

## BUILDING MATERIALS & TOOLS

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

LIKA  
W BOSNIA  
MONTENEGRO  
SANJAK  
S SLOVENIA  
KORDUN  
E BOSNIA  
C SERBIA  
DALMATIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
SLAVONIA  
SREM  
W SERBIA  
W MACEDONIA  
N SLOVENIA  
S SERBIA  
ZAGREB  
VOJVODINA  
E MACEDONIA  
E SERBIA

The principal materials needed are nails (mostly 5-7 cms long), and glass or windowlite. The simplest tools are required, hammers, screwdrivers, saws, etc. The need is pressingly urgent in the first five areas if people are not to suffer severely and even die from exposure in the winter. Glass or windowlite is most important as otherwise windows are simply blocked up to keep out the cold and gloom prevails inside the house.

## TEXTILES

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

LIKA  
W BOSNIA  
MONTENEGRO  
SANJAK  
KORDUN  
HERCEGOVINA  
E BOSNIA  
S SLOVENIA  
DALMATIA  
N SLOVENIA  
W MACEDONIA  
E MACEDONIA  
S SERBIA  
ZAGREB  
C SERBIA  
W SERBIA  
E SERBIA  
SLAVONIA  
SREM  
VOJVODINA

This includes inter alia, clothes, blankets and needles and thread. The latter are especially needed all over the country. The type of clothing and blankets, etc, wanted in any particular place needs careful study. In many places there is sufficient rough but warm and durable homespun material. Elsewhere thick clothes are needed. Lighter materials especially for women and children are required almost everywhere, although the urgency for those is not so great as for warm clothing through the lack of which the people might freeze to death.

## SEEDS

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

W BOSNIA  
LIKA  
S SLOVENIA  
SANJAK  
MONTENEGRO  
E BOSNIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
N SLOVENIA  
DALMATIA  
KORDUN  
W MACEBONIA

### NEUTRAL AREAS

E MACEDONIA  
ZAGREB  
S SERBIA  
E SERBIA

### SURPLUS AREAS In order of degree

VOJVODINA  
SLAVONIA  
SREM )  
W SERBIA )  
C SERBIA )

In making the above list it is of course assumed that the surplus areas will not be denuded of seeds in order to feed the starving populations elsewhere.

It will be noted that the LIKA is high on the list of deficient areas. This area does not need large quantities as much of it is not under cultivation, but the need to restore agriculture to a normal standard is so serious that it has been given a high priority.

## AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS & MACHINERY INCLUDING SPARE PARTS

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

S SLOVENIA  
W BOSNIA  
SANJAK  
LIKA  
MONTENEGRO  
KORDUN  
E BOSNIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
S SERBIA  
DALMATIA  
W SERBIA  
C SERBIA  
E SERBIA  
W MACEDONIA  
N SLOVENIA  
ZAGREB  
SREM  
SLAVONIA  
E MACEDONIA  
VOJVODINA

The types required in various parts of the country vary considerably. Hand tools are needed in most places. The more primitive implements are needed in the more mountainous parts and in MACEDONIA, whilst modern machinery is wanted in such places as VOJVODINA, SLOVENIA, and SREM though hand tools are also needed.



## SOAP

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

W BOSNIA  
MONTENEGRO  
E BOSNIA  
KORDUN  
SANJAK  
LIKA  
ZAGREB  
C SERBIA  
W SERBIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
S SLOVENIA  
N SLOVENIA  
SLAVONIA  
S SERBIA  
E SERBIA  
SREM  
DALMATIA  
VOJVODINA  
W MACEDONIA  
E MACEDONIA

Soap is needed throughout the country. In preparing the above list regard has been taken not only to the degree of shortage but also of the fact that in some areas the people do not feel the need of it. It is also thought that the urban areas require it more urgently than the rural districts. In most parts some soap is manufactured at home when fats can be obtained.

## COOKING, EATING & HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS INCLUDING LAMPS & LAMP OIL

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

LIKA  
MONTENEGRO  
SANJAK  
W BOSNIA  
DALMATIA  
S SLOVENIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
KORDUN  
N SLOVENIA  
E BOSNIA  
W SERBIA  
C SERBIA  
S SERBIA  
ZAGREB  
W MACEDONIA  
E SERBIA  
SLAVONIA  
SREM  
E MACEDONIA  
VOJVODINA

Utensils are universally required in Yugoslavia. In the more civilised parts, e.g. SLOVENIA, the lack is felt more than in the wilder areas such as MACEDONIA. Lamps should not be forgotten as in many places owing to broken windows the people have boarded up their houses and are living in darkness. Cases of poisoning through using unsuitable cooking pots have been reported. In some places people refrain from washing as no utensils to hold or heat the water are available.

Lamp oil is also almost universally wanted. The evil smelling fats at present burnt are not suitable and frequently cause offence to the nose, throat and eyes.

## SUGAR

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

LIKA  
W BOSNIA  
DALMATIA  
MONTENEGRO  
SANJAK  
S SLOVENIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
KORDUN  
S SERBIA  
N SLOVENIA  
W SERBIA  
E BOSNIA  
E SERBIA  
C SERBIA  
ZAGREB  
W MACEDONIA  
E MACEDONIA  
SREM  
SLAVONIA

N Yugoslavia before the war had more than sufficient sugar refining plant to meet all its demands. These refineries were situated chiefly in the neighbourhood of the Danube and when the Germans withdraw should be able to supply part of the country's needs. It seems that Central and Southern Yugoslavia have always been short of sugar owing to the policy of the sugar cartel of restricting production to keep up the price.

### SURPLUS AREA

VOJVODINA

## FATS

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

LIKA  
MONTENEGRO  
W BOSNIA  
SANJAK  
DALMATIA  
S SLOVENIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
KORDUN  
S SERBIA  
E BOSNIA  
ZAGREB  
W MACEDONIA  
N SLOVENIA  
E MACEDONIA  
SREM  
W SERBIA  
S SERBIA  
E SERBIA

The cultivation of rape and sun-flowers has been encouraged by the Germans. Owing to the high prices offered for them considerable areas have been planted. This vegetable oil should be sufficient to supply all the needs of SLAVONIA and the VOJVODINA and it is possible might also provide a reasonable surplus.

As fats have a very high nutritive value compared with their bulk they would be of considerable help to the distressed areas as soon as shipments can begin. This would especially be the case in places where the people are suffering from a high degree of malnutrition.

### NEUTRAL AREAS

SLAVONIA  
VOJVODINA



## PULSES AND VEGETABLES

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

LIKA  
W BOSNIA  
MONTENEGRO  
SANJAK  
DALMATIA  
S SLOVENIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
KORDUN  
C SERBIA  
E BOSNIA

### NEUTRAL AREAS

ZAGREB  
E MACEDONIA  
W MACEDONIA  
N SLOVENIA  
E SERBIA  
S SERBIA  
W SERBIA

### SURPLUS AREAS In order of degree

VOJVODINA  
SLAVONIA  
SREM

In certain areas, notably the KOSOVO and METOHIJA, the people dislike pulses, especially beans, to such an extent that they will not eat them if anything else is available. It is therefore useless to send pulses there. In other parts, for instance the SANJAK, people are beginning to understand dehydrated foods. The more spicy varieties of dried foods (e.g. onion powder) are therefore wanted.

## SALT

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

MONTENEGRO  
W BOSNIA  
SANJAK  
KORDUN  
S SLOVENIA  
SLAVONIA  
ZAGREB  
N SLOVENIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
LIKA  
SREM  
DALMATIA  
E SERBIA  
VOJVODINA  
W SERBIA  
S SERBIA  
W MACEDONIA  
E MACEDONIA  
C SERBIA

### NEUTRAL AREA

E BOSNIA

Salt is needed almost everywhere for animals as well as human beings. The salt mines at TUZLA in E BOSNIA should be capable of producing a certain amount and this area is therefore low on the list. Normally salt is imported from Rumania and Bulgaria and it seems that nearly sufficient for E SERBIA and E MACEDONIA is still being imported. DALMATIA gets some of its supplies from the sea at present. It is not believed that salt can be readily obtained from the sea in quantities sufficient to supply more than the littoral, although in the island of Pag and in the Peljesac peninsula a certain surplus is produced.



## VETERINARY STORES

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

SLAVONIA  
N SLOVENIA  
E SERBIA  
S SERBIA  
VOJVODINA  
SREM  
E MACEDONIA  
W SERBIA  
C SERBIA  
S SLOVENIA  
ZAGREB  
E BOSNIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
W MACEDONIA  
SANJAK  
KORDUN  
W BOSNIA  
MONTENEGRO  
DALMATIA  
LIKA

It is obviously useless to send veterinary stores to places where there are few animals and accordingly it is the more prosperous areas which are suggested as having the prior claim to this. The type of stores required for any particular area is a specialised subject which must be decided by a Veterinary Officer.

## MEAT & FISH

### DEFICIENCY AREAS In order of degree

MONTENEGRO  
SANJAK  
LIKA  
S SLOVENIA  
DALMATIA  
W BOSNIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
KORDUN  
N SLOVENIA  
E BOSNIA  
ZAGREB  
E MACEDONIA  
W MACEDONIA  
C SERBIA  
E SERBIA

### NEUTRAL AREAS

S SERBIA  
W SERBIA  
SREM  
VOJVODINA  
SLAVONIA

The supply of fish in DALMATIA, LIKA and to a less extent HERCEGOVINA and MONTENEGRO, is dependent on the tackle and gear which is available. At present they are very short of all gear and tackle including boats and nets. In some areas, notably MONTENEGRO, the staple diet is at present meat but this is no indication that it is plentiful. The shortage of other sorts of food is causing the herds to be slaughtered faster than they can increase so that they are rapidly being reduced in numbers.



COFFEE & TEA

DEFICIENCY AREAS  
In order of degree

C SERBIA  
W BOSNIA  
HERCEGOVINA  
E BOSNIA  
ZAGREB  
DALMATIA  
S SLOVENIA  
E MACEDONIA  
W MACEDONIA  
SANJAK  
MONTENEGRO  
S SERBIA  
W SERBIA  
SREM  
KORDUN  
E SERBIA  
SLAVONIA  
VOJVODINA  
N SLOVENIA  
LIKA

These are luxury commodities and should be given a low priority. They will be largely wasted in some areas as the people are not accustomed to them (in many places tea is only drunk as a medicine). Coffee is appreciated in Moslem areas.

In addition to the foregoing certain other commodities require consideration, but areas have not been arranged in order as they are required only over a comparatively small area of the country.

In the LIKA, W BOSNIA, S SLOVENIA, E BOSNIA and the KORDUN, the saw mills have been largely destroyed, or the machinery stolen or damaged. If they can be got to work again the problem of housing will be greatly simplified as plenty of wood is readily available. Belts and the laces for sewing them together, as well as the circular saws themselves, are wanted for this purpose.

In SLAVONIA, MONTENEGRO and S SERBIA, the Germans have made a practice of destroying millstones and removing any belting used for transmitting power. Accordingly, these items are short in the above areas and probably also in others. Until they are replaced flour must be sent and not unmilled grain.

There is likely to be little MT available in the country, and the problem of where to send it is an extremely difficult one. In the first place, consideration must be given to decide which areas are most in need of means of transport, but it is plainly no use sending MT in large quantities to areas where there are no roads suitable for it and where even such roads as do exist are liable to be snowed up in the winter. The North has far more suitable roads for transport than the South. MONTENEGRO, SANJAK, E SERBIA and



MACEDONIA are very badly provided and it is only on the main through roads that MT is of the slightest use. On the other hand, SLOVENIA, ZAGREB, KORDUN, SLAVONIA, SREM, VOJVODINA and C SERBIA are fairly well off in this respect. In the LIKA, E & W BOSNIA and S&W SERBIA, the roads are not good and have deteriorated owing to neglect, war damage and sabotage, especially in the LIKA and W BOSNIA. Yet another problem to be considered is that of drivers who are very few and far between. Again the question arises as to the desirability of sending MT to surplus areas to take food stuffs from them to the deficiency areas.

Whatever decision is come to on this point it will, of course be necessary to take spare parts and POL to the areas to which MT is sent.

Lubricants, especially heavy oils, will be needed for all areas for carts and agricultural machinery.

Fuel is another urgent problem. Railway locomotives are not likely to be plentiful during the military period, and those on the narrow gauge railways burn mostly wood which is generally available in large quantities, especially in the North and West of the country. The standard gauge locomotives, however, burn coal which, therefore, will be required. The amount needed is likely to be continually increasing as more and more locomotives come back into operation, but the initial shipments of this commodity are likely to be comparatively small. It is possible that some use might be made of the steam coal produced at the Arsa mines in SERBIA. The soft coal mines in SERBIA are now reported to be in operation again.

It must not be forgotten that many areas use diesel engines for driving timber and flour mills, etc and Derv and lubricants will be useful.

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IMPORTS OF METALS

Importation of Nails and Screws.

A considerable number of factories was engaged in the manufacture of nails, screws, nuts, etc. of various types. Unfortunately, no reliable information is available on which to base any estimate of 1944 production. Judging however from the 1939 and 1938 returns, home production remained inadequate to cover the country's requirements. Imports of these commodities in the only two years for which trade returns are available were as follows:

1938	...	618.6 tons
1939	...	1,241.3 tons

Imports of nails and screws of various types amounted in 1938 to 42.8 tons and in 1939 to 112.3 tons. Almost the whole of these quantities were however exported for finishing abroad, and were subsequently, it is to be assumed, reimported into Yugoslavia.

The following firms were in 1939 engaged in the production of nails and screws:

1. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Production in 1939: 50 tons. 50 HT.; 20 workers.
2. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Production of various metal goods, mainly screws and nuts. Production - about 200 tons. 200 workers.
3. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Production of screws and nails of various types, as well as various metal goods. (This firm had not started in the Belgrade factory for that year).
4. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Screws of various types.
5. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Production of screws of all types and other metal goods.
6. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Production of screws of all types and other metal goods. Production - 1.2 tons. 1.2 workers.
7. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Production of screws of all types and other metal goods. Production - 200 tons. 200 workers.
8. Državna Fabrika Željeza i Čelika, Zagreb  
Production of screws of all types and other metal goods. Production - 200 tons. 200 workers.

9. "Vijak" d. o. o., Ljubljana. Produces screws.
10. Vojnovic i Ko., Ljubljana. Capacity - about 40,000 wooden screws daily. 10 workers.
11. Wolf i Ko., Zagreb. Production - about 5 million screws; 2 million nails, etc. a year. 15 HP. 15 workers.
12. "Zmaj", Zagreb. Iron goods factory, with a section for manufacture of screws.
13. Globotschnigg, Ljubljana. 1,000 tons of wire nails, etc. a year. 100 HP., 40 workers.
14. Ivan Lazar, Kamna Gorica. 300 tons nails a year. 20 HP. 40 workers.
15. "Musted", Karlovac. Horse-shoe nails etc.
16. Simon Pirc, Kropa, Slovenia. 500-600 tons of wire nails a year. 25 HP. 20 workers.
17. Prva industrija Cavala i Zeljezo-cortna Zadruga, Kropa i Kamna Gorica. All types of nails, screws etc.; about 1,000 tons a year. 160 HP. 200 workers.
18. Ivan Seunigg, Tacenjski pod Smarnom Gorom (Slovenia); wooden and iron nails, boot protectors, etc.

Apart from the relatively small factories in the above list the following are considered likely to be producers at the present time:

- (a) Javornik Rolling Mills (Kranjska Industrijska družba). These works are known to have been large-scale producers. An unconfirmed report states that in August 1944, production was at the rate of 200 tons a month.
- (b) Zonice steel works and rolling mills.
- (c) Stora steel works and rolling mills.
- (d) Gustan - Ravne steel works and rolling mills.
- (e) S.A. H.I.L. Works, Smederevo.
- (f) "Jasenica" Works, Smederevska Palanka.



CROATIA

(Covering the areas of Kordun and Banija).

LIVING CONDITIONS.

In this part of Croatia living conditions are poor. In all areas there is a great deal of overcrowding, but this will be partially overcome when the refugees from the towns and areas now under German control return to their homes. This area is now being flooded with refugees from the Lika which is making the housing situation even more acute, none of the refugees have enough clothing, nor have they brought any cooking utensils or food with them.

GLINA. About 10% of the houses are completely destroyed but living conditions here are better than in the rest of Fr e Croatia.

POPUŠKO. About 10 to 15% of the houses are completely destroyed. The population is very crowded.

SLUNJ. About 10% of the houses are completely destroyed.

These three towns were presumably left by the Germans as they were garrison towns. Many of the smaller villages are partially or completely destroyed.

FOOD.

The food situation in this area is better than last year. Although last year there was a famine in some parts, this year it is likely that there will be enough food for everyone.

LIVESTOCK.

About the middle of October the Partisan authorities forbade the movement of pigs from one area to another and ordered that no pigs were to be brought to the market. This is to prevent the spread of some type of swine fever. Some animals in the Banija area are now affected.

The peasants report that they have only 10% of their pre-war stock of cows and pigs. They quote a similar figure for hens and ducks. There are few sheep and goats in this area, but very few were kept before the war. The people are very short of horses and the few that they have are in very bad condition. They all appear to be under-fed and most of them have sores.

CLOTHING.

This area is very short of clothing and boots. It is thought that if the winter is bad many people will die due to this deficiency.



### CARTS AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

There is a great shortage of carts (kolas) and agricultural implements but this will be overcome when the people have enough iron for wheels, tyres, axles, plough shares and shaft joints. Local blacksmiths are capable of making most of these when they have the material.

### HEALTH.

Many people suffer in various degrees from T.B. Due to the bad living conditions most of the people are lousy, so there is also some typhus. Many people have sores and ulcers.

### FINANCE.

Money has very little value here and prices vary. The following are average prices in a town market:

Eggs	50	Kuna	each.
Honey	3,000	"	a litre.
Meat	1,000	"	a kilo.
Cheese	500	"	"
Butter	2,000	"	"
Tobacco	1,000	"	" (home grown and uncured)
Apples	400	"	a dozen.
Milk	60	"	a litre.

The official rate of exchange is 800 Kuna to the dollar but the average peasant accepts a dollar as 3,000 to 3,500 Kuna.

### CONCLUSION.

The following stores are most urgently needed:

- Clothing and blankets.
- Boots and leather.
- Thread and needles.
- Medical Supplies.
- Salt (this may be available from Yugoslavian source when hostilities cease)
- Sugar, fats & soap (or tallow)
- Hand tools (for building) and spades.
- Iron for carts and agricultural implements.
- Paraffin, cart grease and horseshoes.
- Matches, cigarette papers & etc.



AAQing 477  
Draung 477  
Draung 477  
Sc. 477  
Chaplain 477  
to see off 27

SECRET

HQ ML (Yugoslavia)

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No 12

26 Nov 44

OPERATIONS

1. Fighting continues in the Russian bridgehead across the Danube in the BATINA and APATIN sectors, but there is no report of any significant advance nor has any advance taken place along the rest of the Russian front in Yugoslavia.
2. There are reports that the Bulgars and Partisans have broken through the KOPAONIK mountains into the IBAR valley between KRALJEVO and KOS MITROVICA and that the Partisans have taken POZEGA east of UZICE. If these reports are confirmed it means that only one escape route, namely through SJENICA-PRIJEPOLJE-UISEGRAD-SARAJEVO, is still open to the enemy in the SANJAK.
3. Meantime the withdrawal of Army Group E has continued along this route and until the fall of POZEGA along the KRALJEVO-UZICE-UISEGRAD road. Rearguards have been driven out of MITROVICA and all places in Serbia and Macedonia south of that town. The Partisans and the RAF have continued to harass the withdrawal and UISEGRAD especially has been attacked by the RAF in an unsuccessful attempt to destroy the pontoon bridge which the enemy has constructed there across the Drina. However the enemy are encountering fierce opposition from the Partisans between UISEGRAD and ROGATICA so that only some of them, variously estimated at 500 and 7000, have reached SARAJEVO. Between SARAJEVO and BROD a fierce contest is going on, the enemy striving to hold and maintain the railway in working order and the Partisans and the RAF trying to cut it.
4. Another escape route is being attempted through LJUBOVIJA and ZVORNIK to the Sava. This road is in a very bad condition and the bridge at ZVORNIK is down. There are also reports of troops moving westwards along the TUZLA road.
5. All along the roads the enemy withdrawal is being hampered by the elements and it appears that the condition of the troops arriving at SARAJEVO is far from satisfactory. Cases of groups of Germans refusing to fight and being shot by their officers are reported and "gatecrashing" trains, looting and other signs of an incipient breakdown of discipline are also stated to have been taking place. A curious report has also been received that enemy troops are going about in SARAJEVO dressed in tentage, camouflage material and other improbable materials having lost or disposed of their uniforms. The weather in SARAJEVO must make them regret their improvidence.



6. 21 Corps in Montenegro and Northern Albania has now been isolated. PRISTINA, PRIZREN, DJAKOVICA and PEC have fallen and the abnormally early snowfalls have aggravated the position. The whole of the Gulf of KOTOR area has now been cleared, and the enemy are moving southwards towards SKUTARI having lost the CETINJE road. BUDVA is now clear. The force is now concentrated in two main groups at PODGORICA and SKUTARI. It has appeared probable for some days that an attempt was going to be made to escape through DANILOVGRAD and NIKSIC and a serious attack in that direction appears to be commencing. The operation is becoming more and more difficult owing to the weather, Partisan resistance and the increasing assistance of the British.

#### PORTS

7. KARLOBAG (Croatia)

The quays have been prepared for demolition.

#### TIVAT (Gulf of KOTOR)

Before evacuation the harbour installations were demolished and four tankers, one of them loaded with mines are said to have been scuttled in the harbour. The two floating docks have also been sunk. One of these was 230 feet long with a lifting capacity of 1700 tons. The other was 348 feet long with a lifting capacity of 7000 tons.

#### TRIESTE

The GODFREDO MAMELLI (4300 tons GRT) has been sunk and is awash off the oil jetty in ZAULE bay. No claims have been made of attacks on this ship and the cause of its sinking is unknown.

#### ROADS

8. The temporary road bridge across the Sava from BELGRADE to ZEMUN is still standing and in use. It has however been severely damaged by shellfire and though repairs are going forward it is unsafe and might collapse if any great strain were put on it. It is the only one of the Belgrade bridges either across the Sava or the Danube remaining.

#### RAILWAYS

9. Both the Sava bridges from BELGRADE to ZEMUN are down. Work is going on to repair one of them but it will be some weeks at least before it is passable. The PANCEVO bridge across the Danube is considered by local engineers to be a complete loss.



10. The railway bridge over the Vardar between VELES and STIP is destroyed.
11. Many more locomotives have been destroyed and damaged by air attack in the past few weeks especially in the north. As many as 60 were claimed on 2 separate days.
12. Rolling stock has also suffered of course and the attacks on railways in general have continued.
13. Much rolling stock was captured when the Partisans and Bulgars entered PRISTINA. As many as 700 trucks are said to have been taken.

#### MT

14. The Partisans claim to have captured considerable quantities of MT in the past week. Their claims are summarised below:

Dalmatia	11 lorries
W Bosnia	9 "
E Bosnia	11 "
Montenegro	8 cars
Croatia	15 lorries
Macedonia	25 "
Metohija	25 "

#### DAMAGE & DESTRUCTION

15. It is reported that no destruction was caused by the retreating Germans in PRILEP and DITOLJ except for their own and Bulgarian military equipment and no mines or booby traps have yet been discovered. Both aerodromes, however, were left unserviceable. PRILEP aerodrome will be repaired shortly.
16. Air bombardment has caused much destruction at VISSEGRAD. It is said that at least 50% of the town is destroyed including much of the central area.

#### ECONOMIC

##### 17. Coal

The Partisans report that all Serbian coal mines have begun work and that production is increasing.

18. Serbian coal mines are located mostly to the north of NIS. Hard coal was produced at RTANJ (120,000 tons in 1935) and brown coal or lignite (497,000 tons in 1935) at various places to the west of RTANJ. There were also mines at KOSTOLAC and a number of other small pits. Transportation especially to BELGRADE where fuel is badly needed presents a major problem however.



19. At HRASTNIK in Slovenia production in 1935 was 140,000 tons. A report of unknown reliability states that normal production now is 120 tons a day with a peak production of 160 tons in one day. All coal is said to be sent to TRBOVLJE through the mine "shafts". On 12 Sep the pit employed 640 miners and 48 clerical workers but by 18th personnel had decreased to 580 as a result of desertions to the Partisans - an interesting reflection on the success of Marshal Tito's announcement referred to in WIS No 9 para 24. Sabotage has decreased production and a fire which was started in a shaft in August was said to be still burning on 4 Oct. Many miners were engaged in stopping the fire from spreading.

20. Sugar

It is reported that the factories at VELIKI BECKEREK (Banat) and CUPRIJA (north of NIS) are functioning and that the CUKARICA factory at BEGRADE which was heavily damaged has been repaired. They are hampered however, by lack of transport to bring in the beet and to take away the sugar. See also WIS No 18. It is said that they are working only 3 days in 10. No reports have been received of the factories at CRVENKA and VRBAS in the BACKA. The former is believed to be the largest in Yugoslavia.

21. Textiles

A large leather factory and the Ristic clothing factory at NIS are said to be in order except for blast damage to buildings which is being repaired by the Partisans.

22. The TEOKAROVIC factories at VUCJE and PARACIN (Serbia) are said to be intact. There is, however, no production owing to lack of raw materials and transport.

23. The Ristic factory is a cotton spinning and weaving factory of considerable size. It is believed that cotton printing is also done there.

24. The 2 factories of the TEOKAROVIC concern are both of some size and produce woollen goods.

25. V.I.S.T.A.D. (Metal Works) Factory VALJEVO (Serbia)

A large part of the plant has been removed to Germany. The factory, however, is still working for the Partisans producing lighters (in view of the shortage of matches), plough shares and spare parts for vehicles.

26. Oil

Further reports have been received from GOJILO, this time to the effect that all the pumps are in order and that the tanks which were damaged have been repaired. (See previous reports).



FOOD

27. The food position in Bosnia, Dalmatia and Lika is causing great and increasing anxiety. The difficulty is largely one of transport as there are said to be 80,000 tons of wheat in the BANAT left over from last year's harvest and the maize harvest of that area alone is estimated this year to be 300,000 to 400,000 tons. The destruction of the Pancevo Bridge (see above) and the lack of MT have however made distribution difficult even in BELGRADE.
28. In SPLIT the food situation remains very serious indeed and reports are now coming in that DUBROVNIK too is becoming seriously short of food. The shortage is getting worse and worse in both these towns and meat and fresh vegetables, fats and oil are not to be had. Inland salt is the most pressing necessity together with clothes.
- 28 A A report just received states that according to Partisan GHQ there is very great starvation in Dalmatia and the Islands and many deaths have occurred. It seems that the presence of the two supply ships now in Italian ports is known to the inhabitants of the Dalmatian coast and their failure to arrive has given rise to increasingly bitter queries.
29. At PRILEP and BITOLJ there seems to be no immediate shortage. Shops are open with limited stocks probably produced from hiding places after the departure of the enemy.

FUEL

30. It is believed that shortage of fuel will be a serious problem in many towns this year. In BELGRADE consumption during the winter months used to be about 200,000 cu metres of wood and 15,000 tons of coal. There is plenty of wood available but here again cannot be taken where it is needed owing to lack of transport.
31. It is reported that electric light will shortly be cut off in nearly all buildings in BELGRADE owing to lack of lignite for the power station.

FINANCE & COMMERCE

32. The following prices are quoted for the markets in BELGRADE, c.f. Appx A to WIS No 18 para 3:

flour	150	dinars	per kilo
pork	800-1000	"	" "
beef	600-800	"	" "
potatoes	60-70	"	" "
sugar	1200-1300	"	" "
cooking	1000-1200	"	" "
fat			



33. Vegetables, cheese, etc are regarded as luxuries and are priced accordingly.
34. From BRAC an intercepted letter of Oct 23 states that never has writer had so much money in the house and that oil is selling for 9000 kune a litre. The money is, however, to all intents worthless as there is nothing to buy.
35. POBJEDA the organ of the National Liberation Front in Montenegro has published an article setting forth that co-operatives will have the support of the National Government in the restoration of the country. It does not seem to be anticipated therefore that the functions of the local committees and those of the co-operatives will overlap.
36. In SKOPLJE both the Bulgarian leva and the Albanian lek are being accepted at present.

#### DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY APPROPRIATED BY THE ENEMY

37. AVNOJ have published a decree providing for the sequestration to the state for administration for private or national benefit of all property seized or owned by the enemy or enemy persons. Meantime the Bulgars have decreed the registration of all property taken from Yugoslavia or Greece with a view to its return pursuant to the terms of the Armistice.

#### POLICE

38. In Macedonia a civil and security Police force is reported to have been formed. Members are drawn from the Army and wear the letters ND (National Defence) on the left sleeve. They come under the civil administration authorities and are for maintaining law and order and security in towns.

#### UNRRA

39. The following is an excerpt from an article in a Yugoslav newspaper dated Nov 44:
- "In September of this year our National Committee was forced to refuse to accept any help from UNRRA, for the latter did not accept its proposal to distribute given help through the organs of national government, but insisted on distributing that help through a special apparatus which it would instal in Yugoslavia. Immediately after the announcement of this decision by the 'Slobodna Jugoslavija' radio, UNRRA announced that this was only a misunderstanding and that it is ready to send to Yugoslavia only a number of controllers who would supervise the even distribution of help".
40. In this connection see Wis No 11 para 37.



### BUILDING MATERIALS

41. At Appendix A is attached Part IV of the Paper on Building Materials (M31/RGE). Part IV deals with Glass Manufacture. For this information we are indebted to CEWA (Bari Det). Part I (Timber and Sawmills) and Part II (Cement) were attached as Appx B to WIS No 17 and Part III (Bricks & Tiles) as Appx B to WIS No 18. Part V (Screws and Nails) to complete the paper will be attached to a subsequent WIS.

### AREA REPORTS

42. Dalmatia

Attached hereto at Appx B is a Paper (M34/RGE) on Dalmatia. This paper is a digest of information at present available on the area and presents in a compendious form a complete picture of the present conditions in Dalmatia. It contains paragraphs on:

Living Conditions - The Islands  
Coastal Strip  
The Hinterland

Food - The Islands  
Coastal Strip  
The Hinterland

Clothing & Boots - The Islands  
Coastal Strip  
The Hinterland

Livestock - The Islands  
Coastal Strip  
The Hinterland

Agriculture - The Islands  
Coastal Strip  
The Hinterland

Fishing

Railways

Roads

Road Transport

Ports

Health

Finance

Population

Administration

& Conclusions

Industries in Dalmatia will be the subject of a separate paper.

43. Montenegro

Attached hereto at Appx C is a report on Relief and Rehabilitation requirements in Montenegro. The source of this paper is The Office of Strategic Services US Army although its reliability is not known yet it agrees fairly well with the information previously available. It is doubted however whether tractors for agricultural purposes



(see para 5) will be of much use in Montenegro.

