in but few results had been obtained and the ringleaders still had their arms. Troops had not been used.

Brigadier UPJOHN stated that all our experience was that the Italian Government had not tackled and were not tackling the public safety problem energetically. Reorganisation of the Carabinieri was desirable but this was not a short term policy, and would take months. As regards the date of the handover, he pointed out that unless approval could be obtained from AFHQ by 16 August 45 it would be administratively impossible to effect the handover on 1 September 45.

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Polad (B) agreed that forces sufficient to go were made available, it was useless trying to run AMG, and stressed that we should state the position very bluntly to the American and British Governments. Executive Commissioner concurred and said we must also have clearly laid down the exact responsibility of the Allied troops who would remain in regard to quelling of civil disturbances. Col. Hamilton said COC No. 2 District required a directive from AFHQ to define his responsibility, and Executive Commissioner promised to take this up at AFHQ.

Col. Pisko said if it was not practicable to remain until after the elections we should hand over in September. He made the point that the transfer of the Italian Army should be concurrent with the transfer of Italian territory, and if it was not possible to hand over control of the Italian Army until 30 September it was desirable to postpone the hand back of territory until that date. Executive Commissioner stated that the date of 30 September had already gone forward as the date for the Italian Army to be handed over to the Italian Government and in the event of approval for the transfer being obtained he felt sure that SACMED could be persuaded to give the Italian Government control of their army before that date.

Brigadier ANDERSON suggested the use of economic sanctions, i.e. the cutting off of supplies, in the event of serious disorder, but Executive Commissioner did not consider this to be practicable. He agreed, however, that the matter could be publicized.

Executive Commissioner stated we must also obtain a ruling from AFHQ on the French and Swiss frontier problems, and the powers of CIC and FSS must be defined.

With the Chief Commissioner's approval Executive Commissioner suggested 10 September as the hand over date and Executive Commissioner asked Regional Commissioners for their views on this. They said they could be ready by this date.

2. Proposed Liaison Groups in the North.

Establishment Section had prepared a draft summary of personnel and vehicles, which was distributed to members of the meeting. Executive Commissioner read a note put up to the Chief Commissioner, which formed a basis for discussion.

The Establishment Section summary was discussed group by group. Several amendments were requested by Regional Commissioners, and these were noted by Establishment Section, who would make the necessary adjustments.

Public Safety Officers. There was discussion on whether the Public Safety Liaison Officers should be called Public Safety Officers or Security Intelligence Officers. Opinion was divided and Executive Commissioner ruled that they should be called Public Safety Liaison Officers.

Col. Pisko stated that COC No. 2 District said that he was short of Security Officers and would welcome the presence of Public Safety Officers in his area. Executive Commissioner mentioned an important suggestion that the Chief Commissioner had made, namely, that Public Safety Officers should be awarded their present location

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Location of Liaison Groups. It was agreed that Liaison Groups should be stationed in the following towns.

MILAN.
TURIN (to include representation at AOSTA)
GENOA,
VALENCE,
BOLOGNA, and perhaps ANCONA.

/It was ...

- 3 -

It was also agreed that BOLZANO should have a Liaison Group and that the present Liaison Officer FHS should be made the AC Liaison Officer at LIVORNO.

Executive Commissioner ruled that for the purposes of discipline and administration the Central Lombard Liaison Group should be under Lombard Liaison Group in MILAN.

Local Government Officers. There was considerable discussion on the functions of local government officers and Local Government Sub-Commission did not want any in the field. The Regional Commissioners were in agreement with this, stating that it would be impossible for the local government officers to perform any useful function. Brigadier BRJOMH said that the general consensus of opinion of the meeting was that special local government officers were not necessary.

DP & Medical Officers. It was agreed that medical officers were not necessary in the Liaison Groups and it was stressed that the Public Health Officers in the DP & R teams were only to be used for DP & R work. Civil Affairs Section were told to put up a recommendation to Establishment Section at an early date for an increase in Displaced Persons staff.

Vehicles. Establishment Section had put in for a number of WD vehicles, and had allowed for soldier drivers for these in their summary. There was discussion on the supply and maintenance of vehicles. Executive Commissioner said that the question of the maintenance of WD and US vehicles for the North should be taken up with AMG at a high level.

3. AMC Team for UDHUL.

The list prepared by Establishment Section was studied and some alterations were made. Executive Commissioner stressed that the officers chosen must be good experienced men, and the team must be large enough to provide a pool for reimpatriation of AMG in other areas.

Brigadier DUNLOP wanted 40 officers for this Province as against 31 suggested by Establishment Section, the extra nine officers to be all Provincial Officers. After discussion this was agreed. Executive Commissioner stressed the importance of not duplicating officers as between UDHE and V-M-Z-L-GIULIA.

4. Ration Scales.

Col. Legg spoke of the endeavours of the Food Sub-Commission to inaugurate a uniform system of rationing throughout the whole of ITALY. A new scale had been planned and the views of the Regional Commissioners were invited.

From a political and administrative point of view it was desirable that uniformity be achieved at the earliest possible date. A meeting with the Italian Government at which all interests were represented took place recently. AC put forward recommendations, together with the lay out of the proposed new ration scale, and agreement was obtained.

2099

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The ration scale provided that the workers of the North received the same treatment as the workers in the South for a comparable job.

Regional Commissioners were in complete agreement with the proposed new ration scale. Executive Commissioner said it should be got through as quickly as possible. Col. Legg stated that he had still to clear it with Labour.

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5. Archives.

Executive Commissioner emphasized the responsibility of Allied Commission to see that its Archives were handled over in good order, and this responsibility began with Regional Commissioners in the field. One officer was to be appointed at each Region to deal with Archives, and this officer would spend two or three days at Headquarters, Allied Commission with Capt. Collins. Uniformity was essential and the instructions issued by Archives must be followed.

A paper prepared by Capt. Collins was distributed to members of the meeting. Capt. Collins said the object in view was to prepare all files so that they would mean something to people looking at them for the first time, perhaps twenty years hence.

Executive Commissioner stressed the importance of this subject, which he said had not always had the attention it deserved.

S. M. A. Collins

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE OFFICE (US)
APO 394

28 June 1945.

MEMORANDUM:

TO : See distribution.

1. A meeting will be held, on Saturday, 30 June 1945, at 1000 hours, in Colonel Piske's office, third floor, HQ AC building.

2. The purpose of this meeting is to clarify the existing situation regarding the organization and operational role of the Maintenance Group, AC, and its relations with other departments of the Allied Commission.

3. It is requested that a representative from your office be present.



C.M. Parkin
C.M. PARKIN,
Colonel, Infantry,
Executive Officer (US).

Copy to:

Establishment Section
Economic Section
Maintenance Group, HQ, AC
Transportation Sub-Commission ✓
G-4 American
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38

URGENT

Transportation.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner
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REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING
27-28 June 1945.

1. The meeting will take place in the room that used to be the Reference Library on the third floor. It will be sign-posted.
2. Tea will be served in the Main Conference Room, third floor, during the afternoon on both days.
3. The Establishment Section is providing a car for each Regional Commissioner.
4. No Italian will attend the meeting until the second day and their attendance at the committees is entirely at the discretion of the Vice-Presidents, Regional Commissioners and Heads of Sub-Commissions.
5. The Chief Commissioner or Executive Commissioner will take the chair at all Committee Meetings.
6. The Agenda is attached.

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REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING
27-28 June 1945.

AGENDA.

Wednesday, 27 June.

On this day the meeting will be devoted to discussion of matters of general interest applicable to all Regions with the Chief Commissioner in the chair.

The meeting opens at 0845 hours.

0845 hrs.

- | | | |
|-------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Future of the Commission. | --- Chief Commissioner. |
| 2. a) | Free Elections. | --- V.P. Civil Affairs Section |
| | b) Removal of Government offices and records to Rome and amalgamation of Ministries | --- V.P. Civil Affairs Section |
| 3. | Problems of general policy raised by Regional Commissioners. | |

Break for lunch.

1445 hrs.

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| 4. | <u>Economic Section.</u> | |
| | a) Policy for Italian industry in the North. | |
| | b) Socialisation of industry and Works Management Committee. | |
| | c) Unemployment and surplus labour. | |
| | d) Unemployment finance. | |

1545 hrs.

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| 5. | Establishment Section - Regional Personnel. | |
|----|---|--|

Thursday, 28 June.

2096

The meeting opens at 0845 hours.

0845 hrs.

- | | | |
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| 1. | Future of the Commission. | --- Chief Commissioner. |
| 2. a) | Free Elections. | --- V.P. Civil Affairs Section |
| | b) Removal of Government offices and records to NC&H and amalgamation of Ministries | --- V.P. Civil Affairs Section |
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Break for lunch.

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| | c) Unemployment and surplus labour. | |
| | d) Unemployment finances. | |

1545 hrs.

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| 5. | <u>Establishment Section - Regional Personnel.</u> | |
|----|--|--|

Thursday, 28 June.

On this day the meeting will consist of a series of sub-committees in order to clarify matters of a technical nature.

0845 hrs.

Local Government Committee.

Electoral lists.

0945 hrs/.....

Thursday, 23 June Cont'd.

0945 hrs.

Food Committee.

Allocation of rationed foodstuffs.
Blocking of rationed foodstuffs by Provincial Commissioners.
Rationing policy.
Policy in respect of existing food distributing
organisations, i.e., Sernale (U.C.E.P.A.P.) Rice
Industry Service, Cheese Control, Meat Censal
Office, etc.

1045 hrs.

Labour Committee.

Establishment of regional, Provincial & other Labour offices.
Establishment of Regional Italian Joint Advisory Committees.
Wages adjustment - priv to industry and government employees.

1145 hrs.

Transportation Committee.

The Italians to be encouraged to set motor pools in
operation in the North.

Break for lunch.

1150 hrs.

Finance Committee.

Amalgamation of North and South - banks, insurance companies etc.
Repudiation of municipal loans.
Foreign exchange position (French francs and Marks.)

1530 hrs.

Industry Committee.

Procedure for requisitioning and derequisitioning of
industrial plants.

1630 hrs.

Commerce Committee.

COL for Northern Regions. Difficulties in providing
full quota.
Foreign trade policy.
Necessity of setting up

1045 hrs.

Labour Committee.

Establishment of Regional, Provincial & other Labour offices.
Establishment of Regional Italian Joint Advisory Committee.
Wages adjustment - private industry and government employees.

1145 hrs.

Transportation Committee.

The Italians to be encouraged to set motor pools in operation in the North.

Break for lunch.

1430 hrs.

Finance Committee.

Amalgamation of North and South - banks, insurance companies etc.
Requisitioning of municipal loans.
Foreign exchange position (French francs and Marks.)

