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nella Tipografia Poliglotta Vaticana

21.5
Personal and
Confidential
from Myron Taylor.
Rome

For The President,
The White House
Washington

D. G.

Miss Tully:-

For filing

D&K

per H L H

*Myron Taylor folder
4-44*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

JOHN BOETTIGER:

Will you read the enclosures
and talk them over with Harry Hopkins
and later with me?

F.D.R.

Personal and Confidential letter to the President from Hon. Myron C. Taylor, dated Oct. 15, 1944, in re Mayor LaGuardia coming to Italy to take a post. Suggests, if such is the case, the position of taking control of the A.C.C. (Allied Control Commission). Attached is a memorandum concerning the Anglo-American Relations in Italy, particularly in the Allied Control Commission. Also attached is Report of Mr. Howard Barr, dated Oct. 4, 1944, addressed to Mr. Taylor, re observations of relief situation in area in Italy released by the military to the Italian Govt. (Mr. Barr is with the Am. Red Cross)

Personal and Confidential.

Myron Taylor folder
4-44

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

October 15, 1944.

Dear Mr. President.

It is said that Mayor La Guardia is coming to Italy to take a post:

There is only one position here that I can envisage for which he has had experience and in which he might do something constructive that would be consistent with his present most important position - Mayor of New York.

That position is to take real control of a.e.e. (now a.e.).

If that is the plan he should be informed of some of the prevailing conditions and be equipped with ^{suggestions} "official" rank and the opportunity to investigate the American end of these affairs as I am certain the "Allies" will not otherwise give him real control.

As you know I am not easily convinced or impulsive. But I shall try to put together from my experience here the general situation. These views are

amply supported by General opinion
as well as by discriminating observers.
Grady knew the difficulties and
gave up. O'Dwyer knew them better
and he was returned from America.

John never leans on the inside
nor has he engaged in any controversy
with any of the officers or advisors.

Representing American Relief for Italy
I found no preparation being made to
distribute supplies either of the
contributed sort or of the more
expensive food necessary, if shipped
and transportation (trucks) made available
to meet the emergency. I set about
creating (after many meetings I called
asking representatives and advisors of
A.C.C. and A.T.H.S. and others to attend)
an organization to consolidate the agencies
of the State, the Vatican and Italian Red
Cross. I received no support or
encouragement from any existing
allied agency. No Prime Minister, the Pope and
you approved it.

Only on Friday last did A.C.C. make
any move to interest itself in real relief

He called a meeting of the representatives of the National Committee (from our visit) & arranged meeting along the lines he suggested he had called for them by (from our visit). There is nothing further in any of the so long - speeches are long, and distribution is essential. Before is is "to see" & is "to see" now in some sections. An apparent indifference to the whole situation exists but they don't meet. The attached statement will give you a clear picture of the development and present position of the 'emissions'.

As action to be undertaken in the statement goes some attention to show of the reaction to many observations:

- I. The Rites dominant ideas free, is big.
- II. The Rites decline R. Hain
- III. The Rites are being of the law (There is a new meaning of the Rites given on the Adriatic) Note: side with name is same - the current - but is "the law to the summer")
- IV. The Rites are given marked by indicating what to the 1945 meeting

I In four months there have been a number and an American section 'Planning' together. He talks in all parts of the American army & the Rites is present

VI. While this case is in any one meeting, the fact and doing the fighting - and down the Rites (Hain and Hain, the higher sphere is a.c.c. (Rites) There now given notes that they are admitted those technical man - then - this is the great industrial center of the country - and it must be important Commission for some say Rites has been selected by a long and good after the war - that one are standing out that the Rites has been selected the Rites (and) (USA, Rite and San) in Germany and that the USSR one of the Rites and the Rites (Stalin) and the Rites and the Rites. Russia and the Rites - this case is the most important of all - 1/2 American up on the law and one to meet the law and the Rites next to the Rites A.F.H. and A.C.E. the Rites can do it - one of the outposts

4.
THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

the lat. To this end the only practical
way as I see it - is to make him
Chief Commissioner (A.C.) with the
rank of Minister - Probably no
Army rank could be created to
equal 4 Star Genl Sir W. Wilson or the
rank with General Staff. In this
atmosphere of Staff Court, but diplo-
matic status should control.

But that this letter be considered
strictly personal, I am only com-
menting on the machinery by which
affairs are administered, not on
the personality of the officers. They
are doing the best they can for their
country as they see it. They do that
well. If we really mean to let
Britain dominate Italy - we are going
the right way about it - need doubt
and La Guardia - Osiris
Her Majesty permit it Seymour

From

Secretary

Room

Personal and Confidential

The President

White House

Washington.