The report contains paragraphs on:

- Living Conditions
- Food
- Clothing & Boots
- Livestock
- Agriculture & Implements
- Transport & Transportation
- Communications (Roads)
- " (Electrical)
- Health
- Industries

#### POLITICS

44. Mr Richard C Patterson has taken over the new USA Embassy to Yugoslavia in LONDON. As soon as the war situation permits the US Embassy will be transferred to BELGRADE. Previously the US had accredited a single envoy to several Allied Governments in LONDON including Yugoslavia.
45. AVNOJ has granted an amnesty to all members of the Mihailovic Cetniks and the Great and Slovene Home Defence forces (Domobranet) who report to the military or civil authorities of the Yugoslav Liberation Committee by Jan 15 1945. Those who have committed ordinary crimes are specifically excluded and it is noteworthy that no mention is made of the Ustashi. The previous similar pronouncement which was made some months ago was successful in bringing many thousands of recruits to the Partisan ranks who were on the whole well treated. The present amnesty is likely to hasten the rapidly approaching end of the Domobrans. As for the Cetniks they are no longer an organised force but a number of scattered individuals. Mihailovic himself was last heard of at BRCKO on the Sava with a few hundred followers.
46. The Executive Committee of the Anti Fascist Assembly of National Liberation of Serbia has appointed a government from among its members. A legislative committee and a state commission for the investigation of war crimes has also been appointed for Serbia.
47. At the conclusion of his talks with Marshal Tito Dr Subasic went to Moscow to pay a visit to Marshal Stalin.

*R. G. Edholm*  
Maj GS.  
R.G. Edholm.

Distribution: As for WIA NO 10.



BUILDING MATERIALS.Part IV.GLASS.

The Yugoslav glass industry was not highly developed, being mainly confined to the production of simple window and bottle glass; such table and other glassware as was manufactured in the country was of low quality.

No reliable figures of production in recent years are available, nor were such figures ever published. Judging from the relatively small imports, however, in the years for which official trade returns are available, it appears that home industry was, latterly at least able to cover the whole of the country's requirements in common glass.

Imports were as follows:

	1934	1935	1938	1939
			tons.	
Window and mirror glass.	441	874	1387	1127
Hollow glass	453	637	809	935

Imports apparently consisted mainly of plate glass and other sheet glass of superior quality, and of other special types, such as optical glass, watch glasses and various "luxury" goods.

The following five glass factories existed on Yugoslav territory before the formation of the State. The details given relate to the year 1929 (source, "Privredni Almanah"), except where otherwise stated.

1. DARUVAR (Croatia)

Established 1880. Up to 1921 this factory produced hollow glass only. It was then re-equipped for the production of window glass, with a capacity of 2,000 tons a year (400,000 sq metres of 5 mm in thickness). Conditions being unfavourable for the manufacture of sheet-glass, however, the factory was in 1929 producing moulded glass only, employing 200 skilled workers.

According to the "Compass" for 1941, the Daruvar factory produces sheet glass, has a total yearly production of 32,000 tons.

2. PARACIN (Serbia.)

Established 1906. Passed into the hands of the cartel in 1927. Manufactures all types of hollow and pressed glass. 350 hp.; capacity about 10 tons daily; about 300 workers, skilled and unskilled. According to the 1932 Yugoslav Trade Directory the factory was engaged in the manufacture of bottles, and had its head office at Belgrade.



3. HRASTNIK.

Established 1854 and has remained in continuous production. The factory has been re-equipped several times and is now thoroughly up to date. The three furnaces work continuously, producing tubes, bottles, jars, table ware etc. There are also workshops for the manufacture of iron moulds. The capacity of the three furnaces is 30 tons a day or about 11,000 tons a year; 500 to 550 workers, most of whom are skilled.

A reliable source has reported that in August 1944 the Hrastnik factory was producing both sheet glass and hollow glass, including ground glass. Latterly glass insulators had been produced on a considerable scale as a substitute for those of porcelain. About 400 workers were then employed.

4. SPRAZA (near Rogatec.)

Established 1840. Recently modernised; 180 HP.; two continuous furnaces, mainly producing coloured glass bottles for mineral water, beer, etc. Capacity: one million bottles monthly, corresponding to a yearly production of 12,000 tons. Employs about 320 workers, mainly skilled.

5. ZAGORJE (Slovenia)

Founded 1835. Two continuous furnaces, producing various types of white hollow glass, including table-ware, chemists' and industrial ware. Capacity: 15 tons a day, or 5,400 tons a year; about 350 workers, mainly skilled.

The following factories were subsequently established:

(a) ZAJEČJE.

Established 1923. Produces window glass. Capacity about 800,000 sq metres. Production, however, was much below capacity. In 1929 work was suspended owing to financial difficulties.

(b) PANČOVO.

The date of the foundation of this factory is not known, but it is believed to be of considerable importance, and has its head office at Belgrade. The factory, which is believed to manufacture window glass only continued in production under the Germans and its products were still being exported on a considerable scale to Turkey and Bulgaria in 1944.

(c) SVETI KRIŽ (near Rogaska Slatina)

This factory was established by the Yugoslav glass cartel; it is not known in what year, and is said to have produced ground hollow glass of relatively high quality, employing 120 skilled workers (1939).



### RAW MATERIALS.

The "Privredni Almanah", 1929, states that the industry in the early stages depended largely on quartz sand imported from Germany, but that a source of sand of equally good quality had been discovered near SKOPLJE and was already producing 8,000 tons a year. Sand of this type is also known to exist near ZAJECKO and to have been used in the local industry. Quartz sand suitable for the production of glass is further stated to be abundant in Slovenia.

The limited trade returns available indicate that imports of sand for glass making were in the neighbourhood of 800 tons only in 1938 and 1,300 tons in 1939 were derived mainly from Germany and Czechoslovakia.

While no final conclusion can be formed on the basis of returns for these two years, it nevertheless seems safe to assume that the greater part of the sand required is actually found in the country. It further seems probable that the sodium carbonate and other chemicals employed in glass-making were largely supplied by Yugoslav industry.

### MIRROR GLASS INDUSTRY.

There were apparently at least sixteen factories or workshouses engaged in the mirror and glass-finishing industry in 1929, and a somewhat greater number in 1932. These were in the main small concerns employing say 50 workers, or less.

### FUEL AND POWER.

The "Privredni Almanah" states that the five factories existing prior to 1918 were all equipped for the use of gas. Unfortunately, however, apart from the statement that the Straz factory has its own power station, there is no indication of the sources of fuel or power on which the industry depended.

It may be assumed however that this was mainly supplied by local resources of coal and perhaps of charcoal.

### CONCLUSION.

The eight glass factories referred to in this report are likely still to be in existence, and, while positive evidence regarding recent production exists in respect of Hrastnik and Pancevo only, it seems probable that some if not all of the remaining factories are still working. It may be noted here that the Germano-Croatian trade agreement of 1944 provided for exports of 500,000 mineral water bottles, presumably over a period of one year, from Croatia. This of course implies the existence of an active industry in that territory. Immediate future activity will no doubt be greatly restricted by the prevailing shortage of fuel as well as by lack of transport and skilled labour.

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D A L M A T I A.

The following is a summary of the information at present available about DALMATIA. The area considered is indicated on the attached map. It will be noted that METKOVIĆ and DUBROVNIK Srezovi including Peljesac Peninsula and Mljet Island are not part of the area dealt with. This region falls into three distinct parts, the islands, the immediate coastal strip and the hilly and mountainous hinterland, and conditions vary considerably between them.

LIVING CONDITIONS - The Islands.

The state of housing varies. It is worse in the Northern group than in the Southern but destruction and damage to houses has nowhere approached the scale which prevails in parts of the mainland. From the islands also many men have either gone to join the Partisans or else have been deported by the Germans, so that overcrowding is not thought to be a serious problem. On HVAR and BRAC at least the Partisan authorities have made a start at rebuilding houses though they are hampered by lack of materials and it is thought that much has been done to relieve the shortage of housing. For example, on HVAR a hostel for old people and a kindergarten have been started. An article appeared in the paper "Naprijed" for 7th August and according to that account some 1,200 dwellings and 150 other buildings have been destroyed in the Middle Dalmatian Islands i.e. presumably in BRAC, HVAR and SOLTA. Seeing that the population of these islands cannot be less than 25,000 people some of whom are temporarily away, such destruction does not seem to imply any serious degree of overcrowding. It is noteworthy too that this paper is a Partisan organ. Individual villages have been badly damaged e.g. MIRCA on BRAC which was sacked by the enemy in August and VELIKI IZ on the island of IZ which is reported to have been destroyed. PUCISCE (Brac) is also said to have been destroyed. The islands do, however, need building materials of all sorts so as to repair the damage they have suffered.

By Yugoslav standards, sanitation is good and water is plentiful on most islands. Soap however, is non-existent and for that reason though the people do their best, they are not very clean.

On HVAR at least household utensils are not seriously short but lamps and oil are needed.

Coastal Strip.

In the coastal strip there has been some fighting in places and even the towns including SPALJ have changed hands from time to time. In the towns also, especially SPALJ and ZADAR there has been much destruction from Allied bombing. The number of refugees must make the housing and overcrowding problem a considerable one except in ZADAR which is reported to have been evacuated of civilians.



In addition there are reports of destruction of villages by the enemy probably by way of reprisals in the TROGIR and MAKARSKA areas. Destruction, however, is believed to be worst in BIOGRAD Srez where there has been heavy fighting. Except for this, however, the immediate littoral has suffered less than the hinterland. On the other hand in normal times the standard of living is much higher and the deterioration is felt more severely.

The water situation on the coast is believed to be unsatisfactory. There has been a serious drought this summer and the aqueduct at SPLIT was reported in July to be destroyed.

Sanitation is good in the towns but primitive elsewhere, though by Yugoslav standards it is fair.

All household utensils and building materials are badly wanted though at least one of the SPLIT Cement Factories is working and probably a brick works and a small glass factory are also working there. Nails especially are in short supply.

Soap is of course not available and its lack is much felt.

#### The Hinterland

There has been much heavy fighting especially in the North and as a result much damage and destruction. The destruction in the North e.g. the KNIN district, has been greater partly because there was more there to destroy and it is more accessible. KNIN itself being a Cetnik base has not suffered from the effects of fighting as much as the surrounding country generally, but the town and also DENIS have been repeatedly bombed and must have suffered severely from that cause. The population of KNIN is believed to have largely increased. SINJ too as a German base has suffered mainly from bombing but in the neighbourhood there has been much heavy fighting and destruction has been extensive in the Srez.

Household utensils are needed and large supplies of all building materials will be required. Soap again is urgently wanted.

As a generalisation therefore, it may be said that living conditions are best in the Islands and become worse as one goes inland.

#### FOOD. The Islands.

Conditions vary somewhat but are generally unsatisfactory. The chief item of diet appears to be fish though restrictions and the removal and destruction of boats and tackle by the Germans have reduced even fishing to proportions small compared with pre-war standards. Fruit seems also to be fairly plentiful. Meat is uncommon as the livestock has been much reduced by requisitioning and the lack of other food. Horseflesh was in one case being sold for 1000 kunas per kilo. There is, however, plenty of wine, and some salt from the sea is of course available though insufficient is produced to allow for the salting of fish as well as for other purposes for which it is used;



White bread is unobtainable and instead a grey soggy mass of dough is eaten. There is some olive oil.

Now that the Germans have been ejected from most of the islands the situation will no doubt improve as the people will be relieved of their reckless requisitioning.

#### The Coastal Strip.

The situation in SPILIT is bad. Reports have been received that children have actually died from hunger. This has been due to the failure of the harvest, the presence of the Germans and the fact that for some months SPILIT has been almost in a state of siege. The Germans of course seized all they could and even so reports have been received that they had insufficient food. Needless to say almost nothing is left for the unfortunate civilians. Fishing has been severely restricted so that even that resource has been denied. There is very little grain or meat and no sugar. There is a certain amount of olive oil, fruit and a few beans but very little else. Elsewhere on the coast the situation is bad for the same reasons, though not to the same degree as in SPILIT. The area has of course never been self supporting in food and the breakdown of transport coupled with the bad harvest and German requisitioning has hit it very hard. Sea salt however, is of course available on the immediate littoral though in insufficient quantities.

At all events in the towns most of the bakeries and flour mills are believed to have survived.

#### The Hinterland.

The area has never been self supporting as regards food and the bad harvest, destruction of crops and the requisitioning of the various contending forces have rendered the position extremely serious. In addition the population of KNIN has increased and accordingly there are more mouths to feed. Though there are some beasts left, meat too is extremely short and though it is believed that the food from the harvest is not yet exhausted it is likely to be so shortly, and hunger will then be a serious problem. Although the LIVANJSKO POLJE is nearby though outside the area of the report, it is not thought that it will be able to do much more than support itself after supplying the needs of the various armies that have occupied it.

KNIN is short of bread, meat, fats (including olive oil) and vegetables, and there is no sugar and no salt. It is feared that this is representative of the rest of the hinterland.

There is, however, some fruit and beans.

It is feared that many of the mills have been destroyed and flour rather than grain should be supplied in the early stages.

To sum up, the coastal strip is the worst part of Dalmatia for food and the islands the least bad.



## CLOTHING AND BOOTS.

### The Islands.

Clothing is in a bad state and replacements are not to be had. As the climate is comparatively mild however, the need is not so pressing as elsewhere and it is the lighter clothes that are specially wanted. Needles and thread are required and if these were supplied the people could repair their clothing and make up any materials that are supplied to them. Boots and shoes are unobtainable. Most people go barefooted in summer.

### The Coastal Strip.

The clothing situation is unsatisfactory. In peacetime, in the towns at least the people bought clothes and cloth and there was not much home spinning and weaving. This clothing was not manufactured locally and now that outside supplies are cut off there is no clothing to be had. Even the Germans who of course took what they could, were short of clothing. Here again, however, the comparatively mild climate renders the need less urgent than in other places and it is light clothing and materials that are especially needed. Needles and thread which are very short should also be supplied so that much needed repairs to existing clothes can be done. Boots and shoes are even more badly needed than clothes. A report has even been received that the Germans in SPLIT were making shoes with wooden soles, the uppers being made from the leather of their pouches.

### The Hinterland.

The clothing situation is extremely serious and is aggravated by the amount of destruction of houses and the climate which is far more severe than on the coast and in winter very cold indeed. In many parts snow lies all through the winter. Home spun is produced in normal times but it is feared that lack of raw materials and the destruction of looms has largely reduced the amount produced. The people will be able to make clothes for themselves if provided with cloth, and needles and thread. Warm materials and clothes and blankets are the principal need but lighter clothes for the women and children will also be required. Boots or shoes also are urgently needed. Many people go barefoot in summer but in winter the cold and snow render footwear necessary.

To sum up, the situation is least bad on the islands and gets worse as one goes inland.

## LIVESTOCK.

### The Islands.

Livestock has been very seriously reduced in numbers. There are very few draught animals and they are mostly working for the army. One report says that sheep, goats and chickens on HVAR have been reduced to only 5% of their pre-war figures, but it seems improbable that this can represent the conditions on the islands in general. On MURTER Island however, there are known to be only a few cattle, sheep and pigs. The causes of this decline appear to be



German requisitioning, the lack of other food which causes people to eat their own beasts to a greater extent than before and perhaps, lack of food for the animals. There are no reports of any particular diseases among animals.

#### The Coastal Strip.

German requisitions have fallen even heavier here than on the Islands. Draught animals are particularly short and what there are are nearly all being used by the Partisans. Sheep and goats have also been seized by the Ustashi in various places especially in the SPILIT neighbourhood.

#### The Hinterland.

Sheep and goats were fairly common before the war. They are greatly reduced in numbers but it is thought probable that numbers of them are left in the more inaccessible places. Pack and draught animals are mostly in the hands of the army and are insufficient even for that purpose. They are in a bad condition owing to overwork and bad food.

#### AGRICULTURE.

##### The Islands.

The drought of this year (1944) has caused the grain harvest to be a failure especially in the Southern group. Even in normal times the grain production was insufficient and this failure has very seriously aggravated the position. Wheat and maize were the chief crops. Olives, grapes and fruit however, which are also grown on a considerable scale have been fairly good though they have to some extent been destroyed and requisitioned by the enemy. Pyrethrum is grown on the islands and is an important crop as it is one of the few places in Europe where it is grown. Vegetables, especially beans and potatoes are also grown especially in the Northern group of islands.

Owing to the reduction in the numbers of livestock natural manures are very short and chemical fertilisers and pesticides are required. Seeds too will be needed as the quality of seed this year has been poor in addition to the insufficient quantity of the harvest. For vines, Copper Sulphate is needed.

The position as regards implements is not believed to be serious. No doubt replacements are needed but there are still implements sufficient to till the land at present under cultivation. Hand tools are chiefly used and there is no purpose to be gained by sending machinery.

##### The Coastal Strip.

The position is similar to that on the Islands but it is thought that the need for implements is greater. Reports have been received that the Partisans have started somewhere in Dalmatia a small factory (exact location unknown) for producing vitriol which is used in the manufacture of copper sulphate and this was being distributed in September in the SPILIT and SIBENIK districts. The Partisans have also established in Italy a factory for producing



copper sulphate for Dalmatia.

More wine was being produced than could be locally consumed and in September it was being distilled and a so called "whisky" being produced.

#### The Hinterland.

The harvest has been rather better than on the coast. Maize and wheat are grown and also fruit and vegetables. There is however, much less land under cultivation than in peace time because of the fighting which has taken place.

The area was never self supporting for food and decreased production, requisitions and destruction have made the situation very serious. Farm implements (hand tools and ploughs) are needed and also insecticides. Again the reduction in the numbers of livestock renders fertilisers necessary.

Timber used to grow in Dalmatia, but owing to uneconomic cutting the soil has been eroded and much less is grown there now. There are, however, still some trees.

#### FISHING.

This was a considerable industry along the coast and among the islands. Although it has much decreased it has kept some of the islands from starvation and no doubt will grow in scale now that the Germans have been ejected. In the islands occupied by them the Germans strictly controlled fishing, seized many of the boats and otherwise hindered the industry. On other islands they made raids from time to time seizing or destroying the boats and taking the nets for camouflaging their vehicles. By no means were all the boats destroyed. Some were merely removed so that the Partisans could be kept from using them. About 200 of these boats were concentrated at MURTER Island about the end of August where unfortunately for their owners they were strafed by the B.A.F. It is not known what has become of them since the Germans left but it is reasonable to suppose that many of them will still be available and in serviceable condition.

The shortage of craft and tackle is thought to be worst in the Northern group of the islands and on the coast. HVAR at all events still has some boats and nets.

A second cause of the decline of fishing is of course the natural wear and tear on boats, nets etc. which it has been impossible to repair owing to lack of materials. Shortage of manpower has also contributed to a decrease in the industry.

To sum up, the industry will soon revive if the necessary boats and nets are provided. POL for engines, tar, oakum, sail cloth, ropes, twine for nets, cork or glass floats, lead sinkers, hooks, lines and many other items are also needed.



### RAILWAYS.

There is very little railway in Dalmatia. From SPLIT a 76 cm. gauge line exists leading to a terminus at SINJ. A standard gauge line leads up to KNIN and then on to GOSPIĆ and eventually up to KARLOVAC. This line, however, is so seriously damaged beyond KNIN that it cannot be considered as being of any use in the early stages of relief. Up to KNIN it is believed to have been kept working for some time but recently the Germans have given up the attempt and the line has been dead for some months. The same remarks probably apply to its branch which leads to SIBENIK. These lines are single track only but standard gauge. SPLIT station has been damaged by Allied bombing. It is possible, however, that a certain amount of rolling stock may be available.

### ROADS.

A detailed survey of the roads of Dalmatia is beyond the scope of this paper.

There were fairly good roads both along the coast and inland though the latter were hilly and not very frequent. Especially inland the roads have suffered extensively from sabotage, neglect and the wear and tear of war, but nevertheless most of them can be quickly made passable by means of local labour and resources.

For example on the road from SPLIT to SIBENIK a bridge on the JADRO, a bridge at OKLOVAC and another bridge at MR V638560 have been blown. The first has been replaced by a light wooden structure and the others bypassed. As a result light traffic at least can use the roads in fine weather. The bridge at SKRADIN across the KRKA on the other hand is demolished and a detour is necessary. Much work will be necessary before the roads of Dalmatia are capable of carrying heavy and regular traffic.

### ROAD TRANSPORT.

In the islands there is practically no M/T of any sort. Carts and pack animals are used for transport purposes. As regards animals see under "Livestock" above. The carts are believed to be sufficient in number but will need replacements of metal parts which they have of course been denied for a considerable period. On the mainland the position as regards carts and pack animals is similar though probably rather worse.

It is believed that there was very little M/T in Dalmatia available even for the Partisans. A certain amount, however, said to be 200 vehicles was captured by them in SPLIT at the end of October though its condition is unknown. In addition there are probably a considerable number of damaged and derelict vehicles scattered about the country as well as some which have been hidden from the occupiers. Skilful cannibalisation might restore a number of vehicles to at least a temporary state of mobility. Tyres are likely to be a limiting factor and needless to say POL is very short indeed.



## PORTS.

The three chief ports, SPLIT including MARSEL BAY, SIBENIK and ZADAR have all suffered from the war. It is not intended to survey them in detail in this paper. They can already be used by small ships and SPLIT can receive a limited number of ships of considerable size. There are a number of small ports along the coast and among the islands and some of these are undamaged. None, however, are capable of taking large ships.

## HEALTH.

The general health of the people has suffered considerably from the war. The chief causes are bad and insufficient food, lack of medical attention and lack of soap. Children in particular are in a bad state. Many of them suffer from malnutritional complaints such as rickets and from sores on their limbs. No very serious epidemics are known to have occurred. There have been outbreaks of typhus from time to time but they have never been more than local. A local epidemic of some intestinal complaint was recently reported from the SIBENIK Srez and children were said to be dying as a result. The mainland is malarial but not the islands. This is reversed in Croatia where it is the islands that are malarial and the mainland is not. There have been cases of scurvy and of typhoid. Tuberculosis, Diphtheria and VD are also likely to be encountered.

A Partisan account states that a considerable amount of work has been done by them in the field of health especially in the islands, where a certain amount of typhus inoculation has been undertaken. Hospitals have been opened on VIS, DUGI OTOK, HVAR and KORCULA. In addition 18 Field hospitals were said to be operating in August mostly in the islands but also on the mainland. They were each reported to be treating 20 patients daily. 8 Health teams were said at the same time to be operating also chiefly in the islands. Even in SPLIT under German occupation underground health teams were working. There are also of course, the health sections of the various National Liberation Committees. According to the Partisans therefore, there is at least the nucleus of an organisation to deal with health problems.

It seems that medical equipment and stores are not available at all in most cases and if these and plenty of soap were provided the problems would largely be solved.

The danger at present lies in the fact that owing to their weakened state, the people are especially susceptible to disease and a serious epidemic would be hard to check.

As regards hospitals in the towns the following are known to exist:

SIBENIK Civil Provincial Hospital. About 15 buildings of various sizes.

Gymnasium or High School. Believed to be used as a hospital. A large building of 3 or 4 storeys.



Naval Hospital. A small building S.W. of KULINA point, is marked with a red cross and may be a naval hospital.

A report that 200 sick people were in the prison buildings was received in August.

SPLIT Civilian Hospital. 300 beds.

Old Military Hospital. 100 beds.

Sanatorium in KAVANJINOVA Street.

Theological Seminary. Used by Italians as a military hospital - 200-250 beds.

Hospital and Health Centre in BALKANSKA Street.

KNIN 150 beds.

BENKOVAC 120 beds.

ZADAR 200 beds in peace time but believed capable of expansion.

#### FINANCE.

The financial position in Dalmatia is chaotic though no worse than elsewhere in Yugoslavia. The usual currency is the Croatian Kuna but the lack of confidence in the Government and the extreme shortage of many commodities together with local variations in supply and demand make it extremely difficult to give an intelligible account of the financial position. Lire and Reichsmarks are also believed to be in circulation.

Except in towns, however, barter is the usual mode of commerce.

The following prices have been reported from SPLIT in kunas:

	<u>Aug 44.</u>	<u>Oct 44.</u>
Bread per kilo	500	1,500
Maize flour per kilo	500	
Meat per kilo	1,600	1,600
Sugar per kilo	3,000	700
Macaroni per kilo	1,000	
Oil per litre	3,000	10,000
Elt per kilo		14,000
Wheat grain per kilo		1,200
Maize grain per kilo		1,000

The prices in SPLIT owing to its being almost in a state of siege for some months have been steadily rising and elsewhere it is believed that they are not even so high as in SPLIT in August. In the SIBENIK area in July a peasant was reported to earn 800 kunas per day.



No reports for Dalmatia have come to hand of the exchange value of the various currencies against each other or against Sterling, dollars or gold, but at LUBROVNIK the Partisan rate is reported to be 8 Kuna = 1 lira and 3,200 Kuna = one pound sterling. The latter rate is the same as that laid down by the Partisans in Central Croatia and may give some indication of the future of the Kuna.

#### POPULATION.

The causes affecting population in Dalmatia are chiefly the following:

- (1) Deaths due to (a) Military casualties  
(b) Civilian casualties  
(c) Indirect pressure of war (disease, starvation etc)  
(d) Massacres and reprisals
- (2) Deportations by the Germans for forced labour military service etc.
- (3) Refugees leaving the district.
- (4) Decline in the birth rate.
- (5) Arrival of refugees.

The various srezovi included in the area are listed below together with the main causes contributing to the alterations of population shown. The "basic population" is arrived at by taking the 1931 census figures and adding to them 16 1/6 % to allow for the normal increase of population up to 1943.

	Basic Population	Present Estimated Population	Remarks.
BENKOVAC	70,000	50,000	Fairly heavy fighting has taken place particularly in the N. part of this Srez. Numbers of the inhabitants have sought refuge in BIOGRAD and SIBENIK Srezovi.
BIOGRAD	35,000	45,000	Some fighting has occurred but people from W. BOSNIA, the LIKA and elsewhere took refuge here to be under Italian rule rather than German.



	Basic Population	Present Est. mated Population	Remarks
HVAR	27,000	15,000	The population of this island is thought to have been seriously depleted due to the fighting, reprisals, etc. Many have also left the island for the M.E. or Italy.
IMOTSKI	30,000	35,000	Some fighting and considerable terrorisation by the Ustashi has occurred in this Srez.
KNIN	70,000	50,000	Although the population of the town itself has increased the country districts have suffered rather badly from the fighting and Cetnik and Ustashi terrorism. Some have fled to Serbia.
KORCULA	24,000	10,000	This island has changed hands several times. In the summer of 1944 it was reported that the Germans were evacuating all the civilian inhabitants. Like Hvar many have gone to Italy and the M.E.
MAKARSKA	31,000	35,000	Destruction by fighting has been comparatively light in this Srez and though there have been considerable reprisals and Ustashi terrorism and it is thought a number of refugees from S.BOSNIA & NE DALMATIA have fled here.



	Basic Population	Present Estimated Population	Remarks.
PREKO	25,000	20,000	Destruction has mostly been done by enemy punitive expeditions. Although numbers of the inhabitants have fled there has recently been an influx of people onto the islands from the mainland.
SIBENIK	80,000	90,000	During the early stages of the war this was a reception area for refugees especially from S.CROATIA & BOSNIA. Since then some of these have gone elsewhere -eg. M.E. Partisan Forces etc.
SINJ	70,000	50,000	Fairly heavy fighting accompanied by Ustashi terrorism has taken place in this area. Some people have fled to the coast whilst others have been killed.
SPLIT	153,000	160,000	This was a refugee area during 1941 and 42. There has been some rather sharp fighting around SPLIT itself. There has been considerable USTASHI terrorism.
SUPETAR (BRAC)	20,000	15,000	This island has changed hands several times; Parts of the island have suffered severely & civilian casualties have been fairly heavy. Was a reception area early on but some people have left for the ME or Italy.

The people are mostly of Croat stock and Catholic by religion.



1. *Phonotheca*  
 2. *Engras*  
 3. *Heron*  
 4. *Tanagers*  
 5. *Hum*  
 6. *Korua*  
 7. *Meadow*  
 8. *Ardo*  
 9. *Aloua*  
 10. *Eng. sp.*  
 11. *Hyphantornis*

[illegible]

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INDUSTRY

This will be given in a future W.I.S.

ADMINISTRATION.

The greater part of Dalmatia is now liberated and Partisan administration is now being established. The Central authority for Yugoslavia is the Antifascist Council of the National Liberation of Yugoslavia (AVNOJ) which has under it the Regional (ZEMALJSKO) Antifascist Council for the National Liberation of Croatia (ZAVNOH). The Provincial (OBLASNI) Council for Dalmatia comes under ZAVNOH. Its organisation which is not yet entirely established is shown on the attached chart. It will be noted that it includes METKOVIĆ, BUBRAVNIK, BELJESAC and MLJET as well as the area covered by this report.

CONCLUSIONS.

Dalmatia has suffered greatly from the war and requires much assistance. A suggested order of priorities for supplies is appended and many of these should be given a high priority.

Cereals  
Sugar  
Dairy Produce and Eggs  
Textiles  
Boots  
Pulses  
Medical Supplies  
Meat and Fish  
Soap  
Fats  
Fishing boats and tackle  
Building Materials  
Seeds  
Fertilisers  
Agricultural tools  
Salt  
MF

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= DALMATIA =

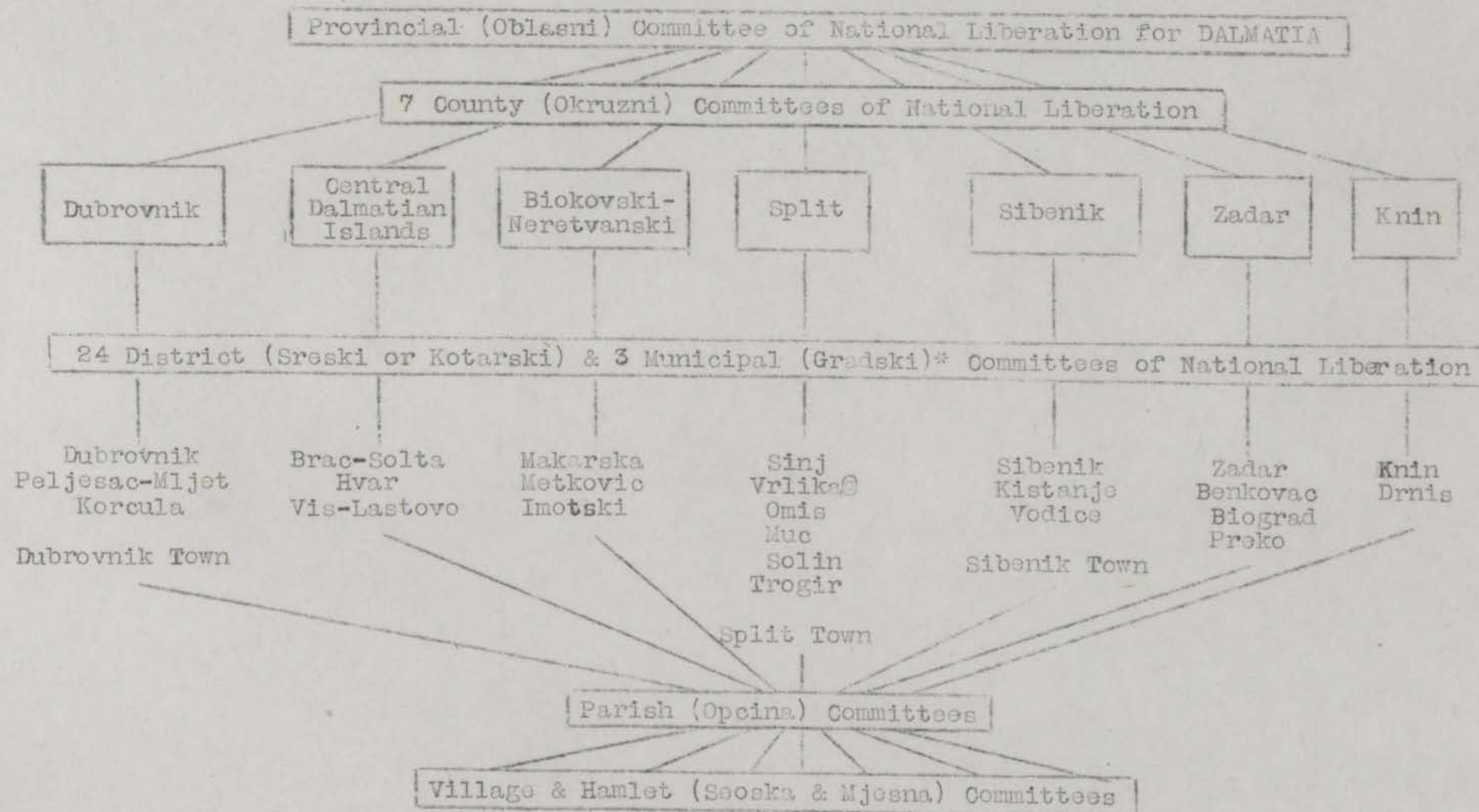
Scale in Miles

10 5 0 10 20 30 40

Scale: 1:1,000,000



# THE PARTISAN ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE IN DALMATIA



\* The Gradski Odbori do not yet appear to have been definitely established.