1530 hrs.

Industry Committee.

Procedure for requisitioning and derequisitioning of industrial plants.

1630 hrs.

Commerce Committee.

ECI for Northern Regions. Difficulties in providing full quota.
Foreign trade policy.
Control of materials and necessity of setting up U.P.I.C. (Ufficio Provinciale Industria Commerciale) as soon as possible.
Interchange of goods between North and South.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

26 June 1945

ES/1.28

SUBJECT: Regional Commissioners' Conference - June 27 and 28, 1945 at LC

TO : Directors of Sub-Commissions, Economic Section

1. The place and agenda for the Regional Commissioners' Conference have just been finalized at the Executive Commissioner's Meeting. They are transmitted herewith.

2. The meeting will take place in the room that used to be the Reference Library on the third floor. It will be sign-posted.

3. Lunch will take place for 35 people in the main conference room at 1245 hours on each day.

4. Directors of Sub-Commissions will not be asked to attend the meeting the first day but should be present at their offices in readiness to be called on specific questions raised by the Regional Commissioners, should the occasion demand. The emphasis is upon keeping the meeting small.

5. No Italian will attend the conference the first day.

6. Italian attendance at the committees on the second day is entirely at the discretion of the VPs and the sub-commissions.

7. The attached agenda has been agreed but is subject to minor modification within committees on the second day depending upon the progress of the meeting.

8. Brigadier Anderson or his substitute will cover items 5a, b and c on the first afternoon.

9. Finance Sub-Commission will present item 5d on the first afternoon.

10. Sub-Commissions indicated in the names of the committees on the second day will be responsible for conducting such committee meetings. The Acting Vice President, the Deputy Vice President and the Chief of Supply Division will be in constant attendance where possible.

Dist:

Deputy V.P.
Chief, Supply Div.
All Sub-Commissions
Regn. Branch
Price Branch

E.B. McKINLEY
Brigadier General, USA
Acting Vice President
Economic Section

Enc. 1 - Agenda

2095

REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS'
CONFERENCE. 27th-28th JUNE '45

A g e n d a.

Wednesday, 27th June.

Conference opens at 0845 hrs.

On this day the meeting will be devoted to discussion of matters of general interest applicable to all Regions.

0845 hrs.

1. Future of the Commission.

Chief Commissioner.

2. Termination of AMG.

Executive Commissioner.

3.a) Free Elections.

b) Removal of Government offices and records to Rome and amalgamation of Ministries.

4. Problems raised by R.Cs.

1245 hrs.

Break for lunch.

1345 hrs.

5. Economic Section.

- a) Policy for Italian industry in the north.
- b) Socialisation of industry and Works Management Committees.
- c) Unemployment and surplus labour.
- d) Unemployment finance.

VF, Civil Affairs
Section.

0845 hrs.

1. Future of the Commission.

Chief Commissioner.

2. Termination of AMG.

Executive Commissioner.

3.a) Free Elections.

b) Removal of Government offices and records to Rome and amalgamation of Ministries.

4. Problems raised by RGS.

1245 hrs.

Break for lunch.

1345 hrs.

5. Economic Section.

a) Policy for Italian industry in the north.

b) Socialisation of industry and Works Management Committees.

c) Unemployment and surplus labour.

d) Unemployment finance.

Thursday, 28th June 45.

On this day the meeting will consist of a series of sub-committees in order to clarify matters on which policy has been decided.

0845 hrs.

Local Government Committee

0915 hrs.

Public Safety Personnel

Electoral lists.

VP, Civil Affairs
Section.

1945 N.Y.

Food Conditions.

Allocation of rationed foodstuffs.
Scheduling of rationed foodstuffs by "rationed" Commission.
Rationing policy.
Policy in respect of existing food distributing organizations,
i.e. General (N.Y.C., N.Y.C., N.Y.C.) New Industry Service, Chinese Control,
West Coast Office, etc.

1945 N.Y.

Labor Committee.

Establishment of Regional, National & other labor offices.
Establishment of Regional Italian Joint Advisory Committees.
Recent adjustment - private industry and Government employees.

1945 N.Y.

Transportation Committee.

The Italian to be encouraged to set water pools in operation
in the north.

1945 N.Y.

Break for lunch.

1945 N.Y.

Finance Committee.

Allocation of north and south - banks, insurance, companies, etc.
Allocation of principal loans.
Various exchange position (through France and Bank.)

1945 N.Y.

Industry Committee.

Procedures for rationalizing and deconcentration of industrial
plants.

1945 N.Y.

Commerce Committee.

Plan for northern regions. Difficulties in providing full quota.
Foreign Trade Policy.
Control of materials and necessity of setting up U.S.I.C.
(Official / regional / industrial / commercial) as soon as possible.
Interchange of goods between north and south.

1441 hrs.

Transportation Committee.

The Italians to be encouraged to set motor pools in operation in the north.

1442 hrs.

Break for lunch.

1443 hrs.

Finance Committee.

Industrialization of north and south - banks, insurance, companies, etc.
Facilitation of municipal loans.
Korean exchange position (through France and Italy.)

1444 hrs.

Industry Committee.

Procedure for consolidating and deconcentrating of industrial plants.

1445 hrs.

Commerce Committee.

Plan for northern regions. Difficulties in providing full quote.
Foreign Trade Policy.
Control of materials and necessity of setting up U.P.I.O.
(Official Provisional Industrial Committee) as soon as possible.
Interchange of goods between north and south.

SECRET

MINUTES OF

ACTING PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE

held on 8-9 March 1945.

The Executive Commissioner presided.

PART I

1. Acting President's Opening Address.

The Right Hon. Mr. Harold Macmillan, of welcoming all those present and expressed his regret at his absence of the Chief Commissioner owing to illness.

He said that the New Deal for Italy was not a new policy but merely a development of the policy which had been followed since the moment the Armistice was signed. Briefly this policy was to foster the development of Italian responsibility until the Italian Government was able fully to take over the government of the country itself. Recent developments were merely a logical conclusion to the policy adopted and followed since those early days.

Mr. Macmillan said that it was clear to him that there could be no possible distinction between the work of AMI and AG. There were differences in their functions but their work must be treated as a whole in order to make for effective planning and in order to obtain continuity from the first impact of AMI until the final taking over of the territory by the Italian Government. The functions of AMI were three-fold. Firstly, to take from the military the burden of civil administration; secondly, to assist so far as possible in the rehabilitation of the country and the suffering of the civilian population; and thirdly, to prepare the ground for the transfer of that territory to the Italian Government and the teaching of the Italians to take over this work themselves. These were very heavy tasks and he had every sympathy with those in the Regions who had to undertake them.

The Acting President then expressed his appreciation to those who had been working for the past months in Italian Government Territory. Theirs had been a difficult and delicate task, handing over the government to the Italians and at the same time well knowing that they could do the job much better themselves.

He then referred to those officers who had had the rather tiresome task of waiting to go into the Northern Regions. They had been engaged either in planning or on attachment to Regions already in operation. This delay in going forward was regrettable and entirely due to operations.

Mr. Macmillan went on to say that it was fashionable to believe that there was going to be a great deal of political trouble and even revolution in the North. However, he was of the opinion that we

ACTION

216/EC

TRANSMISSION SUB-COMMISSION		NO. AC.	
DIRECTOR	INITIALS	DATE	
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	Walt	15.3	
PLANNING STAFF			
ADMIN DIV	aa	15.3	
MOVEMENTS DIV	S. J. M.		
ROADS DIV	W. J. M.		
POST			
RAIL DIV			

The Right Hon. Mr. Harold Macmillan of Great Britain, who was welcomed by all those present and expressed his regret at the absence of the Chief Commissioner owing to illness.

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Mr. Macmillan went on to say that it was fashionable to believe that there was going to be a great deal of political trouble and even revolution in the North. However, he was of the opinion that we should find a great deal of invigorating and beneficial aspects of Italian life in that territory and that the people would be more active and powerful than any we had yet come across in Italy.

He stressed the importance of the great need for coordination between Regions, between Regions and HQ, and between Sections and Sub-Commissions. He was confident that the questions we had been studying would be successfully overcome and we could have confidence in the knowledge that we have so many officers going into the Northern Regions with experience in dealing with similar problems. Moreover, it was more than likely that the conditions of a slow retreat would not necessarily come about and that the destruction of the Italian

production potential would not be so serious as hitherto. He said that he thought that we should find better conditions than was at one time thought possible.

2. Withdrawal of officers from Italian Government Territory

Brigadier M.S. Lush, Executive Commissioner, said that the Chief Commissioner had asked him to express his sincere regrets at being unable to attend the meeting and to extend to those present his gratitude for the abundant help and assistance given to him during the nine months he had been the Chief Commissioner. He also wished to extend a welcome to those who were present at a Regional Commissioners' Conference for the first time.

The Executive Commissioner then turned to the problem of the withdrawal of AC officers from Italian Government territory which was in implementation of the directive recently received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff. He said that there were two points which the Chief Commissioner wished to emphasize. One was that if we were to carry out the policy of the directive, it should be implemented to the maximum, and particularly the withdrawal of officers. Orders had therefore been issued that, subject to the approval of AFHQ, the withdrawal of officers would be carried out by 1 April to the maximum possible number. Unfortunately a cable had just been received from AFHQ saying that no withdrawal was to take place until the Staff Sections at AFHQ had considered the effect of the withdrawal on the military services.

The Executive Commissioner then went on to refer to a directive on the subject issued that day by HQ A.C. The Chief Commissioner wished it to be stressed that the total withdrawal of officers from Italian Government territory was a policy which he intended to fulfill so far as AFHQ would allow.

Executive Commissioner next referred to that part of the directive which related to the consultation by AC officers with Italian authorities. He said that such consultation would be restricted to discussions at a high level and Heads of Sections and Sub-Commissions should strictly adhere to this policy. Contact with the Italian Government should be preserved but only at the highest level.

Referring to the question of the distribution of AC officers, the Executive Commissioner said that he would only deal with this matter briefly as VP Establishment Section would go into it in detail later. He said that the distribution of officers had been studied at great length, that emphasis had been given to the number required for Northern Regions not yet occupied, second priority being given to the Regions now under AF. It was necessary also to find over 200 officers for AUSTRIA.

He stated that the policy for the North would be for a close follow-up of the Army spearheads by Provincial teams. It had been accepted by everyone concerned that the principle of a close and rapid follow-up of the Army AFs by provincial teams was the most efficient form of effecting the initial act of military government. A great deal

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He stated that the policy for the North would be for a close follow-up of the Army spearheads by Provincial teams. It had been accepted by everyone concerned that the principle of a close and rapid follow-up of the Army AFHQ by provincial teams was the most efficient form of effecting the initial act of military government. A great deal of planning had been done for NW and NE Italy and, as had already been pointed out by the Acting President, it was probable that we should find circumstances very different from those we had envisaged, which brought out the necessity for elasticity in our planning.

