

●PSF

Vatican: Myron C. Taylor

Nov. - Dec. 1944

PSE  
Vatican  
file  
personal  
Myron Taylor folder  
4-44

November 1, 1944.

TO: HON. MYRON TAYLOR

FROM: THE PRESIDENT

The legal advisors to the State Department inform me that because of the precedents created by President Lincoln in accepting citizenship conferred by San Marino, and President Wilson in accepting citizenship conferred by Rome and several other Italian cities, as well as other cities in France and Spain, there is no constitutional objection to my receiving honorary citizenship of Rome.

Will you tell them, therefore, that I shall be very happy and honored to have this conferred on me in absentia?

ROOSEVELT

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

October 31, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS GRACE TULLY

Acceptance by the President of Honorary  
Citizenship of the City of Rome

Here is the legal opinion in connection with the cable from Myron Taylor inquiring whether it would be acceptable to the President if, during the present week, Prince Duria, Mayor of Rome, conferred upon him in absentia honorary citizenship of Rome.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to E. A. Tamm, the Under Secretary of State at the time. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial 'E'.

Attachment

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE LEGAL ADVISER

October 31, 1944

Acceptance by the President of Honorary  
Citizenship of the City of Rome

Mr. Taylor states in his telegram of October 30 from Rome that officials of the Vatican have inquired whether it would be acceptable to the President if during the present week Prince Duria, Mayor of Rome, conferred upon him in absentia honorary citizenship of Rome.

Article I, Section 9, of the Constitution provides that no title of nobility shall be granted by the United States and that "no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State".

An act of Congress approved January 31, 1881 provides that any "present, decoration, or other thing which shall be conferred or presented by any foreign government to any officer of the United States . . . shall be tendered through the Department of State and not to the individual in person, but such present, decoration, or other thing shall not be delivered by the Department of State unless so authorized by act of Congress." (U.S. Code, Title 5, Section 115)

The purpose of the provision in the Constitution was to prevent officials of this Government from being influenced by foreign governments.

It is not quite certain what the status of "Prince Duria" is, but it is understood that he is not a member of the Royal Family, but rather holds the title under

the



the Vatican. In any event it is certain that he does not represent a foreign government, but rather holds a title from the Vatican.

The provisions of the Constitution have been rather broadly interpreted and have even been held to prevent the acceptance by officials of this Government of presents tendered by Prince Henry of Prussia on the occasion of a visit by him to the United States, although he was not a reigning Prince. (24 Opinions Attorney General, 116-118)

Perhaps the better approach to the present question is by way of precedents. It is found that President Lincoln in 1861 formally accepted citizenship conferred upon him by the Sovereign Council of the Republic of San Marino. San Marino was and is a state and hence would seem more clearly to fall within the provisions of the Constitution than would the City of Rome. Moreover, in 1919 President Wilson accepted citizenship conferred by the City of Rome and presented by Don Prospero Colonna, who apparently was an Italian Prince.

President Wilson also accepted citizenship from Catania, Alimena, Florence, Aquaformosa, Palermo and Castelveide, Italy, as well as from Toulouse and Reus, France, and Barcelona, Spain.

Having in mind these several precedents, I see no reason why the President should not accept the tender of honorary citizenship by the City of Rome.



Green H. Hackworth

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

KEM-145

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

Rome

Dated October 30, 1944

Rec'd 6:28 a.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

US URGENT

360, October 30, 10 a.m.

AMVAT FOR PRESIDENT ONLY

I am asked confidentially by Government officials  
if, in recognition of your sympathy and friendship for  
Italy and its liberation and preservation, it would be  
acceptable to you if during the present week Prince  
Doria, Mayor of Rome, conferred upon you In Absentia  
Honorary Citizenship of Rome. I am told this honor has  
not been conferred in many years. Prompt reply important.

TAYLOR

REP

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 3, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY HOPKINS:

TO DO THE NECESSARY.

F.D.R.

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE  
2, via Boncompagni, Rome.

October 28, 1944.

Dear Mr. President:

In a telegram which I have sent today recounting my audience with His Holiness the Pope this morning, I indicated that we would be sending a lengthy statement in respect to the development and plans for the distribution of donated relief to the destitute population in that part of Italy which has been released by the military authorities to the Italian Government. Accompanying this letter that statement will be found. It describes the facilities now in existence at the disposition of the Government, the Vatican and the Italian Red Cross which, as you know, we have recently brought together on a basis of free service in the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief in Italy.

The expansion of these facilities as emergencies may require, will meet all needs. This is the opinion of all here who have shown active interest in the problem. The vital deficiencies through which only these facilities can be made to function effectively are an adequate supply of food, principally wheat products, milk in available forms, cheese, sugar and coffee that would be required from America, and additional transportation, i.e. trucks. Other essentials commonly used in Italy, such as oil, wine and salt, with improved transportation facilities are available in this region.

The

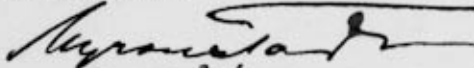
To the President,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the document, as indicated in the telegram above mentioned, is to enlist your support and that of our governmental agencies for a collaborated and coordinated association with UNRRA when it invades the field of Italy. Obviously there are no other existing facilities for distribution of any consequence outside the three which are combined in the National Committee. It therefore becomes not only important but in fact necessary that UNRRA should combine its activities with those of other agencies, some of which will be distributing at least to an extent the same items which UNRRA has indicated will be its chief interest. Entrance of UNRRA as a separate agency in this field could only intensify competition for the meagre shipping space, warehousing facilities, transportation and distribution facilities, unless its activities were coordinated with those already in existence as by this memorandum described.

I believe another feature that should command your attention is that UNRRA's representatives who conferred with us in September indicated that they were planning to conduct relief activities on both a sale and donated basis. We feel that this is undesirable, as the sale basis is already involved in the administration of supply affairs by A.C.C. and the Italian Government. What we are aiming at is real relief, donated relief, and not to set up commercial relations among people in grave distress, putting a premium upon the possession of money. Such operations are the mother of crime, which already is beginning to indicate itself in various localities.

May I bespeak your particular attention to the vital points in this problem and with assurances of continuing regard, believe me

Sincerely yours,



Myron C. Taylor

Enclosures:

3 copies of statement.

STATEMENT ON THE PLANS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION  
OF DONATED RELIEF SUPPLIES IN ITALY  
AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO UNRRA

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It is highly important before the advent of UNRRA in the Italian field to again bring to your attention the situation which surrounds relief activities at the present time. On September 27 I wired Herbert Lehmann a preliminary statement in respect to relief activities in Italy. I would like to supplement that statement of which I assume Mr. Lehman, in accord with my request, has furnished you a copy.

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The "Opera Nazionale Maternita ed Infanzia" is starting its former program of feeding expectant mothers, nursing mothers and pre-school children. The procedure is to admit women to "refectories" on the basis of financial need and physical need, as determined in the Agency's clinics. Like-

wise, allowances of powdered milk and such suitable other foods as may be available are distributed to infants on the basis of determinations made in the Agency's pediatric clinics. Older children of pre-school age receive one meal daily in day nurseries.

At present the issuance of "buoni viveri" is more prevalent in Sicily. On the mainland it is rarely used.

In April 1944 the Italian Government adopted a decree, causing the E.C.A. Committee to be directed by the Comune Giunta and providing that the Committee should choose its own president. This change of administration has not taken effect in all provinces.

The prefect of the province is responsible for the operation of the E.C.A.'s in his province, and it is his obligation to see that necessary food and money are supplied and that the agencies function effectively. In the National Government supervision of E.C.A. centers in the Director General of Civil Administration, Minister of the Interior.

The "Opera Nazionale Maternita ed Infanzia" (O.N.M.I.) is a parastatal agency with headquarters in Rome and with provincial and communal branches. Food is provided for the E.C.A. and the O.N.M.I. through regular alimentation channels. Funds are provided by the Italian Government for these operations in the released areas. These funds, at the national level in the released area, are provided through the Minister of the Interior.

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at a cost of from three lire to six lire a meal. Maternal refectories, usually feeding more adequately, afford a cost of eight lire per meal. The cost of feeding children in an institution three meals a day for an average age of seven years is approximately fifteen lire a day. These are food costs only.

In addition to these provisions for communal feeding of destitute persons, the Vatican through the Pontifical Commission, founded at the express wish of the Holy Father Pope Pius XII, began its work in March of this year and, at the beginning, limited its activities to Rome and the area near to the Capital.

As the war operations developed in intensity the problem of assisting the refugees became ever more complicated and the maximum effort was made to bring relief to them in their tragic situation.

The work was carried out according to a plan which can be thus resolved in chronological order: 1) census 2) collection of money and clothing 3) spiritual and material assistance 4) repatriation 5) spiritual and material reconstruction.

The Presidency of the Commission has at its call a Secretariate, from which two offices depend for the realization of the work: the Organization Office (religious and material assistance in the refugee camps and hospitals; sanitary assistance; technical assistance; collecting centre; press office and radio-cine-photographic services); the Administration Office (research office; repatriation and information office; legal department; stores; accountant's office).

As the work developed it was found necessary to set up 20 branch offices in the various regions of Rome and other sections in the Archdioceses and dioceses of Italy, many of



which have further extended their work with the setting up of sub-sections in the various parishes.

The work of charitable assistance which can be seen in Rome is also carried out by the Diocesan centres with excellent results, due to the self-sacrificing spirit of the priests and laymen who collaborate in this work.

Following the example of the Holy Father, who follows with fatherly interest the activities of the Pontifical Commission, the Bishops in the various Dioceses dedicate themselves with a spirit of Christian charity to the assisting of the refugees.

Among other things it has been possible to set up in Central Italy 53 "Refectories of the Pope" which distribute more than a million soup meals every month and assist a huge number of refugees with the two hundred thousand garments so charitably given by the American Red Cross.

The appeal for help for the refugees which is now being made in the Dioceses will help, at least partially, to relieve the sufferings of the poor and abandoned.

The Medical Office of the Commission has come to the help of the sick in various ways:

- 1) With the setting up of 15 anti-malarial centres and an anti-malarial campaign in the Pontine Marshes and in the Cassino area.
- 2) With the foundation of first aid stations for the poor in an ever-increasing number of centres which have suffered most from the war.
- 3) With the foundation of clinics for the poor in Rome itself where the suffering may find medical advice and free medicines.
- 4) With the foundation of clinics for the children of the poor.

5) With the publication of pamphlets written by specialists, which give practical advice on hygiene and sickness.

The third facility is the Italian Red Cross.

The basic organization of the Italian Red Cross consists of a National overall agency subdivided into zones or areas, these zones having partial autonomy with a zone or area committee. Under the zone or area committee are the provincial organizations with a provincial committee. The provincial committee has representation in the communes. The basic services of Italian Red Cross are largely medical in their nature but include social service.

During the war the additional responsibility of POW information has been included. The organization of this volunteer service plus a paid staff offers a reservoir of assistance and information as the work of this section of the Red Cross diminishes.

Medical service is broken down into:

1) Hospitals.

