

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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COMPLAINTS, OTHER THAN
ADMINISTRATIVE
JULY - OCT. 1943

38 pp.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Q
Capt Meyer
Add to file
O S

FOLIO	DATE	REF.	TO/FROM
1	23 Sept.	Call. Prov. 12	From: SCAO, Callanissetta
2	27 Sept	387/HQ	To SCAO, Palermo
3	29 "	898	898 7th Army
4	1 Oct.	AMCOR 335	To: Freedom for HGS.
5	30 Sep	-	From: SCAO Palermo
6-7	2 Oct	-	From Gaetano Ciminò
8	4 "	CP/OJB/cb	" SCAO Palermo
9-15	5 "	CP/MEN/ev	To SCAO, Callanissetta
16-19	9 "	387/HQ	From Gaetano Ciminò, Palermo
20	2 "	-	To C.A.O. Bronte
21	10 "	387/HQ	To Ciminò Gaetano
22	10 "	387/HQ	From Claims & Hings, Catania
23	12 "	CH/3/4S/29T	From S.C.A.O. Messina
24	18 "	387/H.Q.	From Scibano Salvatore Bagusa
25-26	11 "	-	To SCAO Catania
27	18 "	387/HQ	From Placido Corigliano
28-37	15 SEPT	-	From Placido Corigliano
38	15 Dec	-	From C.A.O. Taormina
39-42	25 "	-	To: AD Claims & Hings
43	30 "	-	

5318

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

October 30, 1943

SUBJECT: Civilian car, FIAT 2755 M.E.

TO : A.D. Olaine and Hirsings,
19 Via Androna,
Catania, Sicily

1. Reference is made to letter of your office CM/3/L3/29T of 12 October 1943.

2. Please be advised that; Fiat No. 2755 M.E. (not in running order) was requisitioned and the enclosed paper served on the owner.

3. This car is at present in storage in a garage in Taormina where it will be kept until further instructions are received from your office. It is apparently not in running order.

L. G. V. D. S. Capt.
CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer

1 Encl:
Requisition (copy)

42 refers

5917

42
A. M. G. O. T.

PROVINCE OF MESSINA

This Ref.:

Your Ref.: AMGOT/387/HQ

Enclosures: 2

Taormina, 25/10/43

19

SUBJECT: - Private property improperly acquired.

To : - Charles M. Spofford,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

Through Channels: To: SCAO. Messina Province,

Have investigated into matter set forth in enclosures.
Find that car in question was not requisitioned improperly or otherwise by any AMGOT. Officer.

True copy of requisition served upon owner of vehicle
is enclosed.

Car at present is in storage in a garage in Taormina.
It apparently is not in running order.

I have placed a verbal detaining order prohibiting
removal or use of vehicle in question pending further instructions.

George W. Mansueti

AMGOT

Enclosures: 2

SUBJECT: - Private property improperly acquired.

To : - Charles M. Spofford,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

Through Channels: To: SCAO. Messina Province,

Have investigated into matter set forth in enclosures.
Find that car in question was not requisitioned improperly or otherwise by any AMGOT. Officer.

True copy of requisition served upon owner of vehicle is enclosed.

Car at present is in storage in a garage in Taormina.
It apparently is not in running order.

I have placed a verbal detaining order prohibiting removal or use of vehicle in question pending further instructions.



George W. Marinkov

Lt. George W. Marinkov,
CAO. Taormina, Area Asstg.

1st Ind.

From: SCAO Messina, 27 October 1943; To: Chief Staff Officer, AMGOT HQ.

Forwarded.



Stephen B. Story
STEPHEN B. STORY
Lt. Col., CMP
SCAO - Messina

10590
AMB chm for inquiry & report 41
to SCAO
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: Private Property Improperly Acquired.

TO: S.C.A.O. Messina

AMGOT/387/HQ
FILE No. _____

AMGOT HQ., SICILY

18 October 1943

1. Enclosed is copy of letter received from Claims and Hirings, Catania.

2. It is requested that an investigation be made by you into the circumstances of the case, and that a report be submitted to this office.

Ch. Swift Hand
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

COPY

SUBJECT:- Private Property Improperly Acquired.

H.O.,
A.M.G.O.T.,
PALERMO.

Ref: CH/3/LS/29T. 40

The Town Major, Taormina, informs this Department, that the following car was taken by an A.M.G.O.T., Official.

FIAT No. 2755 ME. (not in running order)

May it please be confirmed, that this car was requisitioned and regularised in accordance with The Laws and Usages of War, MML para 415 refers.

Tele. No. 14866
19, Via Androne,
Catania,
12/OCT/43.

Lt. Col.
A.D. Claims and Hirings,
Sicily.

314

39

A. M. G. O. T.

PROVINCE OF MESSINA

This Ref.:

Your Ref.:

Enclosures:

Taormina, 25/10/43 19

SUBJECT: - True Copy:

To : - Charles M. Spofford,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

Copies to: A.M.G.O.T.

Owner

O.C. Unit.

File (2)

Requisition No.

Name of Owner:

Address:

The following articles are requisitioned for:

Town Major 239

785015

O.C. Unit.
File (2)

Requisition No.

Name of Owner:
Address:

The following articles are requisitioned for:
Town Major 239

I Fiat car No. 2755 ME (Not in running order).

ink signature

H..Kent. Major.
Town Major No. 239

Received above-mentioned articles:

O.C.
Unit/

Date.

ink signature

H. Kent Major.

Town Major No. 239

This is a true copy - H. Kent Major. 2nd Lt. C. M. P. Area Indg. CAG Persina Prov. Angat.

TAORMINA (Villagonia) Oct. 15th 1943

HEADQUARTERS
365
27 OCT 1943
AMGOT

Dear Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 15th. of September I beg to inform you to have had by private way news that my son Gino lieutenant engineers is among the prisoners in Tunisie.

If it possible Sir I beg you to have my son returned in Sicily. It would be of great comfort to me.

No news yet from my other son Pietro.

From my family I have had good news up to the 29th. of September.

Please forgive me for giving you so much trouble.