He said that a forward static HQ of Allied Commission was not contemplated. He stressed the importance of coordination between Northern Regions themselves and between the Regions and HQ A.C. who must be kept fully informed. All Sub-Commission officers going to Regions would come under Regional control and Heads of Sub-Commissions should remember this when sending officers forward.

Finally, the Executive Commissioner said that the policy of AFHQ in NW Italy where the military problem might not be so important, was to give priority to the civil needs. In NE Italy, if military operations had to be undertaken, the civil requirements would of necessity have to take second priority.

3. Statement on Political Situation.

Mr. H. Hopkinson said that the British Prime Minister in his speech of 18 January 1945 foreshadowed an unhappy state of affairs when - probably at a time when the Northern Regions would be stripped bare of food by the retreating Germans - these elements would be thrown upon the "fragile structure of the Italian Government in Rome with consequences which could not be accurately foreseen and certainly not measured".

The experience of GREECE showed that the existence of organized groups of politically conscious patriots was a factor with which to reckon seriously. He suggested that during the last year forces had been coordinated in the North of Italy which after liberation would present a problem different from any which the Allied Commission had handled in the past in connection with patriots.

Intelligence reports from the North show that the various Committees of National Liberation and the military commands operating under the orders of the Committees had learnt a good deal about the art of government in the year-long struggle against the Fascist and the Germans. In many districts "shadow" Governments had been set up and the various portfolios had been distributed amongst the leaders of the different parties. In most cases the Committees represent the six parties which, up till last December, were represented in the Government in Rome. In some of the Committees however the action party was not represented and in others the Republican party formed part of the Committee. On the whole it seemed that for the time being there was a remarkable degree of unity of purpose in the Committees and party differences had been sunk in the common desire to chase the Germans from Italy and punish their Fascist collaborators. These Committees were assisted in their operations by the Allied authorities and the giving of such assistance had necessarily implied recognition of the value of those operations. Arrangements had been made between the Supreme Allied Commander and the CLNAI defining the extent to which the Allied military authorities were prepared to recognise the Committees.

Under these arrangements when the enemy withdraw from territory occupied by them the CLNAI would endeavour to maintain law and order and to continue the safeguarding of the economic resources of the country until such time as Allied Military Government was established. Immediately upon the establishment of Allied Military Government, the CLNAI would recognise Allied Military Government and would hand over to that Government all authority and powers of local government and administration previously assumed. As the enemy withdrew all components of the General Command of the Volunteers of Liberty in liberated territory would come under the direct command of the Commander-in-Chief, 15th Army Group, acting under the authority of the Supreme Allied Commander.

1409

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The attitude of the Allied military authorities was therefore made quite clear. But there were other considerations which should be borne in mind when we came to implement the policy indicated in the above arrangements. It was in the interest of the Allies that there should be stable Government in Italy and it was our policy to strengthen the legitimate Italian Government in every way possible and to prevent developments which would result in political disturbances throughout the country. The Italian Government in ROME, which it was our policy to support, might not have the entire confidence of the Committees 97

Liberation in the North, or at any rate their influence there was subject to fluctuation. To begin with, the traditional scorn of the North Italian for the Southerner. There was the feeling that the population in the North had contributed more generously to the defeat of the Germans than the South had been able to do and had suffered far more heavily at their hands. There was criticism of the slow progress made by the Bonomi Government in the reconstruction of the country, in the solution of the pressing economic problems of food supply and inflation and above all in the punishment of former Fascists. The Italian Government was well aware of this antipathy and in an agreement signed at the time the arrangements previously mentioned were made, they go much further than the Supreme Allied Commander in recognizing the CLNAI as their representatives in the struggle in the North. They have succeeded by this agreement in exacting a certain measure of recognition of their own legality by the Committees in the North but the possibility cannot be overlooked that the Committees of Liberation or the component political parties would not abide by this agreement if circumstances seemed favourable for a political upheaval, which would either bring the Committees out as the Government of Italy or would wrest from the Government in ROME a measure of autonomy which might be in effect complete independence from ROME. The Italian Government was therefore anxious to establish as much contact as possible with the Committees in the North in order to be able to explain to them what was being accomplished in liberated Italy and what the Government proposed to do in the North when the Germans have been driven out. The Allied Governments were generally in favour of the establishment of such contacts and hoped that after liberation the ROME Government would be able to absorb representatives from the North and thereby become representative and therefore stronger.

The problem facing the Allied Commission therefore was as follows: we must endeavour on the liberation of the North to reconcile the needs of Military Government with the aspirations of the political leaders of the Committees of Liberation to self-government. At the same time, we must bolster the authority of the Italian Government in ROME in order that it may be able to administer the Northern territories once Allied Military Government was withdrawn. The solution of this problem might well be found to lie in the absorption at a very early date of members of the local Committees of National Liberation into the civil administration operating under Allied Military Government. If Regional Commissioners arrived in the North and bluntly informed the Committees of National Liberation that their task was accomplished and that they might now disperse and if, after that, Prefects, Sindaci and other administrative officers were imported from the South or even from other localities in the North, the disappointment, the antagonism even, of the Committees of Liberation would be great. The danger of setting up local administrations composed of Italians who would not be acceptable to the patriot organizations who had been struggling against the Germans for so long could not be over emphasized. It was not implied that every local Committee of National Liberation should automatically be confirmed as the local administration, but it was urged that Regional Commissioners should, wherever possible, decide to make appointments in favour of the members of the Committees rather than in favour of strangers from other parts of Italy. If the local Committees of Liberation were

made, they go much further than the Supreme Allied Commander in recognizing the CLMIL as their representatives in the struggle in the North. They have succeeded by this agreement in exacting a certain measure of recognition of their own legality by the Committees in the North but the possibility cannot be overlooked that the Committees of Liberation or the component political parties would not abide by this agreement if circumstances seemed favourable for a political upheaval, which would either bring the Committees out as the Government of Italy or would wrest from the Government in Rome a measure of autonomy which might be in effect complete independence from Rome. The Italian Government was therefore anxious to establish as much contact as possible with the Committees in the North in order to be able to explain to them what was being accomplished in liberated Italy and what the Government proposed to do in the North when the Germans have been driven out. The Allied Governments were generally in favour of the establishment of such contacts and hoped that after liberation the Rome Government would be able to absorb representatives from the North and thereby become representative and therefore stronger.

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ACTION

Mr. Hopkinson realised that the lack of precise information about personalities in the North due to the clandestine nature of their activities in recent months would make it difficult for Regional Commissioners to assess the relative claims of members of the Committees of Liberation to participate in local government. But in order in some measure to offset this disability, he hoped to be able to compile in the next few weeks a sort of "who's who" which might prove useful to Regional Commissioners in the task of selection.

In a discussion which followed Brigadier Upjohn, VE Civil Affairs Section, said a letter had been received from the Prime Minister which suggested an opposite view to the account given by Mr. Hopkinson. The letter suggested that certain named Prefects be put forward for appointment in the North. He thought this was a dangerous policy.

Col. Poletti, R.C. LAZIO-UMBRIA Region, considered that men coming up to fill appointments in the North would cause resentment and trouble in the local administrations. All must be absolutely free to decide appointments on the spot. Brig. Dunlop, R.C. SOUTHERN Region, said Bonomi wanted to appoint career men as Prefects. The CLN should be asked for names.

The Executive Commissioner said that in making the initial appointments in AMG territory AMG officers should be bound by the policy enunciated by Mr. Hopkinson: "the decision of the Italian Government to send to the North men of administrative experience and known to the Government, was natural and we could and probably would fall back on some of the men so selected. But we could not accept the principle of naming the Prefects before liberation. He also emphasized the necessity of any AMG consulting Provincial and Regional Commissioners when making appointments in local government.

4. Personnel and Transport.

Personnel.

The Deputy Executive Commissioner, Col. Flake, referred to memorandum, 7002/98/AG of 7 March, which was issued to the meeting. We now had approximately 900 British and 700 American officers which included 200 British officers for AUSTRIA. It was recently decided that Allied Commission would furnish 168 American officers for the same purpose. As a result American officers had been reduced to 532. Taking the foregoing figures as a basis, an allocation of officers in Regions had been drawn up. We should have the services of the officers earmarked for AUSTRIA until such time as they were needed. We would get approximately 60 additional American officers from combat and military formations and these officers were being trained and made available for military government. A training school would commence next week, taking 25 officers at a time and on completion of their training all these officers would be absorbed into Allied Commissioner.

Transport.

The Deputy Executive Commissioner stated that our W.D. transport had increased by 750 but this

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Transport.

The Deputy Executive Commissioner stated that our W.D. transport was below establishment. Our T/O had been increased by 750 but this meant increasing the number of requisitioned vehicles and we were endeavouring to obtain restoration of authority for hiring which would be a satisfactory solution to the problem. Vehicles from the South were being serviced and re-allocated to Northern Regions according to their needs.

Brig. Grafton-Smith, Chief Financial Adviser, said there was no financial obstacle to the Commission hiring vehicles.

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The Executive Commissioner summing up stated that if officers for AUSTRIA had to be released before we went into the North officers for the central Regions would be found from Sections and Sub-Commissions at HQ. A further pruning of HQ was necessary. As to the transport problem, we were endeavouring to obtain renewal of powers of requisitioning if only for an initial period of 60 to 90 days.

PART IIRegions5. (a) Assignment of Officers.

Col. Bowen, R.C. EMILIA Region, and Regional Commissioners of Northern Regions raised points concerning assignment of officers. After some discussion Executive Commissioner said that a period would be set aside later for a discussion between Regional Commissioners, SCMO's and Establishment Section to discuss in detail.

(b) Policy on Implementation of Italian Government's Decrees in N. Italy.

R.C. EMILIA Region, raised the question of the implementation of Italian Government decrees in AMG territory. Executive Commissioner stated that Heads of Sections advised the Chief Commissioner as to whether decrees should apply to AMG territory or not; this was a policy decision made by HQ.

VP Civil Affairs Section pointed out there was nothing automatic about implementation of this policy with respect to any particular decree. It was not feasible to have a decree implemented in one Region and not in another. If there was doubt about any decree, it need not be implemented until after consultation. The procedure for implementing decrees in FIFTH and EIGHTH ARMY was compared and it was agreed that the method adopted by FIFTH ARMY was preferable and would be adopted by EIGHTH ARMY.