@ In another official document Vrlika appears as one of the Srez of the Knin Okrug.

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION  
REQUIREMENTS IN MONTENEGRO.

1. LIVING CONDITIONS.

(a) Conditions generally have deteriorated seriously, owing to the war. More houses are needed and many of those standing are in urgent need of repair; sanitary installations are also urgently needed. At present most people have the ordinary wooden water closet owing to breakage in water mains and destruction of plumbing equipment. This is quite a serious problem and should be on the list for immediate attention. Kitchen and household utensils have been reduced to a minimum.

(b) Suggested order of priority of urgently-needed articles:

- (1) Soap
- (2) Sanitary appliances
- (3) Nails
- (4) Cooking and eating utensils
- (5) Window glass or window-lite
- (6) Recultivating tools
- (7) Tractors
- (8) Furniture
- (9) Needles and thread
- (10) Leather
- (11) Light cloth
- (12) Glass.

2. FOOD

(a) Foods being eaten at present are:

- (1) Meats - lamb, beef and pork
- (2) Bread - wheat and corn
- (3) Fruits - apples, pears and plums
- (4) Vegetables - potatoes, tomatoes, peppers and beans.

(b) Needed foods are:

<u>Before harvest</u>	<u>After harvest</u>
grain (wheat and maize)	Salt
Salt	Fats
Fats	Sugar
Sugar	Powdered milk
Potatoes	Meat
Beans	Grain
Powdered milk	Beans
Meat	

Comment : Particular attention should be given to children's food, since the present quality is inadequate.

3. CLOTHING AND BOOTS.

(a) Most people at present are wearing clothing which



they have managed to salvage from their homes when the German forces invaded. Many possess only the clothes in which they stand. As most clothing is produced in the homes, light materials are in great demand. Boots as well as leather for harness is needed.

(b) Needed articles of clothing are:

<u>Winter</u>	<u>Summer</u>
Cotton and linen goods	Cotton and linen goods
Thread and needles	Thread and needles
Light woollen cloth	Leather
Blankets	Light and woollen cloth
Leather	Blankets

#### 4. LIVESTOCK.

(a) Present condition.

Horses - practically all horses are owned by the Partisans. Very few are owned privately.

Dairy cattle - very few.

Oxen - very few.

Goats - a few are owned by private families.

Sheep - almost every family has small herds.

Pigs - very few.

Poultry - very few.

(b) Stud animals will be needed.

#### 5. AGRICULTURE AND IMPLEMENTS.

(a) This year's harvest was average.

(b) Needed are:

- (1) Seeds at the appropriate time together with fertiliser.
- (2) Hand tools and the iron parts of agricultural implements.
- (3) Tractors.

#### 6. TRANSPORT AND TRANSPORTATION.

Scarcely any motor transport is in country. The few trucks and automobiles are in need of spare parts, tyres, etc. Carts are in a bad state of repair and iron for tyres, axles and fixtures is required. Much of the country is, however, not accessible to vehicles and pack animals are used.

##### Needed

Iron for carts  
MF (trucks)  
Spare parts, tyres etc.

#### 7. COMMUNICATIONS. (Roads).

(a) Many of the roads have been destroyed, either by the enemy or by Partisan units. Therefore there is much work to be done on all roads.



(b) Materials needed:

- (1) Tractors
- (2) Generators
- (3) Explosives
- (4) Materials for bridges (steel)

8. COMMUNICATIONS (Electrical)

(a) Many of the power house equipment - generators, belting and power units were destroyed by the enemy. Transmission lines have been generally destroyed.

(b) The following equipment is needed:

- (1) Belting
- (2) Generators
- (3) Power units
- (4) Transformers
- (5) Wire for power and telephone lines.

9. HEALTH.

(a) Typhus and typhoid are fairly common and there is a considerable amount of V.D.

(b) The following is needed:

- (1) For doctor's use: Usual medical instruments  
Anti-typhoid serum  
Anti-typhus serum  
Calcium  
Sulphur (for VD)  
Sulphenimide
- (2) General use: Lysol  
Iodine  
Vitamin foods  
Aspirin  
Liniments  
Many drugs for re-stocking of pharmacies  
Medicine bottles

10. INDUSTRIES.

(a) There are no industries in the usual sense now in operation. However, there are some saw mills, corn flour mills and power stations operating.

(b) The following equipment is needed:

- (1) Saws (3 ft. circular)
- (2) Lubricating oil
- (3) Belting
- (4) Diesel oil
- (5) Gas or diesel engines

Comment: Recent reports indicate that many of the factories in liberated cities can be put back into operation with very little effort. Many need just fuel and personnel to operate them.

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AA QmS. 20/11  
DA QmS. 27/11.  
JAA QmS.  
SCQ.  
Chaplain

Ksu. 20/11

SECRET

ML HQ (Yugoslavia)

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - No 18

19 Nov 44

#### OPERATIONS

1. The Russians have effected a crossing of the Danube into the BARENJA in the area of BATINA. If this thrust develops it will shortly bring them into contact with the considerable Partisan forces in SLAVONIA and might constitute a serious threat to main ZAGREB-VINKOVCI railway line west of the junction at BROD where it is joined by the narrow gauge SARAJEVO line.
2. The latter line is the object of much attention from the Partisans and the Germans are making feverish efforts to hold it and keep it in working order.
3. The marshalling yards at SARAJEVO and ALIP SALI MO P were heavily damaged by air bombardment on 7 Nov and the engine house and railway workshops at the former were destroyed.
4. The German operation eastwards in HERCEGOVINA from NEVESINJE towards GACKO has come to an end and the Partisans have reoccupied BIFINO SELO. Further west they have occupied TOMISLAV GRAD thus virtually separating the German forces operating on the BIELAC-KNIN axis from those on the SARAJEVO-MOSCAR axis.
5. In MONTENEGRO the position is extremely confusing. CETINJE has been captured by the Partisans but it may be that the Germans will attempt to recapture it. There seems to be however a tendency for the Germans to withdraw from the KOPOR Gulf area south east along the coast and RISAN has been again entered by the Partisans. On the other hand the Germans appear once more to be contemplating a push up from DANILOVGRAD towards NIKO TO where they are likely to attempt to reach SARAJEVO.

6. The German retreat from MACEDONIA continues. SKOPLJE, KACANIK and GNJILANE have been taken by the Partisans and except for garrisons in TETOVO and GOSTIVAR, MACEDONIA is practically clear of the enemy. The escape route via PRISTINA and KOS MITROVICA has been attacked by the RAF and PRISTINA W/Y in particular, with all its facilities is claimed to have been destroyed.
- The bridge over the Drina at VISERAD is still down but a number of troops have apparently managed to cross the river. Heavy fighting is reported from the neighbourhood of ROGATICA.
7. The Germans began an operation in southern SLOVENIA apparently with the intention of driving the Partisans from ORNOMELJ. However this has come to nothing and the Germans are now back where they started in ROCEWE and NOVO MESTO.

#### DAMAGE & DESTRUCTION

8. The town of VITER(MACEDONIA) is reported to have been left in flames by the Germans and the railway station to have been blown up.
9. SKOPLJE fell only after a day's street fighting. The extent of the damage is not yet known but it is stated that certain demolitions were carried out by the Germans in their withdrawal, though these did not include the railway station.
10. The ZLATOBROG soap factory is reported to have been destroyed by bombs at MARIBOR. This was one of the most important soap factories in Yugoslavia.

#### PORTS

##### 11. ZADAR

There is heavy damage both to the port and the town. Now that mine sweeping has been completed, however, it is reported possible to berth LSTs at RIVA BERNA and LCTs at RIVA COLOMBO. There are about 500 feet of quay undamaged with a depth alongside of about 18 feet. There is no water supply on the quays. There are available 1 tug and a few lighters and some diving boats and a local diver.

##### 12. KRALJEVICA

The quays are prepared for demolition but no damage has yet been done and there are no available blockships.

##### 13. SIBENIK

The main quays have been demolished but coasters, LSTs and LCTs can use berths alongside varying from 18 feet



to 24 feet. The mooring buoys which are essential for ships lying off the town have been removed but for liberty ships could anchor in the channel. 5 Two tugs are available.

#### FOOD

14. A captured document gives the daily ration scale for German troops in LPLIP before its evacuation as follows:

meat for mid-day	100	grammes
meat for evening	80	"
bread	60	"
sugar	4	"
cigarettes	5	

15. Considerable quantities of food, including wheat, have been noted as passing southwards along the railway from MARIBOR. The origin of this food is presumed to be Germany and it is believed to be destined for LJUBLJANA or ZAGREB. There is known to be shortage of food in both these places. 33 trucks of salt in two days in Sep also went by rail from VIENNA (Austria) to PARTIZANO. These may well have been sent for Yugoslavia.
16. Further information has not come to hand about the 50,000 tons of corn which the Soviet Government is sending to Yugoslavia. This is now coming up the Danube in barges, 10,000 tons being destined for BELGRADE, 8,000 tons for East Serbia and the remainder for other parts of Yugoslavia. Although the areas where it can at present be distributed are not urgently in need of it yet its swift arrival cannot fail to have a tendency to stimulate the people's gratitude and admiration for the Russians.
17. Furthermore the Bulgarian Minister PERPESOV has announced in "POLITIKA" the Belgrade newspaper for 15 Nov 44 that the Bulgarians of their own volition have decided to send help to their Yugoslav brothers and to share with them their food. Accordingly they are going to send to Yugoslavia 5,000 tons of corn, 3,000 tons of beans, 3,000 tons of salt, 100 tons of oil, 100 tons of marmalade, 720,000 eggs as well as sugar, honey, etc. They are also sending to JMWL 2,000 new uniforms, 8,000 old uniforms and 3,000 leather coats. The Bulgarian "youth" will take charge and care of 10,000 orphan children and feed and clothe them.

#### SUGAR

18. A reliable source states that the capacity of the sugar factory at PATEROVRAD (V. MIKI BECHERIK, VOJVODINA) is 200 waggons of sugar beet a day. The difficulty is likely to arise in procuring sufficient labour in view of the large number of workers now joining the Partisans.

### RAILWAYS

19. In para 4 of Appendix E to WIS No 17 of 12 Nov 44, a report was quoted stating that the narrow gauge railway from NIKSIC via BILECA to DUBROVNIK was in good shape except for a bridge blown at TREBINJE. Observers from the spot report that the TREBINJE bridge was in good order on 11 Nov 44 and that the following breaks exist:

- I tunnel 5 kilometres out of DUBROVNIK
- II Bridge at BRGAT outside DUBROVNIK
- III Bridge over the swift flowing TREBISNJICA 4 kilometres beyond LASTVA station.

### TRANSPORT

20. The Partisans claim to have captured 11 lorries in HERCEGOVINA.

21. In Southern SLOVENIA the Partisans have available:

- 2 x 5 ton German wood burning vehicles
  - 1 x 6 ton German diesel lorry
  - 1 x 2 ton Italian petrol driven lorry
  - 1 Volkswagon
- about 40 private cars mostly Opels and Fiats and a motor hearse.

### OIL

22. It is now reported that at GOJILLO 2 refineries are working at full pressure producing 3,000 litres of benzine and petroleum daily (see WIS No 17 para 23, No 15 para 13 and No 14 para 10). All these contradictory reports make it very difficult to make any definite statement on the state of installations at the Gojilo oilfields until certain information comes to hand.

### BELGRADE

23. The policy adopted by the Partisans of removing restrictions on trade in BELGRADE seems to have produced fairly satisfactory results. Food is coming in and prices are falling. However the following regulations have been deemed necessary.

- 1. The sale and purchase of staple goods in large quantities for the purpose of forming stocks is prohibited.
- 2. Consumers will be limited to quantities determined on the basis of demand.



3. Large peasant producers and wholesalers are not prohibited from selling in large quantities to retail dealers.

It is noteworthy that no amounts are fixed and no sanctions are announced to ensure compliance with these regulations.

Fuel is short in the city and snow fell on 10 Nov.

#### VOJVODINA

24. Many thousands of refugees from the BANAT and BACKA have been moved westwards some of them passing by train through MARIBOR. It is presumed that these are mostly Schwaben, Magyars and quislings. The effect has been that much of the Banat harvest has been left unreaped and work battalions have been sent from BELGRADE to gather it in. The Germans and Magyars together probably formed more than half of the population of the VOJVODINA (rather more than 700,000 out of about 1,400,000). Anything like a wholesale movement must therefore very sensibly affect the population thereof.
25. As an example of the numbers moving, 116 trucks of refugees passed MARIBOR on 17 Oct and 150 on 30 Oct. This seems to imply that on those two days alone something of the order of 10,000 refugees must have moved, not counting others moving by other routes.
26. The VOJVODINA has seen little fighting as it is unsuitable terrain for guerrilla activity and as there is so large a German and Magyar population. There has therefore been only a comparatively small amount of damage and no large scale atrocities except possibly against the Jews, many of whom were either slain or sent to Roumania. They are now believed to be drifting back rather apathetically.
27. The Russians are believed to be treating severely any crimes committed against individual Russians. Otherwise they are being careful to preserve good relations with the local population taking only the food which they need and leaving the administration to the Partisans.
28. There is a great surplus of food owing to lack of transport to remove it and the people are well clad and shod. Except for the power station at NOVI SAD, which is destroyed by American bombs, most of the factories and power stations are in good condition. Schools, hospitals and churches, however, are in a very poor condition, as so much of the stores and equipment has been removed by the Germans. However the general health of the people is good.

SPLIT

29. A British officer who has just returned from SPLIT states that food conditions are deteriorating. The inhabitants, especially the children, are showing signs of distended abdomens due to starvation and it seems that it is sometimes difficult to control the people when the meagre food ration is being distributed.
30. Conditions outside SPLIT are not much better. During the past two weeks the attitude of the inhabitants of this part of the Dalmatian coast towards Great Britain and America has changed owing to their failure to supply the food so badly needed. Some bitterness brought about by this disappointment is replacing the earlier enthusiasm for the Western Allies.

CURRENCY & PRICES

31. Supplementing the information given in Appendix A to WIS No 16, a further note on this subject is attached hereto as Appendix A.

BUILDING MATERIALS

32. Attached to WIS No 17 as Appendix B were Parts I and II of a paper on this subject. These were wrongly marked Appendix B to WIS No 16 and the reference number of the paper M31/RGE was omitted. Will recipients kindly mark their copies accordingly. Part III of the paper, "Bricks and Tiles" is attached hereto as Appendix B. Parts IV and V will be attached to a subsequent WIS.

AREA REPORTS

33. Attached hereto as Appendices C and D are BLO reports on MACEDONIA (R32/RGE) and Eastern SERBIA (R33/RGE). These are both considered valuable and reliable reports. The information about MACEDONIA is the first positive report about this area which has been obtained and is interesting accordingly. The reports contain paragraphs on:

Living Conditions  
Food  
Clothing & Boots  
Livestock  
Agriculture  
Transport  
Health  
Finance  
Industry  
Population  
& Conclusions



POLITICS

34. Appendix E gives an extract from a report of Reuter's representative on an interview granted a few days ago by Marshal Josip Broz TITO in BELGRADE.
35. The National Liberation Committee of BAJA, South Hungary, has broadcast an appeal urging the incorporation of the BAJA district into the Yugoslav Federation.
36. In a speech given on Nov 11 at the session of the Grand Anti-Fascist Congress for the National Liberation of SERBIA, Lt Gen Aleksandar RANKOVIC said (inter alia),
- "We must, in every way, develop the spirit of brotherhood with the other nations of Yugoslavia, remove all causes of discord and give material help. Serbia has suffered terrible impoverishment in the war, but BOSANSKA KRAJINA, MONTENEGRO, the SANDJAK, Western BOSNIA, LIKA, KORDUN, GORSKI KOTAR, HRVATSKO PRIMORJE, SLOVENIA have been far more impoverished and afflicted. They have suffered in the struggle for their liberty and ours and we would not be true brothers, if we did not share everything to our last crust with our brothers and our common war effort."

*R. G. Edholm*  
Maj GS.  
R.G. Edholm.

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Distribution

Internal

Comd  
Dep Comd  
AQ (Chaplain to see)  
Mov  
Ta  
RE  
ST (to pass to PL, Hqs & Claims, DABCS, Camp Comdt, last named to return to G)  
HQ Liaison  
S & R (3 copies)  
UNRRA Mission to Yugoslavia (4 copies)  
Salonika Det  
I Room  
War Diary (3 copies)  
File (3 copies)

External

AFHQ  
M HQ (Balkans) (2)  
ML HQ (Albania)  
M Military Mission  
Lt Col Deakin, Office of Minister of State BARI  
No 1 I (U) Section  
PWB  
Mr. No. 1  
CHWA  
PIO  
OCS

### CURRENCY AND PRICES

Since the report on Currency and Finance was published in October, the following information has been received.

#### 1. EXCHANGE RATES AND CURRENCY.

The official Partisan rate of exchange on the liberated Dalmatian coast is:

£1	=	3,200 Kuna.
£1	=	800 "
Lira 1	=	8 "

Kuna are the authorized currency but sterling dollars and lire are also accepted. (N.B. This is the same rate of exchange as at Partisan HQ in Central Croatia.)

In the Kotor (enemy occupied) area last September official rates were:

RM 1	=	10 Lira.
RM 1	=	20 Dinars.

Although this was official in actual practice only 2-3 lire was generally obtained for 1 RM. The population were not prepared to accept dinars.

It is reported that 60 million dinars were issued during the German occupation of Serbia.

#### 2. PRICE OF GOLD.

In the NIS area the price offered for gold sovereigns in October last was 40,000 dinars although the official Partisan rate was 25,000. A few weeks earlier the unofficial rate had been 50,000 dinars.

In the enemy occupied Kotor area a gold sovereign fetched 7,500-8,000 lire last September but some months earlier this was 9,500 lire.

#### 3. COMMODITY PRICES AND WAGES.

##### Kuna Area.

The following prices were reported in early October from Dalmatia in the neighbourhood of SPLIT:

Wheat per kilo	---	800 Kuna.
Potatoes per kilo	---	400 "
Meat	---	1,300 "
Wine (glasses)	---	40 "

No further details of wages are available.



Dinar Area.

From B LGHLD the following prices have been reported:

	<u>3 Nov 44.</u>	<u>30 Oct 44.</u>
Pork.....	800 - 1000	1400 - 1600
Beef.....	700	700
Lard.....	1200	1400 - 1600
Raw Bacon..	1300	1300
Cured Bacon	1600	2000
Chicken....	1000 - 1500	-
Beans.....	120	130
Onions.....	140	-
Cabbage....	80	100 - 130
Potatoes...	130 - 150	100 - 130

In NIS in October last the following prices were paid:

1 really good meal	--	1000 dinars.
Wine - 1 litre	--	100 "
Pig - normal size	--	10000 "

The average citizen of NIS estimated that it cost about 1000 dinars a day to live. It is believed that labourers under the Netic regime received an average of about 800 dinars a day.

Lira Area.

The following prices are reported from NIKSIC:

Wine per litre	--	150 lira.
Grapes per kilo	--	200 "
beans per kilo	--	100 "
potatoes per kilo	--	30 - 50 lira.
Milk per litre	--	50 "
Eggs - each	--	50 "
tobacco per kilo	--	1200 - 2000 lira.
Matches	--	25 lira.
Flour (wheat or maize) per kilo	--	100 - 120 lira.

No specific information on wages has been received.

M31/RGE.

BUILDING MATERIALS.

PART III.

BRICKS AND TILES.

A considerable number of bricks and tiles are produced in Yugoslavia but their quality is poor as the clay available is not altogether suitable. Most of the production was by small factories though there were a few large ones. The total capacity of brickworks in Yugoslavia before the war was 400,000,000 to 450,000,000 pieces of bricks and tiles. The largest production region was in the VOJVODINA, but SLOVENIA also produced on a considerable scale.

In the VOJVODINA there has been little heavy fighting and the Russian advance has been so swift that it is believed that there has not been much damage or destruction and the brickworks have probably survived. In Northern SLOVENIA too, fighting has not yet taken place on a large scale and most brick works are probably still in operation. Moreover the Partisans are known to have been recently operating brick works in the area.

Where the following brick works are believed to have been working recently:

ARANDJEVOVAC : Two large brick works are working.

GAZMA (Croatia) : The brick and tile works are working to their fullest capacity.

DJULAVAC (Slavonia) : A medium size brick works is still operating.

GLINA (C. Croatia) : A brick plant in this area produced 320,000 bricks in three months in the summer of 1944.

MALI GRAC (C. Croatia) : Manufacturing shingles - working Oct 44.  
Commercial

The Yugoslav Directory for 1932 lists 323 works in bricks and tiles. Some of these, however, are probably not engaged actually in manufacture. A full list of the places where there were then brick dealers is available. The list given below is extracted therefrom. It will be seen that it includes most important places. No doubt some of these works are more or less damaged or destroyed but brick works even if razed to the ground can be quickly restored. It should be noted, however, that the cheapest way of manufacturing bricks involves digging the clay in the autumn and unless this has been done the process is uneconomic and only small quantities can be produced at great expense until the following year.



<u>Place.</u>	<u>Benovina.</u>	<u>No. of Dealers.</u>
APATIN	DUNAVSKA	3
BANJA LUKA	VRBASKA	2
BELGRADE		10
BIJELO POLJE	(LIVNO, PRIMORSKA)	1
BITOLJ	VARĐARSKA	1
BOŠANJSKI BROD	VRBASKA	2
CELJE	DRAVSKA	1
ČAČAK	DRINSKA	1
GAZMA	SLAVSKA	1
DARUVAR	SLAVSKA	1
KARLOVAC	SLAVSKA	2
KNIN	SRMICA, PRIMORSKA	1
KOPRIVNICA	SLAVSKA	1
KRAGUJEVAC	DUNAVSKA	1
KRALJEVO	MORAVSKA	1
LESKOVAC	VARĐARSKA	3
LJUBLJANA	DRAVSKA	4
MARIBOR	DRAVSKA	1
MOŠTAR	PRIMORSKA	1
NIS	MORAVSKA	4
NOVI SAD	DUNAVSKA	1
OSIJEK	SLAVSKA	3
PANČEVO	BELGRADE	3
SARAJEVO	DRINSKA	7
SISAK	SLAVSKA	3
SKOPLJE	VARĐARSKA	2
SLAVONSKI BROD	SLAVSKA	3
SMEDEREVO	DUNAVSKA	1
SOMBOR	DUNAVSKA	3
SPLIT	PRIMORSKA	2
SRUMSKA MITROVICA	DUNAVSKA	2
SUBOTICA	DUNAVSKA	1
SABAC	DRINSKA	1
VALJEVO	DRINSKA	2
VARAZDIN	SLAVSKA	1
VELIKA KIKINDA	DUNAVSKA	3
VELIKI BEČKIBEREK	DUNAVSKA	2
VINKOVCI	SLAVSKA	4
VIROVITICA	SLAVSKA	2
VUKOVAR	SLAVSKA	1
ZAGREB	SLAVSKA	10
ZEMUN	BEOGRAD	4
ZELINKA	ZETSKA	1

In September 1943 the General Director of Public Works in Croatia decided to take under his own control 11 large tile factories (including two in Bosnia) which had been closed, and in December (inter alia) bricks were to be used in Croatia only for public works and war requirements. This argues a shortage of bricks in the area.

CONDITIONS IN MACEDONIA.

The following information was supplied by two BICs who recently left the area. The information relates to the area east and south of a line VRANJE - VELES - KICEVO. It is believed to be reliable.

1. LIVING CONDITIONS.

Except in the VRANJE area there has been little heavy fighting. East and south of VRANJE there has been much destruction and in places 50% of the houses are destroyed. However, as the houses in this area are mostly made of wood thatched with rushes and clustered with mud inside, it is not so important as elsewhere. Moreover, though there is some overcrowding it is not really serious. It may become so when the men return from the Partisan forces. In this area the houses are held together with wooden pegs driven into holes bored with a red hot poker. Nails and glass are non-existent, but the people get on all right without them. They would be appalled, however, if the floors are of earth and a fire in the middle of the room fills the place with smoke.

Elsewhere the houses are rather better built of stone with two storeys, the lower one occupied by the beasts. There has been little destruction in the villages though PHILIP has suffered somewhat.

Everywhere small villages are the rule and the people live in appalling conditions of filth and lack of sanitation. Soap is unheard of in some parts and uncertain elsewhere. These conditions however, are normal in the area.

The people eat with their fingers and wooden spoons and food is cooked in a large earthenware over the central fire. There are some wooden bowls and German enamel utensils. The people also use locally made earthenware pots and the need for household utensils is not urgent.

Lamps and kerosene are required. At present people use bowls of fat with a piece of string burning in it.

2. FOOD.

East of the Vardar food is short. The main diet is a coarse maize bread with mutton once a week and a sort of maize porridge is also eaten. Although the people are not yet starving, they will need supplies before next harvest. Elsewhere the food situation is not so bad.

Beans are plentiful and there is sufficient maize for bread though there is little wheat. Milk and its products are rarely seen in the hills but in the valleys some is obtainable. There is some meat especially mutton and goats flesh.

Apples, plums, peaches and tomatoes are available in season and also a few green vegetables, potatoes and carrots. Sugar came from Bulgaria after the annexation to the area west of the Vardar but stringently enough the area east of the Vardar seems to be still short.



Animal fats although in short supply are still available in small quantities. There is some salt but tea and coffee are unobtainable except a sort of herb tea. Cooking is often done by the village on a communal basis. There are only small hand mills worked by women. There is a little wine available and of course supplies of the ubiquitous rakija.

### 3. CLOTHING AND BOOTS.

Clothing is in a bad state. The people wear homespun and home woven wool from their own sheep but this is badly in need of renewal and is mostly in rags and covered with patches. It is worn night and day and in spite of it being so rough it is warm and durable. Some flax and cotton are grown in the area West of Valos and in the S.E. of the area and this too is spun and woven at home to make lighter clothes. Spinning apparatus and looms are still in existence but needles and thread are badly wanted. When a pedlar appeared with some needles 9" long they were eagerly bought. Home spun thread is used for sewing. If provided with cloth and needles and thread the people can make their own clothes. The material should be serge and tweed though lighter materials are also needed.

For footwear *opankis* are the usual wear. Boots and shoes are considered luxurious. *Opankis* are generally made from the hides of sheep and other beasts that have died of natural causes.

### 4. LIVESTOCK.

Oxen are used for draught purposes about the farms. There are a number of ponies especially in the West. In the East they are mostly in the hands of the Partisans and are overworked, underfed, suffer from galls and their hooves are in a bad state. In the West, however, things are not so bad and there are even herds of them resting. Harness is very primitive consisting of ropes and wooden back saddles. The villagers use donkeys to a considerable extent. There are a number of sheep and goats in the hills and in the valleys, cattle as well. Pigs exist West of the Vardar but to the east most of them have been seized by the Bulgarians. There is quite a considerable number of poultry including geese all over the area.

### 5. AGRICULTURE.

Small farms are the rule and wooden ploughs and hand tools are the means employed to till them. Spades, ricks and a few axes are all needed as the old ones are getting worn out. The people do not understand chemical fertilisers though lime is sometimes used and of course natural manure.

The type of crops grown is indicated under "Food" but it is worth adding that opium, tobacco and timber are also grown. The latter is a mixture of hard and soft wood. There are few saw mills, however, and the cutting is nearly always done by hand.

## 6. TRANSPORT.

The main roads are narrow with a macadam surface whilst the side roads are mere earth tracks, and quite useless for any form of transport on wheels.

The Partisans have captured a few German M/T of various sorts including some that burn charcoal. West of the Vardar there may be as many as 200 vehicles including about 20 - 30 2 tonners, 50 - 60 3 tonners and the remainder light lorries and cars. They are all captured material and include Mercedes and Fords. There are others East of the Vardar. They are in good order as yet and do not need spare parts as unserviceable vehicles can be cannibalised. The Partisans however, are bad drivers and ignorant of mechanics though they are ingenious and could easily be taught. For most purposes pack transport is the rule though ox carts and in winter sledges are used for local transport.

## 7. HEALTH.

There are a number of men calling themselves doctors but they are not good at their job and are callous and selfish. They make bad use of the medical stores that they get, e.g. sticking plaster is used to stick up propaganda posters. Supplies of medical stores are insufficient but if more are sent their use should be supervised. TB is prevalent and there have been some serious outbreaks of typhus in the area West of VILAS, and in the VIANJE neighbourhood. Some typhus inoculation has been done. Although everybody is thin and undernourished there does not seem to be much rickets or scurvy, but children suffer from sores on their legs. There is no VD. There is malaria in the VARDAR and STRUMICA valleys. Teeth and eyes are apparently in good condition.

## 8. FINANCE.

The currency is the Bulgarian leva but barter is more common than sale. Albanian currency, the franc and the loot is also used in the West.

Prices vary enormously from place to place and from time to time.

The following should be treated as only a very rough indication.

an egg	13 to 20 leva.
fat per kilo	300 leva.
butter per kilo	300 leva.
flour per litre	500 leva.
cheese per kilo	400 leva.
young pig about (7 kilos)	1500-2000 leva.
lamb about (7 kilos)	400 leva.
chicken	150 leva.
square yard parachute linen	1000 leva.
square yard parachute silk	2000 leva.

## 9. INDUSTRY.

None.



10. POPULATION.

Little change has taken place since the war. A small decrease which is caused by the men going away fighting is perhaps noticeable in the West.