Very sincerely yours

(Comm. Placido Corigliano)

P. Corigliano

General Sir Francis Baron Rennel of Rodd
Capo degli Affari Civili dell'A.M.G.O.T.
P A L E R M O

37

TAORMINA (Villagonia), 15 settembre 1943

Ill.mo Sig. Generale,



La mancanza di mezzi di comunicazioni, non mi ha consentito ancora di poter venire a Palermo. Avrei voluto avere l'onore di parlarLe, di esporLe alcune situazioni alquanto penose.

Comincio da quello che personalmente mi riguarda pregando La di volermi prestare benevole attenzione e volersi compiacere scusarmi se sottraggo tempo prezioso al Suo diuturno lavoro.

Ero a capo di una istituzione massonica in Calabria e, benchè pressato, non volli, di proposito, piegarmi al fascismo e rimasi con la fede che avevo giurata per la qual cosa venni, per 21 anni, perseguitato con la imposizione di abbandonare la mia terra e dei miei averi venne fatto scempio.

Ho 60 anni: ho moglie e 5 figli: due maschi, ufficiali, rimasti in tunisia e dei quali ignoro tuttora la sorte, sono:

S. Ten. dei bersaglieri, del distretto militare di Messina, classe 1919, CORIGLIANO Pietro, 70° Battaglione Motomitraglieri. Posta Militare N° 44;

S. Ten. del Genio, pure del Distretto Militare di Messina, classe 1920, CORIGLIANO Gino, 15ª Compagnia d' Arresto, Posta Militare N° 11.

Essi si erano incontrati in tunisia, dove prestavano servizio da parecchi mesi, il 29 aprile ultimo scorso, data in cui mi scrissero insieme l'ultima lettera. Di poi non potei avere più notizie, malgrado mi fossi rivolto alla Croce Rossa ed al Vaticano.

Il resto della mia famiglia, moglie e tre figlie è a Roma,

.. / ..

Ill.mo Sig. FRANCIS BARON RENNEL OF RODD
Maggior Generale Capo degli
Affari Civili dell' A.M.G.O.T.
P A L E R M O
=====

sfollata qui i primi di giugno, abitava in Via Torre Vecchia
N° 80, Villino Clelia a Montemario.

Qui sono rimasto solo e privo anche della Casa resa inabi-
tabile dal bombardamento aereo del 9 luglio. Non ho più nemmeno
i mobili e le masserizie prelevati da soldati inglesi certamente
per bisogni dell' esercito. Desidererei di questi potere recupe-
rare, nel limite del possibile, le 7 reti metalliche, i 7 mate-
rassi di lana, almeno 14 lenzuola ed un pò delle sedie, diversa-
mente, se avrò la fortuna di rivedere unita la mia famiglia, non
avrei più dove e come farla alloggiare.

Mi son mancati pure molti volumi della mia libreria caricati
sopra un' autocarro insieme ad altro e fra questi, tre grossi e
grandi volumi della Divina Commedia, legati in pelle, caro ricor-
do.

Gestisco qui un' importante vivaio di olivi ed ero in trat-
tative con l' Azienda Maniace (Catania) per un' importantissima
fornitura ma non potei mai arrivare alla conclusione per i frap-
posti ostacoli della belva fascista che aveva posta l' Azienda
sotto sequestro essendo di proprietà inglese. Con quest' Azienda
potrei, col Suo appoggio, s' intende, riprendere le trattative
per portarle a compimento. Questo potrebbe sollevare il disagio
in cui mi son venuto a trovare dei 21 anni del già morto fascismo.

Io sono un tecnico edile, industriale ed agricolo e vorrei
potere riprendere la mia attività: vorrei lavorare e produrre.

Altre notizie mi permettono accluderle per quell' odio che
mi permane contro il nefando partito che ha scombussolato il mon-
do, che ha rovinata la mia famiglia e tante e tante altre, e che
persiste ancora negli atti criminali.

Spererei potermi recare a Messina e conferire col sig. Col.
Stephen B. Story ma se Lei crede ch' io debba parlare col Sig.
Capitano addetto al Comune di Taormina oppure al Sig. Town Major,
lo farò senz' altro.

Prego, Ill.mo Sig. Generale, gradire i sensi della mia devo-
zione.

(Placido Corigliano)

P. Corigliano

Mio attuale recapito:
Comm. Placido Corigliano
Corso Umberto, 141 - GIARDINI

oppure
per il tramite del Segretario
Capo del Comune - TAORMINA

Laormina - Sept. 15, 1943

35

Sir, General:

Due to the lack of transportation, I have not, as yet, been able to come to Palermo, to have the honor of speaking to you and to explain several pathetic situations.

First, I shall start with myself. I beg of you to excuse me if I am taking up too much of your time.

I was in charge of a Masonic Institute in Calabria, and as such, much to my disbelief, I had to join the Fascist Party in order to hold my position. I remained with the organization for twenty-one years, enduring much torture and always hoping for the day of freedom which finally came.

I am sixty years old, and have a wife and five children; two of whom are officers in Tunisia; whose fate I do not know. (Class of 1919)

2nd Lt. Peter Corigliano, from the military district of Messina, and attached to the 70th Battaglione Motomitratori, Porta Militare #44 (70th Motomitratori Machine Gun Battalion - Military Post #44)

2nd Lt. Emilio Corigliano, also from the military district of Messina, class of 1920, and attached to the 15th Compagnia d'Arresto, Porta Militare #11 (15th Reserve Company - Military Post #11)

and as such, much to my delight, I had to join the Fascist Party in order to hold my position. I remained with the organization for twenty one years, enduring much torture and always hoping for the day of freedom which finally came.

I am sixty years old and have a wife and five children; two of whom are officers in Tunisia; whose fate I do not know.

2nd Lt. Peter Corigliano, from the military district of Messina, and attached to the 70th Battaglione Motomitragliere, Costa Militare #44 (70th Motorized Machine Gun Battalion - Military Post #44)

2nd Lt. Eino Corigliano, also from the military district of Messina, class of 1920, and attached to the 15th Compagnia d'arresto, Costa Militare #11 (15th Reserve Company - Military Post #11)

My last letters from them were dated April 29, from Tunisia, where they had served for several months. I have had no news of them since, in spite of the fact that I wrote to the Red Cross and the Vatican.