C.A. Sec
AMG Eighth
Army(c) Disposition of Truck Pools.

Brig. Dunlop, R.C. SOUTHERN Region, stated there were 366 trucks in the South organised into four transport pools under Allied officers and asked that these trucks be transferred to the Italians as soon as possible. Executive Commissioner said that everything possible would be done to obtain a decision on this from AMG before 1 April 1945.

Econ Sec
Tn 3/C(d) Turnover of Food Distribution to Italian Agencies.

Col. Kirkwood, R.C. TOSCANA Region, referred to the intention to hand over food warehouses to Italian control. He did not like accepting responsibility for food distribution in his Region under these conditions. He considered this should not be put into effect until the Italians had had proper instruction in our methods. Food Sub-Commission, Transport-ation Sub-Commission and the Regions were all concerned in such a hand-

5. (a) Assignment of Officers.

Col. Bowman, R.C. EMILIA Region, and Regional Commissioners of Northern Regions raised points concerning assignment of officers. After some discussion Executive Commissioner said that a period would be set aside later for a discussion between Regional Commissioners, SCAG's and Establishment Section to discuss in detail.

(b) Policy on Implementation of Italian Government's Decrees in N. Italy.

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Army

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Exec Sec
Tn S/C

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Exec Sec
Tn S/C
Food S/C
All RC's

Executive Commissioner said that before action was taken a survey should be made by the Regions. He warned Regions that in any question of handing over it was the responsibility of the R.C. to ensure that proper distribution of food etc would be carried out. On the other hand R.C. must be fully consulted by HQ S.C. before any handover arrangements were made by it.

ACTION

(e) Pay of State and Parastatal Employees.

Col. French, R.C. ABRUZZI-MARCHE Region, stated that the salaries of State employees were not sufficient for existence. He cited several examples of the difference between salaries and cost of living which left the worker heavily in debt. In A.M. territory State employees did not get the bonuses which were allowed in A.C. territory. Many deputations had asked for help. He asked if it was not possible to raise salaries in A.M. territory.

Econ Sec
Labour S/C
All RC's

Mr. Braine, Labour Sub-Commission, said that the Government had recently concluded an agreement providing for substantial increases for State employees, which would apply throughout the country, including the North after liberation. The new agreement would consolidate the bonuses and indemnities hitherto granted for special reasons and in certain localities.

(f) Allowances and rations for civil employees.

The question of inadequate allowances and rations for civilians, both drivers away from HQ overnight and clerks who lived away from their homes, was raised.

All Regs.
Estab Sec
Hq Comdt
A.C.

VP Establishment Section referred to A.M. Routine Order 252 of 1944 and read this to the meeting. A recommendation had been made that all civilians be placed on the same basis. Allowances of 135 - 250 lire per day, based on wage rates, had been proposed.

(g) Transport for Civil Supply.

R.C. TOSCANA Region, said that when Armies went forward they took General Transport Coys with them and Regions were left with insufficient transport. Transportation Sub-Commission said it was now arranged that ENAC would take over. Executive Commissioner directed R.C. Toscana Region to put up a case, setting out deficiencies in vehicles and date on which they were required to be made up. It was appreciated that some Regions had a greater deficiency of transport than others.

Toscana
Reg.
Tn S/C

(h) Translators.

It was agreed that the present system regarding translation of documents should continue.

(i) Provision of Supplies for Regions.

R.C. TOSCANA Region alleged there was lack of coordination between Sub-Commissions and cited the instance of sulphur and copper sulphate. The transaction involved Industry, Transportation and Agriculture Sub-Commissions. Executive Commissioner stated that overall responsibility in a case of this sort was HQ Economic Section and R.C. should apply to the Section whose duty it was to coordinate.

Toscana Reg
Econ Sec
Industry S/C
Tn S/C
Agric S/C

(j) Titles of Regional and Provincial Commissioners.

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(j) Titles of Regional and Provincial Commissioners.

R.C. TOSCANA Region put forward the suggestion that Regional Commissioners and Provincial Commissioners be designated Regional and Provincial Governors. R.C. LAZIO-UMBRIA Region considered it was too late to make an alteration but suggested that the Executive officer should be called Deputy Regional Commissioner.

It was agreed that the use of "Governor" was not desirable but Executive Commissioner would submit suggestion of LAZIO-UMBRIA Region to the Chief Commissioner.

2089

All Regs.
Estab Sec
HQ Comdt
AC.

Toscana
Reg.
Tn S/C

Toscana Reg
Econ Sec
Industry S/C
Tn S/C
Agric S/C

Office of
E.C.

PART III

HQ AG Sections

ACTION.

6. (a) Economic Section.

(1) 300 gram ration and price of bread and pasta.

Col. Legg, Food Sub-Commission, reported that an Administrative Memorandum had been prepared setting out the basic formula on which the economic price of bread had been established. The 300 gram ration became effective throughout all Italian Government territory on 1 March and in AMG territory on 12 March. It comprised 200 grams bread and 80 grams pasta per diem issued weekly or bi-monthly. All cereals to be milled for human consumption would be controlled by the Consorzio Agrario through the medium of the local Consorzio. All expenses relative to the milling, transportation etc. of the grain would be borne by the Consorzio. The price for milling had been established at between 60-70 lire per quintal. The price of flour ex-mill, 1356.50 lire per quintal. In AMG territory the Provincial Commissioner would approve the price of bread as submitted to him by the Consorzio. The Administrative Memorandum referred to would be sent out that day.

Econ Sec
Food S/C

It was stated that the price would vary with local economic conditions, in LECCE the economic price found its level at 15.5 lire per kilo, BARI 16.5, NAPLES 17.00. There would be price fixing committees in Provinces which would arrive at the cost of transport etc.

Chief Financial Adviser asked Regional Commissioners if the Government bonus of about 95 lire was sufficient to fix the cost at 16 lire per kilo. He thought the price would go up to 18.00. Brig. Dunker said it would take some little time before they could work out the costs.

Col. Legg said that the 'impact' ration in Northern Provinces would depend on the transportation available to move forward the stockpiles. It was hoped to establish an 'impact' ration of 100 grams from imported supplies plus whatever supplies were found on the ground, and to establish a 200 gram ration in LICURIA. Also to strike a medium between the lowest and highest price of bread not higher than 18. Regional Commissioners should establish a price for bread immediately on entering the North and for their guidance further study would be given to the subject.

It was suggested that the reaction of the population to an immediate rise in price, even to 16 lire per kilo would be severe. A/VF Economic Section asked if we could subsidise the price from AMG funds. Chief Financial Adviser said he was very much against this. Col. Legg said that the 'impact' ration would be made from imported white flour whereas the local flour was of very poor quality and this might help

Econ Sec
Food S/C

established. The 500 gram ration became effective throughout all Italian Government territory on 1 March and in AMG territory on 12 March. It comprised 200 grams bread and 80 grams pasta per diem issued weekly or bi-monthly. All cereals to be milled for human consumption would be controlled by the Consorzio Agrario through the medium of the local Consorzio. All expenses relative to the milling, transportation etc. of the grain would be borne by the Consorzio. The price for milling had been established at between 60-70 lire per quintal. The price of flour ex-mill, 1355.50 lire per quintal. In AMG territory the Provincial Commissioner would approve the price of bread as submitted to him by the Consorzio. The Administrative Memorandum referred to would be sent out that day.

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(ii) Granai del Popolo for 1945.

Director, Agriculture Sub-Commission, said the Italian Government was still considering two plans for 1945 collection.

ACTION.

- 9 -

The first was for full amassing as for last year. The alternative was partial amassing which would consist of setting an amassing figure of so many quintals per hectare according to the Province.

After views had been expressed by Regional Commissioners the Executive Commissioner announced that this could be discussed at the Economic Section meeting. See 6(n)(i) above.

Econ Sec
Agric S/C
Food S/C

(iii) Inter-provincial movement of foodstuffs.

Col. Legg, Food Sub-Commission, said this question was raised because in recent months there has been a growing tendency for some Provinces to export foodstuffs to other areas on a barter basis. The practice was contrary to established policy for inter-provincial movement of goods and adversely affected urban and populous centres. It was harmful to the national economy and should be abolished. A new directive on inter-regional trade had been prepared and would be issued forthwith.

All
Regions

Executive Commissioner said the intention was to raise provincial availabilities to a regional level and from a regional to a national level and Regional Commissioners must work to this end.

(iv) Derquisitioning procedure of industrial plants and prevention of their requisitioning.

Lt. Col. Mackay, ~~Director~~ Industry Sub-Commission, spoke of the heavy requisitioning of industrial plants by the military authorities. It was not coordinated and whilst it was appreciated that billets etc. were necessary much wastage occurred. AFHQ had just issued an Admin Memo on the subject. Requisitioning of this kind would be investigated on the spot by AC/AFG and the military authorities and if no agreement could be reached the matter would be referred to the Industrial Coordination Committee.

AMC 5 and
8 Armies
All
Regions
Econ Sec
Industry
S/C

Executive Commissioner said AFHQ recognised priority of civil needs in certain circumstances but cases submitted by Regional Commissioners for consideration must be properly and fully presented. AMG Armies should keep Regional Commissioners and HQ AC informed of any negotiation in this respect.

Lt. Col. Mackay undertook to send to AMG Armies a list of important industrial premises in the North classified in order of priority.

(v) Payment for goods and services requisitioned by Allied Forces including AC/AMG.

Brig. Croftley-Smith referred to two orders

2088

All

Regions

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(v) Payment for goods and services requisitioned by Allied Forces including AC/AMG.

Brig. Graffey-Smith referred to two orders issued by AFHQ, neither of which had proved clear or effective. A large number of unpaid requisitions had accumulated, particularly on the American side, although a recent order issued by AFHQ allowed for a much more liberal policy of payment. AFHQ proposed that the Army should continue to pay for what it wished to be maintained in continuous production and that AMG should pay, out of its own funds, for requisitions required to maintain local economy.

ACTION.

Col. Poletti asked what was the position regarding the requisitioning of living premises as hardship was being caused by non-payment. Word would be passed found in the North that the Allies were not paying for requisitions and we should probably find it difficult to satisfy our requirements.

Exec Sec
Finance S/C

Executive Commissioner ruled that Economic Section would consider the matter and submit a letter to AFHQ for the Chief Commissioner's signature.

(vi) Taxation and financial stabilization plans of the Italian Government.

Commander Lawler said there were 12 points on which the Italian Government was working in an effort to stabilize the financial position of the country. He explained each point at length and stated that in addition the Italian Government was taking certain other steps to stabilize its financial position, including two bond issues. The Government had appointed a Commission to consider the subject and it was hoped that within a few weeks sufficient progress would be made for the Government to formulate its ideas.