11. CONCLUSION.

This has always been a poor area and though conditions are bad they are not much worse than usual. The following is suggested as the order in which relief supplies should be sent:

- Textiles.
  - Cereals.
  - Leather.
  - Agricultural Implements (incl. harness)
  - Meat.
  - Medical supplies.
  - Household utensils (incl. lamps and oil).
-

Appendix "D" to WIS No.18 of 19 Nov 44.

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EASTERN SERBIA  
 (Especially the NIS - LESKOVAC area)

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The information contained in the following report has been obtained from two BLOs who left E. SERBIA early in November 1944, and has been based on their personal observation. The two officers corroborated each other's statements and the report is considered to be thoroughly reliable.

1. LIVING CONDITIONS.

The standard of living of the inhabitants as a whole is rather low but it was not very much higher before the war. Except for NIS and LESKOVAC rather less than one building in ten has suffered damage. There is therefore little overcrowding and in many cases the damaged houses have been rebuilt.

Most of the houses have adequate furniture but they are very short of eating and cooking utensils. Most of their chinaware has been broken and the enamel articles used are very badly chipped. The main household requirement however, seems to be paraffin for lighting. At present all kinds of rubbish is burnt in the lamps and it is quite impossible to get a sufficiently strong or steady light for reading or writing. In addition the smell and smoke given off by the unsuitable oils used is very unpleasant. Proper lamp wicks too are badly needed.

Sanitation where it exists is crude but it is no worse than it always has been. There is no soap at all and bugs and fleas are plentiful.

2. CLOTHING AND BOOTS.

Although the need cannot be regarded as desperate there is a serious shortage of clothing and to a rather lesser extent of leather. A great deal of homespun clothing is worn and virtually all knitted goods are produced by the peasants themselves. However, during the war years local homespun production has not been sufficient to take the place of the factory made textiles from LESKOVAC and GRDELICA with the result that certain sections of the community especially the townspeople badly need both warm clothing and cotton goods. Thread and needles are also in very great demand.

Leather is wanted for coats and opanci, both of which types of footwear are now very difficult to obtain. There are, however, some hides in the area and it is thought that if tanning materials were sent it might help to solve the problem. It seems that there is no shortage of leather in BULGARIA and some supplies are expected to be sent from that country.



### 3. FOOD.

There seems to be little shortage of food taking the area as a whole. The harvest has been good and grain, meat and fruit are plentiful. Salt, however, is badly needed and vegetable fats are scarce. Coffee is unobtainable and there is hardly any sugar.

### 4. LIVESTOCK.

Although there has been some depletion of the flocks and herds, cattle still seem to be plentiful and there are numbers of pigs to be seen. In the more mountainous areas there are quite large flocks of rather scraggy sheep. Nearly all the horses which seem to be fairly numerous are in very bad condition due to misuse and badly fitting harness coupled with an almost complete lack of veterinary services. Many of the horses are not properly shod owing to the fact that horseshoes and nails are unobtainable. No serious outbreak of disease is thought to have occurred recently.

### 5. AGRICULTURE.

Agricultural tools and implements are primitive but there seems to be sufficient of them. Metal parts have been difficult to replace and many of the iron blades and the like are badly worn.

It is thought that some fertiliser will be wanted.

### 6. TRANSPORT AND TRANSPORTATION.

A little MP is now being used by the Partisans but most of it has been obtained from the Bulgarians, who are reported to have quantities of vehicles and equipment. There is a shortage of tyres and the lorries now in use frequently break down owing to bad wiring or other electrical troubles. Petrol is hard to come by but in this respect too the Bulgarians have given up some of their store.

Trains are running only on very small stretches of the line and as a whole the condition of the railways is chaotic. Many lengths of rails have been removed or distorted and it is proving difficult to find replacements. In addition all the bridges except one between SKOPLJE and NIS are said to be down. The stocks of coal available are reported to be low.

However, there seems to be no shortage of carts and draught animals although the leather harness used is in rather poor condition.

### 7. HEALTH.

Most people looked perfectly healthy. In the country districts some cases of typhus are usual every winter. However, it is possible that typhoid will occur in NIS and LESKOVAC owing to the damage to the drainage system of these cities caused by Allied bombing. Although the water supplies have been restored in both these cities the wreckage of damaged buildings has not yet been cleared and it is thought probable that considerable seepage will



taken place from the sewers which are likely to have had some defects caused to them by the raids.

Medical supplies are very short and in the chemist shops which were open were long rows of empty bottles; the only articles for sale being contraceptives and a few German drugs. Dental supplies too are non-existent and are badly needed.

## 8. INDUSTRIES.

Most of the textile factories at LESKOVAC have escaped serious damage. As far as could be ascertained the machinery was still intact and very little, if any, had been removed to Germany. However, nearly all these factories were silent for one cause or another. The mill at GRDELICA for instance, which was quite untouched could not operate owing to the fact that the power station which supplies the electric current is not working. However, the Yugoslav authorities at present do not allow liaison officers to enter any factories and no information as to what is lacking or has been destroyed is forthcoming. Both sources strongly urged that as soon as it is possible specialists from ML should arrange with the Yugoslav authorities to inspect factories which are not working in order to decide what machinery or parts are needed and also what raw materials, POL and the like are required. It was added, however, that some raw cotton will certainly be wanted.

Some saw mills were operating out there seemed to be several in otherwise good condition that could not function owing to lack of transmission-beltting. Sources were unable to state what sizes were required.

## 9. FINANCE.

Attempts have been made to stabilise prices in NIS at the same level as that which prevailed when the town was taken by the Partisans. This is, however, proving very difficult and nearly all goods and commodities in short supply can be obtained at a price on the black market.

The rate of exchange between the Dinar and the Lira is one for one. 40,000 dinars are now paid by individuals for a gold sovereign although a few weeks earlier 50,000 dinars was offered. The Partisan controlled rate is 35,000 dinars. It is estimated that the Germans have issued approximately 60 million Dinars since their occupation of the country. Money, however, is not trusted and more and more people are conducting their transactions on a barter basis.

The following are some of the current prices:

A good meal (NIS)	---	1,000 dinars.
Pig - Normal size	---	10,000 "
Wine - per litre	---	100 "
Pair of shoes	---	8,000-9,000 dinars.
Suit of Serbian cloth	---	80,000-100,000 dinars.
Book (which would cost		
21 shillings in Britain)	---	1,000 dinars.
Propelling pencil		
(good quality)	---	800 dinars.
Fountain pen (rather poor		
quality)	---	800 dinars.



It is reckoned that it costs an average citizen of NIS about 1,000 dinars a day to live.

The daily pay of a worker under the Newic regime was thought to be 800 dinars.

#### 10. CONCLUSIONS.

It seems that this area has suffered considerably less economic distress than all the coastal region and much of the rest of the country. Little food appears to be needed but clothing especially and to a certain extent household utensils are wanted, although people would not suffer really serious hardship if no clothing were forthcoming this winter. It is likely that in a fairly short time this part of the country will be able to produce both food and manufactured goods which are urgently required in other parts of Yugoslavia. It should be stressed therefore that (i) steps should be taken as soon as possible to ascertain what machinery is needed and efforts be made to obtain it and (ii) some goods should be sent to act as an inducement to the peasants to part with any surplus food supplies that they might have.

Commodities in their order of priority are considered to be the following:

- Clothing together with needles and thread.
- Salt.
- Medical and Dental Supplies.
- Paraffin.
- Soap.
- Cooking and household utensils.
- Rails and engineering equipment.
- Leather and Boots.
- Vet Stores.
- Sugar.
- POL.
- Coal.
- Tyres and spare parts for MP.
- Iron for agricultural implements.
- Lamp wicks.

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EXTRACT FROM A REPORT BY MR HD HARRISON  
ON AN INTERVIEW GRANTED BY MARSHAL JOSIP  
BROZ TITO IN BELGRADE.

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2. What are the most urgent problems with which you have to deal in liberated Yugoslavia?

The most urgent problems with which we have to deal on the liberated territory are to supply the population with food, fuel and other items of vital importance. This is our most difficult task because our traffic is completely destroyed. All our railway lines and bridges are destroyed. The rolling stock has been driven away by the GERMANS, HUNGARIANS and others.

We are already absorbed in a great effort to overcome these difficulties. Thus, thanks to the SOVIET Government and the efforts of officers of the Red Army, it has been possible, under great risk, to bring 50,000 tons of wheat into Yugoslavia. 17,000 tons have already arrived in BELGRADE alone, which is sufficient for the whole population of BELGRADE to live on for over six months, counting 400 grams of flour for each inhabitant a day. Here also the Red Army has come to our rescue by supplying us with several hundred lorries for the needs of the population and the Army.

3. How can the ALLIES + especially GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA, who owe so much to the gallant stand of the National Forces of Liberation of Yugoslavia - best help in the immediate tasks of reconstruction in Yugoslavia?

Our Allies, GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA could help us by sending food and clothing by sea to those areas where the population is literally dying of hunger and cold, which are DALMATIA, BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, COSEVO, LITVA, LIKA, MONTENEGRO and SLOVENIA. This is very easy now, nearly the whole of DALMATIA being free and several ports in good condition and capable of receiving ships. The ships of the Yugoslav merchant fleet, now sailing in ALLIED convoys, could be used for this purpose.

Our needs for the reconstruction of our Country are immense. In this the assistance of our Allies will be indispensable to us. What is important to emphasize here is, that it is impossible to wait until our country is completely liberated, which is in the first place the task of the Army of National Liberation, but it is essential that we should have this help immediately, for the reconstruction of the areas which are definitely liberated.

Obviously, we still need war materials, particularly vehicles such as trucks, motor cars, etc., which we have for a long time wished for and asked the Allies to send us by the Lend Lease Law. I must say that I wonder at our not having succeeded in this yet with the Allies.

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WIS  
R.A.C. M.G.

D.A.A. G.M.G.

S.C.A.

S.C.G.

Chaplain R.C. 1

SECRET

to see. Jw

ML HQ (Yugoslavia)

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - No 17

12 Nov 44

OPERATIONS

1. On the Eastern Front no very great advances have been made but the Russians have reached PRIJELJINA near CACAK. Thus they menace the KRALJEVO-SARAJEVO escape route which is now likely to be of little use to the Germans.
2. The German Army Group E, about 80,000 strong, has now begun its withdrawal from Macedonia along the road NOVI PAZAR-BJENICA-PRIJELJINA. They are, however, confronted by a broken bridge across the Drina at VISegrad and possibly with a view to circumventing this they have turned westwards and taken PLJEVLJA. They have been attacked whenever possible by the RAF and as the road from PLJEVLJA to SARAJEVO leads over heights of nearly 4,000 feet the situation of the troops is very precarious and far from enviable.
3. Meantime in Montenegro a further concentration of about 30,000 which may shortly be swelled to 50-60,000 by the arrival of further troops from Albania is showing signs of withdrawal. The Partisans who have been fighting in RUSAN on the northern side of the Gulf of KOTOR have found themselves compelled to withdraw from the town by enemy reinforcements and simultaneously another German thrust from the west has been aimed at GACKO. This may presage an attempt by the enemy to open an escape route through NEVSEINJE to MOSTAR.
4. The enemy has also started an attack southwards from the BROCKO area towards Tuzla with a view apparently to opening another escape route northwards from SARAJEVO to the Sava.
5. Reports have also been received of feverish German efforts to repair the BROD-SARAJEVO line.
6. There are reports of the Germans constructing a defence line from the VUKOVAR area to the junction of the Sava and Drina rivers.

**'A' BRANCH**

**13 NOV 1944**

Ref. No. ....  
**M.L. H.Q. (YUGOSLAVIA)**

7. In consequence of the withdrawal of the Germans from South Macedonia considerable areas have been liberated and the Partisans now hold PRILEP BITOLJ and STIP. VELES too is reported to have been evacuated. The area south of the line VELES-PRILEP-KIOEVO is believed to be clear of the Germans.
8. In Dalmatia Partisan armour has been in action for the first time and scored a success in the DRNIS area against German troops retreating from SIBENIK. KNIN is now threatened.

#### STATE OF HARBOURS

9. SIBENIK The main quays are damaged by exploded mines. In addition other demolitions and bomb damage has occurred and there is little quay-side left available for alongside working.
10. SPLIT KASTEL Bay 5 berths are available at anchor in 12 fathoms. Alongside there is a berth of 450 feet with 28 feet depth, one of 320 feet with 25 feet depth and one of 180 feet with a depth of 18 feet.

Subject to repair of quay wall and surface yet another berth will be available of 440 feet with 27 feet depth. The repairs will take about two weeks. Liberty ships can accordingly be accepted. Other small berths are available.

There are no tugs or lighters but two 1½ ton cranes and one 5 ton crane driven by electricity are in working order. Other cranes near extensive repairs.

The railways system is beyond immediate repair.

11. FIUME The attack by the Desert Air Force on 5 Nov has left the following wrecks to obstruct the harbour:

- 1 torpedo boat
- 1 naval auxiliary (160 ft)
- 1 minelayer (3500 GRT)
- 1 salvage vessel
- 1 vessel (110 ft)

The Germans have prepared for demolition a number of small ports round the head of the Adriatic and especially in Istria. This is thought to have been done in fear of invasion rather than with a view to evacuation.



### RAILWAYS

12. Behind the Russian lines the railways are being once more put into working order. The line NIS-SOFIA was expected to be working by 5 Nov and that from NIS to ZAJECAR by 10 Nov. That from NIS to LESKOVAC is expected to be working shortly.
13. Fuel seems to be a major problem for the railways and there are reports that the coal from the brown coal mines at ALEKSINAC is to be used.
14. The marshalling yards at SARAJEVO and MARIBOR have had further heavy air attacks and much damage has been done there.
15. In DUBROVNIK the railway bridge at BRGAT is completely destroyed. Eight narrow gauge locomotives are in the sheds, five of them in good condition. There are also 40 railway cars of various sorts, 35 in good condition.

### DAMAGE & DESTRUCTION

16. Heavy air attacks have been made on PODGORICA and various places along the German escape route, viz MITROVICA-NOVI PAZAR-SAJENICA-PRISAPOLJE.

### BELGRADE

17. Conflicting reports continue to be received about the amount of damage suffered by the capital. It seems that considerable damage has occurred but it is mostly of rather a superficial nature. A summary of reports on the conditions in BELGRADE is attached at Appendix A. The source of these reports is the Belgrade newspaper "Politika" which resumed publication at the end of October. It is thought that the amount of damage implied by the report is perhaps exaggerated. The Partisan wireless has also stated that there is no shortage of necessities, that the streets were reviving and the markets full. On the other hand the BBC has put out a much more gloomy report.

DUBROVNIK

18. A report states that no food is for sale for civilian consumption. This is probably an exaggeration.

The water supply works by day and hydrants are undamaged. Work is proceeding on the water system. The power plant is intact and electric current supply is good. The local telephone system is in operation.

NIS AREA

19. The following factories are reported to be working:

Ristic Textile Factory	NIS
Karovic Factories	VUCJE & PARACIN
Large leather factory	NIS

NOVI SAD

20. The town is without water and electricity owing to American bombings of the power station. All shops are closed and there is no organised police. Food is adequate. The railway bridge is demolished beyond repair and only the piers of the road bridge remain.

FUEL & POWER

21. As noted above it is hoped to obtain brown coal for the railways from the ALKESINAC mines in Serbia.
22. The Partisans claim to have wrecked the KANIZARIC mines in BILA KRAJINA in Slovenia.
23. The Germans are reported to have destroyed the installations at the Gojilo oilfields on 31 Oct. This follows other reports about GOJILO, see Wis No 15 para 13. The report is so far unconfirmed.
24. The Sveti Klara oil refinery which was attacked by the Partisans on 14 Oct (see Wis No 14 paras 10 and 40) is now reported to be out of action and to be so badly damaged that it will be inoperative for 4 months.
25. Recent decrees make it clear that ZAGREB is suffering from a shortage of electric power. The service has been drastically reduced and the various forms of consumption of power forbidden. The cause is probably shortage of coal.



### ECONOMIC (VARIOUS)

26. According to the Partisan radio leather and soap factories are being operated by them in liberated Slovenia.
27. The National Liberation Committee for Dalmatia has started a factory in Italy which produces copper sulphate for the vineyards.
28. A German press report states that the many enterprises engaged in meat processing and preserving in Serbia include four important firms each having a capacity of 2-300 tons per month. The Yugoslavia meat preserving industry was well organized and before the war exported most of its produce to Germany. The following towns were believed to be important centres for the collection of meat for the Wehrmacht since the occupation of Yugoslavia, KRAGUJEVAC, JAGODINA, KRUSSEVAC, VALJEVO, SABAC, MLADENOVAC and UZICE. Meat preserving factories of importance are believed to have been recently working at JAGODINA (Klefs factory), KRAGUJEVAC (Stefanovic) and at MLADENOVAC. A factory at KIJEVO (near BELGRADE, also Stefanovic) was also likely to be in production but previous production was probably below 200 tons per month. All these four places are now in Russian hands but it is not known whether the factories have been damaged in the fighting.

### TRANSPORT

29. The following claims of MT captured have come in from Partisan sources:
- 11 lorries in East Bosnia
  - 15 MT in Macedonia
  - 200 MT in South Serbia
30. 25 trucks and cars and 4 m/c are reported to form the MT pool at Partisan HQ Serbia. These are mostly of continental make and include Peugeot, Opel, Mercedes, Renault and Bianco but also Fords. They are badly in need of spare parts especially tyres.
31. In W Bosnia the Partisans have about 30 3 ton lorries of various types. They are not reliable. Tyres, petrol and puncture repair outfits are needed for them but the Partisans are able to improvise such spare parts as they need.

# FINANCE

32. The following have been quoted.

## BELGRADE

See appendix A.

## SPLIT

Intercepted correspondence gives the following prices. These are <sup>mostly</sup> considerably higher than previous quotations.

sugar	700	kune	per kilo
fat	1400	"	" "
meat	1300	"	" "
bread	1500	"	" "
wheat grain	1200	"	" "
maize grain	1000	"	" "
oil	10000	"	" litre

## KOTOR Area

### Rate of exchange

Officially 10 lire = 1 RM or 20 dinars = 1 RM, but the rate actually ruling is said to be 2-3 lire = 1 RM. The public are unwilling to accept dinars.

A gold sovereign fetches 7500-8000 lire but the price earlier was as high as 9500 lire.

### Wages

Local employees of German sea transport organisation 200-400 RM per month.

Captain of vessel in German service	400 RM per month
Ships engineer	400 "
Seamen	200-300 "
Reserve captain of Yugoslav Army Pension	90 "
Retired Govt official pension	90-150 :

### Prices

maize	24 RM per kilo
wheat	28 "
olive oil	150 "
sugar	150-200 "
meat	60-70 "
wine	28 RM per litre
spirits (local)	80 "
soling & heelings	150 RM
with leather	
pair of rope soled	400 RM or equivalent in food
canvas shoes	
German army loaf	20 RM

The above prices are believed reliable.



ZADVARJE (nr SPLIT)

Intercepted correspondence gives the following prices:

wheat	800	kuna per kilo
potatoes	400	"
oil	7000	"
meat	1800	"

DUBROVNIK

The present rate of exchange is reported to be 8 kuna = 1 lira.

NIKSIC (Montenegro)

Intercepted correspondence gives the following prices:

Wine	150	lire per litre
Flour	100-120	lire per kilo (wheat or maize)
Vermouth	1000	lire per bottle
grapes	200	lire per kil.
beans	100	"
potatoes	30-50	"
salt	400	"
pair of cotton trousers	1500	lire
a needle	10	"
a pin	5	"
an egg	50	"
tobacco	1200-2000	lire per kilo
matches	25	lire

MEDICAL

33. Typhus is reported to have occurred on the island of Brac.  
Hospitals in the Kotor area.

Beds and all equipment are reported to have been removed from the naval hospital at SAVINA.

The Germans were preparing to leave the civil hospital at RISAN but its condition is not known.

The military hospital at KOTOR was being used as a civil hospital but was reported to be almost entirely without medical supplies.

GERMAN PREPARATIONS FOR WITHDRAWAL

34. From Serbia comes a report saying that such Ostriks as remain are being disbanded and incorporated in German units.

35. German officials were being evacuated from SARAJEVO on 6 Nov.
36. Demolitions at OSIJEK are expected to include the power station, the railway, leather and soap factories, the sugar factory and all mills and barracks. It is interesting to note that these installations have hitherto apparently escaped destruction by bombing.
37. Reports have been received that at VILES and MITROVICA the Germans are destroying trainloads of supplies. The trucks in which the supplies are, are being destroyed but not the locomotives. The supplies destroyed include civilian clothing, footwear, food from civilian stores, agricultural machinery and cement. It is not known where these supplies originated. It may be, however, that the immediate neighbourhood of these places has not been despoiled of food etc, by the Germans since they already have more than they can transport. On the other hand if it involves their travelling light and living on the country as they pass they will have to seize quantities of food from the people of Macedonia and the Sanjak who may accordingly find themselves short of food in the coming winter. The Germans are also said to be being supplied by air in Southern Serbia. The type of supplies is not stated but it is probably not food.

#### FOOD

38. Further evidence of the serious situation in Dalmatia has been received. The town of SPLIT is again reported to be in urgent need of food and the island of ZLARIN just off SIBENIK was also reported to be very short of food whilst the Germans were still in occupation. The people of SPLIT are being fed by means of soup kitchens with food that the Partisans provide. According to a reliable eye witness who returned very recently the children are definitely undernourished and it is sometimes difficult to control the queues which assemble to receive the thin gruel which is being issued.

#### RESISTANCE TO THE GERMANS

39. A report says that Slovene resistance to the enemy is growing. Workers at JESANICE Engineering Works have joined the Partisans in such large numbers that output has been reduced by 75%. At KRANJ a factory producing aeroplane parts and a mill have closed down for the same reason and the Germans have removed much of the machinery.



### POPULATION

40. A report has been received that the Germans have sent 246 internees from LJUBLJANA to Germany, two thirds of them being women. The reason for this move is not known but if it is continued it may ease the acute food position somewhat in LJUBLJANA.

### BUILDING MATERIALS

41. A paper on the Yugoslavian production of building materials is in course of preparation. Part I on Timber and Sawmills and Part II on Cement is attached hereto as Appendix B. Part III on Bricks, Part IV on Glass and Part V on Nails and Screws, will be attached to a subsequent WIS.

### AREA REPORTS

42. A short report based on information given by a Medical BLO on the E Bosnian area is attached as Appendix C. It contains paragraphs on:

Living Conditions  
Food and Health  
& TUZLA

43. Some notes on the situation in Montenegro are also attached at Appendix D. The origin of this report is the Office of Strategic Services, US Army. It contains paragraphs on:

Ruined Economy  
The Municipal Executive Committee  
Food  
Bread  
Fuel  
Commerce  
Prices  
Public Utilities  
Buildings  
& Appeals to Employees

### POLITICS

44. The first session of the Anti-Fascist Assembly of the National Liberation Movement of Serbia began at BELGRADE on 9 Nov 44. The proceedings opened with the election of an honorary Presidium including Mr Churchill, Mr Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin, and continued with speeches of welcome from delegations of each of the Federal units of Yugoslavia. It was stated that the principal object of the Congress was to elect a legislative body for Serbia, thus completing the federal structure of Yugoslavia.

45. At a meeting in BELGRADE to celebrate the Soviet October Revolution Lt Gen Dailas of the Communist Party was the principal speaker. His speech included a reference to the right of Yugoslavs to decide their own internal organisation in harmony with the Moscow and Teheran Conferences. He also stated that the Macedonians in Greece were being terrorised by the armed forces of the Papandreu Government. This he stated would lead to the poisoning of the relations between Yugoslavia and Greece. His speech also contained friendly references to the Albanian Partisans and a remark that the Italians must understand that people who have made a tremendous contribution to the Allied cause cannot remain under them any longer - an obvious reference to Venetia Giulia and Istria.

S\*T\*O\*P P\*R\*E\*S\*S

It is reported that Russian troops helped by Partisan units have crossed the Danube at three different points between MOHACS and APATIN. None of these crossings is confirmed.

The Bulgars report the capture of KUMANOVO and state they are now driving on SKOPLJE.

Desert Air Force on a sweep of Slovenia bombed the railway bridge over the Sava at CELJE and claim serious damage.

A report has been received that 215 railway employees from the LJUBLJANA district have been sent to LINZ in Austria. It is hoped that this will not involve the a grave shortage of trained railway personnel in Slovenia in future.

*R. G. Edholm*  
Maj GS.  
R.G. Edholm.

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Distribution: As for WIS No 16 dated 5 Nov 44



PRESENT CONDITIONS IN BELGRADE.

The city was liberated on the 20 Oct 44 and the Partisans were confronted with the problem of bringing back normal life to BELGRADE.

RUINED ECONOMY

When the enemy left much of the city's most important section was in ruins and many of the population had fled. There was no electricity, no transportation and no fuel. There was inflation and the enemy had left behind several kinds of currency.

THE MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The task fell to the Executive National Liberation Committee of the city of BELGRADE, composed of sixteen members who were selected pro tempore. Since there was no time to hold elections, and according to a decision of the Supreme National Liberation Committee of Serbia it took over on the 27 Oct 44 the entire municipal administration of BELGRADE.

FOOD.

The harvest this year was one of the best in recent years and food was plentiful in the provinces, particularly in the VOJVODINA which was once again accessible to BELGRADE. The problem was transportation of this food to the capital. The Soviet Command lent some vehicles, and labour battalions were formed to go to the BANAT and help bring in food.

BREAD.

This was the most urgent need and the price was fixed on the 29 Oct at 50 Dinars, and the ration at 300 grams of bread or 250 of flour. This price of 50 Dinars is believed to be for a kilo. Later this was reduced to 250 grams of bread with a free ration of 300 grams for heavy workers.

FUEL.

Wood is plentiful in Serbia and there are lignite mines near BELGRADE, but again transportation was the problem and the National Liberation Front of Serbia has promised help, presumably with the aid of military vehicles to transport this fuel, the first loads being allocated to bakeries.

COMMERCE.

To avoid hoarding, Black Marketing and a financial collapse the Committee passed a number of decrees, but its most important decision was to allow complete freedom of trade.

The decrees are as follows:

(a) Only the notes issued by the National Bank of Serbia will continue to be accepted as legal tender.

(b) Farmers are encouraged to bring their products to the city by the abolition of all entry, market, and sales taxes which had been employed in the past to the detriment of the farmer.

(c) Farmers and artisans may sell their goods either directly to the consumer or through entrepreneurs.

(d) There are to be no ceiling prices. The law of supply and demand is to function freely in the establishing of prices.

(e) There is to be no forced selling. Requisitioning of incoming food is forbidden.

(f) BELGRADE business-men with previous dealings in the interior are encouraged to continue.

(g) Private initiative is to be preserved. The peasant is given assurance that he will not be molested or robbed on the road to market by chetnik "koljasi" (slaughtering bands).

(h) An edict of free entry and departure in and out of BELGRADE, ZEMUN and PANOEVO was issued by the Military Command of BELGRADE.

(i) Means of transportation will be requisitioned only by express written orders.

The immediate result was to bring down the price of food in spite of the fact that the quantity of food-stuffs which arrived from the BANAT in the early days of liberation was hardly sufficient for needs.

#### PRICES.

The following prices ruled in BELGRADE on the 30 October:

newspaper	10 dinars.
potatoes	100 - 150 dinars/kg.
cabbage	100 - 150 dinars/kg.
stringbeans	120 - 220 dinars/kg.
carrots	120 dinars/kg.
kale	200 dinars/kg.
spinach	200 - 220 dinars/kg.
gourds	120 dinars/kg.
beans	130 dinars/kg.
kohlrabi	150 dinars/kg.
radishes	100 dinars/kg.
peppers	5 - 10 dinars/each.
grapes	200 dinars/kg - dependent on size and quality
quince	200 - 300 dinars/kg.
pork	1400 - 1600 dinars/kg.
beef	700 dinars/kg.
lamb	1400 - 1600 dinars/kg.
bacon (for fat)	1500 dinars/kg.
bacon (dry)	2000 dinars/kg.



Meat and eggs are still very scarce but larger and larger quantities of meat are to be seen in the markets. The difficulties of transportation are so acute that prices on the various BELGRADE markets vary in relation to the distance of the market from the distribution centre.

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES.

By the 1 Nov 45% of the lighting system of the city was working, the current was supplied by the VREOCIMA power station. The other two stations are still to be repaired. It has been necessary to restrict the use of electric light and power very considerably but the Executive Committee has not issued a set of penalties against abuses and wastage, it only stressed the responsibility of the individual and relied on all citizens to do their duty. The tramway system which suffered heavily is also being repaired.

#### BUILDINGS.

The Executive Committee is making an overall investigation of damage to buildings so as to use what building materials there are in the most advantageous way.

#### APPEALS TO EMPLOYEES.

Lastly the Committee has issued a general appeal to all the employees to return to their posts and both the encouraging tone and the frequency of these appeals seem to indicate the urgent need there is for teachers and other government employees.

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BUILDING MATERIALS  
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This paper is intended to give an indication of the local means of producing building materials in Yugoslavia and to summarise the information at present available.

It is divided into parts as follows:

Part I Timber and Sawmills

Part II Cement

Part III Bricks

Part IV Glass

Part V Nails and Screws, etc

The information available is of course incomplete.

Part I

TIMBER & SAWMILLS

The timber in Yugoslavia was one of the country's most important economic assets and except in Serbia and Vojvodina was amply sufficient for local needs both for building and commercial purposes and also for firewood. Hardwoods of various sorts such as oak and beech are especially plentiful and Croatia and particularly Slavonia is prolific of them. The soft woods though not so common as the hard woods are also important and are centred principally in Bosnia.

In Slovenia and Macedonia too, timber is ample, but in Dalmatia it has been greatly reduced by natural causes and unscientific exploitation, and as a result the soil has been eroded so that no longer is Dalmatia capable of supporting anything like the quantity that once flourished there. Serbia and Vojvodina could never supply even their own needs. The Sanjak and Montenegro, however, have plenty of timber available.

Owing to a variety of causes the Germans have never been able fully to exploit the timber resources of Yugoslavia and they are still for the most part available. The difficulty of transporting the timber when cut, labour shortages and the activity of the guerillas have all hindered serious depredations by the Germans but perhaps the greatest factor has been the destruction of sawmills which has been



carried out on a large scale. This has been partly the ordinary result of war but it has also been a system of the Partisans to destroy or to remove vital parts of their saw-mills so as to prevent exploitation of the forests by the Germans. In many instances belting has been removed and the circular saws have been hidden so that when settled conditions prevail and provided they have not otherwise been damaged these saw mills could easily be restored to working order. Also many of the timber railways have been damaged to such an extent as to be out of commission for the duration of hostilities.

Many saw mills too have been burnt by the Germans and their assistants and in cases where this has proved difficult the transmission belting has been removed.

As a result no very large scale depletion of the forests has taken place and there is ample timber in the country available for reconstruction purposes and for fuel, needing only cutting up and transportation in order to be of the greatest value.

A report has become available of the German demands for timber on Croatia and even if they have been fulfilled they are not excessive. This supports the statement that the timber resources of the country have not been greatly drawn upon.