The remainder of my family; my wife and three children are in Rome, where they have taken refuge since the first of June, formerly living at #80 Via Torre Vecchia, Villino Claudia di Montemario.

(OVER)

34 I remained here alone, also deprived of my home, which was hit during the bomb raid of July 9. Whether, do I have my furniture or other household goods which were taken by English soldiers for military use. I desire to reclaim some of these articles if possible, among which are: seven metal gratings, seven wooden mattresses, at least fourteen bed sheets, and some chairs, so that I may have some accommodations in case I have the good fortune of again being reunited with my family.

Also missing are several volumes from my library among which are three large volumes of the Divine Comedy, bound in leather, which was a dear remembrance.

May I add here also that I owned an important olive grove and was in contract with the Municipal Agency of Catania for an import and supply, but could not succeed in having it signed because of the obstacles set forth by the brutal fascists, who had placed the Agency under English ownership. With this Agency, I can, with your help, if you desire, recover and fulfill the contracts. This would help to relieve me of the misfortune that I find myself in from twenty one years of fascism.

I am an industrial and agricultural technician and would like to resume my trade; to work and to produce.

I was maltreated in many other instances by this infamous party which has set this world in disorder, which has ruined

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I am an industrial and agricultural technician and would like to resume my trade; to work and to produce.

I was maltreated in many other instances by this nefarious party which had put this world in disorder, which had ruined my family, and which still persists in its criminal acts.

I hope that you will permit me to return to Messina to confer with Colonel Stephen B. Story; but if you believe that I should speak to the Captain of the municipality of Taormina, or else, to the Town Mayor, I will do so.

I pray that you will accept my respects.

Comm. Placido Corigliano (Placido Corigliano)

141 Corso Umberto - Catania

or else: % Secretary

Chief of the Community - Taormina

IN PROVINCIA DI MESSINA. Esistono tuttora delle istituzioni di pura fede fascista e tra queste capeggia il Consorzio Agrario Provinciale, organo alla dipendenza della Confederazione fascista degli Agricoltori e della Confederazione fascista dei Commercialisti. Questa istituzione affaristica, dava ad intendere esistere per agevolare l'agricoltura e come calmieratrice dei generi di largo consumo, mentre non serviva altro che a sperperare il denaro altrui con niente affatto vantaggio dei consumatori, dei cittadini costretti a servirsi di tale istituzione per il volere della camorra fascista.

A Messina il Direttore era ed è il fascista Per. Agr. Baretto Umberto, proveniente da Padova, fascista sperperatore, fascista propagandista.

Ebbe molte denunce che vennero sempre coperte perché protetto da pezzi grossi del fascismo romano. E' uno di quelli che avrebbe meritato l'immediato invio in un campo di concentramento anziché essere riconfermato nella carica, per la qualcosa si è molto dato da fare.

Ha testé creato il posto di vice-direttore per avere vicino a sé un certo Strampelli che proveniva dal Consorzio di Avellino. Era a Messina ufficiale dell'esercito italiano. Tra il fascista Baretto a Messina e il fascista Strampelli ad Avellino, correavano intimità di rapporti per lo acquisto di patate che lo Strampelli faceva pervenire al Baretto per la distribuzione in Provincia. Gli utili nell'acquisto ad Avellino e dintorni venivano regolati non certamente a favore dei Consorzi.

In questi ultimi giorni il fascista Baretto si accinse al

ce dei generi di largo consumo, mentre non serviva altro che a sperperare il denaro altrui con niente affatto vantaggio dei consumatori, dei cittadini costretti a servirsi di tale istruzione per il volere della camorra fascista.-

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In questi ultimi giorni il fascista Baretto si accinse al licenziamento di alcuni impiegati col pretesto della riduzione del personale e, d'altro canto ne assumeva altri, continentali, scartando i siciliani, con più onerosa paghe e questo per agevolare i suoi ex-camerati, e cioè gli impiegati nuovi assunti. Vedi Strampelli, vedi Taddei, (elemento pericoloso) amici legati a filo doppio.-

Il fascista Baretto fece circolare la voce che aveva testé acquistati circa 2.000 quintali di concime chimico per vendita agli agricoltori. Ci sarebbe da domandarsi: dove mai egli abbia potuto acquistare tale quantitativo di concime chimico se
9914

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provincia e nella Sicilia tutta non esiste un stabilimento produttore di tale fertilizzante?

Sorge, per tanto, spontaneo il dubbio che si tratti di un fittizio acquisto, ben mascherato per privato interesse.

Chi mai poteva vendere al fascista Baretto del concime chimico se prima dell'occupazione tale fertilizzante era bloccato presso i Consorzi Agrari?

Ed a proposito di Consorzio Agrario non si può fare a meno di menzionare ciò che è stato capace di fare l'agente di Calatabiano vendendo a prezzi esosi i generi ammassati ed i concimi bloccati si da costituirsi un patrimonio in pochi mesi. Egli è il fascista Russo Natale fu Alfio, mal visto e molto discusso.

A TAORMINA. L'Avv. Zeno Vittorio, antifascista, ricopre la carica di Sindaco, ma non basta essere antifascisti per stare a capo di un'amministrazione, occorre essere soprattutto onesti.

Gravi, anzi gravissime, sono le voci che corrono sul suo conto ed accertamenti potrebbero migliorare la non bella situazione, troppo discussa in paese, direi quasi troppo losca.

Dispiace dover fare quest'affermazione a carico di un'antifascista ma quando vi è turbamento nell'onestà è necessario provvedere sia pure se dobbiamo rispondere avanti i giudici.

A LETOYANNI. Il Sindaco è un tedescofilo non beneviso dalla popolazione.

A GIARDINI. E' Sindaco Cacciola Vincenzo che era stato, tempo dietro, Podestà fascista e, per ben due volte, Segretario Politico. Usava tutti i mezzi per la propaganda fascista ed il

no di menzionare ciò che è stato capace di fare l'agente di Calatabiano vendendo a prezzi esosi i generi ammassati ed i concimi bloccati si da costituirsi un patrimonio in pochi mesi. Egli è il fascista Russo Natale fu Alfio, mal visto e molto discusso.