All
Regions

Executive Commissioner said Regional Commissioners must watch carefully the local interpretations of the measures when enacted.

(vii) Method of bidding for Schooner Traffic.

Col. Thomas, Transportation Sub-Commission, said that a draft memorandum on this subject was now in preparation in conjunction with AFHQ and MEDECO, and it was hoped that it would be ready for issue this week.

All
Regions
Exec Sec
Tr S/C

Replying to a question, Col. Thomas said that he did not think there would be any increase in tonnage but it would ensure that the right tonnage was carried in the schooners.

After he had explained briefly the procedure Executive Commissioner commented that the chief fault in the past had been that there was insufficient elasticity.

Brig. Durlap made the point that a number of schooners had probably been driven northwards and he might want to use them quickly when we arrived there. He instanced the delays and disappointments occasioned by schooner control in the past. It was thought that some interim expedient could be adopted in the early stages.

Executive Commissioner stated that the whole question of schooner traffic would be taken up with C-in-C Med.

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All
Regions
Eoon Sep
Tn S/C

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Executive Commissioner stated that the whole question of schooner traffic would be taken up with G-4-in-C Med.

(viii) Definition of the tasks of the Regional Food Officer.

Col. Legge, Food Sub-Commission, said the Regional Food Officer had often been made responsible to the Regional Commissioner for the whole of Economics and Supply of a Region and it was considered that the responsibilities of Economics and Supply should be divided between the various specialist officers of the Region. The food problem in the North would be of such proportions that the undivided attention of the Regional Food Officer would be required.

ACTION.

All Regions
Econ Sec
Food S/C

- 11 -

Regional Commissioners were of opinion that the Regional Food Officer was over-burdened but it was agreed that economic activities must be coordinated in Regions by one officer.

Executive Commissioner ruled that Regional economic activities would be co-ordinated by an officer, preferably other than the Regional Food Officer, appointed by the Regional Commissioner. The Regional Executive Officer was considered to be most suitable for the purpose.

(12) Labour Policy in AMG Territory.

Mr. Braine, Director, Labour Sub-Commission stated that the labour policy in AMG territory was to ensure that re-adjustment of wages and working conditions was carried out in an orderly manner to avoid industrial unrest, to ensure proper employment on work of reconstruction in industry, essential services and relief schemes, and to co-ordinate in the administration of public assistance and welfare. In the solution of labour problems in ITALY Labour Offices were used to a considerable extent and the Employers Associations had agreed with the Italian Government and Allied Commission to cooperate in their operation. Positive action would have to be taken to avoid industrial unrest in the North and to see that negotiations were commenced in an orderly fashion. AMG should encourage representatives from CGIL, Workers Associations and Employers Associations.

Piemonte,
Liguria,
Lombardia,
Venezia,
Piemonte,
Econ Sec
Legal S/C
Labour S/C

It was thought that for some time after liberation there would be a sufficient margin to provide for an upward trend of wages to meet rising prices and yet keep within the limits existing here. The policy of workers organisations and CGIL was to provide a new basic wage structure with local and independent variations according to length of service, proficiency, etc., coupled with sliding scale cost of living bonuses. When that was worked out the problem of individual bonuses and indemnities would disappear.

Employees of the Armed Forces would come under the Army rules and conditions, whose policy was to set up a wage scale a little in advance of wages paid in private industry.

Executive Commissioner said it was essential to have co-ordination between Regional Commissioners in the North on labour matters. On the question of implementation of decrees he directed that Labour and Legal Sub-Commissions should consult together.

The Meeting adjourned at 1800 hrs until the following day.

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The Meeting adjourned at 1800 hrs until the following day.

The Meeting resumed at 0900 hrs, 9 March 1945.

Withdrawal from the South.

Before proceeding with the Agenda the Executive Commissioner said he wished to emphasize that it was hoped to withdraw all but a few technical officers from the South by 1 April. Regional Commissioners were to plan but must not take other action until permission of AFHQ had been received.

Piemonte,
Liguria,
Lombardia,
Venezia,
Regions.
Ben See
Legal S/C
Labour S/C

ACTION.

- 12 -

Regional Commissioners expressed their anxiety should there be any postponement of the date, fearing the reaction on public opinion.

Olive Oil - Ammaring

It was stated that 32,000 tons had been collected to date with an average rate of collection of 3,000 tons weekly.

Est Sec
Boon Sec
Agric S/C

Compared with the 50,000 tons aimed at, returns were therefore slow.

Executive Commissioner said it was not proposed to jeopardise the feeding of the country by prematurely ending the amassing campaign and 10 officers engaged in this work would not be withdrawn from the South before 1 April, unless operations demanded earlier withdrawal.

6. (b) Civil Affairs Section.

(1) Holding of local elections in AMG territory.

Brig. Upjohn, VP Civil Affairs Section, stated that Combined Chiefs of Staff had directed that holding of local elections be encouraged in territory returned to the Italian Government. Was it desirable to implement the decree in AMG territory and hold local elections there? Some considerations to be borne in mind were the possibilities of strife and disorder, difficulties of transportation to the polling stations, etc. He considered that it would be desirable to hold elections in AMG (not Army) territory as it would increase the prestige of Allied Commission and might be invaluable in the AMG territory North to announce that elections would be held.

CA Sec
Local
Govt S/C

Deputy Director, Local Government Sub-Commission, then explained the system of Italian local government, the procedures for compiling electoral lists, and the holding of elections, from which it appeared that by law it would be at least four months after implementation before elections could be held.

It was agreed therefore that the work of compiling electoral lists could be put in hand as soon after occupation as convenient and that the holding of elections would be considered at a later date.

(11) Relationship of Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission to Regions.

The consensus of opinion was that the Sub-Commission staff in the field should be responsible to the Regional Commissioner in whose area they were working, thus bringing the Sub-Commission on to the same basis as other Sub-Commissions.

CA Sec
DP &
RS/C

that this change

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CA Sec
D P &
R S/C

Executive Commissioner ruled that this change would be gradual but would be completed by the time the North was occupied.

ACTION.

- 13 -

(c) Public Relations Branch.

Development of AC Public Relations in the Field.

PRO said that most criticism arose from lack of proper understanding and appreciation of the Commission's functions. This could be countered by furnishing positive information, but Public Relations staff was limited and he had to rely on reports from Regional Commissioners for facts.

Executive Commissioner stressed the news value, from the Commission's point of view, of those areas which had been liberated for some time where the results of rehabilitation work could be observed.

Arising out of this there was discussion on the activities of PWB. It was felt that Regional Commissioners should know what policy and propaganda was being put out in their Regions.

PR Branch

The Acting President, summarizing, said that when the Armies were moving forward PWB was paramount in its own sphere but in the event of a surrender or collapse in the North it should cease its activities or they should be transferred to AO guidance. He directed that the PRO should work out a standing arrangement with PWB which could be referred to AFHQ.

7. Monthly Reports.

Executive Commissioner said that abridged monthly reports of Regions and Sub-Commissions were not of a very high standard. It was required to give a concise general picture of the work and achievements of AC over a period of one month for LONDON and WASHINGTON.

AMC 5 &
8 Army
All
Regions
All Secs
All S/Gs

Full length reports should not be more than ten pages in length.

8. Attachment of AMG Officers.

Col. Fiske, VP Establishment Section, stated that an application had been received from AFHQ that AMG officers stationed in Base Sections should be attached to G-5 Section. A reply had been sent that AMG officers would remain under the control of Allied Commission and would not come under AFHQ.

9. Appreciation.

At the close of the meeting the Chief Commissioner, through the Executive Commissioner, conveyed his special appreciation of the good work carried out by the Regional Commissioners and their Staffs with special reference to Southern Region, Sicily and Sardinia who were about to close.

PR Branch

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All S/Os

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Tel: 478201

15 March 1945.

Ref: 216/85/EC

SUBJECT: Minutes of Acting President's Conference, 8-9 Mar 45.

TO : Distribution below.

Reference Minutes of Acting President's Conference held on 8-9 Mar 45, the following amendments will be made:

Para 4: delete in first paragraph last four words, i.e. "absorbed into Allied Commission" and substitute therefor:

"returned to their organisations and subsequently employed in military government duties when their services were required and when they could be released".

Para 8: delete whole para and substitute therefor:

"Attachment of AMG Officers."

Colonel Fiske, VP Establishment Section, stated that the Commanding General PBS had suggested that AMG officers stationed at the Headquarters of Base Sections, Districts and Areas might profitably be attached to the staffs of these formations as G-5 Sections. AFHQ forwarded the suggestion with the comments of G-4 Section. After consideration the Commission replied to the effect that attachment did not appear practicable but that the closest possible cooperation with respective military formations was enjoined upon all AMG personnel."

W. H. H. H.
Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

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2085

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

ACTING PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION - 8 MARCH 1945PART I

1. Opening Address by the Acting President.
2. "New Deal for Italy". Address by Chief Commissioner.
3. Withdrawal from the South. Executive Commissioner.
4. Statement on Personnel and Transport. Deputy Executive Commissioner.

PART IIRegions

5. (a) Assignment of Officers. (EMILIA and other Northern Regions).
- (b) Policy on Implementation of Italian Government's Decrees in N. ITALY. (EMILIA Region).
- (c) Disposition of Truck Pools. (SOUTHERN Region).
- (d) Turnover of Food Distribution to Italian Agencies. (TOSCANA Region).
- (e) Pay of Civilian and Parastatal Employees. (ABRUZZI MARCHE Region).

PART IIIAG Sections6. (a) Economic Section.

- i. General Oil Payola for 1945.
- ii. 300 gram ration and price of bread and pasta.
- iii. Inter-provincial movement of foodstuffs.
- iv. Derogation procedure of industrial plants and prevention of their requisitioning.
- v. Payment for goods and services requisitioned by Allied Forces including AG/AM.
- vi. Taxation and financial stabilization plans of

- 1 4 3 2
2. "New Deal for Italy". Address by Chief Commissioner.
3. Withdrawal from the South. Executive Commissioner.
4. Statement on Personnel and Transport. Deputy Executive Commissioner.

PART II

Regions

5. (a) Assignment of Officers. (Liguria and other Northern Regions).
- (b) Policy on Implementation of Italian Government's Decrees in N. ITALY. (EMILIA Region).
- (c) Disposition of Truck Pools. (SOUTHERN Region).
- (d) Turnover of Food Distribution to Italian Agencies. (TOSCANA Region).
- (e) Pay of State and Parastatal Employees. (ABRUZZI MARCHE Region).

PART III

IN AC Sections

6. (a) Economic Section.

