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<u>C.M. 63 (46)</u> <u>1<sup>st</sup> July, 1946</u>

### 1. Chiefs of Staff.

P.M. Welcomed Lord Montgomery on 1<sup>st</sup> appearance as C.I.G.S.

## 2. Italian Colonies.

P.M. Telegrams 285, 286, 287.

Guts of it is in 287: & vital thing is draft declaration.

Clear we can't get U.K. mandate for Cyrenaica.

N.B. Discussed in F.O. Better to accept this 1 yr. delay rather than delay Peace Treaty.

Independence wd. be strongly pressed for Cyrenaica & Tripoli.

Incorp<sup>n</sup> Eritrea.

Wd. have open idea of United Somalia.

Demilitarisation might be pressed strongly.

Above is forecast of U.N. Assembly line.

Attach import<sup>ce</sup> to safeguard <u>re</u> admin<sup>n</sup>.

How wd. Doms, re-act to going to Assembly vice 21 nations?

A. Para. 3 of 287 + 2 of decl<sup>n</sup>. 4 Power decision – will cause diffy. with some Doms. certainly S.A. & possibly A. & N.Z. This wd. exclude Doms. entirely in wht. wd. be thght. high-handed way.

Two sugg<sup>ns</sup> to make for mtg. this diffy. – later.

Smuts wrote 22.1.46: "preferable ... arrangemt. as may be agreed betwn. action belligerents".

a) Art. 2 of declaration after 4 Powers insert "after consult" with belligerent powers."

Art. 3 make correspondg. addition.

P.M. But this is a draft for Article in Treaty & as such will come to Peace Conf<sup>ce</sup> of 21.

The only diffy. = it advocates a solution wh. Doms. won't like.

C.A.S. One aspect of Med. problem on wh. memo about to come to Def. Cttee. In advance of that, however, no obj<sup>n</sup> on mil. grds. to Art. 1 & 2. On 3, we don't like Trusteeship because of admittg. Russia.

Wd. want mil. facilities in Cyrenaica.

N.B. Won't get it <u>via</u> trusteeship: might <u>via</u> independence: possibly thro' incorp<sup>n</sup> in Egypt. Second, however, is the one to go for.

- H.M. Worried. Can't see any alternative, however. Palestine, Egypt..... losing mil. footholds in M/East. Also hope of Jewish settlement in Cyrenaica.
- J. Show H.M.'s misgivings. Hopes held out .... e.g. in Egypt: but what has happened? Wd. prefer we shdn't propose it.

- N.B. Then worse alternatives will be put fwd. by others.
- H.D. See x/. on para. 4 of Tel. 285.
- P.M. And note tht. R. have given up claim to Dodecanese.
- H.D. Genl. atmosphere is better in Paris.
- A.B. a) Failing 4 Power agreemt. reference to Assembly, does veto reply?
  b) Repercussions on Italian opinion. Progressive forces there are beginning to make headway don't want to discredit them at this stage.
- P.M. On b) there cd. be no ques. of leaving colonies with Italy.
- [H.D. Para. 1(a) of Tel. 286. Specifically leaves open the poss. of Italy being trustee.

  Mistake: this was U.S. scheme.]
- N.B. In Italy Colonial policy has bn. controversial Mussolini stunt, not a Liberal Party plank.
- A. Cd. E.B. get Byrnes to put this forward?
- N.B. Doms. can object to this draft at Peace Conf<sup>ce</sup>. If it were accepted, then during the year we wd. consult Doms. If it came in the end to Assembly, Doms. wd. be there.
  - If A. persists, however, it wd. be possible to include reference to consult<sup>n</sup> with belligerent powers in this draft.
- P.M. But R. doesn't like the 21. Insertg. them will damage this document as a compromise device.

  Put it to E.B. on basis that he can drop it if he finds it embarrassing.
- C.N.S. Wd. open door to R. saying we must consult Byelo-Russia.
- J. Say also

Agreed: subject to informing E.B. (i) we wd. preferred someone else to put it fwd. (ii) something about the 21 belligerents having their say.

## 3. Trieste.

Telegrams 283 and 284 and 290 + paras. 5-6 of 288.

P.M. B'ground. M. weakening fr. 100% support of y. claims: & in last few days has for 1st time seemed ready to consider an international solution. E.B's solution is in Tel. 290.

What will be the area? App. a buffer betwn. y. or Italy.

- C.A.S. Nothing v. this. Watch, however, a) future of Pola. May mean retaining troops.
- C.I.G.S. Para. 4. We shdn't be able to run down our troops in V.G. until U.N.O. gendarmeries in being. Army cdn't get down to end/46 ceiling, wh. assumes 100% evacuation of V.G.
- P.M. Depends who will provide the troops.
- C.I.G.S. Want to keep U.S. troops there.
- H.M. Don't like this artificial: cf. Danzig. Truth is Italy shd. have it. R. seem to want to weaken Italy. Wish we cd. fight it out in favour of Italy.
- P.M. This is v. sweeping. Hinterland is largely Slovena. Port served C. Europe rather than Italy. Was handed to Italy as Austro-Hung. port.
- J. Good solution of v. diff. problem.