- (a) In all Italy they operate four tuberculosis sanatoriums and 12 preventoriums largely interesting themselves in the program of tuberculosis prevention encouraged by the Ministry of the Interior.
- (b) They are responsible for specialized wards or departments in public hospitals.
- (c) They have operated 100 out-patient dispensaries, 60 of which remain in German-occupied Italy.
- (d) The operation of mobile hospitals created during the war and presently being used for civilian casualties in the combat zone or in the area of mine fields.
- (e) The operation of first aid stations expanded for air

raid protection during the war.

- 2) Anti-malarial work. There were 26 anti-malarial stations in southern Italy and 3 mobile malarial control units working in cooperation and under the orders of the Health Department, Ministry of Interior.
- 3) The Red Cross operates a visiting nurses' organization in the larger cities throughout Italy. The city is divided into zones with a volunteer committee being responsible for a zone. For example, there are 22 zones in Rome with voluntary operating committees using 200 volunteer visiting nurses.
- 4) Nursing service. There are 610 graduated volunteer nurses in liberated Italy. These nurses are graduates of Red Cross operated nursing schools approved by the Department of Health, Ministry of Interior. 261 nurses are operating in preventoria, sanitoriums and public hospitals and 394 in refugee camps.
- 5) Warehousing and Transport. IRC has operated:
  - (a) Bulk warehouses and has a system of warehousing with some experienced employees. Although a major portion of their warehouses have been requisitioned for military use they will become available shortly.
  - (b) Transport services are severely interrupted but the basic organization and garage services remain in a reduced state.
  - (c) Ambulance service. Although there were 700 ambulances in service in southern Italy, at the present time there are only 82 ambulances in operating condition and 100 additional unusable because of lack of tires and replacement parts.
- 6) Refugee service. The entire health program of the refugee camps is the responsibility of the Italian Red Cross. Operated in conjunction with the government "Commission

for Refugees" and the "Pontifical Commission for Refugees" the Italian Red Cross has accepted full responsibility for this service as indicated by the mobile hospitals and the 394 nurses in refugee camps.

Although the Italian Red Cross' services have historically been connected with medicinal and health service the basic organizational experience in the fields of hospital, dispensary, visiting nurses, warehousing and transport and refugee health permit them to offer a substantial contribution in the field of relief distribution. In addition to this experience the basic organization of the National Red Cross through its zones and provinces to the communes parallels the organization of the National Government and the Vatican. In addition to offering a substantial contribution to distribution the participation of the Red Cross will permit the strengthening of this organization and will make a substantial contribution to the strengthening of a basic structure in Italy.

It is obvious from these statements that existing facilities on the National Government, Vatican and Italian Red Cross level are adequate if properly used to meet the distributive situation within the communes, provided food, medicines and other supplies are available. The three agencies described--the Government, the Vatican and the Italian Red Cross have, through the railway (in process of restoration), trucks and other vehicles, control over all the existing transportation facilities. The National Agency has access to all these facilities, on the basis of free transportation, free services and voluntary workers in all the necessary fields. It is intended to be entirely Italian in character in order to help Italy to help herself. As advisors and consultants, we have

arranged for representatives of the American Red Cross, American Relief for Italy, AFHQ and ACC.

These organizations also have, as is evident to us, adequate personnel for the control and distribution of relief.

In order to merge into a single relief activity and to coordinate relief effort under a unified pattern with experienced guidance and supervision, the idea of forming the National Committee for Distribution of Relief was developed. My many messages and communications will indicate the progress of that development. The difficulty which confronts relief action is clearly indicated in these communications as being those of supply of the essential foods and the means of transporting them across the sea and upon arrival to the various communes in which centers for relief action have been created. ACC and lately AFHQ have supported the applications for increased shipment of supplies and trucks. Recent advices, with which you are familiar, are most discouraging in both these aspects. Please refer to my cable of October 12 and your reply No. 51 of October 19.

Many of the supplies under contemplation by UNRRA have also been in part provided by American Relief for Italy and by requisition of ACC, shipment of which, as you are aware, has been delayed, we are advised, by the Combined Chiefs of Staff and other Allied agencies in Washington or London or elsewhere. It is our opinion that UNRRA activities should likewise be coordinated with those of the National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy in order that there might be no duplication or competition or confusion. In our opinion a relatively small number of UNRRA representatives, acting in cooperation with the above-named groups, can perform a more efficient, economical and timely accomplishment of their

purpose than by attempting a separate distribution.

From reports it seems that UNRRA is to be particularly active in the field of refugees. The Italian meaning of "refugees" is those who are displaced within their own country, while our general approach to the subject in America has been with respect to those who are driven from their home country or who are subject to persecution within their home country. The coordinated Italian groups within the National Committee have a section devoted to refugees, they are very active in restoring people to their homes from which they have been driven by the course of the war, and in the aspects of furnishing food, clothing and shelter. All persons in need, whether they are refugees in the Italian sense or the American sense, are treated on an equal basis. Then too, the President's War Refugee Board in America and the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees have both been active in Italy and we assume will so continue.

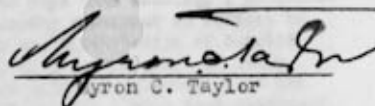
In my opinion the greatest possible benefit could be secured through the full cooperation in these activities of experienced representatives of the American Red Cross. They are active in Italy in cooperation with the army and have done magnificent work. They are extremely popular, very well-known and have had exceptional training in these fields. In the early days when we were discussing the plan in the Department for UNRRA many of us were of the opinion, and still are, that American Red Cross assistance in the work of distribution of relief would be of the greatest importance and value to the successful carrying out of that undertaking.

UNRRA will find tremendous problems in many countries where basic distribution facilities are not organized. Basic distribution facilities in the liberated portion of Italy are organized through the National Committee. It can, by associating

its activities with the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief and with the experienced assistance which we may have of further Red Cross personnel, best insure the efficiency, economy and success of the whole effort for Italian relief and that after all is the prime objective.

Entrance of UNRRA as a separate agency could only intensify competition for the meager shipping space, warehousing facilities, transportation and distribution facilities.

The sole needs are basic supplies and trucks.

  
Myron C. Taylor

2, via Boncompagni, Rome.

October 28, 1944.

Dear Mr. President:

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  - (c) Ambulance service. Although there were 760 ambulances in service in southern Italy, at the present time there are only 82 ambulances in operating condition and 100 additional unusable because of lack of tires and replacement parts.
- 6) Refugee service. The entire health program of the refugee camps is the responsibility of the Italian Red Cross. Operated in conjunction with the government "Commission

for Refugees" and the "Pontifical Commission for Refugees" the Italian Red Cross has accepted full responsibility for this service as indicated by the mobile hospitals and the 394 nurses in refugee camps.

Although the Italian Red Cross' services have historically been connected with medicinal and health service the basic organizational experience in the fields of hospital, dispensary, visiting nurses, warehousing and transport and refugee health permit them to offer a substantial contribution in the field of relief distribution. In addition to this experience the basic organization of the National Red Cross through its zones and provinces to the communes parallels the organization of the National Government and the Vatican. In addition to offering a substantial contribution to distribution the participation of the Red Cross will permit the strengthening of this organization and will make a substantial contribution to the strengthening of a basic structure in Italy.

It is obvious from these statements that existing facilities on the National Government, Vatican and Italian Red Cross level are adequate if properly used to meet the distributive situation within the communes, provided food, medicines and other supplies are available. The three agencies described-- the Government, the Vatican and the Italian Red Cross have, through the railway (in process of restoration), trucks and other vehicles, control over all the existing transportation facilities. The National Agency has access to all these facilities, on the basis of free transportation, free services and voluntary workers in all the necessary fields. It is intended to be entirely Italian in character in order to help Italy to help herself. As advisors and consultants, we have



arranged for representatives of the American Red Cross, American Relief for Italy, AFHQ and ACC.

These organizations also have, as is evident to us, adequate personnel for the control and distribution of relief.

In order to merge into a single relief activity and to coordinate relief effort under a unified pattern with experienced guidance and supervision, the idea of forming the National Committee for Distribution of Relief was developed. My many messages and communications will indicate the progress of that development. The difficulty which confronts relief action is clearly indicated in those communications as being those of supply of the essential foods and the means of transporting them across the sea and upon arrival to the various communes in which centers for relief action have been created. ACC and lately AFHQ have supported the applications for increased shipment of supplies and trucks. Recent advices, with which you are familiar, are most discouraging in both these aspects. Please refer to my cable of October 12 and your reply No. 51 of October 19.

Many of the supplies under contemplation by UNRRA have also been in part provided by American Relief for Italy and by requisition of ACC, shipment of which, as you are aware, has been delayed, we are advised, by the Combined Chiefs of Staff and other Allied agencies in Washington or London or elsewhere. It is our opinion that UNRRA activities should likewise be coordinated with those of the National Committee for Distribution of Relief in Italy in order that there might be no duplication or competition or confusion. In our opinion a relatively small number of UNRRA representatives, acting in cooperation with the above-named groups, can perform a more efficient, economical and timely accomplishment of their

purpose than by attempting a separate distribution.

From reports it seems that UNRRA is to be particularly active in the field of refugees. The Italian meaning of "refugees" is those who are displaced within their own country, while our general approach to the subject in America has been with respect to those who are driven from their home country or who are subject to persecution within their home country. The coordinated Italian groups within the National Committee have a section devoted to refugees, they are very active in restoring people to their homes from which they have been driven by the course of the war, and in the aspects of furnishing food, clothing and shelter. All persons in need, whether they are refugees in the Italian sense or the American sense, are treated on an equal basis. Then too, the President's War Refugee Board in America and the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees have both been active in Italy and we assume will so continue.

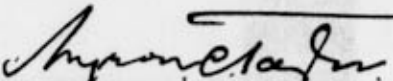
In my opinion the greatest possible benefit could be secured through the full cooperation in these activities of experienced representatives of the American Red Cross. They are active in Italy in cooperation with the army and have done magnificent work. They are extremely popular, very well-known and have had exceptional training in these fields. In the early days when we were discussing the plan in the Department for UNRRA many of us were of the opinion, and still are, that American Red Cross assistance in the work of distribution of relief would be of the greatest importance and value to the successful carrying out of that undertaking.

UNRRA will find tremendous problems in many countries where basic distribution facilities are not organized. Basic distribution facilities in the liberated portion of Italy are organized through the National Committee. It can, by associating

its activities with the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief and with the experienced assistance which we may have of further Red Cross personnel, best insure the efficiency, economy and success of the whole effort for Italian relief and that after all is the prime objective.

Entrance of UNRRA as a separate agency could only intensify competition for the meager shipping space, warehousing facilities, transportation and distribution facilities.

The sole needs are basic supplies and trucks.

  
Myron C. Taylor

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*P.S. Myron Taylor folder*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

AMT-748

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

Vatican City

Dated November 3, 1944

Rec'd 5:23 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

MOST URGENT

363, November 3, 6 p.m.

FOR PRESIDENT ONLY

Department's 57, November 1.

Following is text in translation of secret message  
received by me for you today from Mayor of Rome, Prince  
Filippo Doriapamphili, dated November 3:

"To His Excellency Franklin Delano Roosevelt,  
President of the United States of America.