- i. Grandi Coli Popolo for 1945.
- ii. 500 gram ration and price of bread and pasta.
- iii. Inter-provincial movement of foodstuffs.
- iv. Derequisitioning procedure of industrial plants and prevention of their requisitioning.
- v. Payment for goods and services requisitioned by Allied Forces including AO/AFS.
- vi. Taxation and financial stabilisation plans of the Italian Government.
- vii. Method of bidding for schooner movement.
- viii. Definition of the tasks of the Regional Food Office.
- ix. Labour policy in AC territory.

2034

6. (b) Civil Affairs Section.

- i. Holding of local elections in AMB territory.
- ii. Transfer of further territory to the Italian Government.
- iii. Relationship of Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission to Regions.

(c) Public Relations Branch.

1. Development of AM Public Relations in the field.

7. Any other business.

7 March 1945.

transportation below

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
ARO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Tel: 735
6 March 1945.

Ref: 216/63/EO.

SUBJECT: Acting President's Conference.

TO : Distribution below.

1. The following is the seating plan for ^{the} Conference to be held in the Conference Room at 1000 hrs on 8 Mar 45.

2. The Regional Commissioner, Vice President or Director of Sub-Commission will sit at the table at the place allotted to him. Behind will be another row of chairs for the Executive Officer, Chief Staff Officer or Deputy Director.

Air Forces Navy	
Land Forces	Patriots Branch
M.F.A.	Public Safety
Education	Displaced Persons & Repatriation
Local Government	Public Health
Legal	ERO
Abruzzi Marche Region	French Representative
Emilia Region	USSR Representative
SCAO Eighth Army	Political Advisor
Toscana Region	Chief Commissioner
SCAO Fifth Army	Acting President
ICGAG	Executive Commissioner
Southern Region	VP Establishment Section
Lazio-Umbria Region	VP Economic Section
Sicilia Region	VP Civil Affairs Section
Sardegna Region	Finance
Piemonte Region	Transportation
Liguria Region	Labour
Lombardia Region	Food

DOOR
(From Main Staircase)

Sit at the table at the place allotted to him. Behind will be another row of chairs for the Executive Officer, Chief Staff Officer or Deputy Director.

Air Forces Navy

Land Forces

M.F.A.

Education

Local Government

Legal

Abruzzi Marche Region

Emilia Region

SCAO Tenth Army

Toscana Region

SCAO Fifth Army

ICCAO

Southern Region

Lazio-Umbria Region

Sicilia Region

Sardegna Region

Piemonte Region

Liguria Region

Lombardia Region

Venezia Region

War Materials Disposal
& IAW
Communications

Agriculture P.W. & U.

DISTRIBUTION

See over

Patriots Branch

Public Safety

Displaced Persons &
Repatriation
Public Health

PRO

French Representative

USSR Representative

Political Advisor

Chief Commissioner

Acting President

Executive Commissioner

VP Establishment Section

VP Economic Section

VP Civil Affairs Section

Finance

Transportation

Labour

Food

Industry

Commerce

DOOR
(from Main Staircase)

2083

Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

Acting President
 Chief Commissioner
 Executive Committee
 USRP Representative
 French Representative
 Political Advisor
 VP Establishment Section
 VP Economic Section
 VP Civil Affairs Section
 PRO
 Monument, Fine Arts & Archives S/C
 Education Sub-Comm
 Local Government Sub-Comm
 Legal Sub-Comm
 Patriotic Branch
 Public Safety Sub-Comm
 Displaced Persons & Repatriation S/C
 Public Health Sub-Comm
 Finance Sub-Comm
 Transportation Sub-Comm
 Labour Sub-Comm
 Food Sub-Comm
 Industry Sub-Comm
 Commerce Sub-Comm
 Agriculture Sub-Comm
 P.W. & U.S. Sub-Comm
 Land Forces Sub-Comm (MIA)
 Air Forces Sub-Comm
 Navy Sub-Comm
 War Materials Disposal & IIR S/C
 Communications Sub-Comm

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief Commissioner

26 February 1945.

Ref: 216/45/DC.

SUBJECT: Acting President's Conference.

TO : Distribution Below.

1. The Acting President will hold a conference to discuss matters pertaining to the Allied Commission on 8 March 1945 at 1000 hours in the Main Conference Hall, Headquarters Building, Rome.

2. The following will be present:

Chief Commissioner,
Executive Commissioner and his Chief Staff Officer
Vice Presidents and their Chief Staff Officers
Directors of Sub-Commissions and their Deputies
DCCAC
Regional Commissioners and their Executive Officers
SCAO's Armies
Russian and French Representatives of the Allied
Commission.

3. It is essential that numbers of officers attending should be restricted and only those enumerated above will attend. The Press will not be present.

4. The object of the conference will be to discuss the present and the future, and not to record the activities of the Commission in the past.

5. The meeting will be divided into three parts:

Part I. Opening address by the Acting President, followed by the Chief Commissioner, on the subject of the New Deal for Italy.

Part II. Discussion of problems that Regional Commissioners would like to raise.

Part III. Discussion of problems that Vice Presidents of Sections would like to raise.

6. There will be no set agenda, and, except in regard to Part I, it is desired that the meeting should be of a purely business nature. Regional Commissioners in Part III of the meeting will be asked to raise their points in the following order:

1. The Acting President will hold a conference to discuss matters pertaining to the Allied Commission on 8 March 1945 at 1000 hours in the Main Conference Hall, Headquarters Building, Rome.

2. The following will be present:

Chief Commissioner.
Executive Commissioner and his Chief Staff Officer
Vice Presidents and their Chief Staff Officers
Directors of Sub-Commissions and their Deputies
DCCAO
Regional Commissioners and their Executive Officers
SCAO's Armies
Russian and French Representatives of the Allied
Commission.

3. It is essential that numbers of officers attending should be restricted and only those enumerated above will attend. The Press will not be present.

4. The object of the conference will be to discuss the present and the future, and not to record the activities of the Commission in the past.

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Part I. Opening address by the Acting President, followed by the Chief Commissioner, on the subject of the New Deal for Italy.

Part II. Discussion of problems that Regional Commissioners would like to raise.

Part III. Discussion of problems that Vice Presidents of Sections would like to raise.

6. There will be no set Agenda, and, except in regard to Part I, it is desired that the meeting should be of a purely business nature. Regional Commissioners in Part II of the meeting will be asked to raise their points in the following order:

SICILIA
SOUTHERN
SARDINIA
LAZIO-UMBRIA
ABRUZZI-MARCHE
VENETIA
PIEMONTE
LOMBARDIA
LIGURIA
EMILIA
TOSCANA

21

In regard to Part III of the meeting, Vice Presidents will be asked to raise their points in the following order:

VP, Political Section
VP, Economic Section
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Establishments Section

Chas. D. Fowler

ELBERT W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:

Acting President
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Political Section
Civil Affairs Section
Economic Section
Establishment Section
Land Forces Sub-Com
Navy Sub-Com
Air Force Sub-Com
WD & PW Sub-Com
Communications Sub-Com
Public Relations Branch
DCCAO

070001

SOLO, 5 Army

SC:O, B Army

BO. Sicilia Region

No. 20, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 268

NO, Southern Region

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Dr. Lombardi, author of "The

HC, Liguria Region

NC, Venezuela Region

Russian Representation

French Representative

Table 1. Continued

Acting President
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Political Section
Civil Affairs Section
Economic Section
Establishment Section
Land Forces Sub-Com
Navy Sub-Com
Air Force Sub-Com
WLD & LPW Sub-Com
Communications Sub-Com
Public Relations Branch
DCCAO
SCAO, 5 Army
SCAO, 3 Army
RC, Sicilian Region
RC, Sardinia Region
RC, Southern Region
RC, Lazio-Umbria Region
RC, Abruzzi-Marche Region
RC, Tuscany Region
RC, Emilia Region
RC, Piemonte Region
RC, Lombardia Region
RC, Liguria Region
RC, Venezia Region
Russian Representative to AC
French Representative to AC
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Meet
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CONTRIBUTION TO MINUTES OF CONFERENCE

Tuesday, 22 August 1944

Providing: Captain Henry W. Stone, USNR,

Naval Sub-Commission, Rear Admiral C. E. Morgan.

1. I understand at the last meeting one of the area commanders appeared with a sheaf of wheat. I am sorry I have not arrived with an Italian battleship, but I assure you that I have the Italian fleet in my pocket.

2. The Italian Navy have done an enormous amount to assist the Allied war effort. We have come to the end of 12 months of co-belligerency.

3. We have five battalions altogether. The three in Malta have had their locations changed. One is now at Syracuse used as a training ship, two are at Taranto--one for gunnery training problems and the other for a gunnery ship. There are eight cruisers altogether; two are out of action. Their principal duty is the transporting of men from Sicily to North Africa to Italy. During the last 12 months those six ships have lifted 130 bodies into Italy. We land motor transport parties and many other occupational groups. One cruiser has transported 30,000 men, steaming over 27,000 miles (14 times around the earth at the equator), in 9 months. There are eight destroyers and we generally have 5 or 6 available. They are doing a useful work. We have 40 torpedo boats and corvettes, about 20 of which are available. Their principal duties are convoy and escort work. There are 32 submarines; generally about 22 are available. Two are on special operations; the remainder on anti-submarine training. They provide targets and exercises for all Allied destroyers. There are 5 sea-bree sub-marines. The small sub-marines are used for training and experimental work.

4. Operations in the Adriatic have been carried out by Italian MS boats, MAS boats and small torpedo boats. This included the landing of agents in enemy territory, landing reconnaissance parties, bringing back prisoners of war, etc. It is very dangerous work. We have carried out 151 (3 a week) such missions; out of this number 132 have been successful. The reasons for the failure of the other 19 had nothing to do with the determination or bravery of the Italian officers and men; rather the weather, pre-arranged signals, or incorrect signals were at fault.

5. The ration strength remains at 75,000. The overall strength is 79,000. That will not be increased. The Minister of Marine has no excuse for increasing it and does not wish it to be increased. The numbers are kept down by discharging reserves and time expired men, whose places are filled by younger men who come in as the line advances northward.

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6. The fleet continues to be operated from Taranto.

7. The food situation is good. There is less discontent since the introduction of the standard ration. The workers' ration has been slightly increased.

8. The Naval Sub-Commission has moved to Rome. However my job in Taranto must come first.

9. a. There have been disturbances. The most serious was about mid-June. The excuse was that the Minister of Marine had not sworn allegiance to the King. One officer refused to obey orders and take his ship to sea. He was relieved of his command and put on half pay for six months. This man had a following. Two others were relieved of office and the disturbance died down.

b. There was a disturbance when the French fleet was in. On the second day

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two French were killed, others wounded on both sides. I saw the French Admiral and stopped the shore leaves of the French.