PSF, Myron Taylor folder

file personal. v-vv

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS:

TO READ AND RETURN.

F.D.R.

*Noted
H.L.H.*

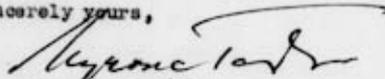
Rome, October 12, 1944.

Dear Mr. President:

As the subject of relief is vital to the future in Italy and - as we view it here - to the permanency even of the present Italian Government, I am sending you here- with the minutes of two meetings at which the subject of relief supplies was discussed. I am also enclosing copy of a letter dated October 12, 1944 which I have received from Commodore Ellery W. Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission which will give you an immediate insight into the present situation, but which is secret and which I would rather not have circulated.

With continued regard, believe me

Sincerely yours,



Myron C. Taylor

Enclosures:

Memorandum;
Letter.
(with CC for Secretary Hall)

The President

The White House

Washington, D.C.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By J. Schauble Date FEB 22 1972

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Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Myron Taylor

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DOC DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 10-24-69

Signature- *RMRB*

EXTRACTS FROM A CABLE TO GENERAL WILSON

October 10, 1944

"As previously advised, to maintain the 300 gram bread ration would require 130,000 tons monthly as from July 1st or total of 520,000 tons up to November 1st. As total imports for this period will be 184,000 tons only, import tonnage necessary to maintain 300 gram ration throughout Italy from November 1st would be 165,000 tons monthly beginning November.

"We are presently faced with following facts relative to bread ration for all Italy. Receipt of wheat/flour shipment for November and December of 100,000 tons monthly. AFHQ propose to call forward January through June 100,000 tons each month. Bread ration beginning November 1st would have to be not more than 235 grams for all Italy unless imports are brought up to our July estimate or equivalent to 165,000 tons beginning November through June 1945.

"If bread ration is now to be reduced in those areas where it is now 300 grams this will be contrary to implications of President's statement with serious consequences here and danger of collapse of balance of wheat amassing and olive oil amassing in South.

"Situation in regard other imported supplies follows:

"Due to discontinuance certain items and reduction of others from allowed import program, present daily ration scale is thirteen grams meat and veg stew, thirteen grams dried veg, eight grams de-hydrated soup but is now limited to towns with population of fifty thousand and above plus universal ration four grams sugar daily with provision for hospitals and other special classes. Even on above limited basis supplies of ~~meat~~ meat, soup, dried vegs in hand with balance scheduled to arrive will last only four months for Italy up to line of Po.

"These facts coupled with possible reduction in bread ration south of Carigliano will present not only a grave feeding problem with attendant consequences but will impair rather than ensure even a minimum subsistence level. During coming winter months we would have to expect increase in diseases and disorders.

"May I have instructions as to whether (a) the present bread ration of 300 grams south and 200 grams north of Carigliano line is to be maintained or (b) whether ration for all Italy is to be equalized through

235 grams involving cutback southern Italy; (c) whether ration for all Italy is to be equalized at 300 grams as recommended in your Airgram to CCS of September 24th."

SACMED has agreed to cable the CCS to point out that presently scheduled shipments are not sufficient to implement the/President's statement. implications of the

(signed) Ellery W. Stone
Comadore USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE

on the subject of Relief in Italy

In connection with the telegram which was addressed to the Honorable Herbert Lehmann under date of September 27, 1944 (and which he has been requested to communicate to the Department) we would strongly urge that the actual distribution of relief be coordinated in all respects under the leadership of the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief Supplies in Italy. As you have been informed, that organization comprehends the use of all facilities on a free basis of the Italian Government, the Vatican and the Italian Red Cross. Its administrative office has now been completed with approved executives on an efficient and economical basis, and its operations are conducted under the advice and supervision of representatives of Allied Force Headquarters, and Allied Control Commission, American Red Cross, American Relief for Italy Inc., and now with the entry of UNRRA it naturally requires representation by that organization on the advisory and supervisory group. A separate activity in the field of relief would undoubtedly cause confusion and waste. To meet the emergency of this winter the minimum basic vital supplies that are needed can be summed up, excluding provision for children contemplated by UNRRA, as follows:

- 1) Flour, from which various food items in different forms can be made (wheat imposes conversion and is therefore not immediately useful; milling facilities are not always available)
- 2) Cheese, so basic in Italian diet
- 3) Coffee, Sugar and Soap
- 4) Clothing and shoes; Blankets are urgently needed.