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Il Cacciola, vissuto di espedienti, è sovraccarico di debiti ed ha un passato molto discutibile.

Ancora indisturbato si vede in circolazione il sansepolcrista Cavallaro Matteo che, per quanto rappresenti un rottame umano, ha sempre qualche parola da spendere in difesa del criminale Mussolini.

E lo si vede ancora circolare per le vie, indisturbato, con

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aria di suo ruomo, il Vice Segretario politico del fascio di Giardini, Rispoli, capo squadra della milizia, fascista accanito che spera nel ritorno del criminale partito. Egli era capo stazione alle Ferrovie.-

Certo Maio Francesco, ex capo squadra della milizia, trova sempre il mezzo di parlare in difesa del defunto partito.-

A MONGIUFFI-MELIA.- Ricopre la carica di Sindaco, l'ex Colonello Gervasutti, accanito fascista, capo dell'OVRA a Messina.-

Come mai un capo dell'OVRA non è stato ancora spazzato dalla vita civile?

A GRANITI.- Il Sindaco è un buon elemento ma a Graniti bisognerebbe scovare i non pochi materiali bottino di guerra, sottratti e nascosti, venduti e rivenduti con elevati guadagni.-

Sono diecine e diecine di pneumatici, sono motociclette, numerosi pezzi di ricambio auto; sacchi di zucchero, ecc. che traficano fra Graniti e Biardini.-

E' all'A.M.C.O.T. che si rivolge preghiera di volersi compiacere intervenire affinché il già morto fascismo non abbia ad allungare ancora i suoi velenosi tentacoli a danno della civiltà mondiale.

Urgerebbe epurare, dai dannosi elementi la nuova aria di purezza, per la ripresa dell'interotta secolare civiltà italiana.-

sempre il mezzo di parlare in difesa del defunto partito.-

A MONGIUFFI-MELIA.- Ricopre la carica di Sindaco, l'ex Colonel-
lo Gervasutti, accanito fascista, capo dell'OVRA a Messina.-

Come mai un capo dell'OVRA non é stato ancora spazzato dal-
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tà mondiale.

Urgerebbe epurare, dai dannosi elementi la nuova aria di pu-
rezza, per la ripresa dell'interotta secolare civiltà italiana.-

TAORMINA, 15 Settembre 1943

Memorandum

In the Province of Messina. There still exists here institutions of pure fascist faith; among these the most important is the Provincial Agrarian Society, agency at the dependency of the fascist Agrarian Confederation and of the fascist Commercial Confederation. This dishonest institution used, with the pretence of helping agriculture and stabilizing prices of largely consumed articles, to spend somebody else's money, at no advantage whatsoever of the consumers, and citizens, forced to bear with this institution because of the will of the fascist gang.

At Messina the Director was and still is the fascist Per. Agr. Baretti Umberto, from Padova, fascist spendthrift, fascist propagandist.

He was often accused, but to no avail, as he was protected by the big shots of the roman fascist party. He is one of those men who deserved concentration camp, rather than reconfirmation to his office, ^{that for} which he worked hard to obtain.

He has created an office for a vice-director in order to employ a certain Strampelli, who belonged to the Agrarian Society of Avellino. He was in Messina then as an officer of the Italian Army. Between the fascist Baretti in Messina and the fascist Strampelli in Avellino there were intimate relationships as concerning the purchase of potatoes, that Strampelli would send to Baretti for distribution in the Province. The profits of the purchase of potatoes in Avellino and neighborhoods

and citizens, forced to bear with this injustice because of the will of the fascist gang.

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He was often accused, but to no avail, as he was protected by the big shots of the roman fascist party. He is one of those men who deserved concentration camp, rather than reconfirmation to his office, ^{to which} ~~that~~ which he worked hard to obtain.

He has created an office for a vice-director in order to employ a certain Strampelli, who belonged to the Agrarian Society of Avellino. He was in Messina then as an officer of the Italian Army. Between the fascist Bareto in Messina and the fascist Strampelli in Avellino there were intimate relationships as concerning the purchase of potatoes, that Strampelli would send to Bareto for distribution in the Province. The profits of the purchase of potatoes in Avellino and neighborhoods were so regulated as to ^{certainly} ~~be~~ ^{go to somebody who} ~~that~~ was not the Agrarian Society.

In the last days the fascist Bareto fired several employees, with the excuse ~~that~~ of reduction of personnel; however he hired others, fellows from the Continent, discharging the Sicilians, giving to the new employees, his friends, better wages. Examples are the cases Strampelli and Taddei (dangerous element) both very personal friends of Bareto.

The fascist Bareto circulated ^{information} ~~the case~~ that he had purchased about 220 tons of chemical fertilizer for sale to the farmers. The question arises: where could he

29
 buy this amount of chemical fertilizer, if there are no
 establishments producing such a fertilizer either in the Province
 or even in the whole of Sicily?

Hence the doubt that this purchase is fictitious, not
 explained, because of a personal interest.

Who could have sold chemical fertilizer to the fascist
 Barreto, if before the Allied occupation this fertilizer was held
 by the Agrarian Society?

And talking of the Agrarian Society, mention must
 be made of the actions of the agent in Calatubiano, who sold,
 at exorbitant prices, foodstuffs and fertilizers held by the
 Society, so that in a few months he made a fortune for
 himself. He is the fascist Russo Natale of the late Affio, sus-
 pected and very much criticized.

At Taormina. The lawyer Leno Vittorio, anti-fascist, is
 the Mayor; however it is not sufficient to be an anti-fascist to be
 head of an administration; mainly it is necessary to be
 honest.

Serious, very serious, are the rumors about him and an
 investigation could improve the ugly situation, too much
 diminished here, too much so ambiguous.

It is not pleasant to say such things about a man
 who is an anti-fascist, but when he lacks honesty it is
 necessary to take the proper steps, even if he must face
 a jury.

... made by the actions of the agent in Calatrazano, who sold, at exorbitant prices, foodstuffs and fertilizers held by the Society, so that in a few months he made a fortune for himself. He is the fascist Russo Natale ^{son} of the late Affio, suspected and very much criticized.