10. The Taranto dock yards in association with the Franco Tosi shipbuilding yards have the following record:

- a. Ships repaired: 683 British, 220 Italian
- b. Total dockings, Italian and British, during the year has been 565.
- c. One ship docked on 11 July for repairs, and after a survey it was thought that it would take at least 40 days to complete the job. The Taranto dock yard completed the job in 30 days. The ship left Taranto on the 12th of August, fully stored and armed, six days ahead of the time when we thought it should have been repaired.

11. I am giving the men more sea time than they ever had before. I'm trying to keep the Navy busy. The Navy will be something solid for the new Italy to build upon.

Comments by Acting Chief Commissioner: Captain Stone reminded all correspondents that all references to numbers, places and operations of the Service Sub-Commissions were off the record and a military secret.

Army Sub-Commission, Major General L. Browning

1. WE/10. Since the last meeting, our new H.E./T.O. has been authorized. This gives us the "tools to do the job", which had been sadly lacking. We have, in consequence, now got a much firmer grip on the situation, particularly on the Supply side--rations, clothing, boots and medical supplies. We now have set in motion and control the largest old clothes and old boots business in the world (nearly 400,000 pairs of old boots, for instance.); and this will grow as repair materials are forthcoming, which these are already starting to do. We are also well-established in the grocery business, feeding all the Italian armed forces (nearly a half-million people) and holding a stock of 25,000,000 lbs. of flour.

2. CEILING.

a. The major factor in all our work is the ceiling figure for the Italian army laid down by the Combined Chiefs of Staff. No "private armies" are permitted beyond this ceiling and rations, etc., are supplied for only this number.

b. Headquarters A.A.I. proposed a ceiling of approximately 375,000 for the army and 60,000 for the Carabinieri, who, though the senior regiment in the army, have police functions as well. After much discussion, AFHQ have proposed to the C.C.S. a ceiling of 309,000 for the army and 55,000 for the Carabinieri (a reduction of 18% for the army as compared with only 8% for the Carabinieri). The army have borne the whole brunt of this reduction, the Italian Navy ceiling remaining at 75,000 and the Air Force at 31,000.

c. By centralization or elimination of various depots, transit camps and other installations, we have made certain economies. But the fact remains that we have not got anything like the number of army troops we want and we must "cut our coat according to our cloth". I want to stress this because I feel that many people think that the reserves are going into which they can dip for all manner

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c. By centralization or elimination of various depots, transit camps and other installations, we have made certain economies. But the fact remains that we have not got anything like the number of Army troops we want and we must "cut our coat according to our cloth". I want to stress this because I feel that many people think the Italian Army is an inexhaustible reservoir into which they can dip for all manner of purposes, many of them non-military. It just cannot be done; and we have to economize and use every single body to the best advantage; see there is no waste; and that we are doing an officially authorized job. No Italian officer or man is authorized unless he is officially authorized by AAI and it is part of my duty to see that unauthorized Italian soldiers are not "attached" all over the place.

3. NEW ITALIAN COMBAT FORCE.

a. We have an Italian Combat Force (C.I.L.) of some 20,000 actually fighting.

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ing. Its size is limited by the ruling that it was to fight with the Italian equipment captured in Italy. We Allied equipment is authorized.

b. A request has been made to G.O.S. to authorize the issue from England of 3 British Divisions worth of equipment to the Italians. This raises big questions of organization and training. We have examined the question in detail and judge that we can form 6 Italian "Combat Groups" each about 9,000 strong with this equipment. For simplicity and speed in preparation of these Groups, the organization (and thus the tactics) will be on Italian lines. We will train instructors at British schools in the technical handling and maintenance of the weapons. This has already started. These instructors will then train their own people, with the aid of a British liaison and training team of officers of all arms with each Combat Group--a very intriguing and interesting project, which will mean that, for the first time, Italy will have a uniform, standard fighting organization of about Divisional size! All this, of course, within the ceiling--the G.I.I. being reorganized as two of the Combat groups. I hope and believe that we will be able to convert these groups into a really good fighting force.

4. PATRIOTS

a. In conjunction with the Patriot Branch of ACC, we have produced a clear cut policy as regards patriots--a thorny problem.

b. We wish to encourage the patriots, who are doing valuable work in enemy occupied territory. On the other hand, we cannot countenance the existence, as formed fighting units, of patriot bands who are over-passed by us in our advance. We cannot keep within our lines "private armies" of patriots of diverse political color and aspirations. One thinks of the troubles of Yugoslavia and Greece in this connection. This has obviously a post-war as well as a present aspect, particularly as in the North numbers are said to be large.

c. The main point is that we must have only one official Italian Army whose size is fixed. That is our sheet-anchor. We must uphold its authority, both for now and post-war. We cannot absorb vast numbers of patriots into that Army--particularly in respect of fighting troops, as G.I.I. is only 20,000 strong. As we form the Combat Groups we can absorb more. For every patriot absorbed we have to demobilize a soldier in the Army--and if this turnover or absorption is great and rapid, the Army loses its cohesion and efficiency. Every patriot or ex-soldier we pick up is considered as a civilian (from the Army point of view) till he is actually enlisted again into the new official Army.

d. In view of all this, we have arranged (in conjunction with Patriot Branch ACC) to "screen" and absorb patriot volunteers for actual combat. The numbers who so volunteer come to only 1 in 10. The remainder do not come within the Army orbit until the normal conscription law is re-applied in their area.

5. VALUE OF ITALIAN ARMY

a. A final word on the value of the Italian Army to the Allied cause.

b. The patriots have "stolen the picture"--to use film parlance. They are "news". I think few people realize how well the Italian Army has done. They have, out of chaos, an army of over 300,000 at initio--with scratch

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b. The patriots have "stolen the picture"--to use film parlance. They are "news". I think few people realize how well the Italian Army has done. They have, with our help, organized out of chaos, an Army of over 300,000 ab initio--with scratch staffs, ex-POW Generals brought from England, etc. The C.I.L. has fought well and had many casualties. The Minister for War himself (Count Casati) has lost his only son, fighting with C.I.L. The service and labor portion has done an immense task in repairing communications, dock labor, etc., thus saving Allied manpower. They have cooperated loyally as co-belligerents, with practically no fuss or friction. I would like people to realize all this and the Italian Army to get its deserved and just need of praise both in the Press and in the minds of the Allies for its valuable assistance to the Allied cause.

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Air Sub-Commission, Air Vice Marshal, W.A.2. Bowen-Buescarlot

1. The Italian Air Force continues to support the Allied Air Forces actively. The Fighter Wing has been carrying out fighter sweeps on the Dalmatian Coast and has a good record. The Bomber/Transport Wing continues to drop supplies on Yugoslavia and Albania. Owing to increased air opposition, the supply-dropping operations are now only taking place at night. The Bomber Wing continues to work as part of the Mediterranean Coastal Air Force.

2. The Operational Control of the Italian Air Force has now passed out of the hands of the Air Forces Sub-Commission. The Fighter Wing and the Bomber Transport Wing are under the control of Balkan Air Force, and the Shipping Wing is under the operational control of No. 242 Group, Royal Air Force. While this loss of operational control is regretted, there is no doubt that it is a sound move, as it ensures complete co-ordination of the effort of the Air Forces as a whole.

3. Since the last Conference the principal pre-occupation of the Air Forces Sub-Commission has been the re-equipment of three Italian Fighter Squadrons with Aircobra aircraft and two Light Bomber Squadrons with Baltimore aircraft. This problem has provided an almost continuous headache, for while the aircraft were readily available, (although in the case of the Aircobras their condition left a good deal to be desired) and the Italian pilots have taken readily to flying these, the arrangements for the provision of the necessary spares and equipment have worked exceedingly slowly and the whole of the training has, in consequence, been held up. Matters are now better, although not entirely satisfactory. One Fighter Squadron is ready to go on operations except for its ground equipment, and one Baltimore Squadron will be ready very shortly; the others should follow at short intervals, but this is entirely dependent on the satisfactory supply of equipment. There are further problems which will have to be solved before these squadrons can be considered as being equal to Allied squadrons; one of these is that of transport. Allied squadrons achieve a high degree of mobility by virtue of a generous establishment of transport. The Italian squadrons are completely lacking in this, and if they are to be made mobile, transport will have to be found from Allied sources. There is also a considerable problem in connection with the factories which are to carry out the major overhaul of the Allied airframes and engines.

4. Under the new Government, General Piacentini has been appointed Air Minister and Chief of Staff of the Italian Air Force. When this appointment was agreed to by the Air Forces Sub-Commission it was understood that the General should only devote a small portion of his time to his work as Air Minister. In actual fact this has not turned out to be the case, and the General has to devote far too much of his time to political matters and Cabinet meetings. He is however carrying out his duties in both respects to our entire satisfaction.

5. Among many other problems there have been two outstanding ones. Firstly the ceiling of manpower in the Italian Air Force, and secondly the question of rations. A somewhat arbitrary decision was made to reduce the ceiling from 32,000 to 22,000. This would have had serious repercussions in respect of Italian Air Force personnel on loan to the Allied Forces in substitution for Allied manpower, and the short time allowed us to carry out the mobilization of 10,000 men would have inevitably resulted in our being left with an inferior force as regards technical ability. Through our representations the ceiling has now been permanently fixed at 31,000.

6. The Italian Air Force maintains a satisfactory level of morale.

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6. In general the Italian Air Force maintains a satisfactory level of morale, but during the month of June this fell off somewhat due to political conditions and to various other causes, but it has now improved again. It is sometimes difficult to explain to Allied formations that they cannot expect the same high level of efficiency from the Italians as they do from their own squadrons, and that the dead hand of the past years of Fascism has killed initiative and to some extent the ability to work hard when the immediate and cannot be seen closely in sight.

Attention is directed to the security classification of this Supplement.

Robert E. Doe

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.C.D.
Staff Captain General

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Air Sub-Commission, Air Vice Marshal, H.A.E. Dwyer-Whitfield

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4. Under the new Government, General Piacentini has been appointed Air Minister and Chief of Staff of the Italian Air Force. When this appointment was agreed to by the Air Forces Sub-Commission it was understood that the General should only devote a small portion of his time to his work as Air Minister. In actual fact this has not turned out to be the case, and the General has to devote far too much of his time to political matters and Cabinet meetings. He is however carrying out his duties in both respects to our entire satisfaction.
5. Among many other problems there have been two outstanding ones. Firstly the ceiling of manpower in the Italian Air Force, and secondly the question of nations. A somewhat arbitrary decision was made to reduce the ceiling from 32,000 to 22,000. This would have had serious repercussions in respect of Italian Air Force personnel on loan to the Allied Forces in substitution for Allied manpower, and the short time allowed us to carry out the demobilization of 10,000 men would have inevitably resulted in our being left with an inferior force as regards technical ability. Through our representations the ceiling has now been permanently fixed at 31,000.
6. In general the Italian Air Force maintains a satisfactory level of morale,

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6. In general the Italian Air Force maintains a satisfactory level of morale, but during the month of June this fell off somewhat due to political conditions and to various other causes, but it has now improved again. It is sometimes difficult to explain to Allied formations that they cannot expect the same high level of efficiency from the Italians as they do from their own squadrons, and that the dead hand of the past years of Fascism has killed initiative and to some extent the ability to work hard when the immediate end cannot be seen clearly in sight.