On the anniversary (November 4, 1918) of the  
victory of our democracies united against two feudalistic  
and militaristic empires remembering that Rome conferred  
its honorary citizenship upon President Woodrow Wilson,  
whom you loved and admired as we did, and interpreting  
the thought of the Eternal City and of all of Italy I  
hereby confer also upon you in absentia the honorary  
citizenship

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

-2- #363, November 3, 6 p.m., from Vatican City.

citizenship of Rome as our supreme mark of respect and honor.

The American people will see in this exceptional decision the proof of our gratitude for the fact that you have always made the most profound distinction between the criminals who threw us into war and the Italian people who, even when shackled, not only remained at heart always a faithful friend of the great nations attacked by Fascism but boycotted the war with every means at their disposal. Signed Filippo Doriapamphili, Mayor of Rome."

Will you please acknowledge receipt by cable to me embodying your official message of acceptance for delivery to Mayor of Rome in order that above message and your reply can be made public in Rome and the United States not later than Sunday November 5 or Monday November 6, noon Rome time? I am assured that pending your reply with your official acceptance this matter will be held in strict secrecy here. My cable address is AMVAT Rome.

TAYLOR

JT

PFF: Myron Taylor  
file

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Incidentally, the Spanish Ambassador indicated to me not long since that it was likely that the present Spanish Ambassador at Washington would be superseded by another appointee.

inct.

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, November 9, 1944.

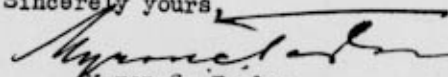
Dear Mr. President:

The Brazilian Ambassador to the Holy See, M. Nabuco, has written me a note today expressing "heartiest congratulations on your brilliant reelection". He indicated that he has had the privilege of being a friend of yours for many years and that he is very much pleased with your most recent popular success. He desires me to convey to you "his very warm regards and congratulations".

A similar note has been received from the Spanish Ambassador to the Holy See, Don Domingo de las Barcenas, who offers congratulations both upon your reelection and upon the "wonderful way it was carried by both sides and the whole country". Ambassador delas Barcenas is a distinguished and seasoned veteran in the diplomatic field.

With best regards, believe me, dear Mr. President,

Sincerely yours,



Myron C. Taylor

The President

The White House

Washington.

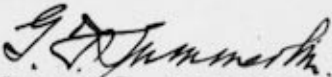
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF PROTOCOL

November 25, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY:

I am transmitting herewith two sealed communications addressed to the President by the Honorable Myron C. Taylor, Special Representative of the President at the Vatican.

  
George T. Summerlin  
Chief of Protocol

Enclosures:

Two sealed communications.



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

Rome, November 27, 1944

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed herewith are two copies of a letter dated November 20, 1944 which I addressed to the Right Honorable Harold MacMillan upon his taking office as President of the Allied Commission, in order that he might properly be made acquainted with the problems of relief as far as American Relief for Italy and myself have been concerned with them. I sent a copy of this letter to General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Allied Supreme Commander in Chief of the Mediterranean Theater, and others interested, and have today received a reply from Lt. General J. W. C. Clark, of which I enclose a copy.

I believe that President MacMillan is planning to visit Washington and London before taking up his active duties as head of the Allied Commission here; therefore these two communications may be of interest to you. I am enclosing two copies for Secretary Hull to whom you may wish to hand them as being interesting.

Permit me to observe that the Spanish shipment originating in January this year has - in accordance with General Clark's letter encountered a new obstacle. I would also like to suggest that the relief ship to which I referred and which had been discouraged previously, but which General Wilson and General Clark now believe to be feasible, does not need to carry a full cargo of American Relief for Italy materials, but might carry a cargo including materials to be made up of relief materials such as flour, and foodstuffs of other sources that are intended for relief purposes. I might also add that the conception of relief which is based upon barter, as is the Allied Commission's restriction upon supplying it to the National Government of Italy, is not relief at all so far as the needs of the homeless, hungry, illy-clad people in the devastated Southern Italy who have no money to buy things, are concerned.

The President

The White House

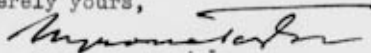
Washington.

-2-

I might also say that there is an entirely different approach to the matter of relief in the minds of our British Allies and ourselves in regard to Italy and that until that is removed no complete solution of the relief problem in Italy can be accomplished.

With many kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Myron C. Taylor

Enclosures:

- 4 copies of letter dated November 20, 1944 to Hon. Harold MacMillan;
- 2 copies of letter dated November 25, 1944 from Gen. Clark.

COPY

2 Via Boncompagni

Rome, November 20, 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. MacMillan:

I am sending you herewith a file of documents that recount some of the recent activities which, in behalf of American Relief for Italy, Inc., we have developed. As you are now being introduced into the theater of A. C. activities, I would like to make very clear to you that my role in these several activities grows entirely out of the fact that, at the instance of the President, in March of this year, I undertook to organize American Relief for Italy, Inc. It was difficult to assemble a group that was not tainted with too much of the Fascist infection which extended even into the Italian-American population, particularly among the leaders. Under these conditions it was difficult to set up such an organization, having in mind the objective of providing substantial quantities of materials and supplies for the relief of the distressed population of Italy. The results achieved have been very satisfactory. Tons of clothing and other materials have already been assembled in America.

I came here in the middle of June. Even at that time there was on hand in America a quantity of materials and supplies justifying a shipment by the middle of July. We did not anticipate then that there would be any greater difficulty in shipping these needed garments, milk for babies and mothers, essential medicines, including vitamins, etc. than had been in the first instance for Great Britain (1940 and since), and later for Greece, Russia and China. In the organization of these groups I served in one capacity or another, and in none of them delay rendered the effectiveness of the project uncertain or impossible.

I am not including in these papers many telegrams and reports of conversations which passed between our Government, the authorities in Italy and myself. I have incorporated in this file a message which I sent to the President, the Secretary of State, the Chairman of the American Red Cross and the President of American Relief for Italy.

The Right Honorable  
Harold MacMillan  
President Allied Commission  
Rome.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED

On arrival here in June I found that there was no developed organization or plan for the distribution of relief once it arrived here. The Allied Military Government acting with the Army had administered such relief in the military zones as they were able to do, but once the various zones passed from the Allied Military to the Italian Government control, there was nothing left behind, either in supplies or organization. I called many informal meetings and such members of the Allied Council for Italy, Allied Control Commission, Italian Red Cross and others with a presumptive interest, to discuss these problems. The Italian Red Cross was at a low ebb due to the disbandment of the Fascist organization, the retreat to the North of the Red Cross head who took away its records and the remaining resources. I had some acquaintance with the American Red Cross activities in Italy in the last war, being then, as now, a member of the controlling committee, i.e., the Committee of Incorporators. I knew the Italian Red Cross could be made to function if it were re-established on a sound and up-to-date basis. It needed all the support the Allies could give it.

I discussed these various problems with the Pope, and then with the Italian Prime Minister. There was no cooperative relationship in this field and yet, all were imbued with the same desire to help the stricken people of Italy. From these discussions we were able to devise a plan for the consolidation of all the relief activities of the National Government, the Vatican and the Italian Red Cross. We were very insistent that it should be an Italian Committee, both because of its current political influence and because of its value as a continuing agency for relief purposes. It was not easy to bring together the State, the Church and the attenuated Italian Red Cross. We succeeded. The documents relating to this National Committee are included in this file.

Lahey was subsequently represented by the appointment of an agreed member to the National Committee.

We have here, then, all the elements of Italian National life in a single organization for which, after investigation, we suggested an executive director: G. B. Visentini who is functioning in that capacity. We persuaded the Prime Minister to become Honorary Chairman. The officers and members of the Committee of Nine are disclosed in the booklet and you will observe that they are all of outstanding qualification and position in Italy. A suggestion was made on the part of Allied Control Commission to have such A.C.C. and A.F. H.Q. appoint a representative on the Committee. We were not in favor at that time believing that it should be entirely Italian in character. We did propose, and it was agreed, that a group of advisors should be named consisting of Allied Force Headquarters represented by Lt. Col. J. G. Kip-

linger; Allied Commission selected Brigadier G. S. Parkinson; American Red Cross selected Mr. W. W. Jefferson; Mr. Howard Barr and myself representing American Relief for Italy, Inc. This little group meets at my office occasionally and discuss these problems. We also had one meeting with General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson at which we described our activities.

We suggested and explored the area most in need of assistance, i. e., the area between the Hitler and Gustave lines, the scene of military activities during all of last winter. The National Committee set up in that area in the different Provinces and commences an organization through which relief can be profitably and constantly administered, using all the facilities of the three organizations: the State, the Vatican (the church) and the Italian Red Cross. This plan will be followed in the other released area which is now under study, being the area presently under extreme military operations in the northern regions and on the Adriatic Coast.

Among other papers presented will be found a description of the present facilities of the three Italian agencies; the State, the Vatican and the Italian Red Cross, and the presentation of our point of view that UNRRA which is now about to begin relief activities in Italy, should synphon its relief through the National Committee and the agencies which I have described, rather than undertake any separate organization for relief distribution. We believe this plan is sound in principle and absolutely essential in practice.

In regard to the availability of trucks and assistance in the distribution of relief, the files of General Wilson and others can disclose the efforts we have made with competent authorities to permit the allocation of shipments promptly to the National Committee, or to American Relief for Italy, Inc., as the case might be, of 500 or less trucks for this purpose. Our efforts have been without effect. We have also asked for a contribution of salvaged materials from the army and navy that would be a Godsend to the people who have no roof to cover them, no adequate clothing to put on, very little food, if any, and a deficiency in medicines and all other supplies which would maintain life within a reasonable level. The greatest calamity of all, and one that is bound to reflect serious discredit upon the officialdom of your Government and ours, is the failure up to this time to deliver a single pound of American relief supplies into the hands of those who are vitally in need. From this fact the most embarrassing, and perhaps dangerous, reactions might ensue. After the utmost effort and persuasion, the first shipment of goods, materials and supplies from American Relief for Italy, Inc. arrived off the port of Naples on Friday last. To our discomfiture and chagrin the vessel has been diverted to Leghorn. We are told that the relief materials are at the bottom of the cargo underneath 2,000 tons of urgent military materials. All the plans for unloading, warehousing

at Naples and immediate transfer to the areas of critical need in Southern Italy had been perfected. The Italian Government had even arranged to send one hundred carabinieri from Rome to Naples, especially to protect this shipment. All the professions that we have made in behalf of American Relief for Italy, Inc. and - in behalf of what is still more important - a humanitarian interest, which were the basis for the consolidation of the activities of the State, the Vatican and Italian Red Cross are even, after the long delay which it has been difficult to explain, proved to be abortive at the time of the arrival of the first shipment of these materials in Italy.

I think it is only fair to say in reviewing this situation that as far as I know there is no personal hostility in high Allied places toward this activity, but I am equally frank in saying that there has been practically no help and no encouragement. This is the situation which confronts us, and we believe which confronts you as the new Executive Head of the Allied Commission. This, then, will be one of the factors which will be used to discredit the Italian Government and those who determine its action through the controls which exist over its wellbeing.