  We shd. encourage E.B. to proceed as he proposes.
- T.W. Contains seeds of stable body.
- J.J.L. Depends on spirit in wh. 4 Powers go into it. Can be success if they mean it to be. Tangier worked well enough.
- A.B. Gt. progress made, I agree. Ital. Socialists take enlightened views: don't oppose internat regime bitterly. Agree with M., however, tht. 10% limit wd. give them target for agitation. Support E.B. there.
  - Don't however, agree with this admin<sup>ve</sup> scheme. B.'s legist. council wd. have some authy. E.B.'s wd. give inhabitants no chance to operate democracy.

We don't defend that. We shd. however, suggest scheme wh. is capable of modifie<sup>n</sup> as time goes on with a view to enabling inhabitants to have a voice in their own Govt. Provide for review of constitution at given date.

- P.M. Then constant pressure for power on behalf of one or other. Consitit<sup>n</sup> <u>can</u> always be modified. But under a time limit system people never get down to working existing system.
- H.D. See also (g), wh. lends itself to development.
- T.W. And (K) too.
- N.B. Pp 4-5 of 290. Meets A.B.'s points. Local pop<sup>n</sup> will have a big influence. E.B. has bn. the last to abandon the Italian claim. He is only asking for this authy. (290) now because persistence in Italian claim wd. break the Mtg.

This is modelled on Saar. But pop<sup>n</sup> is mixed: port is not Italian port & everyone agrees it must be international. This is best place you cd. find for an international regime.

Danzig & Saar were well governed until L/N. began to crumble. This too will fail if U.N.O. begins to crumble.

Agreed: Support E.B. {Abandon 10 year limit { Stress means of getting pop<sup>n</sup> a voice.

## 4. C.F.M. Miscellaneous Points.

Danube – satisf.

Rep<sup>ns</sup> – we shd. stand out v. current prod<sup>n</sup>.

## 5. Palestine.

Telegram 1069 & 1071 read out to Cabinet.

G.H. Jewish leaders flying from U.S. to Palestine.

Demand for deput<sup>n</sup>.

Conn<sup>n</sup> betwn. Agency & Hagana. High Commr. is clear there <u>is</u> such a conn<sup>n</sup>.: cf. his reply to our sugg<sup>n</sup> tht. 2 of Agency leaders shdn't be arrested. We now have def. evidence of conn<sup>n</sup>.

- P.M. As soon as mil. op<sup>n</sup> is concluded, Agency can function again.
- C.I.G.S. Objectives:
  - a) people
  - b) documents. Future action must depend on exam<sup>n</sup> of documents. No doubt of Agency's conn<sup>n</sup> with Hagana.
- T.W. How far did B. troops co-operate with Hagana in war?
- C.I.G.S. Nil.
- A.B. Had we not an understanding incldg. supply of arms tht. Hagana wd. cooperate in defence of Palest.
- C.I.G.S. In 1938-39 Jews were our Allies in fighting Arabs. Since then we haven't had dealings with them.
- P.M. We did make arms available to Jews.
- C.I.G.S. Not to Hagana.
- A.B. But it isn't therefore an armed pol. force.
- J. Doesn't alter the fact tht. we can't have private Armies.

P.M. Nor the use made of the arms made available when, after the war, the more extreme elements obtained control, & used power for "next round."

C.I.G.S. Terrorism & Stern Gang, who owe no allegiance to anyone. Irgun, we believe is controlled by Agency.

G.H. Hagana has some (but varying) influence over Irgun.

C.I.G.S. Hagana = Home Guard. Irgun = Regular Army.

A.B. Told Higher Arab Cttee met immediately after publ<sup>n</sup> of Anglo. Am. Rpt: & decided tht. they wdn't associate themselves with any violent or armed resistance to implement<sup>n</sup> of Rpt. Is that true?

G.H. Never heard so.

A.B. Shdn't we enquire?

P.M. Statement must be made in H/C. To-day? After Ques.

Draft read & amended. P.M. to reply.

Silverman M.P. will ask Riv. Notice Ques. = more adjournment.

[Enter J.S. & W.W. [Exeunt C.O.S.

If adjournment secured – Gvt. and P.M. to handle it.

P.M. Room for 2 speeches? One is enough.

Agreed: P.M. to speak. Glt. to attend.

6. Bread Rationing Debate.

(Not heard by me.)

7. Report of Select Cttee on Tank Prod<sup>n</sup>.

(Not heard by me)

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b. Bread Rationing Island. 7. Report of Solvet Com on Taux Proot . (Not heard by me).