Attention is directed to the security classification of this Supplement.

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Robert E. Doe
ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.C.D. 2079
Secretary General

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ing. Its size is limited by the ruling that it has to fight with the Italian equipment captured in Italy. No Allied equipment is authorized.

b. A request has been made to G.C.S. to authorize the issue from England of 3 British Divisions worth of equipment to the Italians. This raises big questions of organization and training. We have examined the question in detail and judge that we can form 6 Italian "Combat Groups" each about 9,000 strong with this equipment. For simplicity and speed in preparation of these Groups, the organization (and thus the tactics) will be on Italian lines. We will train instructors at British schools in the technical handling and maintenance of the weapons. This has already started. These instructors will then train their own people, with the aid of a British liaison and training team of officers of all arms with each Combat Group--a very intriguing and interesting project, which will mean that, for the first time, Italy will have a uniform, standard fighting organization of about Divisional size! All this, of course, within the ceiling--the C.I.L. being reorganized as two of the Combat groups. I hope and believe that we will be able to convert these groups into a really good fighting force.

4. PATRIOTS

a. In conjunction with the Patriot Branch of ACC, we have produced a clear cut policy as regards patriots--a thorny problem.

b. We wish to encourage the patriots, who are doing valuable work in enemy occupied territory. On the other hand, we cannot countenance the existence, as formed fighting units, of patriot bands who are over-passed by us in our advance. We cannot keep within our lines "private armies" of patriots of diverse political color and aspirations. One thinks of the troubles of Yugoslavia and Greece in this connection. This has obviously a post-war as well as a present aspect, particularly as in the North numbers are said to be large.

c. The main point is that we must have only one official Italian Army whose size is fixed. That is our sheet-anchor. We must uphold its authority, both for now and post-war. We cannot absorb vast numbers of patriots into that Army--particularly in respect of fighting troops, as C.I.L. is only 20,000 strong. As we form the Combat Groups we can absorb more. For every patriot absorbed we have to demobilize a soldier in the Army--and if this turnover or absorption is great and rapid, the Army loses its cohesion and efficiency. Every patriot or ex-soldier we pick up is considered as a civilian (from the Army point of view) till he is actually enlisted again into the new official Army.

d. In view of all this, we have arranged (in conjunction with Patriot Branch ACC) to "screen" and absorb patriot volunteers for actual combat. The numbers who so volunteer come to only 1 in 10. The remainder do not come within the Army orbit until the normal conscriptive law is re-applied in their area.

5. VALUE OF ITALIAN ARMY

a. A final word on the value of the Italian Army to the Allied cause.

b. The patriots have "stolen the picture"--to use film parlance. They are "news". I think few people realize how well the Italian Army has done. They have, with our help, organized out of chaos, an Army of over 300,000 ab initio--with scratch staffs, ex-POW Generals brought from England, etc. The C.I.L. has fought well and had many casualties. The Minister for War himself (Count Casati) has lost his only son, a son of the same name and a son of the same name. The Minister has done an immense task in repair-

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

SUPPLEMENT B MINUTES OF CONFERENCE

Tuesday, 22 August 1944

Presiding: Captain Wilbur M. Stone, USMC

Naval Sub-Commission, Rear Admiral C. E. Morgan

1. I understand at the last meeting one of the area commanders appeared with a sheaf of wheat. I am sorry I have not arrived with an Italian battleship, but I assure you that I have the Italian fleet in my pocket.
2. The Italian Navy have done an enormous amount to assist the allied war effort. We have come to the end of 12 months of co-belligerence.

3. We have five battleships altogether. The three in Malta have had their locations changed. One is now at Syracuse used as a training ship, two are at Taranto--one for gunnery training problems and the other for a gunnery ship. There are eight cruisers altogether; two are out of action. Their principal duty is the transporting of men from Sicily to North Africa to Italy. During the last 12 months these six ships have lifted 120 bodies into Italy. We land motor transport parties and many other occupational groups. One cruiser has transported 30,000 men, steaming over 27,000 miles (14 times around the earth at the equator), in 9 months. There are eight destroyers and we generally have 5 or 6 available. They are doing a useful work. We have 40 torpedo boats and corvettes, about 20 of which are available. Their principal duties are convoy and escort work. There are 32 submarines; generally about 22 are available. Two are on special operations; the remainder on anti-submarine training. They provide targets and exercises for all Allied destroyers. There are 5 sea-bee submarines. The small submarines are used for training and experimental work.

4. Operations in the Adriatic have been carried out by Italian AS boats, MAS boats and small torpedo boats. This included the landing of agents in enemy territory, landing reconnaissance parties, bringing back prisoners of war, etc. It is very dangerous work. We have carried out 151 (3 a week) such missions; out of this number 152 have been successful. The reasons for the failure of the other 19 had nothing to do with the determination or bravery or the drive of the Italian officers and men; rather the weather, pre-arranged signals, or incorrect signals were at fault.

5. The ration strength remains at 75,000. The overall strength is 77,000. That will not be increased. The Minister of War has no excuse for increasing it and does not wish it to be increased. The numbers are kept down by discharging reserves and time expired men, whose places are filled by younger men who come in as the line advances northward.

6. The fleet continues to be operated from Taranto.

7. The food situation is good. There is less discontent since the introduction of the standard ration. The workers ration has been slightly increased.

8. The Italian Navy has been moved to Rome. However my job in Taranto must

1. I understand at the last meeting one of the area commanders appeared with a sheaf of wheat. I am sorry I have not arrived with an Italian battleship, but I assure you that I have the Italian fleet in my pocket.
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4. Operations in the Adriatic have been carried out by Italian AS boats, MAS boats and small torpedo boats. This included the landing of agents in enemy territory, landing reconnaissance parties, bringing back prisoners of war, etc. It is very dangerous work. We have carried out 151 (3 1/2 weeks) such missions; out of this number 132 have been successful. The reasons for the failure of the other 19 had nothing to do with the determination or bravery or the drive of the Italian officers and men; rather the weather, pre-arranged signals, or incorrect signals were at fault.
5. The ration strength remains at 95,000. The overall strength is 79,000. That will not be increased. The Minister of Marine has no excuse for increasing it and does not wish it to be increased. The numbers are kept down by discharging reserves and time expired men, whose places are filled by younger men who come in as the line advances northward.
6. The fleet continues to be operated from Taranto.
7. The food situation is good. There is less discontent since the introduction of the standard ration. The workers' ration has been slightly increased.
8. The Naval Sub-Commission has moved to Rome. However my job in Taranto must come first.
9. a. There have been disturbances. The most serious was about mid-June. The excuse was that the Minister of Marine had not sworn allegiance to the King. One officer refused to obey orders and take his ship to sea. He was relieved of his command and put on half pay for six months. This man had a following. Two others were relieved of office and the disturbance died down.
 - b. There was a disturbance when the French fleet was in. On the second day

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two French were killed, others wounded on both sides. I saw the French Admiral and stopped the shore leaves of the French.

10. The Taranto dock yards in association with the Franco Tosi shipbuilding yards have the following record:

- a. Ships repaired: 680 British, 220 Italian
- b. Total dockings, Italian and British, during the year has been 565.
- c. One ship docked on 11 July for repairs, and after a survey it was thought that it would take at least 40 days to complete the job. The Taranto dock yard completed the job in 20 days. The ship left Taranto on the 11th of August, fully stored and armed, six days ahead of the time when it should have been repaired.

11. I am giving the men more sea time than they ever had before. I'm trying to keep the Navy busy. The Navy will be something solid for the new Italy to build upon.

Comments by Acting Chief Commissioner: Captain Stone reminded all correspondents that all references to numbers, places and operations of the Service Sub-Commissions were off the record and a military secret.

Army Sub-Commission, Major General L. Brenning

1. WE/TO. Since the last meeting, our new W.E./T.O. has been authorized. This gives us the "tools to do the job", which had been sadly lacking. We have, in consequence, now got a much firmer grip on the situation, particularly on the Supply side--rations, clothing, boots and medical supplies. We now have set in motion and control the largest old clothes and old boots business in the world (nearly 400,000 pairs of old boots, for instance.); and this will grow as repair materials are forthcoming, which these are already starting to do. We are also well-established in the grocery business, feeding all the Italian armed forces (nearly a half-million people) and holding a stock of 28,000,000 lbs. of flour.

2. COLLING.

a. The major factor in all our work is the colling figure for the Italian Army laid down by the Combined Chiefs of Staff. No "private Arables" are permitted beyond this colling and rations, etc., are supplied for only this number.

b. Headquarters A.A.I. proposed a colling of approximately 375,000 for the Army and 40,000 for the Carabinieri, who, though the senior regiment in the Army, have police functions as well. After much discussion, AFHQ have proposed to the C.C.S. a colling of 309,000 for the Army and 55,000 for the Carabinieri (a reduction of 18% for the Army as compared with only 4% for the Carabinieri). The Army have borne the whole brunt of this reduction, the Italian Navy colling remaining at 75,000 and the Air Force at 51,000.

c. By centralization or elimination of various depots, transit camps and other installations, we have made certain economies. But the fact remains that we have not got anything like the number of Army troops we want and we must "out our coat according to our cloth". I want to stress this because I feel that many people think

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c. By centralization or elimination of various depots, transit camps and other installations, we have made certain economies. But the fact remains that we have not got anything like the number of Army troops we want and we must "cut our coat according to our cloth". I want to stress this because I feel that many people think the Italian Army is an inexhaustible reservoir into which they can dip for all manner of purposes, many of them non-military. It just cannot be done; and we have to scrutinize and use every single body to the best advantage; see there is no waste; and that we are doing an officially authorized job. No Italian officer or man is authorized unless he is officially authorized by AAI and it is part of my duty to see that unauthorized Italian soldiers are NOT "attached" all over the place.

3. NEW ITALIAN COMBAT FORCE.

a. We have an Italian Combat Force (C.I.L.) of some 20,000 actually fight-