I cannot tell you how much I regret to write this letter. My motive is not based upon any other consideration than the one that has moved me throughout, i.e., the humanitarian interest in these poor people whom we, through the fortune of war, have done much to render helpless and tragic. This is a motive that one does not have to explain.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Myron C. Taylor  
Personal Representative of the President  
of the United States to His Holiness  
the Pope.

Enclosures:

Various

P.S. Among the documents in this file will be found the history of emergency treatment of the serious malarial condition that arose in the Cassino area and the method of treating it through the medium of the National Committee for Relief.



complaints will be  
the type of cases  
I am not sure how  
I am not sure how  
I am not sure how

COPY

G. A. C's Office  
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

25th November 1944

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I have received your letter of the 20th November, 1944, enclosing a copy of the letter you have sent to Sir Harold MacMillan regarding American Relief for Italy.

I would like to give you the present position regarding the shipment of supplies from Spain, the Argentine and U. S. A. as it stands today from our point of view.

Permission was given on 13 October, 1944 for Spanish ships to sail to Naples and the Spanish Authorities notified their desire to sail the Spanish Naval transport "Tarifa" from Barcelona on the 25 November, 1944.

The choice of this vessel was unfortunate as it is undesirable to have a neutral warship visit Naples, and the British Naval Attaché at Madrid was notified accordingly. On 21 November, the British Admiralty ruled that the ship should be sailed under the Spanish merchant flag, but we have just received information from the Naval Attaché at Madrid that the sailing has been cancelled. At the moment, the reason for this cancellation is not clear, but presumably it is because the Spanish authorities have refused to allow the "Tarifa" to wear the merchant flag. We have signalled the Naval Attaché at Madrid to ascertain the reason.

With regard to the shipment of supplies from the Argentine, no further information has been received of the "Contramirante Cesado" from Buenos Ayres.

As you say in your letter to Sir Harold MacMillan, the first shipment of supplies from the U.S.A. arrived off the Port of Naples on 17 November, 1944. Unfortunately, this ship contained also a large quantity of military stores, which were required in the forward areas, and the original intention was to discharge it completely at Leghorn. Special arrangements have now been made for it to discharge at Naples, and it will be on berth there by 26 November, 1944.

A cable has been despatched to Washington recommending either the provision of a separate ship in future if the volume of relief supplies is sufficient, or that relief supplies should be top-stowed where the volume is insufficient to warrant a separate ship, thus enabling two-port discharge if necessary.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED

Continued .....

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED



— nearest<sup>st</sup> thing we have on  
the question of letter to  
Myron Taylor, drafted by Dept  
of State. Does do not indicate  
whether letter was sent to Taylor.

Vol. 100, East. 100

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

PSF: M. Taylor folder

4-44

file  
personal

December 10, 1944.

My Dear Mr President,

For future reference I have  
revised quite briefly in the  
attached pages, the principal events  
surrounding my first years service  
as your Personal Representative  
to His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, at  
the Holy See, Vatican City, Rome.  
I believe you will find interest  
in this review.

I ask that you give early and  
special attention to "The new  
cycle" pages 14 et seq.

In your consideration of future  
plans you may find it helpful  
to talk with me on my return as  
the steps you will take will be of  
great significance to some interests.

With kindest regards believe me,  
as ever,

To The President  
White House.

Sincerely,  
Ruyonday Sr.

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

Rome, November 10, 1944.

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to say a few words about my position  
as your Personal Representative to Pope Pius XII.

Five years have come and gone since Christmas of  
1939 when you telephoned Anabel and me suggesting this  
mission.

1940

The mission was undertaken by me early in 1940  
when I was received with the greatest kindness by His  
Holiness Pope Pius XII. The presentation of your let-  
ter of credence and your personal letter to His Holi-  
ness was attended by the usual impressive ceremonies.  
Your personal letter indicated the desire to work along  
parallel lines with His Holiness for the preservation  
of peace. Parallel activities developed very quickly  
into an effort with His Holiness and such influence as  
could be exerted by the British, French and other Embas-  
sies to the Holy See, to dissuade Mussolini from engaging

The President

The White House

Washington.

Italy in the war. By consensus of opinion Mussolini had become increasingly difficult, laboring under "delusions of grandeur", his efforts at empire building in Ethiopia and elsewhere having met with some success. In this state of mind, while he had previously opposed Hitler's ambition to some extent, he fell a victim to a belief in the "invincibility of Hitler's armed strength". He believed Ribbentrop's declaration to the Pope, in April, that the "war would be over by September 1, and Britain laid low and Germany dominating Europe". As the season wore on, your final warning to Mussolini, coincident by agreement with one from the Holy Father, evoked only the response to His Holiness that Mussolini envisaged "Italy's place in the sun" as having "windows looking out on the Atlantic on one side, and on the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean on the other". Soon after this definite and bad tempered rebuff, Mussolini entered the war with the "stab in the back" of France. (Memorandum reports at the time to you disclose the details of these affairs).

1941

Our next effort was to illustrate to His Holiness our attitude toward the war, our sympathy, interest and support of the British Empire, then sorely pressed, and of our actual

support with supplies of arms, munitions, financial aid, and ships, in order that Britain (France having fallen) might withstand the onslaught of Germany. In this year I contacted Prime Minister Salazar in Lisbon, undertaking to shake his fears that Germany, because of her growing strength, could not fail to conquer her neighbors. I was convinced of Salazar's influence with General Franco and it was important to keep Spain from entering the war on the Axis side. (My report at the time upon this meeting will be found interesting reading in view of subsequent events). In these dark hours I also visited, en route to Washington, to report to you, Mr. President, Prime Minister Churchill, other British Cabinet officers, Cardinal Hinsley, and others in England, expressing assurance of our sympathy and our support of Britain and France. Germany attacked Russia in this period, and so dark were the days that our most competent military and political experts even fixed the day - August 15th - as the time of the complete Russian collapse and of subsequent general European disaster.

En route home, and at your request, I also arranged for David Grey to come to London from Dublin to discuss the sensitive Irish situation and carry back to Dublin our confident assurance. I thought best not to visit Dublin in person at

that time. A careful report on the Irish situation resulted and was placed in your hands by me on my return. I believe this report had influence in determining our subsequent policy regarding Ireland. It is my belief that our very confidence and the support that we brought to the then Allies of Britain, in the face of the then existing grave doubts about Allied capacity successfully to resist, were so effective that doubtful minds in high places outside Germany withheld Axis support until that strength could be demonstrated.

Later in this year (1941) Japan attacked us at Pearl Harbor. The Axis Powers followed quickly and declared war upon us.

1942

1942 saw us at war with the Axis Powers. During this year I came through neutral, and openly through enemy lines, to the Vatican though we were at war with Italy. I made clear to the Holy Father our position regarding our vast productive capacity, our national solidarity of purpose, our great natural and financial resources backed by the will of a great and strong people to wage relentless war until Fascism and Nazism were destroyed. I presented carefully prepared documents which I had caused to be assembled to His Holiness that were positive and forceful, intending to reassure the Pope and to crystallize

his conviction into the certainty that the Axis must be defeated and that Axis strength, though great, would be conquered. This document also intended to fix clearly the attitude of the Vatican. His Holiness responded with a written document which both the Prime Minister and yourself characterized as "historic". Both documents were read aloud at the dinner table in Downing Street by the Prime Minister, in the presence of Mrs. Churchill, his daughter Sarah, Ambassador Winant and myself, on a never to-be-forgotten night. All were greatly moved and reassured. Those original documents are in your hands.

En route home, after meeting the Prime Minister, many Spanish generals and public men, I visited General Franco at Madrid (October 1942) displaying again our confident conviction that Germany would be defeated. General Franco indulged in a long dissertation to the effect that Russia was defeated, that German strength could not be overcome and that the war in the interest of the saving of human lives should end and a reasonable compromise brought about. Franco's confidence that Russia would collapse was shaken by our demonstration of capacity to make war upon the Axis. It has been indicated by the American Ambassador at Madrid who accompanied me to see General Franco, that that visit marked the turning point in Franco's attitude and that he was shaken by the arguments we presented, displaying our purposes



and our confidence in overthrowing Hitlerism. (Ambassador Hayes's written report to yourself, and subsequent communications to me well illustrate how this interview did in fact mark the turning point and improvement in Spanish-American relations.)

The Russian campaign, as you will recall, was at a very low level (October 1942).

I also visited again with Prime Minister Salazar at Lisbon. Using the same confident persuasion as with the Pope and Franco, I bolstered his declining faith in Allied victory. (The report on this meeting will also be found in your files, and will likewise, I believe, be found of interest in the light of subsequent events).

1943

In 1943 Italy surrendered unconditionally. You will recall our constant touch over the Vatican Radio from Washington with His Holiness. The first preparation for the extinction of Mussolini was the day that I brought to you the secret message, in response to one of my own regarding Mussolini's fall and the retirement of Italy from the war, which you characterized "as the first break in the whole Axis organization" and which came to me through that channel.

The suggestion regarding the recognition of the royal tradition, the unfamiliarity of the Italian people with democratic



governmental processes such as we enjoy, the basis of Italian military cooperation with our military entry into Italy proper and our successful efforts to save Rome from destruction, the fall of Rome practically without damage to its historic and religious monuments, as well as the saving practically unharmed of the city itself, these efforts you, Mr. President, supported generously and effectively.

1944

Since the occupation of Rome the many services this Mission has performed in aid of Allied and Italian military and civilian life has been of great volume. During this period, and until September 1944 there was no other civilian agency to which the military and civilian populations had as easy access as to this Mission. Upon the arrival of Ambassador Kirk in Rome (July 16) and the opening of his office here as Political Advisor to Italy many of these activities of a more political character were taken over by him and his staff. A multitude of officers, soldiers, sailors, airmen, and the men and women of the many services, particularly from our own country, sought audiences with the Holy Father, whose uniform willingness and kindness has been a great factor in this period of occupation. He has indeed been a great spiritual ally and ranks with yourself, Mr. President, in the galaxy of great men of these days.

With the tide of battle turning strongly in Russian and Allied favor in Europe, an effort by various and clever means to sow the seeds for a "negotiated" peace with Germany was sponsored in many quarters and alleged to be implemented within some Catholic groups in America and in Rome. The Pope's allocution of June 2nd on the subject of the war was interpreted in many quarters as promoting a "negotiated" peace.\*

At your request I returned to Rome promptly upon its fall June 5, arriving the middle of that month. My task was to explain the need, the logic and practicability of unconditional surrender by Germany in the light of the war, Germany's hideous practices and the war's primary causes. It was vitally important to the present and to the future that there should be left no ground for the development of an illusion to be ripened into a slogan by Germany that she had "never been beaten". That task has not been an easy one. No further addresses encouraging an early or "negotiated" peace have been made by His Holiness. On the contrary, the Pope's allocution, September 1, 1944, definitely discussed and enumerated the basic conditions for civilized life of the individual and the mass of humanity, and the spiritual relationship as an essential element.\*

\* See Appendices I and II

I was also important at this point to develop in the minds of the Pope and of the authorities of the Holy See the necessity for and the general scheme of an international organization for the preservation of world order and peace. You will recall that I worked with the Committee of the State Department, with Sumner Welles and later with Secretary Hull in evolving the basis for these and other postwar projects, assisted in their drafting, and personally reviewed them with Chief Justice Hughes, Honorable John Davis, and Governor Miller. I was thus fully familiar with these plans and could present them to His Holiness. These arguments which I consecutively presented were followed ultimately by presenting to His Holiness an authorized copy of the proposed Dumbarton Oaks Plan for an international organization. In his last allocution the Pope explained the need for and supported such a plan (September 1, 1944)\* and did me the honor to attribute his reference to it to my personal suggestion. The Pope really laid the groundwork for unconditional surrender and rebuilding of a better temporal State.