Two other factors will affect the post war timber industry. First, in areas where there has been fighting there will be bullets and other missiles buried in the trees. These are very likely to damage saws and accordingly the timber in such areas is likely to have lost much of its commercial value. Second, although little or no planting has taken place the natural growth of timber unchecked for the period of the war is likely to have had an appreciable beneficial effect on the size of the timber available.

In pre-war Yugoslavia there were over 3,000 sawmills of which two thirds were water powered and generally small and primitive. About 300 were large enough to describe as industrial sawmills.

Among the most important were the following; their present condition is unknown except where it is stated.

Firm or Name of Mill	Location	Capacity (C Metres)	Remarks
NASICKA TVORNICA TANINA I PAROPILA (ZAGREB)	DJURDJENOVAC (nr NASICE)	60,000	Also floorings and cooperage. Believed to have been working in Jun 44, 4,000 workmen.
	KARLOVAC	40,000	Also has facilities for chemical treatment of wood and capacity for 1,300,000 tele- graph poles.
	POGRADCI (N Bosnia)	50,000	
	ZAVIDOVIĆI (E Bosnia)	45,000	Believed working Jul 44
	NOVO SELI- KRIZ (N Croatia)	50,000	Believed destroyed or seriously dam- aged by bombing 22 Sep 44
S.H.GUTMAN D.D.	BELISCE (Slavonia)	70,000	Three plants with capacity for 30,000 barrels and 30,000 sq metres. Working Jul 44.
"SIPAT" SUMSKO INDUSTRIJSKO PODUZEĆE A.D.	DOBRLJIN (nr Bosanski Novi)	30,000	
	DRVAR (W-Bosnia)	240,000	Believed destroyed
SLAVONIJA D.D.ZA INDUSTRIJU DRVA	BROD	25/30,000	Hardwoods 1:5 million sq metres veneers and 150,000 sq metres floorings
BOSANSKO D.D.ZA ISKORSCENJE DRVETA I POGON PARNIH PILANA	BANJA LUKA	140,000	



Firm or Name of Mill	Location	Capacity (C Metres)	Remarks
BUTTAZONI & VENTURINI	SARAJEVO	35,000	
JELA D.D. ZA EXPLOATA- CIJU I EXPORTIRANJE DRVA	SARAJEVO	40,000	
KRIVAJA SUMSKA INDUSTRIJA D.D.	ZAVIDOVICI (nr ZEPCE)	240,000	Believed working Jul 44
UGAR D.D. SARAJEVO	TURBET nr TRAVNIK  KRAM nr VLASENICA	150,000	
VARDA D.D. ZA EXPLOATACIJU VISEGRAD DRVA	LACARAK	100,000 50,000	
DRACH INDUSTRIJA DRVA D.D. (ZAGREB)	CAPRAJ	35,000	
NIHAG D.D. ZA INDUSTRIJA	VIROVITICA	40,000	70,000 sq metres oak floorings
USTIPRACA A.D. ZA SUMSKU INDUSTRIJU	USTIPRACA	40,000	
FELTRINELLI GUISEPPE COMP PILANA	PRACE	60,000	
BINDER I POLGAR	ZEMUN	40,000	
DEUTSCHE FILIPA SINOVI PARNA PILANA	TUROPOLJE	30,000	About 1000 workers, believed working recently

The following general notes may be of value.

#### BOSNIA

Very few saw mills are functioning in the South, East and West, but in the north east there are still some working. In the north east it is chiefly lack of saws, belting and oils that

has caused some to cease work but elsewhere many mills are totally destroyed. In addition throughout the whole of Bosnia the railway lines for transporting timber have been so badly damaged that they are at present unusable.

#### MONTENEGRO

There are still a few small saw mills working but they are mostly in need of saws, belting and lubricants.

#### SLAVONIA

Many saw mills have been destroyed but sufficient are still working to supply purely local needs. A Partisan account of Aug 44 states that 5 mills are working and 2 others are being put into operation. This presumably only applies to controlled territory. There is, however, an insufficient amount of belting, saws, fuel and lubricating oils.

#### SANDJAK

Few mills are working but there seems to be a certain amount of cut timber which requires sawing up into planks. The same requirements will be met with as in Montenegro.

#### CROATIA

Some mills are working in the North, but in Lika there were almost none, at all events during last summer. The same supplies are needed in the North but in Lika the mills will mostly have to be rebuilt.

#### SLOVENIA

A recent report from Partisan sources states that 50 mills are working in the Savinjska Valley and 20 in Kosjaki region. Another report states that the Partisan Commission for National Property has repaired 5 large saw mills with a total daily capacity of 620 cu metres. In Northern Slovenia it is thought that most saw mills are still functioning but in the extreme South and West many have been destroyed.

#### SERBIA including the VOJVODINA

Comparatively little forestry is undertaken in Northern Serbia but it is believed that the damage caused to such saw mills as do exist is not considerable. In Southern and particularly in Western Serbia, however, there is a fair number of saw mills, although most of them are small ones. Many of these have suffered damage or are silent due to lack of transmission belting and lubricants. In Southern Serbia the destruction has been less than in the west.

#### MACEDONIA

The forests of Macedonia were not exploited to the same extent as elsewhere and large saw mills were not greatly in evidence although there are a number of small ones. It is believed that about 50% are still working.



The universal needs to get the mills to work again are belts and circular saws. If these are provided much can be done to repair or rebuild houses, but if they are not available many people will have to spend another winter without or with only inadequate shelter. Lubricants and diesel oil are also required.

For further information see Handbook Part I pp 39, 68 et seq. Part II pp 48 et seq, 57, 64, 65 and 68.

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## Part II

### CEMENT

In Yugoslavia the manufacture of cement was an important business before the war and although the works have suffered considerably several of them including some of the larger ones are still in operation.

Details of some of the principal cement factories are as follows. The capacities quoted are pre-war figures. There are of course other factories.

The principal centre of the industry is at SPLIT where there are three large factories. The Dalmatia company has a works at KASTEL-SUCURAC on the north side of KASTEL Bay. This had a capacity of 280,000 tons per annum. A report states that it was not working in Aug 44 but the reason for this is not known as it has apparently not been badly damaged structurally.

At SOLIN at the head of KASTEL Bay there are situated the Split (Majdan) works with a capacity of 350,000 tons per annum. These are apparently undamaged and in Aug 44 they were working at full pressure.

At SVETI-KAJO near SOLIN are the Adria works with a capacity of 250,000 tons per annum. Photographic reconnaissance shows these works to be severely damaged and they are believed to have been inactive at least since Sep 44. It is not known what effect present operations in the area are likely to have on the works.

The cement produced by these factories is Portland cement or super quality natural cement.



There are numerous small firms in the SPLIT and OMIS area which used to excavate marl clay. The cement factory at VRANJICE near SPLIT also exported artificial asbestos. Air cover in Aug 44 showed no signs of activity at these small installations.

At DUGIRAT near OMIS, Dalmatia, a cement works which employed 1,000 men before the war is believed to have been inactive as the Partisans held the power station which supplied the works with power. There is no report that the factory is damaged.

Another large factory is situated at BEOCIN on the Danube in the SRM. This is stated to have had a capacity of 350,000 tons per annum. It is known to have been working up to Aug 44 and the Dombaron garrison there surrendered to the Partisans early in September so that little damage is likely to have been caused through fighting. There is no reason to suppose that it has been damaged since then and now that the Germans have been ejected from the area it is unlikely to suffer further damage. It was stated to have been producing 500 "trucks" per month in July.

At PODSUSED (near Zagreb) is the "Croatia" cement works with a capacity of 190,000 tons per annum. This also is believed to be still working. It also was producing 500 "trucks" per month in July. At the beginning of Oct 44 the works were reported to be prepared for demolition.

Another large cement factory KOHLINBERGWERKS-GESELLSCHAFT at TRBOVLJE in Slovenia. A Partisan source states that this has been destroyed but there is no confirmation of this. It is believed to have been working in Aug 43. Its capacity was 150,000 tons per annum. The same company also owned a works at ZIDANI MOST with a capacity of 15,000 tons per annum and another works of unknown capacity at ZAGORJE in Slovenia.

Two comparatively small works are situated in SERBIA. At POPOVAC in Central Serbia was the "Franco-Serb Cement Industry" with a capacity of 60,000 tons per annum and another works is known to have existed at KALJA South of BELGRADE with a capacity of 50,000 tons. These are both believed to have been working in Aug 43 and there is no reason to suppose that they have been damaged since, although recent operations in Serbia may have affected them.

Another small cement factory is situated at BENKOVAC east of Zala.

There seems to be no reason to doubt that large quantities of cement can be produced in Yugoslavia even now. The two factories at BEOCIN and PODSUSED were instructed to supply to the Wehrmacht 1,300 waggons from the month of May onwards and it is also known that export of Yugoslavian cement to TURKEY has been taking place. The difficulties to be met with are likely to be those of transportation rather than those of production.

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EASTERN BOSNIA.

This paper is based on a report by an Army doctor who left the country recently having spent 5 months there. It must be realised that although his observations are thoroughly reliable he did not have time during this period to cover the rather large area of E. Bosnia. very extensively. This paper deals with general conditions and does not enter into medical details.

1. LIVING CONDITIONS.

Living conditions appear to be fairly bad. Generally the houses in the villages are well built but with the exception of Moslem houses, are not kept very clean. They usually consist of whitewashed walls, red tiled roofs or wooden shingles. There is very little furniture. Every house seemed to be full of lice and fleas and is an ideal breeding ground for typhus. The people sleep close together for warmth and this coupled with continual exposure to the elements, inadequate clothing and no pasteurisation of milk has made this area a fertile field for tuberculosis.

Sanitation is non-existent, so is soap.

2. FOOD AND HEALTH.

In normal times the peasants produce more than they require for their own needs. Meat is obtainable, pork and pork fats being preserved for the winter months. In those parts where the valleys are wide and the rivers run comparatively slowly the land is very rich and fertile. There is plenty of fruit to be had of most types and maize. Flour is generally produced in small water-driven mills, the grain being ground between two flat stones. White bread made from wheat is considered a luxury. Milk is drunk in large quantities and a form of cheese made from soured milk is eaten.

Vegetables including potatoes, tomatoes, peppers and cabbage are obtainable in season. Rakia made from plums is a favourite beverage.

In spite of all this many people in this area seem to have been short of food. They have had their stocks robbed or requisitioned by both sides and this has not encouraged them to produce much more than they need for themselves. Some destruction of houses and villages has taken place and this has caused fertile land to be abandoned. This year considerable fighting occurred at harvest time with the result that in places standing crops were allowed to rot. It is expected, therefore, that this winter some additional supplies of food will be needed otherwise the accumulated effects of 3 years of the strain of war coupled with some malnutrition will make itself felt. This applies particularly to the children where some evidence of starvation such as distended abdomens is noticeable. The children are frequently pale and undeveloped and a large number suffer from rickets.



Another serious effect of the war on the population has been the drastic fall in the birthrate. Due to men and women being separated and the very unstable conditions of life, scarcely any children have been produced at all. Even those few that are born have to be very hardy to survive the present extremely difficult living conditions.

The people are strong and capable of withstanding the cold and rainy climate well. However, the strain of war and the lowering of general standards of living is having its effect on their health. Roseworm is very rife among the people being especially evident in the children. Preventive measures are being taken against typhus and typhoid by giving injections. VD is not common.

### 3. TUZLA.

The only large town visited was TUZLA. It is fairly well built and in peace time must be quite prosperous, doing well from its salt mine and also to a lesser extent from its coal mine and alcohol distillery.

There is a public Health Centre which is surprisingly well equipped, larger than would be expected and well staffed. T.A.B. and typhus vaccine manufactured in ZAGREB is used here. In the centre of the town is a neurological centre, not large but sufficient for peace time needs. There is also a civilian hospital newly built with about 150 beds. It consists of four large blocks, the largest being the surgical block. The operating theatre is excellent and the X-ray apparatus modern and new. A disinfecting centre was visited which was considered to be superior to any seen in the R.A.M.C. Near the industrial centre is a Workman's Compensation Centre, modernly equipped which before the war treated about 5,000 people. Also visited was the proposed building for the Corps Hospital. This is a modern building in the centre of the town which will easily be turned into a modern 150 bed hospital with water laid on, plenty of showers and baths, heat, modern kitchen and laundry, a suitable X-ray room and dispensary. In the industrial section outside the town there is in good condition a factory hospital of about 150 beds. In another industrial centre is a reception centre with 150 beds. The Partisans have taken over a large home, well built and equipped with furniture, which is to be turned into an orphanage for 150 orphaned children.

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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN MONTENEGRO.

1. Conditions of Farm Machinery.

As such there is no machinery. Wooden ploughs, ox-carts and handmade tools are in use everywhere. In most localities the wheat is thrashed by two horses running over it in a circle. Corn is scraped off the ears by hand, then dried in the sun. Wool and other home-spun materials are all made by hand. Water wheels operate the mills.

In one or two places, such as GORNJE POLJE, Monastery Moraca, water wheels furnish power for an electric light plant.

There is a great need for fertilizer, pruning implements (most of the plum orchards do not bear fruit as a result of neglect), and above all, small motors to operate lumber mills.

Sixty percent of the villages have been burnt out, but the walls still stand. There is lumber in profusion and all that is needed is the machinery for cutting planks and beams to rebuild quickly. At present all this work is laboriously done by hand, using saws and axes introduced by the Turks circa 1475 A.D.

2. Electric Power.

There is ample water in most towns to be harnessed, but the power plants have nearly all been destroyed. NIKSIC uses a small Italian plant which burns diesel. PODGORICA is reported to have been bombed out of power and light. BERANE, BIJELO POLJE, KOLASIN, have all had their "centrals" destroyed. As the Germans retreat from the Dalmatian coast it can be expected that places like GRAHOVO, KOTOR, BRAGNOVI GRADINJE will be destroyed.

3. Food Reserves.

There are none. At the present there are over 3,000 soldiers in NIKSIC and we have had no meat for three days. Potatoes are impossible to buy. There is a small amount of corn for bread and some cheese and milk. Unless food is dropped in this area shortly, conditions will be bad. Since September 27 there have been no food parachutes dropped here. The operations in GREECE have employed the planes which normally came in.

4. Road Transportation.

From NIKSIC to the coast will soon be passable for trucks. This route goes via BILEGA to TREBINJE. The narrow gauge railroad along the same route is in good shape, except for a bridge which was blown out at TREBINJE. Partisans claim they can get it working in a month.

Rolling stock is poor, and narrow gauge locomotives would have to be brought in from Italy.



The rivers in the area are all too swift and drop sharply. Navigation is impossible.

### 5. Distribution Facilities.

Once away from main roads it would be necessary to rely on pack ponies. The problem of food for them in wintertime is acute. Italian mules would be useful here, and hay and straw would have to be sent in. The majority of the mountain trails and roads are impassable from December to April.

Magazines or store houses should be set up along the lines used by the British and American Missions. Our warehouses were stocked at various focal points and the local commanders sent in pack trains which were loaded and the distribution arranged by the Partisans.

We operated six dropping grounds and three air-dromes in this manner and were able to establish a fairly efficient distribution system.

Distances here mean nothing. Sometimes it will take two days to go ten miles. Sometimes one can cover the same distance in five hours over another type of trail.

### 6. Bargaining and Basic Prices.

In places where Italian soldiers have been stationed the lira is used. In places where the Germans have been in occupation the Reichsmark is still used. Some localities, like BERANE, NEGOBUDJE and KOLASIN, where the English and American flyers and missions have been through, dollars, gold Napoleons and English pounds are accepted. In localities in the SANJAK and around PLEVJA and PRIJEPOLJE, dinars (Nedutch) are used.

But over all the territory salt and flour and sugar are most in demand for barter. The markets are run almost entirely on the barter system.

### 7. Prevailing Rates (as paid to American Mission.)

250 lira	----	one dollar
2000 lira	----	one gold Napoleon
2000 dinar	----	one dollar

### 8. Costs.

One egg	---	50 lira
One bottle rakia (cognac)		500 lira
Parachute silk will purchase anything.		
One panel of silk will buy three dozen eggs, five kilo plums and one large cheese.		
One saddle horse and saddle	---	five gold Napoleons (\$60.00)
One pack pony and saddle		two gold Napoleons.
Oats for horse	---	200 lira kilo.

At NIKSIC the Germans established the rate of 20 lira to one Reichsmark. American money is not wanted as nobody realises its value and couldn't get it exchanged if they took it.



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NAO.MA.  
Jaan. Oul. G.  
SC: A. W. 8/11  
SC: Q. Chaplain R.C.D.  
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SECRET

ML HQ (Yugoslavia)

Weekly Intelligence Summary No 16

5 Nov 44

OPERATIONS

1. On the eastern front of Yugoslavia no very significant advances have been made during the past week. The Russians seem to be concentrating their efforts on their thrust for BUDAPEST in the meantime holding their lines in Yugoslavia with the help of the Bulgarians. In the SREM the Partisan infantry supported by Russian artillery are bearing the brunt of the fighting.
2. The Germans in south Serbia and Macedonia are now trying to open up escape routes along the KRALJEVO-VISEGRAD road to SARAJEVO and also through KOS MITROVICA and NOVI PAZAR to SJENICA and thence to the SARAJEVO road. It is believed that the forces attempting to break through are administrative and I of C troops and are not the main fighting men of Army Group E which have apparently not yet started to move.
3. SALONIKA was evacuated by the Germans on 30 Oct and British troops have entered the town. A note on the condition of the port is given later in this Summary. It is seriously damaged. FLORINA and SOESSA have also been captured.
4. There is still a large concentration of German forces in the PODGORICA area. One estimate gives their numbers as 30,000 but this is thought to be an exaggeration.
5. The whole of the coast line over 200 miles long from NIN to the Gulf of KOTOR is now firmly in Partisan hands. The enemy key points of DRNIS and KNIN are being seriously menaced and when these are taken the road from SPLIT into the south LIKA will be open.

STATE OF PORTS

6. The following reports have been received:

SALONIKA

Photographic reconnaissance reveals the following:

The quays are largely obscured by smoke.  
10 launches and 25 caiques are visible apparently  
afloat and in good order.

**'Q' BRANCH**

6 NOV

Ref. No. ....  
M.L. H.Q. (YUGOSLAVIA)

The mine layer "Zeus" and M/V "Lola" are sunk at the sea (south) entrance to the inner harbour with their superstructures above water. There is a gap of about 70 ft between them.

In the breakwater there are 13 breaches 30 ft wide and the head of the SE mole has been demolished. When photographed a ship called "Bourgas" was still afloat with her stern 135 ft from the breakwater but she is since reported to have been sunk. She was in position to block the NW entrance to the harbour. She is of 3000 tons.

On land all railway repair shops and engine sheds have been demolished and the dock area has been isolated by blowing three bridges over the canal. An explosive stores depot has been blown up and fires are burning in the stores area. The W/T station on WIKRA Point has been demolished.

7. ZELENIKA and BROEGNOVI

On 13 Oct before their capture by the Partisans these ports were undamaged but some of the quays were prepared for demolition.

8. PLOCA

Part of the quay served by the railway has been demolished by mining and an overhead travelling crane has been severely damaged.

9. GRUZ

Berths are available alongside quays for:

2 vessels 420 ft long of 21 ft draught, and for  
1 vessel 300 ft long of 23 ft draught.

In addition 2 vessels 420 ft long can lie at anchor.

Schooners and LCTs have already berthed.

The electric power station is intact and working but needs diesel oil. The quays are not believed to be mined but the cranes are not working. The railway lines are in fair condition but the line is blocked 4 kilometres from the port. Some of the houses are booby trapped.

10. SPLIT

The following report has been received:

About 25 ships of various shapes and sizes are sunk in the harbour. There are berths for 5 LCT of normal draught plus 3 others of draught up to 6 ft. The best deep water berths have been damaged by bombs and the installations on the quays themselves have been reduced to a mass of twisted metal. The railway station in the neighbourhood of the harbour has suffered severely and most of the rolling stock there has been damaged beyond repair.



11. ZADAR

The quays are extensively damaged by bombing. Demolition has taken place of two of the few remaining deep water berths, viz

RIVA DERNA at north end of the Peninsula, and  
RIVA IV NOVEMORE and RIVA SAN ROCCO at the east side of the Peninsula.

12. SENJ

Three wrecks obstruct one of the piers. There is no evidence of any demolition up to 15 Oct but some buildings are damaged by bombing.

13. NOVI

Undamaged up to 13 Oct.

DAMAGE and DESTRUCTION

14. BELGRADE

Extremely conflicting reports have been received about the damage to the city. Appendix "B" hereto is considered the most reliable but another report paints a more gloomy picture.

15. MARIBOR

Further reports of the damage caused in the air attack on 14 Oct have now come to hand. A slaughter house, a silk factory and a hospital were reported as being among the buildings hit and one span of the Drava bridge is down. Only local rail traffic is moving between MARIBOR and CELJE.

GERMAN PREPARATIONS FOR WITHDRAWAL AND DEFENCE

16. SREM

The Germans are said to be demolishing supplies and installations which they cannot remove.

17. OSIJEK

The police, the local authorities and the military are reported to be destroying papers. The leather factory and military buildings are being mined and the sugar factory is being "demobilised". The last word is corrupt in the signal and may not be correctly reported.

18. Some further details have been received of the defence line in Slovenia referred to in WIS No 13, para 15. It is said to consist of defensive localities rather than a continuous line of defence. Gauleiter Steindl is trying to obtain 100,000 workers but so far it is reported he has only 50,000.

19. The line runs from LJUTOMER to ORMOZ (west of VARAZDIN) thence south west to ROGATEC and south to the SUTLA west of KLANJEC. Thence it goes south west to RAJHENBURG and then westwards along the Sava as far as ZAGORJE. There are also trenches between BREZICE and KRSKO. The strongest defences are said to be on the Drava at ORMOZ and the Sava at ZIDANI MOST.

20. VINKOVCI

Civil employees have been dismissed and the town is under military control.

21. The Germans are reported to be preparing a bridge on the VRBOVSKO-OGULIN road. They apparently intend to use this road as an alternative route from FIUME to KARLOVAC.

TRANSPORT & TRANSPORTATION

22. Reports are coming in of the numbers of MT in Partisan hands.

From the PAPUK area comes a report that the Partisans have 25 lorries, 5 buses and 15 cars. Most of this MT is old and unreliable but 8 diesel lorries, 5 cars and 1 bus are in use. The remainder are not running owing to lack of tyres and petrol. The Partisans hope to capture more MT when BROD and OSIJEK fall. This comes from a reliable source.

23. The Partisans claim to have captured 40 motor vehicles in the KOBOVO and METOHIJA areas, 650 in the METKOVIC (Dalmatian) area, 200 at SPLIT and "a considerable number" at TRAVNIK. There is nothing impossible in these claims but it is not stated in what condition the vehicles are and it would be rash to assume that as many as this will be available for relief purposes.

24. The Partisans also claim to have captured rolling stock on the railway at TRAVNIK and say that they have captured two armoured trains, 5 locomotives and 40 railway cars in HERCEGOVINA. These must presumably be on the line south of MOSTAR.

RELIEF REQUIREMENTS and PRICES

25. A reliable report from the LEUKOVAC area says that the chief shortages there are clothes, wool and cotton yarn, leather and medical supplies. There is no serious food deficiency but there is no tea, coffee or sugar.
26. From BRAC it was reported at the beginning of October that there was no fish, meat, eggs, milk or vegetables and that there is need for doctors and medicines.



The people are hungry and prices were:-

an egg	150	lire		
wine	120	"	per litre	
milk	120	"	"	"

27. From SPLIT at the same time it was reported that prices were:

maize	800	lire	per kilo	
bread	1200	"	"	"

28. SPLIT

Information has been received that food conditions in SPLIT although far from satisfactory are better than earlier reports indicated. Most people appear to be fairly cheerful and there are few signs of serious under-nourishment. Soup kitchens serving a kind of gruel are now functioning and by this means the food that the Partisans send to the city is being distributed.

29. Although some of the children are very ragged and dirty the great majority of the inhabitants are dressed in clean and suitable clothing.

30. The presence of large numbers of enemy troops in areas such as southern MONTENEGRO and MACEDONIA is likely to have a very detrimental effect on the food situation. These parts have seldom produced more than enough for the bare needs of the inhabitants and owing to their main lines of communication now being cut the enemy can only be living on the country.

31. It seems probable that these forces will try to extricate themselves via the SANJAK, SARAJEVO and central BOSNIA, and these areas together with south west SERBIA will also suffer from their presence.

TEXTILES

32. It is reported that some of the factories at LESKOVAC are already working. Production is limited however by a shortage of raw materials, as on 28 Oct there were only 20 waggon loads of raw wool available. This confirms the suggestion made in para 16 of last week's WIS that raw materials are needed in LESKOVAC more than machinery.

SOAP

33. It is reported that the Riviera Soap factory at KOTOR has been closed down for a year owing to shortage of raw materials. This is one of the more important Yugoslav soap factories. When this factory was in production soap was fairly readily available to the population in the Axis controlled part of MONTENEGRO.

#### RAILWAY & ENGINEERING WORKS

34. The waggon section of the Brod works is reported to be again in operation.

#### TRADE & FINANCE

35. It seems that German firms were still doing business with Croatia up till the end of September. In most cases however payment in advance is required and shipment is made at consignee's risk.
36. Attached at Appendix "A" is a report on Finance and Currency in Yugoslavia (BBB/2). This is based on information at present available and reflects the chaotic condition of Yugoslav finance.

#### AREA REPORT

37. Attached at Appendix "B" is a report (R30/RGE) by a BLO who has recently left Serbia and BELGRADE. As this officer saw something of conditions after the arrival of the Russians his report is of great interest and is considered reliable. It contains paragraphs on:

Living Conditions  
Food  
Clothing and Boots  
Livestock  
Agriculture and Agricultural Implements  
Transport and Transportation  
Health  
Prices  
Industries  
Belgrade  
& Conclusions

#### POLITICAL

38. On 26 Oct SOFIA radio broadcast in the Macedonian language a manifesto to the Macedonian people from the Macedonian Antifascist National Assembly of Liberation.

This manifesto states the will of the Macedonian people to live a free life within the framework of the new democratic federation of Yugoslavia.

It expresses itself as being opposed to the Serbian hegemony and apparently contemplates the whole Macedonian people including those of Bulgaria and Greece as forming a unit in the new federation.



The manifesto dwells on the misfortunes of Macedonia in the past, particularly its partition in 1918 and on the struggle of the Macedonians in the present war. Drazha Mikhailovic and Milan Nedic are attacked by name and the Albanians too do not escape abuse.

All Macedonians are urged to rise as one man so as to win the freedom of Macedonia and build a free Macedonian state.

The manifesto concludes with benedictions on various organisations and personages connected with the Yugoslav Partisan movement.

It is signed for the Anti-Fascist council of national liberation of Macedonia by the

President: Metodi Andonoff Tsento, tradesman from PRILEP

Vice-President: Pantsho Brashnaroff, teacher from VELES  
and Emanuel Gitkoff, Director of Secondary School, SHTIP

Secretaries: Lubko Atsoff, bank employee, SHTIP and  
Dr Vladimir Poleyzhinovski, professor of Law

and members.

39. This broadcast is consistent with the present Bulgarian policy of self abasement before the Yugoslav Partisans, whom until recently they were oppressing. If this mood continues it does not appear that the Peace Conference will have any difficulties with the Bulgars in settling the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier.
40. The meeting of Marshal Tito and Dr Subasic is said to be proposing a national Government under the leadership of the Committee of National Liberation.
41. A suggestion has been made from Partisan sources that the KOSOVO area would form a separate unit in federal Yugoslavia with a view to meeting the wishes of those Albanians who look forward to joining the Balkan federation. More nationalistic Albanians, however, regard KOSOVO as an integral part of Albania and such a proposal is not likely to satisfy them.
42. There have recently been indications that the position of the Pavelic Government in Croatia is becoming critical owing to the number of desertions to the Partisans.
43. A number of Cetnik supporters have made their way to Italy as they seem to think that their last hope is to contact the Anglo-Americans. One such officer after admitting having been in touch with the Germans and having received their support, stated that he was willing to co-operate with anybody who was fighting the communists. For him the communists and the Partisans were identical.

STOP PRESS

1. One deep water berth in KASTEL BAY (N harbour of SPLIT) will be available for use on 3 Nov.
2. Preliminary reports concerning SIBENIK indicate that extensive damage has been done to the quays.
3. Bulgarian forces are reported to have occupied PODUJEVO and are making a drive towards PRISTINA and KOS MITROVICA in the IBAR valley.

*R.G. Edholm*  
Maj GS.  
R.G. Edholm.

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Distribution:

Internal

Comd  
Dep Comd  
AQ (Chaplain to sec)  
Mov  
Tn  
RE  
X  
SF (to pass to PL, Hqs & Claims, DADOS, Camp Comlt,  
last named to return to G)  
HQ Liaison  
S & R (2 copies)  
UNRRA Mission to Yugoslavia (3 copies)  
Salonika Det  
I Room  
War Diary (3 copies)  
File (3 copies)

External

AEHQ  
AM HQ (Balkans) (3)  
ML HQ (Albania)  
M Military Mission  
Lt Col Beakin, Office of Minister of State, BARI  
No 1 I (U) Section  
PWB  
CEWA  
PIC  
OSS



CURRENCY AND FINANCIAL REPORT - YUGOSLAVIA - OCT 44

1. GENERAL

The present currency position in Yugoslavia is chaotic. There are six different currencies in use excluding the Partisan issued promissory certificates which take the place of money. For the purposes of this paper, however, only kunas, dinars and lire have been considered and the sections on currency, gold prices and commodity prices and wages have been subdivided accordingly.

The average peasant (80% of the population) has lost nearly all his faith in the value of money owing to the fact that there is almost nothing that he can buy with it. As a result nearly all peasant transactions are now done by barter and in fact Partisan promissory notes for requisitioned property are frequently issued on a replacement basis.

Rates of Exchange

After the partition of Yugoslavia the old Yugoslav dinar was withdrawn and replaced at par, in Croatia with the kuna, and in Serbia by the Serb dinar.

External rates of exchange were fixed as follows:

20 Kunas or Dinars	=	1 Reich Mark
100 " "	=	328 Lire
100 " "	=	160 Bulgarian Leva

Since then, however, the kuna has depreciated quite substantially and the present rate for the lire is:

1 Lire	=	8-10 Kunas
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The dinar has also depreciated and a reliable report received from NIS on 26 Oct 44 gives the rate of dinar as:

1 Dinar	=	1 Leva
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Many peasants still pin their faith on the old Yugoslav dinar believing it has a greater chance of being honoured when the war is over and are said to have hoarded large denomination notes rather than exchange them for the new kuna or Serb dinar.

Present official rates of exchange published by the Nedic and Pavelic Governments are not quoted as these rates are virtually dictated by the enemy and are therefore not applicable.

Rates offered for sterling and dollars vary, both to districts and to individuals. Some people have confidence in sterling but rather more believe in dollars. This is due to the fact that many Yugoslavs have either relatives in the US or have actually been there themselves. Also some individuals profoundly distrusting the kuna and the dinar realise that by buying currencies which are acc-

epted throughout the world, they are conserving at least  
 some of their wealth which will serve as an insurance  
 against destitution. Thus the demand for these more  
 stable currencies tends to vary in inverse ratio accord-  
 ing to the degree of confidence held by the community  
 in the capabilities of the de facto authorities to re-  
 tain military control of the districts. In the areas  
 therefore firmly held by the Partisans where there is  
 little likelihood of occupation by the enemy, the price  
 offered for British and American currencies tends to be  
 lower than in places menaced by the enemy.

