

Mr. Barr: 250 in Sicily and Italy. Others are coming.

Ing. Galeazzi: What is the staff of American Relief for Italy.

Mr. Barr: Two.

We have received seven million garments. We still have almost two million garments in reserve. The picture is not quite as bright from this viewpoint--that the spread of the type of material is not as good as it should be. We will be completely out of pants. We will have little warm clothing in this reserve but have an abundance of women's dresses and underwear--and no shoes, so although we have 2,000,000 garments left, we do not have a sufficient spread of those garments to take care of 500,000 people, as you would imagine. It is obvious that we would have that situation, because you cannot collect used clothing in America according to the need over here. There is a tremendous need for trousers, but men in America do not have a great surplus of trousers. We have coats and vests--and no pants, and that makes a difficult distribution. But I think we can safely cover the area from Rome south and still have this reserve of garments before any new shipment is received. However, as I said, those garments are not a good spread.

Mr. Taylor: Does that include those groups in Italy who are being underpaid--the white collar group.

Mr. Barr: That group in Naples has already received the clothing. That amount has already gone and is not included in the figures of the excess. We will have enough supplies, I believe, if Rome requests an additional 5,000 or 10,000, or if we find a need in some commune which we missed. We have missed many places, as we were bound to do. As the requests come in, they will be filled. I do feel we will be wise to keep the cotton clothing and use it next summer.

Mr. Taylor: I would like to see everything out of the warehouses, except this cotton material, before the next shipment arrives.

Mr. Barr: Some of the brown bales are not in good condition. Any damaged garments are to be set aside and salvaged. There is nothing but good material, however, in Naples; any damaged garments are here in Rome.

Mr. Taylor: I think that should be cleared up before the next shipment comes. If there is any shortage in the areas, let's be a little extra generous and distribute what we have on hand.

Mr. Barr: May I suggest that this Committee agree that this plan be used. My understanding is that the advice to ENDSI is to proceed.

I would like to make one other point--the minutes to these meetings are extremely valuable to all of you. I believe at the end of the meeting that a synopsis be made of the suggestions made by the Advisory group for the record.

Mr. Taylor: We are not really a committee. We are just trying to study and understand the relief situation. If we begin to prepare, we lose our "advisory" character.

Mr. Barr: If it doesn't go on the record, wouldn't it be a good idea to put the most important things in a summary.

Ing. Galeazzi: I think that would be a good idea for the internal use of this group.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Barr, will you prepare a summary then for each meeting? Have you any other suggestions?

Mr. Barr: I would like to make another suggestion. I think if we constantly tell each other of the good things we do, we should also discuss the mistakes we make. I would like to prepare a report of the mistakes and bring them out in the open so that we do not make them again. I should like to make a suggestion to Mr. Taylor that the National Committee also be advised to bring their mistakes out in the open. I noticed in the trips we made in the provinces that the tendency was to cover up mistakes rather than air them to me. I would like to make a list of the errors of our distribution, so that if someone brings an error to our attention, we can find ways and means of remedying that situation and will not make the same mistake again.

Mr. Taylor: That is a good suggestion.

During the next few days we will formulate a full report on the distribution which will be the basis of a news release. Mr. Barr and I will try to analyze with your help the field in which other organizations are operating in Italy in respect to relief. I think that would be very useful. I don't believe the A.C. or the Government or ourselves know enough of the various activities of the several groups now functioning in Italy. I believe an analysis of these activities will help clarify the whole situation.

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY.

Reference is made to the mimeographed minutes of meeting No.13 of the Advisory Group concerning relief held February 5, 1945. Your attention is directed to the following correction: on page 7, paragraph 4, second line, the words "in America" should read "in Italy".

February 12, 1945

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

The first distribution of clothing, milk, vitamins, medicines, and other supplies donated by the American people through American Relief for Italy, and arriving in December and January, were destined for the six provinces of central Italy most damaged by the war: Pescara, Chieti, Aquila, Campobasso, Littoria, Frosinone, comprising the area of the battle zones of Cassino and the Anzio beachhead, and on the Adriatic coast. Within 20 days of the unloading of the ships the clothing had been distributed from the central warehouses in Naples, Rome and Leghorn, and had reached the provincial warehouses. From here the bales of American clothing were distributed to the 215 communes and in the communes to the individual families. In the provinces and communes the provincial and communal committees of The National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI), representing the Government, the Catholic Church, the Italian Red Cross, and the Italian Confederation of Labor, supervised the distribution. Within a month after the arrival of the ships from America garments were being put into the hands of needy individuals. Difficulties of transportation over roads in many instances destroyed or snow-covered were overcome by the providing of transport by the Allied Armies and the Allied Commission.

In the six most devastated provinces clothing was given out on a basis of four garments and a pair of shoes to 128,030 men, 133,154 women, 72,352 boys, 72,668 girls and 85,422 infants, a total of 491,626 people, or more than one-fifth of the total population. These free supplies were distributed without regard to race, nationality, religion or political belief.

After the first distribution was well under way further plans were arranged and clothing was sent to Foggia, which suffered extensively under aerial bombardment, and to the communes in Naples and Rome province, as well as to the hardest hit people in the city

of Naples. In these places 236,000 people were benefitted by the distribution. The provinces of Benevento, Avellino, Salerno, Reggio, Cosenza, Potenza and Catanzaro, as well as Sicily, Sardinia, and the little island of Pantolleria, have not been forgotten and clothing has been assigned for a further 340,000 people and is at present moving to them. Another important distribution being made by American Relief for Italy through the National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy, is to 10,000 Italian men repatriated from the Balkans who are returning to Italy.

A special Christmas effort was made by American Relief for Italy and the National Committee to organize a distribution of clothing and chocolate bars to the children in the former battle areas of Cassino and Anzio. More than 30,000 little children spent a happier Christmas because their brothers across the Atlantic had not forgotten them.

By February 1st 649,132 men, women and children had received clothing in liberated Italy, totaling more than two million garments.

The relief sent through American Relief for Italy is not confined to clothing. Large amounts of milk, milk foods, vitamins, medicines, surgical instruments and first-aid kits figure among other items of primary importance. A special medical commission of the National Committee (ENDSI) was set up for the distribution of these articles, composing the outstanding medical authorities of the Government, Church, and Italian Red Cross. It is of interest to note that the first distribution made by American Relief for Italy through ENSDI was a distribution of one and one quarter million atabrin tablets, furnished through the Allied Commission in the malarial zones south of Rome last Autumn. More than 50,000 people received the necessary supplies of medicine, improving the health conditions in that area.

Milk and milk foods have been given to 16 children's hospitals in Rome and 8 in Naples; in addition to 6,000 children in the 110 orphanages in Rome and to 5,000 in the 70 orphanages of Naples.

More than 12,000 children are receiving two glasses of milk and vitamin tablets every day.

In Rome alone 64,840 school children receive daily vitamin tablets. Each day the head of the school issues the tablets to be consumed by the children and Doctors' records are kept on the health conditions of the children and their progress.

With the imminent arrival of additional supplies (February shipments alone estimated at three million pounds) thousands of other war victims of the more northerly provinces of liberated Italy will be assisted. The program of milk and medicinal aid will be maintained and the assistances to children will be expanded. 50 new American trucks, a gift of the American people through American Relief for Italy, will expedite further distribution.

February, 6, 1945.

MILK, MILK FOODS, VITAMINS ETC.

Up to January 31st the following quantities of Powdered Milk, Protein Milk, Dextri-Maltose and Vitamins had arrived from America, donated by American Relief for Italy, Inc., and had been deposited in the warehouse of the E.N.D.S.I. in Rome:

Powdered whole milk:	94,000 lbs.
Powdered protein milk:	4,800 "
Dextri maltose:	6,000
Vita-snak food bars:	170,000
Vitamin A and D tablets:	991,000
Multiple vitamin tablets:	5,066,000
Ascorbic acid tablets:	1,250,000
Brewer's yeast tablets:	7,800,000
Navitol:	15 gross

The distribution of these important items, destined exclusively for children was placed under the direct and immediate control of the Medical Commission of E.N.D.S.I.

Special offices, under the direction of doctors contributed voluntarily by the groups making up the controlling body of E.N.D.S.I. were opened in Rome and Naples. Once again it was seen how the American Relief for Italy --ENDSI plan could organize and carry out a big distribution from the warehouse to the individual without any expense whatsoever being incurred.

Milk, multiple vitamins and food bars:

The quantity of powdered milk was calculated to be sufficient to give two cups of milk a day to 17,000 children, for 60 days.

It was decided that this amount would meet the needs of the orphanages, children's hospitals and sanatoria, and other similar institutions in the cities of Rome and Naples, where the children were suffering from undernourishment.

Lists of the institutions were obtained from all public bodies, they were submitted to Colonel Bizzozero of the Public Health Sub-Commission for further suggestions, and a notice was published several times in the daily papers informing all institutions of the coming distribution. This ensured that no charitable institution would be forgotten.

In Rome the distribution began on January 16th and ended on January 20th. In that time milk and vitamins were distributed to:

109 orphanages with	5,985	children	under	ten	years	of	:
4 foundling hospitals with	518	"	"	"	"	"	"
2 tuberculosis hospitals	102	"	"	"	"	"	"
10 children's	1,208	"	"	"	"	"	"
<hr/>							
125 institutions	7,903	"	"	"	"	"	"

In Naples the distribution began on February 2nd and ended February 5th. In that time milk and vitamins were distributed to:

55 foundling hospitals with	2549	children	under	ten	years	age	:
8 children's	702	"	"	"	"	"	"
<hr/>							
63 institutions	3251	"	"	"	"	"	"

- 2 -

Protein milk, Dextri-maltose and vitamins.

The Medical Commission decided to assign the protein milk, the dextri-maltose and the A and D, C and B vitamin tablets to the children's hospitals and sanatoria where they could be distributed under medical control.

This distribution is already being carried out.

A further distribution of multiple-vitamin tablets is now being arranged for all the infant day schools in Rome and Naples..

When the great quantity of powdered milk and vitamins, soon to be sent from American Relief for Italy in America, has arrived, a milk grant for six months will be made to the children's institutions in Rome and Naples and to the similiar child welfare institutions in other big Italian cities.

Public opinion was very favourably impressed by the quiet efficiency and the fairness of the distribution. No charitable institutions with children under 10 years of age can say that it was excluded from its fair share.

* * *

SURGICAL SETS.

The same judicious care was exercised by the Medical Commission in assigning the 50 sets of surgical instruments to hospitals which are being reconstructed or have lost all their apparatus during the German occupation.

Each request is examined carefully by all the members of the Commission and when they are in agreement the set is assigned. It is hoped that in this way these sets will go to the places where they are mostly needed.

FIRST AID KITS.

Even though the first aid kits are much simpler articles and not as precious as the surgical sets, nevertheless the 1,200 first aid kits already arrived are being assigned individually to scattered villages where they are most needed. A first aid kit which in a large community, where there is a doctor, might not mean much, in an isolated community can be the means of saving a life.

HOSPITALS.

American Relief for Italy is erecting three Hospital Units in the battle area around Cassino, which has been devastated by war and by the effects of the war. They will be near to the malaria zones and should play a big part in the anti-malarial campaign of 1945.

Each unit will have accomodation for 20 patients and will be equipped as perfectly as possible for normal medical and surgical treatment.

Attached to each Hospital Unit there will be a Dispensary for outside patients.

* * *

ATEBRIN.

In the autumn of 1944, when the attention of American Relief for Italy was called to the terrible situation of the populations in the malaria zones, many of whom were dying for want of medicines- in one town it is said that 100 people out of a population of 2,000 died of malaria - it immediately acquired a great quantity

of atabrin and placed it at the disposal of the Medical Commission.
In less than a week after the matter had been first discussed
distribution was already taking place to the population. In the
first week of distribution more than 30,000 people received
sufficient medicine for a cure.

The effects of the atabrin distribution were very noticeable
and the letters which arrived from the local doctors show that
the atabrin arrived in time to save many lives.

The actual distribution which took place from 16 centers was
carried out by the local E.N.D.S.I. Committee.

* * * * *

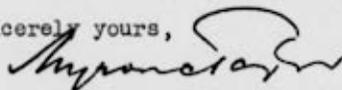
THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

File
Rome, Italy, February 14, 1945.

Dear Mr. President:

With reference to my telegram dated February 9, to the Department of State, I am transmitting herewith copy of letter dated February 10 which I have received from Mr. S. M. Keeney, Chief of the U. N. R. R. A., Italian Mission, and copy of my reply of February 13.

Sincerely yours,



Myron C. Taylor

Enclosures:

TO Mr. Keeney, February 13,
from Mr. Keeney, February 10, 1945.

The President,

The White House,

Washington.

COPI

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, Inc.,
Office of the Chairman

Rome, Italy, February 13, 1945
2 via Moncompagni

S. M. Keeney, Esquire,
Chief U. N. R. R. A., Italian Mission
Rome.

Dear Mr. Keeney:

In acknowledging your letter of February 10, 1945, I am sending you a copy of a summary just completed which indicates distribution of supplies donated through American Relief for Italy, so that you may continue to be fully informed of the field in which we are operating and of our progress.

I feel that I must in frankness say, as an example of our cooperative spirit, that last summer when we were seeking a basis for cooperation with the Italian government, the Vatican, the Italian Red Cross, Confederation of Labor, Allied Commission, Allied Force Headquarters, American Red Cross and others, for a means of distribution of supplies donated by the American people through American Relief for Italy, I invited you to attend our meetings and supplied you with copies of all our data as it developed until your departure for America.

We succeeded in implementing the formation of the "Italian National Committee for the Distribution of Relief in Italy", our aim - as announced then - being to "help the Italians to help themselves".

From your letter and accompanying list of present and scheduled supplies which you propose to secure you will enter all the fields in which we are active as well as other fields in which we are not and will not be active. This in itself necessitates frank and complete understanding. In our minds this can only be achieved through the distributive judgment and mechanism of the National Committee.

In our talk last week you referred to negotiating a secret contract with the Italian Government, the precise terms of which you weren't in a position to divulge. We believe before such a contract is completed a more specific and detailed understanding should be reached with the National Committee, Allied Commission, Allied Force Headquarters, also with the contributing agencies, viz: American Relief for Italy and American Red Cross.

Our cooperative attitude with regard to relief for Italy has been often expressed in all our relations and is basic in the field of donated relief.

Sincerely yours,
(signed) MYRON C. TAYLOR
Chairman American Relief for Italy

Enclosure:
1 Memorandum

COPY

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
ITALIAN MISSION

10 February, 1945.

Hon. Myron Taylor,
Chairman, American Relief for Italy,
ROME, Italy.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

It was a pleasure to meet with you on Thursday and to discuss together the progress of our Mission in Italy and the activities of your organization, American Relief for Italy. You were kind enough to furnish us with lists of the supplies which you have already imported and which you have on the way. For your information, I am enclosing a list of the supplies which have been received and which are expected by this Mission in the next two months. Under our present plans we hope eventually to be able to furnish roughly 180,000 tons of supplies, largely food and medicines, but also including some clothing. I think it is important that we keep each other informed of the activities of our organizations, in order that there may be no possible duplication of activity and to avoid possible neglect of problems through the mistaken belief that they are being met elsewhere.

I am accordingly asking the various Division Heads of this Mission to keep in touch with Mr. Barr of your office so that there may be a fruitful exchange of information. As I explained on Thursday, we are hoping shortly to conclude an agreement with the Italian Government which will establish the conditions under which this Administration's supplies and services are to be furnished to Italy. The resolution which the United States Government proposed at Montreal for relief operations in Italy and which was adopted there by the unanimous vote of our 44 member governments authorizes us, and this Mission has been directed, to furnish free to Italy supplies and services costing up to \$50,000,000 in foreign exchange. The same resolution requires us, as in other countries to which we furnish supplies and services, to secure from the Italian Government the Italian currency necessary to cover any expenses of the program incurred in Italy. Also, we are bound to see that certain principles are observed in the distribution of all supplies furnished by the Administration. We are, therefore, proposing to the Government that the distribution take place in accordance with plans to be jointly formulated between the Government and this Administration as represented by our local Mission. All administrative responsibility for this distribution will, however, be taken by the Government. Aside from our activities in another direction, assistance to displaced United Nations nationals and stateless persons, the function of this Mission's staff will, as a result, be almost entirely confined to planning and observation.

In this way we hope to carry out the basic principle of this Administration, which is to help people to help themselves. We hope to leave the Italian agencies, at the end of our programs, better able to carry on their responsibilities for the well-being of the Italian population.

I am sure that, having in mind this objective, you and we will be able to co-operate effectively for the relief of Italy. Everything which both our organizations can do, unfortunately, will not be sufficient to meet the requirements of the situation.

I need not add that we shall be happy to confer with you at any time on any problems of mutual concern.

Sincerely yours,

(signed)
S. M. KENNY
Chief, U.N.R.R.A. Italian Mission

COPY

S. M. KRENY
ABE HACKMAN

9 Feb. 1945

Current status of Supply Program for next two months

As you know we are in daily communication with Washington by cable on the coming shipments. The best information we have as to what we can expect in the first 19,000 tons, as well as what has already been unloaded and is being unloaded, follows:

	<u>Arrivals</u>	<u>Scheduled Shipments Thru March 15</u>
Medical, Sanitary, Dental, Hospital Supplies and equipment	3 long tons (for Lecce)	1,000 long tons
Transport	19 - 1 1/2 ton trucks 2 - Plymouth Sedans	76 - 1 1/2 ton trucks 10 - Hudson Sedans 50 - Bicycles 12 - Motorcycles
Shoes	15,000 pairs	225,000 pairs
Clothing, Blankets, Piece Goods, Findings	70 long tons	600 long tons
Sewing Machines	-----	500 machines
Soap	12 long tons	380 long tons
Cod Liver Oil	-----	145 long tons
Peas Beans	145 long tons	2850 long tons
Fish, Dried, Canned, Brine .	-----	1700 long tons
Sugar	200 long tons	1300 long tons
Fats - lard, margarine, etc.	-----	1600 long tons
Milk - powdered & evaporated	20 long tons	2500 long tons
Cereals	-----	550 long tons
Wheat and Flour	-----	5750 long tons
Carpenters, Electricians, Cobblers, Masons, Tool Kits	-----	30 long tons

The individual food items are still subject to changes depending upon availabilities in the ports from which the ships will sail. I feel, however, that the figures are sufficiently solid for us to plan on now.