If these items can be provided in bulk quantities the winter can be tided over if transportation is made available to deliver these products in the devastated Provinces before the floods make the rivers impassable, the bridges having been quite generally destroyed and not rebuilt.

The advisory group above described met with very satisfactory results at a meeting last Saturday and Tuesday with the following attending:

Ambassador Myron C. Taylor
H.E. Prime Minister Ivanoe Bonomi
Judge Juvenal Marchisio
Dr. Zanotti-Bianco, President Italian Red Cross
Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy for Mr. Taylor A.R.I.
Mr. Franklin C. Gowen, U. S. Department of State
H.E. Prince Carlo Facelli
H. E. Ambassador Sir Noel Charles
H.E. Minister Visconti-Venosta, Italian Foreign Minister
Brig. General G. S. Parkinson
Engineer C.B. Vicentini, Director Nat. Committee
Comodore Ellery W. Stone, A.C.C.
H.E. Prince Doria Pamphili
Mr. Mason H. Dobson, American Red Cross

(Ambassador Kirk was unable to attend the Tuesday The four luncheon meeting)

The four points offered for discussion at the luncheon meeting, at the home of Ambassador Taylor, on October 9, 1944, were:

- 1) FREE FOOD AND CLOTHING:
 - (a) as compared with system of purchase through commercial channels
 - (b) promotion of gifts in money and kind from Italian and Foreign Governments
- 2) TRANSPORTATION:
 - (a) Means presently available in Italy
 - (b) Means reasonably obtainable outside Italy
 - (c) Efficient integration of present transportation resources:
 1. Trucks
 2. Shipping
 3. Rail
 4. Other
- 3) NATIONAL COMMITTEE:
 - (a) as sole mechanism for distribution of relief
 - (b) as factor in the development of the concept of helping Italians to help themselves
 - (c) as creative of an organization that in the future will be an asset to Italy in times of national disaster or calamity
- 4) CANCELLATION OF PERMITS AND BANS RESTRICTING TRADE

Ambassador Taylor brought up each point for discussion in turn, although the majority of interest at this short meeting was shown in the points regarding free distribution of food and clothing, transportation and the cancellation of permits restricting trade.

On the subject of free food and clothing, E.C. Prime Minister Bonomi indicated a desire on the part of the Italian Government to meet emergency needs by distributing free food and clothing. Brigadier General Parkinson observed that areas in the greatest critical need could best be served by this method to meet the emergency of this winter and felt that this method should be included in the thinking of the entire group. The comments given by representatives of the Italian Government and the

Allied

Allied military generally concurred in these observations. It was again noted by Commodore Stone and the group concurred in the thought that basic food requirements should be met through normal channels but that the emergency of this winter offered an opportunity for this type of activity.

On the subject of food and clothing all present agreed that a few basic items should be concentrated on at the expense of variety.

The subject of transportation was discussed in great detail in that it is the key problem in the entire Italian situation. Mr. Taylor and Judge Marchisio brought to the attention of the group the discussion and comments of Major Kiplinger of Allied Force Headquarters who stated arrangements were presently under way to utilize to the fullest extent convoys returning from the combat area within 30 kilometers on each side of the principal military highway providing the transport of civilian goods would not delay a military convoy more than 24 hours. Commodore Stone and Prime Minister Bonomi observed that this would be of great assistance in meeting the bulk needs of the Italian communities. It was also hoped that the use of rail would be similarly arranged so that the transport facilities presently in the country would be fully used. Prime Minister Bonomi informed the group that a national agency for the coordination of Italian truck transport had been organized at the instance of the Allied Commission. It is hoped that this agency will act as a national pool of Italian civilian transport and will expedite economic use of such available transport. He further observed that he was not sure that such a plan would not bog down free movement of transport and entail so much confusion that it would meet with little success. He was sure that if this was the case the agency would be thoroughly redirected or dissolved. It was apparent from the general comment that additional trucks and the critical need for replacement parts including tires and batteries, if met, would activate a substantial number of Italian motor vehicles and relieve the transport situation. Engineer Vicentini, Mr. Barr and Judge Marchisio advanced the hope that new vehicles from America or other countries could save the situation by acting as a nucleus for essential transport and that as repair parts were received Italian trucks could be added to this essential nucleus.