A great number of related problems have been considered, reported to you, Mr. President, and acted upon in many fields.

\*See Appendix II

AMERICAN  
RELIEF  
FOR  
ITALY

Early in 1944, at your instance, I undertook to organize American Relief for Italy. The controversies in Italian politics reaching across the sea to the great Italo-American population made the development of unity of action even in the field of charity in America a difficult problem. By stages this was accomplished. The President's Committee, the National War Fund, supported this enterprise. In April and May the collection of used clothing, shoes, materials, milk and medical supplies proceeded, and now at the time this letter is written in November, over 5,000,000 pounds have been assembled and, after much difficulty in securing transportation, about 4,000,000 pounds have been shipped to Italy. Half of it has arrived.

Meantime, on arrival in Rome, I found no organized facilities, either in the Allied Army or in the National Government, or any civilian agencies to insure distribution. I succeeded in persuading the National Government (Prime Minister Bonomi), the Vatican (His Holiness Pope Pius XII), and the Italian Red Cross (Dr. Umberto Zanotti-Bianco, President) to join in the formation of a National Agency for the Distribution of Relief in Italy. The Prime Minister, Signor Bonomi, Pope Pius XII, and yourself, Mr. President, gave consent and approval. The inclusion of the Italian Red Cross was to give it assistance

to rebuild its organization. It was at a low ebb.

Distribution before the end of this week in the most sorely devastated areas will begin. It should move in a steady stream so long as a generous American public continues its donations, and the National War Fund continues its support.

By the time of Germany's surrender I believe the questions involving American Relief for Italy and with which I have been concerned will have been solved. The principal ones have already been solved. I shall then have directed the Italian side of American Relief for Italy's activities, so that with the important cooperation and contribution of Mr. Howard Barr, appointed by me as my deputy chairman in Italy, and released temporarily by American Red Cross, relief distribution will have advanced to the point where repetition of operation begins, organization ends.

It is my thought at not too late a moment to turn over to the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief in Italy complete charge of all distribution of American Relief for Italy's supplies. American Relief for Italy should then leave this field. From present indications that will be possible after several months' time, possibly by the time of the surrender of Germany.

There remains, then, the unconditional surrender of

Germany to end the cycle of events in this five year period. That surrender is a matter of months only - it may be of weeks only.

GERMAN  
UNCONDITIONAL  
surrender

From the moment of the unconditional surrender of Germany the military, for years to come, must impose severe terms upon that country. I believe that many requests for alleviation of national hardships upon Germany, by individuals and groups, will find their way to the Vatican. That is the case now with respect to Italy. The procedure in practically all such cases should be to refer such requests to the military authorities for decision. This Mission will not be in a position to consider or determine any question of relaxation of the terms imposed. Relatively few such requests should be referred to you or to the State Department. This does not call for exercise of judgment or decision on the part of this Mission, as the military should dominate for a long time to come.

Great questions of political character are then unlikely to be presented or considered by the Vatican. I am led to believe the Vatican will more and more feel that it should abstain from matters particularly political. It has an interest in the Catholic groups in all States. It will hesitate to become involved in internal State politics. Except through the medium of the World Organization of which I am inclined to think the

Vatican will desire to become a member the Holy See will seek to avoid partisanship in the settlement of European questions in order to avoid resentment by any of the competing States.

The period through which I have been acting as your Representative has had the constant and competent assistance and support of Mr. Harold Tittmann who was released from the Foreign Service to become my assistant. Mr. Tittmann remained faithfully at his post as Chargé d'Affaires during my absences and for two years remained within the Vatican State as guest of the Pope with representatives of the other Allied Nations and their families until Rome was liberated.

Mr. Franklin Gowen of the Foreign Service has since September 10 acted also as a competent assistant.

THE NEW  
CYCLE

A new cycle involving the long and difficult road of military occupation and control, and in all cases of European countries, advisory and even administrative responsibility lies ahead. Peace with security lies at the terminus of this road. It is a long road, and I believe a hard road. I do not believe I should embark upon it at the Holy See.

It has been my practice at the conclusion of a cycle to dissociate myself from the sphere of direction and action and the fulfilment of plans so far as they express the events of a



particular period. Peace with security is the terminus of the new road. It involves a different sort of responsibilities than that which was presented by actual warfare. It will also involve a longer period of time in working out the many economic and political problems which lie ahead than did the war itself. Having been active in most of the postwar committees in the State Department during the last three years when we studied and reviewed not only conditions of war, but also political, economic and security conditions in the postwar world, I know full well the number, complexity and vital importance of the problems and the great burden of responsibility that lies ahead for our Government and our Allies in the postwar world. Permit me to say that not even such arrangements and agreements as the nations may arrive at for the preservation of peace and security, economic and social projects are enough in themselves to solve the needs of the world and salve its wounds. The world has been nearly bankrupted. Europe has been drained of its younger men. Two great wars within twenty-five years have sapped its vitality. Much of the industrial facilities have been destroyed - vast areas of its lands laid waste - the minds of the masses take on new grievances against the ruling classes.

When the struggle for trade again asserts itself I am not clear that the future will offer any different exhibitions of



human conduct than has marked the past. All the segments of social and economic life that were present in a reasonably happy world prior to the first world war, and many of which were even present prior to the present war, will have to be refitted into an international pattern and that pattern too will have to be changed. Certainly many of the segments will have to be reconstructed and refitted. Agreements to reconstitute and improve conditions are desirable, not to say essential, but actually to create them and to make them function on the basis of the individual man and woman is quite a different proposition.

At a later date I will prepare a formal statement regarding the welcome I received from His Holiness and all others associated with him in the Vatican Organization, its related and subsidiary agencies. I wish to say briefly that I have been accorded most unusual privileges and opportunities. From my earliest arrival here His Holiness has assured me that "his door" would be open day and night" without appointment, to me. In the war period I have had at least one weekly audience, usually of an extended character with His Holiness and have enjoyed a relationship of complete confidence and understanding. This intimate relationship has proven to be one of the great experiences of my life and for it I am most grateful. When the day comes that I shall not return here for extended periods I

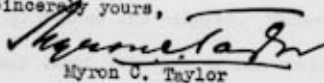
shall greatly miss the friendship, the counsel and the wisdom of the Holy Father. In retrospect it will always be a cherished reflection.

I should like also to record that at no time has the Pope or any member of the Catholic hierarchy intimated, much less suggested, that I become a member of the Catholic Church.

THE FUTURE

I do not believe that I should embark upon this new cycle of history at the Vatican. Therefore, Mr. President, mindful of your generosity, your unfailing support and constant friendliness, I offer my resignation to become effective upon the surrender of Germany. To suggest an earlier retirement would mean that I have deserted the colors. That I have never done and I have no desire to begin now.

Sincerely yours,

  
Myron C. Taylor

Enclosures:

Excerpts from allocutions  
of His Holiness the Pope,  
June 2 and September 1, 1944.

APPENDIX I

Excerpt from Part III of allocution of His Holiness, Pope  
Pius XII, of June 2, 1944 (see page 8 of my letter)  
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TWO DIVERSE ASPECTS OF THE PEACE PROBLEM

It is therefore of the greatest importance that this fear should give way to a well-founded expectation of honorable solutions; solutions that are not ephemeral or carry the germs of fresh turmoil and dangers to peace, but are true and durable; solutions that start from the principle that wars, today no less than in the past, cannot easily be laid to the account of peoples as such.

You, Venerable Brethren, know well how, in fulfilment of the serious obligation imposed by Our Apostolic ministry, We have already on several occasions, in concrete form, outlined the essential fundamentals, according to Christian thought, not only with regard to peaceful relations and international collaboration among men, but also with regard to the internal order of States and peoples. Today We limit ourselves to observing that any right solution of the world conflict must take into consideration and treat as quite distinct two grave and complex questions: the guilt of beginning and prolonging the war on the one hand, and on the other the kind of peace and its maintenance; it is a distinction which naturally leaves untouched the demands for a just expiation of acts of violence not really called for by the conduct of the war

committed against persons or things, as well as the guarantees necessary for the defence of right against possible attempts at violence.

These two different aspects of the formidable problem have been widely echoed in the conscience of peoples, and in the public declarations of competent authorities has been expressed the resolution and decision to give to the world, at the end of the armed conflict, a peace that all nations can bear. We desire and hope that the prolongation of the war together with the progressive harshening of the methods of warfare and the resulting heightening of tension and exasperation of spirit do not end by lessening and extinguishing these healthy sentiments and along with them the readiness to subordinate the instincts of vengeance and anger, quae est inimica consilio (which is the enemy of counsel) to the majesty of justice and equanimity.

In any war where one of the belligerents succeeded only through the power of the sword and other means of irresistible coercion in reaching a clear and unquestioned victory, it would find itself in the position of being physically able to dictate an inequitable peace imposed by force. But it is certain that nobody, whose conscience is illumined by the principles of true justice, could recognise in such a precarious solution the character of assured and prudent wisdom".

APPENDIX II

Excerpt from Part IV of Allocation of His Holiness, Pope  
Pius XII, of September 1, 1944 (see page 6 of my letter)  
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THOUGHTS OF PEACE

There is nothing certainly that we desire more ardently than to see that day swiftly dawn in which the clash of arms ceases and there are restored to so great a part of mankind, that has been tortured and brought almost to the end of its physical and moral forces, peace, security and prosperity.

Countless souls are sighing for that day, as shipwrecked sailors watch for the rise of the morning star. Many however note even now that the transition from the violent tempest to the great tranquillity of peace may yet be painful and bitter. They understand that the stages on the journey from the cessation of hostilities to the establishment of normal conditions of life may reveal graver difficulties than people think. It is accordingly all the more essential that a strong spirit of solidarity arise between the nations so as to render more speedy and more lasting the restoration of the world to health.

Already in Our Christmas message of 1939 We expressed a desire for the creation of international organizations which, while avoiding

the lacunae and defects of the past, should be really capable of preserving peace according to the principles of justice and equity, against all possible threat in the future. Since today in the light of such terrible experience, the desire to secure a new world-wide peace institution of this kind is ever more occupying the attention and the care of statesmen and peoples, We gladly express our pleasure and form the hope that its actual achievement may really correspond in the largest possible measure to the nobility of its end which is the maintenance of tranquillity and security in the world for the benefit of all.

But nobody perhaps looks forward as anxiously to the end of the conflict and the rebirth of mutual concord as the millions of prisoners and civilian internees compelled by the war to eat the hard bread of captivity and forced labor in a foreign land. Their sorrow for the protracted absence from mothers, wives and children, for the long separation from all the peoples and things they love consumes and wears them down, and arouses in them a poignant sense of isolation and abandonment such as only those can measure who can penetrate the deep agony of their hearts. And since this war, together with its consequences whether necessary or arbitrary, has led to the most gigantic and tragic migration of peoples known to history, it will be an achievement of high altruism, of clear-sighted justice and of wise organization, if these unfortunates are not kept waiting

beyond the strictly necessary time for their liberation, already too long delayed.