Mr. Hawes suggests that you may wish to go over some of the figures with interested agencies here. In that case we should be able to provide more detail if desired.

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

Myron Taylor folder 4-45
file

Rome, Italy, February 20, 1945.

Dear Mr. President:

I am sending you for your records copy of
the minutes of the 14th Meeting of the advisory
group of the American Relief for Italy-National
Committee for the Distribution of Relief in Italy.

Sincerely yours,


Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:

Minutes.

The President,
The White House,
Washington.

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

February 12, 1945

Meeting No.14

The following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held January 12, 1945, in the office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. In attendance were the following: Mr. Taylor; Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Hq. Allied Commission; Brig. G.S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommission; Dr. Zanotti-Bianco, Director of Italian Red Cross; Ing. Enrico P. Gulezzi, Architect of the Sacred Apostolic Palaces and Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Mgr. John Patrick Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of the Pontifical Commission for Aid to Refugees; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department of Ministry of Interior; Ing. G.B. Vicentini, Executive Director of E.N.D.S.I.; Mr. W.W. Jefferson, Director of Mediterranean American Red Cross, Civilian War Relief; Col. O.J. Bizzozero, Public Health Officer Region IV, and Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor: We have received a telegram from Mr. Basil O'Connor donating 700,000 garments to American Relief for Italy from the American Red Cross. It is a very generous gift! When they come, we will distribute them where we all agree is most useful. Mr. Jefferson just returned from the United States. How is Mr. O'Connor?

Mr. Jefferson: He is very well. He has been very busy with Red Cross work and the infantile paralysis drive.

Mr. Taylor: We received the following good letter from General McNarney this morning:

"Headquarters
Mediterranean Theater of Operations
Office of the Commanding General

9 February 1945.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I have been informed that you have conferred with Mr. McMillan relative to the shipment of supplies from the United States on behalf of the American Relief for Italy, Inc.

It is my understanding that you would like to have a tonnage allocation of 800 tons per month, and in order to fully cover your needs, I am happy to inform you that instructions have been issued to provide you with space for 1000 tons monthly. While it is not expected that future shipping conditions will require downward revision of this figure, it must be borne in mind that such alteration may be made if military necessity dictates.

This allotment will be independent of any allocations made to the Allied Commission. I should be grateful, however, if you will continue to cooperate with that agency in order to insure that these supplementary supplies are distributed to those areas or institutions which

have been most severely affected by the impact of war in Italy.

May I assure you of my continuing interest in your valued relief activities.

Cordially,

/s/ JOSEPH T. McNARNEY,
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army,
Commanding."

* * * *

Mr. Taylor: We had a visit last week from UNRRA representatives-- the first since last summer when Mr. Keeny, as you recall, was invited by us to attend our meetings. He came in with two of his associates last week and spent some time explaining in a very general way what UNRRA was undertaking to do in Italy. He stated that UNRRA had offered a contract to the Italian Government which had not yet been executed--but now in the process of negotiation. He did not give me a copy of the proposed contract or tell me anything specific about its content, as he indicated it was a secret document. So our conversation was limited to generalities. I gave him a copy of our supplies that had arrived and those which are enroute. I tried to approach a definition of fields in which ARI supplies through ENDSI would continue to operate without interference from other agencies, but I was unable to get any declaration on that point. The declaration was: "we hope and expect to cooperate with all other agencies". Since then he has written me a very general letter, attaching to it a list of materials UNRRA has or expects to receive in March or April. It is not a large list. Mr. Keeny indicates that they expect to supply 180,000 tons of supplies, largely food and medicines and also some clothing during their operations here.

Admiral Stone: Over what period of time?

Mr. Taylor: "Eventually." (Mr. Taylor quoted UNRRA letter dated February 10, 1945).

American Relief for Italy acts through ENDSI, and if he adopts ENDSI as his distributing medium, there can be cooperation and a definition of particular activities in particular zones for distribution of the different supplies. On the other hand, if everything were to be put together under UNRRA's control, I think it would be very discouraging to the people of America who make donations through American Relief for Italy. Mr. Keeny enlarges on his interest in displaced persons.

Admiral Stone: Displaced persons is an activity which up to the moment has been handled by A.C.

Mr. Taylor: There is also present in Italy the Intergovernmental Committee in the Refugee field. Last year when the President's War Refugee Board was set up, the Director of the Intergovernmental Committee came to Washington. I was then the Vice Chairman. We agreed to specify the different fields in which the Intergovernmental Committee and the War Refugee Board would operate, and the outcome was a complete understanding leading to close cooperation. The American Government and the British Government each made a large financial commitment for use by Intergovernmental Committee in the field of displaced persons. The President's War Refugee Board was permitted to participate in the use of those funds with the

Intergovernmental Committee when necessary. General O'Dwyer has become the new Chairman of the President's War Refugee Board, and the fact that he has been made Chairman of it indicates that they expect to keep it in action. They will try to repatriate people to their homes. There has also been in Italy from the beginning the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which is an old organization and well equipped with funds. They have done a very good job-- especially in transporting them from danger zones to safety zones. The Quakers are also active in refugee work.

Admiral Stone: These people are not "stateless"--they are displaced. The Italians in Italy are the refugee problem as defined from Italian Authorities. The displaced persons are those other than of Italian nationality who are in Italy or evacuated to Italy from, for example, Yugoslavia.

Mr. Taylor: It seems to me that UNRRA's directive is qualified, so that it cannot operate in any field without the approval of the military authorities.

Admiral Stone: The A.C. has agreed to turn over to UNRRA the displaced persons camps that we are operating in the south because of scarcity of personnel in view of our commitments in the north, but more particularly because displaced persons are not Italians, and some agency other than Allied Commission should take care of these people.

Mr. Taylor: But the care of the people in all Italy is subject to the approval of the Military?

Admiral Stone: Yes, sir.

Mr. Taylor: The difficulty here is that a duplication might arise in the servicing of these camps and in all relief distribution unless some particular agency undertakes to study it and coordinate activities.

Mr. Barr: You also have a private agency of the Quakers who are in this field.

Mr. Jefferson: They are all working under Allied Commission.

Admiral Stone: I am transferring the responsibility of these camps. Whoever takes care of them will be working for me.

Mr. Taylor: Is the Red Cross in this field?

Mr. Jefferson: No, not directly. We have supplies to the Military rather than to the camps themselves.

Mr. Taylor: I think it will be necessary for me to make a reply to UNRRA that in the interests of American Relief for Italy, it must be clearly understood that UNRRA is not to determine the future field of action of ARI. While cooperation is desirable, it must be very clear that this organization and its products are to be kept in a distinct class from those of other agencies. For instance, we have taken up 120 of the institutions in Rome in which we are furnishing milk and vitamins to 8,600 children and in Naples similarly 5,000 children. We are giving vitamins to all the public schools in Rome. That we have the supplies for and expect to continue. All our activities here are conducted through the Italian National Committee (ENDSI).

Dr. Canaperia: There are about 60,000 children altogether in the schools alone which American Relief for Italy are supplying through ENSI.

Mr. Taylor: We have enough supplies coming to keep that program going the rest of this year. We have agreed to undertake similar service in the north--probably including Florence, Arezzo, Leghorn and others of the northern cities. We do not want to be driven out of that field.

Admiral Stone: The only one that could drive you out would be the Italian Government.

Mr. Taylor: We want to make it clear that we have adopted these particular activities. That simplifies the field of activity. We can regulate it in America so that specific supplies are sent for certain fields rather than general fields. That will make the distribution simpler and not be so confusing. Mr. Barr, you have just been up to Leghorn to discover a warehouse for the shipments which are to arrive from America which we suggest for relief in the northern area beyond Rome. Will you report on that?

Mr. Barr: We are expecting 1,500 tons to arrive within the next 15 days at Leghorn. It was necessary to get space for storage in the north because a large part of this shipment will be used in the north rather than south of Rome. If we are going to plan to distribute in the north, it would be a big mistake to bring it to Rome first. We are able, with the cooperation of P.B.S., to obtain a warehouse at Rosignano that will take care of 2,000 tons. The warehouse is 14 miles south of Leghorn at the Solway plant. There is another plant called Anania about 1,1/2 kilometers from the Solway plant at Rosignano which may be used.

Admiral Stone: What is the character of the product of the Solway plant?

Mr. Barr: It is a chemical plant. The main plant is under the control of A.C. The bridge there is at present being repaired to permit the entry of the cars into the Solway plant and up to the warehouses. The bridge will not be done in time for this shipment. However, there is a siding at a town called Vada which is being used by this plant, and the material can be off loaded there. The railway, however, will be completed in time so that when the materials begin to flow out of this warehouse, the railway cars will be able to be used where they meet the purpose of distribution. There is adequate garage for ENDSI trucks. The military authorities in Leghorn believe this is a good solution to their problem as there is no available space in Leghorn for warehousing. They will be very glad to load the material on the rail. The responsibility of ENDSI begins at Vada. The four trucks will be able to take a box car load at a time. Solway has agreed to furnish all the help, the space, the lighting--everything to do with the warehousing. It is an excellent arrangement, first of all, because of the security. The people who will be working in the warehouse live right at the plant, so that their activities in the warehouse and their work with ENDSI will be absolutely secure. They will be under the supervision of their normal supervisors. They are an excellent organization.

Admiral Stone: If it hasn't been done, I think it would be a very nice thing to carry a letter to them from ENDSI.

Mr. Barr: Ing. Vicentini and Mr. Zaccarian will carry those letters. With the warehouses in Naples that are almost empty and the warehouses in Rome we can handle these shipments without difficulty. Wherever the ships come in, there is adequate warehousing space, and it is not going to cause much difficulty to the military. It is just as easy for them to unload the ships at Leghorn into the the railway cars as it is to send them to a warehouse in Leghorn.

Mr. Taylor: We started after our first ship arrived to distribute everything as quickly as possible. We made very big inroads upon our stock. Our goal was an empty warehouse. That theory has been very successful. We have made distribution too in fields we didn't contemplate in the beginning--Sardinia, Sicily, Pantelleria and the communes close to Naples and Rome. We thought our supplies would not be adequate but we have also distributed supplies to the so-called "white-collar" group in Naples who did not have sufficient clothes.

Mr. Barr: There were 79,000 of these called "impiegati".

Mr. Taylor: If we made that type of distribution everywhere, we wouldn't have anything left for the distressed people in the devastated areas. All those operations will be summarized in the press release that we will send to New York. We have made no release to the press to date.

Ing. Vicentini: After all the material has been distributed, including re-distribution to some places where adequate distribution was not made, we will have some clothing left, but most of that amount is women's clothing--and the greatest need is men's clothing.

Mr. Taylor: Ing. Galeazzi has taken us to the Vatican where a group of sisters are sorting some of the materials which the National Committee turned over and are reconditioning them. Through the sisters in various institutions a great many of the remaining materials are being sorted and reconditioned. The work is wonderful well done. You would be astonished to see how these garments look after they have been taken out of the bales, sorted reconditioned and pressed.

Mr. Barr: A very large proportion of the remaining material is summer material. We believe it should be given out seasonally.

Mr. Taylor: I think it should appear in the record that a portion of what we are distributing--the first part of the goods received here which were baled in America--were baled by an organization that ARI was not satisfied with. They baled the supplies in "brown bales" which we found to be unsatisfactory. ARI has its own organization now for this work, and the bales are being sent in white canvas and were carefully selected.

Mr. Barr: ARI also have their own cleaning plant which is now in operation.

Mr. Taylor: Wherever we have gone with old materials in some communes, we will supplement these with new stocks.

Brig. Parkinson: Has Potenza been taken care of?

Mr. Barr: Yes, material for Potenza has been shipped.

Mr. Taylor: The press release is for American consumption and will summarize all activities to date. It will be translated into Italian when desired. This will be a summary of what has been done--the number of people benefitted and the arrangements by which it has been taken place. Our idea was to make as short as possible, but it takes several pages even briefly stated.

Admiral Stone: (glancing over press release): When did the atebirin tablets get here?

Mr. Taylor: They got here last Autumn. We got them from Col. Bizzozero from A.C. Headquarters. I undertook to buy them. Those we secured were German captured materials. (1,250,000 tablets of atebirin).

Admiral Stone: The release gives the impression that they brought over. A.C. is grateful for any recognition we can get.

Mr. Taylor: Yes, we should give A.C. credit for this contribution by all means. We should also show appreciation for assistance of Red Cross.

Admiral Stone: Are you giving the press release out here? I was thinking to get it home--in addition to your own release, it might be wise to give it to OWI to cable home.

Mr. Barr: Yes, it will be better to give it as a foreign release.

Mr. Taylor: We do not have a press agent. We thought we would get Packard over here. We do not want a press conference. We thought he would arrange it with the press.

Mr. Barr: It could be given to OWI and to Mr. Packard.

Admiral Stone: Why not get the four newspaper correspondents--and the Tribune and the Times and give it to all of them together.

Mr. Barr: That might be best.

Now as to the situation of the transport--as you all know, we are extremely grateful for the great contribution toward transport made by the Allied Commission, both on the Headquarters level here in Rome and on the national and provincial basis as well. I might say at this time that the cooperation of the Allied Commission all the way through in this relief work has been simply magnificent! I don't know what we would have done without their advice and assistance. Now, however, some additional transport is arriving from America for American Relief for Italy. A few trucks have already arrived, and there are 50 2-ton new Ford trucks on the way which will arrive this month with the next shipments. With these trucks we believe a nucleus of trucks will be available that can relieve the strain on A.C. and other agencies a great deal. These 50 trucks will be made available when arrangements are made through AFHQ with Col. Libby. The army has its own assembly line, and he felt that they could assemble these trucks in two days, since their capacity is 30 a day. The trucks can be brought to Rome. Handling of the trucks will be the responsibility of the Italian Government and ENDSI. The Military is very definite in their belief that they should not be burdened. The best plan seemed to be to have the ownership of the vehicles remain with ARI, released to ENDSI and registered with the Italian Ministry. ENAC would then release these trucks to ENDSI. The gasoline would be issued through CIP jointly with ENAC to ENDSI. That would be correlated here with STA in Rome where one section will be turned over to ENDSI for their use. The repairing will be done by STA, so that ENDSI will not go into the repair and garage problem. The drivers will be the responsibility of ENDSI which is getting excellent men and is going to follow the plan of A.C. The understanding is that if ENDSI hauls clothing or other relief supplies to a city and the truck is returning to Rome empty, it should report to ENAC and supplies can be loaded on these trucks for the return trip, all under Government control. There would be no waste of transport, and the Government could get transport for needed materials. In this plan there is now over-lapping of authority, and there is no duplication of transportation. It is an economical method of garaging and an economical method of servicing. All expenses for the trucks are to be paid by the Ministry of Interior with no charge to ARI, the Military or ENDSI. I think an important thing is that it relieves the military all responsibility and care of these vehicles. Now matter how many road blocks, our trucks are going to be stopped and, if necessary, I would say "Please inspect this truck". In this way we think we will have some influence over the black market.

Mr. Taylor: Which leads me to observe --if UNRRA uses these developed facilities in all these affairs, they will simplify and advance their activities. They could do it with a limited number of executi

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Mr. Taylor: Ing. Vicentini; have you anything you would like to bring up?

Ing. Vicentini: There is a question of the request of the refugee camps in Rome to have some clothing.

Mr. Taylor: There are 1,800 in each of two camps, I believe.

Ing. Vicentini: There are four camps altogether. There are 7,000 people in the four camps.

Mr. Barr: I think that should be seen to by the Pontifical Commission for Refugees. I believe from visiting the warehouses, there is still considerable clothing in the Pontifical Commission.

Ing. Vicentini: In the High Commission of Refugees there is no clothing to distribute in these four camps in Rome.

Mr. Barr: The Red Cross have distributed there, haven't they?

Ing. Vicentini: Not in the camps. I think it would be possible that these Sisters of the Vatican organization get some of this clothing for the refugees--then give it to the High Commissioner for Refugees.

Mr. Barr: That could be arranged with the High Commissioner and Pontifical Commission.

Ing. Galeazzi: I think the Red Cross clothing has all been given out long ago--also to refugees and displaced persons. I suppose many of them have gone back to their homes. There are new people in the cities who have not been helped.

Mr. Taylor: How many tons do the refugees require?

Ing. Galeazzi: 10 tons.

Mr. Taylor: Shall we do it?

Mr. Barr: There is need for it, and these people would certainly be served, but there is the necessity of cooperation.

Col. Bizzozero: There is another thing: I think there is a possibility that the Committee could make a tremendous contribution to the malaria situation in the Pontine Marshes if we furnish shoes for these people to wear who clean out the marshes. We would make the biggest contribution any agency could make in that project. 200 pair of shoes are needed for those workers in the Pontine Marshes.

Mr. Taylor: Have we any shoes left?

Mr. Barr: Yes, we still have some.

Ing. Vicentini: The shoes we have are not good for use in the marshes

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Jefferson, does your organization have any shoes?

Mr. Jefferson: We only had a few shoes, and they were mostly women's and children's. I don't think we have any shoes except in Leghorn now

Adm'ral Stone: What about Sardinia--have you sent them any shoes?

Ing. Vicentini: We will when the next shipment arrives. We hope to send the shoes from Leghorn to Sardinia that are needed in the mining area.

Admiral Stone: How will you transport them there?

Ing. Vicentini: The Italian Navy facilities.

Admiral Stone: If that doesn't work out--I arranged for a civilian ship to go through Naples twice a month.

Mr. Barr: In Pantalleria the problem was solved by the Navy. The U.S. Navy is going to be our agent over there.

Ing. Vicentini: Captain Nichols is the man who is providing the transport for Pantelleria.

Mr. Taylor: The question Doctor Zanotti-Bianco brings up is the ambulances. He has given me the following report:

To the Central Committee of the "National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI)".