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Serious, very serious, are the rumors about him and an investigation could improve the ugly situation, too much diminished here, too much sad ambiguous.

It is not pleasant to say such things about a man who is anti-fascist, but when he lacks honesty it is necessary to take the proper steps, even if he must face a jury.

At Letojanni - The Mayor is a German sympathizer and the people do not like him.

At Giardini - The Mayor is Carciola Vincenzo ^{some time ago} who ^{Secretary} ~~has~~ been a fascist Mayor and, twice, Political Secretary. He used all means to bolster Fascist propaganda and the day that the Allies entered Giardini, he maltreated his wife, who had expressed her joy for the liberation. ^{burdened with} Carciola, who always lived ^{from} day to day, is ^{full} of debts and has a very ambiguous past.

Still in circulation, undisturbed, is the lugubrious 28 Cavallero Mattei who, although a bit of a wreck, has always a word ready in defense of Mussolini.

Also still undisturbed is the ^{political} Vice-Secretary of the Fascist Party of Giardinì, by the name of Rispoli, squad leader of the militia, convicted fascist, who goes around with an air of superman, still hoping in a comeback of the fascist party. He was employed by the Rail Roads as station master.

Also, Captain Mario Francesco, ex-squad leader of the militia, still talks in defense of the fascist party.

At Mongini - Melia ~~the~~ The ex-Colonel Gervasutti, convicted fascist, head of the OVRA of Messina, is the town's Mayor. How is it possible that an official of the OVRA has not been yet eliminated from civil life?

At Gravite - The Mayor is a good element, but in Gravite it is necessary to search for and find the large war booty material, which was taken and hidden, and sold and resold with high profits.

There are tens and tens of tires, motorcycles, many spare motor parts, sugar sacks etc., all ~~young~~ travelling between Gravite and Giardinì.

action of

It is the AMGT

militia, still holds in defence of the fascist party.
 At Monginfi-Melia ~~By~~ The ex-Colonel Gervasutti,
 convinced fascist, head of the OVRA of Messina, is the
 town's Mayor. How is it possible that an official of the OVRA
 has not been yet been eliminated from civil life?

At Graniti - The Mayor is a good element, but
 in Graniti it is necessary to search for and find the large
 war booty material, which was taken and hidden, and
 sold and resold with high profits.

There are tens and tens of tires, motorcycles, many
 spare motor parts, sugar sacks etc., all ~~young~~ travelling
 between Graniti and Giardini.

It is the ^{action of} AMGOT action which is asked, so
 that the already dead ~~Fascism~~ ^{poisonous} may not be able
 to stretch out its claws to injure world civilization.

It would be necessary to purify the new air
 by getting rid of the dangerous elements, to the ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~
 vantage of the continuation of the secular interrupted
 Italian civilization.

—
 Messina, Sept. 15th, 1943.

File
26
Fiat Car of Soribano Salvatrice
Ragusa

S.C.A.O., Catania

10902
27
387/HQ

October 18, 3

1. Enclosed is a copy of letter which is self-explanatory for your attention.
2. It is suggested that if ANOT has not requisitioned the car in question that the letter be referred to Claims and Hirings and that the writer be notified of the action taken.

PAH
19/10/43.

L.H. V.D. Cap.
CHARLES M. SPOTTON
Colonel, U.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.



Oct. 11, 1943 Regusa,
 Dear General, chief of the Army of Sicily, of Palermo
 I beg your honor to be kind and
 gentle to listen to my statement which here
 below I write.

I Scribano Salvatore di Pugliese of Regusa
 owner of an auto (Fiat Balilla) 508 targ. 1453
 R. G. No 10 80 88 Telcio No. 106960 was in use
 as public service in the city of Regusa driven
 from my husband, Spadaro Carmelo di Roserio,
 it was of tonnage S. V. C. S.

It was the only way to earn the
 family's living. I have also been sick
 for the last three years my husband was called in
 the army since Sept 1, 1940 and now being
 back home like all the rest of the sicilians
 came back to work with his auto, On Sept 1, 1943
 having a trip to take passengers to Catania named
 Poidamoni, he also obtained a permission of

gentil to listen to my statement which here below I write.

I Scribano Salvatore di Nunzio of Regusa, owner of an auto (Fiat Balilla) 508 Targa No. 1453 R. S. No. 10 8088 Telcio No. 106960 was insured as public service in the city of Regusa driven from my husband, Spadaro Carmelo di Rascio, it was of tonnage S. V. C. S.

It was the only way to earn the family's living. I have also been sick for the last three years my husband was called in the army since Sept 1, 1940 and now being back home like all the rest of the siciliana came back to work with his auto, On Sept 1, 1943 having a trip to take passengers to Catania named Poidonani, had also obtained a permission of the, A.M. S. O. I. of Regusa, to go and come back from Catania. In a street of Catania we met two English Police in Via Garibaldi, although we had in process a permission and everything in regular they took away my machines and since I didn't understand them they took the passengers' game

(Action)
27

25
as the owner of the machine instead of mine as a mistake.

Now having no one to refer I beg your favor to interest of this mistake made of the card and let me obtain a document, a paper which shows that I am the owner of the Auto and if its possible to let me get in possess of the machine which I need for earning my living.

In the meantime if its possible to take me as a driver of an Auto, truck of any kind in the A. M. & O. T. Command to earn my living

Now I hope I haven't disturbed your honor, and that you will be so kind to content my desire which is very necessary for me "I Thank You".

Respectfully yours

Scribano Salustiano & Spedero Cornelio

Let me obtain a document, a paper which shows that I am the owner of the Auto and if its possible to let me get in possess of the machine which I need for earning my living.

In the meantime if its possible to take me as a driver of an Auto, truck of any kind in the A. M. S. O. T. Command to earn my living.

Now I hope I haven't disturbed your honor, and that you will be so kind to content my desire which is very necessary for me "I Thank You".

Respectfully yours

Sciriano Salvatore & Speders Carmelo ^{Rain}

Via Saccardoto Cilibbo No. 15.

Regasse.

Sincerely

216
Private Property Improperly Acquired.
S.C.A.O. Messina

24
AMGL 387/HQ

23
18 October 3

1. Enclosed is copy of letter received from Claims and Hirings, Catania.
2. It is requested that an investigation be made by you into the circumstances of the case, and that a report be submitted to this office.