Such a resolution, which naturally would not preclude some necessary judicial precautions that perhaps are indispensable, would be for these numerous victims a first ray of sun coming into their very dark night, the symbolic foretaste of a new era in which with the growing reconciliation of men all peace-loving nations, whether great or small, powerful or weak, victors or vanquished, will share not only in the rights and duties but also in the benefits of true civilisation.

The sword can, and some times alas must open the way to peace.

The shadow of the sword may be cast also over the transition from the cessation of hostilities to the formal conclusion of peace.

The threat of the sword may appear inevitably even after the conclusion of peace, in order to safeguard within legally necessary and morally justified limits the observance of just obligations and prevent attempts at new conflicts.

But the soul of peace worthy of the name, its vivifying spirit can be one only: a justice which with impartial measure gives to each what is owing to him and exacts from each what he owes, a justice which does not give all things to all, but to all gives love and does nobody wrong, a justice which is the child of truth and the mother of healthy freedom and sure greatness.



DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor folder 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

AMT-604

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

Vatican City

Dated November 12, 1944

Rec'd 2:13 p.m., 13th.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

*file*

376, November 12, 6 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT

My AMVAT 363, November 3.

May I call attention to absence of reply to above  
message advising you of the conferring upon you of  
honorary citizenship of Rome by Mayor Prince Doria-  
Pamphili.

TAYLOR

DU

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By J. Schaubie Date FEB 22 1972



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

*file* *M. Taylor for file 4-44*  
Rome, December 13, 1944.

Dear Mr. President:

With reference to my telegram of this date,  
regarding thefts of relief and army materials in  
Italy, I have just had sent to me from New York  
the enclosed clipping which - if you have not al-  
ready seen it - may prove of interest.

With kind regards and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Myron C. Taylor*  
Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:

Clipping from N.Y. Times  
December 2, 1944

The President,

The White House

Washington.

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
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*file*  
AMT-182

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (RESTRICTED)

Vatican City

Dated November 16, 1944

Rec'd 8:02 p.m., 17th.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

382, November 16, 7 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY, THE HONORABLE  
JOSEPH DAVIES BASIL O'CONNOR AND JUDGE MARCHISIO

(1) The first shipment of supplies from American relief for Italy arrived off the port of Naples yesterday. Regret to advise the ship will now be diverted to Leghorn for unloading. Transportation officials advise that American relief supplies are in lower strata of ship's cargo and cannot be reached for some time after unloading begins and further because of rules governing priority in unloading of vessels depending on character of cargo war needs considered, it may not be reached for two or three weeks. The railroad from Leghorn to Rome will not be in operation until the middle of December due to bridges being washed out by recent torrential rains. All arrangements for unloading at port of Naples, warehousing and transportation to the interior and distribution will have to stand in abeyance until

-2- #382, November 16, 7 p.m., from Vatican City.

until late in the year and to be revised to meet the changed situation. All these services at the cost of very great effort have been arranged for on a free (repeat free) basis with Italian Government, the Vatican and the Italian Red Cross. The changes now involve a complete transfer, unloading, warehousing and transporting in a military zone by the Army. We are using every effort to overcome these difficulties and to revise procedures. Meanwhile the actual situation in the interior which has been illustrated by our several reports sent you grows increasingly critical. This situation will bring clearly before your mind the urgent request made beginning with my telegram No. 315 September 11 to set aside a special ship of some sort for transportation of relief materials without admixture with regular cargo and permitting delivery to be made at a port convenient for their distribution. We again urge the importance of such a plan being adopted otherwise all professions of interest and promises for relief made at home and given wide publicity here will be increasingly embarrassing in the absence of any actual relief. Allen of American Red Cross yesterday indicated that while they had some supplies actually on hand in

Italy

-3- #382, November 16, 7 p.m., from Vatican City.

Italy and others en route, these were earmarked for northern Italy as Allied lines move forward. He also indicated that these goods were of a standard pattern, were new and to divert them for our temporary use pending substitution of American relief goods when unloaded (being largely worn and re-conditioned material) would not be approved by the Red Cross. There are no other materials available.

(2) I regret to advise that failure to permit and expedite the loading and sailing of Spanish (300 tons and Argentine 7,000 tons) ships with necessary supplies for the Vatican State (a neutral State) and for its 120 soup kitchens which serve 142,500 soups daily to the very poor and which is the major facility for relieving distress of the most impoverished Italian people will occasion serious consequences. We are told that a part of these supplies have been awaiting shipment at Barcelona since January 23. Our previous telegrams explain details. Ambassador Hayes as late as November 9 indicated that these supplies are still awaiting shipment. In this respect we call attention to suggestion in telegram No. 323, September 19, that a particular person be charged with primary responsibility of handling these relief

-4- #382, November 16, 7 p.m., from Vatican City.

relief problems. I am confident that unless some individual makes it his duty to cooperate with all those who are planning real relief for Italy there can be no adequate performance. American relief for Italy was organized at the request of government in April 1944. Its urge the importance of first supplies have been available for shipment since July. The Spanish supplies have been available since January.

The expression has been used that the Allies have been ready to offer paper relief and not real relief. It is very difficult to meet this charge.

TAYLOR

WSB



DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*Saylor folder 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

AMT-1888

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

Vatican City

Dated December 12, 1944

Rec'd 2:35 p.m., 13th.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

400, December 12, 6 p.m.

FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY

At lengthy audience with His Holiness Pope Pius Twelfth this morning we discussed the general distemper in various countries wholly or partially released from Axis domination. It had been indicated by an informant that the Communist movement in Italy as in Greece was growing in strength, that Greece was a test ground, that a quantity of arms and munitions was being brought into Italy from Yugoslavia at the port of Bari by Communist adherents, that development of Communist strength in Italy was said to be increasing. At the moment, there appears to be no activity from German quarters looking towards end of hostilities. Though the ultimate defeat is conceded, it had been indicated from several informants that German strength was still great.

His Holiness discussed with me the fifth anniversary of the President's communication to him and to me in

respect

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By J. Schauble Date FEB 22 1972

-2- #400, December 12, 6 p.m., from Vatican City.

respect to my appointment as your personal representative recalling the substance of the President's letter of Christmas 1939. The Pope had been doing penance for the last week in retreat and participated in a very moving penitential service on Sunday afternoon in St. Peters where he appeared in simple robes on foot bearing a wooden cross. His physician persuaded His Holiness to forego the service in bare feet. My many audiences have never before attained such a height of spiritual calm and faith in the omnipotence of deity. The Diplomatic Corps and a packed cathedral joined in chanting prayers and litanies.

The audience this morning also extended into other fields concerning which, because of their secrecy and because they have only a general bearing upon present problems, do not require urgency of a message but which I shall otherwise report in due course.

TAYLOR

LMS

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*Saylor from 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

MF-139

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

Vatican City

Dated December 13, 1944

Rec'd 10:21 a.m., 14th

Secretary of State

Washington

402, December 13, 5 p.m.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ FOR PRESIDENT ONLY.

Count Sforza unexpectedly called at our villa last night and reviewed entirely at his own instance his situation asking my advice if he should still accept the appointment to America as Ambassador. He stated that yesterday Bonomi had urged him to accept the post. Sforza indicated that he did not wish to embarrass you or our country and was anxious that you should personally know his attitude. My only reply at the end of his long discourse was that his acceptance was entirely a question which he would have to decide for himself and that I could not advise him in such a matter. I asked if he had talked with Ambassador Kirk to which he replied in the affirmative. After a cup of tea and some general observations not connected with Italian political affairs he left. I may say that during last fortnight the Lieutenant General of the Realm, the Foreign Secretary,

the Duke of Aosta



-2- #402, December 13, 5 p.m., from Vatican City.

the Duke of Aosta and others have called upon me at my home to explain Italian problems. These calls were entirely unsolicited, but were probably due to long and friendly acquaintance with the individuals and members of their families which they assumed gave them the right to speak of their troubles to a friendly auditor. While I undertook no advice I indicated that patience was necessary and that rapidly to force a solution might not be the best procedure. They uniformly indicated that they received relief and benefit from reviewing their difficulties.

The impression I got from several sources, including the Holy Father, is that the Crown Prince has shown an intelligent grasp of his duties and responsibilities in this crisis and has shown strength and good judgment; that the Realm has preserved its position of control in the face of efforts of the Italian Consultative Committee to maneuver itself into degrading the Crown Prince's authority and advancing their own. This, from the Royal point of view, is one of the outstanding accomplishments of the present readjustment.

The Pope has indicated to me that de Gasperi is an intelligent man, his experience in foreign affairs limited, that he was a deputy in the Austrian Diet before the Tretino became a part of Italy; that he had been a

refugee in the

-3- #402, December 13, 5 p.m., from Vatican City.

refugee in the Vatican during the German occupation and had then assisted in the Vatican library. The principal preoccupation of the Pope is the spread of Communism in Europe and Italy. Sforza does not trust Togliatti and believes there is direct contact with, and encouragement by, Moscow of Togliatti. He scouts the danger of eventual Communist control of Italy, but hunger of the masses might cause trouble.

TAYLOR

JT

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*Taylor from 4-40*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

RA-117

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

Vatican City

Dated December 13, 1944

Rec'd 9:07 a.m., 14th

Secretary of State

Washington

405, December 13, 7 p.m.

FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY ONLY

I consider it my duty to advise that between  
shipment at New York and delivery to American relief  
for Italy outside docks at Naples American relief for  
Italy materials equalling 4% of first three shipments  
have disappeared. It is currently stated that as high  
as 20% and on the present average of over 10% of all  
Army food and clothing arriving at Naples has likewise  
disappeared in that port. As these docks are entirely  
under military control it is very much to be feared  
that an unpleasant publicity derogatory to our Army  
and Navy may eventually develop. I am told that this  
situation on such a grand scale could not develop  
without an organized group directing it. As a result  
of the speculations American Army food is currently  
sold by vendors in black market operations in Naples  
and Rome.

TAYLOR

REP

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

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

*Pst Vatican*  
INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor folder 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

RA-1198

This telegram must be  
paraphrased before being  
communicated to anyone  
other than a Government  
Agency. (RESTRICTED)

Vatican City

Dated December 18, 1944

Rec'd 1:36 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

407, December 18, 1 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT

Heretofore it has been the practice that you  
send a personal Christmas message to the Pope. I  
~~am~~ having an audience on Wednesday and if you care  
to prepare one I shall be glad to deliver it in person  
at that time. The Congressional audience of which the  
press has undoubtedly given full details was most  
successful. I later offered the members of the committee  
the opportunity to visit soup kitchens and orphanages.  
This conflicted with some of their plans but Mrs. Luce  
volunteered to accompany me. Reporters of International  
News agencies four in number accompanied us. It was  
their first experience and I think made a profound  
impression concerning conditions here. Mrs. Luce was  
very much moved and later called upon me to suggest  
that she secure temporary leave from her Congressional  
duties

-2- 407, December 18, 1 p.m. from Vatican City

duties and become one of my assistants in American relief for Italy joining our office staff here. She will apply to Secretary of State. I told her decision could only be made by Washington.