In view of the possibility of at least, partly supplying the IRC with ambulances, as, owing to war events and to German pillaging, the Association was almost wholly deprived of its vehicles, we think it advisable to supply some information which might be of help in order to adequately solve a problem so essential for the re-organization of sanitary services in Italy, as the one relating to the transportation of patients is.

Before the war, the IRC had at its disposal the greatest organization for the transportation of the sick. This service was, on the whole, and especially in large towns, nearly exclusively entrusted to the IRC; only in some regions, the Association was backed or partly substituted by other relief organizations. Moreover, the IRC was the only association which could mobilize at any time and anywhere in Italy, an imposing number of motor-ambulances in emergency cases, so much so, that it can be stated that at present the IRC organization being paralysed, owing to the looting of its Motor Pools, the service of patients' transportation practically comes to a standstill everywhere in Italy.

This very delicate problem could be partly solved, were the IRC to get back a certain number at least, of its cars.

The IRC vehicles endowment just before the war, was as follows:

Committees	Ambulances	Trucks	Motor-cars	Motor-cycles.
1. Torino	50	1	1	1
2. Alessandria	25	1	1	-
3. Milano	95	5	6	2
4. Genova	40	1	1	-
5. Verona	30	2	1	1
6. Bologna	40	2	1	1
7. Ancona	25	2	1	-
8. Firenze	35	2	1	-
9. Roma	160	15	19	7
10. Napoli	45	4	4	2
11. Bari	35	-	4	-
12. Palermo	90	15	16	2
13. Venezia	15	-	16	2
14. Cagliari	30	2	2	-
15. Udine	20	1	2	-
16. Trieste	25	1	2	1
Total.	760	55	67	17

At present, after the war wear and German pillaging, these vehicles in liberated Italy, as far as it is possible to give a fair estimate, have been reduced to little more than one tenth of their previous number. Further reductions must be calculated, owing to Allied requisitions, lack of tires and spare parts, which by degrees, bring to a standstill an ever increasing number of cars.

Although the data collected so far are only approximate, the present situation in IRC mobilization centres, can be summed up as follows:

Committee	Ambulances		
	efficient	tireless	useless
Ancona	7	3	1
Firenze	7	3	2
Roma	15	10	5
Napoli	8	3	2
Bari	12	3	5
Palermo	17	7	1
Cagliari	11	4	1
Total	77	35	15.

In short, the service of patients' transportation which in Central and Southern Italy, before the war used to be carried out by 420 ambulances, has to be carried out at present by 77 ambulances which, although in running conditions, are mostly in bad repair owing to the wear caused by Uninterrupted service, while at the same time, some 50 more motor-ambulances are lying useless in the IRC Motor Pool for lack of tires and spare parts.

Should at the end of the war, the losses in Northern Italy still under German occupation, prove to be as great as those suffered in Central and Southern Italy, the IRC endowment of vehicles throughout the Country will be approximately reduced to some 90 ambulances in good repair and to some 100 ambulances immobilised, owing to the various causes; a number wholly inadequate to cope with the widely extended and hard service.

Without presuming to bring back for the time being, the IRC to its former efficiency as regards the transportation of patients, it is judged, however, that if the Association is to be enabled to keep up this indispensable service in Italy, so as to guarantee a minimum of regularity and safety, it would be necessary to supply it with 200 ambulances, either new or at least, perfectly efficient.

The type of ambulance, which according to experience, has proved to be most useful and best fit to meet the requirements of the service in our country, as regards civilian patients, is the two-stretcher one with medium cylinder capacity, while one-stretcher and four-stretcher cars have proved to be less widely employed.

The above mentioned three types of ambulances could be distributed in the following way:

Motor-ambulances	one-stretcher	two-stretcher	four-stretcher
200	ones 10	ones 150	ones 40

Were it possible to supply the IRC with such an allocation of vehicles, a great step towards the final solution of the problem of patients transportation in Italy, could be definitely made.

Mr. Taylor: We have asked for 100 ambulances to be donated in America.

Mr. Jefferson: Have you received any response to that request?

Mr. Barr: Judge Marchisio has replied that he can get the funds for the ambulances. (Mr. Taylor said something about receiving the approval of A.C. for the purchase and commitment of the ambulances, and Admiral Stone replied that it should be given by AFHQ).

Mr. Jefferson: We have 50 ambulances coming in February or March for the Italian Red Cross. We have actually only been able to get 28 so far, however. They are hard to get. We are getting 28 overhauled. The War Department is trying to get 30, Space has been allocated for them, and they are coming through. They will be given to the Italian Red Cross.

Mr. Taylor: According to the report, the Italian Red Cross has in the various southern provinces 77 efficient ambulances. They have 35 that have no tires. The quickest way to help would be to get tires.

Mr. Jefferson: Are those the Fiat ambulances? We bought all the Fiat tires that were in the country. That was a total of 63 and 120 inner-tubes.

Brig. Parkinson: The Italian Red Cross spoke to AFHQ about 800 tires that needed repair, and our Industry Subcommittee has been approach on this subject of the repair. It takes a little time, but the Industry Subcommittee is getting material to repair those tires.

Mr. Taylor: According to the report, they need 200 ambulances, and the type which has proved most useful is the two-stretcher type with medium cylinder capacity.

Mr. Jefferson: They are mighty hard to find. After the war, we can get some discarded army ambulances.

Mr. Taylor: How would it effect the future use if the war were over immediately. Would that make it possible to give more to Italy?

Admiral Stone: I'm not certain, sir. I think it can be done. It depends on how strong a fight is put up for it. I agree with you that I should doubt if a great deal of this transport would be moved to the Pacific.

Mr. Taylor: Ing. Vicentini, have you anything to add concerning the distribution?

Ing. Vicentini: Only that the clothing collected in Rome by the ENDSI has been distributed with the help of the Army authorities, especially Col. Andrews, who is very interested in this work. We distributed in all about 17,000 blankets, 3,000 shawls and 12,000 other pieces of clothing in the provinces of Chieti, Formia, Lanciano, Ortona, Pescara, Roccasecca and Sulmona.

Mr. Taylor: Was a large quantity given by the people of Rome?

Mr. Barr: 17,000 blankets were given by the people of Rome.

Edg. Vicentini: And there is more to be sent out.

Mr. Taylor: Dr. Canaperia, have you anything to add?

Dr. Canaperia: The following is a telegram sent to His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi by the President of the Committee for Relief to Italy in the Argentine:

"IN NAME OF THE COMMITTEE FOR RELIEF TO ITALY I BEG YOUR EXCELLENCY TO ACCEPT OUR HEARTFELT THANKS FOR THE MOST KIND WORDS SENT TO US THROUGH THE ROYAL EMBASSY. WHILE THE FIRST SHIPMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN AND ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IS ALREADY ON ITS WAY, THE COMMITTEE IS PROVIDING FOR NEW SHIPMENTS WHICH WILL BE PROGRESSIVELY INTENSIFIED.

I TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF BEGGING YOU TO USE YOUR KIND OFFICES IN URGING THE SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION.

THE ITALIANS AND ARGENTINES ASSOCIATED IN THE COMMITTEE FOR RELIEF TO ITALY REASSURE YOUR EXCELLENCY OF THE FEELINGS OF BROTHERHOOD THAT HAVE ALWAYS UNITED THE TWO FRIENDLY COUNTRIES.

(signed) RIVAROLA".

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AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

CONTENTS OF SURGICAL KITS

No.	
1	Phonendoscope
1	Haemoglobinometer
1	Haemocytimeter
6	Kocher Forceps
6	Plain Forceps
1	Straight Scissor
1	Curved Scissor
1	Obstetrical Compass
1	Long Forcep
2	Klemmer
2	Trachetomy Tubes
	Catgut and suturing needles.
12	Syringes 10cc.
3	Obstetrical Instruments
1	Blood Transfusion Apparatus
1	Operating Kit containing:
	1 straight scissor
	3 klemmer
	1 plain thumb forcep
	1 toothed thumb forcep
	1 set of surgical knives
	1 grooved director
	1 probe
1	Blood pressure Apparatus
1	Series of Stains for laboratory and clinical analysis
1	Bottle immersion oil
1	Alcohol lamp
2	Boxes of microscopic slides
3	Rubber sheets
12	pair Rubber Gloves.

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

FIRST AID KIT

CONTENTS

5 Gauze Bandages 1" x 10yd.	3 Picric Acid Gauze 3" x 3".
8 Gauze Bandages 2" x 10yd.	6 Finger Cots.
3 Gauze Bandages 3" x 10yd.	2 Triangular Bandages 40".
6 Muslin Bandages 2" x 5yd.	1 Tourniquet
3 Muslin Bandages 3" x 5yd.	12 Cotton Wound Applicators 6,1/2"
4 Surgical Gauze 1 sq.yd. ea.	12 Tongue Depressors.
4 U.S.P. Absorbent Cotton 1/2 oz.	4 Wooden Splints.
1 Adhesive Tape 1" x 5yd.	1 Graduated Medicine Glass
1 Tin Sterilized Handi-Tape, Asst.	1 Medicine Dropper
1 Iodine (Mild Tr.) 2 oz.	3 Paper Drinking Cups.
1 Aromatic Spts. of Ammonia 2 oz.	1 Scissors.
1 Boric Acid (4% sol.) 2 oz.	1 Tweezers
1 Castor Oil 2 oz.	1 First Aid Hand Book.
2 Petrolatum with 3% Sodium Bicarbonate 2 oz.	12 Gauze Pads 3" x 3".

AMERICAN RELIEF FOR ITALY, INC.

February 12, 1945

Meeting No.14

The following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held January 12, 1945, in the office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. In attendance were the following: Mr. Taylor; Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Hq. Allied Commission; Brig. G.S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommittee; Dr. Zanotti-Bianco, Director of Italian Red Cross; Ing. Enrico P. Galeazzi, Architect of the Sacred Apostolic Palaces and Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Mgr. John Patrick Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of the Pontifical Commission for Aid to Refugees; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department of Ministry of Interior; Ing. G.B. Vicentini, Executive Director of E.N.D.S.I.; Mr. W.W. Jefferson, Director of Mediterranean American Red Cross, Civilian War Relief; Col. O.J. Bizzozero, Public Health Officer Region IV, and Mr. Howard B. Barr, Deputy to Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor: We have received a telegram from Mr. Basil O'Connor donating 700,000 garments to American Relief for Italy from the American Red Cross. It is a very generous gift! When they come, we will distribute them where we all agree is most useful. Mr. Jefferson just returned from the United States. How is Mr. O'Connor?

Mr. Jefferson: He is very well. He has been very busy with Red Cross work and the infantile paralysis drive.

Mr. Taylor: We received the following good letter from General McNarney this morning:

"Headquarters
Mediterranean Theater of Operations
Office of the Commanding General

9 February 1945.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I have been informed that you have conferred with Mr. McMillan relative to the shipment of supplies from the United States on behalf of the American Relief for Italy, Inc.

It is my understanding that you would like to have a tonnage allocation of 800 tons per month, and in order to fully cover your needs, I am happy to inform you that instructions have been issued to provide you with space for 1000 tons monthly. While it is not expected that future shipping conditions will require downward revision of this figure, it must be borne in mind that such alteration may be made if military necessity dictates.

This allotment will be independent of any allocations made to the Allied Commission. I should be grateful, however, if you will continue to cooperate with that agency in order to insure that these supplementary supplies are distributed to those areas or institutions which

have been most severely affected by the impact of war in Italy.

May I assure you of my continuing interest in your valued relief activities.

Cordially,

/s/ JOSEPH T. McNARNEY,
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army,
Commanding."

* * * *

Mr. Taylor: We had a visit last week from UNRRA representatives--the first since last summer when Mr. Keeny, as you recall, was invited by us to attend our meetings. He came in with two of his associates last week and spent some time explaining in a very general way what UNRRA was undertaking to do in Italy. He stated that UNRRA had offered a contract to the Italian Government which had not yet been executed--but now in the process of negotiation. He did not give me a copy of the proposed contract or tell me anything specific about its content, as he indicated it was a secret document. So our conversation was limited to generalities. I gave him a copy of our supplies that had arrived and those which are enroute. I tried to approach a definition of fields in which ARI supplies through ENDSI would continue to operate without interference from other agencies, but I was unable to get any declaration on that point. The declaration was: "we hope and expect to cooperate with all other agencies". Since then he has written me a very general letter, attaching to it a list of materials UNRRA has or expects to receive in March or April. It is not a large list. Mr. Keeny indicates that they expect to supply 180,000 tons of supplies, largely food and medicines and also some clothing during their operations here.

Admiral Stone: Over what period of time?

Mr. Taylor: "Eventually." (Mr. Taylor quoted UNRRA letter dated February 10, 1945).

American Relief for Italy acts through ENDSI, and if he adopts ENDSI as his distributing medium, there can be cooperation and a definition of particular activities in particular zones for distribution of the different supplies. On the other hand, if everything were to be put together under UNRRA's control, I think it would be very discouraging to the people of America who make donations through American Relief for Italy. Mr. Keeny enlarges on his interest in displaced persons.

Admiral Stone: Displaced persons is an activity which up to the moment has been handled by A.C.

Mr. Taylor: There is also present in Italy the Intergovernmental Committee in the Refugee field. Last year when the President's War Refugee Board was set up, the Director of the Intergovernmental Committee came to Washington. I was then the Vice Chairman. We agreed to specify the different fields in which the Intergovernmental Committee and the War Refugee Board would operate, and the outcome was a complete understanding leading to close cooperation. The American Government and the British Government each made a large financial commitment for use by Intergovernmental Committee in the field of displaced persons. The President's War Refugee Board was permitted to participate in the use of those funds with the

Intergovernmental Committee when necessary. General O'Dwyer has become the new Chairman of the President's War Refugee Board, and the fact that he has been made Chairman of it indicates that they expect to keep it in action. They will try to repatriate people to their homes. There has also been in Italy from the beginning the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which is an old organization and well equipped with funds. They have done a very good job-- especially in transporting them from danger zones to safety zones. The Quakers are also active in refugee work.

Admiral Stone: These people are not "stateless"--they are displaced. The Italians in Italy are the refugee problem as defined from Italian Authorities. The displaced persons are those other than of Italian nationality who are in Italy or evacuated to Italy from, for example, Yugoslavia.

Mr. Taylor: It seems to me that UNRRA's directive is qualified, so that it cannot operate in any field without the approval of the military authorities.

Admiral Stone: The A.C. has agreed to turn over to UNRRA the displaced persons camps that we are operating in the south because of scarcity of personnel in view of our commitments in the north, but more particularly because displaced persons are not Italians, and some agency other than Allied Commission should take care of these people.

Mr. Taylor: But the care of the people in all Italy is subject to the approval of the Military?

Admiral Stone: Yes, sir.

Mr. Taylor: The difficulty here is that a duplication might arise in the servicing of these camps and in all relief distribution unless some particular agency undertakes to study it and coordinate activities.

Mr. Barr: You also have a private agency of the Quakers who are in this field.

Mr. Jefferson: They are all working under Allied Commission.

Admiral Stone: I am transferring the responsibility of these camps. Whoever takes care of them will be working for me.

Mr. Taylor: Is the Red Cross in this field?

Mr. Jefferson: No, not directly. We have supplies to the Military rather than to the camps themselves.

Mr. Taylor: I think it will be necessary for me to make a reply to UNRRA that in the interests of American Relief for Italy, it must be clearly understood that UNRRA is not to determine the future field of action of ARI. While cooperation is desirable, it must be very clear that this organization and its products are to be kept in a distinct class from those of other agencies. For instance, we have taken up 120 of the institutions in Rome in which we are furnishing milk and vitamins to 8,600 children and in Naples similarly 5,000 children. We are giving vitamins to all the public schools in Rome. That we have the supplies for and expect to continue. All our activities here are conducted through the Italian National Committee (ENDSI).

Dr. Canaperia: There are about 60,000 children altogether in the schools alone which American Relief for Italy are supplying through ENSI.

Mr. Taylor: We have enough supplies coming to keep that program going the rest of this year. We have agreed to undertake similar service in the north--probably including Florence, Arezzo, Leghorn and others of the northern cities. We do not want to be driven out of that field.

Admiral Stone: The only one that could drive you out would be the Italian Government.

Mr. Taylor: We want to make it clear that we have adopted these particular activities. That simplifies the field of activity. We can regulate it in America so that specific supplies are sent for certain fields rather than general fields. That will make the distribution simpler and not be so confusing. Mr. Barr, you have just been up to Leghorn to discover a warehouse for the shipments which are to arrive from America which we suggest for relief in the northern area beyond Rome. Will you report on that?

Mr. Barr: We are expecting 1,500 tons to arrive within the next 15 days at Leghorn. It was necessary to get space for storage in the north because a large part of this shipment will be used in the north rather than south of Rome. If we are going to plan to distribute in the north, it would be a big mistake to bring it to Rome first. We are able, with the cooperation of P.B.S., to obtain a warehouse at Rosignano that will take care of 2,000 tons. The warehouse is 14 miles south of Leghorn at the Solway plant. There is another plant called Anania about 1 1/2 kilometers from the Solway plant at Rosignano which may be used.

Admiral Stone: What is the character of the product of the Solway plant?

Mr. Barr: It is a chemical plant. The main plant is under the control of A.C. The bridge there is at present being repaired to permit the entry of the cars into the Solway plant and up to the warehouses. The bridge will not be done in time for this shipment. However, there is a siding at a town called Vada which is being used by this plant, and the material can be off loaded there. The railway, however, will be completed in time so that when the materials begin to flow out of this warehouse, the railway cars will be able to be used where they meet the purpose of distribution. There is adequate garage for ENDSI trucks. The military authorities in Leghorn believe this is a good solution to their problem as there is no available space in Leghorn for warehousing. They will be very glad to load the material on the rail. The responsibility of ENDSI begins at Vada. The four trucks will be able to take a box car load at a time. Solway has agreed to furnish all the help, the space, the lighting--everything to do with the warehousing. It is an excellent arrangement, first of all, because of the security. The people who will be working in the warehouse live right at the plant, so that their activities in the warehouse and their work with ENDSI will be absolutely secure. They will be under the supervision of their normal supervisors. They are an excellent organization.