P/A 18/10
L.A. V.D.R. 2982
CHARLES M. SPOMFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

216
Private Property Improperly Acquired.
S.C.A.O. Messina

24
AMG. 387/HQ

23
18 October

3

1. Enclosed is copy of letter received from Claims and Hirings, Catania.
2. It is requested that an investigation be made by you into the circumstances of the case, and that a report be submitted to this office.

P/A *[Signature]* 18/10 *[Signature]* 6.6.059 2982
CHARLES M. SPONFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

COPY

SUBJECT: Private Property Improperly Acquired.

H.Q.,
A.M.G.O.T.,
PALERMO.

Ref:- CH/3/LS/29T.

The Town Major, Taormina, informs this Department, that the following car was taken by an A.M.G.O.T., Official.

FIAT No. 2755 ME. (not in running order)

May it please be confirmed, that this car was requisitioned and regularised in accordance with The Laws and Usages of War, MML para 415 refers.

File. No. 14866
19, Via Androne,
Catania,
12/OCT/43.

Lt. Col.
A.D. Claims and Hirings,
Sicily.

5901

SUBJECT:- Private Property Improperly Acquired.

23

H.Q.,
A.M.G.O.T.,
PALERMO.

Ref:- CH/3/LS/29T.

The Town Major, Taormina, informs this Department,
that the following car was taken by an A.M.G.O.T.,
Official.

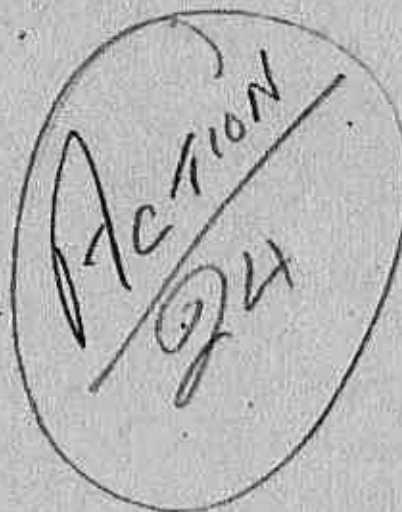
FIAT No. 2755 ME. (not in running order)

May it please be confirmed, that this car was
requisitioned and regularised in accordance with The
Laws and Usages of War, K.M.I. para 415 refers.

Tele. No. 14866
19, Via Androne,
Catania.
12/OCT/43.



It. Col.
A.D. Claims and Hirings,
Sicily.



3900

22
AMGON/357/HQ

Alleged Requisition of
Pont-Catilla Car.

Cimini Gaetano,
PALESTO.

10th October 5

Your letter of 2nd October 1943 is acknowledged.

A copy of this has been sent to the Civil Affairs Officer in Bronte, requesting that he supply you with any information he might have on the subject.

All claims arising in Eastern Sicily must be presented to

Claims & Hirings,
Number 1 District,
15, Via Adrone,
Catania.

It is suggested that you notify the above office of your claim, together with all particulars available.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.
Chief Staff Officer.

10/10

5899

Alleged Requisition of
Fiat-Calilla, No. 7237.

C.A.O. BROOME
(through S.C.A.O.)

q450
21
ANGOT/387/HQ

7 de
7-att.
10th October 3

1. Enclosed is copy of a letter which is self-explanatory dated 2nd October 1943, from Cirino Gaetano di Giuseppe, together with copy of reply of this office.
2. If your office has any information on the subject it is requested that you furnish it to Claims & Hrrings, Catania, as well as to Cirino Gaetano, the claimant.

CHARLES E. SPORFORD,
Colonel, C.S.C.
Chief Staff Officer.

5898

COPY

TO THE A.M.G.O.T. OF PALERMO.

I, the undersigned, Cimino Gaetano, son of Giuseppe, take the liberty to inform you as follows:

A few days after the occupation of Bronte (Catania province) the car, Fiat-Calilla, license No. 7237 P.A. belonging to my father, Doct. Giuseppe, prisoner of war, was requisitioned by Col. Kerling of the English Army and driven away.

I was aware of this after the requisition was made. I went to the local AMGOT Officials to procure the requisition receipt as is done in similar cases. The English Officers in charge of Civil Affairs in Bronte acknowledged the act, and told me to return later for the requisition receipt. However, I have not received it.

Having left Bronte and finding myself in Palermo the undersigned turns to this office to adjust this matter.

GAETANO CIMINO.

PALERMO.

October 2nd 1943.

Service to Allies: Lt. Di Bella

387/119

S.C.A.O., Caltanissetta Province

9 October 5

1. Reference your letter dated September 23 Calt. Prov./12.
2. Herewith are enclosed papers accompanying your letter of September 23 and also report from Major Foster dated September 7 with which Colonel Poletti agrees.
3. This office believes that, under the facts stated in his report, Major Foster acted properly in requisitioning the car and the gas for the use of the Allied Governments.

15 refs
L.H. VD 9 Capt.
CHARLES M. STOFFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

5896

August 8, 1943. 18

Dr. Joseph Tamburino Bella

Civil Resource

Your Fiat car EE.41048 now in my possession is needed temporarily for the use of this office. We are endeavouring to find another car for that purpose, and when we do so, I will return your car to you.

The vital necessity of having a car in this office makes this step necessary for the time being.

Donald C. Foster,,
Major CMP.,
CAO. Cefalu.

3895

Caltanissetta.

000 Aug. 4, 1943. 17

Major Foster,

I have talked to Dr. de Bella in Caltanissetta at this hour and he has presented papers to show that he came by the Fiat in good faith (500 No. RE. 43048), that it pulled into your office at noon to-day. It appears that the car should be returned to him when he called for it. I did not understand the situation and his wife explained it to me.

Charles W. Thomas
Major Inf.
0-275684.

1900. July 25th 1943. 16

After a personal investigation upon the request of Dr. Joseph Tamburo de Bella, B.S., M.D., D.D.S., I found he and his wife to be in possession of a Fiat 500 No. RE. 41048 and nine drums of benzine. They were given the above for services rendered to the Commanding Officer of the Coastal Bn. of Cefalu and the United States of America. I demand that the Carabinieri of Cibilnana protect the family of Dr. Tamburo de Bella and their possessions.