TAYLOR

RR

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor Jorden 5-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

RA-1790

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

*file*  
Vatican City

Dated December 20, 1944

Rec'd 11:55 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

410, December 20, 3 p.m.

FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

At an audience with His Holiness this morning  
I was charged to transmit to the President the Pope's  
Christmas greetings and best wishes and his blessing  
for himself and the members of his family and through  
him to the American people.

His Holiness displayed very great concern over  
the loss of lives in the war particularly on the  
western front. His impression of the German offen-  
sive was indicated by the use of the words "an incident".  
The Pope displayed no fear over the outcome of that  
action.

His Holiness will celebrate two masses at midnight  
on Christmas Eve at St. Peters which will be open to  
the public. It is anticipated that there will be a  
large attendance. His Holiness will also broadcast  
an allocation to the world on Christmas. Apart

from

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

-2- 410, December 20, 3 p.m. from Vatican City

from current matters nothing of particular interest  
transpired.

TAYLOR

REP



DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor for de*  
*file*  
*spec*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

AMT-1850

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

Vatican City

Dated December 20, 1944

Rec'd 3:03 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

411, December 20, 4 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT

Columbia Broadcasting offered for Sunday morning  
11:30 New York time a twelve minute broadcast by me  
with a ten minute reply by Prime Minister Bonomi re-  
garding American relief for Italy. Prime Minister (\*)  
at once set about writing his speech. I had thought  
well of it but found difficulty in the short time to  
prepare anything that was entertaining and not likely  
to excite controversy. I mentioned it to the Pope this  
morning who thought it an excellent idea. I advised  
Columbia to postpone the date though Christmas time had  
many advantages. The aim on my part would be to excite  
continued contributions--the Prime Minister to express  
the gratitude of Italy which is very real. If you favor  
this plan now or later would like your literary staff to  
try a hand at something you consider helpful and safe and  
telegraph it to me. With kind regards.

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Order, 1-11-72

TAYLOR *By J. Schaubert* Date **FEB 22 1972**

MRM

(\*) Apparent omission has been serviced.

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor folder 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

*Pre*  
GEM-104

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

*file 4*  
Vatican City

Dated December 21, 1944

Rec'd 9:50 a.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

U.S. URGENT

413, December 21, noon.

URGENT FOR PRESIDENT

My 411, December 20, 4 p.m.

Regarding suggested broadcast in behalf of  
American relief for Italy immediately following tele-  
gram in clear is my first attempt at a draft written  
under the influence of conditions as they actually  
exist, should it be decided that a broadcast be made.  
I have no pride of authorship but it may embody useful  
suggestions to those considering it. Desire immediate  
reply.

TAYLOR

NPL

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

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

PSF Vatican  
INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor Folan 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

RS-130

PLAIN *file*

Rome

Dated December 21, 1944

Rec'd 12:30 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

US URGENT

424, Twenty-first

As Chairman of American Relief for Italy I am speaking to you tonight from ancient Rome with its history spanning the centuries, Rome the Pagan and then Christian center. Out of its ashes it has risen time and again to outlive the folly of its rulers, to begin the upward struggle for freedom and the pursuit of happiness.

As Christmas once more dawns upon a war-torn world millions of our men and women drawn overseas by a vicious assault upon universal liberty and justice are looking through their mind's eye into your homes. They see in retrospect your bright firesides, your gaily decorated Christmas trees, the well-laden family table. They see the little and the big stockings hanging about the fireplace. They lend their ears to hear the Christmas carols on your radio or

-2-#414, Twenty-first from Rome

on your radio or in your street or perhaps it is the favorite hymn in the old church at home. Of course, it carries with it a longing to be at home. There is no discredit in that, all of us would like to be at home. Out in the vast spaces in which our boys and girls who are engaged in this work that is a duty and their service to their country and to you're exchanging little gifts and all have something to give the little boys and girls in these unaccustomed surroundings. These things are symbolical of Christmas at home. They warm the heart they soothe the heartache.

These boys and girls of ours and all the older ones become like boys and girls today, little boys grown up are alive with sentiment. It is hard to think our men are thousands of miles from home engaged in the business of killing men. That is an unnatural thing yet it becomes a solemn duty when false leadership endangers the peace of the world. War is indeed a grim business.

The war came into this Italy which we older ones used to think of as the lighter more buoyant representation of life, the great operas and symphonies, the great works of art of romance and adventure.

The war in all

-3-414, Twenty-first from Rome

The war in all its hideousness passed over Italy's beaches, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, through its mountains into the peaceful valley of Cassino leaving in its wake the wreckage of its homes and villages, its lands scarred, its people dispersed, wounded or dead, human wreckage sacrificed on the altar of Axis ambition and folly. There is brooding over the fields of Cassino a spirit of renewed hope and an abiding inspiration to make a better world. That is the spirit of Thome's honored dead speaking to us, living as their beneficiaries, inspiring us to carry on to protect what they have sacrificed. That solace, that hope, those high aspirations, that obligation to attain linger on as a lasting memory.

The mighty armada of liberation passed on to the Eternal City from earliest war days, the great leaders in this cruel war labored long and tirelessly to spare this sacred and historic city from another pillage and destruction. It's fate. These in thousand. As the line of battle moves ever onward slowly but relentlessly, Allied fighting men force civilizations enemies to retreat. Behind the line follow the first aid stations, the field hospitals, the evacuation hospitals, the base hospitals, thousands

-4-414, Twenty-first from Rome

hospitals, thousands of doctors, nurses and assistants care was long in the balance. It remains almost intact.

The line presses ever onward towards the lofty Alps. The road is strewn with wrecked homes, villages, railroads, bridges, highways, factories, harbors, ships and more important a civilian population left homeless in rags, under-fed, sick, wounded or dead for our boys as never before in our military history. These silent workers tireless and efficient are your neighbors and friends. Our boys are in good hands. We are proud of the generals and officers who lead our men in the field. Beloved by their men, thoughtful of their comfort using the utmost care for their welfare.

Then at last the real heroes of the nation the men will come home. No more crashing of arms, no more charges into the heat of battle. Home again that is what we all look forward to on this Christmas Eve.

This land of Italy is stripped of a great portion of its useful and essential home necessities. Many people sleep in the fields, in scanty woods, in caves, in shacks, in old buildings without windows or roofs. In the interior many hospitals have been destroyed. The civilian wreckage multiplies. The people scurry about for insufficient ration of bread, cheese, no longer is within their reach, shoes



-5-414, Twenty-first from Rome

their reach, shoes are priceless clothes beyond even the reach of the rich. There is inadequate light and little heat. Soap is a luxury - meat rarely seen by the people, dark bread little but costly, oil, vegetables, difficult for all to get, transportation, the masses walk, their shoes are pitiful. If an epidemic started here it would sweep all before it so low is the resistance of the people. Medicines are very scarce until recently practically non-existent.

This is the aftermath of war, it is a sad picture. Last March the effort was undertaken by the United States to relieve the most urgent phases of this situation as far as possible. We organized American relief for Italy. We succeeded voluntary gifts of clothing, shoes, milk products, vitamins and medicines were solicited and contributed. Owing to the exigencies of the war shipping conditions delayed the arrival of these essential relief supplies but now we have received over four million pounds of donated materials from the United States. The National War Fund has given its support. Various religious and civil organizations and many individuals gave generous contributions. Here in Italy we found it essential to coordinate Italian relief activities. We succeeded in organizing a National Committee for the distribution of donated relief in



-6-#414, Twenty-first from Rome

donated relief in Italy joining together the Italian Government, the Vatican, the Italian Red Cross and Italian Labor representatives. American Red Cross have loaned personnel to this agency to assist in directing its distribution. The Army through Allied Commission and Allied Force Headquarters have donated transportation as have various Italian agencies.

Today you may feel the joy of giving for you know that your generosity is in fact reaching the needy ones. Thousands are enjoying your gifts bringing warmth to cold and fragile bodies cheer to heart which seemed forsaken. American relief for Italy is no longer a prospect, it is a reality it functions. It will continue to function only as long as your generosity supports it. We make this appeal to the heart of America. If you have any articles of clothing or shoes or other useful materials that you can spare donate them to these needy people without lessening our interest in others in need. The headquarters of American Relief for Italy are at 29 Broadway, New York City. On this Christmas Eve you will sit about the old fireside and read the time honored Christmas carol. Old Scrooge may also be looking in at our windows perhaps he may come into our homes where charity resides. I think he will. The great heart of America has responded to the cry of distress

-7-414, Twenty-first from Rome

cry of distress.

I have lived so close to my fellow man I know how he responds, I know Americans react to the role of the Good Samaritan, how he admits the stranger to shelter and feeds him and clothes him. I know he never turns a deaf ear to the cry of the afflicted. I know he will do these things because it is good in the sight of the Lord.

TAYLOR

RB

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

P3 F Vatican  
INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor folder 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

TR-909

PLAIN

Vatican City

Dated December 23, 1944

Rec'd 8:38 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

URGENT

417, Twenty-third

URGENT FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY.

Following is a translated digest of remarks which Prime Minister Bonomi proposes to broadcast following my own broadcast on behalf of American relief for Italy probably Sunday morning 11:30 Washington time or Christmas day:

"Between Italy and the United States another spiritual bond of understanding and sympathy has in these days taken form; great difficulties have been overcome and American relief for Italy has become a reality.

It is a comfort to our grief-laden hearts to see that notwithstanding the hard necessities imposed by the war and while the struggle continues unabated the sentiments of human solidarity have not been overcome.

Hardly three months have elapsed since by direction of President Roosevelt with the enthusiastic support and patronage of his personal representative, the

Honorable

-2- #417, Twentythird from Vatican City

Honorable Myron Taylor, there was established in Rome the National Committee for Relief to Italy which was organized with the participation of the Italian Government, the Vatican, the Italian Red Cross and the General Confederation of Labor. This committee was set up for the purpose of undertaking the distribution of the Italian civilian population of relief goods collected by American Relief for Italy in the United States. Already within this brief space of time, these relief supplies have reached Italian ports where they are being sorted out and routed to the various parts of liberated Italy where the need is most urgent. Among these regions of Italy the Abruzzi stands out as the territory which suffered most on account of the war and where conditions are rendered more serious by intense cold and snowfalls then come the regions of the lower Lazio near Rome, Cassino, the Campania and all the other territories which are gradually being rescued the Nazi fascist yoke by the armies of the democracies.

There are quantities of various goods which are being sent throughout liberated Italy even to the smallest mountain villages which are overlooked on maps but not by the loving care of those who have planned and undertaken this relief work - these supplies may well be inadequate.

-3- #417, Twentythird from Vatican City

inadequate considering the size of the disaster and the volume of the demands but still they are sufficient to meet the most tragic situations - above all, they are such as to give the Italian people a tangible feeling that human brotherhood and solidarity among people are not merely a literary expression.