Admiral Stone: If it hasn't been done, I think it would be a very nice thing to carry a letter to them from ENDSI.

Mr. Barr: Ing. Vicentini and Mr. Zaccarian will carry those letters. With the warehouses in Naples that are almost empty and the warehouses in Rome we can handle these shipments without difficulty. Wherever the ships come in, there is adequate warehousing space, and it is not going to cause much difficulty to the military. It is just as easy for them to unload the ships at Leghorn into the the railway cars as it is to send them to a warehouse in Leghorn.

Mr. Taylor: We started after our first ship arrived to distribute everything as quickly as possible. We made very big inroads upon our stock. Our goal was an empty warehouse. That theory has been very successful. We have made distribution too in fields we didn't contemplate in the beginning--Sardinia, Sicily, Pantelleria and the communes close to Naples and Rome. We thought our supplies would not be adequate but we have also distributed supplies to the so-called "white-collar" group in Naples who did not have sufficient clothes.

Mr. Barr: There were 79,000 of these called "impiegati".

Mr. Taylor: If we made that type of distribution everywhere, we wouldn't have anything left for the distressed people in the devastated areas. All those operations will be summarized in the press release that we will send to New York. We have made no release to the press to date.

Ing. Vicentini: After all the material has been distributed, including re-distribution to some places where adequate distribution was not made, we will have some clothing left, but most of that amount is women's clothing--and the greatest need is men's clothing.

Mr. Taylor: Ing. Galeazzi has taken us to the Vatican where a group of sisters are sorting some of the materials which the National Committee turned over and are reconditioning them. Through the sisters in various institutions a great many of the remaining materials are being sorted and reconditioned. The work is wonderful well done. You would be astonished to see how these garments look after they have been taken out of the bales, sorted reconditioned and pressed.

Mr. Barr: A very large proportion of the remaining material is summer material. We believe it should be given out seasonally.

Mr. Taylor: I think it should appear in the record that a portion of what we are distributing--the first part of the goods received here which were baled in America--were baled by an organization that ARI was not satisfied with. They baled the supplies in "brown bales" which we found to be unsatisfactory. ARI has its own organization now for this work, and the bales are being sent in white canvas and were carefully selected.

Mr. Barr: ARI also have their own cleaning plant which is now in operation.

Mr. Taylor: Wherever we have gone with old materials in some communes, we will supplement these with new stocks.

Brig. Parkinson: Has Potenza been taken care of?

Mr. Barr: Yes, material for Potenza has been shipped.

Mr. Taylor: The press release is for American consumption and will summarize all activities to date. It will be translated into Italian when desired. This will be a summary of what has been done--the number of people benefitted and the arrangements by which it has been taken place. Our idea was to make as short as possible, but it takes several pages even briefly stated.

Admiral Stone: (glancing over press release): When did the atebirin tablets get here?

Mr. Taylor: They got here last Autumn. We got them from Col. Bizzozero from A.C. Headquarters. I undertook to buy them. Those we secured were German captured materials. (1,250,000 tablets of atebirin).

Admiral Stone: The release gives the impression that they brought over. A.C. is grateful for any recognition we can get.

Mr. Taylor: Yes, we should give A.C. credit for this contribution by all means. We should also show appreciation for assistance of Red Cross.

Admiral Stone: Are you giving the press release out here? I was thinking to get it home--in addition to your own release, it might be wise to give it to OWI to cable home.

Mr. Barr: Yes, it will be better to give it as a foreign release.

Mr. Taylor: We do not have a press agent. We thought we would get Packard over here. We do not want a press conference. We thought he would arrange it with the press.

Mr. Barr: It could be given to OWI and to Mr. Packard.

Admiral Stone: Why not get the four newspaper correspondents--and the Tribune and the Times and give it to all of them together.

Mr. Barr: That might be best.

Now as to the situation of the transport--as you all know, we are extremely grateful for the great contribution toward transport made by the Allied Commission, both on the Headquarters level here in Rome and on the national and provincial basis as well. I might say at this time that the cooperation of the Allied Commission all the way through in this relief work has been simply magnificent! I don't know what we would have done without their advice and assistance. Now, however, some additional transport is arriving from America for American Relief for Italy. A few trucks have already arrived, and there are 50 2-ton new Ford trucks on the way which will arrive this month with the next shipments. With these trucks we believe a nucleus of trucks will be available that can relieve the strain on A.C. and other agencies a great deal. These 50 trucks will be made available when arrangements are made through AFHQ with Col. Libby. The army has its own assembly line, and he felt that they could assemble these trucks in two days, since their capacity is 30 a day. The trucks can be brought to Rome. Handling of the trucks will be the responsibility of the Italian Government and ENDSI. The Military is very definite in their belief that they should not be burdened. The best plan seemed to be to have the ownership of the vehicles remain with ARI, released to ENDSI and registered with the Italian Ministry. ENAC would then release these trucks to ENDSI. The gasoline would be issued through CIP jointly with ENAC to ENDSI. That would be correlated here with STA in Rome where one section will be turned over to ENDSI for their use. The repairing will be done by STA, so that ENDSI will not go into the repair and garage problem. The drivers will be the responsibility of ENDSI which is getting excellent men and is going to follow the plan of A.C. The understanding is that if ENDSI hauls clothing or other relief supplies to a city and the truck is returning to Rome empty, it should report to ENAC and supplies can be loaded on these trucks for the return trip, all under Government control. There would be no waste of transport, and the Government could get transport for needed materials. In this plan there is now over-lapping of authority, and there is no duplication of transportation. It is an economical method of garaging and an economical method of servicing. All expenses for the trucks are to be paid by the Ministry of Interior with no charge to ARI, the Military or ENDSI. I think an important thing is that it relieves the military all responsibility and care of these vehicles. Now matter how many road blocks, our trucks are going to be stopped and, if necessary, I would say "Please inspect this truck". In this way we think we will have some influence over the black market.

Mr. Taylor: Which leads me to observe --if UNRRA uses these developed facilities in all these affairs, they will simplify and advance their activities. They could do it with a limited number of executi

* * * *

Mr. Taylor: Ing. Vicentini; have you anything you would like to bring up?

Ing. Vicentini: There is a question of the request of the refugee camps in Rome to have some clothing.

Mr. Taylor: There are 1,800 in each of two camps, I believe.

Ing. Vicentini: There are four camps altogether. There are 7,000 people in the four camps.

Mr. Barr: I think that should be seen to by the Pontifical Commission for Refugees. I believe from visiting the warehouses, there is still considerable clothing in the Pontifical Commission.

Ing. Vicentini: In the High Commission of Refugees there is no. clothin to distribute in these four camps in Rome.

Mr. Barr: The Red Cross have distributed there, haven't they?

Ing. Vicentini: Not in the camps. I think it would be possible that these Sisters of the Vatican organization get some of this clothing for the refugees--then give it to the High Commissioner for Refugees.

Mr. Barr: That could be arranged with the High Commissioner and Pontifical Commission.

Ing. Galeazzi: I think the Red Cross clothing has all been given out long ago--also to refugees and displaced persons. I suppose many of them have gone back to their homes. There are new people in the cities who have not been helped.

Mr. Taylor: How many tons do the refugees require?

Ing. Galeazzi: 10 tons.

Mr. Taylor: Shall we do it?

Mr. Barr: There is need for it, and these people would certainly be served, but there is the necessity of cooperation.

Col. Bizzozero: There is another thing: I think there is a possibility that the Committee could make a tremendous contribution to the malaria situation in the Pontine Marshes if we furnish shoes for these people to wear who clean out the marshes. We would make the biggest contribution any agency could make in that project. 200 pair of shoes are needed for those workers in the Pontine Marshes.

Mr. Taylor: Have we any shoes left?

Mr. Barr: Yes, we still have some.

Ing. Vicentini: The shoes we have are not good for use in the marshes

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Jefferson, does your organization have any shoes?

Mr. Jefferson: We only had a few shoes, and they were mostly women's and children's. I don't think we have any shoes except in Leghorn now

Adm'ral Stone:What about Sardinia--have you sent them any shoes?

Ing.Vicentini: We will when the next shipment arrives. We hope to send the shoes from Leghorn to Sardinia that are needed in the mining area.

Admiral Stone: How will you transport them there?

Ing.Vicentini: The Italian Navy facilities.

Admiral Stone: If that dosen't work out--I arranged for a civilian ship to go through Naples twice a month.

Mr.Barr: In Pantalleria the problem was solved by the Navy. The U.S. Navy is going to be our agent over there.

Ing.Vicentini:Captain Nichols is the man who is providing the transport for Pantalleria.

Mr.Taylor: The question Doctor Zanotti-Bianco brings up is the ambulances. He has given me the following report:

To the Central Committee of the "National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy (ENDSI)".

In view of the possibility of at least, partly supplying the IRC with ambulances, as, owing to war events and to German pillaging, the Association was almost wholly deprived of its vehicles, we think it advisable to supply some information which might be of help in order to adequately solve a problem so essential for the re-organization of sanitary services in Italy, as the one relating to the transportation of patients is.

Before the war, the IRC had at its disposal the greatest organization for the transportation of the sick. This service was, on the whole, and especially in large towns, nearly exclusively entrusted to the IRC; only in some regions, the Association was backed or partly substituted by other relief organizations. Moreover, the IRC was the only association which could mobilize at any time and anywhere in Italy, an imposing number of motor-ambulances in emergency cases, so much so, that it can be stated that at present the IRC organization being paralysed, owing to the looting of its Motor Pools, the service of patients' transportation practically comes to a standstill everywhere in Italy.

This very delicate problem could be partly solved, were the IRC to get back a certain number at least, of its cars.

The IRC vehicles endowment just before the war, was as follows:
Committees Ambulances Trucks Motor-cars Motor-cycles.

1. Torino	50	1	1	1
2. Alessandria	25	1	1	-
3. Milano	95	5	6	2
4. Genova	40	1	1	-
5. Verona	30	2	1	1
6. Bologna	40	2	1	1
7. Ancona	25	2	1	-
8. Firenze	35	2	1	-
9. Roma	160	15	19	7
10. Napoli	45	4	4	2
11. Bari	35	-	4	-
12. Palermo	90	15	16	2
13. Venezia	15	-	16	2
14. Cagliari	30	2	2	-
15. Udine	20	1	2	-
16. Trieste	25	1	2	1
Total.	760	55	67	17

At present, after the war wear and German pillaging, these vehicles in liberated Italy, as far as it is possible to give a fair estimate, have been reduced to little more than one tenth of their previous number. Further reductions must be calculated, owing to Allied requisitions, lack of tires and spare parts, which by degrees, bring to a standstill an ever increasing number of cars.

Although the data collected so far are only approximate, the present situation in IRC mobilization centres, can be summed up as follows:

Committee	Ambulances		
	efficient	tireless	useless
Ancona	7	3	1
Firenze	7	3	2
Roma	15	10	5
Napoli	8	3	2
Bari	12	3	5
Palermo	17	7	1
Cagliari	11	4	1
Total	77	35	15.

In short, the service of patients' transportation which in Central and Southern Italy, before the war used to be carried out by 420 ambulances, has to be carried out at present by 77 ambulances which, although in running conditions, are mostly in bad repair owing to the wear caused by uninterrupted service, while at the same time, some 50 more motor-ambulances are lying useless in the IRC Motor Pool for lack of tires and spare parts.

Should at the end of the war, the losses in Northern Italy still under German occupation, prove to be as great as those suffered in Central and Southern Italy, the IRC endowment of vehicles throughout the Country will be approximately reduced to some 90 ambulances in good repair and to some 100 ambulances immobilised, owing to the various causes; a number wholly inadequate to cope with the widely extended and hard service.

Without presuming to bring back for the time being, the IRC to its former efficiency as regards the transportation of patients, it is judged, however, that if the Association is to be enabled to keep up this indispensable service in Italy, so as to guarantee a minimum of regularity and safety, it would be necessary to supply it with 200 ambulances, either new or at least, perfectly efficient.

The type of ambulance, which according to experience, has proved to be most useful and best fit to meet the requirements of the service in our country, as regards civilian patients, is the two-stretcher one with medium cylinder capacity, while one-stretcher and four-stretcher cars have proved to be less widely employed.

The above mentioned three types of ambulances could be distributed in the following way:

Motor-ambulances	one-stretcher	two-stretcher	four-stretcher
200	ones 10	ones 150	ones 40

Were it possible to supply the IRC with such an allocation of vehicles, a great step towards the final solution of the problem of patients transportation in Italy, could be definitely made.

Mr. Taylor: We have asked for 100 ambulances to be donated in America.

Mr. Jefferson: Have you received any response to that request?

Mr. Barr: Judge Marchisio has replied that he can get the funds for the ambulances. (Mr. Taylor said something about receiving the approval of A.C. for the purchase and commitment of the ambulances, and Admiral Stone replied that it should be given by AFHQ).

Mr. Jefferson: We have 50 ambulances coming in February or March for the Italian Red Cross. We have actually only been able to get 28 so far, however. They are hard to get. We are getting 28 overhauled. The War Department is trying to get 30. Space has been allocated for them, and they are coming through. They will be given to the Italian Red Cross.

Mr. Taylor: According to the report, the Italian Red Cross has in the various southern provinces 77 efficient ambulances. They have 35 that have no tires. The quickest way to help would be to get tires.

Mr. Jefferson: Are those the Fiat ambulances? We bought all the Fiat tires that were in the country. That was a total of 63 and 120 inner-tubes.

Brig. Parkinson: The Italian Red Cross spoke to AFHQ about 800 tires that needed repair, and our Industry Subcommittee has been approach on this subject of the repair. It takes a little time, but the Industry Subcommittee is getting material to repair those tires.

Mr. Taylor: According to the report, they need 200 ambulances, and the type which has proved most useful is the two-stretcher type with medium cylinder capacity.

Mr. Jefferson: They are mighty hard to find. After the war, we can get some discarded army ambulances.

Mr. Taylor: How would it effect the future use if the war were over immediately. Would that make it possible to give more to Italy?

Admiral Stone: I'm not certain, sir. I think it can be done. It depends on how strong a fight is put up for it. I agree with you that I should doubt if a great deal of this transport would be moved to the Pacific.

Mr. Taylor: Ing. Vicentini, have you anything to add concerning the distribution?

Ing. Vicentini: Only that the clothing collected in Rome by the ENDSI has been distributed with the help of the Army authorities, especially Col. Andrews, who is very interested in this work. We distributed in all about 17,000 blankets, 3000 shawls and 12,000 other pieces of clothing in the provinces of Chieti, Formia, Lanciano, Ortona, Pescara, Roccasecca and Sulmona.

Mr. Taylor: Was a large quantity given by the people of Rome?

Mr. Barr: 17,000 blankets were given by the people of Rome.

Ing. Vicentini: And there is more to be sent out.

Mr. Taylor: Dr. Canaperia, have you anything to add?

Dr. Canaperia: The following is a telegram sent to His Excellency Avance Bonomi by the President of the Committee for Relief to Italy in the Argentine:

"IN NAME OF THE COMMITTEE FOR RELIEF TO ITALY I BEG YOUR EXCELLENCY TO ACCEPT OUR HEARTFELT THANKS FOR THE MOST KIND WORDS SENT TO US THROUGH THE ROYAL EMBASSY. WHILE THE FIRST SHIPMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN AND ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IS ALREADY ON ITS WAY, THE COMMITTEE IS PROVIDING FOR NEW SHIPMENTS WHICH WILL BE PROGRESSIVELY INTENSIFIED.

I TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF BEGGING YOU TO USE YOUR KIND OFFICES IN URGING THE SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION.

THE ITALIANS AND ARGENTINES ASSOCIATED IN THE COMMITTEE FOR RELIEF TO ITALY REASSURE YOUR EXCELLENCY OF THE FEELINGS OF BROTHERHOOD THAT HAVE ALWAYS UNITED THE TWO FRIENDLY COUNTRIES.

(signed) RIVAROLA".

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF PROTOCOL

Myron Taylor folder
Holt
4-45
File

February 21, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY:

I am transmitting herewith a communication, together with its enclosures, addressed to the President by the Honorable Myron C. Taylor, Special Representative of the President at the Vatican.

G. T. Summerlin
George T. Summerlin
Chief of Protocol

Enclosures:

Original letter from
Mr. Taylor, January 30,
1945, with enclosures.

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I see page
ENCLOSURE FOR

Department of State

BUREAU |
DIVISION |

PR

ENCLOSURE

TO

Letter drafted 2-21-45

ADDRESSED TO

Miss Grace G. Tully

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

OFFICE
Rome, January 30, 1945.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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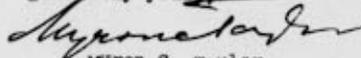
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Dear Mr. President:

I beg to send you herewith copies of the minutes of meetings nos. 10 and 11 held by the advisory group in connection with the distribution of American relief material. Two copies of Prospectus of Movement of Merchandise donated through American Relief for Italy and distributed by the National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy in the period January 1-15, 1945 are also attached.

Believe me to be, Mr. President,

Sincerely yours,


MYRON C. TAYLOR

Enclosures:

As stated

The President

The White House

Washington.

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held January 15, 1945 in the office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner, Hq. Allied Commission, attended the meeting at the invitation of Mr. Taylor.

The following were in attendance: Brig. G.S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommittee; Dr. Zanotti-Bianco, President of the Italian Red Cross; Mgr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services of Pontifical Commission for Aid to Refugees, Ing. Enrico Galeazzi, Architect of the Sacred Apostolic Palaces and Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Dr. Laponi of the Italian Red Cross; Ing. G.B. Vicentini, Executive Director of the E.N.D.S.I.; Prof. John A. Canaperia M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department of Ministry of Interior; Major John McSweeney, Public Health and Welfare Officer, Subcommittee, Allied Commission; Mr. Sidney J. Crawley, Assistant Director of Civilian War Relief, American Red Cross; Col. O.J. Bizzozero, Public Health Officer of Region IV, and Mr. Joseph S. Silber, American Red Cross, Acting Assistant to Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor: I asked Admiral Stone to come this morning to hear us sum up what we have accomplished up to this point and also to hear some of our future plans. (Mr. Taylor gave summary sheets to those present.)