Transport by ship between the islands of Sardinia, Sicily and the mainland as well as coastwise shipping was generally discussed. Commodore Stone stated that the AC had been attempting for some months to get the release of available small Italian tonnage to move grain, salt, sulphur, coal and other essentials from the islands to the mainland. He stated that he had not been able to get adequate tonnage despite its apparent availability. Prime Minister Bonomi felt sure that there were adequate crews and administrative personnel to administer a program of coastwise shipping and that it was difficult for him to understand why this means had not been more greatly used. Commodore Stone replied that he was using every means possible to expedite the use of schooners, that he sincerely hoped the Prime Minister and the Italian Government would see that

schooners

schooners released were used to haul essential materials, which would meet the winter's need. Engineer Vicentini described the difficulties regarding mainland trade with the islands and stated that from his experience with the feeding of the city of Rome every effort should be made to use all available tonnage for the distribution of materials in Italy.

The subject of ocean shipping from possible sources of supply was brought up with the notification of the group by Mr. Taylor that tonnage had been made available to American Relief for Italy for its materials and that it was hoped that additional tonnage would be made available. Prime Minister Bonomi then stated that some nine ships presently in the ports of Argentina belonging to the Italian Government should be made available to import necessary supplies. Foreign Secretary Visconti-Venosta stated that the subject of the release of the nine ships in the Argentine was currently a subject of representation to the British and American Governments and he felt should not be discussed at this time. Sir Noel Charles concurred in this regard. Prince Carlo Pacelli, representing the Vatican, informed the group that the Vatican flag could be used on any ships obtainable and suggested that this might be one solution to the problem of jurisdiction and nationality. Judge Marchisio then observed that the Sovereign Military Order of Malta had offered the use of their flag for ships concerning themselves with relief for the civilian population of Italy.

Comodore Stone then stated that he had recently received information that would lead him to believe that the monthly basic necessary imports of 130,000 tons might be drastically curtailed. The 130,000 tons to be imported according to Comodore Stone are the basic minimum imports to maintain the present ration below the Pisa-Rimini line. He was emphatic in his observation that this tonnage was absolutely essential and must be met. Sir Noel Charles spoke on the subject of these basic imports and felt sure that every effort should be made to maintain the present standard of rationing and to continue this basic tonnage. The Prime Minister and others present concurred and impressed upon the group the absolute necessity of maintaining present rationing and the need to increase rather than detract from the basic goods. Prince Doria and Prime Minister Bonomi both emphasized the social and political significance of a possible reduction in rations. The entire group was impressed with the gravity of the situation.

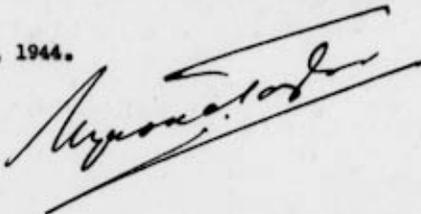
As to point (3) there was little discussion as all present agreed that all relief for free distribution must of necessity be channeled through a single Italian agency and that only confusion would result in embracing a different plan. UNRRA and whatever other potential plans for relief are included in this understanding.

The subject of the cancellation of permits and bans restricting trade was presented by Mr. Taylor who threw out as a question the possibility that the resumption of trade by the communities historically familiar to Italy might relieve the situation. Prime Minister Bonomi replied stating that he had recently issued a directive cancelling the majority of restrictive regulations in liberated Italy to permit the resumption of trade. All present at the conference concurred as to the necessity of this action and requested that

trade be stimulated. It was again emphasized as to the need for the utilization of all transport to permit such resumption of trade.

The meeting closed with the expressions of thanks on the part of Sir Noel Charles, Prime Minister Bonomi and Prince Doria to Ambassador Taylor for the interest shown and the desire expressed to assist Italy to re-establish itself. Both the Prime Minister and Prince Doria emphasized the gravity of the situation in their closing remarks and again reiterated their remarks as to the social and political significance of immediate action to solve in some degree the growing need.

ROME, October 12, 1944.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Principe Doria", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is slanted and written in a cursive style.

PSF Vatican Myron Taylor folder of-44

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS:

TO READ AND RETURN.

F.D.R.

Confidential letter to the Pres. Oct. 12, 1944 from Hon. Myron C. Taylor re relief to Italy and enclosing minutes of two meetings at which subject of relief supplies was discussed. Also enclosed is copy of letter, 10-12-44, which Mr. Taylor received from Commodore Ellery W. Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission.

RECEIVED
THE WHITE HOUSE

M. Taylor folder 4-44

*file
Confidential*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Oct 27-1944

Gene:

Noted - can now be

filed.

Harry

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

PSF Vatican

Rome, October 12, 1944.