(a) Kunas

Sep 44: official rate at Partisan HQ (Croatia)

					1 dollar =	800	kuna
"	"	"	"	"	£1	=	3200 "

11	11	11	11	11	£1	= 3200	11
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Aug 44: in Slavonia (Partisan rate)

1 dollar = 650 "

2 to 3 times as much and sometimes even more can generally be obtained from private individuals.

(b) Dinars

In Sep 44 the price paid by individuals in the Belgrade area: 1 dollar = 1000-1500 dinars.

(c) Lire

Very little information is available but in Sep 44 Slovenia individual offers were:

£1 = 400-1000 lire

1 dollar = 400 lire

Gold

There seems to be a ready market for gold coinage particularly Napoleons in Montenegro and in the neighbourhood of the Albanian border. In Croatia there appears to be little interest in gold coinage but in Serbia the price offered has risen steadily during the last few months. The rate obtained for Napoleons is roughly 80% of the sovereign rate.

## Kines

Last August 35,000 kunas were paid for a sovereign in Slavonia.

## Dinars

The following prices were paid in Serbia for sov-  
ereigns:

Belgrade in Jun 44 16,000 - 30,000

in Sep 44 30,000 - 35,000

Outside Belgrade (some 40 miles south) in Sep, 22,000 was reported as being offered.



## Lire

During August and September the market value of the gold Napoleon in Montenegro fluctuated between 4000 and 8000 lire.

## 2. COMMODITY PRICES AND WAGES

All commodity prices in the country vary according to local availability and the differences that exist are very considerable. For this reason no figures are quoted for clothing and footwear in respect of which the shortage is so acute that the prices charged are out of all proportion to earning capacities.

In the large towns like Belgrade and Zagreb employees such as civil servants are not now earning sufficient to enable them to live. They have therefore been compelled to sell their household goods and personal effects so that they can obtain the money with which to buy on the Black Market the difference between their meagre ration and enough on which to live. It is believed that on average the official ration only allows for about 15% of the amount of food actually required.

Prices and wages in country districts are difficult to obtain owing to the fact that money is distrusted and its place is largely taken by barter, and it is stressed that the figures quoted can only be taken as very approximate.

### (a) Kuna area

#### (i) Central Dalmatia including the Islands

Jul 44	Bread	500-800	kunas	per kilo
	Meat	1000-1500	"	"
	Olive oil	3500	"	litre
	Wine	320	"	"
	Tobacco	6500	"	kilo

Wages are said to be between 600 and 900 kunas daily.

#### (ii) Slavonia and N Croatia

Jun 44	(Butter	1500-1800	kunas	per kilo
(Varazdin)	(Potatoes	25	"	"
	(Eggs	25	each	
	(Milk	60	kunas	per litre
Aug 44	(Cooking fat	3000	kunas	per kilo
(Slavonia)	(Wine	250	"	litre
	(Rakija	1500	"	"

An ordinary peasant earns his keep together with equivalent of 200-250 kunas per day.

(iii) Zagreb

Jun -	Tobacco	6500-10000	kunas	per kilo
Jul 44	Bread	300	"	" "
	Meat	1000	"	" "
	Fat (dripping)	3000	"	" "
	Wine	600	"	" litre

Average rent of one furnished room 10000 kunas a month. Wages of a civil servant 260-330 kunas daily plus 40 kunas per head family allowance.

(iv) Central Bosnia

Jul 44	Eggs (where procurable)	20	kunas	each
	Rakija	500	kunas	per litre
	Tobacco	6-8000	"	" kilo

No average wage can be quoted.

(b) Dinars

(i) Belgrade

Jul-	Bread	130-220	dinars	per kilo
Sep 44	Meat	700	"	" "
	Sugar	1000	"	" "
	Eggs	35	"	each
	Milk	100	"	per litre
	Rakija	500	"	" "
	Wine	150-400	"	" "
	Cigarettes	10	"	each

An office worker earns 200-500 dinars daily. Skilled manual labourers are reported (unconfirmed) to be earning 1500-3500 daily.

An earlier report of 9 Apr 44, believed reliable, gives the following rates:

Minimum wages for agricultural workers is 12 dinars per hour, with a ten hour day.

An expert farm labourer will get 500 to 600 dinars per diem.

An agricultural worker in the Banat will get 200 to 500 dinars per diem with food, and a vineyard sprinkler in the Smederovo area is paid 800 to 1000 per day without food.

Forced government labour gets 60 dinars per day and food.

A porter at the railway station in Belgrade was getting 1000 dinars per day.

N.B. Prices of eggs, milk and bread are much lower in the country districts.



(ii) Nis

Sep 44	Flour	120-150	dinars per kilo
	Meat	500-800	" " "

No specific wages are available for Nis.

In a refugee home at Studenica young girl assistants were given their keep plus 100 dinars a day.

(iii) The following are indications of pay in the armed forces:

together with board & lodging	a major in the Medic forces	200	dinars daily
	" " " " Ljotic	550	" "
	a private	140	" "

(c) Lira

(i) Montenegro

These are the average prices paid for the commodities when available:

Jul	Bread	100-200	lire per kilo
	Meat (mutton)	140	" " "
	Fats (lard)	400-800	" " "
	Olive oil	560	" " "
	Potatoes	25	" " "
	Milk	35-50	" " litre
	Tobacco	600	" " kilo

No wages are known.

(ii) S Slovenia

Butter	150	lire per kilo
Eggs	3.5	" each
Milk	5	" per litre
Wine	20	" " "
Rakija	80	" " "
Honey	80	" kilo
Pig (2 months old)	200	" " "
Chicken	150	" each

No wages are available.

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SECRET.

R30/RGE.

Appendix "B" to WIS No.16 dated 5 Nov 44.

SERBIA.

This report is based on information given by a BLO who left the country in the second half of October 44. This information is considered reliable.

1. Source travelled North and East from the TOPIKA area to the BOR mine and then North West to BELGRADE which he visited after its liberation.

The information given is a general impression of the districts covered rather than a detailed study of any particular area.

2. LIVING CONDITIONS.

The country has not suffered to any great extent either before or during the Russian - Bulgarian drive. As mentioned in previous reports of more localised districts, reprisals were carried out by the Germans on a number of villages in the valleys, with consequent destruction of dwelling houses. Rebuilding has started again, and timber is available more or less throughout the area covered but there is a shortage of sawmills.

Roofs are covered with shingles or tiles; old stocks of the latter are still available, and two very large brick and tile factories at ARANJEOVAC some thirty miles south of BELGRADE are still working.

Nails are in extreme shortage and wooden pegs are used instead.

There is overcrowding in many districts and household utensils are badly needed, but then it does seem that the standard of living was not much higher before the war.

3. FOOD.

Except for an area South East of NIS, food was on the whole plentiful, the only shortages being fats, sugar, tobacco, tea and coffee. Honey is abundant and to a certain extent relieves the shortage of sugar. In all mountainous districts villages had their own small water driven flour mills still working.

The maize crops have been exceptionally good but the Russians are requisitioning on a large scale for their horse transport of which they have a great number. This horse transport used by the Russians is said to be the transport of some 15 German Divisions which were trapped North of JASSY and which the Russians have used across Rumania and Bulgaria. The Russians have been collecting mostly ripe maize on the eve.



#### 4. CLOTHING AND BOOTS.

There is a shortage of clothing, but throughout the area covered, people seem to have warm, if patched, homespun. Footwear is in extremely short supply. Leather and general bootmakers' material will be required rather than finished articles since each village has its cobbler.

#### 5. LIVESTOCK.

Horses, dairy cattle, sheep and pigs have been seriously depleted. In the case of horses it cannot be said that they are completely lost to the country since they have been nearly always requisitioned by the Partisans. Oxen are plentiful and are used mostly for farm work and drawing carts.

At Partisan HQ it was always possible to obtain eggs and fowls seem to be available in large numbers.

#### 6. AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

As stated above in para 3, crops have been good, particularly maize and potatoes and it is believed that farmers will have kept sufficient for their winter needs and for seed.

Farm tools are very primitive but adequate, though iron and nails for horse shoes are very short indeed.

#### 7. TRANSPORT AND TRANSPORTATION.

The usual mode of transportation, mainly because country roads are impracticable to MT, is by ox-cart.

Large numbers of MT, about 3000 vehicles of all sorts were captured in and around BELGRADE but source believes that all these were taken over by the Russians. Certainly Partisan HQ 2 Corps did not obtain a single vehicle out of all this booty. On the contrary, the Russians took

one of the only two cars at Partisan HQ, that of the commander. They explained later that they were unaware it belonged to the Corps Commander, the car was, however, not returned.

#### 8. HEALTH.

On the whole health is good, but malaria and rheumatism were frequently encountered both amongst the Partisans and the civilian population.

The Partisan doctor at Corps HQ stated that the district around BOR was afflicted with hereditary syphilis and he pointed out to source many cases of deformity due to that disease.

#### 9. PRICES.

It is practically impossible for a BIO to obtain information on prices of commodities, because, when with a Partisan HQ, all their requirements are supplied, and the Partisans themselves seldom use banknotes, but rather issue promissory notes which is tantamount to requisitioning



with a promise to pay at some later day. The following prices, however, were quoted in BELGRADE after the liberation.

One Cigarette	12½ Dinars.
One Sovereign	28,000 to 30,000 Dinars.

There was no demand for American Dollars.

#### 10. INDUSTRIES.

BOR MINES. Source together with another British officer and some representatives from Partisan HQ reached the mine immediately after the German evacuation and were shown over about half of the workings before the Russians appeared on the scene. Then everything was changed; the Partisans altered their attitude and nothing more was shown to the B.I.O.s. However, the small directing staff of the mine, French people from pre-war days, gave the other B.I.O. who is a mineralogist all relevant information. This information it is hoped will soon be available. What appears certain however, is that extremely little damage has been carried out. A lot of the machinery is brand new and of German manufacture; wherever the Germans have attempted to put the machinery out of action, it has been done in a haphazard manner i.e. destroying a small part of a machine of which there are two or three of the same type and all parts are therefore interchangeable, or removing a bearing which can easily be replaced by sending a new one by air either from England or the U.S.A. This failure of the German demolitions is attributed to the speed with which they had to evacuate.

#### 11. BELGRADE.

Source was in BELGRADE a few days after its liberation and two things were immediately apparent. These were points on which the Partisan Corps Commander also remarked.

(a) The population of the town looked reasonably well fed and clothed. The shops seemed empty of all goods and it is therefore presumed that either the government had stocks which were rationed out or else that a large part of the people were fed directly from the neighbouring country side.

(b) Apart from the railway station area which is razed to the ground, little damage has been done to the centre of the town. Shop windows are smashed and a few buildings have suffered direct hits, and though the city has an appearance of dilapidation the damage on the whole is only superficial. Source cannot state whether the electric power station and the water supply were still functioning, but these two services were available in the small towns and villages around BELGRADE, and although it may be that the water supply was of local origin, it seems probable that electric light was supplied from the BELGRADE main station.



12. CONCLUSION.

Once again there is proof that generally speaking Serbia has not unduly suffered under the German and quisling rule, and providing Russian requisitions to feed their army are not too extensive, little relief will be required. The greatest need is for the following:

(Soap

(Fat

Leather and bootmakers requisites.

Clothing

Sugar.

618

A/4

'A' BRANCH

SECRET.ML HQ (Yugoslavia).

30 OCT 1944

Weekly Intelligence Summary No. 15.29 Oct 44.Ref. No. ....  
ML HQ (YUGOSLAVIA)OPERATIONS.AA + Am G.  
AA + Qm G.  
ScA. *away*  
ScQ. *Monte...*  
Chaplain.

to see 9/11 30/10

1. In the VOJVODINA the Russian advance continues and practically the whole of the BACKA is now in their hands. NOVI SAD has fallen to them and they are now on the East bank of the DANUBE for almost the whole distance from BAJA in Hungary to BOROVO.
2. South of the DANUBE, ZEMUN has been taken and most of the Northern and Eastern parts of the SREM are either in Russian or Partisan hands. Elsewhere in SREM the Partisans also have been active and MITROVICA is reported as having been liberated.
3. In SERBIA no very spectacular operations are reported. The Russians are continuing their drive towards KRALJEVO and the IBA valley escape route and the narrow gauge railway line between KRALJEVO - SREBJEVO has become of considerable importance to the enemy. An unconfirmed report states that the Partisans have occupied ROGARICA on this line.
4. In MACEDONIA the Bulgars have reached KOCLINE and are pushing on from STIP towards VELLA which lie on the German escape routes from SALONIKA.
5. The position of the enemy in Southern SERBIA and MACEDONIA is becoming more and more difficult. Following the fall of DUBROVNIK they have lost control of a large part of the coast. Their other escape routes which pass through mountainous country are not at their best this time of the year and are at present at least partially in Partisan hands. Their problems of supply too must be causing some anxiety as the area which they now occupy normally produces little more than is just sufficient for the requirements of its population. It may be therefore that as a result of operations and the fact that the Germans will no doubt seize food supplies from the unfortunate peasants, considerable food shortages may shortly arise in this area which has hitherto been regarded as a comparatively well fed area.
6. SPLIT is now reported to have been taken by the Partisans so that they now hold the entire coast from SPLIT down to (exclusive) KOTOR Gulf. It is thought that SPLIT is unlikely to be lost again as the Germans have neither adequate resources nor adequate motive to undertake such an operation in the present circumstances.



7. No serious German reaction to the capture of DUBROVNIK has yet appeared and it now seems less likely that they will attempt its recapture. It is considered more likely that the troops in MONTENEGRO and Albania will try to move North either through TREBINJE or PIEVIJA to MOSAR or SARAJEVO.

8. DAMAGE and DESTRUCTION

8. The Germans in the course of their evacuation are doing a certain amount of destruction but it seems to be very patchy. In many cases reports are vague and conflicting and it is not easy to assess its exact extent.

9. The following reports have been received about damage to ports:

KRALJEVICA	Quays mined
PAKOSTANE	The harbour is not damaged but four mine pits have been dug in the main road which is the only approach to the quays.
BIOGRAD	A small jetty and a large T head pier at the south have been demolished but there is no evidence of any further damage or mining for demolition.
MLKARSKA	Quays mined and in the northern part of the port have been detonated and it is believed to some extent also elsewhere.
SIBENIK	A short length of quay and an overhead gantry crane at Port Dalmatienne have been demolished.
OMIS	The quays were prepared for demolition but were apparently not blown when the Partisans entered the place.
TOUL	Certain demolitions took place on 23 Oct.
DUBROVNIK and GLUZ	The quays are undamaged though in places they are obstructed by heaps of bauxite and wrecks. Nevertheless they can still be used to a great extent.
SALONIKA	Demolitions and block ships are being prepared. Mining of the sea approaches continues.
SPILIT	The harbour is not badly damaged and there have been few demolitions. Partisan pilots are available to guide ships through the minefields.

10. Novi Sad The retreating Germans are reported to have totally destroyed the railway bridge and station, to have withdrawn all rolling stock and to have mined and ploughed up the airfield.

11. Maribor A heavy air attack on the marshalling yard at Maribor took place on the night 21/22 Oct. The bridge over the Drava was hit and considerable dislocation of rail traffic resulted.

12. At Belgrade little is known of the damage caused by the fighting and the retreating Germans. The Russians are still to have captured intact one of the Sava bridges to Zemun. Ikarus and Pekozer ski aircraft factories were destroyed by bombing in April and the Pancevo bridge across the Danube is still broken.



### OIL

13 It now seems that the report mentioned in WIS No 14 para 10 that Gajilo was burning was incorrect or exaggerated. It is now reported that production of benzine and petroleum has been increased and that machinery has actually been taken to Gajilo from Caprag and a small refinery built. It is still believed however that preparatory to evacuation have taken place at Gajilo.

### SOIL

14 A report of unknown reliability states that another shift is to be sunk at Trbovlje in order to increase production to 100 waggons of coal a day. Present production is believed to be about 5 waggons per day. The same report states that production at Zagarje has stopped.

Normal annual production at Trbovlje is reported to be about 600,000 tons and at Zagarje about 240,000 but recently it must have been much less. 100 waggons per day would be about 240,000 tons per annum.

15 The coal mines at Vrđnik in the Fruska Gora in the Srem has been captured by the Partisans apparently more or less undamaged and the power station is also not destroyed. No details are at present known of the recent production at these mines but it is not believed to have ever been on a large scale.

### TEXTILES

16 A reliable report states that on 1 Oct a large woollen mill at Gradlica near Leskovac (probably the Jovanica and Petrovic woollen weaving mill) was undamaged and only needed raw materials to continue production. The same source believes that another textile factory at Vucje near Leskovac, at present idle (probably Laza M Teckarevic woollen weaving mill) could readily be placed in production.

Since that date however considerable activity has taken place at Leskovac. Aerial bombardment and a certain amount of fairly heavy fighting have no doubt caused some destruction. See WIS No 14 para 17. It is however now reported that the Germans did not carry out demolitions before withdrawal but that a flour mill was hit and the Stankovic textile factory was damaged together with another factory in an allied air raid on 6 Sep. Pending further information in connection with these various contradictory reports no reliable estimate of the damage can be made.

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materials were provided some of the plants could start working again and that it is no use sending machinery until raw materials can be provided for it to work on.

#### AGRICULTURE

17 A German press source states that there is only one factory at present producing ploughs in Serbia. This is probably the Vistad factory at VALJEVO which town is now in Partisan hands.

#### TRANSPORT

18 The Russians now claim to have captured in the Belgrade battle 2,000 cars, 1,200 lorries and 600 horses, and in the Kragujevac area 100 vehicles and 900 horses.

#### GERMAN RAILWAY TRAFFIC

19 A report has been received of the items that the Germans sent to Germany by rail from ZAGREB during September. These included horses, MF, war material, aircraft parts, petrol and machinery. All these are items which it might be expected would be sent the other way if it was intended to hold the Zagreb area. Petrol is, of course, extremely scarce in all enemy occupied territory and nowhere more so than in Croatia. The type of machinery is not stated but it is feared that it may indicate that the Germans are stripping Yugoslav factories before departure.

#### ISTRIA

20 A strong appeal has been received from a BLO in Istria urgently requesting food and clothing for the Partisan forces there. He points out that they are living from hand to mouth and that even now before winter sets in it is bitterly cold and the Partisans are quite inadequately clothed and even worse shod. He states that the need is desperate and cannot be overstressed.

This should be compared with para 4 of the report on VENEZIA GIULIA R25/RGE which was attached as appendix A to WIS No 14.

In view of the fact that ML supplies will only be sent to Yugoslavia, it seems probable that a large influx of Partisans from Istria to the neighbourhood of SUSAK might take place.

#### LIKA

21 A BLO in Lika has recently sent in some notes on the area. The need for salt is urgently stressed. This is yet another area apparently where the shortage of salt is causing serious concern.



The land is reported to be very poor. A poor crop of wheat is grown and some potatoes and barley. There is no fruit, sugar, honey or green vegetables and very few eggs. The livestock which remains is very little and poor in condition. Cows are small and give little milk and there are few sheep or pigs. Horses are in bad condition and undernourished.

Clothing even amongst the Partisan forces themselves is totally inadequate.

The Lika is, of course, known to be almost, if not quite, the worse part of Yugoslavia as regards living conditions and food.

#### BANAT

22 The following information has been received relating to a period subsequent to the Russian occupation.

Prices are temporarily remaining the same as was the case under the Germans. The local population is assisting in cutting the maize. There is plenty of food but lack of transport may cause a distribution problem. Where possible factories are working under Partisan control. Electricity, water and the telephone systems are all working. The railways from VRSAC to VELIKI BECKEREK and from VELIKI BECKEREK almost to VELIKI KIKINDA are working and that from VRSAC to PANCEVO was expected to be working shortly.

#### PRICES and WAGES

23 The following are quoted as the prices on the black market at LESKOVAC:

flour	170	dinars per	ilo
bread	200	"	"
beef	600	"	"
pork	800	"	"
salt	200	"	"
Kerosene	600	"	quart
salad oil	1200	"	"
a shirt	6000	dinars	
a suit of clothes	80000	"	
a pair of shoes	20000	"	

Workers are said to receive 200 (sic) dinars every 2 weeks together with half a gallon of salad oil, a little sugar and one kilo of flour. It is considered that these figures should be treated with some reserve. The figure of 200 dinars a fortnight for wages is obviously a mistake.

24 In NIS it is reported that dinars and levas are being exchanged at a rate of one for one.

#### RUSSIAN ASSISTANCE

25 It has been reported by Radio Moscow that wheat is arriving in BELGRADE from the Soviet Union. It is said to be crossing the Danube by boat. It would appear to be strange that the Russians should send grain all the way from Russia when there is a substantial surplus ready to their hands for relief or other purposes not only in Banat but also in Rumania.

STOP PRESS

An unconfirmed report states that TROGIR and SIBENIK have been entered by Partisan troops.

BREMSKA MITROVICA has been recaptured by retreating German troops.

In Macedonia and south Serbia the German retreat is under way at an increased tempo in the direction of the IBAR valley and SARAJEVO.

In the Podgorica area (Montenegro) the German concentration is piling up and there is now present the equivalent of about one division and more are expected to arrive.

Fires are burning in SALONIKA and there are other signs of preparation for departure.

TAILPIECE

It was recently reported to the Russians that a certain aerodrome was in the hands of the Partisans and some Russian aeroplanes took off to land there. As the first two aeroplanes touched down they were greeted by artillery fire but were able to take off again in a great hurry and other planes were warned not to land. It is now established that the artillery fire was the Partisans way of celebrating the fall of BELGRADE.

9/10/44  
for  
Maj GS.  
R.G. Edholm.

Distribution:

As for WIS No 14



SOUTH WESTERN BOSNIA.

This report which is considered reliable is based on statements given by an A.L.O. who left the area recently after spending several months there. He is not a specialist and information supplied is solely the result of his personal observations.

The country covered is bounded roughly by the towns of BRUVNO, TEUBAR, TIC VO, GRACAC and BOS GRAHOVO.

1. LIVING CONDITIONS.

Considerable destruction of buildings has taken place but as the houses are small and very primitive their reconstruction has not proved difficult. Although nails are unobtainable and building tools are scarce some sort of shelter has nearly always been built to replace the destroyed or damaged hovels. In place of nails, wooden pegs are frequently used and these are not proving satisfactory although nails are naturally better. Glass or windowlite although required must be regarded as almost falling within the category of luxuries.

Winter starts about three months earlier in this area than on the Dalmatian coast and a considerable time is spent indoors. There seems, however, to be available plenty of carbide, presumably from the chemical works at JAJCE and the needs for lamps and lamp oil is not pressing.

Kitchen and eating utensils especially pots, plates and cups are badly needed. Germans, Cetniks and Ustashi seem to have made a point of taking these whenever possible. The only type of cooking utensil which is not wanted and of which there seems to be plenty is frying pans. At present owing to lack of fats they are of little use.

Hardly any attempts have been made to introduce sanitation in any form and soap is non-existent.

In the neighbourhood of GRACAC however, conditions are very much better. There has been much less destruction and the general standard of life is appreciably higher.

2. FOOD.

The food conditions in S.W. BOSNIA are bad, although they are better in the S. LIKA near to GRACAC where there has been no starvation. Salt, grain, meat and fats are needed together with nourishing food and milk for children who seem to be half-starved. Owing to the depletion of livestock very little meat is available and the main food of the peasant is bread. The harvest has however been good and it is thought that the grain produced will be sufficient to last till the end of January. Fats are very scarce, all that is to be seen is a very little mutton fat.



### 3. CLOTHING AND BOOTS.

This is a cold area and snow fell during September. Warm clothing is therefore a necessity and although a number of home spun garments have been produced during the war these have not been sufficient to replace the clothing that has been stolen or has simply been worn out. Warm battle dresses and blankets are therefore needed. Ground sheets too to keep out the damp would be very welcome. Raw wool would be useful as the number of sheep has greatly decreased and much less wool for home spinning is available than before the war. Needles and thread are urgently required for repairing torn clothing. Most people wear opencis on their feet and if really thick woollen stockings are worn, they are frequently more practical than boots for use in dry snow. They are, however, not much good in wet weather. Boots are not and have never been worn to any great extent so the need for them does not seem to be very great, although some leather will be wanted.

### 4. LIVESTOCK.

With the exception of a few near to GRACAC no horses are to be seen, there are however some oxen and cows and also small flocks of sheep and goats. The latter are now reduced in numbers to about 30% of their pre-war figures. A few chickens are also to be seen but they are very very small and lay correspondingly small eggs. There are no pigs. All the livestock is very hardy and the draught animals are somewhat overworked but there is no evidence of any disease amongst them.

### 5. AGRICULTURE.

This years harvest has been good and the yield has been greater than any war year to date. The quality of the grain harvest is not so high as usual and this is thought to be due to the fact that a poor type of seed was used last sowing. Some seed therefore and also fertilisers are wanted.

The tools and implements used are primitive and at present such as exist are badly worn and replacements are needed.

### 6. TRANSPORT.

No M.T. was to be seen and carts are not numerous. There are few draught animals and as many of the tracks are not suitable for carts, local transport is somewhat restricted.

### 7. HEALTH.

The health of the people especially the children is not good. The children frequently suffer from ailments such as rickets brought about by bad feeding and skin diseases amongst them are common.



The infantile mortality rate which was always high has become even higher. Due to the fact that there are few young men living on the land, the birth rate has dropped. Bugs and lice are very plentiful and an epidemic of typhus occurred earlier this year. Amongst the Partisan forces there is now a great deal of rheumatism.

#### 8. INDUSTRIES.

No industries as such are operating. There are a few flour mills run by water power but these are quite insufficient for requirements and people walk sometimes as far as 30 kms to have their grain ground. One or two small saw mills are functioning but it seems that the average peasant prefers to saw his own wood.

#### 9. ADMINISTRATION.

The Partisan administration appears to be functioning very satisfactorily. Each village has its committee, the president of which knows everyone personally. If any supplies arrive these are distributed equitably throughout the community on the basis of need. This is no doubt facilitated by the fact that the whole area is solidly pro-Partisan.

#### 10. POPULATION.

There has been a considerable fall in the number of the population as compared with pre-war figures. The inhabitants who are orthodox have suffered severely from the Cetniks and to a lesser extent from the Ustashi and the Germans. In addition many people have fled and nearly all the men of fighting age are with the Partisans. Only old people, women and children remain with the result that the number of births has decreased enormously and even the infantile mortality rate amongst those who are born is greater than before the war.

#### 11. CONCLUSIONS.

Living has always been hard and primitive in this area and in most respects the people have always been compelled to do everything themselves. Even in the best of times they have only been able to buy very little. The extensive destruction that has taken place has however, robbed them of much of their food and their clothing and in this respect it is almost impossible for them to improvise. If food and clothing are not received before the coming winter very real hardship is likely to ensue and therefore they must be regarded as having a high priority. In the area around GLACAC (S. LIKA) conditions are very much better in almost every respect.

The list of needs is as follows in this order:-

- Salt
- Clothing, blankets, needles and thread.
- Grain
- Fats
- Agricultural tools
- Medical Supplies
- Meat
- Powdered Milk
- Cooking and household utensils.
- Building materials.

SYNOPSIS OF REPORT ON OBSERVATIONS ON THE CIVILIAN  
POST-WAR NEEDS IN LIBERATED SLOVENIA - Sep 44

The report was by a British doctor in the Dolensko area.

MEDICAL NEEDS & SUPPLIES

The position as regards medical attention is satisfactory. Slovenian doctors and hospitals are adequate for the needs of the population. Organisation is good and capable of dealing with any post-war problem.

Materials have been obtained secretly from Germany, Switzerland and Italy but not in large quantities. There is a great need for all manner of expendable stores. There is little liaison with the rest of Yugoslavia in medical or other matters.

CROPS

Maize

This is grown in quantity, with every plant producing on an average 2 or more cobs.

Grass

The hay has all been cut and is of moderate quality, some is over-ripe owing to lack of labour at harvesting time. There appears to be plenty.

Wheat

Very little is produced here but what is produced is of good quality.

Beans

This is the standard crop. The yield has been excellent and the crop is now gathered.

Oats

Oats have been harvested from the Bellagarda and are ready threshed and stored in bunkers. The crops was good.

Peas

The crop is not as good as others and has been affected by destruction by caterpillars.

Cabbage

The yield has been excellent.

Tomatoes

These are good but in small quantity.



### Fruit

The year has been excellent for fruit and great crops of apples and pears have been gathered. Most of these are made into cider and rakia. The quality of the fruit is not high.

### Imported Foods

All are in short supply and the peasants have no sugar, fats, butter, tea, coffee, little salt, pepper and condiments. There is little, if any, flour and no tinned goods of any description.

### MEATS & CATTLE

Stock has been reduced to at least 20% of the pre-war level. What stock is left is in excellent condition. There are few sheep. Pigs are in reasonable quantity; the herds have been recently supplemented by large numbers bought secretly in Germany; similarly with cattle. Nevertheless herds have very considerably decreased. The peasants rarely eat meat and then it is usually pork.

### CLOTHING - Partisans

The Partisans wear British battle dress or Italian uniforms more or less mutilated to suit themselves and patched. They are well shod and have British socks and underclothes. Recent arrivals from Istria were very badly clothed and shod.

### Civilians

The peasant population is well clothed. The women have good silk or coloured dresses and shoes, the children are well clad. Elsewhere in Yugoslavia the position is very much worse, e.g. in Bosnia.

### MACHINERY

The great need is saw-milling machinery. There will also be a great demand for all types of farm implements and tools, particularly axes and shovels.

Building equipment in all forms, particularly cement and glass for window panes, is in great shortage everywhere. All kinds of domestic electric equipment, particularly insulated wire and electric light bulbs will be needed in quantity.

### TRANSPORT

Complete re-organisation of all the railway rolling stock and equipment will be necessary.

IMPRESSIONS RE POST-WAR SLOVENIA

The Slovene people are totally different culturally and in outlook to either the Croats or the Bosnians. They have always been dominated by the Austrians and for the first time hope to be free from this yoke, but are also determined that their cultural and mental level shall not be brought down to that of the rest of Yugoslavia. Although pleased to belong to the Federation of Yugoslavia they will want to maintain their identity as Slovenes.

The Partisan Movement in Slovenia is only half-hearted compared with the rest of the country, many peasants being indifferent to the Partisan ideal and joining only for the sake of convenience.

The majority of the peasants are intensely religious.

