

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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DEFASCISM, NATIONAL BODIES, COUNCILS OF ECONOMICS
JULY 1944

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Official correspondence
of the
Ministry of the Interior
of the
Republic of Italy
1944
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TO: Colonel R. G. S. Spicer, Director

11 July 1944

FROM: Lieut. W. V. M. Lewis, Staff Officer

1. Reference attached the V.P. has requested me to let him have any observations Interior wish to make on the position of the Provincial Council of Economy.

2. It is clear that this body was a pure Fascist creation and the Government controlled. It took the place and purported to undertake the functions of the old Chambers of Commerce which were operated free from Government control.

3. The Chamber of Commerce - or bodies working with the same intention - have been revived in certain parts with some encouragement from Finance. This is obviously desirable.

4. Any effort to help the Chamber of Commerce as such should be given.

5. Any effort or step which tends to revive in any way the Fascist created body is objectionable.

6. Finance take the view that the present proposal of the Italian Government may have this result. They therefore object.

7. In my view (irrespective of the financial details which are not current Interior) their objection is well founded and should be supported by Interior.

W. V. M. Lewis

W. V. M. LEWIS
Lieut.
Staff Officer
Interior - Administration

V.P.

I agree with the above, have no other comment to offer from the point of view of the Italian Sub. Commission.

As A. M. M. 2380

July 11. Director - Sub. Commission

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