~~Confidential~~

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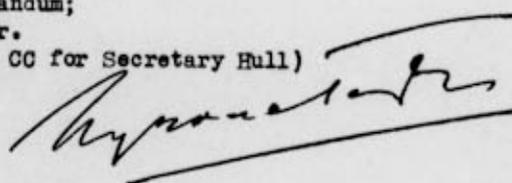
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Sincerely yours,


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Enclosures:

Memorandum;
Letter.
(with CC for Secretary Hull)



The President

The White House

Washington, D.C.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By J. Schauble Date FEB 22 1972

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

MEMORANDUM for Mr. Myron Taylor

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REPRODUCTION FOR MR. MALON LASHLEY

VLO

Office of

REVENUE

COPIA

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schooners

schooners released were used to haul essential materials, which would meet the winter's need. Engineer Vicentini described the difficulties regarding mainland trade with the islands and stated that from his experience with the feeding of the city of Rome every effort should be made to use all available tonnage for the distribution of materials in Italy.

The subject of ocean shipping from possible sources of supply was brought up with the notification of the group by Mr. Taylor that tonnage had been made available to American Relief for Italy for its materials and that it was hoped that additional tonnage would be made available. Prime Minister Bonomi then stated that some nine ships presently in the ports of Argentina belonging to the Italian Government should be made available to import necessary supplies. Foreign Secretary Visconti-Venosta stated that the subject of the release of the nine ships in the Argentine was currently a subject of representation to the British and American Governments and he felt should not be discussed at this time. Sir Noel Charles concurred in this regard. Prince Carlo Pacelli, representing the Vatican, informed the group that the Vatican flag could be used on any ships obtainable and suggested that this might be one solution to the problem of jurisdiction and nationality. Judge Marchisio then observed that the Sovereign Military Order of Malta had offered the use of their flag for ships concerning themselves with relief for the civilian population of Italy.

Commodore Stone then stated that he had recently received information that would lead him to believe that the monthly basic necessary imports of 130,000 tons might be drastically curtailed. The 130,000 tons to be imported according to Commodore Stone are the basic minimum imports to maintain the present ration below the Pisa-Rimini line. He was emphatic in his observation that this tonnage was absolutely essential and must be met. Sir Noel Charles spoke on the subject of these basic imports and felt sure that every effort should be made to maintain the present standard of rationing and to continue this basic tonnage. The Prime Minister and others present concurred and impressed upon the group the absolute necessity of maintaining present rationing and the need to increase rather than detract from the basic goods. Prince Doria and Prime Minister Bonomi both emphasized the social and political significance of a possible reduction in rations. The entire group was impressed with the gravity of the situation.

As to point (3) there was little discussion as all present agreed that all relief for free distribution must of necessity be channeled through a single Italian agency and that only confusion would result in embracing a different plan. UNRRA and whatever other potential plans for relief are included in this understanding.

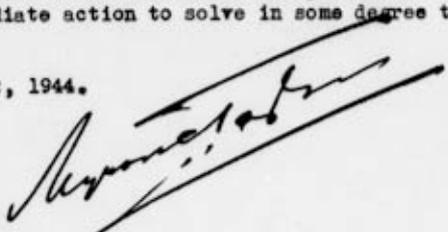
The subject of the cancellation of permits and bans restricting trade was presented by Mr. Taylor who threw out as a question the possibility that the resumption of trade by the communities historically familiar to Italy might relieve the situation. Prime Minister Bonomi replied stating that he had recently issued a directive cancelling the majority of restrictive regulations in liberated Italy to permit the resumption of trade. All present at the conference concurred as to the necessity of this action and requested that

trade

trade be stimulated. It was again emphasized as to the need for the utilization of all transport to permit such resumption of trade.

The meeting closed with the expressions of thanks on the part of Sir Noel Charles, Prime Minister Bonomi and Prince Doria to Ambassador Taylor for the interest shown and the desire expressed to assist Italy to re-establish itself. Both the Prime Minister and Prince Doria emphasized the gravity of the situation in their closing remarks and again reiterated their remarks as to the social and political significance of immediate action to solve in some degree the growing need.

ROME, October 12, 1944.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond A. Taylor", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is slanted upwards to the right.

3615

TSE Vatican

Myron Taylor folder

4-44

hms

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS

Do you think I should see
Judge Marchisio?

F. D. R.

Letter from Hon. Myron C. Taylor, 10/5/44,
to Miss Tully, enclosing a letter for the
President, 10/5/44, suggesting that the
President talk with Judge Juvenal Marchisio,
now President of American Relief for Italy,
Inc.