Admiral Stone: Speaking for the Commission, and apart from any help my people may have been giving the efforts, the Commission is very appreciative and is very much impressed with what has been accomplished by this organization.

Mr. Taylor: Thank you--that is very fine. Summing up, we have had ships from America with delivery which was expedited beyond the original pledges that were made by AFHQ. About six million pounds of materials have arrived and all which have gone into the warehouses--four in Naples and one in Rome. We visited the warehouse in Rome this morning with the Prime Minister and some members of the Government, and found that a considerable quantity has already gone from the warehouses into the interior.

Ing. Vicentini: Half of the total amount has gone.

Mr. Taylor: Will you state briefly where these supplies have gone.

Ing. Vicentini: In the provinces of Pescara, Chieti, Campobasso and Aquila the supplies are almost completely distributed. Shipments are now on the way to Frosinone and Littoria, and will be completed tomorrow.

Mr. Taylor: You have had some difficulty with the weather?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes but only for the communes of Aquila and Campobasso

Mr. Taylor: Has that improved?

Ing. Vicentini: Not yet. Avezzano and other towns are blocked by snow. One truck has arrived in Avezzano, but four are blocked on the mountains about 20 miles from Avezzano. The supplies have arrived in the warehouses of Lanciano.

Mr. Taylor: All the rest have gone through. The Italian Government bought a quantity of blankets--about 16,000 and these are enroute to some of the same provinces. These blankets are being distributed through the National Committee.

Ing. Vicentini: The blankets cost 750 lire each. Col. Armstrong and Major Snee have given splendid help in the distribution.

Adm. Stone: Where did you find the blankets?

Ing. Vicentini: In Prato near Florence.

Mr. Taylor: There is a quantity of sheeting in Naples --about 100,000 yards, the price of which has been blocked by the Government or someone.

Ing. Vicentini: I heard yesterday that they would give us half of this quantity. The price is 150 lire a meter.

Mr. Taylor: The cost of sheeting is about 34 cents a yard in America. The price has been frozen here at a very high level. The question is whether some agency--logically the Government-- cannot afford to buy that material. It is very important, because one of the great shortages in hospitals at the present time is sheeting.

Prof. Canaperia: I think something has already been done about that.

Mr. Taylor: The distribution of this sheeting would be effected through the National Committee. Would you advise that the distribution be for Rome only?

Prof. Canaperia: Mostly for Rome. The greatest quantity should be given to hospitals in the city.

Mr. Taylor: The point is to centralize distribution to avoid competition and disorder. Are there any other materials that anyone knows about which could be purchased?

Ing. Vicentini: We are purchasing 28,000 meters of cloth, the price of which is also blocked. That would be used by institutes to make children's clothing.

Mr. Taylor: Is that woolen material?

Ing. Vicentini: No, it is generally cotton cloth--but good cotton. Many institutions have asked me to buy this cloth.

Mr. Taylor: (Exhibited samples of men's and boys' trousers). This material has been sent from America and has been made up in one of the convents. The trousers for children cost 50 cents to produce. It is the opinion here that the top part of these trousers is too narrow.

Mr. Silber: The band at the top of the trousers should be wider.

Ing. Vicentini: The cost of making the men's trousers is also 50 cents. These were made in one of the convents by the sisters and girls who are working with them. There are three convents to assist in the making up of this material.

Mr. Taylor: There was a suggestion that some of these could be made in trade schools.

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: The convents correspond to the trade schools.

Mr. Taylor: The trade school girls and boys, however, come in from the outside, do they not?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: Not always. They generally live inside.

Mr. Taylor: I have cabled to New York to have an allowance made from the National War Fund invested in suitable materials--new clothing material that can be sent over here to be made up. Mr. Barr will report on that when he returns. It is a very helpful thing to have the clothing made from new materials here in Italy.

Mr. Silber: Would you also give a part of this material to a school for delinquents?

Mr. Taylor: We could do that if we have enough. I suggest that this work of making the trousers be done quickly. I also mentioned to Prime Minister Bonomi the question of shoes. It seems to me if our manufacturers in America could design a shoe with a reasonably good sole and make a top of substantial material, perhaps canvas, the result could be a very serviceable type of shoe; then we could ask the Nations War Fund to make the purchase of one million pairs.

Adm. Stone: For adults?

Mr. Taylor: Yes, I was told that in the country districts the women could get on very well with wooden shoes. If we are going to concentrate on men's shoes, would you drop women's shoes out of the program entirely, and trust to the usual method of collections to get women's shoes?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: Yes.

Ing. Galeazzi: Also workmen's shoes can be used by women in the country

Mr. Taylor: Does that strike the Brigadier as suitable?

Brig. Parkinson: Yes. It seems to be a good idea.

Mr. Taylor: Now about the distribution--we discussed last week proceeding next in the communes adjacent to the cities of Naples and Rome, and that was virtually agreed upon. After that distribution is completed, we planned to go into the cities of Naples and Rome with the surplus.

Mr. Silber: We talked of distribution to the city of Foggia first.

Mr. Taylor: Yes, that has been agreed upon. What would be left for distribution in the city of Naples and the city of Rome after the communal distribution is completed?

Ing. Vicentini: For the communes of Naples we need about 4,000 bales, for Rome about 1,000 bales and for Foggia 1,000 bales. That would leave about 12,000 bales for the cities of Naples and Rome. We discussed the question of Rome yesterday in the Giunta and the opinion was that in the town of Rome the need is not so great.

Mr. Taylor: I think the city of Rome apart from the institutions should take care of itself.

Ing. Vicentini: The institutes need help, however. We have made inquiry to our Commission for Institutes concerning the need. They should give us report in few days concerning the situation. We figured that the total number of children in Rome to be helped is of about 8,000.

Adm. Stone: I would like to know who has the responsibility for the children in institutions. Are the refugee children under the care of Zaniboni, or who has that responsibility.

Prof. Canaperia: We take care of them.

Mr. Taylor: Now we spoke of Sicily.

Major McSweeney: I have information from people who have served there. There are less than 6,000 Italian refugees, but there are about 4,000 refugees from North Africa. We figured, however, that there would be 50,000 to 60,000 people in dire need. I checked to find out about the temperature and find that is only five degrees warmer than it is here; therefore, the need for clothing is just as great. We figure about 100 tons would take care of the refugees and the people who are in worst need of clothing. There are 380,000 people, but we can't reach all of them.

Mr. Silber: 100 tons would take care of about 30,000 to 35,000 people. There are about 2,500 to 3,000 bales in a ton.

Mr. Taylor: Do you say that after serving the communes of Naples and Rome and the institutions in those cities, there will be enough for 100 tons for Sicily?

Mr. Silber: Yes. The program outlined this morning, including Sicily, will about clean out our supplies.

Mr. Taylor: Assuming all this is done--do you then feel that you have satisfied the needs in Southern Italy--I mean the needs we can reasonably satisfy--so that we may turn our attention to another area?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: I think so.

Ing. Vicentini: I think that something will be needed in Calabria. Dr. Zanotti-Bianco had information that something was needed there.

Mr. Taylor: We will rely on the next shipment of supplies to take care of other needs. The last report was that 2,1/4 million pounds was awaiting shipment in New York. The AFHQ said it would be shipped to arrive in early February or March. I find AFHQ very sympathetic in their recent statements. What they have lately done is wonderful. What A.C. has done also in the way of transport has been most excellent and we want to show our appreciation. I did express appreciation in broadcast I made on Sunday a week ago. I think we must be fair to those who have assisted in this work; it is producing a lot of good.

Adm. Stone: Has any survey been made of the needs in Sardinia?

Mr. Silber: I talked with Brigadier Dunlop about that. He said that with the exception of the capital city, the need was not great.

Brig. Parkinson: My experience with Sardinia is that there is a great amount of woolen material. The little children are well clothed in things made from wool.

Adm. Stone: What about that mining area?

Ing. Vicentini: The greatest need there is shoes.

Mr. Taylor: I asked a question some time ago whether we would have use for mobile kitchens in Italy such as the ones used in Britain that rushed in during disasters. Here it would be on a grand scale. That idea was discouraged. I would like to ask now about the need for ambulances.

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: I would suggest that we try to get as many as possible; they are badly needed.

Mr. Silber: We suggested 200 before as a minimum need.

Mr. Taylor: What exactly would you do with them?

Mr. Crawley: The Italian Red Cross is badly in need of ambulances.

Mr. Galeazzi: How many ambulances did the Italian Red Cross have? Many were taken away by the Germans.

Dr. Lapponi: About 80 ambulances were either destroyed or taken away from Rome.

Mr. Taylor: How many in the provinces?

Ing. Galeazzi: That might be the starting point--to find out what used to be the number in the Italian Red Cross before they were taken away. They surely have the records.

Adm. Stone: Were those 80 all in civilian use?

Ing. Galeazzi: Yes.

Mr. Taylor: We have obtained the 50 trucks. They are the result of some of donations of trucks. Toscanini donated three of them. We have the trucks; now is the time to ask for 100 ambulances.

Major McSweeney: We need tires for some of our vehicles. We get salvage tires in Naples, but a lot of them are nearly worn out.

Adm. Stone: Take it up with Densmore, and see if you can get some.

Brig. Parkinson: I put a priority bid yesterday for a shipment that is coming in.

Mr. Taylor: When the trucks arrive, what should we do with them? They have to be housed and cared for. They have to be assigned by American Relief for Italy to accomplish their particular work. I think ARI should keep them under their own name.

Adm. Stone: It means you will have to start an organization of drivers. The Vatican has a good transport system that might be followed.

Mr. Taylor: We have no money to pay for drivers or housing and servicing of these trucks. Who can take care of the trucks and service them? How are we going to allocate them? We do not want them standing idle.

Mr. Silber: The thought was expressed that American Relief for Italy will probably not require the full use of the 50 trucks. If some arrangement could be made with a military agency to house them and furnish the drivers, they in turn could have the use of them when ARI is not using them.

Mr. Taylor: I would like to have that studied and planned. That might be a way of getting them serviced and a good way to utilize them at all times.

Brig. Parkinson: The Italian Red Cross can find good use for some of these trucks. They are running six hospitals and want trucks for each of them.

Ing. Vicentini: These trucks can be utilized in relief work from Naples to Leghorn, so that the agencies who take care of the trucks would have to be a national organization.

Mr. Taylor: You who are active in this work should get together and

Draw up a plan--devise some alternatives. The supplies which are to arrive are as follows:

	Gross Weight in Pounds	Cubic Feet.
50 Ford trucks 1-1/2 tons (1944)	281,500	15,325
50 stake bodies for truck	66,750	4,280
Shoes	40,000	19,000
Clothing, used	500,000	40,000
Clothing, new	50,000	3,800
Medical supplies	10,000	800
Vitamins	1,350	90
Dextri Maltose with yeast and iron	4,800	120
Powdered whole milk	5,900	320
Sewing kits, needles thread	7,000	300
Evaporated milk	1,200,000	24,650
First aid kits	1,000	75
New Shoes	4,200	140
Shawls	18,000	1,800
Physicians instruments	400	15
Blankets	55,000	810
Macaroni	1,000	50
Soap	28,000	1,250
Powdered protein milk	9,960	450

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: The quantity of dried milk we plan to distribute is 94,000 pounds. That is 208,800 liters of milk, which is 853,560 quarter liter rations. With that quantity you could supply 13,926 children for two months--a quarter liter per day.

Mr. Taylor: Originally the supply was to last three months, but it was decided wiser to have a larger ration for a shorter time. Will the milk be given to the children once or twice a day?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: We will give the milk to the institutes, and they will distribute it daily on their own plan--some may give it out twice a day, others all at once. The milk is in storage in Rome and Naples. Dr. Canaperia gave me the list he received from the Ministry of Interior. It totals 130 institutes in Rome totalling about 4,000 under 10 years of age.

Mr. Taylor: Can you take care of 130 institutes?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: Yes, and we also have to take care of Naples.

Mr. Silber: We intend to give about a third to Rome.

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: We thought of establishing a little office that could deal with this question of milk distribution, and have a doctor there for consultation and supervision. We could publish in the paper that institutions having these children could apply at this office, so that if any institutions did not apply, it would be their own fault.

Mr. Silber: You will find that Col. Bizzozero's office has a complete list.

Col. Bizzozero: The thing that is important to me is to find out the exact amount of milk and the intention. We have been taking care of children up to one year of age--giving them 140 grams of milk. That has been done on a satisfactory basis. We have also been giving rations up to four years of age. I will be glad to give you the list that we have.

Mr. Taylor: If we run short, perhaps you can help us.

Brig. Parkinson: About the skimmed milk that has been used--we get reports every month about children getting skimmed milk.

Col. Bizzozero: We have been able to serve children up to one year of age with whole milk because we put aside a supply. The skimmed milk does not have enough caloric value. That will be corrected.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: There is a question concerning the dextri maltose milk and protein milk. I think in the last meeting we spoke of assigning this to special institutions or hospitals for sick children.

Col. Bizzozero: There is a little danger in assigning this type of milk. That is a thing that should be governed and supervised by physicians. I am afraid of diarrhea if the children are not used to the dextrose milk.

Mr. Taylor: What is a safe amount to give each day?

Col. Bizzozero: In the States we used to give a small amount three times a day mixed into a formula. The trouble is that you can't burn a dose of maltose over to the average mother. I think the mortality would arise in infants due to diarrhea unless this distribution of dextri-maltose and protein milk could be supervised by doctors or dieticians.

Mr. Taylor: Is the yeast in the same category?

Col. Bizzozero: Yeast is not dangerous to distribute. It is a good thing--will take the place of most of the vitamins. It could be put into a number of different foods nicely.

Mr. Taylor: What do you plan to do with that yeast?

Prof. Canaperia: It would be distributed in the institutions in Rome and Naples.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: We have a great quantity of yeast tablets--about 780,000. We also thought of taking care of the provinces with this supply.

Mr. Taylor: Do you know how to use the yeast?

Col. Bizzozero: It is harmless, but you must make sure that the tablets are going to be taken and used for the right purpose. I think in all these communes the best idea would be to give the tablets to the schools and have the nurses distribute them to the children. The other alternative is showing them how to make it into powder and put it into bread, jelly, cookies or peanut butter. If the yeast is distributed in the schools, I don't think we will have any trouble with it getting on the black market.

Mr. Taylor: Did we decide the distribution of the vitamins would have to be made every few weeks?

Prof. Canaperia: No, a distribution for two months would be all right.

Mr. Taylor: Are the vitamins and milk in balance so that they will last about the same length of time.

Prof. Canaperia: Yes.

Mr. Taylor: When can you start the distribution?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Tomorrow we will start the distribution in Rome.

Mr. Silber: Naples is now preparing a list of institutions. We will ship 1/3 of the supply in bulk to Naples.

Mr. Taylor: What other things are there in the medical line?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: We have some food bars.

Mr. Silber: We have 130,000 left. We will distribute these food bars once. In fact, I think it has been decided to distribute everything once except the milk--and to distribute the milk every 15 days.

Mr. Taylor: What about the surgical sets?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: The list is being prepared by the Italian Red Cross.

Mr. Taylor: One man came to get a set to take to Rimini. 30,000 people were taken out of Rimini and are now coming back. They have nothing in the way of clothing supplies. I have talked to Brig. Parkinson and Gen. Hume about it. The American Red Cross sent 30,000 garments to Arezzo, but someone came down last week and told the Crown Prince that there had been no distribution there. I said I didn't think it was true because before Christmas the Red Cross made a distribution there.

Mr. Crawley: That material arrived in December, and all of one shipment had been delivered to that area, and another was on its way.

Mr. Taylor: You feel then that that has been taken care of?

Mr. Crawley: I know that 28,000 pieces of clothing went there on the 18th for distribution. The communes should have received the distribution by now. An additional 15,000 pieces was held up because of transport, but since that time I understand it has been shipped from the warehouse. The town of Rimini has received over 30,000 or 40,000 garments; I know they have arrived and should be distributed by now.

Mr. Taylor: Of course we are interested sympathetically with all areas, but that is outside the released zone for the present.

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: We have 1,290 first aid kits which have not been allotted yet.

Prof. Canaperia: Most of them should be distributed in the communes of the devastated areas.

Mr. Silber: They are greatly needed in some of the more inaccessible places.

Mr. Taylor: Have the surgical sets been assigned?

Prof. Canaperia: Yes. The only thing is that the knives are missing from them.

Mr. Taylor: I wired to New York about that. The next subject is to consider whether we are justified at the present moment in making plans to distribute the new materials that are coming in to the area between our present operations and the line of the Allied Military Government in the north which would take a line above Viterbo.

Mr. Silber: From the Italian Government line north to what is the army line is a substantial distance, and it includes a great deal of devastated areas. Rieti is the line of the north. The only town of any size on the south is Viterbo.

Mr. Taylor: Are we in a position to say that when we have completed the distribution of the materials we have been discussing this

morning, we will suggest that operations begin in the northern area? That is the question.

Mr.Silber: I think we should consider the northern areas to receive distributions from the new merchandise yet to arrive. It would be a good idea for the ship to dock at a point north of the present line. Leghorn would be the best point of debarkation. We have to consider the availability of warehousing.

Mr.Taylor: If we know what we want to do in the whole area, it might be well to take the material from the ship and transport it inland immediately.

Mr.Crawley: Piombino, they say, has facilities which could be utilized for storage of clothing. The opportunities for securing storage space in Leghorn are very limited.

Mr.Taylor: Piombino was devastated when I was there.

Brig.Parkinson: I think we are looking way ahead--but Bologna might be a central place for distribution.

Mr.Silber: There is a little port near the town of Rossano which has warehousing facilities. There was a former motion picture theater there, and I think that building would make an adequate warehouse.

Mr.Taylor: There is a lot of study and consideration to be done. If we are right in taking on further responsibility in the matter of distribution, then we ought to begin at once to explore the situation.

Mr.Silber: It would be wise to have your warehousing close to your center of activity so that when the material arrived, you would be ready to go.

Mr.Taylor: You will plan to make a survey of that area.

Ing.Vicentini: Yes, we will plan to go to Leghorn and to Florence.