???
Lt. M.P. 45 Inf. Div.

The above is to be honored in
Caltanissetta.

Charles E. Smith
1st Lt. - Inf.
Civil Affairs Officer.

785015



ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Province of Palermo

15
CP/MFN/ev

5 October 1943.

SUBJECT: Di Bella matter, Fiat and Italian army gasoline,
AMGOT/387/HQ.

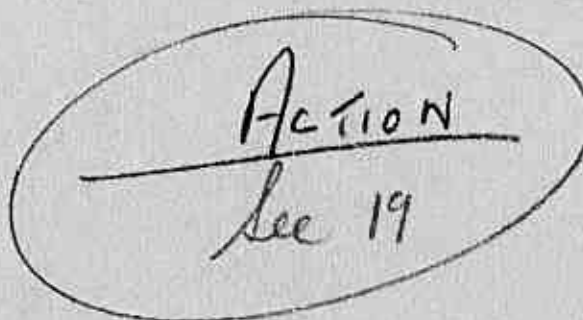
TO : Chief Staff Officer - AMGOT HEADQUARTERS.

In checking files at Provincial Headquarters, it has been found that Dr. Joseph di Bella came into this office with a letter from Colonel Irish, a copy of which is enclosed. As a result, Major Foster was asked to submit a report, a copy of which is enclosed. Since this office saw no reason not to uphold Major Foster's decision, Dr. di Bella was told that nothing more could be done and he consequently, we understand, turned to AMGOT Hq. for help. We heard no more about this case until your letter of 27 September, AMGOT/387/HQ. We replied on September 30th, and are now replying to your latest communication of October 2nd, 1943.

16A
It was erroneously stated that a communication has been sent to Colonel Irish. 2

Charles Poletti
CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel
Senior Civil Affairs Officer.

Encl.
2



3894

COPY

14

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF OCCUPIED TERRITORY
SENIOR CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICER
PROVINCE OF CALTANISSETTA

September 2, 1943.

MEMO: To Lt. Col. Charles Poletti

The bearer, Dr. Joseph di Bella, is a friend of General Middleton, and a worker for the Allied Cause. As a reward (not asked for) for his services to the American Army he was allowed to retain a Fiat 500-RE41048 and nine drums of benzine and other little things that the Italian Commander of the 103rs Coastal Battallion had given to Dr. di Bella for services rendered to his troops.

Since this property was allowed him in good faith for services rendered and since the subsequent requisitioning appears to the town in which he was living as an implication of theft on Dr. di Bellas part of this car, it would seem only fair to return it to him.

Would you please do what you can in this matter.

W. R. IRISH
Lt. Col. Inf.,
S.C.A.O.,
Caltanissetta Province.

COPY

September 7, 1943.

13

Memo for Lt. Col. Poletti:

Re: DiBella matter.

1. The gasoline in question is Italian Army gasoline - 300 gallons of it. The car is a small Fiat, which belonged to an Italian Officer.
2. DiBella's story is that he persuaded some Italian troops to surrender; that the Italian C.O., presumably in gratitude for such good advice; gave him the car; that the American troops confirmed this gift and also gave DiBella the gasoline. I heard this story early on my arrival here, from DiBella. I had taken his car, and I should have taken the gasoline too, but in the rush overlooked it. He declared it only incidentally, in showing testimonials from various American officers, in which it was mentioned.
3. Later gossip began to come to me that everybody else was required to turn in contraband but DiBella was not. I took no action immediately, because DiBella was away; but when I found that the commune trucks were out of gas to haul wheat, and the army refused to give me any, I seized the DiBella hoard.
4. As far as the car is concerned, I have been able to use it very little because of its precarious condition and frequent breakdowns. It is presently being overhauled in the hope of making it servicable. At the moment I do not need it, but if the 9th Division recalls their loaned jeep, I will need it, and badly, to cover my four communes. I think it should be held as a reserve.
5. I see no reason why DiBella is entitled to the car or the gasoline - certainly not the latter. The officer who "gave" it to him had no right to do so. It is definitely contraband, and there is no more justification for giving it to DiBella than there would be in making him a present of 300 gallons from the nearest Army dump. I certainly consider that to return either the car or the gas would be unwise, and would lead to further difficulty in my efforts to round up contraband in this vicinity. I shall not return the car or the gas unless I get a direct order from you to do so.

Donald C. Foster,
Major CMP

In the Field
6 Sept 1943

12

Subject: Complaint of Dr. Joseph T. De Bella.

To : Lt. Col. Charles Polletti
Civil Affairs Office, Palermo.

1. I have heard Dr. De Bella's complaint, and feel that he is entitled to a hearing to determine why Major Foster has not kept his word regarding return of the car, and why Dr De Bella has not been given reasonable protection.

5891

2. The fact that officers of this Division told Dr. De Bella he was to keep the benzine and car for professional use certainly should be honored to the extent of protecting his home from being broken into.
For Major General Middleton
J. J. Reed
ac of Lt. Col. H. J. Reed
Lt Col H. J. Reed

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Palermo Province

trans #79
8
CP/OJB/cb

4 October 1943

Colonel U. Spofford, Chief Staff Officer
AMGOT Headquarters

Enclosed find complaint which is self-explanatory.



Charles Poletti
CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel
Senior Civil Affairs Officer

See 22
221

All' A M G O T di Palermo

Il sottoscritto Cimino Gaetano di Giuseppe si pregia segnalare quanto appresso.

Alcuni giorni dopo l'occupazione da parte delle truppe inglesi del paese di Bronte (Catania), la automobile Fiat-balilla N. di targa 7287 PA di proprietà del di Lui Padre dott. Giuseppe, attualmente prigioniero di guerra, venne utilizzata dal Colonnello Kerling dell'armata inglese e portata via.

Venuto a conoscenza del fatto a requisizione avvenuta, il sottoscritto si è recato all'Amgot. locale perchè gli venisse rilasciata regolare carta di requisizione, come del resto era stato fatto in casi consimili.