The Great American nation has stretched out her arms to suffering Italy and we have felt all the warmth and sincerity of this gesture. We realize and appreciate the profound human meaning of this American relief for Italy which has been offered with such friendship and which is so gratefully received.

The Christmas and New Year festivities are upon us and despite the war the sweet gatherings which are held for innocent children are not forgotten. Throughout the communities where so many children have been left without homes they are being brought together at this Christmastime and they will enjoy their Christmas trees, the bright lights and the gifts and there will be rejoicing, tables will be made merry. The help of our Allies is particularly gratifying and touching also on this occasion. The American and British Red Cross and the American Navy and the representatives of the United Nations and other agencies have all been moved

by a single



-4- #417, Twentythird from Vatican City

by a single thought which joins our children with theirs who are hopefully awaiting the return of their fathers when the terrible struggle will be over.

On behalf of the Italian people I feel it my duty to tender my profound thanks for this generosity and kindness and to express the wish that all this fine work will in a not distant future strengthen and increase that feeling of brotherhood which has no frontiers. Along with this wonderful relief work there are other generous undertakings also on the part of other Italian relief committees which are vying with one another to participate fully in this enterprise. A splendid effort is being made even though the means and the relief supplies do not correspond to the need but all are promoted by the desire to show that along with the help which is being given to Italy by friendly nations, Italy herself despite her tragic plight is doing everything to give her utmost to those who have lost all. And even the supplies which are given by Italians to Italians are being distributed through the National Committee for Relief to Italy.

Today the Italian laborer is without a home and workshop and he accepts with gratitude the clothes which are offered him to cover his dear ones. He accepts food for

-5- #417, Twentythird from Vatican City

food for his starving children with equal gratitude but he is anxious to receive even before his home is rebuilt the tools of his trade in order that he may himself tomorrow with his work give to his family what they need just as the farmer whose land has been wrecked by the war is anxious to receive a plough with which to till his land and to overcome starvation.

These are the hopes of our people. Every form of relief however generous can only be a temporary measure for it cannot solve the basic situation which calls for every effort on our own part for the reconstruction of our country. Our workshops, plants and factories must be rebuilt. Our land must be rebuilt. Our land must be ploughed and sowed and all that has been destroyed by the war must be made good again. The wounds of war must be healed and a new life must arise where all seems lost. In order to carry this out, it is necessary to exercise a firm will to work hard and to have raw materials and means of transportation. Some of these factors are available, others are lacking. A supreme effort must be made for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of our country. Every Italian is convinced of his faith in this possibility and has the firm will to find within himself the strength for his rebirth.

He desires



-6- #417, Twentythird from Vatican City

He desires to work for himself, his family and his country. It is necessary to furnish the materials with which to bring about this reconstruction and to encourage this desire of the Italian people to help itself. It is necessary for Italian labor to have the means to express again its geniality and ability. All must contribute their effort and their willpower to succeed.

I should like these feelings of Italian laborers which are so deeply rooted in them to be reflected beyond our borders in terms of confidence and credit and to bring about that indispensable intercourse of commercial and industrial relations which contrary to the ill-conceived ideology of a former sectarian regime will insure in the reciprocal interest of those who give and those who receive the vital reconstruction and rehabilitations. Thus we hope to be able to exchange with our friends across the seas the products of our work in order that with our industrial commercial and agricultural rebirth we may be in a position to contribute to the vast work of world reconstruction.

Once more in the name of the Italian people, I desire to express for the great help and the great generosity of the American people my profound gratitude to President Roosevelt and to his personal representative Myron Taylor, Chairman of American Relief for Italy. Through their  
wholehearted

-7- #417, Twentythird from Vatican City

wholehearted efforts and sincere friendship for Italy, they have done and are doing so much to bring comfort and relief to all those who regardless of race, political party, religion or creed have suffered the consequences of this terrible war into which we were thrown by the folly of those who violated the real sentiments and aspirations of the Italian people".

Foregoing is not for release or publication until after the broadcasts are made.

TAYLOR

IMS

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*M. Taylor folder 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

*Ben*  
MH-97

This telegram must be  
paraphrased before being  
communicated to anyone  
other than a Government  
Agency. (RESTRICTED)

Vatican City

Dated December 29, 1944

Rec'd 2:25 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

421, December 29, 5 p.m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT AND BASIL O'CONNOR

We are greatly heartened and made confident of  
greater success in this effort of relief by your  
reassuring telegram in regard to the delivery of 500,000  
pounds new clothes through American relief for  
Italy for distribution here. We are confident  
from distribution already made that concern for  
welfare of civilian population and practical steps  
to relieve distress have double value as it will  
also assist in allaying unrest. Best New Year's  
greetings.

MYRON TAYLOR

WSB

~~DEPARTMENT~~  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*m. Taylor folder 4-44*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

LFG-392

PLAIN

Rome

Dated December 30, 1944

Rec'd 11:41 a.m.

*Page*  
Secretary of State,  
Washington.

URGENT

AMVAT 123, Thirtieth

FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY

Revised text of my broadcast of American relief  
for Italy to be made on December 31 4:30 p.m. Rome  
time follows.

"As chairman of American relief for Italy I am  
speaking to you from ancient Rome. Rome with its  
history spanning the centuries, Rome the pagan and  
then the Christian center from its ashes it has risen  
time and again to outlive the folly of its rulers to  
begin the upward struggle for freedom and the pursuit  
of happiness as a new year dawns once more upon a war-  
torn world millions of our men and women drawn overseas  
by a vicious assault upon universal liberty and justice  
are looking through their minds eye into your homes,  
They see in retrospect your family and friends about

your firesides

-2-#AMVAT 423, Thirtieth, from Rome

your firesides awaiting the dawn of the new year. They feel the advent of a new year, they lend their ears to the seasons carols on your radio or in the street or perhaps they see you in their favorite church joining with their friends in singing their favorite hymns. It is a very natural and wholesome reflection that is theirs tonight as they enter upon a year so filled with promise out in the vast spaces encircling the globe. Our splendid men and women who are engaged in the war are conscious of the duty which they owe to their country. They too are exchanging New Years greetings and are alive with renewed confidence that this new year will bring them much nearer home. These thoughts are symbolical of our accustomed American life, they gladden the soul, they soothe the heartache. Italy which we used to think of as a land of happy and peaceful homes presents a different aspect today. War in all its fury passed over Italy's beaches, through its rugged mountains and into the peaceful valley of Cassino. In spite of all its sorrows there is brooding over the fields of Cassino a spirit of renewed hope and abiding inspiration to make a better world that in the spirit of those honored dead speaking to us



-3-#ALVAT 423, Thirtieth, from Rome

sptaking to us living as their beneficiaries inspiring us to carry on to protect those liberties for which they sacrificed their lives. That solace, that hope and that obligation to carry on remain with us as an everlasting memory. The spirit of Cassino is symbolical of all the fields where our men have fought to defend human liberty. The mighty armada of liberation passed on to the eternal city from earliest war days. The great leaders labored long and tirelessly to spare this sacred and historic city from still another pillage and destruction. Its fate was long in the balance. Rome was liberated and remains almost intact. The battle line presses over onward toward the lofty Alps. The road is strewn with wrecked homes, villages, railroads bridges, highways, factories, harbors, ships and more important in many areas a civilian population left homeless in rags, underfed, sick or wounded. These in thousands as the line of battle moves forward slowly but relentlessly. It is followed by first aid station field, hospitals evacuation hospitals, base hospital. Thousands of doctors, nurses and assistants care for our men as never before in our military history. These

silent

-1-#AMVAT 423, Thirtieth, from Rome

silent workers tireless and efficient are your neighbors and your friends. Our forces are in good hands. We are proud of the generals and other officers who lead them in the field. They are beloved by their men and are thoughtful of their comfort and welfare in the liberated areas of Italy where the fury of the enemy was more desperate. Many people sleep in fields, in woods, in caves, in shacks, in old buildings without windows and roofs. In the interior many hospitals have been destroyed. The civilian wreckage multiplies. The people scurry about for the insufficient bread ration. Cheese no longer is within their reach. Shoes are priceless. Clothes beyond even the reach of the rich. There is inadequate light and little heat. Soap is a luxury. Meat rarely seen by the people. Dark bread, there is little or no milk, transportation is most scarce, the masses walk. This is the inevitable aftermath of war. It is a sad picture. You will recall that last March the effort was undertaken by the United States to assist in the relief of the most urgent phases of this situation. Under the inspiring leadership of our great President American relief for Italy was

organized



-5-#ANVAT 423, Thirtieth, from Rome

organized voluntary, gifts of clothing, shoes, milk products, vitamins and medicines were solicited and contributed. Owing to the exigencies of the war shipping conditions delayed the arrival of these essential relief supplies. But now we have received in Italy over five million pounds of donated materials from the United States. The national war fund has given its support. Various religious and civil organizations and many individuals made generous contributions here in Italy. We found it essential to coordinate Italian relief activities. We succeeded in organizing the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief in Italy by associating together the Italian Government, the Italian Red Cross and Italian labor representatives. We are gratified to add that in this humanitarian enterprise we also obtained the full and effective collaboration of the Catholic Church in Italy represented by the Holy See. The American Red Cross has loaned personnel to assist in distribution. The Army, the Navy through Allied commission and Allied Force headquarters and other agencies have given assistance in providing transportation in all matters pertaining to the furnishing of relief

-6-#AMVAT 423, Thirtieth, from Rome

of relief to Italy. The most serious obstacle has been the lack of available shipping to transport the required foodstuffs. This grows out of the demands for essential supplies and munitions for the prosecution of the war. In order to obtain additional facilities for shipping and inland transportation every effort is being made and will continue to be made as rapidly as changing conditions permit. It is expected that there will be an increase in shipping of relief supplies for the Italian people. You will recall that quite recently President Roosevelt announced that his objective in improving the lot of the Italian people is to furnish relief from hunger, sickness and famine. The President also stated that steps are being taken to increase the food supply in Italy where it is below the standard necessary to maintain full health and efficiency. Today you may well feel the joy of giving for you know that your generosity is in fact reaching the many needy ones. Thousands are enjoying your gifts bringing warmth to cold and fragile bodies, cheer to hearts which seemed forsaken. American relief for Italy is no longer a prospect, it is a reality. We know of course that

the extension

~~7~~-#AMVAT 423, Thirtieth, from Rome

the extension of needed relief to the peoples of countries liberated by the democracies is one of the first logical steps to promote their economic and moral rehabilitation, a step which in its very essence assists the war effort of the Allies. This American relief for Italy will continue to function as long as your splendid generosity supports it. We make this appeal to the heart of America if you have any useful materials that you can spare donate them to these needy people. We ask this without intending to lessen your interest in others in distress. The great heart of America always responds to the cry of the afflicted. I have lived so close to my fellow man I know how he reacts to the role the good samaritan. He admits the stranger to shelter and feeds him and clothes him. I know he never returns a deaf ear to those who are suffering. I know he does these things because it is good in the sight of the Lord".

Translated text of Prime Minister's revised response expressing gratitude to American relief for Italy, for generous donations, will be cabled to the Department by me this afternoon with details concerning release of both texts to American press in collaboration with Columbia Broadcasting.

TAYLOR

WSB