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Appendix 'C' to WIS No 15

SPEECH BY HIS MAJESTY KING PETER II BROADCAST  
FROM LONDON - 22 Oct 44  
-----

My dear Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

Belgrade, our heroic and much suffered capital is again liberated. 43 months of sweat, blood and tears have bought the freedom of the never defeated Yugoslavia, led in the fight and resistance by the Yugoslav National Liberating Army and Marshal of Yugoslavia, Tito. The liberation of Belgrade was achieved through the super-human struggle of our people, and with the priceless help of our brotherly Allied Red Army, the symbol of victory from the enemy, and the symbol of heroism and patriotism of our people is the greatest proof of unity and allied solidarity. The united entry of the famous PA of L and the glorious Red Army into the capital of Yugoslavia and the successes of our Allies, Great Britain and America on other fronts of our national struggle, are the most convincing signs of a rapid and final liberation of the whole Yugoslav, national and state territory. Greeting liberated Belgrade, I greet you all, my dear Croats, Serbs and Slovenes, filled with the greatest gratitude for the PA of L and Marshal Tito, and for the brotherly Red Army and its great Marshal Stalin, and I salute all the dead, and heroic victims who fought in our common struggle. I am firmly convinced that the Army and the people who have at the cost of innumerable sacrifices, carried out immortal deeds in the struggle for the liberation of their fatherland, will know in peacetime that they must guard the fruits of their victory, and build for themselves a better and happier future in a new, free, democratic federative Yugoslavia. Filled with happiness and joy, I call upon you on this great day and beg you all to take your example from the heroic liberators of our capital and unite in the PA of L and offer the last sacrifice on the altar of freedom of our fatherland. Long live the PA of L and the heroic Red Army. Long live Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. Long live a free and happy Yugoslavia.

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SECRET

HQ ML (Yugoslavia)

Weekly Intelligence Summary No 14

22 Oct 44

D.A.P.M.G.  
D.A.A.P.M.G.  
S.C.A. AS. d. M. 24/10  
S.C.P.  
Chaplain R.C. Smith

OPERATIONS

to Sec. Staff  
24/10

1. In the VOJVODINA no significant advances have been made by the Russians. BELGRADE has been occupied by them after heavy street fighting in which it is feared the capital must have suffered further damage. In the course of the fighting for BELGRADE 1 SS Mountain Division the only German division in Serbia south of the Danube which has previously experienced action against a modern army equipped with heavy weapons has together with the Prinz Eugen Division suffered very heavy casualties and has probably lost much of its efficiency as a fighting force. Further south ARANDJELOVAC and KRAGUJEVAC have been occupied by the Russians and NIS, PROKUPLJE and KURSULIJA by the Bulgars and Partisans. The latter are driving on towards PRISTINA. It is confirmed that the Bulgar divisions now in Serbia are not the same as those that occupied the country for so long. They are fresh divisions from Bulgaria commanded by a pro-Allied general. This explains the apparent apathy of the Bulgars some time ago when they apparently intended to defend their frontier only. This resulted from the delay inevitable in evacuating the occupying divisions and bringing up new ones. It is interesting to note that in accordance with their usual practice the Russians are considering military matters first and thus are showing much more interest in their former adversaries the Bulgars than in the Partisans. The Bulgars being equipped and trained with heavy weapons are incomparably more effective as a fighting force than the Partisans, and the Russians are accordingly placing more reliance on them. The Germans facing the Bulgars appear to be making for the KOSSOVO area.
2. The events in Hungary so far appear to have produced little effect in Yugoslavia.
3. Partisans are now coming out far more into the open in the BACKA and propaganda posters are frequently to be seen.
4. On the Adriatic coast DUBROVNIK has been liberated by the Partisans who now hold the coast from East of SLANO almost down to the Gulf of Kotor. This renders the already unenviable position of the enemy in Albania still more precarious. STON at the base of the PELJESAC peninsula has also been captured and a force of Partisans has landed on the coast east of SPLIT and captured OMIS.



SPLIT itself is now immediately threatened and as German evacuation has been going for some days its fall is shortly expected. It is reported that in the STON operation the Partisans have been chiefly encountering Ustashi troops whose behaviour during the war has rendered them the especial objects of Partisan hatred.

5. In addition to the defensive lines mentioned in last weeks WIS, another line is now reported to be under construction, ZIDANI MOST-CELJE-MARIBOR-PTUJ-VARAZDIN. It is to be hoped that this does not imply that these important places are to become the scene of heavy fighting with modern weapons.
6. In Macedonia OHRID has been taken by the Partisans and an unconfirmed report says that BILJ also has fallen to them. These successes further compromise the position of the many German troops still in Greece.

#### GERMAN PREPARATIONS FOR DEPARTURE

7. Reports continue to be received from various parts of the country that indicate that the Germans have determined to evacuate Yugoslavia. NOVI SAD aerodrome now imminently threatened by the Russian advance has been almost evacuated and the GOSPODINCI aerodrome nearby has been completely evacuated apparently without being damaged seriously.
8. The bridge at NOVI SAD and the railway tunnel at PETROVARADIN just across the Danube have been prepared for demolition.
9. These preparations are of course only to be expected in view of the military situation but it is interesting to note that at other places too, especially on the coast evacuation is in progress and demolitions taking place.

It is believed for example that SPLIT is in process of evacuation and Germans were reported to be leaving DUBROVNIK on 16 Oct, that is to say before the Partisan attack which captured the place.

MAKARSKA is said to have been prepared for demolition and some destruction has already occurred. It is now reported that the civilian population of ZADAR was taken away as long ago as July but this was probably in order to escape the bombing and should not be taken as an indication of German intentions.

German families are now said to be leaving ZAGREB where there is not as yet any immediate military threat.

It is also reported that German civilians are being sent from the VOJVODINA to OSIJEK where they are being issued with police uniforms. In view of the free interpretation applied to the word "police" by the enemy it is possible that other duties than the direction of traffic and the detection of crime lie before these men. A so called "police division" in Serbia was known to be armed with, "inter alia", mortars.

Nedic the Serb quisling and his government have not made a long stay in OSIJEK, they have moved to VIENNA thus keeping a move ahead of their friends from the VOJVODINA.

#### OIL

10. On 14 Oct SVETI KLARA near ZAGREB was attacked by the Partisans and 50,000 litres of diesel oil is said to have been burnt. This is the last refinery in Yugoslavia still working. It is not known what damage was suffered by the refinery itself but it is not likely to have escaped entirely. Its capacity has recently been increased to about 10 tank cars daily.

Two reports have been received on GOJILO the oil production centre in KUFINA Srez, Croatia. The first states that production is 1,000 litres of crude oil a day which is sent to ZAGREB. This presumably means that it was going to SVETI KLARA. The amount is very small compared with the 200-300 tons a day which were at one time reported as being produced from GOJILO, but this may have been caused by the fact that there was nowhere to refine the oil except the small installation at SVETI KLARA. This report is unconfirmed. However that may be a later report of 16 Oct states that GOJILO was burning, whether as a result of German demolition, Partisan activity or other causes is not stated. It is reported that  $\frac{1}{2}$  million litres of aviation spirit is stored in underground reservoirs at SESVETE near ZAGREB and that further large supplies are stored in the brewery at BUBAVAC near KARLOVAC.

#### RAILWAYS

11. The STAMPETOV viaduct on the LJUBLJANA-TRIESTE line has been repaired and traffic is believed to have been resumed about 10 Oct.
12. A report has been received that the Partisans are working the narrow gauge railway in the section GARESNICA to GRABOVNICA in Croatia north of NOVSKA. No through line is known to exist between these two places though various small lines are marked on the 1:250,000 map. If the report is to accepted at its face value, construction work must have taken place fairly recently.



FOOD

13. In SPLIT Srez the food situation appears to be bad. Two letters have recently been seen by censors on the subject. One says that the harvest has been bad at KLIS and the other goes so far as to say that people are actually dying of hunger in SPLIT. It is known that the grain harvest has been unusually bad in this area owing to drought though there has been a good crop of olives. The suggestion that people are dying of hunger in SPLIT is thought to be an exaggeration although it is known that the food situation there is very serious.

DAMAGE & DESTRUCTION

14. A ground report states that the textile factory "HUTTA" at MARIBOR was damaged in an air raid on 4 Oct. MARIBOR is the largest textile producing town in Yugoslavia. There are several large textile factories some of which are believed to be still in operation. It is presumed that it is the large factory of DOKTOR HUFER I DRUG which was damaged.
15. VINKOVCI was heavily bombed on 17 Oct.
16. Before leaving NIS now occupied by the Bulgars and the Partisans, the Germans are reported to have sabotaged the electric power and water supply systems.
17. A report states that 60% of the houses in the centre of LESKOVAC have been damaged beyond repair by Allied bombing and considerable damage was also done to the railway. The factories were not damaged by bombing but certain demolitions were carried out by the Germans before their departure.
18. TREBINJE is largely undamaged but the water works and the electric power station are destroyed.
19. The state of the PIRAEUS when our forces entered the place was not nearly so bad as had been expected. In particular four intended block ships had been scuttled prematurely.

HEALTH

20. At ORNICA (SIBENIK Srez) children are said to be dying of an intestinal complaint of which there is a local epidemic.

TRANSPORT

21. The allied advance in Serbia is taking large quantities of transport from the Germans. In NIS the Bulgars and the Partisans claimed to have captured 1,100 motor cars, 100 horse wagons and 250 horses and to have damaged or destroyed 540 motor cars and 120 cars (sic? carts).
22. In BELGRADE the Russians claim an immense booty including over 1,000 MT vehicles and many horses.

# FINANCE

23. An interesting report has been received that there is considerable dissatisfaction among office workers in BELGRADE. The cause of dissatisfaction is that they are only receiving 1,500-3,500 dinars a week whereas skilled manual workers are receiving that much per day. Recent events, however, have probably turned the thoughts of the discontented in another direction.

24. The following information has been received about NIS:

<u>Prices:</u>	pair of shoes	25,000 dinars		
	linen	5,000	"	per metre
	meat	500-800	"	" kilo
	chickens	800-1,000	"	each
	flour	120-160	"	per kilo
	suit material	10,000	"	" metre

The meat ration is 200 grammes a week and flour 9 kilos per month. There is said to be no bread though why is not clear as flour appears to be available at a price.

The German mark which was worth 16 dinar pre-war is now worth 20.

The rates of pay of the armed forces of the Nedie and Ljotic factions are widely dissimilar. A Nedie major gets only 6,200 dinars per month while a Ljotic major receives 16,000 and a Ljotic private 4,200 per month.

# AREA REPORTS

25. Attached at appendix A is a BLO's report on conditions in VENETIA GIULIA (R25/RGE). Although the district covered is not part of the area with which ML (Yugoslavia) is concerned the report is attached as it is a good one and it is believed that conditions in western Slovenia closely approximate to those described. Moreover in view of the Partisans' claim to control this area after the war it is important that officers should be aware of conditions there. The report contains paragraphs on:

- Living Conditions
- Food
- Clothing & Boots
- Livestock
- Agriculture & Agricultural Implements
- Transport & Transportation
- Health
- Prices
- General
- Conclusions



26. Attached at appendices "B" and "C" are two further BLOs' reports on conditions in the RADAN area (R26/RCE) and Western Serbia (R27/RGE). These are considered reliable. They contain paragraphs on:

- Living Conditions
- Food
- Clothing & Boots
- Livestock
- Agriculture & Agricultural Implements
- Transport & Transportation
- Health
- Prices
- Industries
- Population
- Conclusions

27. Attached at appendix "D" is an ALO's report on Northern Slovenia (R28/RGE). This too is considered reliable. It contains paragraphs on:

- Living Conditions
- Clothing & Boots
- Food
- Livestock
- Agriculture & Agricultural Implements
- Transport
- Health
- Industries
- Prices
- Education & Propaganda
- Conclusions

28. Attached at appendix "E" is a report by a BLO on Serbia which has been supplied by "M" Military Mission. This report is by an officer medically qualified but is of general interest. A medical report by the same officer has been circulated separately to those concerned. The information is considered reliable. It contains paragraphs on:

- Economic Conditions in Serbia
- Population
- Housing
- Clothing
- Food
- Requisitioning
- Belgrade
- Prices
- Currency
- Manufactured Goods

29. Appendices "B", "C", "D" and "E" all go to show that the need of foodstuffs in Serbia and Northern Slovenia is not extreme compared with other parts of the country. It must be remembered, however, that they relate to a period before recent operations in Serbia which may seriously affect the state of affairs there.

30. Attached at appendix "F" is an account of conditions in STYRIA (N Slovenia) which was broadcast by the Partisan station "Free Yugoslavia" of 17 Oct. Although it is headed "Agricultural Situation" it deals also with man power, timber and industries, etc. It must be remembered that it comes from a Partisan source and should be treated as such bearing in mind that its purpose is largely propaganda.

POLITICAL.

31. The following communique on the talks between Mr. Churchill and Marshall Stalin regarding S.E. EUROPE has been issued:

" Agreement was reached on the remaining points in the Bulgarian armistice terms.

The two governments agreed to pursue a joint policy in Yugoslavia designed to concentrate all energies against the retreating Germans and bring about the solution of Yugoslav internal difficulties by union between the Royal Yugoslav Government and the National Liberation Movement. The right of the Yugoslav people to settle their future constitution for themselves after the war is of course recognised as inalienable."

32. Although the Bulgars have undertaken to evacuate Yugoslavia their forces are still operating there against the Germans. This is of course with the approval of the Russians and is in accordance with the agreement between Tito and the Bulgars reported in WIS No. 13.
33. The apparent acquiescence of the Yugoslav Partisans in the operations of the Albanian NLA in the PRIZREN area gives some ground for hope of a peaceful settlement of the POSSOVO question.

34. Two congresses of the Yugoslav Freedom Front (JNOF) were held early in October one in PROKUPLJE, Serbia and the other at HVAR, an island off the Dalmatian coast. The points discussed at the Serbian congress dealt with matters of reconstruction, schooling and feeding whilst the one at HVAR which was attended by 1,100 delegates was almost entirely political. Macek's name was frequently mentioned in the speeches at this congress as being amongst the supporters of the invaders of Yugoslavia.

It is significant that no political parties were mentioned in these speeches with the exception of the HSS and the Communist Party. Indeed it was stated that political parties were not needed for the building of the new federal Yugoslavia by the National Liberation Movement. It appears, however, that the Freedom Front is still to be regarded as a coalition political party embracing all anti-fascist elements.



It is reported that the Russian representative who was invited to this congress protested against the fact that there were no Britons or Americans present.

35. The Partisans continued to display a moderate attitude towards their former enemies. Thus ex-Domobran officers who join the JANL are granted an equivalent rank and wear the appropriate badges, though they are not given full responsibility until they have proved themselves. Reports from ZAGREB that severe reprisals are being taken against the families of Domobran deserters indicate that this moderate policy is obtaining results.

#### STOP PRESS

36. The Germans confirm their evacuation of BELGRADE and report that all important military installations have been destroyed.
37. The important town of KRAGUJEVAC together with JAGODINA have been captured by the Russians.
38. Little damage seems to have been done to the quays at GRUZ and the town of DUBROVNIK by the evacuating German garrison. The electric power station and the water works are still operating.
39. The oil wells and installations at KUGOVE in Albania have suffered only superficial damage and it is estimated that most of these will be functioning again within three weeks.
40. It is now reported that the Partisans destroyed the oil refinery at SVETI KLARA in their recent attack and more than 30 large reservoirs of petrol.
41. In Hungary the Russians have reached BAJA on the Danube about 15 miles from the Yugoslav frontier.

*R.G. Edholm*  
Major G.S.  
R.G. EDHOLM.

#### Distribution

As for WIS No 13 plus "M" Military Mission.  
ML HQ (Albania)  
M HQ (Balkans) (2)

Report No R25/RGE

VENEZIA GIULIA  
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Report based on information given by a BLO on the region  
GORIZIA-TOLMINO-IDRIA-MONTANERO-AIDUSSINA.

1. Although this region is Partisan territory, it is not properly held by them, as, for instance, Partisan liberated territory in Yugoslavia. The Germans from time to time occupy this area and the Partisans then either go over the border to Slovenia or go underground with the help of the local population. When the Germans withdraw to their bases of UDINE, GORIZIA, CORMONS, IDRIA, the Partisans reappear on the surface again.

2. LIVING CONDITIONS

Villages, particularly in the upper valleys and hills, have suffered from reprisals and have been partially destroyed. For the present, however, it does not seem that overcrowding has resulted, as many inhabitants have taken refuge with friends or relations in the larger towns around. The situation is further eased due to the fact that many men are away, with the Partisans, working in the factories in the towns, or have been forcibly deported to work for the Axis. When the enemy withdraws and the people return to their villages overcrowding may then become a problem. This problem is being borne in mind by the Partisans who, whenever possible, have already started rebuilding. All building materials are available in the district. The cement factory at AVIDA VALE (?) works for Germany, but small quantities of cement can and are being bought on the markets of GORIZIA and UDINE by the Partisans. Stores are available locally and timber is obtainable from the sawmills at TRIBUSSA. Shingles or locally made tiles are used for the roofs, but the latter are scarce. There is at present no shortage of household utensils but the situation may become worse when the Germans retire northwards, if they use a scorched earth policy.

3. FOOD

The diet is the usual one found in central and northern Europe and the average meal is composed of soup, a meat dish with potatoes and vegetables and a sweet, and generally the peasants can still afford this diet.

Green vegetables and fruit are available everywhere and have been plentiful except in the upper valleys, where only fruits and potatoes grow. It must be remembered, however, that the peasants are now living on their capital. Their herds, which are already seriously depleted, may become dangerously so when they realise that the war is almost over and under the impression that supplies will be made available, slaughter large numbers of their cattle



for food and leather. Beef is the staple meat and very little mutton is eaten.

Rock salt is available; (source was unable to state where it was produced, and there is no shortage. Butter is very scarce but all farmers have planted at least 25% of their acreage with sunflowers and there is at present a sufficient supply of vegetable oil. Sugar is unobtainable and the farmers relieve somewhat this acute shortage with honey, which is plentiful. It seems that every farm has a large number of hives. All the farms are intensely cultivated and not a square yard is left fallow.

The Partisans detail men to work on farms wherever necessary and in return the farmers hand over to the Partisans all their surplus food, but it is believed they will keep enough to see them through the winter.

Poultry has been considerably reduced. Nearly all the villages in the upper valleys have their own small flour mills, driven by water, and are completely independent of the big mills in the large towns. It is estimated that these small water mills cater for at least 25% of the requirements of the district.

#### 4. CLOTHING & BOOTS

The boot shortage is extremely serious, particularly amongst the Partisans. There is at present no shortage of hides, but because the Partisans are always on the move and because they are short of tanning material the hides are not properly prepared and will only last a very short time.

Boots and leather are required with the necessary nails, thread, etc. It would not suffice to send tanning material only, for the herds are already greatly depleted and in consequence a shortage of leather will soon be felt. This area used to be renowned for its leather and the town of SKOLJA LOKA across the border in Slovenia was a centre of shoe manufacturing.

The people do not wear opanci but ordinary shoes and boots.

There is no homespun industry and all clothes are purchased in such centres as GORIZIA, UDINE, MONFALCONE, TRIESTE, IDRIA, and are still available. On the whole the population is tolerably well off, but again with the exception of the Partisans who are in rags. This is attributed to three reasons

- (a) The Partisans having the full support of the population are only demanding the minimum they require.
- (b) Because of the very nature of the life they lead, continuously on the move, the wear and tear of their clothing and boots are far greater.



(c) A large number of recruits is everyday coming over to the Partisans. This is more to ensure their own safety now that there is little doubt on the issue of the conflict, and keeping an eye on the future of these recruits have left their clothes safely behind and report generally without boots and in old dungarees. The Partisans, who cannot afford to refuse their enlistment are faced with the problem of partially clothing all these recruits.

#### 5. LIVESTOCK

This is now a serious concern; first the Partisans took over a number of horses, mules and donkeys, and though they may not be a complete loss to the country, their ranks are being decimated by unusually hard work and there is practically no reproduction. The Partisans are not keen on mating the mares as they lose their services while they carry their foals.

The Germans have recently requisitioned a large number of pack animals leaving only one horse and cart per farmer. It is feared that as the German situation further deteriorates more requisitioning will take place.

Dairy cattle and oxen have been reduced by at least 60% and the Germans from time to time raid the area. In the last raid they removed over 300 head.

This area has never been a sheep or goat district, hence the lack of (any) home spun industry and these are practically non-existent today. Source never saw a pig during the whole of his stay in this area, and could give no explanation for this fact.

As stated above, bees were to be found in practically every village and the supply of excellent honey was plentiful.

#### 6. AGRICULTURE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

The harvest has been good and it is believed that the farmers have kept enough seed for their next sowing.

Most farms are small and only hand tools are used. The use of even a horse plough is not general. This is attributed to the mountainous nature of the country, and in most cases the areas of level ground are too small to use a horse and plough. The soil is tilled with a spade and hoe. These hand tools are sufficient and some new ones have recently appeared.

No tractors have been seen working on farms but some could be used in the more open valleys.

A few tractors are used in the lumber industry to tow tree trunks and more could be used, thus relieving horses for farm work.



7. TRANSPORT & TRANSPORTATION

There is a small number of MT, mostly Alfa Romeo 5 tonners, but in good condition. Tyres and POL are, however, scarce. Roads and tracks are on the whole good and 3 and 5 tonners could be used.

Because of requisitioning horse drawn carts are getting scarce, but it is believed that the Partisans would have no difficulty in having some made as soon as the Germans leave such important places as GORIZIA, MONFALCONE, TRIESTE, etc.

8. HEALTH

There is an almost complete absence of soap, but the health of the people is surprisingly good and source never heard of a case of typhoid or typhus, but TB and rheumatism are prevalent, particularly amongst the Partisans. Medicines and drugs are practically unobtainable.

9. PRICES

These compare favourably with prices generally ruling in Italy today; this information was obtained by source from comments made by local inhabitants, but he could not give definite prices for various commodities.

10. GENERAL

The position of this area is particularly interesting because it is not liberated territory and yet the population is completely behind the Partisan Movement. It would seem too, that both the Partisans and the people are taking it for granted that all this area will as a matter of course join Yugoslavia and more particularly Slovenia. It would even appear that the Partisans consider themselves as part of the Slovenian Partisan Movement.

The whole population is <sup>so</sup> strongly behind the Partisans that these were able to arrange a political meeting at a point only 5 miles from the German base of AIDUSSINA. The most striking point about this meeting is that some 5,000 to 7,000 people, about 75% women, attended, having come from all over the district, some even from as far away as TRIESTE. The meeting was properly organised with cheer leaders, reporters, cameramen, and notice of this meeting had been given at least six weeks in advance, yet obviously the enemy had no knowledge of it. The people who attended apparently went in a spirit of holiday, picnicking on the road, and must have had the co-operation of the whole population. This is interesting because the Partisan strength is estimated at only 6-8,000. The principal speaker was a Political Commissar from SNOS (Slovene National Liberation Association).





LIVING CONDITIONS in RADAN (SW of NIS), SERBIA  
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This report is based on information given by a BLO. The source, who spent some **four** months in this area and left in the early part of October, is considered reliable.

1. The report covers the lower valleys of the TOPLICA, PUSTA, JABLANICA, VEBERNICA rivers at their confluences with the MORAVA.

2. LIVING CONDITIONS

There has been a certain amount of destruction in the lower valleys, but the Partisans have already started rebuilding. Now that the threat of further German raids has practically vanished saws, carpenters tools and even stocks of tiles have come out of their hiding places. Nails are in extremely short supply and wooden pegs are used instead. This reconstruction is going on at a very satisfactory rate and overcrowding is not serious.

Household utensils are fairly scarce, but it would appear that for a whole family to eat out of the same pot was not an uncommon practice before the war. Soap has become an unknown commodity and the hygiene of the population has deteriorated accordingly.

3. FOOD

Fats are in great shortage, all the more so since sunflowers are not grown in this district and no other source of vegetable oils is apparent.

Sugar, tea, coffee are now almost unknown, but rock salt is available. Source could not give the origins of this salt. There are no bees nor honey.

4. CLOTHING & BOOTS

As everywhere else footwear is an immediate need and should be given first priority. Although inhabitants generally wear opancis, source never saw a cobbler either in Partisan ranks or amongst the civilians population, and it would seem therefore that boots and shoes may be more useful in the earlier stages than raw materials.

Clothing is adequate and mostly homespun, and, as usual, parachute material is in great demand and is the main barter medium. There is a strong preference for cotton 'chutes (used to drop supplies) rather than for silk ones.



5. LIVESTOCK

Horses have been requisitioned by the Partisans from time to time, but a certain number of them are still available to the local population.

These horses, which are on the whole in poor condition, are not used for farm work or drawing carts but exclusively as mounts and pack animals. Saddles and pack harnesses are in extremely short supply and bad condition. No other types of harness are really required since oxen and water buffaloes are hitched to carts and ploughs by a wooden yoke. There is also a great shortage of horse shoes. Oxen and buffaloes are not shod.

These oxen and water buffaloes are plentiful but dairy cattle are scarce. Goats, sheep, pigs and poultry are also plentiful. Not a single mule or donkey was observed in this area.

6. AGRICULTURE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

The wheat harvest which has been very good was already safely gathered when source left this area (first week of October). Maize was then being reaped, which also promised to be good, and it would seem that no seeds will be required. Implements, which are extremely primitive, (wooden ploughs are still used,) are adequate.

7. TRANSPORT & TRANSPORTATION

No MT, except a few dilapidated vehicles with the Partisans, were observed but then this district is mountainous and even roads passable to carts are scarce; pack animals are almost exclusively used. Soon, in early November, rain and snow will render the few roads impassable to all wheeled transport, probably until next April.

8. HEALTH

Generally, health was good and there were no epidemics of any kind. The Partisans were then being inoculated against typhus, though in view of the large number of new recruits coming in, some 4-5,000 in September, it was feared there would not be enough serum.

Only six cases of malaria were encountered. In August a Russian Medical Mission (men and women) came to Partisan HQ but did not stay long; source has no information as to where they went or what work they achieved.

There is naturally a great shortage of all drugs and medicines, and in this area of Yugoslavia aspirin and iodine are the two favourites.



9. PRICES

It is difficult to assess the value of various commodities since there is no money in circulation, even the American dollar is an unknown currency. All transactions are done by barter or through the medium of par achutes, cotton ones being preferred to silk.

10. INDUSTRIES

Little information was available, but when source left the area, a woollen mill, a saw mill (water powered) and an electric power station were still functioning at GRDELICA; a saw mill and a bakery (output unknown) at LEBANE; an electric saw mill at VUCA. Also every village had one or two small water powered flour mills working; a steam thresher was observed functioning at SLISANE.

11. CONCLUSIONS

Though from this report it will be seen that this area is comparatively well off, it must be remembered that it has become a bottleneck for considerable numbers of German troops who are now trying to escape north. It is impossible to state at this stage what devastating effect this new military phase will have and priorities may have to be completely altered if the area is laid waste.

At present the following are required:

	(soap
	(sugar
1st Priority	(fats
	(medical supplies
	(nails and other housebuilding requisites
	(boots and shoes
	clothing
	saddles, pack harnesses and iron for horse shoes
	coffee
	tea

Oct 44

SERBIA  
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The following report is based on information given by a BLO who has only very recently left the country. The source is considered thoroughly reliable.

1. The area covered is roughly from the RADAN to the town of VALJEVO. The situation in the towns (except VALJEVO) falls outside the scope of this report.

2. LIVING CONDITIONS

Taken as a whole living conditions do not differ very greatly from what they were before the war. In 1941 some destruction took place due to German terrorism but most of the damage has since been repaired. Since then certain villages have suffered from the Chetniks but this has not been particularly serious.

Although there are a number of refugees, mostly old people, women and children, there is at present no serious housing problem. Tools and rebuilding materials, such as nails, are difficult to obtain but lack of these is not causing hardship. A number of damaged houses have been repaired and even some new buildings have been erected. Window glass is not needed.

Sanitation is very primitive but then this has always been the case.

Household cooking and eating utensils are wanted but compared with most of the rest of Yugoslavia the people seem comparatively well off in this respect.

3. FOOD

There is no shortage of food. Salt, fats, sugar and coffee seem to be the chief requirements, but with the exception of coffee even these commodities can sometimes be obtained. Meat in places is regarded as somewhat of a luxury but there is an abundance of all kinds of fruit and plenty of wheat and maize, the latter being chiefly used as animal, especially pig, food. It seems likely that there will be a surplus of grain in the country areas and there should be sufficient to provide the needs of all the towns as well. No cases of malnutrition were seen.



4. CLOTHING & BOOTS

Clothing, especially wool clothing, is needed although a considerable amount of cloth is woven and yarn is spun in the homes. This, however, is chiefly hemp or flax and there is not much warmth in the finished products. The flocks of sheep have been depleted by the enemy so that the amount of raw wool available has been reduced. Many clothes are patched and repatched and needles together with strong thread and small sewing tools would be very useful.

Boots are required although many of the peasants wear opancis made of untanned sheep hide. Boot repairing outfits, nails and strong thread and leather would be of very considerable help if the boots themselves are not forthcoming.

5. LIVESTOCK

The livestock population has decreased appreciably since Yugoslavia entered the war but although the peasants are rather short of draught animals the position is not serious. There are fewer sheep but there are plenty of poultry and most farms keep at least one pig and one cow. The condition of these animals is fairly good as there is no shortage of cattle and pig food. The pigs are chiefly fed on maize and become very fat on it.

6. AGRICULTURE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

The wheat and maize harvest has been good and there is likely to be some surplus. The fruit crop too has apparently been quite satisfactory. However owing to the decrease in the number of animals there has been a fall in the amount of natural manure available and some additional fertilisers will be wanted. Seeds are not needed.

There is a definite shortage of agricultural tools and implements. Many of the existing implements are badly worn but they still have to be used as no iron has been available for renewing blades, prongs and the like and for three years it has not been possible to purchase new ones. Very little agricultural machinery was seen.

7. TRANSPORT

The number of carts at present in use seems to be adequate for the somewhat localised transport. Some MT is now being used by the Partisans; there were approximately 50 vehicles in the neighbourhood of VALJEVO but there is a very definite shortage of tyres, batteries, sparking plugs and other spare parts. Most of these vehicles are captured German and Italian ones. Part of the light railway to OBRENOVAC has been captured and the Partisans are now running a service from VALJEVO to LJIG. It is believed that 3 engines are being used.

8. HEALTH

The general health of the people does not seem to have been affected by the war. The children are healthy and strong. A few isolated cases of typhus and typhoid have occurred. Although there is no shortage of bugs and flies source saw no lice. The need for medical supplies generally does not seem very great but soap is universally required.

9. PRICES

Most of the peasants are economically self-sufficient and if it is necessary to make a purchase this is done by barter whenever possible. As, however, consumer goods are now almost impossible to buy the peasant has very little use for money.

Prices where asked are high and a pair of opencis costs about 1,500 dinars. Wages are not on the same scale and girls who were taking care of refugees at STUDENICA were paid 3,000 dinars a month.

10. POPULATION

There seems to be little change in the numbers of inhabitants as compared with pre-war. Not many young men are to be seen but refugees from outside SERBIA seem to be fairly numerous. Several families were encountered who had left BELGRADE so as to avoid the bombing.

The refugees seem to be well cared for and any Nedic institutions such as the refugee childrens home in the monastery at STUDENICA are continuing their good work under the Partisans. The only change seems to be that the children are taught to sing patriotic Partisan songs.

11. CONCLUSIONS

The country districts of SERBIA do not appear to have suffered serious economic hardship and to a great extent the people are no worse off than before the war. In the towns, however, the position is believed to be rather different although when the whole area is liberated the country should be able to supply most if not all of the food needs of the towns.