Mr.Taylor: Are there any other items you would ask to be sent from New York?

Ing.Vicentini: Last time we met we spoke about blankets and soap.

Mr.Taylor: We have advised them about that.

Brig.Parkinson: I have a letter that has just been received here which I think will require some investigation. (Brig.Parkinson read a letter concerning the refusal of an organization in one of the communes to give shoes to anyone who was not a member of the union). I just give you that for what it is worth. Evidently the situation is in hand now, and the distribution will be made, but it does show that these things will have to be watched.

Mr.Taylor: Have any of you heard of other occurrences similar to this?

Ing.Vicentini: No. We have a communal committee in each place composed of the Sindaco, the priest and the communal health officer. Generally these three authorities agree. There is a good control over the distribution. We have heard of no incidents of this kind in our distributions.

Brig.Parkinson: They are attempting something foreign to our method of distribution.

Prof. Canaperia: We did not go into the area you mention.

Brig. Parkinson: It must have been Red Cross material.

Mr. Taylor: Will you forward a copy of this complaint to the National Committee?

Ing. Vicentini: Yes. I think they were referring to shoes made by the Government.

Mr. Crawley: I cannot understand why the Red Cross would give all those shoes without additional supplies. It doesn't sound like our distribution.

Mr. Silber: It is understood that the next distribution authorized will be to Sicily after the Naples City. In carrying out our schedules we must put in our bids with APC. In advanced to insure transport. I would like to ask Ing. Vicentini when he will be ready for distribution for Foggia City. I have arranged the railroad trucks for the 29th.

Ing. Vicentini: I shall tell you this afternoon.

Mr. Silber: I will arrange transport whenever you are ready for Rome Province.

Ing. Vicentini: Two communes of Rome have their trucks.

Mr. Silber: The transport is arranged for Rome, and Naples will have its own.

Mr. Taylor: I think you should recognize the fact that we have free transport--on a free basis. Of course we could not pay, our funds go into supplies, not service and I think we owe a great deal to A.C. and AFHQ for their fine performance and the use of their facilities. I was thinking last night about the work of the National Committee. Continuous appeals have been made to the Government and to Ing. Galeazzi, representing the Vatican, for automobiles and trucks. Neither Agency has indicated that they could offer assistance in this regard. The National Committee at the present time is without any means of transport with the exception of automobiles rented from private owners paying from 700 to 1,000 lire a day for their use. The American priests have been furnished no transport by the Vatican. The travels of Father Markam in the Cassino area were made in a vehicle rented by the National Committee at a cost of 700 lire a day. Although the President and the Secretary of the Interior have been requested to requisition automobiles and have been given the names and addresses of automobiles, they have failed to act, and Ing. Vicentini is sure they will not act. No one in America or here thought of distribution in the beginning, we thought only of planning accumulation. There should be contribution of vehicles to stop the expenses of renting cars from private sources.

We will call another meeting as soon as questions come up. Our plans made here in the Advisory Group are only plans that we present to the National Committee, but I hope the National Committee will not release the use of materials unless first going through this process. It would cause confusion and competition.

Ing. Galeazzi: Mr. Vicentini can make the contact with the National Committee.

Mr. Taylor: If that ends the discussion, I would like to suggest that as many of us as possible ride out to the refugee camps.

Brig. Parkinson: I made arrangements to do that.

Major McSweeney: I would like to present a report which I took the liberty of preparing showing the breakdown of the communes. It might be of help for information concerning the different communes (Gave report to Ing. Vicentini).

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January 22, 1945

Meeting No. 11

Following are minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Group concerning relief held January 22, 1945 in the Office of Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy, Inc. Brig. G. S. Parkinson, D.S.O., Director of Public Health Subcommittee presided over the meeting in the absence of Mr. Taylor. In attendance were: Brig. Gen. Thoburn K. Brown, Commanding, Rome Area; Col. O. J. Bizzozero, Public Health Officer, Region IV, Allied Commission; Col. John McSweeney, Public Health and Welfare Officer, Subcommittee, Allied Commission; Mgr. John P. Carroll-Abbing, Director of Sanitary Services, Pontifical Commission for Aid to Refugees; Ing. G. B. Vicentini, Executive Director of E.N.D.S.I.; Prof. John A. Canaperia, M.D., Inspector General of Public Health Department of Ministry of Interior; Ing. Enrico P. Galeazzi, Architect of the Sacred Apostolic Palaces and Special Delegate to the Pontifical Commission of the State of the Vatican City; Dr. L. Laponi of the Italian Red Cross; Mr. Joseph S. Silber, American Red Cross, Acting Assistant to Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Thomas R. Bellantine, American Red Cross.

Brig. Parkinson: Mr. Taylor has asked me to conduct the meeting this morning in his absence. First I think it would be a good plan if we could review the situation up-to-date. We appreciate the presence of General Brown this morning, because we know he is a busy man, and his time is valuable. General Brown, do you know the situation up-to-date?

Gen. Brown: I only know what I saw when I went to visit some refugee camps with Mr. Taylor on Saturday.

Mr. Silber: I might report briefly on the progress of distribution in the provinces of Littoria and Frosinone. All the supplies allocated have already been delivered within the provinces. I am advised as of today that all the clothing will be distributed from the warehouses to the communes of Littoria. The distribution is not so far advanced in Frosinone. In Naples a determination has been made as to what clothing should go there, including the ten communes outside the city of Naples. Altogether 79,000 people will be served, of whom 20,000 live in the communes and 59,000 in the city of Naples. We are making a little different distribution in Naples than ordinary in that we are giving first priority of clothing to a group people called "impiegati"--people who are earning less than 2,500 lire a month. They have been caught in the vise of being neither rich nor paupers. Next in order of priority come (1) the aged, who are living on inadequate pensions; (2) the bombed-out; (3) the destitute; (4) refugees.

The next project is the one of Sicily. Ing. Vicentini and myself are going to Sicily this week for the purpose of determining what the clothing needs are. We have already arranged with the Subcommittee for transport for the week of January 29th. In the provinces of the Abruzzi all the clothing has been delivered, end--as far as we know--the distribution has been made. (Mr. Silber submitted a progress report for the week commencing January 22, 1945--see attached).

Ing. Vicentini: With the exception of a small part of the provinces of Aquile and Campobasso where the roads are blocked by snow.

Mr. Silber: In the Province of Rome allocation has been made, and delivery will be made this week.

Ing. Vicentini: Total allocations have been made for 120,000 people in Rome Province, including the City of Rome.

Mr. Silber: That brings us up-to-date except for milk and vitamins.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Up to the present milk and vitamins have been distributed to 4,902 children in 94 orphanages and institutions in Rome. I think our first figure of 8,000 children will not be exaggerated. I think they can count on about 130 institutes altogether in Rome. We will make distributions to the children's hospitals, but instead of giving the children ordinary powdered milk, they will be given a quantity of dextri-maltose and protein milk in addition to the vitamins. In this way the special types of milk will be used more efficaciously, and there will be greater security in regard to medical control. I think that in two days we will have finished the distribution of milk in the City of Rome. We then plan to set up the same organization in Naples and to distribute milk to about 5,000 children there.

Brig. Parkinson: We decided the distribution was to be twice monthly.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: After seeing the first distribution, we decided to give the whole quantity, because it is quite a big job to give out the milk. The people bring along their carts and take away a couple of barrels in some places. It saves time and transport.

Mr. Silber: In view of the fact that you are giving them eight weeks' supply instead of two, is there any way to check the distribution?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Yes. We have two doctors to check and make an inspection once a month.

Brig. Parkinson: I think it is very important that we keep a careful check of the milk.

Col. Bizzozero: We will help out on that too.

Mr. Silber: Colonel Bizzozero, we talked to you, and we talked to Captain Brown about this--we will have a very substantial supply of milk, in excess of 1,000,000 tins. We hope your office will have completed the survey concerning the milk, so that when it arrives, we can plan on a much broader distribution.

Col. Bizzozero: That will be completed.

Mr. Silber: We think we will have enough milk to supply 50,000 children in Rome and Naples for six months.

Brig. Parkinson: I think that is very cheering news!

Mr. Silber: When you think on the basis of 50,000 children, do think you would have to go outside of institutions to reach that number?

Col. Bizzozero: You would have to go into the schools. Schools are the place to go.

Mr. Silber: In that way we could furnish milk to children who need it, and at the same time stimulate school attendance.

Col. Bizzozero: The families would be glad to see it handled that way.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: About the clothing situation--I wonder if anything could be done for some of the institutions in Rome if we do find the clothing/ The situation in some of them is very bad indeed. Many of the children coming to school from outside Rome are without clothing. They are usually the children coming from former battle areas.

Brig. Parkinson: All the clothing distribution is settled up-to-date?

Mr. Silber: Until Ing. Vicentini can tell us what is unallocated. We cannot tell what will be left until Naples, Foggia and Rome are completed. We can then determine the next allocation. We know there will be some left.

Ing. Vicentini: After distribution to Sicily and Calabria, we will have about 16,000 bales. We have 28,000 bales.

Mr. Silber: You have 28,000 bales left after distribution to Frosinone and Littorie.

Brig. Parkinson: That is a good balance. These bales do not always contain children's clothing, do they?

Ing. Vicentini: Only a few have children's clothing; the most part contain clothing for women. There is also a quantity of cloth in Italy now, amounting to about 25,000 meters, that we can buy from the military. That is not free.

Col. McSweeney: May I ask Mgr. Carroll-Abbing--would it be better to distribute the unmade materials to the institutions than to the people?

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: Yes, it would be more practical.

Mr. Silber: Is it your intention that ENDSI buy this material and distribute it free? There is a matter of policy involved.

Mgr. Carroll-Abbing: It is a question for the Government.

Ing. Vicentini: We are making clothing for the children from the American material.

Brig. Parkinson: A great danger arises here as in the case of the American Red Cross in the early days. We are getting some clothing from other sources, and the question came up of whether it should be paid for. Mr. Jefferson of the Red Cross did not want to be mixed up in any way with any clothing that was sold. The Red Cross has always distributed on a free basis, and if it got home that relief clothing was being sold, I think the reaction would be bad. My own feeling is that if ENDSI is distributing on a free basis, that danger will be avoided.

Ing. Galeazzi: We were mentioning the material from America.

Mr. Silber: There are only 8,000 meters of that now here. We have made no special allocation for any group.

Ing. Galeazzi: Couldn't it be allocated for the special purpose of supplying clothing to the children in schools and institutions that Mgr. Carroll-Abbing mentioned?

Mr. Silber: It could if this council decided to recommend such.

Ing. Galeazzi: They could be given samples and asked to make the clothing just according to the samples.

Mr. Silber: The material from America is being made up. Next week it can be determined here whether it shall be put into the general pool or not.

Brig. Parkinson: The other matter is about the 25,000 or 26,000 yards that will have to be purchased.

Ing. Galeazzi: It could be purchased by some other institute and turned over to the ENDSI for free distribution.

Brig. Parkinson: That is quite a different thing. I think it is a mistake to get mixed up with anything, though, that is not distributed on a free basis.

Mr. Silber: Yes, if someone buys the cloth and turns it over to ENDSI to distribute free, that is another matter. The question was raised at a meeting a week or so ago about an allocation for repatriated Italian prisoners of war returning from the Balkans. Nothing has been determined about them.

Brig. Parkinson: That allocation has not been made yet.

Ing. Galeazzi: I think something has been arranged by JUNTA.

Mr. Silber: Mr. Taylor suggested that the full situation be presented in regard to the needs of these people. We will pass on it in the next meeting. No allocation should be made to any group unless it is first agreed upon here.

Ing. Vicentini: We talked about this situation in our last meeting. The JUNTA also met and talked about it. It is a very urgent question. These people are dying!

Brig. Parkinson: Has any clothing reached them yet?

Ing. Vicentini: No, it is all in Naples.

Mr. Silber: I think the fact that the JUNTA has approved it should be made known to this group, together with full information concerning the project, and the actual allocation not made until and unless it bears the form of an approval of this Advisory Group.

Ing. Galeazzi: If this Council could just make a proposal and submit it to Mr. Taylor for his approval.

Ing. Vicentini: I have information from the Italian Ministry of War and from the Vatican that these refugees are without clothing. They are all men--no women or children.

Ing. Galeazzi: Are they still in Bari?

Ing. Vicentini: Part of them are in Bari and part in Terronto.

Ing. Galeazzi: If they are all in these two places, it would be a question of shipping this clothing from Naples to Bari and Terronto. There is a Vatican organization taking care of prisoners of war who are coming back to Italy. The Vatican has been asked by the Italian Foreign Ministry to do all possible in the way of a welfare program to these people. I think the information we have about them is quite complete.

Brig. Parkinson: Doesn't MMIA come into the picture?

Ing. Vicentini: The Military Government will give clothing only to those people who are in the Italian army.

Ing. Galeazzi: These are not prisoners of war actually. They are soldiers who were in the Balkans when the armistice was signed. They were in danger of being taken by the Germans. They are now coming back to Italy.

Brig. Parkinson: They are possible recruits for the army. What I am thinking of is this: I saw a letter from AFHQ regarding clothing for the Italian Army. The Italian Army gets first priority, patriots second, and civilians last. Although you are considering an allocation of 10,000, I think it is wise to consider whether there is any other source from which they can get clothing.

Ing. Vicentini: I was told not.

Brig. Parkinson: If they are going into the army, they will be taken care of.

Ing. Vicentini: Yes, but there are those who are going back to their homes.

Ing. Galeazzi: I think it would be a good thing to find out from the War Office whether these men are going back into the army or not.

Mr. Silber: The information I have is that there are 3,000 of these men in the camps. All but 3,000 have been disbanded. Many have gone home; others have gone on leave. If we had a little more specific information, we could make better plans. If it is very urgent, I think the group could have a special meeting during the week.

Brig. Parkinson: I think it is advisable, too, that Ing. Vicentini get more specific information concerning the number of these people and their needs.

Ing. Vicentini: I made a report of the situation on January 15.

Brig. Parkinson: You have told us what supplies you have; you will have about 8,000 bales.

Mr. Silber: Roughly--about 500 tons.

Ing. Galeazzi: When is the next landing of supplies expected?

Ing. Vicentini: The middle of February.

Mr. Silber: There will be 1,000 tons of materials and 50 trucks.

Brig. Parkinson: I think you have done very well to get a priority to the middle of February. I didn't think you would get the material before March.

Mr. Silber: Does anyone have a further idea where we could go in the area south of Rome? I might mention here that the personnel officer of Sardinia was here Saturday. I think we should discuss that matter.

Col. McSweeney: That program has been carried on by Col. McPhee under Dunlop. 15,000 pairs of shoes have been allocated to Sardinia. 13,000 have gone. 5,000 pairs of shoes sold to people in the individual areas--mostly to miners.

Ing. Galeazzi: The miners should receive first priority on the shoes. It is most urgent, because they can produce more coal.

Col. McSweeney: Contrary to the first report, the people in Sardinia do need clothing.

Brig. Parkinson: In the areas where distributions have been made, do the people seem to be satisfied with what they are getting?

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: Yes, they are genuinely satisfied.

Ing. Vicentini: I found in the Abruzzi that the people were very pleased.

Brig. Parkinson: What is the present situation concerning the hospitals which you are setting up at Cassino?

Ing. Vicentini: We have had some difficulty with the transport of the materials.

Dr. Canaperis: Work was started on the first one last week, and it will be open and ready for use at the end of the month if the weather is good.

Mr. Silber: A good deal of the material has already been transported there. Now what about the milk distribution for the refugee camps in Rome?

Dr. Canaperis: There are two camps here in Rome to which milk and vitamins will be distributed for children and coffee for adults.

Mr. Silber: Are you going to start the work reasonably soon?

Dr. Canaperis: We expect to build up two of the small barracks, one at each end of the refugee camps, as a center for the distribution. We are going ahead.

Brig. Parkinson: They were going to try to move the refugees out of the camps, but at the second one we visited the other day women were coming up begging to stay.

Dr. Canaperis: Yes, I spoke to the High Commissioner of Refugees. They are going to stay for awhile. They are waiting for other refugees from the north.

Mr. Silber: There are still 1,000 refugees at Cesano. They were planning to close that camp up too.

Dr. Canaperis: There are still refugees there, and they will not be moved if they do not have another place to go.

Mr. Carroll-Abbing: They have started an agricultural center there. It would be a pity for them to move.

Mr. Silber: The A.C. has been four months rehabilitating that camp, and now they are going to lose it.

Col. McSweeney: UNRRA came in to see me about getting canvas. General Brown, do you have any canvas?

General Brown: We don't have any. We have to get it from PBS.

Col. McSweeney: We used to get it from Naples, but it is piled outdoors down there and is deteriorating. If we get a large supply, we can give you some for the refugee camps.

General Brown: We are glad to help all we can.

* * * * *

February 22, 1945.

Miss Tully:

To show to Mr. Hopkins and then
file.

F.D.R.

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

*Miss Tully
Sgt. Mr. Hopkins
see*

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Myron Taylor folder
DIVISION OF ⁴⁻⁴⁵
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DT-1753

This telegram must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. [REDACTED]

Vatican City

Dated January 31, 1945

Rec'd. 2:43 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. 1-11-72

By J. Schauble Date FEB 22 1972

29, January 31, 4 p.m.

FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

On Tuesday morning I introduced the Honorable
Harry Hopkins to His Holiness Pope Pius in private aud-
ience. The audience lasted approximately forty minutes
in which time Mr. Hopkins was given opportunity to men-
tion freely such subjects as he had been commissioned by
the President to discuss and the Pope had opportunity to
express his reaction and to offer any suggestions which
he desired to do. In view of the fact that Mr. Hopkins
will be returning to America in the not too distant future
and will be reporting to the President himself in the
meantime I will refrain from further detailed description
of this exchange of views. I would say that in all
respects Mr. Hopkins statements accord with my own on
the occasion of my many audiences with His Holiness during
the year and that the reaction of His Holiness was also in
conformity

(Copy of this telegram filed - Harry Hopkins folder, 2-45)

-2-#29, January 31, 4 p.m., from Vatican City

conformity to the reports which as a result of nearly weekly audiences I have presented by telegram and secret letters to the President. I believe Mr. Hopkins' visit was timely and helpful and I was very happy to see him and to be with him on such a memorable occasion.