Gli Ufficiali Inglesi addetti agli affari civili in Bronte hanno preso atto del fatto, di cui erano a loro volta a conoscenza, ed hanno detto di tornare a normalizzazione avvenuta; però nessun documento mi venne rilasciato.

Avendo dovuto successivamente lasciare il paese di Bronte ed essendo tornato nella propria città il sottoscritto si rivolge a cotesto ufficio per ottenere la regolarizzazione della questione.

Con osservanza

Paolino Cuccia

5889

delle truppe inglesi del paese di Bronte (Catania),
la automobile Fiat-balilla N. di targa 7287 PA
di proprietà del di Lui Padre dott. Giuseppe,
attualmente prigioniero di guerra, venne utilizzata
dal Colonnello Kerling dell'armata inglese e por-
tata via.

Venuto a conoscenza del fatto a requisizione
avvenuta, il sottoscritto si è recato all'Amgot.
locale perchè gli venisse rilasciata regolare car-
ta di requisizione, come del resto era stato fatto
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di tornare a normalizzazione avvenuta; però nessun
documento mi venne rilasciato.

Avendo dovuto successivamente lasciare il
paese di Bronte ed essendo tornato nella propria
città il sottoscritto si rivolge a cotesto ufficio
per ottenere la regolarizzazione della questione.

Con osservanza

Paolino Ciminio

Palermo li 2 Ottobre 1943

5884

McKee

To the A.M.G.O.T.

of Palermo

I, the undersigned Gaetano Cimino, son of Giuseppe, take the liberty to inform you as follows:

A few days after the occupation of Bronte (Catania province) the car Fiat-balilla, license No. 7287 PA, belonging to my father, Doct. Giuseppe, prisoner of war, was requisitioned by Col. Kerling of the English Army and driven away.

I was aware of this after the requisition was made. I went to the local Anzot officials to procure the requisition receipt as is done in similar cases.

The English Officers in charge of Civil Affairs in Bronte acknowledged the act, and told me to return later for the requisition ^{receipt} ~~authorization~~. However I have not received it!

Having left Bronte and finding myself in Palermo the undersigned turns to this Office to adjust this matter.

Gaetano Cimino

Palermo October 2nd 1943.

5824

Complaints from Civilians.

AMCOT/387/HQ.

S.C.A.O. - Palomo.

2 Oct. 3.

1. Reference your letter Sept. 30, 1943, concerning Dr. De Belle's car and bensine.
2. It is requested that the papers and correspondence accompanying letter of this office dated Sept. 27, 1943, be returned to this office together with copy of your communication to Col. Irish on the subject.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer.

PIA
3110
83

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Province of Palermo

CP/MFN/ev

30 September 1943.

SUBJECT: Complaints from Civilians AMGOT/387/HQ. Sept. 27, 1943.

TO : Chief Staff Officer - AMGOT HEADQUARTERS.

This entire question concerning Dr. De Bella's car and benzine was carefully studied a month ago and Major Foster was closely questioned for all of the facts. As a result, Major Foster's decision was upheld and Col. Irish was so informed.



Charles Poletti

CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel
Senior Civil Affairs Officer.

*Action taken at 6
Call 2/11/43*

3887

785015

8438

AMGOT 15 Army Group

1 October 1943.

Confidential

Routine.

FREEDOM FOR H.G.S.

AFTER INQUIRY NO CASES FOUND EXCEPT ONE WHERE ENLISTED MAN REQUESTED TRANSFER

AND WAS TOLD SUBMIT APPLICATION THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS (PAREN FROM ~~AMGOT SEVENTH~~ ^{SETHS FOR} ~~AMGOT~~ ^{AMGOT} TO FREEDOM FOR H.G.S. GIVE AMGOT 335 PAREN) REFERENCE YOUR 890 OF 30TH SEP(.)

THIS H.Q. TAKING ACTION TO PREVENT ANY SUCH INCIDENTS ARISING

P/A

CR

4/10/43

3

5886

301101A

CONFIDENTIAL

REF NR 890

TO CG 7TH ARMY

COMPLAINT RECEIVED OF NUMBER ALLEGED INSTANCES ATTEMPT BY INDIVIDUAL
AMG OFFICERS SICILY TO PERSUADE CIO ENLISTED AGENTS ATTACHED 7TH
ARMY TO TRANSFER TO AMG RPT AMG WITH BAIT OF COMMISSION. SUCH
ATTEMPTS IF SUBSTANTIATED MUST BE REGARDED AS BREACHES DISCIPLINE.
ALTHOUGH REALIZE HERE ONLY ONE SIDE HEARD AND JEALOUSNESS PROBABLY
CAUSE OF ANY SUCH INCIDENT IMPORTANT THAT GROUNDS FOR COMPLAINT
BE REMOVED. APPRECIATE YOUR INVESTIGATION AND REPORT

SIGNED EISENHOWER

TIME SIGNED 291109A

(TO 7TH ARMY REPEAT TO FILPOT FOR AMG FOR REANNELL FROM HYLLES
SIGNED EISENHOWER CITE FMGS RPT FMLS)

C/S

AMGOTC action
PERS

CONFIDENTIAL

Action
4
5885



301101A
ATTN: ST
ODDIER

File
02
Complaints from Civilians.

S.C.A.O. Palermo.

AMCOT/387/HQ

27. Sept. 3.

1. The attached correspondence has been sent to this H.Q. by S.C.A.O. Caltanissetta. *16, 17, 18,*
2. The accompanying documents should be carefully retained by your Office.
3. Kindly take necessary action and advise us of developments.

A
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD.
Colonel, G.S.C.
Chief Staff Officer.

Ref ①

A/A
26/9
68

5881

SERVICE TO ALL: Dr. Di Bella

Calt Prov/12

HQs. AMGOT

The enclosed papers are sent for an investigation in order to correct what appears to be an injustice. It is believed that the Province of Palermo has not had possession of all the facts so as to render this justice.

As the papers are the personal property of Dr. Di Bella, kindly return them without fail,

Caltanissetta
23 Sept. 1943

W. J. Smith
Lt. Col.,
S.C.A.O., Caltanissetta Province.



[1 3 7 8]