The priorities of needs for the area are considered to be as follows:

- soap
- clothing, incl needles and thread
- boots and leather
- salt
- sugar
- agricultural implements and tools
- medical supplies
- MT spares and tyres
- household and cooking utensils
- coffee
- fertilisers



N SLOVENIA  
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The following report is based on information supplied by an ALO who has recently left the country. The source is considered reliable.

The area referred to is roughly a triangle bounded in the north by the pre-war frontier between Yugoslavia and Austria, in the east by MARIBOR and by the River Sava in the south.

1. LIVING CONDITIONS

Comparatively little fighting has taken place in this area with the result that whilst some villages have been partially destroyed the extent of the destruction over all is slight and there is no serious lack of housing. However, when some of the refugees, deportees, soldiers, prisoners of war and workers in Germany return to their homeland there is no doubt that a considerable rebuilding programme will have to be undertaken. The facilities for rebuilding are not lacking, and there seems to be adequate lumber available and a number of saw mills still operating. Tiles and cement are also being produced but there is likely to be a shortage of nails and household fittings and fixtures.

Although many of the houses are supplied with electric light, generally from small power stations, lamps and lamp oil are needed. The need for these has increased owing to the fact that the FALA power station (the largest in Yugoslavia) has recently been sabotaged.

There is a certain shortage of cooking and eating utensils but this is not serious when compared with the remainder of Yugoslavia.

3. CLOTHING & BOOTS

The clothing position is not very satisfactory. Nearly all clothing is made in factories as very little cloth seems to be produced in the homes. Ersatz materials are being extensively used and whilst these are not unserviceable the clothing does not have the warmth, and certainly not the wear, of woollen articles. The climate is somewhat reminiscent of that of Britain only rather colder in places during the winter and some warm clothing, needles and thread and blankets will be needed.

Boots seem to be more plentiful than in most of the rest of the country but although there are numbers of bootmakers and cobblers they are apt to be handicapped by lack of leather and tanning materials. Cobblers outfits including hammers are also needed. The people's feet seem to be of normal size.



3. FOOD

There does not seem to be any serious shortage of food and the chief requirements are salt together with spices, fats and to a certain extent sugar. The staple foods are meat and potatoes and also a species of dumpling (which tastes horrible) made of lard and flour. There are some sheep to be seen, quite a number of pigs and plenty of cattle and chickens although the latter did not seem to be particularly good at laying eggs. There is no serious shortage of butter and cheese. Fruit, especially apples, is plentiful, although of rather poor quality. No one appears to go hungry and the foods given to pigs which frequently takes the form of a kind of white carrot is also quite palatable for humans.

4. LIVESTOCK

As far as can be ascertained there has been little change in the numbers of livestock since the war but few horses seem to be used by civilians. Most of the animals are in fairly good condition and it appears that no serious illness or disease is prevalent amongst them. Some of the horses used by the Partisans need new horse-shoes.

5. AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

b The harvest seems to have been good and there is no shortage of bread grains or animal fodder. Seeds are not required and there is no evidence of any pressing need for fertilisers although no artificial ones were seen.

There seems to be available a sufficient number of agricultural implements and tools although some of them are rather worn and need replacement.

6. TRANSPORT

Hardly any MT is now used by civilians. The number of carts and draught animals, however, seems adequate to cope with the local transport problems. The roads are fairly good although during the last three years they have received little attention. The railways still function in the area but the trains frequently do not run to schedule owing to various interruptions.

7. HEALTH

The civilian inhabitants look perfectly healthy. Requests have been made for anti-typhus and anti-typhoid sera but the need for these is not thought to have been very great. Rheumatism and kindred complaints are very common amongst the Partisan fighters. Medical attention, however, is good and the hospitals



(one of which is at KAMNIK) are well equipped and have a high standard both as regards medical attention and cleanliness. Teeth are also well cared for. Some of the usual medical stores are required but compared with the remainder of Yugoslavia the amounts needed are not considerable.

### 8. INDUSTRIES

The usual country industries are still functioning. There are a number of saw mills and flour mills, most of the latter being driven by water power. Brick and tile works too are continuing production. At KRANJ a rubber works is still operating but the textile factories at KAMNIK have been converted into war plants.

The power station at VELENJE is working but that at FALA (near MARIBOR) has recently had six of its seven generators put out of action.

### 9. PRICES

The ordinary peasant north of the Sava does not understand the present money and distrusts it profoundly. The currency in general use is German Reichmarks and in territory held by the Partisans bonds issued by them in Reichmarks also act as currency.

Prices and exchange rates vary so greatly that it is impossible to give any reasonable indication of what these are, for instance south of the Sava the following rates of exchange were offered at various places;

lire 400	for	£1
" 250	"	1 dollar
" 1000	"	1 "

### 10. EDUCATION & PROPAGANDA

Although in face of considerable difficulties the Partisan authorities are making every effort to set up schools in the areas under their control; taking the country over all education given to children is quite insufficient. There is a great scarcity of books and paper.

Throughout the whole country German propaganda has been very strong and this has had some affect on the people. Many men have been inveigled into the German army and sent to the Eastern front whilst of those that remain a considerable number are members of the Wehrmannschaft, an organisation not dissimilar to the Home Guard in Britain. In the country immediately south of the River Sava there are a number of families which have sons serving with Rupniks White Guard.

11. CONCLUSIONS

The area of N Slovenia seems to have escaped much of the economic distress brought about by war. With the possible exception of clothing and salt their needs cannot be regarded as pressing.

The order of priorities of supplies is considered to be as follows:

- salt
- clothing
- tools
- canning materials
- (boots
- (leather
- (shoe repairing outfits
- building materials
- medical supplies
- cooking and eating utensils
- lamps and lamp oil
- agricultural tools and implements
- sugar

Oct 44



## ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN SERBIA

The economy of SERBIA has, of course, been profoundly disturbed by the war, although it has probably suffered less than other regions. This account is necessarily sketchy as I am not an economist and had no opportunity to visit any of the important towns.

### 1. POPULATION

The Serbs claim to have lost a half to one million of their population during the war. I should imagine this is a great exaggeration. It is stated (I believe, truly) that Serb minorities have been massacred in BOSNIA, CROATIA and the VOJVODINA. There has been little of this in SERBIA proper. The war in all its phases is, of course; draining away Serb manpower and large numbers of men are still held by the Germans as PWs and hostages. The population situation is serious particularly as the Serbs have not yet recovered from the enormous losses they sustained in the last war. Their agriculture is suffering, and, in some areas valuable land is unworked owing to lack of labour. The losses have been heaviest among men of military age. It is said that men, women and children have been killed impartially in the massacres that have occurred. If this is true, these massacres themselves should not affect the age and sex distribution of the surviving population.

### 2. HOUSING

About 5% of all houses have been destroyed in the districts I visited, never more than 25% in any one village that I saw. I believe that the Germans have occasionally destroyed villages completely, usually as a reprisal for some hostile act. The Bulgarians burn houses at random wherever they go. Some houses, but not very many, have been destroyed or damaged in air-raids.

### 3. CLOTHING

Serbian peasants still use the handloom and make most of their own clothes. Many are ragged and many go barefooted, but this was so in peace time. In the only town of any size that I visited (ALEXANDROVAC) clothing of all kinds was easily obtainable in the shops - at a price. A handkerchief would cost 300 dinars, shoes from 5,000-20,000 dinars, ladies' print frocks about the same, a tailor-made lounge suit about 100,000 dinars. I was told that everything was now cheaper in the big towns.

/a shirt 2,000-5,000 dinars,

### 4. FOOD

It is difficult to guess just how much food SERBIA is producing as a whole in relation to its population, but



I think there should be enough for Serb needs and possibly a substantial surplus available for export when transport can be properly arranged. While with Partisans I always had plenty to eat except when in hiding. As honoured guests we had the best of everything and probably fared better than most at any one place or time. On the other hand we usually moved with large bodies of Partisans. We were then in the middle of temporary local scarcity wherever we went in comparatively barren forest or mountain areas. It is thus difficult from my own observations to assess the food situation. Information from Serbs is apt to be distorted by the fact that they always tend to make the most of their sufferings and hardships and the misdeeds of their enemies.

- (a) Livestock Pigs are evident in very large numbers everywhere. Poultry and eggs seem to be plentiful. I had a (naturally vague) impression that there were almost as many cattle and sheep as the pastures could feed, and they appeared to be in very good condition.
- (b) Cereals The harvest has been good, or promised well in the areas I visited. Some arable land (perhaps 5% of all that I saw) had not been sown owing to lack of labour.
- (c) Fruit The harvest has been good. I saw only one plum orchard that had been destroyed (by the Bulgarians).

#### Requisitioning

The Germans and the Bulgarians in the occupied areas requisition by districts. That is to say, hostages are taken from each occupied district and shot if sufficient specified goods are not produced in a specified time from the district. The Serbs claim that this leaves only a starvation ration in these areas, but peasants in these areas apparently still sell in food in the open market to be sent to the towns. In districts that change hands often, the peasants bury their grain and tell each side that the others have taken it. In the solidly Cetnik or Partisan areas they give their surplus to the armies willingly.

#### BELGRADE

/as I questioned many people who had visited BELGRADE at various times, one/recently as August. They all agreed that food was seriously insufficient in the winter of 1941-42 and 1942-43 and that it was impossible to get enough to eat without buying on the Black Market at exorbitant prices. Since then the situation has improved and food in BELGRADE is plentiful and cheap. Money is not used in Partisan areas. These remarks apply to Cetnik areas.



### Prices

A good meal can be had in a restaurant for 200-500 dinars. A kilo of roast pork (cut straight from the freshly roasted pig) costs 500-800 dinars. Rakia costs 20-30 dinars a tot, wine 150-400 dinars a litre. Bulgarian cigarettes cost 150 dinars for 20, Serbian cigarettes 200 dinars for 20.

In short, I think SERBIA is producing at least 75% as much food as in peacetime, probably more.

### Currency

In ALEXANDROVAC I was offered 22,000 dinars per sovereign or 1,100 dinars per dollar. I was told that the BELGRADE rates were 30,000 dinars per sovereign or 1,500 per dollar. There was no sale for leva.

### Manufactured Goods

Practically anything could be bought on the Black Market, very little off it. German Army stores of all kinds were available at a price.

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Broadcast from "Free Yugoslavia" in Serbo-Croat  
on 17 Oct 44.

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AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN STYRIA.

At present Styria is less exhausted in an economic sense than other countries. Her agricultural and industrial position is not bad. Her workmen have not been mobilized. They remained working in their factories and now represent the strongest reserve of manpower in Slovenia.

It is true that the mass joining of our troops during the last months decreased the number of workmen and employees in Styria's industries. The occupiers were thus deprived of manpower and were forced to limit their production, we were safeguarding our qualified manpower which will be extremely useful in restoring of the country after the occupiers were driven out.

In the present liberated territories of Styria there are no large industrial enterprises. This territory is mostly woodlands and the lumber industry has greatly developed there. Not only Styria but all of Slovenia needs great quantities of different kinds of wood for rebuilding the country. Slovenian towns and villages are short of fire-wood. It is probable that there will be insufficient coal. Therefore lumber enterprises are being urgently restored.

There are seventy saw-mills functioning at present. Fifty of them are located in the Savinjska Valley and twenty in the Kozjaki Region.

It is expected that factories producing wooden cases will begin functioning shortly. A factory of leather is as well as an oil refinery already operating. A factory manufacturing wooden parts for house will be opened soon.

Four large and several small electric plants are now in operation in Savinjska Valley. The most powerful of them uses a hundred and twenty horsepower dynamo. There is an adequate supply of electric power for the needs of industry and lighting while the surplus is used for the electrification of small villages.

Agricultural machines and tools, which used to belong to communities are in good order and were handed over to special stations of Agricultural Machine Distribution, which will distribute them among the population.

Industrial shops have been restored, but the majority of them do not produce to capacity because of the shortage of manpower and material.



In general, the industry of Styria is still on a small scale for the occupiers are still holding the largest and most important industrial centres.

When the occupiers are driven out, it will be necessary to restore work in all industrial enterprises. Styrian industry must be maintained, for it is necessary for Slovenian national economy. It will supply much more devastated parts of Slovenia and Yugoslavia. This is the task which is faced by the industry and agriculture of Styria.

Its well organized and preserved industry can be of great assistance in restoring our industrial equilibrium and renewing our entire industry.

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SECRET

'A' BRANCH

16 OCT 1944

HQ ML (Yugoslavia)

Weekly Intelligence Summary No 13

15 Oct 44

Ref. No. ....

ALL H.Q. (YUGOSLAVIA)

DAFMG. 14/10  
DAA. QMG. 24/10  
S.C.A. 16/10  
S.C. Q.  
Chaplaini

PORTS

1. PARENZO (Istria)

A report of 10 Oct has been received that the Cagliari (6,000 tons, presumably GRT) was in POLA harbour. A ship of this name was damaged by air attack in PARENZO towards the end of August and has been lying there ever since. She was then stated to be of 2,300 tons. If the report is true it means that a serious obstruction in the harbour has been removed but that another large potential blockship is available to the enemy.

to see  
Smt.  
14/10

On the other hand the Mercurio (2,000 tons GRY) has been damaged in PARENZO and is believed to have been disabled. On 4 Oct she was lying alongside the Nazario Sauro mole. As the Cagliari was still there at Town Quay at that time there were no remaining berths suitable for merchant vessels.

2. SENJ (Croatia)

On 12 Oct an attack by the BAF was made on the port which is believed to have suffered considerable damage. A salvage vessel lying alongside one of the moles is claimed as hit. This will be a serious obstruction in the harbour apart from the fact that the loss of such a vessel at this juncture is a shrewd blow at the enemy.

3. ZARA

A report has been received that the enemy is making a practice of unloading supplies at NIN (on the tip of the peninsula facing PAG Island) and transporting them overland to ZARA. Even compared with ZARA NIN is a very insignificant place and if the report is to be accepted it may mean that the approaches to ZARA are considered unsafe or that the port of ZARA has been so badly damaged that it is no longer practicable to use it. The enemy is known to have been moving small shipping northwards past ZARA from SPLIT and PLOCE, although now that PASMAN has been liberated this involves considerable risks. On the other hand ZARA itself has received considerable attention recently from the BAF and shipping was known to have been there at the time. It may be fear of such attacks that has caused the Germans to employ this apparently inconvenient method.



4. MAKARSKA (S of SPLIT)

The enemy has been carrying out demolitions. Their nature is not known.

5. SALONIKA

Sheds in the dock area are being removed and the installations in the Military Workshops are to be demolished.

MINES

6. Salt

A request for materials to start work again at the salt mines at TUZLA has been made. These mines which are in Eastern BOSNIA were worked by the Partisans last autumn when they held TUZLA and were also in production during the time that the town was occupied by the Germans. The condition of the mine when recently recaptured by the Partisans is not known in detail, but the request which has been made indicates that the destruction is not extensive. As lack of salt is felt throughout the whole country and in places very severely the availability of the salt from these mines will do much to ease this problem.

7. Chrome

The Germans are apparently trying to remove stocks from the Allatini mines before it is too late. These mines are situated in the RADUSA area north west of SKOPLJE. Orders were issued at the beginning of September for the despatch of 10,000 tons of ore but it is not known how much has actually been sent. Transport difficulties have probably prevented movement on a large scale, and in view of recent events it is not thought likely that much more will be sent. The stocks had probably accumulated owing to transport difficulties.

8. At JEZERINA (NW MACEDONIA) shipments were not abnormal up to the 22 Aug.

8. Copper

Some particulars about the condition of the BOR mines have now been received. The general state of these mines is said to be excellent. Bearings and oil pumps have been stripped off most motors, compressors and crushers and dumped by the Germans at ZLOT but can be readily replaced. ZLOT is about 10 miles SW of BOR.

The central electric plant which is a coal-burning turbo-alternator develops 12,000 kw. A high tension line from KOSTOLAC on the Danube has just been begun. On 12 Sep tools lying at SMEDEREVO for the power station

at KOSTOLAC were ordered to be returned. It appears therefore that erection of further machinery there has been abandoned. There have been no major collapses in the mines but the pumps are not working.

The construction of a single narrow gauge railway from BOR to POZAREVAC has been commenced. Track has been completed for only 6 kilometres at the BOR end, 20 further kilometres are in hand but little has been done as regards the remainder which is the greater part of the project.

#### FINANCE

9. Further reports have been received of the desire of the Germans and the satellites to withdraw liquid assets from Yugoslavia. Maximum prices for all commodities are being determined in Slovenia following a decree of Aug 23 by SNOS. Although prices appear to vary according to districts the following gives an indication of what has been ordered.

Healthy calf (100 kg)	not more than 2200 lire
1470 kg of poor quality hay	" " " " "
800 kg of clover	" " " " "
740 kg of potatoes	" " " " "
335 kg of corn	" " " " "

#### SULPHURIC ACID

10. This substance which is used in the manufacture of copper sulphate for the vineyards is produced at SABAC (on the Sava, 2 of BELGRADE) where production was reported to have been 40,000 tons in 1941. There were also factories at HRASNIK in Slovenia (10,000 tons per annum) and KOPRIVNICA in Croatia near the Hungarian frontier (60,000 tons per annum). It is not known whether the two last named factories are still in production. See also WIS No 10, paras 11 and 12.

#### MEDICAL

11. A Swiss Medical Mission has set off to join the Partisans. It is said to have equipment for 5 "groups of surgeons".

#### RAILWAYS

12. The BOROVNICA viaduct on the LJUBLJANA-TRIESTE line has been repaired but apparently the STAMPETOV viaduct on the same line is still unserviceable.



and  
With the Russian advance in VOJVODINA across the Belgrade-Lapovo line in Serbia the importance of the line Trieste-Ljubljana-Zagreb-Brod-Belgrade has vastly increased. This line and its side lines have received much attention from the Partisans and the BAF and many of the side lines are now totally out of action. Since the Partisans' operation on SUNJA the use of the southern loop of the Zagreb-Novska section has been denied to the enemy and the northern loop through Dugo Selo has assumed the utmost importance. The most important side lines which the enemy has somewhat precariously maintained in operation up till now are the Vinkovci-Osijek line, the Zagreb-Varazdin line and the Zidani Most-Celje-Maribor line. All these lines are to the north of the main line. To the south the narrow gauge line from Brod to Sarajevo-Mostar-Dubrovnik has been kept working with constant interruptions by the Partisans. The bridge at BROD over the Sava is still down however.

A meeting has taken place in LONDON to consider transportation in Europe on the German withdrawal from the territories occupied by them. This meeting was attended by representatives of many of the countries of Europe and the United Nations including Yugoslavia.

#### AREA REPORTS

13. BLO reports are attached as follows:

SE Serbia	R25/RGE	Appx "A"
W Montenegro & E Hercegovina	R24/RGE	" "B"

These contain the usual paragraphs on:

- Living Conditions
- Food
- Clothing & Boots
- Livestock
- Agriculture
- Transport & Transportation
- Health
- Prices
- Industries
- Population
- & Conclusions

The BLOs who provided the information are none of them qualified in any special line but the intelligence they have given is considered reliable and based on their personal observations.

#### OUTSTANDING EVENTS

14. As a result of the virtual investment of BELGRADE by the Russians and Partisans, Nedic has left the capital with his ministers for OSIJEK. Deputies have been left behind to carry on. OSIJEK is in Croatia but it is difficult to say where the Government could continue safely to operate in Serbia. This move conforms with that of the General Staff of the German Army Group F to OSIJEK and VUKOVAR.

Marshal Tito has had a meeting with the Bulgarian authorities and it is reported that the Bulgars have agreed to make common cause with the Partisans against the Germans and to endeavour to atone for their delinquencies in the past. The confusion in the Bulgarian army for some weeks has been very great and many commanders do not seem to have known on which side to fight though this does not seem to have prevented them from making use of their weapons as circumstances have seemed to dictate.

The anxiety of the enemy in Yugoslavia is reflected by the evacuation of the BACKA by Hungarians and by far reaching proclamations mobilising all German civilians for the armed forces. This has been accompanied by orders to resist to the last. Meanwhile female labour in Croatia is being organised to replace men who have joined the colours.

#### OPERATIONS

15. The Russians have now occupied practically the whole of the BANAT and have crossed the Tisa to take SUBOTICA the third town of Yugoslavia. They also have crossed the Danube westwards between the Tisa and BELGRADE and southwards to capture SMEDEREVO. Meantime their forces in Serbia have seized LAPOVO the junction of the two branches of the Belgrade-Skoplje line, one of which passes through NIS to the east and the other through KRALJEVO. The Partisans are threatening the capital from the west and south west and have been reported as close to ZEMUN as SURCIN i.e. about 12 miles. BELGRADE is therefore virtually surrounded except for the railway line westwards to ZAGREB which is imminently threatened.

The Bulgars are advancing westwards south of NIS and claim to have taken LESKOVAC. The enemy left in Serbia are still numerous and may be expected to increase in numbers as they are joined by troops withdrawn from Greece.

They must depend for their supplies on the vile Bosnian roads which will soon become even viler with the approach of winter. The supplies must come eventually from the Zagreb-Brod-Belgrade railway which has already been dealt with above. Large areas through which these supplies must pass are held more or less firmly by the Partisans and it is difficult to believe that the enemy can continue to hold out for long. On the other hand if withdrawal is decided upon it must take place over those same roads and railways and will be a desperate operation with cold and hunger staring them in the face, the Partisans harassing their retreat, constant Russian pressure behind them and a sense of irretrievable disaster weighing on their spirits accompanied by a gnawing fear of what is going on in Germany. The plight of the German divisions in Serbia is indeed a sorry one.



Meantime there are signs that the sway of the Germans and Cetniks in Montenegro and Dalmatia is coming to an end. The Partisans in Montenegro are pinning the enemy more closely than ever into the towns and are becoming more active in Dalmatia where they have occupied LIVNO. Small ships have been observed apparently taking troops and material from the Gulf of KOTOR to DUBROVNIK and demolitions have been carried out at MAKARSKA. The position of these troops is not so bad as that of those in Serbia as they can still use the Brod-Metkovic railway and perhaps the sea to some extent. They are, of course, nothing like so numerous. Their position, however, is far from enviable.

In the north of Croatia the Partisan operations continue. After the capture of VIROVITICA they have taken DJURDJEVAC and VIRJE.

A German operation in VENETIA GIULIA and western Slovenia against the Partisans received a check when the enemy tried to pursue the retreating Partisans into the woods. The Partisans seized the opportunity to counter attack apparently with some success.

Two defence lines are reported to be under construction by the Germans. One is from BELGRADE westwards through FRUSKA GORA hills in the SREM to the neighbourhood of OSIJEK. It is not clear whether this is intended to face North or South but it is clear that it cannot be held for long with the Russians to the North and the Partisans to the South. The other line is reported to be under construction from the junction of the Sava and Sutla rivers west of ZAGREB to ORMOZ on the Drava west of VARAZDIN and thence to the Austrian frontier west of MURSKA SOBOTA. This report is unconfirmed but if it is true it indicates that the Germans have no intention of making a stand on the Sava.

#### POLITICAL

16. The Free Yugoslavia (Partisan) Broadcasting Station has recently broadcast a warning to the Turks that their interference in Balkan affairs would not be welcomed.

The Partisan attitude to the Hungarians in Yugoslavia seems to correspond with that which they exhibited towards the Bulgars. The Hungarians are either being accepted into the Partisan ranks or are allowed to depart for Hungary with Partisan assistance. This very reasonable attitude is in conformity with that adopted towards other ex-enemies.

Municipal and Commune elections have taken place in Slovenia under Partisan auspices. It is said that 100% of the electorate voted and the result was a Partisan success so overwhelming as to be reminiscent of Russian elections.

A Partisan movement formed in Austria is reported to have approached the Slovene Partisans with a view to union with that organisation. This offer has had a somewhat cold reception from the Slovenes.

STOP PRESS

The Bulgars have occupied NIS and the enemy has retreated to PROKUPLJE.

R/W  
Maj GS.  
R.G. Edholm.

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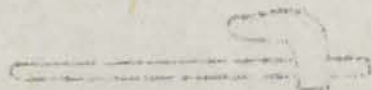
R23/RGE

Conditions in S E SERBIA

The following information has been given by a BLO who recently left the area. The area covered lies between the Nis-Skopljje line and the Bulgarian frontier. The information is considered reliable.

1. Living Conditions

Fighting has been general, but not on a large scale, and in towns such as Pirot, Lebana and Grdelica little destruction has occurred. Though many villages have been destroyed or damaged, reconstruction has been effected almost at once as the houses are built with walls of ~~wood~~ hurdles covered with mud. Accordingly the housing problem is not great, and only nails (of about 4 inches) and glass or windowlite will be needed. Adzes and axes (of the type indicated below) are used for cutting, hammering and for hooking down branches when these are to be cut.



The Partisans are always asking for mess tins. Drinking vessels, spoons as well as cooking utensils are in short supply.

Sanitation is elementary in the towns and non-existent elsewhere.

Houses are kept fairly clean by Yugoslav standards, but bugs and lice abound.

2. Food

In general there is no serious shortage in this area, but if food chances to fail in one part, little is done to supply it from elsewhere owing to bad distribution methods; this causes local shortages.

In the valleys cereals are plentiful and maize is the usual diet, while wheat is grown in the hills.

People are unaccustomed to meat which they regard as a luxury. Accordingly animals are seldom killed, and even then only young sheep and pigs are slaughtered.

Dairy produce is plentiful, there being ample milk from the sheep and goats as well as from cows.

There is no sugar.

Animal fats are used for cooking. Vegetable fats do not exist in the area.

Beans, which are in good supply, are regularly eaten and cabbages are made into a kind of stew with pepper. Rock salt is sufficient, but its origin is not known by source.

Fruit is largely eaten in season but is never preserved. Plums grow in great quantities, and peaches and excellent apples, pears and grapes abound. Eggs are fairly plentiful and of good quality.

The Germans have requisitioned considerable quantities of food especially grain and tobacco, but there is plenty left for all if it could be distributed.

Rakija is plentiful and the Vlasotince area produces excellent wine.

### 3. Clothing and Boots

There is a general shortage of cloth. The weaving mills at Grdolica and Vucje are in working order but are at a standstill for lack of wool. If yarn was provided they could produce enough for the district subject to problems of distribution. At present people are wearing homespun only. It is old and mostly needs renewing. Handlooms are available but there is nothing to weave. The people could make clothes for themselves given the materials. They are, however, very short of needles and thread. Some flax is grown but lighter garments are needed though not so urgently as the warmer sorts. Underclothes are not badly wanted as the people are unaccustomed to them. Parachute silk is in great demand and is the best subject for barter purposes. For the feet shoes are wanted but boots would be largely wasted. The people wear them for a while but generally discard them and go barefoot. Opankis are universally worn but there seem to be sufficient of them and even leather /in is not/great demand. Feet are of normal size.

### 4. Livestock

In the hills sheep and goats are plentiful and there are some cattle. In the valleys there are more cattle and fewer sheep. Pigs are plentiful all over the area and are in good condition but other animals are all very thin. There is plenty of poultry.



Sheep, goats and cattle are used for milk rather than for meat. Numbers of livestock have not been much affected by requisitioning or the results of war.

Oxen and buffaloes are used for draught purposes and for farm work generally, while horses are reserved for travelling. There was a great shortage of horses (which are chiefly employed for riding or as pack animals) as they were all taken by the Bulgarians. Now, however, they have mostly been retaken and mobilised by the Partisans. They are not used much except by the army and are thin and scraggy but very strong. Horseshoes and nails are badly needed.

#### 5. Agriculture

The harvest has been good this year. Maize is grown in the valleys and wheat in the hills. There is also a considerable tobacco crop grown. Potatoes are grown and beans and fruit are in large quantities everywhere. It is no use sending any agricultural machinery to this area. Hand tools of the simplest kind are wanted including very large hoes.

#### 6. Transport

There is no MT at all.

Ox carts and sledges are the usual vehicles but pack horses are more common for anything more than local farm work.

The roads Nis - Skoplje and Nis - Piroet are passable for MT. They are metalled but not tarmac. Other roads exist but cannot be relied upon for MT in all weathers.

Most bridges have been attacked or damaged. In the majority of cases the damage consists of a span being let down, usually at one end only. Most of the piers and supports are intact.

#### 7. Health

There have been no serious epidemics and most people including the children seem to be healthy. This is no doubt partly due to the fact that weaklings quickly die. There is a certain amount of malaria.

There are no medical services except in the Partisan Forces. What is really needed is a large scale medical programme.

No soap is available but it is badly wanted and frequently asked for. Despite its lack some kind of washing is done.

8. Prices

Levas are the usual currency east of the Morava and Dunars to the west but they have very little value. They are only used in the towns and their neighbourhood. Elsewhere barter is the rule. Parachute silk being a favourite medium. Source could quote no prices as they vary so enormously.

9. Industries

The village smithies are working though where the iron comes from source could not say. A flour mill is working at Lebane and so are other small ones along the valleys. There are few saw mills. The molybdenum mines at Surdulica were in operation till the Germans left. The textile industry is at a standstill through lack of raw materials.

10. Population

There has been little alteration in populations.

11. Conclusions

Conditions are not much worse than before the war and not much is urgently needed. The people are well fed on the whole and healthy. Distribution problems are the cause of most of the shortages that exist.

The following is a suggested order in which requirements might be met from extraneous sources:

- Flour, in the hills
- Textiles, including needles and thread
- Soap
- Sugar
- Raw wool
- Nails and windowlite
- Drinking vessels and spoon
- MF

It must be remembered, however, that almost the most urgent need is means of distributing local resources, especially grain, to the hill districts.



R24/RGE:

Conditions in W. MONTENEGRO and E. HERCEGOVINA.  
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The following information has been supplied by a B.L.O. who recently left the country. He is most familiar with the Niksic area. The report is considered reliable. The "Conclusions" paragraph has been inserted by G.S.I., ML HQ (Yugoslavia).

1. LIVING CONDITIONS.

Much fighting has taken place in the area and destruction and damage are severe and widespread. Niksic, Savnik, Trebinje, Gacko, Kolasin and especially Berane have all been badly knocked about. In the country it is the exception rather than the rule to see a house with a roof, though the walls are mostly still standing. The people are living in shanties made of wood, piled together to a point at the top. Glass or windowlite are badly needed. There is plenty of wood available and it can be sawn up locally as some of the saw mills are still working, but nails of all sizes especially large ones are required.

Sanitation is very bad or non-existent but this has always been the case.

There are very few domestic utensils but again normal standards in the area have always been so low that their want is not very seriously felt.

In winter the country is largely snowed up and snow fell on the hills about 7th October this year.

The people live indoors a great deal in winter and as their dwellings have no windows they will have to exist largely in darkness. Oil for lamps is therefore necessary.

2. FOOD.

The main diet at present is meat and milk products. There is little flour but the people who live in the hills are not accustomed to eat large quantities of it. There is no extreme hunger or starvation but the food is very plain and frequently unwholesome.

The following foodstuffs are needed:

Salt. This is an urgent necessity for both human beings and animals.

Cereals including rice. Especially for the valleys where the people feel the need more than those in the hills. Though some mills are working in the villages a proportion of flour should be sent as it is doubtful whether in the early stages sufficient can be milled locally.