MYRON TAYLOR

DU

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Myron Taylor folder

4-45

February 24, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. Harry L. Hopkins.

Referred.

F. D. R.

Mimeographed copy of telegram which the Secretary of State received from Taylor, Vatican City, 2/12/45, for the President and the Secretary, quoting message from General McNarney, AFHQ, in re tonnage allocation of 800 tons per month.

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hms

Myron Taylor folder

4-45

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 26, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Harry Hopkins.

To read and return, and file.

F. D. R.

Ltr. to the President, 1-4-45, from
Myron C. Taylor, re American relief for
Italy.

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

Myron Taylor folder
DIVISION OF *4-42*
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

LC-812
This telegram must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. [REDACTED]

Vatican City

Dated February 28, 1945

Rec'd 6:54 a.m., March 1st

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 611-
By J. Scheuble Date FEB 22 1972

51, February 28, 4 p.m.

FOR PRESIDENT ONLY.

At an audience with Holy Father this morning which he stated to be first audience which he has granted since attack of influenza which prevented audiences for past two weeks, the Pope first expressed his interest and concern for your own health and welfare having in mind the Crimean Conference, its disclosed results and proposed San Francisco Conference showing great interest in each but without recording any specific opinions beyond the general statement that the great nations as well as the lesser ones were moving toward a more cooperative understanding of their opportunities and he believed their corresponding obligations.

He expressed the thought that the Germans were continuing to wage a hopeless war and that controlling powers in

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-2-#51, February 28, 4 p.m., from Vatican City

powers in Germany were determined to fight to the end always hoping for some compromise short of unconditional surrender. His Holiness of his own accord stated that this result was "impossible".

The Pope indicated much concern over the attitude of Russia towards himself and towards the Vatican in that the attacks on both were unwarranted and many of the statements such as the one regarding appointment of an Italian Government Ambassador to Spain being a Vatican appointment was false. He stated that Vatican had its own Mission in Spain and was not active in any way in selection of Italian Government Ambassador. He expressed great concern at general conduct of Communists toward church in Russia, Yugoslavia and elsewhere. We reviewed Russian religious question along lines of my past reports and conversations and in a general way in light of presence in Moscow of Edward Flynn which has been published in STARS AND STRIPES. No new feature developed in this field.

I conveyed to His Holiness substance of message regarding reeducation in Germany as indicated in your recent telegram with which the Pope was much pleased. I also brought to his attention matter of

possible

-3-#51, February 28, 4 p.m., from Vatican City

possible leakages of information as indicated in Department's 24, February 22 which greatly surprised him. He expressed positive confidence no leakages occurred at Vatican. I mentioned the recent de Gaulle incident and gained impression that His Holiness felt that de Gaulle had shown supersensitiveness and lack of judgment.

TAYLOR

BB

Myron Taylor folder
4-43

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 3, 1945.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE:

FOR PERSONAL PREPARATION OF
REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE.

F.D.R.

Personal letter to the President, 2-16-45
from Hon. Myron C. Taylor, Rome, Italy, with
attached Personal and Strictly Confidential
letter from Mr. Taylor of same date, re
Italian situation.

DECLASSIFIED
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.
By W. J. Stewart Date FEB 22 1972

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

Myron Taylor folder
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION *4-45*

DCG-480
This telegram must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. ~~(SECRET)~~

Vatican City

Dated March 5, 1945

Rec'd 8:50 a.m. 6th.,

Secretary of State,
Washington.

55, March 5, 6 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT

Herbert Matthews, special correspondent of NEW YORK
TIMES, who leaves Rome tomorrow recently requested an
audience with His Holiness which we arranged for this
morning. I presented him. The discussion following might
be of interest to you.

Matthews informed the Pope that a reliable acquaintance
had just returned from northern Italy after spending several
weeks in Milan, Turin and other centers and indicated that
Communist propaganda in the Italian Army was active and that
Tito had a representative in practically every regiment.
He felt that a dangerous moment would occur at time of
release of northern Italy from German occupation but that
mass of population in northern Italy as well as in Italy
generally was not interested as yet in the Communist doctrine
or activity. He indicated that in the military places in
the Adriatic the British had advised Tito that he was

expected

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

-2-#55, March 5, 6 p.m. from Vatican City.

expected to take Trieste and that this seemed to be at variance with previous statements that Trieste would be jointly occupied by the Allies until further disposition by the United Nations.

Before the interview ended I suggested perhaps Matthews might speak about the French situation. Matthews showed concern over de Gaulle's individualism and expressed criticism of his failure to accept the invitation for a meeting at Algiers.

Matthews is being assigned to London after a visit to the United States but he expressed preference for continuance in Rome. His Holiness expressed the hope that he would return to Rome. It might be interesting for you to receive Matthews on his return and examine him in relation to the foregoing. The reason for securing a private audience for Matthews was in a measure to offset the recent secret audience, by now public, of Henry Taylor as this may help allay probable discomfiture of other press representatives.

TAYLOR

WFS

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

Myron Taylor folder 4-45

March 6, 1945

file
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Dear Mr. President;

You will recall that last July I sent you a memorandum describing a conversation that I had with former Prime Minister Orlando who spoke very freely to me in regard to the Italian situation. I have seen Orlando occasionally since that time but our conversation produced nothing new or at variance with the one reported to you. Last week, however, I met him at luncheon, after which we had a further discussion of the Italian situation. I based my questions to him on the substance of the statement which I recently sent to you on that subject which undertook to describe the six party system and an impression as to the future development of a strong and permanent system of government in this country. He became interested in the points which I advanced, and on yesterday sent me a memorandum which I am enclosing herewith for your information. I believe you will find it of interest and of use. In this hope and with kindest regards, believe me

Sincerely,

Myron Taylor

Enclosure:

As stated.

The President,
The White House,
Washington.

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

Confidential

February 27, 1945

TRANSLATION

Mr. M. T. will recall perhaps a conversation which I had with him about six months ago and will remember that the predictions which I then made were rather pessimistic, especially with regard to the following points:

- 1) The manner in which the Italian Government was constituted and which had in itself the germs of anarchy;
- 2) The moral depression of the Italian people to which the humiliating treatment on the part of the Allies was contributing.

The period of time which has elapsed since that conversation portrays the unavoidable deterioration of these two factors in consequence of which the present Italian situation is one of profound anxiety being so full of dangers and menaces.

Wishing to devote some brief comments to the two causes mentioned above and considering first the internal political situation, this period may be described as the absolute government of a directorate composed of six parties. The government has now the possibility of passing any law (namely, powers that are greater than those of any parliament) without there being any basis of legality. Therefore it is a Government of fact which can do anything without giving any guarantee. These words are tantamount to calling it a dictatorial and totalitarian government with the only difference, as compared with Fascism, that one loses the only advantage of a dictatorial government under which one has to obey a single person, whereas in this situation one has to obey to six parties. In conclusion, the Government in Italy is powerless to do good and likewise to prevent evil.

The contrast which immediately developed between monarchy and republic after the first intervention of the Allies had

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been

been wisely postponed until a popular referendum might be held after the victory against the common enemy. In the interim a period of truce was established. The significance of this decision implied that not one of the six parties should in any way prejudice the future form of the State; but it signified above all the maintenance of peace within the country in such a manner that any political party interest or tendency would be eliminated throughout the time of the truce. But instead it was not so. Of the six parties, four (the Communist, the Socialist, the Action and the Democracy of Labor) have already made statements in a republican sense and are openly acting in that way; the other two parties (the Labor and the Christian Democratic) have refrained from committing themselves; but being concerned with greater evils they have considered it wise policy to avoid placing themselves in open conflict with the extreme parties. The conclusion has been, as it could only be, that these extreme parties have taken the upper hand so that such political activity as this weak government may perform is entirely along radical lines. There is a Lieutenant (of the Realm) who represents the dynasty and who should be the head of the State, for whom the partisans, who are also part of the Government, do not spare insults, this being carried to a point where the Prince is practically prevented from taking any part in the national feasts and solemnities, even where there may not be any political controversy, such as for example, the day of Sunday, February 18th, which was dedicated to celebrating the courage of the soldiers and partisans.

In conclusion therefore the truce is not at all observed, this being to the advantage of the revolutionary parties. But above all this helps the Communist party which has clearly gained absolute predominance. One may say that it is the

master of the situation. It must be truly admitted that the method of penetration of the Communist party is one of extreme ability. It makes every effort not to annoy the bourgeoisie while at the same time it succeeds in demolishing it. A powerful weapon along these lines has been the so-called epuration process which is apparently directed towards the residues of Fascism but which in practice strikes at the intellectual classes who in twenty-five years could hardly have avoided Fascist influence. On the other hand, it is generally believed that by joining the Communist party one avoids being epurated and that one can thereby be pardoned for having belonged to Fascism; therefore the most aggressive elements of Fascism have gone to swell the ranks of the Communists. The latter are perfectly and militarily organized. They are amply provided with funds. It is more or less humorously said that the only gold bars existing in Italy belong to the Communists. Recently this party made a vigorous campaign in favor of having men recalled to arms; many feel that this may serve to introduce Communism in the ranks of the Army in order that at the time of the insurrection instead of repressing the uprising the Army would cooperate with the insurgents.

It is not necessary to insist to come to the conclusion that without doubt the policy which has been followed up to now has had the effect of increasing the forces of the Communist party. If this is what the Allied had in mind they may congratulate themselves on a success which exceeds all expectations. If the contrary is true they should have grave and well-founded reasons for feeling concerned. From the origin of the evil the indication of the remedy may be found, namely, the reconstruction of that state of truce, which had been established at the time of the agreements of

Naples

Naples and by reverting to the situation as it was at that time. This will not be easy, but an attempt might be made by preventing a worsening of the situation and by curtailing the heedless anarchy of the six parties. An attempt might be made to reconstitute a government, even by trying to maintain the basis of the existing parties, by imposing conditions to prevent its being tyrannical. Absolute ministerial solidarity should be demanded through which the members of the Government would not retain their quality of party men but one of solidarity in a common action. Such common action which should be above all partisan struggles ought to lead towards the unity of the nation in order to withstand the present state of emergency. With such a policy there should be correlated all a concrete program of Government action, the details of which cannot be covered in this brief review.

Now to consider the second part, namely, the reasons for the moral collapse of Italy insofar as it may be connected with the depressing and humiliating action exercised by the Allies, it is certain that the Italians in the nine months which have elapsed since the liberation of Rome have suffered delusions which have weakened their initial enthusiastic adherence to the course of the United Nations. I say this above all not in a material but in a spiritual sense. Not only have the Italians been treated with diffidence but frequently also with enmity and a contempt which has deeply wounded their national sensibility. The most characteristic example of this still remains the refusal of Italy's request, which could not be more noble nor more disinterested, to fight against the Germans. No stretch of the mind can admit that in nine months it has not been possible to grant Italy's request to send more than two divisions to the front. With a little more good will there might have been at least ten
Italian

Italian divisions, thus rendering much lighter the war effort of the Allies on the Italian front. But this is not all: these two divisions are not grouped under a single command, but dispersed and assigned to several army corps! A recent investigation of these Italian troops at the front disclosed that their morale is excellent but that there is much dissatisfaction because their troops are kept in a state of mortifying inactivity and are not under a single command.

It is but natural for Italians to believe that the Allies do not wish Italy to rearm. How can this paradox be explained considering that such a rearmament would be in the interest of the very Allies? Evidently one must look for a bad reason, such as on the one hand the desire to see Italy as a wholly discredited political power, and on the other hand to see Italy reduced to such a state of moral prostration which would make possible all territorial amputations, whereby Italy sees herself threatened on all her borders.

With such a humiliating state of the Italian situation there is linked the ever increasing penetration of communism, which in this field takes on the form of pro-Slavism. It is no secret for any one that Italian communism is ready to sacrifice all the Italian national rights of her eastern border. This has been indirectly confirmed by a recent article of the official newspaper of the Communist Party, which made it clearly understood that Trieste must be sacrificed to the Yugoslav claims. The point has been reached at which there are in Italy Yugoslav committees who are not only extending relief to persons from Trieste who are of the Slav race (which would be just), but these committees are also extending relief to Italians from Istria to whom succour is given on condition that they will renounce to their rights as Italian nationals!

I have wished to make it clear that the principal causes

of the present gravity of the Italian situation are of a spiritual and political nature rather than of a material and economic nature. In the latter sense it is a comfort to see that the winter which was so dreaded has mostly gone by, not without grave sacrifices, which have been overcome in a rather satisfactory manner. This has been made possible through the spirit of endurance and adaptation to hardship which is peculiar to the Italian people. But it has also been possible through the action of the Allied Governments which, with the immense difficulties of a world-wide nature, have done all in their power with truly beneficial results. This however does not do away with the fact that we are heading towards grave dangers in Italy which is reduced to the most pitiful conditions, without railways, without ships, without roads, without industries, with its lands flooded or impoverished by lack of fertilizer, with over one million structures to be rebuilt for the minimum housing requirements of the people. Over the threat of an economic nature there looms that of monetary bankruptcy, the consequences of which would be incalculable.

On the other hand, it is well to note however that the majority of the Italians have observed two sentiments and two lines of conduct among the Allies: one tends to admit Italy among the United Nations, with all the restrictions which are required by the situation; the other tendency is one of an openly stated policy of greater severity. It must be sincerely recognized that out of the clash of these two tendencies thus far the more severe one has prevailed. This fact is very sad but because if this manner of treatment towards Italy continues it will be impossible to avoid the total collapse of all of our internal resistance. Italy, which is already profoundly agitated and divided by the

grave territorial mutilations by which it feels itself threatened will undergo a long period of anarchy and revolt and will without doubt be an element of political and social disorder and upheaval for Europe and perhaps for the world. If, on the other hand, Italy which has so many hidden energies, could reinstate itself she would be able to collaborate towards the welfare of civilization.

* * * * *

Post Scriptum

These notes had already been written prior to the announcement of the modifications made by the Allied Governments to the conditions of the Italian Armistice, as notified to the Italian Government by the Allied Commission. It is not possible to pass judgment on the concrete results of these modifications but one sees with satisfaction a more cordial tone towards Italy and especially gratifying has been the recognition of the fact that the war against the United Nations was not wanted by the Italian people.

Rome, February 27, 1945.

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

M. Taylor Fadden 4-45-

file

Rome, Italy, March 15, 1945.

~~SECRET~~ (Copy to Secretary Stettinius)

Dear Mr. President:

In view of the telegraphic correspondence that we recently had in respect to the alleged disclosure of secret conversations between the Pope and myself, the most recent one being in respect to Japan, I feel for the benefit of the record and for your own information a review of some of the incidents in this field may be desirable. To that end I recite the following:

Italy entered the war in 1940. A year later (1941) when I was in Rome, a statement was made through the NEW YORK TIMES by its Rome correspondent, that I had made a request of the pope that he deliver a condemnation of the Nazis and that the Pope had refused to do so. The publication of this statement had received wide publicity and at the instance of the pope himself the OSSERVATORE ROMANO, in a special box item on the front page denied that I had ever made such a request. Upon being queried by interested associates, the TIMES correspondent asserted that he had been informed by someone inside the vatican to that effect. He was asked to check with his informant and found his informant had left the city and was not expected to return for some time. This apocryphal news item was, however, repeated at intervals thereafter in the press and in periodicals.

I brought the recent Japanese episode to the personal attention of the Pope who was surprised and shocked, indicating definitely that our conversations were strictly secret and that this was particularly the case with those communications which I reduced to long hand and sent to you, Mr. president, in person.

The following evening Mr. Gowen received a telephone call requesting him to call upon Monsignor Tardini at the Vatican Secretariat of State that evening. With my approval Mr. Gowen did so, and the question of a leakage of information regarding

The President

The White House

Washington.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By J. Schauble Date FEB 22 1972

the conversations between His Holiness and myself was introduced by Monsignor Tardini, who gave Mr. Gowen the following information:

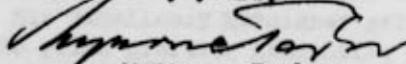
Speaking in strict confidence, Mons. Tardini pointed out that two discredited Italian newspaper men by name of Scatolini and Setaccioli "write and sell fantastic news items" for which they get about 5,000 lire or \$50 a month from various subscribers, a number of whom at least are understood to be members of the Diplomatic Corps accredited to the Holy See. Tardini pointed out that these news items which are entirely or partly apocryphal, appear weekly or even daily, according to the prevailing political atmosphere. Mons. Tardini referred to them as "wholesale lies" intended to discredit the Holy See by showing that it cannot be trusted. He added that in the opinion of some people these articles may be inspired by anti-Vatican elements. He explained that these items are quite well written in that they are always quite plausible, and that to his knowledge an Ambassador to the Holy See who had been making use of them finally discovered that they were pure fabrications when he read in one of them a conversation which he was alleged to have had with the Holy Father, but which in fact was purely imaginary.

Mons. Tardini furnished copies of these bogus news sheets of which a few are summarized in translation and enclosed herewith. He also pointed out that one of the newspaper men mentioned was formerly in the employ of the OSSERVATORE ROMANO, and that because of his contacts and past association with Vatican officials he is able to convey the idea that he is really "in the know", which Mons. Tardini says is not at all the case.

This review of the matter should lead to the conclusion that we should be reluctant to accept as authentic, or to be too greatly influenced by rumors or reports on Vatican matters until they have received appropriate confirmation.

With kindest regards, believe me

Sincerely yours,



Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:

Specimens of apocryphal
Vatican News (translation)

SPECIMENS OF APOCRYPHAL VATICAN NEWS ITEMS WHICH
ARE CURRENTLY CIRCULATED IN ROME

His Excellency Amleto Cicognani, Apostolic delegate in the United States, in reply to a follow-up request from the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, that he should explore the ground at the White House for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not there is a possibility for the Holy See to offer its good offices to the Governments in London and Washington for a solution of the Pacific conflict, sent his reply to the Vatican by cable which was received on Monday, December 4. The proposed mediation was to have taken place prior to the meeting of Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill.

In his cablegram the Apostolic Delegate stated that in consequence of the steps taken by him he has come to the conclusion that even though such an offer of good offices on the part of the Holy See were carried out personally by the Pope it would have very little possibility of being accepted by the Allies because in the opinion of the latter they believe that Japan wishes to take advantage of temporary gains which it has scored in China but which the Allies are sure to wipe out in a short time. Monsignor Cicognani pointed out that the viewpoints of Japan and the Allies are so far apart at present that no mediation is possible.

* * * * *

On December 11, 1944 the Holy Father had a long conversation with His Excellency, Monsignor Domenico Tardini, Secretary of Extraordinary Affairs, through which he was informed in detail concerning all the data which it has been possible to gather on the Spanish situation. After this conversation the Pope called for Monsignor Pio Rossignani, His personal Secretary, and dictated three long letters to him. One of these was addressed to General Franco and was carried to him by a Secretary of the Secretariat of State; another letter was addressed to the Archbishop of Westminster, His Excellency Monsignor Bernard Griffin, who was instructed to show it to Prime Minister Churchill; the third letter was delivered to His Excellency, Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness.

* * * * *

In the audience granted to Ambassador Myron C. Taylor, personal Representative of President Roosevelt, on December 12, 1944, various subjects were examined and discussed, such as relief to Italy, religious life in the United States, Christmas welfare, etc.

Among other subjects the position of the Argentine with regard to the other Republics on the American Continent was examined with particular reference to the United States and the attitude of Catholics in the Argentine, elsewhere in Latin America and in the United States with regard to the situation in question.

The Pope made a point to request the Ambassador to assure the President of the United States that the Catholics of Latin America, in so far as this may be possible to the Holy See, will receive directives not to support any Argentine policy which might not be in accord with the Pan American Union and American Continental solidarity. Argentine Catholics will also be instructed to favor as much as possible harmony on the American continent.

* * * * *

His Excellency de Gasperi, new Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has had a long conversation with His Excellency Monsignor Domenico Tardini, President of the Pontifical Commission for Russia.

In this conversation Monsignor Tardini informed Signor de Gasperi of the present status of the preparatory steps taken by the Holy See to reach a convenient basis for possible negotiations.

Nowadays the problem of the relations between the Holy See and Russia is not at all satisfactory. As a matter of fact a solution appears to be far off, if not impossible. In their conversation these two personalities decided that Signor de Gasperi would meet the Soviet Ambassador to Rome with a view to agreeing upon a possible way out of this state of affairs in order that the problem may resume a progressive development.

* * * * *

His Excellency Monsignor William Godfrey, Apostolic Delegate at London, on Monday, December 18, 1944, sent a telegraphic report to the Holy See in which, among other things, he referred to the grave situation

confronting the new Polish Government of London after Churchill's speech to the Commons. The Polish Prime Minister finds himself unable to carry out any useful action in the interest of his country and has already indicated his intention of resigning. The Polish Government at London is seriously discussing the desirability of the Prime Minister's resignation and the return to power of Mikolajczyk.

* * * * *

At an audience granted him by the Pope, His Excellency Myron Taylor, Personal Representative of the President of the United States to the Holy Father informed the Pope of the satisfactory results of the preparatory phase of the forthcoming tripartite conference of Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill. Mr. Taylor also communicated to the Holy Father that the President will be willing to mention to Stalin that the United States would be glad if the relations between the Holy See and the Soviet Union might develop into a harmonious atmosphere so as to prepare the road to a future understanding to their mutual interest. Mr. Taylor also said that President Roosevelt would inform Stalin of the general line along which these relations might be accomplished according to the information which the Holy See has already communicated to the White House.

* * * * *

Monsignor Liberato Testi, Chargé d'Affaires of the Holy See to Paraguay, has sent a radio message to the Holy See reporting that a group of Argentine Priests and other Argentine Catholics who have been refugees at Assuncion for some time because they were persecuted by the Government of Buenos Aires for political reasons are about to return to the Argentine as they have been informed that the moment has come for them to participate in the action to overthrow the present political situation there. However, the Chargé d'Affaires has deemed it advisable to seek the intervention of the Archbishop to prevent the departure of at least the priests since they are under the ecclesiastical authorities and might create embarrassment to the Holy See. With regard to the other members of the group who are not priests the Chargé d'Affaires was unable to take any action and they have already left.

* * * * *

His Excellency Monsignor Paolo Marella, Apostolic Delegate in Japan, has sent a telegraphic report to the Holy See stating that

Monsignor Pietro Tatsuo Doi, Archbishop of Tokyo, has reported that he had received a visit from a group of the most authoritative leaders of the Japanese industrial world by whom he was informed that if the Holy See could make a valid offer of mediation with a view to obtaining possible peace terms from the United States and the British Empire they might take very active steps to overrule the military element and bring Japan to a solution of the conflict through negotiation. The present time is considered most favorable for such a purpose.

* * * * *

His Excellency Monsignor Vladislo Goral, Auxiliary Bishop of Lublin, sent a telegraphic report, dated December 9, to the Holy See in which, among other things, he also mentioned the present Polish situation.

He reported that Polish events are included in the conversations which are taking place at Moscow between Stalin and de Gaulle. The President of the National Polish Council, Berut, the president of the Lublin Committee, Ossurka Moravski, and Colonel Rota Zelevski, military expert of the same Committee, were at Moscow to examine jointly with the Soviet Government the situation which has arisen in consequence of the formation of the new Polish Cabinet at London. They also had conversations with General de Gaulle and French Foreign Minister Bidault.

Monsignor Goral also reported that the Lublin Committee feels sure that the new Polish Cabinet created at London will be the last Cabinet of the Polish Government there since the latter is now coming to an end. In the forthcoming meeting of Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill, the liquidation of the Polish Government at London will be decided.

The obstinacy of the Polish Government at London to merge itself into a single Government with the Committee of Lublin will be to the entire advantage of the latter.

* * * * *

Father Filippo Soccorsi, Director of the Vatican Radio, has submitted to Monsignor Pio Rossignani, Personal Secretary of His Holiness, the text of an appeal which was intercepted by a clandestine radio station. This appeal was in the radio code of Cardinal Innitzer, Archbishop of Vienna.

The deciphering of this material showed that it came from a priest of the Archbishopric of Vienna and that it had been broadcast from Vienna. The appeal reported that in these days there have been arrested 820 priests, 12 of whom were immediately shot. The population of Vienna is in a state of turmoil and the reprisals of the Germans and that of their collaborators are appalling. The appeal stated that all the people of Austria carry on a clandestine struggle. Soviet troops are awaited as liberators, even by Catholics. All hope the liberation is at hand. The understanding between the anti-german parties has been perfect up to now and the clandestine action is most active.

* * * * *

Myron Taylor folder 4-115

4198

Ltr returned to the Sec of State to be forwarded, 3/16/45.
elb

March 16, 1945

Dear Myron:

Thank you for your letters of February 16, one containing your good wishes for my home-coming and the other giving me the benefit of your views on the Italian situation.

I am glad to read what you have to say about the new Italian Ambassador, Signor Tarchiani. He presented his letters of credence on March 8 and my impression of him was also favorable.

The Italian Financial and Economic Mission, headed by Baron Quintieri and Signor Mattioli, has recently returned to Italy. The Mission had been in the United States for several months and has now returned to Rome to report to the Italian Government. It was not possible to conclude anything of a concrete nature but the State Department feels that the Mission's discussions with the various interested agencies of this Government over a period of months has been very beneficial, both to the Italians and to ourselves. Henry Morgenthau saw Quintieri and Mattioli several times I believe. You will undoubtedly have an opportunity to see them after they return to Rome and obtain from them first hand their impressions of their mission and its results.

With reference to the Italian Foreign Minister's suggestion to you, I do not consider this an appropriate time for an Italian Cabinet Minister to visit the United States. The Quintieri-Mattioli Mission has just completed a thorough survey of the situation in the economic and financial fields and there is

nothing at this time that can be added to their discussions with our people. Furthermore, the Italians now have an Ambassador here and have the opportunity of taking up mutual problems through normal channels which formerly had been denied them.

Thank you for passing on the suggestion to me but I feel that if it is again raised with you, you should discourage it.

With kindest personal regards, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

F. D. R.

The Honorable
Myron C. Taylor,
Personal Representative of the
President at the Vatican,
Vatican City.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 15, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Reply to two Letters from Myron Taylor.

In compliance with your confidential memorandum of March 3, 1945 to Mr. Grew, I am enclosing a draft reply for your signature, if you approve, to two letters from Myron Taylor dated February 16, 1945.



Enclosures:

1. Letter to Mr. Taylor.
2. Letters from Mr. Taylor returned.

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

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

Rome, Italy, February 16, 1945.

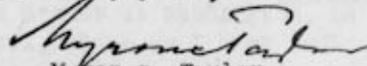
PERSONAL

My dear Mr. President:

We are all delighted to know that you are safely home again though we missed very much having you come to Rome where all circles, including the vatican and the daily press, were most hopeful that you would pay Rome a visit. We realize that the demands upon your time and strength are such that you felt the necessity of postponing a visit to another day. My hope is that I may be present when it occurs.

Anabel joins in kindest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,


Myron C. Taylor

The President

The White House

Washington.

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

Rome, February 16, 1945.

PERSONAL AND STRICTLY
CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. President:

As you are aware our acquaintance through past years and contact with the Vatican authorities have given me acquaintance among numbers of those of anti-Fascist conviction. Some of them, of course, are represented in the present government in high official positions. Others whom I have not known before have been cooperating with respect to the distribution of supplies furnished by American Relief for Italy. These have taken a greater or lesser part in enabling us to set up the National Committee for the distribution of Relief comprising as it does the Government, the Vatican, the Italian Red Cross and representatives of the Confederation of Labor. It was natural, therefore that in the position in which the Italian people and their present Government find themselves, they should talk more or less with me about the general position. I have never encouraged this and have never undertaken to express opinions regarding the personnel of their last cabinet or their present one.

Today, on the eve of the departure of Alberto Tarchiani as Italian Ambassador to the United States at Washington, he and Foreign Minister Alcide de Gasperi, who - as I have indicated in previous correspondence - represents the Christian Democratic Party and for some time during the war was a refugee and a member of the Vatican staff (engaged particularly in the Vatican Library) - lunched at our home with a group of British and American surgeons of highest rank who have been in Rome attending a Surgeons' Conference. The party included the wife of the British Ambassador, Lady Charles (her husband is ill in the hospital), Sir D'Arcy Osborne, British Minister to the Holy See, Mr. Harold Tittmann, and

The President

The White House

Washington.

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

ourselves. Ambassador Kirk was unfortunately unavailable.

The Italian Ambassador to Washington who is a cultured man and of pleasing appearance, is a scholar, has been a journalist (or more particularly an editorial writer) and a literary person throughout his career. He is a modest man, very sincere in his love for his country; very frank in admitting its errors; very anxious to help its present difficult situation. One thing that in my mind marks the character of Bonomi, his Foreign Minister, his Ambassadors to Washington, London, Spain and France: it is that they are honest and dependable and not self-seeking or vain. They realize that the political structure of Italy rests for its permanency on its economic recovery and that its future lies in honest and complete cooperation with America in particular and with the Great Powers in a world organization. They believe Italy has been cured of any particular ambitions it may have had to gain an empire at the expense of its neighbors.

The new Ambassador is taking a small staff with him. He realizes that the most difficult problem - apart from that of territorial adjustments in the future - lies in establishing its credit and enabling it to gain equipment for reconstruction and material for other operations to enable it to rebuild its industrial economy.

One of the foremost and largest bankers in Italy is now in the United States as part of the Mission which the Italian Government sent over several months ago. His name is Raffaello Mattioli, President of the Banca Commerciale Italiana. He in particular (the Ambassador tells me) has been expounding the financial situation of his country in Washington where he is now and is equipped with authority from his government. Other and less experienced men have already visited America but without authority to discuss national finance. Still others had already been chosen by the Government as advisors to the Ambassador before he was appointed (but when Count Sforza was named as Ambassador to Washington). I judge from our conversation that it might transpire that he is not entirely satisfied with these arrangements and has been given complete authority to readjust this advisory group in his own discretion. Signor Nogara, Director of Finances of the Holy See, brought Signor Mattioli to me before the latter left for America two months ago. I had met Mattioli before. Nogara recommended him as the ablest banker in Rome. I believe it might be useful for you to so indicate this situation to Secretary Morgenthau, for his information.

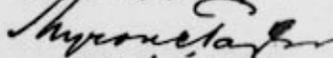
I would not like to give the impression that I have become excessively pro-Italian; I believe I am quite realistic. I also believe that if in view of the destruction we have wrought in this country in order to defeat our principal enemy, Germany, and the tragic position in which this always poor country now finds itself we - the big democracy - should lend a bit of help to the Italian people it will not be displeasing in our own sight or in the sight of others in the aftermath of the war. I also believe it is wise to assist at a time when the opportunity is so readily given to us to gain a lasting friend in this strategic Mediterranean part of Europe.

Another acquaintance, the former Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the first Bonomi Cabinet, Marchese Visconti-Venosta, was offered the post of Foreign Minister and of Ambassador to Washington by the present Cabinet, but his health was not considered equal to it. I some time ago suggested to you that the present Foreign Minister, Alcide de Gasperi, and Marchese Visconti-Venosta make a special trip to acquaint you with Italian affairs. This was their suggestion to me and in no sense my own. I believe this would be a very useful proceeding, or it might be possible even that Prime Minister Bonomi would accompany Visconti-Venosta if you were prepared to make such an appointment. These things, of course, would have to be done through the medium of Ambassador Kirk to whom request by them for an audience with you would be made in due course, in which case a simple message to me through the Department saying "approve interview" would be understood by me.

I know that with your customary friendliness you will welcome Ambassador Tarchiani. This letter has been given no currency whatever here.

With assurances of continued regard, believe me,

Sincerely yours,



Myron C. Taylor

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

M. Taylor folder 4-45
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

file

EOC-1589

This telegram must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. (REDACTED)

Vatican City

Dated March 21, 1945

Rec'd 6:35 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

64, March 21, 5 p.m.

~~SECRET~~ FOR PRESIDENT ONLY

At an audience with the Pope this morning, before
introducing others, I reviewed with His Holiness the
apparent situation of Germany, His Holiness indicating
that he knows of nothing that would change previous
impressions that Hitlerite Germany will continue to in-
flict as great punishment as possible upon the Allies
even though her own country is laid waste.

We discussed Swedish press items reporting offers
to make peace on the western front by splitting the
Allies which recalled a suggestion from responsible
German sources reported by the Pope to me (my 329,
September 21) and which I reported to you at the time.

I reassured His Holiness that the incidence re-
ported in my 58, March 9, of a leak of information
regarding our past audiences had been proven groundless.

The Pope

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By J. Schauble Date FEB 22 1972

-2-#64, March 21, 5 p.m. from Vatican City.

The Pope confirmed my own statement that we had not at any time discussed possible peace terms with Japan. I inquired as to the Vatican attitude toward war criminals and was assured that war criminals would find no home within the Vatican, differentiating between war criminals and prisoners of war, the latter having to our advantage been received on previous occasions.

His Holiness gave me an excerpt from a Moscow radio broadcast of March 16 at 1845 hours which stated that the twentieth is a century of Bolshevism and that its mission will be carried to the end of the world by the Red Army; that it will not stop when Nazism is overthrown but its advance will be continued until the riches concentrated in the hands of a few criminal depredators are equally divided among all human beings and that final Russian victory will be that of the Russian man and of the Russian humanity over the western man and western humanity and not only a victory of Stalinian strategy.

While the Pope has recovered from his recent illness he is not yet fully strong. He admitted for the first time that he was not feeling quite well but that with the advent of spring he would quickly recuperate.

TAYLOR

HJF

file

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

M. Taylor folder 4-43-
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DSH-1626

This telegram must be
closely paraphrased be-
fore being communicated
to anyone. (~~SECRET~~)

Vatican City

Dated March 21, 1945

Rec'd 8 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

65, March 21, 7 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

I presented Mrs. Clare H. McNair widow of General McNair, deceased, at an audience with Pope Pius this morning and gave her an opportunity to speak alone with the Holy Father in respect to her deceased husband and deceased son. She evidenced very great satisfaction after the audience. I then introduced Edward E. Hunt, chief of Italian Division Foreign Economic Administration who was likewise impressed with his reception.

I acquainted His Holiness with the arrival of Mr. Edward Flynn and arranged to present him to His Holiness at an audience on Thursday morning at 9:30 o'clock. My suggestion for a prompt audience was to measurably allay mystery which will be developed by the press.

TAYLOR

CSB

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

DSF
Vaticin

M. Taylor folder
4-45-

file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 30, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Reply of the Pope to the President's
Felicitation on the Anniversary of
the Pope's Coronation.

Myron Taylor's telegram number 63 of March 20 to you about which you ask in your memorandum of March 22, 1945 transmits the reply of the Pope to your message of congratulations on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of his coronation. On March 12 Mr. Taylor sent the following message to the Pope:

"On behalf of President Roosevelt may I offer sincere felicitations on this the sixth anniversary of the coronation of Your Holiness.

"May Your Holiness long be spared in full health and vigor to continue your constant endeavors to rescue and alleviate the sufferings of all those who are distressed in this tragic period of universal war."

The Pope's reply of March 16, sent through the Vatican Secretariat of State, does not appear to require any action on your part.





DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 13, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LATTA:

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a telegram from the American Representative in the Vatican City, in which is quoted a message sent to the Pope on the sixth anniversary of his coronation.

G. T. Summerlin
George T. Summerlin
Chief of Protocol

Enclosure:

Telegram from
American Repre-
sentative, Vatican
City,
March 10, 1945.

COPY

PLAIN

Vatican City

Dated March 10, 1945

Rec'd 12:16 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

59, Tenth.

I am transmitting following message to the Pope on March 12th: "On behalf of President Roosevelt may I offer sincere felicitations on this the sixth anniversary of the coronation of Your Holiness.

May Your Holiness long be spared in full health and vigor to continue your constant endeavors to rescue and alleviate the sufferings of all those who are distressed in this tragic period of universal war".

TAYLOR